

The petition sent out to the alumni, April 27, for signature, was as follows ;

We, the undersigned alumni of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, respectfully petition the Corporation to entertain no proposition to unite, ally or associate itself in any way, financial or otherwise, with any other educational body.

It was the hope of the committee that an immediate and earnest expression of alumni belief in the independence of the Institute would aid the authorities of the Institute, if aid were needful, in insisting upon the maintenance of that independence. While there might be difference of opinion as to whether any plan to be presented would involve sacrifice of independence, we considered absolute independence so paramount in importance to all other considerations, that it should on no account be imperilled.

The replies received to the petition were transmitted by this committee to the Corporation with the following letter :

Boston, Mass., May 3, 1904.

Dr. Francis H. Williams,
Secretary of the Corporation of the
Massachusetts Institute of Technology :

DEAR SIR :

The persistent agitation in the public press concerning a possible union of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with Harvard University is, in the opinion of the Association of Class Secretaries, prejudicial to the interests of the Institute. The subject of union has been widely discussed by the alumni throughout the country and has led to the passage of the resolutions which are enclosed herewith.

This Association has been informed that the Corporation will be asked to consider this matter and take some preliminary action upon it at its next meeting. In order to obtain a