

siastic terms of this book and of the benefits that would result from its perusal and study. In order to prove that such a suspicion is untenable, I beg to call your attention to the folder I hold in my hand. It gives the "Opinions of the Profession and the Press," excerpted from reviews of the treatise accumulated from papers and periodicals published all over the civilized world. I am leaving here for your benefit a number of these folders, in the hope that many of you will read them from start to finish. Their perusal should give you absolute confidence in the dicta and advice of the numerous writers of the treatise.

A certain adverse criticism concerning this book has been made on several occasions, namely, that its great bulk will discourage many young men from reading it. The Editors' reply to this somewhat captious comment has invariably been that "If such be the case, it is really an advantage rather than a detriment, because any young man who would be thus discouraged is not built of suitable material for the Engineering Profession, and his exclusion therefrom would be a benefit instead of a loss."

In respect to the characteristics of men who are and men who are not fitted, either by Nature or training, to become engineers, much has been said by a number of the authors; and the Editors in their chapter on "Résumé and Conclusions" have summed up the opinions thus:

"After reading this book, the sub-freshman might propound to himself the following queries; and his answers thereto, if strictly honest, should materially help to settle the question of his suitability for technical life. The Editors' advice is appended to each question.

"Do you dislike the study of mathematics? If you do, keep out!

"Do you dislike either hard study or strenuous physical work? If you do, keep out!

"Do you object to discipline? If you do, keep out!

"Do you desire to obtain simply passing marks, in order to graduate? If so, keep out!