The individual contest at the competitive drill in May will be open not only to members of the Freshman battalion, but to all Technology students who may wish to compete.

Professors Cross and Goodwin have been making several experiments with the lately discovered "X rays," as they are designated, owing to the uncertainty of the present knowledge concerning their composition. The work has consisted principally in repeating the experiments of Roentgen, namely, the demonstrating that there are such phenomena, by allowing these rays to pass through opaque substances. A hand was so experimented with, and a physician stated that the image was sufficiently clear for surgical uses. A pair of spectacles was placed in a case and the rays passed through. The rims and glass showed clearly, but the cardboard or velvet was invisible; thus showing that the gold rims and glass offered more resistance to the rays than the cardboard. A silver dime was placed on the plate, and it seemed to completely obstruct the rays. The presence of the rays is made manifest by their effect, either on the photographic plate or on prepared paper, which, under their influence, becomes phosphorescent. Dr. Goodwin, in his investigations, has made the very interesting discovery that they also possess the power of discharging a negative charge of electricity, in the same way as do the ultra-violet rays of the spectrum. This effect has been produced through the entire thickness of the human body, and should these rays prove to have the same deleterious effect on bacteria as do ordinary light rays, it would seem that they may prove useful in the cure of disease. Articles bearing on the X rays may be found in Nature of January 23d. These are literal translations of Professor Roentgen's original articles. In Science, Mr. Hugo Munsterberg, of Harvard, has an account of the rays, and Professor Lenard, the first of the real experimenters with the cathode rays, has an article in the London Electrician of March 23, 1894.

Alumni Notes.
Miss Caroline A. Woodman, Course VII., '89, has been appointed Librarian at Bates College, Lewiston, Maine.

Mr. L. K. Yoder, Class of '95, Mechanical Department, has a position in the Construction Department of the Maryland Steel Company.

Mr. Charles Greely Abbott, Course VIII., '94, has been recently made First Assistant, and Mr. Frederic E. Fowle, Assistant, in the Astro-Physical Laboratory of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington.

Mr. J. E. Thropp, Jr., class of '94, of the Mining course, has just been placed in charge of the blast furnace at Everett, Penn. This is one of the most rapid promotions we have heard of and is of course partly due to the fact that Mr. Thropp's father is the owner of the plant. The father, however, is not a man who would advance his son without confidence in his ability and training.

The following changes in the occupations of Alumni have been reported to the Secretary of the Institute since the appearance of the Annual Catalogue:—

Sidney Williams, '87, formerly General Manager of the Philadelphia Belt Line R. R. Company, has become Comptroller of the Pennsylvania Coal Company.

J. M. Colby, Jr., '92, has become Superintendent's Assistant in the Norton Iron Company.

Prescott A. Hopkins, '92, has become Assistant Professor of Architecture in the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

R. S. Ball, '91, formerly Chief Draughtsman of the Louisville and Nashville R. R. Company, has become Assistant Superintendent of Machinery of that Company.

F. L. Dame, '89, formerly Superintendent of the Tacoma Railway and Motor Company, has become General Manager of the Seattle Consolidated Street Railway Company.