Tech Show Dinner.

Last Friday, after the performance of "A Scientific King," the members of the Show assembled at the Union for a dinner. The guests of the evening were Dr. Pritchett, Dean Burton, Dr. Tyler, Major Briggs, Bursar Rand, F. F. Bullard, Professor Park, Allen W. Rowe and John Coleman.

M. L. Emerson was the first speaker of the evening. He congratulated the members of the Show on their success, and spoke of the democratic feeling which is a part of the Show. Then he introduced L. H. Underwood as toastmaster of the evening. Mr. Underwood also spoke of the relation of the members of the Show to each other, and of the difficulties which beset the Show in its beginnings. He then introduced A. W. Rowe, one of the first men who took active interest in the Show.

Mr. Rowe spoke of the origin of the Tech Show in 1899. He said in part:

"The Tech Show began in a need. It may be almost indecent—in the worst possible taste—in these days, when the bank account of our Athletic Association is of such a size as to make us feel that in any crisis the nation is financially safe—it may be indecent, I say, to hark back to the fact that in 1899 the finances of the Association were—to put it very mildly indeed—groggy. The time had arrived when the Association was face to face with the awful fact that in time the purse, though never imaginably the patience, of Major Frank Briggs might give way under the strain of the Association's support. It was this idea, and not any false modesty as to flinging ourselves on the broad and inexhaustible charity of Major Briggs might give way under the strain of the Association's support. It was this idea, and not any false modesty as to flinging ourselves on the broad and inexhaustible charity of Major Briggs, that brought the Association into council as to how it might make for itself a few honest pennies. It was humiliating to be obliged to explain to certain young gentlemen who had most honestly won medals of various precious metals, for deeds of athletic prowess, that they would be obliged to wait for their medals till the credit of the Association could be re-established with at least one of the Boston jewellers. It was, in the phrase of the hour, distinctly "up to" the Association to gather to itself pennies. The Association, face to face with this need, resolved upon undertaking that very original entertainment, a Minstrel Show. It was to be held in Huntington Hall, Heaven and the Faculty permitting. We were to charge a modest admission. The chances were in favor of charging a quarter, the Association sorrowfully admitting to itself that it could hardly give fifty cents' worth of entertainment. Such was the need, which was one of the factors in the evolution of the Show.

"I have said that the second factor in the Show's evolutions was a dream. We know, when we stop to know, that most things begin in what may be called a dream. Before the machine can exist in iron it must exist on paper. Before it can exist on paper, it must exist in the dream of its inventor. So was it with the Show. I am not at liberty to mention here the name of the friend of Tech who first dreamed the dream of the great Tech Show, as we saw it in the Hollis St. Theatre this afternoon. I can only give you my word—and my word is fact in the minds of many who sit here—that Tech had such a friend. And the friend saw a friend's opportunity to bring into realization what had long laid dormant as a dream, in the need of the Athletic Association in 1899 for immediate money.

"That is the history of the beginning of the Show. You know how worthily it has been carried on since we patriarchs of the early days sent it down the line. I do not think you perhaps quite know, and I know they will not let me tell you, how many obstacles have been lifted out of the way of the Show's progress by a pair of very strong and very kind hands. But I should be a most unfaithful historian if I did not say to you before I closed my story of the beginnings, that the beginnings could never have led the Show to the great, safe place it occupies to-day, but for the guidance of two who sit here to-night. Both of these came to the Show at the critical moment when it was slipping from its leading strings and finding its own sturdy feet. There could not have been a more critical hour in its history; and there could not have come to it in that hour better help than these two gave it,