The M. A. E. Record

VOLUME I. LANSING, MICHIGAN, TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1896. NUMBER 18.

HON. JUSTIN S. MORRILL.

Senator Morrill of Vermont, celebrated his 86th birth day April 15. He is the oldest member of the U. S. Senate, both in years and in length of service. His 7th consecutive term will expire on March 4, 1897.

The daily papers, in speaking of the illustrious senator, class him as one of the ablest and most useful of leaders in our national council. He is especially spoken of as the author of the tariff bills of 1861 and 1867.

Those who are interested in the agricultural and mechanical colleges of this country are familiar with the name of the great senator in another line of work. The land grant act of Congress in 1862, which has endowed those colleges, was the work of Senator Morrill, and the agricultural and industrial interests of this country owe to him a debt of gratitude which they can never pay. This act made possible the establishment of these schools in every state in the Union, and although that in our own State was established previous to this act, the fund thus created has served to lift a great burden from the State and at the same time greatly add to the efficiency of the College.

Again, in 1886, Senator Morrill added another to the long list of good works by securing the passage of an act supplementing the land grant act by an annual money appropriation to these same colleges, beginning with fifteen thousand dollars per annum and increasing one thousand dollars each year until the amount shall be twenty-five thousand dollars per annum for all the pasturage that can be obtained, and the ease of those already settled.

As these funds are perpetual, made so in the act, and by the terms of acceptance by the several states, these colleges will go on so long as our nation lives, and remain perpetual monuments to the noble, far-seeing senator; monuments more enduring than if builded of granite from the hills of the State he represents. And nothing that he has done in Congress or out of it will better preserve his name and fame to future generations than the land grant act of 1862, and the Morrill act of 1866.

Long live Senator Morrill.

HON. JUSTIN S. MORRILL.

MICHIGAN FORESTS OF TODAY.

ARMS DAY ADDRESS BY A. A. GOODE.

I happen to have been born and brought up in the back woods of western Michigan, in a place which for that part of the State was the dividing line between the hardwoods and the pines. North, as far as the eye could see, was the pine, a large block of which still remained within my recollection like a great cloud upon the horizon. Southward to the opposite horizon were rolling hills of beech and maple. During my college course I taught school one winter in the northern lumber woods, where all night long could be heard the rumble of loaded tram cars carrying logs to the Little Michigan river. If there has been one thing impressed upon my mind more than another it has been the vast supply of Michigan pine.

During the past two winters, while attending farmer's institutes, I have had an opportunity to see something of the effect that continued lumbering has had on this supply of pine. And I think some of you will be as surprised as I was when I say that in traveling nearly two thousand miles through some forty counties in the lumber regions of the State, I cannot now recall having seen in any one place as much as a single acre of standing white pine in good condition. Of course these travels were mainly along the railroads, where as along the streams, the timber is first cut away; but when one can ride through the heart of the pine country from Manistee on the west to Saginaw on the east and see an almost continuous succession of abandoned lumber fields, mile upon mile of stumps as far as the eye can see, it has some significance. We know there still remain in northern Michigan swamps filled with hemlock, cedar, and other less valuable timber, some acres of these old fashioned two-inch white pine floor for a drive­way, but for the rest of this country there is not a single acre of standing pine left.

Many of the larger operators are reported as improved, have as we know, been extensively cut over for lumber, and large sections can no longer be properly classed as forests.

The distribution of the cultivated land is of course very unequal throughout the State. In the southern four tiers of counties, which include about one third of the State, the improved land is 19 per cent of the whole, while in the northern tiers of counties, which comprises about one-third of the State, the improved land is 27 per cent of the whole.

The vast areas of uncultivated land demised of timber which are found in the northern half of the State do not exist at the south. There is at the south less land and smaller farms, and in the larger operators demised of much of the woodland in the southern part of the State reserve to be noted. Though evidently re­source in most parts comes from the forest, the treatment it had received has often been such as to unfit it for that purpose. Fire has done less damage in the north than in the south, owing mainly to the limited extent and isolated situation of the wooded sections, but live stock has here done much greater injury. In the thickly settled sections of the State there is a demand for all the pastureage that can be obtained, and it is probably true that full half of the woodland in that section of the State is habitually used for pasture, with the result that all the smaller growths of smaller pines disappear, thus limiting the duration of a forest so treated to the life of the larger timber. In the southern coun­ties there is still a large amount of land which was almost continuous succession of abandoned lumber fields, mile upon mile of stumps as far as the eye can see, and has more significance. We know there still remain in northern Michigan swamps filled with hemlock, cedar, and other less valuable timber, some acres of these two-inch white pine floor for a drive­way, but for the rest of this country there is not a single acre of standing pine left.

The consequences of destroying Michigan forests and the necessity of in part restoring them, have been doing.—Detroit Free Press, May 3, 1896.
G. H. True, instructor in dairying, left for Chicago last Saturday, where he will look up Pasteurizing apparatus. He leaves Chicago today for Memconies to spend a week visiting the chief H-Of-Fri-Fries cows for B. S. Carpenter. The cows are being tested for scabby in the H-Of-F. advanced range and for the P-Of-F. economics.

The M. I. A. directors at Ypsilanti May 2, decided to add a series of tennis games for ladies to the list of sports. The games of base ball at Flavid Day will be played as follows: First game, Albion vs. Olivet; second, M. A. C. vs. Normal; third, Hildaleva vs. Kalamazoo; fourth winners of first and second; fifth, winners of third and fourth. Those who play in the first two games will have to play three games, and one in the case of the third.

Dr. A. C. True, national director of experiment stations, from Washington, D. C., visited M. A. C. last week, and on Wednesday morning spoke to us in chapel.

Dr. True said that although this was his first visit to M. A. C., he felt very well acquainted with our institution, having studied its history, worked under its former president, Dr. Kedzie, and had visited all the colleges and experiment stations from Oregon to Florida. He spoke of having in the office of experiment stations, one of our students, Mr. W. F. Hill, '98, and of being so pleased with him that he had recently called to the office another of our graduates, C. B. Smith, '94. The experiment stations scattered over our country are to agriculture what the laboratory of the expert machinist is to industry—very essential. The expert machinist working out improvements in the bicycle is to the bicycle factory, what Pasteur and his laboratory are to medicine.

He expressed a hope of coming to this institution at a time when so broad a future seemed to open up to it, and closed by saying, "I trust that under your guidance this college may add much to a broad and well earned reputation."

NEWS FROM GRADUATES AND STUDENTS.

Howard Rabensteil, with '85, is in the book and stationery business in Kalamazoo, Ind.

Stanley Olin, sp.96, is a member of the police and fire commission of Lansing.

Miss June Tucker, '95, sp., is employed in works of the Detroit Casket Company.

Harry M. Wood, '90, is an alternate delegate to large to the St. Louis convention.

In Sayre, Flashing, with '90, will represent the district as delegate to the St. Louis convention.

R. J. Olesnow, with '94, is in the legal profession, is at present attorney for a Grand Rapids Credit Company.

W. L. Rosman, '88, State Analyst, attended the Detroit convention last week going from there to Toledo, Ohio.

L. Brooks, '92, principal of the Sironia school, close his years' work this week and will spend the summer at M. A. C.

G. M. Angier, with '99, was a delegate from Boston at the National Electric Light Association in New York, May 4 to 10.

R. R. Marble, '30, is supposed to be in Colorado. If this item reaches the eye of Mr. Marble we should be pleased to hear of it.

W. R. C. Smith, with '94, was one of four young men representing the Southern Electricians at the New York Electrical Exposition.

Grat M. Morse, Portland, with '75, was elected alternate delegate to the St. Louis convention from the fifth district at the recent convention.

H. C. Eksel, with '97, is working for C. O. Simon, Chicago's famous landscape gardener, at Delavan a noted Wisconsin summer resor. He hopes this may be an opening to him which he will be able to return to M. A. C. and graduate.

In answer to a call for A. L. Pond, with '97, at the Sprague Electric Elevator Exhibit, New York, an effec of the H. C. Pond's devotion to compliment Mr. Pond and his work, and said he had the honor to be employed by Montreal to install a plant.

As a result of sold tests made by M. H. Hicks, '92 Secretary Morton decided not to buy seeds for Congressmen.

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When the railroad was laid through the forest, the trees fell from their own cause. The trees were an obstruction, an enemy to be downed, for it held the ground we wanted for crops. The trees must fall though they held their sheltering comeliness that we should desire it. It was a rival to our life. It was an unredeemed symbol of our inheritance, and trust to the slow growth of uncounted years to make good the loss. When a man is at a certain point, we say he is "out of the woods;" but when Michigan is "out of the woods," the critical point will only be reached.

The Burgundian Rule.
The forest, though mean may have support for a dense population—one person to a township. It was necessary that some of the woods should be cleared off to make room for civilized life; grain must replace game.
The rule of the Duke of Burgundy, now generally accepted in Europe, in regard to the safe limit of culture, would almost certainly have been the limit for the year by year growth of a forest.

One-tree, for nature, two-thirds for man. The relation of forest to man has been well said as follows: "When the planters have equalized a time the conservation of the woods and preservation of nature are matters demanding careful study. Have we reached that limit even in the naturally forested regions lying east of the lake states?"

A Balance Wheel.
Forests are the balance wheel of climate. After water, there is no equalizer of climatic extremes, of providing heat and cold, of distributing moisture for rain and conservation of water, and a bridle upon the raging winds. Where the proper balance is main­tained, between the food-supply and the life-sustaining capacity of a state is greater than when the whole surface is laid bare to the plow and turned up to the brooding sun. The soil is shallower, the climate is stronger, food is harder to get, and life is sweeter under the sheltering arms of the old great oaks.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.
REPORTED BY J. W. BIESTERINK.
The Natural History Society held its last meeting for the term Friday evening. The meeting was devoted principally to observations.

It was the last and most interesting article from Prof. Orcor on "Beech trees dying from drought." He spoke of the effect of the decreasing rainfall in the last three years on the beeches in his vicinity. He said the vital capacity of a state is greater than the whole surface area laid bare to the plow and turned up to the brooding sun. The soil is shallower, the climate is stronger, food is harder to get, and life is sweeter under the sheltering arms of the old great oaks.

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