Professor Allen’s Informal Talks.

On Friday afternoon, March 12th, Professor Allen gave another of his illustrated talks to the students of Course I.; this time on “Good Roads, Bad Roads, and Highway Location.” In dwelling upon the excessive operating expenses of most of our highways, he stated that American transporters would be warranted in making an outlay of a billion dollars for the improvement of existing roadways.

The appreciation of the fact that money spent in improving roads is well invested capital, has led European countries to make a special point of this element of interior development, and to thereby better their domestic as well as foreign commerce. This exercise of good judgment slightly preceded the establishment of railways, so that in Europe to-day the conditions are of the best; while in America, on the contrary, the rapid growth of the country has been due to railroad construction. The result is that little foresight has been used, a hasty stride in development has been taken, and we are now brought face to face with the demand for better facilities for local traffic. The question is of growing importance, and facts were brought out by Professor Allen to the effect that action is being taken throughout the country to bring about the necessary improvement. At these informal talks, Professor Allen is always in the best of humors, and makes many side remarks that are most pertinent and witty.

The Intercollegiate Drill.

The Intercollegiate Drill has been arranged for Friday evening, May 21st. As previously, Technology has challenged Brown to compete in the Battalion Drill. It is probable that the colleges to take part in the Individual Drill will also be the same as last year, namely: Harvard, Brown, Amherst, “Aggie,” and M. I. T.

The Technology Battalion will meet the Brown Battalion at the depot, and escort them to Mechanics Building, where they will be entertained. The contest will take place in Mechanics Hall, at 7:30 o’clock; doors open at 7. The programme will be similar to that of last year, including the Battalion Parade, Individual Drill, Battalion Drill, and awarding of prizes, followed by dancing.

The M. I. T. squad to compete in the Individual Drill will be composed of six principals and one substitute chosen by competition, on March 17th, at 4.10, in the South Armory. This event is, as usual, open to all students at Technology. Little can at present be said regarding the comparative merits of the two competing battalions. It is stated that the officers of the Brown Battalion are all upper classmen.

The prizes consist of a banner for the college winning the Battalion Drill, and two medals for the first and second men in Individual Drill. The judges have not been selected as yet, but they will be officers of the U. S. Army. His Excellency, Governor Lippitt, of Rhode Island, has consented to be present and award the prizes. It is expected that this fact will inspire the cadets from Brown to unprecedented effort.

Athletic Association.

The annual meeting of the Athletic Association took place last Saturday in Room 11 Rogers, with President Allen in the chair. The attendance was very good, there being some 65 or 70 members present. Mr. Washburn, the treasurer, read his report, which showed a balance of a little over two dollars in the treasury. The election of officers then followed: Mr. Grosvenor, ’98, was chosen President; Mr. Morse, ’99, Vice President; Mr. Mayer, ’98, Secretary; and Mr. Lansingh, ’98, Treasurer.

Mr. Allen then spoke upon the advisability of having a graduate management of Athletics.