The spring indoor meetings of the Harvard Athletic Association, three in number, will begin next Saturday, March 10, and continue through the two following Saturdays. Already a large number of tickets have been sold and a large attendance assured.

The South Boston Athletic Club tug-of-war team has refused to accept the second medals awarded them at the Union Games of Feb. 5. It is to be remembered that the South Bostons were at first thrown out of the lists on account of being over weight, but, having taken a lighter man from the Union Club, were allowed to pull. After the tugs, which they won, they were, by a protest from the Lynn team, who claimed they had not agreed to the substitute, thrown out of the first medals and only given the second. They now challenge any light-weight team in the State for the State championship and a set of gold medals, the medals to be given by the defeated team.

Department Notes.

According to the Reading (Pa.) Eagle, a gentleman of Parkesburg, Pa., contemplates the erection of a private mansion, which will be built entirely of iron, except the foundations, which are to be of solid rock. The outside of the house will be painted and ornamented to appear as if it were built of wood. The outside walls will be hollow, and contain pipes through which the smoke and heat from the furnace will pass, thus warming the walls and rooms. In order to prevent the warping which would take place, owing to the contraction and expansion of the iron, there will be breaks in the iron at intervals which will be filled with rubber, so that when expansion takes place there will be room for it without producing any change in the contour of the framework. The rooms will be frescoed and ornamented as if there were plastered walls. The floors of some rooms will be of polished cast-iron tiles, while the mantel-pieces of the parlor and dining-rooms will be of polished steel, handsomely ornamented. The house will certainly be an architectural and scientific curiosity. The owner admits that it will cost two or three times as much as an ordinary house, but claims that once built it will last for centuries without repairs, and will never cost a cent for insurance.

A novelty in the way of houses has recently been erected at Atlantic City, N. J. The house is built in the shape of an elephant, a winding staircase leading up through one of the legs to a large hall. The windows are formed by the eyes and the ornamentation of the blanket, which is thrown over the animal's back. On top is a pavilion. The trunk is filled with pipes which supply the upper stories with water. The builder has got a patent upon the design, but we hope that few would copy it, even if he had not done so.

The architects are advised to read the article in the Century for March on the Architectural League in New York.

At Tufts College, near Boston, a new course in electrical engineering has been established. The course is under the supervision of Prof. A. E. Dolbear, one of the pioneers of the telephone, and eminent for his electrical inventions. This department embraces instruction in wood and metal work at the vise and lathe, practice in running the steam-engine, and an extensive experimental course, with electric and acoustic apparatus, with special reference to the application of telegraphy, telephony, and electric lighting. — Electrician.

The Electrical Review has published a long article on the course of Electrical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. We thought once of publishing an article on the above subject, but gave it up. The idea seems to have got abroad somehow that our course of electrical engineering is a living reality.

It is reported that the Merchant Venturers Company, of Bristol, England, has resolved to erect, at an expense of $150,000, a technical school for the use of the Bristol Trade and Mining School, founded through the exertions of Canon Mosely, in 1855.