



ALMOST a score of volumes of *Technique* have gathered on the shelves of friends of the Institute, but no one of all the goodly row of volumes has presented a more distinguished appearance than that of the book which is to be distributed tomorrow. In color and in design it is not only handsome but distinguished in appearance. The outside prepares one to expect excellence within, and the promise is admirably fulfilled. Perhaps the fault of which such a publication anywhere is most in danger is a lack of good taste. Nothing is easier than in grinds on the Faculty, on fellow-classmates, and perhaps most of all on the members of other classes, to incline more to the side of impertinence than of fun, to be simply abusive rather than witty; and the editors of the present volume are to be commended and congratulated that they have succeeded so well in keeping within the line. The reader throughout cannot but feel that if this number of *Technique* abuses anything or anybody, it does it, like Lady Teazle, "out of pure good-nature."

The general features of such a publication are necessarily constant from year to year, and the usual lists of members of classes, courses, societies, clubs, teams, and so on, are, of course, given. No novelty is possible in these except in the way of decoration and cuts, but advantage has been taken of such possibilities. The class histories are also part of the regulation matter, but they offer a field somewhat more promising in the way of new effects. All four are good, but the Sophomore history easily carries off the palm for happy ingenuity of form and for terseness of wit. The tables of statistics are made new and fresh by the items included, the manner of arrangement, and the diagrams. The "Grinds" are a recognized feature of every *Technique*, not to say the most popular one—a sort of Midway to the serious exhibits of the volume—and to these every student turns with a delighted sense not only of fun to come, but seldom without a secret expectation of being avenged on his enemies of the Instructing Staff, those unjust mortals, who maliciously have given him poor grades simply because on some examination paper he has failed to write down things which, of course, he knew perfectly, only that he could not clearly remember them at the moment. The grinds are all here, and rather largely at the expense of the Faculty, who are held over the coals on toasting-forks as usual—only more gently and considerately than has sometimes been the case. Isaac Walton directs that the angler baiting with a live frog should put the beast on the hook "as if he loved him," and the editors have shown a like consideration. They have been careful to turn each professor before the fire when he was toasted on one side, so that nobody is really burned. The popular success of the annual depends largely upon this department, and here the present volume holds its own well.

Among special features of this number are an illustrated article on "Technology at the World's Fair;" "The Tech Show," capitally illustrated with reproductions of the various posters; a discussion of "The Future Location of the Institute;" an account of "Summer Schools;" some humorous "Letters to a Brother;" and several humorous poems.

The artistic designs of the book are good, especially in the color work. The very pleasantly worded "Foreword" is set in an illuminated border and printed on parch-