THE TECH.

their bearing upon athletics at the Institute, since, in consequence of their probable adoption by Harvard, it may be necessary that some action shall be taken by our Faculty in order that we may be allowed to arrange games with that college in future.

The resolutions will probably be adopted by a sufficient number of colleges to put them in force, but whether they will be adopted by all or not is a question of doubt. Yale and Brown are generally thought to be opposed to them, while Princeton is said to be willing to adopt them if five other colleges of sufficient prominence do so.

Few things can be more terrible to contemplate than the now subsiding Ohio floods; large towns, some known only by a few roofs standing above the water, others utterly demolished and swept away; thousands of human beings homeless, starving, shivering on the bare hills to which they have fled for refuge from the rising waters, — many drowned or crushed beneath the toppling buildings; great tracts of land deprived of fertility in the coming springtime; wretchedness, cold, hunger, everywhere. And how is all this misery to be remedied, or rather prevented in the future? Prof. Egleston, of the Forestry department, has pointed out the close connection between the demolition of the forests and the overflowing of the rivers, but this is a warning to other men in other places; here, it seems a bitter taunt and mockery, — the forests cannot be grown again in a year. It has been suggested that great dams be constructed to keep back the waters until they can be utilized at need. This method may not be practicable, but at all events it behooves the government to consider how these great flood-gates may be closed in future.

We should be glad to have the attention of the Faculty turned to what we think the inadequate course of surveying in the mining courses as they are now scheduled in the catalogue, with a view, if possible, of remedying the defect; and, with all modesty, we would suggest how this seems possible to us. Why cannot the time now occupied with physical manipulation in the third year be given to surveying, which is certainly of more importance in the miner's education? At a recent meeting of the 2 G Society, it was shown that this was the weakest point in their education, and it was earnestly hoped that something would be done towards strengthening it. We pray that this request for more instruction in surveying may soon receive the attention of the Faculty.

The custom of giving the Senior Ball is one which deserves the hearty support of all under-classmen. Coming at the end of his college course, it forms an object of pleasant remembrance for the Senior, who looks back upon it in after-years as the sole social occasion connected with the Institute for which he was not asked to subscribe. For the under-classmen it offers a very pleasant means of expressing their best wishes for the future of the Senior class. We hope that all will generously aid the committee by their financial support, and not force them to look forward, as has too often been the case, to a deficit which must come out of their own pockets.

The snub which the United States has just received from Prince Bismarck in regard to the Lasker resolutions seems to us to have been richly merited, and should furnish a sound moral lesson to some of our "statesmen." The position of Herr Lasker seems to have been somewhat that of a Socialist; and there was about as much tact in sending resolutions of condolence to the government, against whose policy and institutions he was striving, as there would be in sending messages to the Czar of All the Russias, saying we were sorry that the man who had tried to take his life had just died here, and we thought he would be sorry to hear of it, etc. etc.

It was an unnecessary act of policy, for which we are placed in an undignified position. The sooner the United States learns to mind its own affairs, and keep its hand out of other people's, the better it will be for our own self-respect and the security of free institutions.