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ROENTGEN'S DISCOVERY.

It is with no little pleasure that we call attention to the article in this number by Professor Cox, describing as it does and illustrating the first application, to diagnostic purposes, on this continent, of Roentgen's remarkable discovery. Appealing for the moment to local interests, it is to us most gratifying to be afforded this example of the benefit to be reaped by a University in possessing well-directed and well-equipped laboratories, most gratifying to read these early fruits of Mr. W. C. McDonald's princely munificence.

Professor Roentgen, in his original paper, gave so full an account of the character and properties of the new rays, that the researches made all over the world during the last two months have added little to our knowledge, have accomplished scarce anything beyond amply confirming the original and most modest statements. At most Professor Salvioni, of Perugia, by an instrument which he terms the *iristoscope* would seem to have been able to render the "shadow effects" recognizable directly to the naked eye, and at Toronto it has been observed that the rays may be concentrated to a certain extent by reflection from surfaces relatively opaque to the rays. We congratulate our sister city very heartily upon this advance. But as to the exact nature of the rays—whether they are the longitudinal vibrations foretold years ago by Lord Rayleigh, or whether they consist of peculiarly small and frequent transverse vibrations of the ether, as Professor Schuster, of Manchester, and others have suggested—we as yet do not know, nor does it appear likely that we shall gain further information until researches of another order throw light upon the matter. Mere photography, or "radiography" as Professor Goodspeed, of Philadelphia, would term it, is incapable of solving the problem.

In the meantime this new "radiography" has already proved