

## PREFACE.

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THE Engineering Society of the School of Practical Science was founded in the Spring of 1885 through the exertions of a few of the students in the Department of Engineering, Messrs. Herbert Bowman, of the third year, and T. Kennard Thompson, of the second year, being the principal promoters. Meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesday of each month during the session, at which papers are read and engineering questions discussed. In order to keep alive the interest of graduates in the success of the Society some of the leading papers contributed during the previous session are published annually. It has been thought that the interest in these papers would be increased if they were published as soon as possible after being read. This edition, therefore, contains not only the principal papers read during the session of 1888-89, but also those read during the first term of the present session. The majority of the writers are students, the greater part of whose time is necessarily spent in acquiring information already in the possession of the profession, and who can ill afford to spend much of it in original investigations. Notwithstanding this, however, most of the contents of the papers are the results of their individual observation or experience, or at least the writers have some practical knowledge of the subjects dealt with.

It is hoped by the general committee of the Society that graduates of the school and former students, who are now engaged in active work, will make endeavours to contribute papers relating to their work to be read at meetings of the Society.

The present edition consists of one thousand copies, which will be widely distributed among Engineers and Surveyors.