we speak. How many men at Tech are there of whom you can say this: “I know that fellow’s full name, where he lives, where he comes from, how old he is, where he went to school, who the members of his family are, what his ambitions are.” These are not impressions, but facts. If you have them you know more than most men do about each other; but you are far from knowing your man. It’s the same with instructors. We form our opinion of them from impressions. We see more of them than they of us; so if impressions were worth much our opinions might be the more valuable. They form their opinions of us from impressions. They may think they know us. Perhaps they do; but it is the exceptional man who has the power of true insight into character. But what is this all about? Nothing much— impressions. We might waste time by discussing ways by which we could come to know the fellows. In part, these are gradually developing. The greater part will never come. The moral is this: Don’t pride yourself on your ability to read character, and think you know a man when you never saw him wrestle with a collar-button.

Engineering Alley.

On several occasions in former years THE TECH has called attention to the inconvenient approach to the headquarters of the Engineering Department. It has always been a customary and natural thing for students who are going from Engineering A to the Rogers Building, to use the eastern end of Engineering Alley instead of taking the slightly longer route which passes in front of Trinity Church. Now that the new Lowell Building has been built, with entrance only from Clarendon Street, the desirability of providing a more suitable connection between Engineering A and Clarendon Street is more than ever apparent. As a matter of curiosity, it has been found by pacing that it is 952 feet from Engineering A to the Lowell Building by the streets, and only 524 feet by Engineering Alley.

Nevertheless, throwing aside all considerations of the length of different routes, it is a fact that this end of Engineering Alley is used by a great many students. On Monday an observer was stationed at the alley with a count recorder, and between 8.30 A.M. and 4.30 P.M. 1,384 persons passed through this end of the alley.

During the winter months and after a heavy rain the alley is very wet and muddy, and between recitations it is so crowded as to make the narrow sidewalk on the northern side quite inadequate, while the crossing of the alley is not to be undertaken in a trivial or light-minded manner. A board walk along the southern side of the alley, with steps leading to the door of Engineering A from the Clarendon Street direction, would be greatly appreciated by hundreds of students.

Tech and Athletics.

Last year Tech’s attitude toward athletics was practically decided, and wisely. Organized athletics on a scale requiring much time and team work, as varsity football and baseball, were given up. Experience had shown that under the conditions here, such branches could not be made representative of the Institute, nor developed to an efficiency creditable with our standing in other respects, and it were better not to attempt at all what we could not carry through with full justice to ourselves. But this was by no means an agreement to let our athletics wane,— simply a transference of our energies to other branches more suitable to our circumstances, and depending on the individual, not the team. This, so far, has resulted in a concentration of our efforts in the track team which, by its success of last year and its even brighter prospects for this year, has gained