**Freshmen vs. Drill Instructor.**

Last week several Boston papers printed what was presumed to be an account of the recent trouble between the Freshman Class and Lieutenant Hamilton. The following extracts from one of them will serve to show that the reports almost wholly mis-state the situation.

"On the last drill day Irvington St. Armory was the scene of a pitched battle, in which the settees and cuspidors played a conspicuous part, being used as battering rams and projectiles.

"Lieut. Hamilton, Drill Instructor, succeeded in quelling the tumult and the drill was held as usual, an action on his part which was rewarded later by being hanged in effigy. The dummy hung at the lamp post before the armory door, and was greeted by a chorus of most lamentable howls from the students.

"Hamilton is as popular as a Tech Drilling master could be, and the demonstrations are not directed personally at him, the students say, though he has several reasons for supposing the contrary.

"The compulsory lecture on military science which accompanies the drill course is also intolerable to the students, who made such a demonstration Saturday that the lieutenant declared that he would hold them responsible for the lecture, whether delivered or not.

"Today, accordingly, the students are to receive a written examination upon a lecture which they have never heard, and it is expected that a few "flunks" will occur.

"The Tech authorities are resolved that the disturbances shall cease, though they have not yet decided what method to employ."

It is true that Lieutenant Hamilton was hanged in effigy before the drill but no riot followed. Also, Lieutenant Hamilton announced that no printed notes of his lectures would be published and that examinations would be held covering certain lectures whether the lectures were actually delivered or not. We do not believe that drill is "intolerable to the students." It has not been looked upon in this light in the past and it is inconceivable that, with the recent impetus given to military training in this country by the Spanish-American war, the present Freshman class should differ so from preceding classes. Formerly the majority in each class has been glad to profit by the course in Military Science. The work in the Armory has been systematic and the discipline perfect. The lectures were listened to by the more interested students, and the others bought the printed notes before the semi-annual examinations.

This year, however, drill did not begin until late in the fall, and on the very first day the instructor made such an exhibition of his lack of method that a general demoralization set in. From week to week the disturbances have gone on until the instruction in drill has become a farce.

Lieutenant Hamilton has been both unsuccessful in his attempts to secure order and unfortunate in the methods he has followed. As there has been no cause for expressions of indignation in the past, it seems to the observer that there must be something wrong somewhere when the disorder in the lecture hall is so great as to prevent any students, who so desire, from taking notes, and to call forth the threat from the instructor that students will be held responsible for lectures which it is impossible to take down. It is to be regretted that the trouble has gone so far but we believe if the course in Military Science is carried on properly by a competent and tactful instructor the support of the students will be secured.

The Institute authorities have now taken the matter up and are resolved to uphold Lieutenant Hamilton. If the class wishes to continue its opposition it can do so through the Institute committee. The present condi-