

JAMES W. B. I.

The

W. P. I.



Vol. VIII.

Thursday, April 14, 1892.

No. 1.

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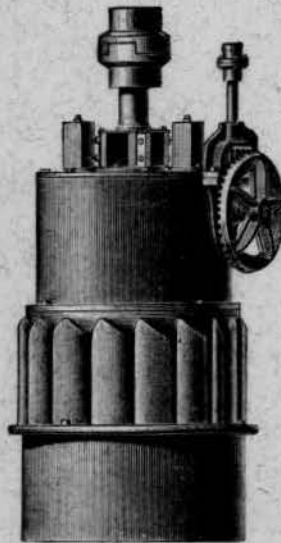
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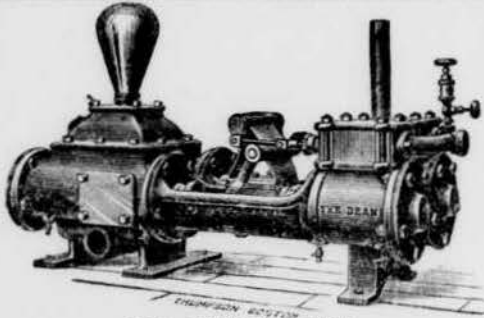
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THE W P I

Vol. VIII.

WORCESTER, APRIL 14, 1892.

No. 1.

THE W P I.

Published on alternate weeks, during the School Year, and devoted to the interests of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

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EDITORS' ANNOUNCEMENT.

This is the first number of the W P I by the new Board and on the bi-weekly plan, and hence it is of course expected that we will whisper a few confidential words into the ears of the public by way of introduction. But expectations must be disappointed, for all we have to say for ourselves is in the line of business.

The subscription price is one dollar and a half (\$1.50) a year. The paper will be published on alternate weeks during the school year, probably appearing on Wednesday afternoon. It is our intention to have each number contain at least one contributed article, either scientific or of general interest, besides the usual news and notes. In the preparation of this number the editors are at a decided disadvantage on account of vacation, and it will be several issues before we shall get familiar with the paper under its changed conditions. Until then we ask indulgence.

We shall hold it a favor if students and alumni will suggest to us changes or new features which they think would add to the

paper. Communications of interest to readers will at all times be gladly received. We particularly wish that graduates would send us items of interest concerning themselves or acquaintances among the alumni; such as change of residence or place of business, successes and achievements. A note on the back of a postal card will not cost much of either time or money, but many readers may be glad to see it in our columns. Students can leave communications on the table in the corridor or at the W P I room, which hereafter will be open immediately before and after Chapel for receipt of subscriptions and other business.

After long suspense and anticipation the Tech Show has come and gone, and everyone is to be congratulated upon its complete success in every way. The various committees which have had the affair in charge, and all who took part are deserving of and should receive the hearty thanks of every student. The chairman of the Executive Committee especially has been indefatigable in his endeavor to bring the thing to completion. Of course mistakes were made, and some moves before the game was over are open to criticism, but the wonder is there were not more. The evening demonstrated two things especially. The first was that we have a great deal of ability centred on Tech Hill, and the second is that it can be utilized. We have made for ourselves an enviable reputation in the entertainment line, and there is now no reason why an annual affair of a similar kind should not result, by means of which much of the monotony of the winter could be worn off, and the Worcester Poly-

technic made a little more attractive in a social way.

But there were other things connected with the show that are not as pleasant to consider. When fifty men are taking their time for weeks from other things, are canceling engagements and spending night after night rehearsing their parts, some of them unfortunately losing standing in their classes, merely to make the entertainment a credit and a benefit to the school, asking and receiving no pay, and even buying their own admission tickets; when these are sacrificing so much time and thought, is it not mean and contemptible business for students to buy up as many seats as they can and like the dog in the manger, hold them while other students, alumni and even performers are unable to secure any for themselves or their friends, and finally sell at enormous premium, putting the proceeds not in the Athletic Treasury but *in their own pockets*? If the profits went to private individuals; if those taking part were paid for their services; if all brother students had had an opportunity to get seats, men might be pardoned for receiving a premium for standing in line a few hours, but to ask it at the expense of one's fellows, when everybody is supposed to be striving to help along a common cause, is an act away from which the average student turns in disgust. If the men in question had heard the remarks which have already been made upon them, the money would not jingle with as pleasant a ring as it does at present.

In another column we notice briefly the plan to extend the course of study at the Institute to four years, which, if adopted, as now seems probable, will greatly change the character of the Institute.

Ever since the Tech was founded, it has been distinguished by its ability to ably and successfully educate men in the engineering

professions in a period of time shorter by one year than that of most similar institutions; and the graduates have always been able to compare favorably with those of any other school. There are several disadvantages in crowding four years' work into three but the men have stood it, and, it would seem, have gone into the world better qualified by the discipline of close, continuous, and earnest application to study.

Since the time of the student has been so closely occupied, outside study, general reading, and different forms of athletics have suffered to a marked degree. But the question which arises is whether this lengthening of the time will be the best thing for the student. We are now in the early prime of our lives when the years are golden. Now is the time when the mind is most active and ready to absorb knowledge, and if the student can be pushed without physical injury, this is the time to do it. Very few students are complaining of overwork, and, with the additional time now being devoted to athletics, the standard of scholarship remaining the same, it would seem that the students are satisfied. We have no doubt but that if our Trustees see fit to institute this new order of things they will do it, in the belief that it is wisest and best; but we regret seeing our Institute brought down to or up to the level of the M. I. T. and like institutions. We are peculiar, have our peculiar and distinct advantages. Young men who mean business can come here and find an opportunity to become skilled and qualified for practical work in the different branches of engineering taught at the Institute, in three years.

It seems as though the field for enlargement lies in the direction of post-graduate courses. With little additional facilities and instruction more advanced courses would be laid out and higher degrees granted to those who desired to spend more time in study.

PREP EDITOR.

As but few candidates tried for the Apprentice Editorship, the Board of Editors has decided to leave competition open until May 1st. Meantime those who have tried are advised to submit more matter for comparison. The class should begin to show interest in school affairs, and at least ten men ought to apply. A position on the Board is not only an advantage, perhaps, from the financial point of view, but also from a social and especially an educational standpoint.

THE CATALOGUE.

The twenty-second number of this interesting annual will probably be ready for distribution about April 20th. Possibly a brief mention of some of the changes which have been made will be of interest.

To begin with, the list of students is increased to two hundred and forty-three, the largest number ever enrolled as members of the Institute. Under "Conditions of Admission" the requirements are specified more clearly and in some subjects increased. Also this addition is made: "Candidates for admission to the Mechanical Engineering Department in September must, in addition to the regular entrance requirements, be prepared to pass examinations upon the remainder of Wells' University Algebra or its equivalent, and upon Solid Geometry."

Under "Organization" we find: "The training of students preparing to be electrical engineers occupies three and one-half years, instead of four and one-half." "Also a one-year's course of advanced work has been provided for graduates of the Institute and others of equal attainments."

The "Outline of Study" is materially changed in several ways. In the Mechanical Course all the mathematics are taken up and finished earlier than formerly, and German is dropped at the middle of the Middle year. This leaves more time for Mechanics, and Steam Engineering in the Senior year.

The descriptions of the different departments remain the same with the addition of that of the new course of Electrical Engineering. This is taken up in detail, and a list of the apparatus belonging to the department and the subjects studied is carefully given.

We are informed that, "A careful record of absence and tardiness is kept, at all exercises, and students are expected to be punctual. Chapel exercises are held five times weekly at which attendance is voluntary."

The laboratory charges for Civils and Mechanics is increased to ten dollars per year; that is, *tuition is one hundred and sixty dollars,*

and *no laboratory dues.* However, to counterbalance this increase we are pleased to see that board has gone down from four dollars and a half to four and a quarter.

As a whole the Catalogue is very well gotten up, and will be all the more welcome because of its being a little late in coming out.

A BIG PLANER.

Designed and Built by a Tech Graduate.

The latter part of last week there was shipped from the works of the Powell Planer Co. of this city the largest planer but one ever built in New England, and one of the largest in the United States. The single exception in New England is at the Charlestown Navy Yard, and was constructed there during the war. The planer just finished was wholly designed by and built under the direction of Albert M. Powell, '79, President and Manager of the Powell Planer Company.

Some idea of its size and power may be obtained from the following dimensions:

Its extreme height above the floor is about 15 ft., width, $17\frac{1}{2}$ ft. and lengthwise occupies about 30 ft. of room. It will take a piece of work under the cross rail, 85 in. high, and planes to a width of 8 ft. 3 in. The cross rail is 2 ft. wide, 21 in. thick in centre and 8 in. at ends. It moves up and down on the housings or uprights at the sides, which have a face 18 in. in width and are in box form, extending back along the base for $7\frac{1}{2}$ ft., and weigh 5 tons each. The cross rail carries two heads with independent automatic feed in all directions. The tool slides are $12\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, 38 in. long, and have a vertical travel of 2 ft. The saddles bear on the rail for 25 in. The two heads weigh over a ton apiece. The cross rail is raised and lowered by power from a separate counter-shaft. On the face of each housing there is also a head for holding tools, which moves vertically with automatic and independent feed. By the use of these, three sides may be planed at once, if the work is wide enough, and, in any case, two sides.

The platen is 72 in. wide, 10 in. thick at centre, 17 ft. long, and weighs about 12 tons. It travels on a bed-plate, 24 in. deep and 45 in. from track to track. The gearing is very powerful, with 20 in. bronze-lined bearings bolted directly to the platen. The driving shaft is 5 in. in diameter with 4 ft. pulleys. The entire machine weighs about sixty tons and will require three or four cars to transport it. The castings were made at the Star Foundry in this city. The machine cost about \$10,000 and goes to the Fort Wayne Electric Co., Indiana. As it

towers clear above the pigmies about it, it is a handsome piece of work and reflects great credit upon its designer, and, pardon us, a little upon the old Institute.

TECH MINSTRELSY.

Our Experiment a Decided Success.

"The Techsedo Minstrels, assisted by the Elberon Orchestra, Horticultural Hall, Mar. 25," was what appeared on the title-page of the program.

The great experiment outlined in the March W P I has come to a decidedly successful conclusion. Horticultural Hall was filled to its utmost limit with Techs, best girls, and friends of the students who were glad to assist a worthy cause and to enjoy whatever of fun a set of college boys could supply.

At a few minutes past eight o'clock the curtain arose upon as fine-looking a set of "darks" as ever graced a stage. C. W. Dyer, '93, and R. W. Emerson, '94, "played" the tambos with vigor, while A. A. Pelton, '92, and F. F. Phinney, '94, like the wind of which the prophet speaks, "shook the dry bones." C. A. Needham, '92, did excellently as interlocutor, and materially assisted the end men in explaining their jokes to the audience.

The chorus was as follows: S. H. Rood, '90, H. W. Bracken, H. M. Southgate, G. D. Ball, A. H. Smith, R. N. Clark, '92, A. C. Higgins, R. C. Cleveland, A. Mackay, C. H. Andrews, H. B. Da Cruz, F. H. Metcalf, '93, E. L. Burdick, G. W. Heald, C. N. Chambers, C. H. Dwinnell, '94, A. G. Warren, '95. The men all wore dress suits except the end, who wore coats of steel-grey, and crimson knee pants and black stockings. All wore white gloves.

The opening chorus, "Colored Millionaires," was effectively given. Mr. Dyer's end song, "Tidings of Comfort and Joy," words by himself, was also well rendered. Mr. Dyer caused much amusement when he removed several yards of glove from each hand. The Senior quartette rendered an old stand-by "There was a boy, there was a tack," and responded to an encore with "There was a girl, there was a Tech." We do not wish to be hypercritical, but the Senior quartette certainly needs a great deal of practice, before it again attempts a public appearance. Mr. Da Cruz whistled "Qui vive," and responded to an encore with "The Mocking Bird." Except for a little nervousness, his performance was a success.

Mr. Burdick, a baritone singer of excellent voice, sang "Beauty's Eyes," and gave as an encore piece "The Bos'n's Tale." Mr. Phinney then made a hit with his topical song, "The

Party in Odd Fellows' Hall." The only criticism to be made on this was that an Irish dialect song seems not entirely in character with a black-face entertainment.

The final chorus, "Jolly Students of the Tech," the words of which are the production of A. C. Higgins, '93, the music being practically an original composition of another member of that class, was excellently given, and produced, perhaps, the best effect of any number in the first part. It wittily discourses on ourselves, on Worcester's Fairest, and on the Faculty, but it does it all in a way to which no one could take exception.

As to the jokes which were scattered broadcast through the first part, it may be said that none of them were very heavy and that all were of great point and delicacy. "Tom Walters" got a little too much attention, if anything, and two end men had, perhaps, more than their share of the work; but otherwise, there is no "criticism." The Socialists, the Home School, the Faculty, Tom Walters, "Dan" Bullard and "Dick," were all kindly remembered. "Dan," we learn, often works all night in a bakery in New York so he can get a loaf the next day.

A brief intermission between the first part and the olio was agreeably filled with a medley overture by the orchestra, under the leadership of E. W. Marshall, '93. The curtain then arose, and the following Japanese maids from the Tech Annex filed in and executed a neat and pretty drill: G. Kuwada, '93; W. H. Larkin, '93; C. Baker, '93; H. Sinclair, '93; R. M. Starbuck, '93; W. J. Denney, '93; H. P. Linnell, '94; Adams, '94; M. B. Chase, '94; E. W. Davenport, '94; G. M. Eaton, '94; A. H. Warren, '95.

The "little maids" responded to an encore by giving a song, "Tech Widows."

A. L. Clark, '94, then created a sensation by as fine an exhibition of amateur club swinging as is generally seen. He earned an encore, but did not respond, owing probably to his being nearly exhausted with his effort.

E. W. Marshall, '93, and R. W. Emerson, '94, the latter representing a tramp ducky, then gave exhibition of what two musical friends can do. Duets were performed by them on guitar and banjo, mandolin and guitar, xylophone and banjo, ocarinas, and finally upon sets of tin horns, picked out to form a scale, one taking one or two notes, the other the next. A double encore followed. They responded with "Annie Rooney" and "Home, sweet Home." It is said that Marshall played directly at one fair damsel in the audience and quite completely overcame her. We do not wonder.

The "Tech Banjo and Guitar Club" then

gave "Die Marsch der Unüberwindlichen Liebwacher" (put in German so that the audience would not come with bricks), and responded, with "The Darkie's Dream," a new (?) composition by a classic composer.

The club consists of :

BANJOS.

D. F. Dillon, '94.	H. W. Bracken, '92.
H. C. Boyden, '94.	H. W. Leland, '95.
G. C. Forrest.	F. D. Houghton, '95.
H. J. Chambers, '95.	A. H. Warren, '95.

GUITARS.

G. D. Ball, '92.	A. C. Comins, '93.
L. de V. Magaw, '94.	F. B. Dove, '95.

The evening concluded with a ballet by the the following: W. Nelson, '92; A. E. Culley, '92; R. S. Parks, '93; E. W. Vaill, '93; C. G. Harris, '94; H. S. Davis, '95.

The Ballet was as follows :

1. Grand Entree et Frolique des Sylphes. Tout ensemble.
2. Pas Deux Celestial. Signorina Tree for Fiva et Mlle. de Vie.
3. El Bolero de Cadiz. Charmincrita, Pas Seul.
4. Dances des Papillons et Grand Finale. Tout ensemble.

As stated before, the entertainment was in charge of a committee consisting of E. W. Marshall, '93, chairman, H. W. Brackon, '92, E. L. Burdick, '94, G. F. Denny, '95, L. W. Rawson, '93, treasurer of the W. P. I. A. A., also acted as a member. These appointed to assist them, committees; on advertising E. L. Smith, '92, chairman, and on tickets, A. C. Comins, '93, chairman. W. C. Howe, '93, managed the ballet, and C. O. Rogers, '93, the Japanese drill, in which great assistance was rendered by G. Kuwada. C. I. Rice led the chorus and R. H. Thompson, '92, was accompanist. S. H. Rood, '90, was stage manager.

We do not wish to cause unpleasant feelings, and trust we will not, if we mention E. W. Marshall as in a great measure responsible for the success of this entertainment. He has labored most energetically for its success and must rejoice heartily that it was so marked. He and H. G. Clark gave their services as members of the orchestra. The members of the chorus, of the Japanese "brigade," and of the Banjo Club also deserve hearty praise, as do also Mr. Rood and Mr. Thompson. The managers of the various features are to be cordially congratulated. Mr. Howe was fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Harry W. Doe as instructor of the dancers. These services, by the way, were given gratis and Mr. Doe is deserving of the thanks of every man who has the Tech's interest at heart.

The souvenir programs reflect credit upon both the printer, Mr. Davis, and the printing committee. A band in the Tech colors, and a cut of the building appear upon the title page. The appearance of the whole is very neat.

The audience was looked after by seven ushers under the direction of C. A. Tucker, '92.

Altogether, it may be regarded as the biggest thing the boys have done for some years, and the sum of \$130, which is netted for the Association, will doubtless be spent in ways which shall bring great honor to the W. P. I. Undoubtedly, we could have filled the theatre, but instead of being "shortsighted," as the *Spy* remarks, the management regarded a success in a small way as much better than a failure, no matter how great the attempt. Next year, friends, we will better it, and give all that want to hear it a chance to come.

The several local dailies gave good accounts of the performance. The *Telegram* said :

"It was successful beyond anything in the history of Tech undertakings. The jokes were new; the music well selected; the features of the olio novel and well presented; and the large audience present generous and hearty in its expressions of approval. * * *

"They say that the Tech students should have given their minstrel show in the theatre to have done justice to its many excellent qualities. *

"A. L. Clark, '94, gave an exhibition of club swinging which was one of the best amateur exhibitions of such work ever given in this city."

The *Gazette* said: "The chorus was excellently drilled and sang with splendid effect, especially in 'Odd Fellow's Hall,' the solo of which was well rendered by Mr. Phinney."

*** THAT UPTON TRIP.

For days the showmen had been on the tiptoe of expectation waiting for the "racket" at Upton. A banquet was to be provided; hundreds of lovely straw-shop girls from down east were to help on the dance; the whole town was to receive us with open arms and a glorious social time the recollection of which would last for years was to climax all. And the recollection will last for years. Anyone who stood in the back part of Upton's town hall that evening and watched the audience take jokes like a dose of sulphur and molasses for the spring trade, will never forget it.

The entertainment went off better than it did in Worcester, the witticisms were new and more abundant, the choruses were given with better effect. In short, it was a first-class show to which Upton people were treated. But the audience was either painfully stupid or else ugly. The jokes penetrated it about as W P I editorials do

the Faculty. When the first one came the people (intelligent looking too) turned away and shrugged their shoulders as Doctor Kinnicutt does when some one inquires if there is more than one way of forming salts.

When the second one came they dropped their lower jaws *without moving a muscle*, while a faint rustling sound from all over the hall could be heard as the ladies slowly drew their handkerchiefs from their pockets and wiped their eyes. These later were returned when an end man performed the "excruciatingly funny" trick of thumbing his nose. A dog which started to yawn was put out, being suspected of smiling. When it was explained how a barrel could be filled with something and then be lighter, namely holes, reliable eye-witnesses have made affidavit that two boys and a woman smiled—all using the same smile however. This (the first part) seems incredible, but cannot well be disputed. These three and the dog are the only persons on record as showing susceptibility to a Tech joke during the first part of the performance.

During the olio the audience laughed considerably. This was all owing to the fact that some one explained in the intermission that the entertainment was intended to be humorous and was really not a religious revival. After the ballet was completed the performers were given a "Banquet" of genuine oyster stew, strong-minded cheese, coffee, etc. The reception which followed was attended by about fifteen ladies who were kind enough to help make things pleasant. Mr. Partridge, who invited down the men, did everything in his power to insure them a good time. Beyond that the treatment we received from Upton people was about as cool and unpleasant as we could ask. The townspeople seemed to think we came down merely to rail at the countrymen. Students alone on the street were sure to be insulted by the muckers and sullen looks were all we saw in the hallways.

Later it was learned that this was all owing to the following item which appeared in the *Milford Journal* the day before:

"While the eatables are being attended to, the seats will be removed from the main hall, and the students will hold a reception with dancing from 11 to 1, *to which ladies are invited to remain. No tickets will be sold for the reception, and no gentlemen will be allowed in the hall except those holding banquet tickets.*"

As only the Techs had banquet tickets, this meant a shut-out for the Upton swains, hence their ire. Revenge was necessary. All girls that could be persuaded were induced to stay away from the reception. Moreover, between

two and three hundred chicken-hearted eggs were collected especially for our convenience. These were not used, however, owing to the unexpected presence of a deputy-sheriff and seven constables. It also leaked out that the Techs were not to blame for the newspaper item. The *Milford Journal* for the next day contained the following under the heading "Upton's Social Excitement":—

"Last evening, in the Upton town hall, the very gentlemanly party of students from Worcester Technical Institute gave an excellent minstrel entertainment.

"After the entertainment, which was largely attended and gave great satisfaction, a private supper was served to the students and their guests. Then came a private dance in the town hall, to which many of the townfolks were not admitted, not having admission tickets. Several young men were not of the party, and therefore not admitted, which was resented by some of their lady friends and others to the degree that they would not dance.

"Previous to last night it is said there was some talk of the visitors having an unpleasant reception, to guard against which Mr. Partridge secured the services of Deputy Sheriff Powers of Milford and other officers to be there; but fortunately there was no occasion whatever for them.

"The entertainment was far superior to any of its class ever given in town."

This bit of news not only substantiates the rumor and explains the painfully cordial reception tendered us by the Uptonites, but also removes all doubt as to where lay the responsibility of the flatness of the show.

The hundred students who went down, came back that night (two 'buses before 12 o'clock) hoping never to visit the place again. The next morning when the circumstances of the case became known, all were sorry they couldn't go just once more *and have the constables stay at home.*

PROFITS OF THE SHOW.

Report of the Athletic Treasurer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE W P I:

Dear Sir:—No doubt the members of the Institute will be interested in knowing the profits of the minstrel show, therefore I wish to request you to print the following report. I have not as yet made a settlement with the printing committee. Probably their bill will not alter this result materially. Yours truly,

LOUIS W. RAWSON.

Louis W. Rawson, in account with W. P. I. Athletic Association.

	DR.	
To cash received from	Ticket Committee,	\$199.15
“ “ “ “	C. L. Gorham,	17.30
“ “ “ “	Reserved seat sale,	67.85
“ “ “ “	Standing room.	5.25
	Total amount received,	\$289.55
	CR.	
By	End men's suits,	\$16.00
“	Dress suits,	12.00
“	Rent of wigs,	5.00
“	Cambric and pins,	.56
“	Ballet costumes,	31.15
“	Gloves,	2.50
“	Vaselene,	.25
“	Dyer's bill for sundries,	1.93
“	Jap March,	17.12
“	Marshall's bill for music, orchestra, etc.,	15.15
“	Rent of piano,	5.00
“	Music at Leland's,	1.87
“	Harris for music, ribbon, etc.,	3.96
“	Calcium light,	5.00
“	Horticultural Hall,	20.00
“	Music at Osborne's,	1.75
“	One wig,	1.00
“	Mr. Rice,	14.00
“	Mr. Blood,	3.60
	Total amount expended,	\$157.84
	Balance in treasury,	\$131.71.
	L. W. RAWSON, <i>Treas.</i>	

FOOT-BALL.

Immediately before vacation a meeting of those interested in foot-ball was held, and arrangements made for spring practice. Beginning at once, Capt. Allen proposes to have a squad play two nights a week as long as possible. By this means the old players can still keep in trim, while the green men will be given an opportunity to learn the rudiments of the game and save valuable time next fall. All students should try and encourage as many new men as possible to join the squad, and those who have played before should come out and give all the help they can. By continuing this policy there will be a chance for a few scores next fall with a plus sign before them. The Prep class contains some unusually heavy men and a considerable number of old players.

Capt. Allen has another scheme on foot which as yet has not been announced. It is to form a triple league here in the city, to include Holy Cross, the Academy and the W. P. I. A series of games could be played at the Oval, which would give all three elevens excellent practice for their out-of-town games, besides bringing a

good round sum of money into the treasury of each. The Athletic Committee of the Faculty have already given their unanimous approval of the plan and will support it before the Faculty.

Allen also proposes to have, if possible, a training table next fall, and if the Foot-ball Association will back him, an offer of individual badges to all players who take part in 75% of match games, thus giving encouragement to hard work. Southgate intends to return next fall and take the Electrical Course.

BASE-BALL.

Base-ball will be a success this year if "hustling" can make it. The Directors have had two meetings. At one they drew up a constitution and ordered that no member of the Institute team should play on class nines. This constitution was adopted by the association. At the second meeting it was voted to have class games between scrub nines.

Directly after vacation, practice will begin. Manager Wallace will pick his team of twenty men, who will elect a captain subject to removal by the directors. At the end of the season the team will elect next season's captain.

A new set of officers is to be elected in the fall. The manager must be a Senior, the treasurer a Middler, and one director from each class in school. The Prep director is elected in February. The idea is to have the treasurer made manager the succeeding year, thus giving a man a chance to learn something of his duties.

The schedule of games as far as arranged is: April 14. Two nines begin practice.

- “ 19. } 5-inning practice games with the
- “ 22. } W. H. S.
- “ 23. } Melrose H. S. at Oval.
- “ 26. } Harvard Freshmen at Cambridge.
- “ 30. } Cambridge M. T. School at Worcester.

- May 7. Yale Freshmen at Oval.
- “ 18. W. A. C. teams, 5 innings.
- “ 21. Brown Freshmen, Providence.
- “ 28. W. A. C. team, Oval.
- June 4. Brown Freshmen, Worcester.
- “ 14. Worc. Academy.
- “ 18. Melrose H. S., Worcester.

Mr. Wallace is considering several strong teams as attractions May 30 and June 24, the day after Commencement. Surely, with all these attractions, base-ball should receive the hearty support of every Tech.

THE PREP 'BUS RIDE.

The Preps, following the example of the Socialists of '92, conceived the idea of a 'bus ride, and chose the Senior High School girls as their charges and Westboro as the objective point.

Accordingly a merry party of about thirty Preps and High School girls, accompanied by two chaperones, left the High School one evening not long since, and after the barge had been rendered practically useless by the breaking of two poles owing to getting stuck in the mud, they reached the Whitney House along towards morning.

An excellent supper was served by landlord Martin, at which Pres. C. A. Harrington presided.

After dinner speeches were called for by Mr. Harrington, to which a few responded. Then the party adjourned to the parlors and enjoyed an hour in a social way, dancing, whist and other games receiving their share.

The early hour at which the party reached Worcester is very complimentary to the habits of our youngest class.

Having literally "set their shoulders to the wheel" they refused to turn back, thus showing the material of which they are made. The fact that four members of the party returned in hacks, reflects no discredit upon the class when the circumstances are known. Although a little tired out by their exertions in ascending some of those muddy hills, they all expressed their satisfaction with the enterprise and assert their willingness to go again.

NOTICES.

We propose in this column, each issue, to publish, as far as possible, a list of socials, entertainments, and other amusements for the ensuing fortnight in which Tech men would be interested. Any one of the Editors will be glad to receive contributions at any time, and it is hoped the students will help us make it as complete and serviceable as possible.

14. Thursday, 8:30 P. M. Illustrated Lecture by Rev. J. J. Lewis on the Passion Play of Oberammergau at Association Hall.
- 6:30 P. M. Supper and Entertainment at the First Baptist Church, Salem Square.
15. Friday, 8:00 P. M. Operetta of King Alfred and a Miscellaneous Entertainment, Pilgrim Church.
16. Saturday, 3:00 P. M. Brown *versus* Harvard at the Worcester Oval.
17. Easter Sunday, 6:00 A. M. Early service at All Saints'.
7:00 A. M. Early service at St. John's.
18. Monday, 7:45 P. M. Conversation Party under the auspices of Y. P. S. C. E. at Union Church.

19. Tuesday, 3:00 P. M. Williams *versus* Holy Cross at Worcester Oval.
7:30 P. M. Mock Trial at Old South Church.
7:30 P. M. Lecture on Japan, and Social, First Universalist Church.
8:00 P. M. Author's Reading, Association Hall.
21. Thursday, 7:30 P. M. Kettle Drum at Old South Church.
22. Friday, 6:30 P. M. Supper. 8:00 P. M. Entertainment at Central Church.
23. Saturday, 3:00 P. M. Melrose High School *versus* W. P. I. at Worcester Oval.

Y. M. C. A.

On Wednesday, the last day before the recess, quite a large audience in Room 13 was addressed by Mr. Goldsbury, the Princeton student evangelist.

Mr. Goldsbury was for two years leader of the Princeton Glee Club. Mr. Pierson, who was kept from the meeting by a cold, was a member of the famous eleven of '89. These two gentlemen have for two years been engaged in Evangelistic work, and recently spoke before the Y. M. C. A. at Cornell.

A brief business meeting of the association will be held after the regular noon meeting, Tuesday, April 19th; and on the following Tuesday will occur the annual meeting for the election of officers for the coming year, and for the transaction of other important business. Every member should endeavor to attend this meeting in order that good and efficient officers may be chosen.

EXCURSION TO HOLYOKE.

April 6th Profs. Alden, Sinclair, Higgins; Instructor, Smith; and Fish, Alderman, Freed, L. C. Smith, Tucker, Paull and Sinclair went to Holyoke to see the engine of the Merrick Thread Company. The morning was spent in taking indicator cards, each student taking a set.

The engine was built by the Wheelock Engine Co., and is triple expansion, so arranged that the intermediate cylinder can be thrown out and the engine run as compound. During the visit it was running compound at about one hundred horse-power, and using about 13.7 lbs. of coal per horse-power. Cards will be sent to the Institute, taken when the engine is run as a triple expansion, and opportunity for interesting comparisons afforded.

The party dined at the Hamilton House, and then visited the paper mills, where the process

was explained and the works shown by Mr. S. M. Green, '85, the Superintendent.

The testing flume of the Holyoke Water Power Co. was also visited where the Perrit water wheel was being tested. This is an extremely simple device, which nevertheless gave an efficiency of 86 %.

Mr. C. L. Newcomb, '80, Superintendent of the Deane Steam Pump Co., then piloted the party over the works of the company, where many familiar "Tech" faces were seen.

The students left Holyoke at 5.30, arriving in Worcester at 7.00, after a day of much pleasure and practical value.

Such excursions are profitable and instructive to all, and afford the students excellent chances for study and investigation.

PROPOSAL FOR FOUR-YEAR COURSES.

According to the request of the Trustees of the Institute, the Faculty have been engaged in preparing schedules of study, so as to change the length of time necessary for obtaining a degree, from three to four years.

It now seems highly probable that the Trustees will adopt this plan, and hence will quite radically change the present condition of the Institute.

The number of hours per week will be diminished, because the chief correct criticism of the present course has been that, owing to the time of the student being so closely occupied, almost none was allowed for outside study and reading, and there was danger of the student failing to assimilate and digest what was learned.

Hence the actual amount of work in the Mechanical Department will not be greatly increased, but in the others considerable will be added.

Practice, which is the strong point here, will be continued. The usual extra practice will be required, and 10 hours per week during the whole course, save in the last half of the Freshmen and Senior Years, when it will be 15 hours per week.

The change, of course, will affect none at present in the Institute, and, if adopted, would probably go into effect in September, 1893, and there would be one year when no class would graduate, in 1896.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS.

A New Society. Student and Alumnus.

On Tuesday evening, March 15th, about thirty students and graduates gathered in the Mechanical Model Room of the Laboratories, at the in-

itation of Prof. Alden, for the purpose of organizing a Mechanical Engineering Society.

Prof. Alden called the meeting to order and after welcoming those present, stated the plan which he had to propose. He said that many times members of the Alumni wrote to him about their work, sometimes asking information, at others giving accounts of what they had done and problems which they had worked out. From this it had occurred to him that a society might be formed and these results embodied in papers which could be read for the benefit of all. Questions sent in could be discussed by those present. These papers could afterward be published or at least placed on file at the Institute for reference. The society would include both students and alumni. Meetings held every two months would not require a great amount of time or labor from anyone. At commencement time a kind of reception might be held.

The meeting then organized with H. W. Wyman, '82, as chairman and A. L. Rice, '91, secretary. E. K. Hill, '71, asked a few questions, and in reply Prof. Alden stated that the society was intended first for the benefit of undergraduates. He suggested that no professor be allowed to submit papers. W. L. Chase, '77, and Mr. Hill both spoke in favor of the scheme. V. E. Edwards, '83, suggested that postal cards be sent out previous to the meetings, stating the subjects to be considered and calling for questions after the manner of a New York society with which he was familiar. Remarks were made by Freed, '92, Higgins, '93, and Fish, '92, the latter calling on Prof. Sinclair. Prof. Sinclair thought no institution had a more loyal alumni, and that the society would bring them together if nothing more. E. F. Miner, '87, wondered that it had not been formed before. Supt. Higgins thought among other things that reports from the American Society would be of interest. Remarks by Mr. Rice, Bartlett, '92, and others followed, and finally a committee, consisting of Prof. Alden, and Messrs. Wyman, Edwards, L. C. Smith, and Higgins, was appointed to draft a constitution, prepare an outline of work and submit a list of officers at a second meeting to be held a fortnight later. Owing to a misunderstanding of the notice, the attendance of students was very small.

At the adjourned meeting the report of the committee was brought forward and the constitution adopted after a thorough and critical revision by the gentlemen present, and the list of officers proposed was unanimously accepted.

It is the object of the Society to get the students interested in their future engineering work before they finish their course and to give them an idea of what is being done in the engineering

professions. It is also intended that it shall serve to make and strengthen the bonds of loyalty and good fellowship among the alumni, Faculty and students, for their mutual good and for the welfare of the Institute.

The Society is modeled to a degree on the plan of the Am. S. M. E. In this society the gentlemen who are to read papers write them out and have them printed so that all can read them before the meeting. Then at the meeting only an abstract is read by the member or the secretary, if the former be absent. Thus an opportunity is given for intelligent and practical discussion based on the results of the experience of the members present.

Of course this plan can not be entirely followed here but at each meeting papers will be read written by the alumni, who now are holding some of the foremost positions in the ranks of the engineering professions, whose experience in actual practice will be of great value to the students. Also undergraduates will be given an opportunity to bring forward questions of direct interest to them in the promotion of their own designs and have them discussed and suggestions and improvements made.

Arrangements can be made for excursions to plants and machines of interest such as are popular at Cornell and elsewhere, and similar to the one recently made by a few from the Institute to Holyoke.

At the last meeting before Commencement a reception will probably be given to the alumni and a pleasant opportunity thus made for all to become acquainted.

The Society starts in an auspicious and favorable manner. A large number of the alumni are interested and if all the plans are carried out much good to all concerned will result, first in the interchange of ideas, and second in the bringing of the alumni into closer relations to the Institute.

Further particulars can be found in the Constitution which has been printed and mailed to alumni. The following is the list of officers and charter members not students:

President, E. H. Fish, '92.

Vice Presidents, N. M. Paull, '93, J. F. Bartlett, '92, Prof. J. E. Sinclair, E. F. Tolman, '71, H. W. Wyman, '82.

Secretary, Prof. G. I. Alden.

Treasurer, Prof. M. P. Higgins.

Counsellors, W. T. Hatch, '73, Prov., R. I.

T. S. Miller, '79, N. Y.

H. S. Downe, '82, Chicago.

W. W. Bird, '87, Cambridge, Mass.

J. M. Goodell, '88, N. Y.

MEMBERS.

Prof. G. I. Alden.	Prof. J. E. Sinclair.
“ M. P. Higgins.	Mr. E. K. Hill, '71.
Mr. E. F. Tolman, '71.	“ W. F. Hatch, '73.
“ W. L. Chase, '77.	“ T. S. Miller, '79.
“ L. F. Gordon, '81.	“ H. S. Downe, '82.
“ H. W. Wyman, '82.	“ W. F. Cole, '83.
“ W. W. Bird, '87.	“ J. M. Goodell, '88.
“ G. I. Rockwood, '88.	“ A. L. Smith, '90.
“ A. L. Rice, '91.	

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held in the Salisbury Laboratory, Monday evening, April 4th. Mr. Tolman and Mr. Wyman were absent. Messrs. E. H. Fish and G. I. Alden, President and Secretary of the society, were elected to those offices in the Board of Directors.

Prof. Alden then read the Constitution as adopted by the society, that it might be seen whether it was correct. He also read a circular letter which he proposed to send to the alumni. Minor changes in the wording of each were adopted, after which it was voted to authorize the secretary to have 1,000 copies of the Constitution and 500 each of the circular letter and list of officers printed, which were to be sent to the alumni.

The Secretary was authorized to purchase whatever was necessary for his use or that of the Treasurer, and the meeting adjourned after the issuance of the following:

NOTICE.

All persons who were present at *either* meeting of the Washburn M. E. Society are eligible as charter members, provided that they notify the Directors before the meeting, May 2d, 1892.

G. I. ALDEN, Secretary.

PERSONAL.

Geo. E. Camp, of '88 was in Worcester a few days ago and visited the Institute.

J. W. Kendrick, '73, Chief Engineer of the Northern Pacific R. R., having his headquarters in St. Paul, was in the city recently. Mr. Kendrick has 5,000 miles of road under his care.

Bartlett and Brayton, '92 are displaying much ingenuity in attaching a recording apparatus to Prof. Alden's dynamometer. A piece of paper is attached to the brass disks with hektograph material and the record is made by a pencil pressing on the paper and attached to the dynamometer arm.

TECHNICALITIES.

At the minstrel show during the performance of the ballet, one lady was heard to ask another: "Are those all Worcester girls?"

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Any one having an old wheelbarrow or harrow can have it differentiated, at reasonable rates, by applying to the Middlers.

It was probably thought that posting the notice of "Laboratory dues" on the same sheet as a notice of a recess would take off the curse.

The Board of Editors of the W P I for last year will hold a supper about the first of May. Arrangements are now being made for it by the Senior ex-editors.

The Middlers have located the usual spur track of the B. & M. R. R. to the Fair Grounds, and the boys say that the trains are already trying to run off onto the new location.

We may expect A. L. S., '90, to develop some common sense by next June. By his own statement, we are led to believe that a Tech has none of that commodity until his sheepskin is two or three years old.

The end men in the minstrel show are now preparing a set of jokes for use next year in Upton. They will be carefully shipped about Sept. 1, and possibly the point may reach the Uptonites about March 31, 1893.

When A. A. Stagg lectured in Y. M. C. A. hall on athletics, he showed a picture of the pole vault and remarked, "the body is spread out too much like a huge fish." We are convinced, however, that he meant nothing personal about the President of the W. P. I. A. A.

The Senior Class at the Normal School has just gone through the throes of electing a class photographer. Rumor has it that a cabinet of Th-mps-n, '92, has been circulating among the dear girls as a sample of Schervée's work. It is unnecessary to add, when this is taken into consideration, that another photographer received the contract.

Our friends of Holy Cross, from the other side of the city, evidently mean to maintain their old time reputation in base-ball. Fast day they defeated Wesleyan on the Oval grounds before two thousand spectators, to the tune of 24 to 4. It might be advisable for our Base-ball Manager to steer clear of H. C. C. if enthusiasm in the game is to be kept on Tech Hill. The newspapers state that the same day the High School nine defeated "a picked nine from the Tech" 18 to 17.

Many of the students have received circulars offering to furnish essays, orations, speeches and the like for round dollars. Almost anything can be had, so it is claimed, either "humorous, profound or historical." Those interested will do well to profit by the recent fate of an imbecile congressman who paid for his speech, had it published in the *Congressional Record* and then was chagrined to see the same speech

printed in another column as the production of another M. C. to whom the enterprising vender of political gas had also sold a copy.

Work on the new tennis courts on Boynton street has already begun. Mr. Stephen Salisbury has had the turf removed and the lot ploughed up, and the contractor is at work grading. The contract requires completion by the middle of May. There are to be four courts, arranged two and two, all of dirt. The expense will be about \$75, for which \$60 has already been pledged. When these grounds are finished the members of the Tennis Association will have some of the best courts in the city on which to play, and the very best when the beauty of the situation and freedom from sun are considered.

It is said that a short time ago, a certain Middler received an invitation to a leap-year party from a young lady. He wrote a declination, also a letter to a masculine friend at about the same time and did the old trick of exchanging envelopes with disastrous results. The letter to his friend was hardly meant for the perusal of his young lady, as it contained a choice assortment of kuss words et cetera. Middler now goes out behind the barn every balmy evening and regularly kicks the seat of his trousers for fifteen minutes whilst the dust rises like clouds of incense about his head.

The Shop has recently received orders for a short run freight elevator in Providence; a 61-ft. run passenger elevator for the Masonic Hall, Dover, N. H.; two small freight elevators for Crocker, Burbank & Co., Fitchburg; two for St. Paul's School, Concord, N. H. and a 65-ft. run passenger elevator for the new six-story Five Cents Savings Bank building, this city, where the drilling is already in progress. An order has also been received for 26 sets of drawing models for a New York firm. These include over 780 pieces, and form the largest order for models ever given to the Shop.

The publishers of *Engineering News*, New York, offer three prizes, respectively, \$75, \$50, \$25, for the best theses of graduates from Engineering Courses in 1892. Others of especial merit will receive honorable mention and a two years' subscription.

"Theses will be graded according to their apparent permanent value for the advancement of engineering practice or theory, either as records of original research, or an intelligent and concise discussion, or critical summaries of older researches; clearness, conciseness and simplicity of form will be essential merits for a high award." Notice of these prizes have been sent out within a week and entries close June 20th. All theses receiving premiums will be published in full.

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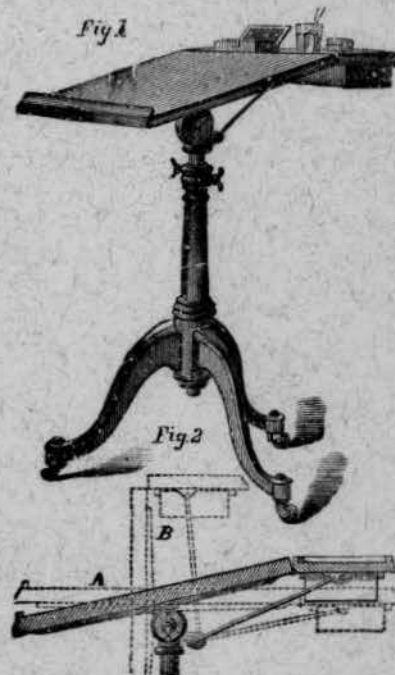
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