Does this sound like condemning the higher education of women? If this unknown writer of the "protest" is not inclined to take my word for the accuracy of the above quotation, let him ask any class fellow; then, if still suspicious, perhaps I can show him my manuscript for his private perusal, and then, I am sure, he will see his mistake. And I hope, that when he does discover that he is really mistaken, he will have the kindness to show us the refining influence woman's presence at the Institute has had on him, by coming out and fearlessly acknowledging his error. I might even suggest his doing so in order to do me justice, but perhaps treating people justly is not in his line.

In conclusion, I beg to state my opinion, that when a gentleman is asked to speak at a dinner, on a subject which offers opposing sides, he ought to have the privilege of stating his own views, without suffering abuse and from false accusations at the hands of anyone who happens to hold a contrary view.

L. A., '98.

Boston Society of Civil Engineers.

On Wednesday evening, March 17, the Boston Society of Civil Engineers held its annual meeting in Chipman Hall, Tremont Temple.

Founded in 1848, this is the oldest engineering society in the United States, and its four hundred and thirty-six members constitute the largest of the so-called local civil engineering societies. The term local does not include the American Society of Civil Engineers. Of the above membership, eighty-six are graduates of the Institute, besides a large number of members who were former students but have not graduated.

Mr. Dexter Brackett, engineer of the distribution department of the Metropolitan Water Board, was elected president. Professor Swain, who has held this position during the past year, declined renomination.

Col. James Francis presented to the Society a very excellent picture of his father, James B. Francis, America's most noted hydraulic engineer, who was president for the year 1874, and for many years previous to his death was an active member.

In a short address Professor Swain spoke of the great necessity of introducing into the education of engineers broadening influences, which counteract the narrowing effect of a rigid technical training. Such general studies as history, economics, etc., are essentials of a curriculum such as that given here at the Institute, where only a small portion of the student body have had the advantages of a previous college course.

Electrical Engineering Society.

Last Friday evening the many interesting lectures which have been given before the Electrical Engineering Society during the present year, received a climax in that of Professor Puffer on "Alternating Current Phenomena." Professor Puffer's aim was to show experimentally a number of phenomena, with the mathematical demonstrations of which the Senior members were familiar. Room 22 in which the lecture was given was filled with apparatus, and during the evening currents of almost every voltage which the dynamos of the Institute can produce were used. A particularly interesting series of experiments were the views of the alternating current arc, which Professor Puffer showed by means of a stroboscope driven first by a direct current motor, and then by a synchronous motor. The experiments showed clearly the difference in the effects of inductive and non-inductive resistances, and the lag in the current caused by the former.

President Dougherty announced that the visit to the General Electric Company's works at Lynn, which was postponed from the date formerly announced, would take place Monday, March 29th. He also stated that the next meeting of the Society would be "thesis night," and the theses of the various Senior members would be discussed. At the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was given to Professor Puffer by the members of the Society.