Noticeable Articles.


CONTEMPORARY, December. "The Prospects of Republicanism in France," by Emile de Laostaye. "Evolutionary Ethics and Christianity," by Prof. Goldwin Smith. "In what hands are we,—in those of a Father, in those of a Power indifferent to the welfare of Humanity, or in those of a blind Fate? is a question which, let the devotees of physical science in the intoxicating rush of physical discovery say or imagine what they will, must surely have the most practical and abiding, as well as the highest interest for man. The ship of life is not, nor is it ever likely to be made so comfortable that the passengers will be content to float along in it without asking for what port they are bound."

ATLANTIC, January. "The Political Field," by E. V. Smalley. "The State elections of last fall disclosed results which surprised the politicians of both parties, and developed new conditions and probabilities for the approaching Presidential contest of 1884."


W. P. A.


C. R. C.

The Emery scales and testing machines are described and illustrated in the Iron Age of Nov. 29.

The sewerage of Nahant is described at length in a paper by Mr. E. W. Bowditch, in the American Contract Journal. The town was greatly disturbed in 1881 by the appearance of typhoid fever, and the present thorough and complete system of sewerage was at once begun. Mr. Bowditch's report also appears in the fourth annual report of the Massachusetts State Board of Health, Lunacy, and Charity.

The new catalogues will be published in a few days.

The architects visited the Norway Iron Works last week.

Four new Becker balances have been added to the quantitative laboratory.

A Freshman recently asked at the supply room for a bead to put on a platinum wire.

The second-year mechanicals and electricals have begun wood-turning and pattern-making.

The semi-annuals are upon us: they are to begin Jan. 8 and last until the 20th, after which we have a recess until the last of the month.

The members of the battalion have appeared in their new uniforms, and present a very neat appearance; the brass buttons add greatly to the effect.

The battalion will soon give an exhibition drill and dance,—probably on Saturday, Jan. 12. It is to take the place of an examination in military drill.

The Sophomores have been supplied, by two or three members of their class, with letter paper bearing the monogram of the Institute in the Institute colors.

Contrary to the usual fate of petitions for extra holidays at the Institute, the Faculty granted the petition for the Monday before Christmas. It gave our tired students a little rest and a little additional time to prepare for the impending semi-annuals.

Prof. Cross expects to have the new physical lecture-room ready for use in the course of one or two weeks. This news will be appreciated by the Sophomores, who have been obliged to breathe the foul air of Room 3. After the change has been effected, Room 3 will be remodelled and used by Prof. Atkinson for his "historical laboratory."