

Lectures on Civil War Battlefields.

Mr. C. H. L. Johnston of the English Department will deliver a course of five lectures in Room 11, Rogers, during March, on the various battles and campaigns of the Civil War carried on in the vicinity of the Potomac River. They will deal especially with the military tactics and strategy employed by both Southern and Northern armies. Mr. Johnston has arranged his course as follows: On Monday, March 7, he will speak on "The Beginning of the War and the First Battle of Bull Run." The second lecture, on Wednesday, March 9, will deal with "The Peninsula Campaign and the Second Battle of Bull Run." The third will be given on Monday, March 14. Subject, "Antietam and Fredericksburg." The fourth on Wednesday, March 16, on "Chancellorsville and Gettysburg." The fifth on Monday, March 21, on "The Wilderness, Petersburg and the Surrender." All take place at 4 P.M. Mr. Johnston has an intimate knowledge of these battlefields and has made a study of the military strategies which they represent, and we hope his lectures will be well attended.

Electrical Engineering Society Senior Dinner.

The Seniors of the Electrical Engineering Society held a dinner Tuesday evening, Feb. 16, at Hotel Bellevue. The table was appropriately arranged in the form of a T. The instructing staff of the Electrical Department and the officers of the Society were seated at the top of the T, and at the stem nearly the entire Senior Class of Courses VI. and VIII.

Following the dinner, which was an excellent one, the several speakers of the evening were introduced. President Clingerman with a great deal of wit presented the various speakers. The men who are completing the courses represented by those present are particularly fortunate in having instructors over them who are willing to associate with them and add something more to this preparation for the world. This willingness made the dinner a great success.

Steps are being taken to make this informal dinner a tradition of the Society.

American Chemical Society Meeting.

Before a large audience in Huntington Hall, last Thursday, Mr. E. Stütz demonstrated the remarkable powers of thermit in an illustrated lecture on "Alumino-Thermics and Their Application to Engineering and Metallurgy." By alumino-thermics is meant the useful application of the heat generated by the burning of a mixture of powdered aluminium and ferric oxide. The material, thermit, is not explosive and if thrown upon a fire will not burn; but if a pinch of ignition powder is put upon top of the thermit and lighted with a match, the whole burns quickly, generating a most intense heat. The experiments were very well done, and were extremely spectacular. Rails and pipes were welded perfectly, with great quickness, and with very little apparatus. Lantern slides were shown which had been taken of difficult operations, such as repairing the broken driving wheel of a locomotive, welding a broken crank shaft on a Rhine steamer, and mending the stern post of an ocean liner.

The Class Secretaries' Dinner.

The Association of Class Secretaries held a meeting and dinner at the Technology Club, Thursday evening, Feb. 18. A very large number were present, Professor Richards presiding. The chief topic of discussion was the recent newspaper report, so widely spread, that there was a possibility of some kind of connection between Tech and Harvard. There appeared to be no defenders of such a plan among our own ranks, for a unanimous and decided expression of hostility was manifested to anything tending to impair the independence of the Institute.

Senior Portfolio.

A prize of ten dollars will be awarded to the Tech man who submits the best design for a cover for the 1904 *Senior Portfolio*. The design should be simple and one which may readily be stamped in leather. The size of the book is $11\frac{1}{2}'' \times 9''$. Designs must be handed in at "Cage," addressed to Portfolio Committee, by *March 15*. Further information may be obtained from George H. Powell, Course XIII.