COMMUNICATIONS

To the Editor of The Tech:

In the minds of many authors, the class dinner held on December 2 was a failure, as far as spirit is concerned. The yells and cheers that were given while the men were meeting and during the banquet gave a bad atmosphere to the evening. At best the outcome was a disgrace to the good name of the class.

The class of 1916 is conspicuous this year because it is "the last class to graduate from the Old Institute." As such it should represent to the Faculty and others the ideals and successes of former classes only as well-trained engineers but as gentlemen. The manner in which we treat our guests and the kind of impressions that we make on them are bound to stand for the success which we have gained in our course at the Institute.

The spirit shown by some of the students (not all, by any means) was unbelievable among a group of students, especially when they come from the best families in the country. The speeches of Dean Burton, Bursar Ford, Professor Spofford and Professor Halsted were told us what we are to the Institute to accomplish, and what they believed the class to be. Governor Walsh summed up what had been said in the previous speeches, and added the duty and purpose which students at M. I. T. owe to others who cannot have the advantages which we enjoy. His appeal was strong and unmistakable, and will be remembered by many. Thereafter short to tell a story told, which had no point at all, but was told solely for the filth that was in it, disgraces not only the speaker, but every one in the class.

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There were the yells, particularly those given by the representatives of Course IX, in which some of our most influential undergraduates participated. It is true that these yells were given partly in the perfectly laudable spirit of banter, but after all the chief point of Thursday's proceedings is to be avoided.

It is impossible that the names of two or three individuals should be singled out to bear the full brunt of the disgrace. Responsibility for the speeches and remarks at the dinner must be accompanied by postage at the rate of one cent a copy.

THE SENIOR DINNER.

The time that has elapsed since Thursday night has served to strengthen rather than to weaken the conviction that what occurred at the Senior Dinner will go down in the memories of those present as one of the grossest insults to manhood that they ever witnessed. Subsequent to the dinner President Farthing had seen Governor Walsh and the members of the Faculty who were present to make repairs so far as is possible. However, no matter how diplomatic, President Farthing's action cannot re-store equilibrium to the status of the class; the reasons for the disgrace must be analyzed in a repetition of Thursday's occurrences is to be avoided.

It is inevitable that the names of two or three individuals should be singled out to bear the full brunt of the disgrace. Responsibility for the speeches and remarks at the dinner rests naturally with the toastmaster, the president of the class. Responsibility for the conduct of the individual regia with the individual. It should be clearly understood from the beginning that, while that exhibition of filth did in no way represent the class, as is so conclusively shown by today's communications, a considerable part of the class—not a few individuals—must bear the responsibility and shame of that unfortunate night.

As is always the case, what happened was due largely to the atmosphere, which had become so well established that the splendid sentiment conveyed by the yells did not entirely dispel it. First, there was the presence of beer, which, while perhaps no one took to excess, produced an atmosphere of dulness which paved the way for what followed. For this the dinner committee and custom were responsible. Then

THE race ain't always to the swift. VELVET is way ahead of those quick-cured tobaccos, even if it does wait two years for agein'.