"Our ceremony today embraces the Technical Schools. These are part of the Institute, and no mean part. In direct practical results, under the magical sway of Dr. Hamerschlag--it is astonishing what good judges this audience is of men!--perhaps it is to overshadow any other part, for it opens to students of both sexes, through the doors of knowledge, new and improved scientific modes of reaching higher results through better means. It elevates mere manual labor, making it more the product of the brain and less of the hand, of skill rather than of force. Based upon science and more refined methods, it must create finer tastes. All the Technical students have free access to Library, Department of Fine Arts, Music Hall, and Museum. Our Technical Schools, therefore, while resting upon the severely practical foundation of teaching young men and women how best to fit themselves to earn their bread by the sweat of their brows, may be regarded as also educational in esthetic fields in no small degree. Thus, while giving them the best of all foundations for building up character, there are also the refining and broadening influences of culture in other directions. The students feel that they are to be no mere drones living upon others, but are preparing to become of use in the world, winning the respect of others because possessed of their own.

"I am told there are today thirteen hundred ninety students, young men and women, and several thousands waiting admission. In every department there exist obvious proofs of intense earnestness, great esprit de corps, and a determination to profit by the advantages offered. Already there have been developed strong feelings of pride in and love for the schools."