worthy to be looked up to and followed by future classes. What reputation does it bear to-day? The largest and yet the smallest class that ever entered the Institute. Truly, appearances are deceptive. 

The Freshman Ball.

Mr. Editor:—Much blame has been cast on the present Freshman class, principally by upper classmen, for the simple reason that '86 has transgressed a so-called custom by deciding not to give a Freshman ball this year. Bitter and sore are the feelings against us. We are aware that to put in a plea supporting the recent action of the class is decidedly against public opinion at the Institute; but a few words might justly be said on our side.

Because for two or three years it has been customary for the entering class to give a ball complimentary to all the students, there is no reason why the present class should do so. Neither has any class a right to expect it simply because they have given it to those that went before.

Every class has undeniably a perfect right and privilege to act as it thinks proper in such matters, unbiased by previous classes; nor is it under any obligations whatever to any other. This being the case, if it should not see fit to give the ball, nobody has any business to complain.

Many think that what they term our failure was due to the unwillingness of many to contribute for it; but this is not the case. Sufficient had been subscribed to make the affair a success, had it been thought best to carry it forward. Little interest, it is true, had been manifested from the first, but nearly all had been willing to subscribe. For some reason or other matters had been put off until it became absolutely too late to give the ball, and when the affair was brought up for final action it was voted down by a large majority. This decision certainly shows the independence of the class, and should be respected, if not relished.

It has been suggested that, should the next year's entering class give a Freshman ball, '86 would feel rather in the background.

If they conclude to do so, very well; that is no concern of ours; but we think it may be said for a large number of the class, that we sincerely hope this extravagant custom—if it may be called a custom—will soon cease, and be supplanted by other and more equally divided amusements, in which all may participate, and not those alone who have long bank accounts at their disposal.

A Dissenter.

Athletics.

A large audience assembled last Saturday afternoon in the new gymnasium to witness the annual in-door spring games of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Athletic Club.

A number of the events were open to non-club members, and entries were had from the Union Athletic Club, Harvard Athletic Association, and Lynn Crescent Athletic Club.

The games, as a whole, compared very favorably with those of the last in-door spring meeting, and, relatively to our recent winter meeting, were a decided improvement. Running high-jump came first in the order of events. For this there were three entries: Kimball, '85, Haines, '84, and du Pont, '84. Kimball took first place, with a record of 5 ft. 1 in., with du Pont second at 5 ft.

This event more than any other on the programme showed lack of preparation, both Haines and Kimball falling considerably behind their previous record.

In the first bout at fencing, Leonard, '83, and McKim, '85, crossed foils. Leonard easily won, with a score of 7 points to 4.

The entries for sparring, which came next on the list, were H. A. Magoun, L. Sise, and F. E. Sands. Only Sands and Sise appeared. Sise was clearly the better man of the two and easily won the medal, though Sands pluckily withstood his opponent.

For the fence vault (handicapped to reach) four men appeared: Armstead, Lynn Crescent Athletic Club; Williams, Union Athletic Club;