

covered for the debate. The rebuttal brought out additional facts, and consisted of something more than a mere denial of the argument of the opposite side. As they are on subjects of moment to the undergraduate student body, these debates are well worthy of the attendance of any student whose Wednesday afternoons are not occupied.

Mechanical Engineering Society.

The last meeting of the Mechanical Engineering Society on Nov. 24 at Tech Union was not largely attended, but the thirty-five men present had all the better opportunity for meeting one of the most prominent mechanical engineers of Boston, Mr. F. W. Dean. Mr. Dean spoke of the non-technical difficulties arising between contractors and owners which the engineer must settle; and also of the tendency of the engineer to allow his opinions to become biased or his judgment influenced by men of self-seeking motives. In the informal discussion following the address, Mr. Dean stated that, judging from his own experience with young engineers, it was better not to specialize during the first two or three years of practice, but to endeavor to obtain a general conception of good engineering methods by frequently changing from one line to another. He urged the necessity of a good draughting room experience as absolutely essential for the acquirement of practical and useful information.

1906 Class Meeting.

A meeting of the Class of 1906 was held after English Lit. last Monday, the 23d. Reports of previous meetings were read and approved with certain suggestions as to the mentioning of names. The Pipes and Canes Committee reported and the Class voted in favor of straight stems for the pipes. Canes will be talked up later. The report of financial standing showed \$120 indebtedness and \$12 clear in treasury; to meet this deficit an assessment of 50 cents was levied.



The fascination of seeing the greatest of English-speaking actors in a new role — in a play spectacularly staged with all Mr. Irving's taste and care, and in a part so well adapted to Mr. Irving's face and personality as is that of Dante, — is, after all, not equal to the privilege of seeing him in the roles that many years have shown to be permanently his greatest and in which long study and practice have made him perfect.

If any playgoer has never seen his Shylock, that part is the one of all his repertory to see; for it is one of Shakspeare's most powerful and most subtle villainous characters: into the part Mr. Irving puts all the human touches that make Shylock real and at moments pitiful, but leaves lastingly the impression, as Shakspeare certainly intended, of terrible and malignant hatred. The effectiveness of the play as a whole is largely dependent on a good company, and especially a winning Portia.

Less lovely as a whole — in fact almost revoltingly horrible is "Louis XI.," which is merely a long piece of dramatic portraiture, a whole play all to Mr. Irving himself, and his most elaborately studied sensational part. The playgoer who cares more for wonderful individual acting than for a play as a play can see more of Mr. Irving as Louis than as Shylock.

"The Bells" and "Waterloo" are again character sketches, and in combination display Mr. Irving's astounding versatility. "The Bells" is the study of a murderer's tortured conscience, and the part of Matthias has the peculiar charm of showing all the sensitive expressiveness of Mr. Irving's face without any make-up. "Waterloo" is the study of Corporal Brewster, veteran of the battle — a picture of mumbling dotage equally wonderful, though so brief, with any other of Mr. Irving's parts.

Any playgoer who could see these four amazingly varied impersonations would make one week memorable throughout his life.

Chemical Society Meeting.

The Chemical Society held a meeting at the Union on Monday, Nov. 30. About thirty men were present. The subject was "The Purification of Sewage," and papers were read by F. W. Farrell, E. W. White, and S. Skowronski. Mr. Winslow also spoke of the new laboratory on Albany street, where research is being carried out in regard to sanitary problems.