

# The M. A. C. Record.

VOLUME 2.

LANSING, MICHIGAN, TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1897.

NUMBER 14.

## The College Vault Looted.

Last Tuesday night, less than a quarter of an hour after the electric lights on the grounds had been turned off, while many of the students were still at their books and lights burned in many of the faculty dwellings, burglars blew open the vault in the Secretary's office and escaped with \$2,000 in cash. Secretary Butterfield and others were soon on the ground, and the police were at once notified of the burglary; but as yet no clue to the perpetrator of the crime or the direction of his flight has been found, except that a dollar bill was picked up next morning in the clump of evergreens by the class stone.

The money taken was mostly in bills and consisted largely of boarding club and student deposits taken in that day. On almost any other night in the year burglars would not have found enough money to pay for their trouble, for the College money is kept in Lansing banks.

A sorry sight was presented to those who visited the office next morning. The interior was a wreck; every window in the office was shattered and pieces of glass had been thrown forty feet from the building; two windows in the faculty room were broken, as was also the glass in the door to the President's office across the corridor. The doors to the vault were blown clear from their hinges; the outer door had crashed into and wrecked the counter in front and the inner doors, twisted and torn, lay in a heap of debris inside the vault.

The cash drawers inside the vault were split open with a chisel, the money was taken from envelopes, and the envelopes were left on the floor. It is thought that the chisel was one that had been used by masons in making a hole through a stone wall in the basement, for that chisel has disappeared.

Just how entrance to the vault was effected is somewhat of a mystery. No hole was drilled in the door. Evidence points strongly to the use of dynamite, but how was a large charge of dynamite—and it must have been a large charge to produce such havoc—introduced between the doors? It is suggested that the face of the lock was pried off and dynamite put into the lock; but the face of the lock was blown through the counter and lay in the hall outside. Another stranger thing is how anybody could stand in the room and not be overcome by the force of such an explosion. The explanation of one or two points would clear up the mystery; till they are explained we shall have to remain in ignorance.

## From Mr. Crozier.

[Extract from a letter to Prof. C. D. Smith.]

Left New Mexico temporarily on account of the cold northwest winds which kept me from being out doors as much as I wanted to. Here the weather is decidedly warmer and I have been out practically all day each day of the three that I have been here. One excellent feature here which I did not find in New Mexico is pure water. The city is supplied with most excellent water by means of an aqueduct forty miles long, coming from the mountains. There are hydrants at the

principal street corners and little streams of water on either side of the street to support the shade trees, which are now in full leaf and in some parts of the city very beautiful. The city is well supplied with plazas adorned with trees and shrubs, plenty of seats, and in some cases a music stand. The city, of course, is built chiefly of adobe, still it is not dull to look upon as a whole, being relieved by public buildings, several grand cathedrals and various manufacturing establishments. There is quite a sprinkling of Americans here, who do considerable of the best business, but by no means all of it. The Spaniards and Mexicans are not at all dull, but some of the latter are very improvident. Day before yesterday I went out by stage to a mining camp twenty miles more or less across the country. The few herds of cattle seen, were in wretched condition, barely able to walk; of course it is spring now and no fresh grass. Near the town and within reach of water the old grass is eaten to the dust, but farther out, where there is probably no water within reach, there were thousands of acres white with last year's dead grass which had hardly been touched. Similar alternate belts of grazed and ungrazed land were seen, coming in on the railroad. I am not disposed to grumble about the living here. For the most part it is good enough, but as illustrating the kind of stock butchered in this country I will say that since coming to the Mexicos I have had not to exceed six pieces of good beef. There is in Las Cruces a social organization known by an outlandish Spanish name, which being interpreted means "The Kickers' Club," which obtains all its fresh beef from Kansas City.

## Reception to New Members of the Board.

The reception given by the faculty to the new members of the Board of Agriculture, last Thursday evening, was one of the most brilliant and enjoyable social functions of the year. The guests were received in the reading-room, where they were introduced to Governor Pingree, Hon. A. C. Bird, Hon. T. F. Marston, Senator Campbell, Representatives Graham, Campbell and Oberdorffer and other visiting guests. They were next ushered into the library and seated at a table beautifully decorated with flowers, which extended nearly the whole length of the central hall, and at small tables in the alcoves.

At the close of the banquet, while the guests still lingered over their glasses (of water), Secretary Butterfield, in a few words, explained that we had assembled to get acquainted with the three new members of the Board, Governor Pingree and Messrs. Bird and Marston. He then called upon various members of the Board and faculty for speeches. Mr. Marston, as youngest board member, was introduced first, and he, under a plea of extreme youthfulness, excused himself from saying more than a few words in appreciation of his pleasure in being present. Mr. Bird had made an agreement with his wife not to attempt upon any such occasion to say anything funny, so he said a few good words for the College, and pledged his best efforts in the ad-

vancement of its interests. Dr. Kedzie was called upon to extend a welcome from the faculty to the new members, and he did so with words full of the deepest feeling. As vice president of the Board, it fell to the lot of Mr. Monroe to extend a welcome from the old members. He paid a high tribute to the wisdom of Governor Pingree in appointing men so thoroughly in sympathy with the College and so acceptable to the other members of the Board and the faculty.

Governor Pingree followed. He said that this was the first time he had met the College population or had been inside any of the College buildings, but he hoped to come again soon and to become better acquainted. We hope he will do so and shall welcome him at any time. He expressed himself as thoroughly in sympathy with public support and control of educational institutions and pledged his friendship and support to every measure for the advancement of the Michigan Agricultural College. Representative Graham assured us that his good work on the College appropriation bill had been given, not because we asked it, but because he believed the College needed it. Senator Campbell made the witty speech of the evening and was followed by the last speaker, Hon. Henry Chamberlain, patriarchal "Uncle Henry." Mr. Chamberlain was among old friends and was at his best. He spoke of the early history of the Agricultural College and in praise of the grand men who made it possible for such institutions to exist. His tribute to our venerable Dr. Kedzie, whose young men are doing such grand good work in the schools and colleges of nearly every state in the Union, touched a responsive chord in every breast; and his speech brought to a happy close a very pleasant evening.

## The Chemistry of the College Burglary.

DR. R. C. KEDZIE.

The question was natural, what was the material used in exploding the college vault last Tuesday night? Was it gunpowder, nitroglycerine or dynamite?

The explosion left its tracks, just as the burglar left his footmarks when he jumped from the window. The position and appearance of the windows broken indicated a more sudden explosion than would be caused by gunpowder, but this was not enough to settle the question. The jambs of the door of the vault held on their surface a little of the condensed product of the explosive, and the effort was made by analysis of this condensed smoke to determine the nature of the explosive. If gunpowder was used the products of the explosion would contain potash and some sulphur compound, for the sulphate of potash is one of the chief products found in the smoke of a gun—"the war clouds rolling dun"—the material they are now seeking to eliminate by the new "smokeless powder."

The jambs of the vault were wiped with a clean, damp sponge, which was washed with water to get the smoke product in solution for analysis. Examination of some of this condensed smoke by the microscope showed particles of carbon which had escaped

combustion. The material removed from the sponge by water was partially evaporated, and then tested, by the spectroscope for potash, but not a trace could be found, and only small traces of sulphate could be found by delicate reagents. These facts showed that the explosive was not gunpowder.

The spectroscope showed the presence of abundance of a salt of soda, which would tend to negative the suspicion that the explosive was nitroglycerine, because it does not contain soda or any mineral substance; it consists entirely of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen. This would naturally lead us to suspect that dynamite was the explosive used in the vault.

Nitroglycerine is a liquid and difficult to use in this form, let alone its tendency to explode on small provocation. For these reasons manufacturers have put it up in a solid form by using some material to soak it up and form a powder instead of an oily liquid. In Germany they use a silicious earth for this purpose. In our country sawdust is used for the same purpose. To make the sawdust more combustible and thus increase the explosion, it is impregnated with nitrate of soda and then dried. This nitrated sawdust when it has soaked up a certain quantity of nitroglycerine is dynamite and ready to be packed into paper cases to form cartridges or sticks of dynamite.

When such dynamite burns, the nitrate of soda furnishes some of the oxygen to produce the explosion, and the soda is changed to carbonate of soda. The material wiped off the jambs of the vault consists mostly of carbonate of soda, as shown by the reactions with the spectroscope, and by the strong alkaline reaction with red litmus paper, the evidence is quite clear that the explosive used was dynamite. In no other way can we explain the presence of carbonate of soda in the condensed products of the explosion.

*Chemical Department.*

## Commercial and Trade Schools in Russia.

The Russian manufacturers, merchants and business men in general are of one opinion that a knowledge of commercial sciences is getting to be more and more important for commercial business, and in that respect that they are, especially in southern Russia, far behind some of the other countries. There is not one Russian exporting firm in any of the ports of the Black and Azov seas—in fact, the whole business in southern Russia is in the hands of foreigners, and the reason is that Russia has not enough persons with commercial educations. They have come, therefore, to the conclusion that the present state of Russian trade and industry requires commercial and trade schools in the south of Russia.

During the last two years many schools have been founded, and at present a number of new schools are being planned, all to be established and supported by commercial societies, towns, and private companies. According to a new law for commercial education, they will be permitted not only to supervise the management of school affairs, but also to take part in their practical direction.—*Consular Report for February, 1897.*

# The M. A. C. Record.

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## Official Directory.

PREACHING SERVICE—Sunday afternoons at 2:30 in the Chapel.

Y. M. C. A.—Regular meetings Sunday evenings at 7:30 and Thursday evenings at 8:30. C. W. Loomis, President. E. M. Hunt, Cor. Secretary.

Y. W. C. A.—Weekly meetings for all ladies on the campus, Tuesday evenings at 8:00, in Abbot Hall. Sunday meetings with the Y. M. C. A. Miss Clara J. Stocoum, President. Miss Ella Phelps, Cor. Secretary.

KING'S DAUGHTERS—Meet alternate Wednesdays. Mrs. J. L. Snyder, President. Mrs. W. Babcock, Secretary.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY—Meets second Friday of each month in the Chapel at 7:00 p. m. H. C. Skeels, President. W. R. Kedzie, Secretary.

BOTANICAL CLUB—Meets Monday evenings at 8:30 in the Botanical Laboratory. Thos. Gunson, President. W. R. Kedzie, Secretary.

SHAKESPEARE CLUB—Meets Wednesday evenings at 7:30. Dr. Howard Edwards, President.

COLUMBIAN LITERARY SOCIETY—Meets every Saturday evening at 7:30, Middle Ward, Wells Hall. S. H. Fulton, President. H. Caramanian, Secretary.

ECCLESIASTIC SOCIETY—Meetings every Saturday evening at 7:30, Fourth Floor, Williams Hall. C. D. Butterfield, President. W. A. Bartholomew, Secretary.

FERONIAN SOCIETY—Meetings every Friday afternoon at 1:00, West Ward, Wells Hall. Amy Vaughn, President. Katherine McCurdy, Secretary.

HESPERIAN SOCIETY—Meetings every Saturday evening at 7:30, West Ward, Wells Hall. C. B. Laitner, President. L. E. Sage, Secretary.

OLYMPIC SOCIETY—Meetings every Saturday evening at 7:30, Fourth Floor, Williams Hall. Elwood Shaw, President. W. K. Brainerd, Secretary.

PHI DELTA THETA FRATERNITY—Meetings every Friday evening at 7:30, East Ward, Wells Hall. R. W. Clark, President. A. B. Krentel, Secretary.

UNION LITERARY SOCIETY—Meetings every Saturday evening at 7:30, U. L. S. Hall. L. S. Munson, President. G. N. Gould, Secretary.

TAU BETA PI FRATERNITY—Meetings on alternate Thursday evenings, Tower Room, Mechanical Laboratory. G. A. Parker, President. E. H. Sedgwick, Secretary.

CLUB BOARDING ASSOCIATION—I. L. Simmons, President. H. A. Dibble, Secretary.

M. A. C. ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION—C. B. Laitner, President. G. B. Wells, Secretary.

## Proceedings of the State Board of Agriculture at the Meeting held Last Week.

A report was received from the Experiment Station Council on the resolution adopted at last meeting directing the council to inquire in regard to the advisability of issuing experiment station bulletins at regular and stated times. The report did not favor this method; it was received, and ordered placed on file.

The rooms recently vacated by the Delta Tau Delta fraternity were assigned to the Columbian society, and the rooms now occupied by the Columbian society were assigned to the Feronian society.

The purchase of microscopes for entomological department was authorized.

Dr. Grange and Prof. Smith presented verbal reports of work accomplished and in process, in regard to tuberculosis, showing large amount of work on hand.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That in construing the act which appropriates money for required labor at the College, the board hereby authorizes the secretary to pay properly certified bills for student labor not performed in regular hours; provided the hours of labor shall not exceed the required number, and shall not receive in rate of payment that named by resolution of the Board; and provided also, that said labor could not be performed in regular hours because of the requirements of educational labor.

Also Resolved, That, after this date the College will not receive funds on deposit except from students or student societies, or from those who have bills due, or soon to become due, to the College, nor allow its vaults or safes to be used for the purpose of storing private funds or valuables. The secretary was directed to pay all bills and salaries by checks as far as possible.

Committee of military department recommended changes in gun room; some repairs to the armory; a platform, and change in the walk at the west end of armory. The recommendation was adopted.

Next meeting will be held May 4th, at the College.

## Drudgery.

E. D. SANDERSON, '97.

The class of '97 have with varied feelings read the half column addressed to them in a recent issue of the RECORD, and there seems to be several reasons why the larger portion of the class fail to appreciate Mr. Storey's views.

Can a college course leave a man's nose so "tough" from contact with an artificial "grindstone" that it will not be very severely chafed by the swift whirr of real life? To be able to remain undulled, but only sharper and keener by such a process is not the only end in life. A college course should fit its graduates to become successful in whatever calling they chose, but it ought to do more for them. Many a man with no education has been successful in business, but can he be considered the equal of his less successful but more scholarly and happier neighbor? No; our colleges stand first for giving us that instruction which cannot as well be secured in the broader school of life, and secondly for so training all the faculties that none will become deformed or crippled during a four years' course, but all may form a well-rounded character. A certain amount of adversity may be beneficial to any growth, but if applied to a college student for that reason and with his knowledge, the object is at once blighted. We suppose that it is desired that we especially recognize and rejoice over the advantages of manual labor. As concerns this, Dr. Edwards has, in the *Heliostat*, well voiced our sentiments when he says: "Labor in and for itself is a monstrosity. Intrinsicly it has no character, either honorable or dishonorable. It becomes noble and ennobles only by its purpose. The sole and single legitimate purpose of every college function is education (the imparting of information and training). A system of labor, therefore, which stood in contrast with the system of instruction had no legitimate place in a college curriculum." And this principle has been recognized in our select course and all required labor is proposed to be as educational in nature as possible. Against the value of such work

it is rare to hear a complaint in the student body at M. A. C., and it is to be hoped that the time when the valuable hours of the "Students' Org." were consumed in harangues against compulsory labor and eloquent addresses by the upper classmen upon the need of its being educational, are a thing of the past.

If drudgery is beneficial—and a certain amount undoubtedly is—it is difficult to see why it cannot as well be incidental to our regular courses, which are in themselves beneficial.

Harvard has for many years, since the "sixties," thrived without manual labor, and Mr. Storey would undoubtedly have considerable difficulty in persuading the faculty and fellows of that worthy institution to establish a course which will turn out tough, well-ground noses.

## Orchard Notes for April.

M. L. DEAN.

The man who grows the best quality of fruit is at this season of the year finishing the pruning he commenced the previous fall, and removing the brush instead of burning them in some vacant spot, to increase the number of vacancies.

There is much difference of opinion as to the proper time to prune, but the majority of our best fruit culturists concede that the spring is the most convenient time to do the work, if not the best.

One reason for the many failures in the orchard is the neglect among the farmers in giving the proper time to the care of the trees; but if they will begin in the spring as soon as the limbs are free from frost, spend a few days with the hired man removing the dead wood, cross-shoots and awkward limbs, we will see many more blocks of trees that may truly be called orchards, instead of having the appearance of stumps with brush heaps for tops.

## PLANTING YOUNG TREES.

If a new orchard is to be put out, it is necessary to begin preparing the soil for planting the young trees, because if the ground is worked to a proper tilth, and the trees are carefully planted, early enough to get well started before the drying summer winds come, there need be but a small per cent of dead trees to replace the following spring. This practice, of course, requires the purchase of the trees in the fall, but on a well drained location they may be heeled in and wintered as safely as in the nursery, and a gain of several weeks is often made.

## INSECTS AND DISEASES.

Owing to the numerous pernicious insects and diseases that attack all kinds of fruit at the present time, the utmost watchfulness must be kept up at all seasons of the year; and during the winter and spring, while the trees are bare, scale insects and fungous diseases are much easier detected, and insecticides and fungicides can be applied that at other times would injure or destroy the foliage.

The scale insects recently discovered in the central western states, viz., the Putnam and San José scales, threaten great damage to the fruit interests; but by thorough sprayings with kerosene emulsion or whale oil soap, before the buds begin to open, they can be exterminated. At this season, also, the fungous diseases that throw off their spores and contaminate neighboring trees should be treated with copper sulphate to prevent the growth of the spores.

## CULTIVATION.

Cultivation of orchards cannot be reduced to any general system of practice, owing to the different conditions under which trees are planted. This accounts for the differences of opinion held by leading pomologists; but the fundamental principles are the same, as all cultivate to supply the growing plant or tree with food, to maintain for that growth as much moisture as practicable, and, of course, to destroy weeds.

As soon as the ground is sufficiently dried, the soil should be plowed and worked deep, but the later cultivation should be shallow and frequent.

If the orchard is not properly drained naturally, drain tile must be put in to secure prime fruit.

The young orchard should grow nothing except hoed crops, the bearing orchard nothing but "cultivators," unless it be some late sowed crop of peas, clover, etc., to act as a cover for the ground during the winter, and to plow under for a fertilizer the following spring. Prune judiciously, spray thoroughly, cultivate frequently, feed the orchard and in turn it will feed you.

## Horticultural Department.

### Novel Reading.

BERTHA MALONE, '99.

It is the purpose of this essay to discuss the failure of the average reader in obtaining sufficient good results from novel reading to repay him for the time he spends; and also to suggest some means of overcoming this difficulty.

It is hard to state just who the average reader is, and what he reads; but it is generally conceded that he spends a great deal of valuable time in reading fiction. The reports of librarians show that books of fiction form a very large percentage of all the books drawn from our public libraries.

In discussing this question we must by no means forget the difference between the various grades of fiction. Some novels are always elevating in their influence, some are neither very harmful or very beneficial, while others are positively injurious. Average novel readers probably spend most of their reading on the middle class. But if what they read is not really helpful to them in any way, their time is wasted, notwithstanding the fact that they enjoy themselves while reading, for the same time might have been more profitably spent in reading books which are both truly useful and pleasurable.

The manner of reading should also be taken into consideration. Some books, no matter how good they are, may be read so carelessly or hurriedly that they lose their effect. A person who reads second-rate novels soon gets into the habit of reading merely to find "how the story comes out," and not for the sake of appreciating the literary merit of the book.

On the whole, the greater number of novels read are not the best and are perused merely for the sake of pleasantly passing the time. Such reading is a positive injury, because it weakens the memory by continued excitement and by the hasty reading of so much matter.

There are two ways of overcoming this difficulty. We must either read less fiction and more solid matter, or else we must become more than "average readers." Let us, then, increase the benefits of our fiction reading, first by judicious selection of books and also by careful thought and by the application of new ideas gained to our daily lives.

**At the College.**

Mr. and Mrs. E. Graham of Grand Rapids visited the College Thursday.

The Rev. Thompson of Lansing conducted services in the chapel, Sunday afternoon.

Miss McDermott received a visit last week from her friend, Miss Hanna of Philadelphia.

The King's Daughters will meet with Mrs. Babcock, Thursday afternoon of this week. Mrs. C. L. Weil, leader.

Prof. Volney C. Spaulding, professor of Botany at the University of Michigan, visited the College Saturday.

There will be a lecture in the chapel, Friday evening, by Rev. Charles W. Hitchcock, of Detroit, on "Our Defective Classes." The Hesperian orchestra will furnish music for the occasion.

A few days ago we overheard some students saying that they thought the president had done two very commendable things this term already, viz., to cut a swath through all classes and labor from five to six, leaving the hour for athletics, also by work last term and during vacation perfect plans for such prompt classification of students.

In reporting the recent meeting of the Wisconsin Dairymen's Association, the *Cultivator and Country Gentleman* says: "Prof. E. A. A. Grange of Michigan is one of the few scientists who are able to speak in a plain and intelligent manner to a farmers' meeting. If he now and then did forget himself and used terms which puzzled the laymen, it did not affect the value of his practical talk, as a farmer said behind your reporter's back, 'that man keeps the middle of the road; he knows what he is talking about.'"

The Y. W. C. A. begins this term with 10 active, 14 associate and 9 honorary members, and has elected the following officers: President, Miss Clara B. Stocoum; vice president, Miss Julia Balowin; corresponding secretary, Miss Marie Belliss; recording secretary, Miss Ella Phelps; treasurer, Mrs. C. L. Weil. The chairmen of committees are: Devotional, Miss Edith McDermott; membership, Miss Tressie A. Bristol; finance, Mrs. C. L. Weil; social, Miss Lucy E. Monroe. The membership fee of 10c per term was retained. All ladies connected with the College are most cordially invited to become honorary members.

**Creative Power of the Kinetoscope.**

An odd experiment with the kinetoscope took place not long ago in Boston. The subject was a man eating dinner, and the film, prepared especially for the occasion, was of unusual length, so that the whole performance could be recorded. The man entered the room, and, seating himself at a table, proceeded to cut up the food. The motion of the fork from the plate to his lips was carefully recorded, until the last morsel of food had vanished. Then he arose and walked out of the room, leaving nothing on the table but bare dishes. The series of pictures was then reversed. It showed the man entering the room, walking backward. He sat down at the table, upon which there was nothing but bare dishes, and proceeded to extract food from his lips until he had filled the potato dish with potatoes and gradually put together a steak on the platter before him. Then he calmly backed out of the room and the waiter did likewise with the meal that the man had apparently created.—*Kansas City Star.*

**ATHLETICS**

"Bobbie" Gayle, the baseball coach, arrived Saturday. Baseball practice will now begin in earnest.

The first baseball game of the season was played Saturday. It was a practice game with a picked-up nine from Lansing. Notwithstanding the coldness of the day, the boys played very good ball, but there is plenty of chance for improvement. Score, 15 to 17 in favor M. A. C.

Kalamazoo College will send a relay team to Chicago to participate in the Military Carnival. An article in a Detroit paper stated that Albion, which had the fastest team in the west had entered. Now, up to May, 1896, Albion may have thought she had the fastest team in the west, but the intercollegiate relay cup stands on the piano in the reception of the Ladies' Hall, Kalamazoo College.—*College Index.*

Tennis players: Would it not be well to look into the matter of tennis courts? We have in the past had several courts scattered about the ground, situated wherethey were most secluded in order that the bare spots, which are sure to appear, might not mar the landscape. Rough, seldom level, they were neither "skin" courts nor grass courts. Could we not have some place selected and properly graded for several courts? Other colleges have such and we should offer our talent a suitable place to prepare for field day in this sport, as well as a place for pleasant, healthful exercise. A proper degree of interest and consultation with "the powers" should accomplish something in this direction.

**Field Day at Hillsdale.**

The last important meeting of the board of directors of the M. I. A. A. was held in Hillsdale Saturday, and considerable business was transacted. Hillsdale offered a bonus of \$200, and other inducements, and field day will be held there. The athletic events will all occur on Friday and Saturday, June 4 and 5; but, as many important events will occur Friday forenoon, it will be necessary to go Thursday afternoon. The L. S. & M. S. R. K. gives a rate of one cent per mile, so the round trip will cost \$1.26. R. E. Brackett, Jr., makes the medals at a reduction from last year's figures. H. D. Leonard of Olivet publishes the souvenir programs. Three baseball games will be played at field day, and the cup will be awarded to the club having the highest percentage for the season. Each director is to secure a local umpire, and the selection must be submitted to the board for approval. Members of baseball teams must be in school ten weeks of the present year, preceding the first game played.

**Association of the Faculties of the Colleges of Michigan.**

In Ann Arbor on Friday, April 2, representatives from the faculties of the colleges included in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association met and organized an association "to promote and regulate a pure and healthy condition of athletic or other contests" and "to establish a uniform standard of requirements or qualifications for admission to intercollegiate contests."

The rules adopted by the committee are nearly the same as those of the M. I. A. A. governing eligibility of candi-

dates for athletic contests. Rule 5 reads, "No student shall be permitted to participate in any contest so long as he has more than one 'condition' or incomplete standing against him." This rule our faculty amended to read, "two conditions" instead of "one condition."

Rule 6. "No student shall be permitted to participate in any contest who is, in the judgment of the faculty, delinquent in his studies as a result of athletics."

Rule 7 refers to ratification of lists of players.

Rule 8. "No person shall be eligible to compete in any contest of the association unless he has been in regular attendance at the institution that he represents for at least sixteen weeks during the college year; provided that this rule shall not apply to contests during the fall term." This rule was amended by the faculties of Albion and M. A. C. to read "twelve weeks" instead of "sixteen weeks."

**Base Ball.**

The boom in athletics which occurred during last fall's football season bids fair to be continued this spring on the diamond. The interest in athletic matters among the students has been greater than usual for the past month.

Our base ball team opens the season on Saturday, April 17, at Albion, in a game with Albion college. The positions of players have not been definitely arranged. A large number of candidates have made applications for positions, and the outlook is promising for a winning team.

In our pitching force we are ably represented in Warren, Fisher and Owen, who have worked hard in the gymnasium and are now in good form. Our infield will be satisfactory, with Ranney, Clark, Owen, Gould, McLouth, Gunnison and Krentel to select from. The men in the outfield are not, as yet, quite up to our expectation; but we have some excellent timber, and with a little more practice our outfield will be superb.

We shall endeavor to have two or three practice games every week. In these games we shall strive to try our new men and select such for our first team as show up satisfactorily. We hope to be able to put two nines of nearly equal strength in the field this year, and purpose to furnish a match game here nearly every week; considering our strength and enthusiasm, some interesting times may be looked for.

The faculty have given liberally and cheerfully in their subscriptions for base ball. The management takes this opportunity to thank them for their hearty support and cooperation. As we are in need of various supplies, and our first game is near at hand, we feel compelled, at this time, to call for the amount of your subscription. Receipts for the same can be obtained from Secretary Butterfield by forwarding your amount to him.

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## News from Graduates and Students.

A. B. Cook, '93, was a caller here last Tuesday.

W. R. C. Smith, with '96, is western agent for the *Amer. Electrician*.

R. J. Crawford, '91, has been re-elected commissioner of schools in Macomb county.

Gerrit Masselink, '95, will be instructor in a private normal school at Vassar the coming summer.

The February bulletin from Cornell is on Sweet Peas, and is written by A. P. Wyman and M. G. Kains, '95.

W. G. Hawley, '92m, has been appointed teacher of shopwork and drawing in one of the schools of Chicago.

A. Knechtel, superintendent of Leslie schools, who was a special student here in '92 and '93, visited the College Saturday.

J. T. Berry, '96, arrived at M. A. C. Thursday, from Cass City where he has been teaching. He left for Belding Saturday morning.

S. W. Tracy, '96, visited at M. A. C. Friday evening and Saturday. He was on his way from Chicago to Pontiac to accept a position on D. M. Ferry & Co.'s seed farm.

E. B. Hale, '93, overcame last fall's fusion handicap and was returned to the office of commissioner of schools by a majority of 150. The race is not always to the Tallman.

A. H. Gillett, '92, of Owosso, was at the College last Wednesday on business. He is largely engaged in the growing of early cabbages, with other garden truck as a side line.

F. E. Skeels, '78, and O. C. Hollister, '89, appeared before a legislative committee to urge the establishment of a state forestry commission last Wednesday. Both visited the College on Thursday.

W. H. Burns, with '89, Erie, Mich., visited M. A. C. Friday. He is engaged in mixed farming and travels for the Ohio and Michigan Traction Co. to make it pay. He is a member of the Eclectic society and is proud of such members as Bird, Marston, Hammond and Toumey.

Prof. C. M. Conner, '92, writes from Clemons College, S. C., where he is assistant professor of agriculture: "The continued rains are keeping back spring work. The soil here is very poor and has very little organic matter in it, so that it is rather hard to do any experimental work, except with fertilizers."

Prof. A. B. Cordley, '88, writes that he has been very busy at institute work this winter, and adds a good word for *THE RECORD*. "I notice, however, that no matter how busy, I never fail to read the paper from beginning to end and know that I should feel that a friend had been dropped from my life should *The Record* fail to appear."

## Value of an Antagonist.

G. N. GOULD, '99.

Nearly every person has a desire to be first in whatever he attempts to do, and this desire is greatly increased by the opposition of his antagonist. Were it not for the fact that he would be distanced if he relaxed his efforts, he would become careless; his efforts toward advancement would be fitful, and no real progress would be made.

If a person possesses the right qualities, and does not allow a defeat to dishearten him, he may be sure he is on the highway to success; for if he perseveres, as he must in order to reach any degree of success, his defeats will teach him how to win the next battle of life.

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Only fairly well, if you buy your shoes elsewhere; splendid, if you buy them of us. Brag? No Sir-e-e! Straight statement of a well known fact. People all over this town will tell you that the shoes that go out of this store will, almost invariably, give better wear for the money than shoes sold elsewhere.

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THE NEW "CADET TOE"

Let us compare the result of a victory with a defeat. If we win, we do not stop to determine the reason why we won, but give to our powers all the credit. We do not stop to consider the things which would have caused our defeat if our antagonist had been a little keener to see the advantages we had given him. If we are defeated, on the other hand, we are quite apt to look about us to see if we cannot discover what was the cause of our defeat, and thus find many little things which contributed to our downfall, which would have been otherwise overlooked.

In our school life we are given an extra incentive to study by the feeling of disgrace which comes over us if we are beaten by an opponent who, we think, is our inferior in mental ability. If in the face of a strong opposition we work our way to the head of the class, we are encouraged by our very success to make greater effort to remain in our place.

Throughout the whole world progress has been the greatest where competition has been the strongest. This is not only due to the direct competition of the professions and industries, but to the sharpening of intellect and the quickening of powers which men must develop if they are to succeed.

Thus it is, we are influenced indirectly, if not directly, by the antagonized interests of ourselves and those about us. If we are to reach the highest degree of perfection along any line we must battle with antagonists in every direction. These victories or defeats develop in us an appreciative spirit, and disclose our better qualities which otherwise would never have been discovered.

There are letters of gold,  
There are letters of stone;  
But the best of all letters,  
Is to let 'er alone.

—Ex.

## Colleges and Exchanges.

Chicago University now offers only 1,086 courses.—*Ex.*

The board of trustees of Cornell University have created six new professorships.

The March issue of *College Chips* of Luther College, Ia., is published in Norwegian.

The University of Wisconsin is probably the only college in the United States that has no chapel exercises.—*Ex.*

A young married man in one of our colleges, when asked for a synonym of misery, promptly responded "marriage."

A man is like a postage stamp. When he is badly stuck on himself he is not worth two cents for any practical use.—*Ex.*

A senior girl, who had been hearing about maple sugar making, saw an old hammock hook in an oak tree on Main street, and blandly asked if that was a "tap," whereupon somebody ejaculated with a rising inflection "tapioca." *The Echo.*

The students of the University of Nevada have organized a Students' Congress governed by the same rules as the state legislature. The first resolution introduced was by a young lady, and favored free silver 16 to 1. Another wanted to license "glove contests."

Miss Ellen Hinsdale, daughter of Prof. Hinsdale of Ann Arbor, has been granted Ph. D. by the University of Göttingen. This is the first time that the authorities at the Göttingen University have allowed a woman to try for the degree in philology, a department which, in Göttingen, requires an unusually thorough and laborious preparation.

## ...COLLEGE BUS...

Leaves M. A. C. for Lansing at 8:30 a. m. and 1:30 p. m. Returning, leaves Lansing at 10:30 a. m. and 4:30 p. m.

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