Department Notes.

The work in the mining laboratory has had a boom during the past week. There was much more work to be done than was realized, so that the fourth-year miners are obliged to spend most of their time there at the expense of their chemical work.

Mr. Gustin ran his iron ore about two weeks ago, and, although not as satisfactory as might have been wished, was much in advance of anything that has previously been done at the Institute in this line, as quite a large quantity of pig-iron was produced of good quality. The difficulty arose from the fact that the ore and the flux were not sufficiently mixed, causing the formation of a large "sow" of wrought iron, which choked up the bottom of the furnace.

The new electric machine and lights, lately presented to the Institute, form a very useful addition to the mining laboratory. Besides lighting the two laboratories for night work, it enables the students to try many electrolytical experiments that would otherwise be impossible.

Mr. Leonard has been experimenting upon an electrical method for the separation of tezurium from copper, where the former exists in very small quantities, but is, however, very detrimental to the copper.

The copper refining furnace has been torn to pieces, and a new bed put in, so that Mr. Stabbins may refine the matter obtained from his blast furnace run.

Mr. Tompkins has been finishing up some of the products of his zinc blend, viz., the amalgamation and chlorination of the gold and silver.

Mr. Tenney is trying experiments upon the separation of copper by electrolysis.

Mr. Hardon has just finished his work upon the gold ore.

It has become apparent that the National Exposition of Railroad Appliances will be largely attended by all classes of people. As the educating influence of the exposition cannot fail to be very great, all students interested in railroading should take special pains to be present.

It is the intention of a corporation in New York, to whom has been granted all underground Broadway, to have a tunnel under the whole length of way through which a steam railroad shall pass.

Seven thousand laborers are now at work on the Panama Canal. The preparatory work is all finished, and the work of dredging, digging, and blasting has begun in earnest.

The highest bridge in the world is that of Garabut, France. Near the middle of the central arch the distance from the bed of the river to the rail is 413 feet.

The first street railway in the world was run in New Orleans in 1845.

List of Publications, M. I. T.

Society of Arts.—In memory of William Barton Rogers, LL. D., late President of the Society. Pamphlet, 8vo, pp. 39, with portrait. Boston, 1882.


CROSBY, W. O. ('76).—The Mountains of Eastern Cuba. Appalachia, III. (1883), 129-142.


— Mt. Orford. Id., III., 182.


KINNICUTT, LEONARD P. ('75).—Modification of