Keys to the Library.

Keys, not to the doors, but to the books, or to the facts within the books. It is the instruction in the title page of the first book one has (was it Dr. Johnson?) that there are two kinds of knowledge: the first is to know facts selected at random, the second is to know where to find facts. The purpose of this article is to indicate a few first steps in these physical sciences, where to look for materials of certain kinds in our library.

To Find a Given Book.
The title or author of which is known, the first thing to do is to consult the card catalogue, which he will find in the window at his right just after entering the room. This is a combined title and author catalogue, with cards arranged alphabetically in a series of drawers. Besides the title and author, each card contains at the left what is called the card number, with an indication of the location of letters and figures separated by a period. This card number is placed back of several books also on the inside cover. The first letter represents the subject class to which the book belongs, for instance, E denotes biography, F history, Y literature. Additional letters or figures may represent sub-classes; YF denotes fiction and YP poetry; still further subdivided, YFP denotes English; YPS American poetry. All books belonging to the same class or subclass are placed together, and the case containing the books bears a label corresponding to the characters on the card at the left of the period. The next step is to find the case bearing the given label, and the section and case containing books of that subclass. That is, if one is looking for a volume of poetry, the first thing is to find the case containing the volume of American poetry (YP83) he must pass by English poetry (YP5). In each case are three sections; follow in succession from left to right; the succession of shelves in each section is from the top downward. Within each subclass, the books are arranged alphabetically according to the name of the author. Now that the card number of the right of the period may be of assistance in locating it. But suppose the student wishes to look up a given subject without knowing the title of a book in which it is treated, or the name of the author of a book on the subject?

To the Read:—On some recent ramblings among the farmers in our vicinity, I found myself unexpectedly within a mile of the Hodgman home. His magnetic needle, or more magnetic pen, must have attracted me, for I covered the distance and made acquaintance of M. A. C.'s poet of '62.

Mr. Hodgman's home has the proverbial poetical surroundings of a home in an English county. A star of peace and contentment surrounds all, and the M. A. C. man can even feel at home on the cattle of the bux-burrows.

The surveyor's house has become the poet's den. On the walls of the room, art executed by the same hand, tell of diversifier talent and of trips into western wildernesses. A well worn drafting table and shelf upon shelf of accumulated notes, tell of years of work at charting and witnessing. This is the most valuable collection of its kind in Southern Michigan. For a third of a century Mr. Hodgman has been range finder in the oak openings hereabout. At that table he has worked while anchoring Michigan farms to quarter peaks. What power has reputation when a Surveyor's record and his signature become their own guarantee. Such is the work of our alumnus. A first survey by him immediately becomes a legal survey. On this same table was also developed that Manual which has so often challenged midnight toil. And now as he sits at his table he is the little volume of poems in praise of his Alma Mater.

Mr. C. has in Franklin Hodgman, poet, a type worthy our best efforts to emulate. He feels strongly sympathy with the ordinary conditions of life and his poems know no guide. It would take too much space to indicate the classes of topics catalogued in this A. L. A. Index, for it covers almost as broad a field as Poole's Index. As the references are to topics treated in books, the index is safe as long as the books remain in print. In many instances the thought content of these articles is superior to that of the useful articles referred to in Poole's Index. A smaller book of similar nature is Matson's Reference Index for Literary Workers, but no one is misled by the words literature and literary in the titles of these books; they contain full references to science, politics, economics, history, art, etc., as to literature in its limited sense.

The Wandering Singer in His Abo.

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THE M. A. C. RECORD.

APRIL 5, 1898.

FURNISHED WEEKLY BY THE MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.
EDITED BY THE FACULTY. ASSISTED BY THE STUDENTS.

SUBSCRIPTIONS SHOULDBE SENT TO THE SECRETARY, AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, MICH.

SUBSCRIPTION, 50 CENTS PER YEAR.

Send money by P. O. Money Order, Draft, Registered Letter. Do not send stamps.


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For various reasons the M. A. C. Record is occasionally sent to those who have not subscribed for the paper. Such persons need have no hesitation about taking the paper from the postoffice, for no charge will be made for it. The only way, however, to secure the Record regularly is to subscribe.

Official Directory.

Y. M. C. A.—Regular meetings Sunday evening at 3 p.m. Lt. Col. A. H. Clermont, President; H. A. Van Deusen, Secretary; Miss Cambell, Treasurer. Meetings in the old Macomb room, second floor, Williams Hall.

COLUMBIA LITERARY SOCIETY—Meets Monday evening at 8 p.m. Dr. E. A. Sylvis, President; L. R. Hackett, Secretary; A. J. Smith, Treasurer.

 sculptura—Meet alternate Wednesdays, Mrs. J. E. Snyder, President. Miss W. V. Babcock, Secretary.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY—Meets second and fourth Wednesdays at 9 a.m. Dr. W. H. Peck, President; A. W. Heffer, Secretary; E. W. J. Haggard, Treasurer.

ELECTRICITY CLUB—Meet alternate Thursdays at 9 a.m. Dr. W. H. Peck, President; R. P. H. Pettit, Secretary.

RHETORICALS.—Mechanical Seniors. Mr. Theodore and Baker. Machine shop, blacksmith shop and foundry. Prof. McDermott in charge. Board Tuesday, Apr. 5 at 9 a.m.

SHOPS FOR MECHANICAL STUDENTS.—Mr. Weil, Mechanical Sophomores. Prof. Crosby in charge. Textbook, Church. Five days, 8 to 9 a.m. Recitation room.

STRENGTH OF MATERIALS.—Mechanical juniors. Prof. Westcott. Tuesday, 9 a.m., whole College Hall. Textbook, Hopkins. Five days, 8 to 9 a.m. Recitation room.

SHOP WORK.—Mechanical Sophomores. Prof. Smith, Textbook, Holmes. Five days, 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1 to 2 p.m. Recitation room.

GENERAL CHEMISTRY.—Freshmen and women. Lectures daily. Prof. Hedrick. Textbook, Church. Five days, 10 a.m., whole College Hall. Textbook, Hopkins. Five days, 9 to 10 a.m. Recitation room.
was working in a new field where results are necessarily slow.

To Dr. Miles came experience similar to that of pioneers in other important fields. His work was not appreciated, and he was not sustained. Wesry and disappointed he resigned in 1875. It is a pleasure to record that Dr. Abbot, president of the College during nearly all the time that Dr. Miles was connected with it, gave him always the most friendly sympathy and support, that some members of the Board of Agriculture recognized the practical value of his ideas, and that many of his students, now scattered widely through the world, gratefully trace their success to the training he gave them and to the methods they learned in his farm laboratory.

Dr. Miles accepted the chair of agriculture at the Illinois University when he resigned in Michigan. From Illinois he went to Houghton Farm, where he took charge of experiments in agriculture. Later he accepted the chair of agriculture at the Massachusetts Agricultural College. With his work at these places I am not familiar and will not attempt to speak. Throughout his life he was a frequent contributor to the agricultural and scientific press, and a frequent speaker before associations and institutes, where his lectures were able and practical. He published a volume on "Stock-breeding" which has had wide circulation and has been much used as a class book. Another volume on "Experiments with Indian Corn" gives the results of important work which he did at Houghton Farm. With his work and "Films" helped much in diffusing a knowledge of the siso in the days when it had to fight for recognition. His work on "Land Drainage" deals intelligently with one of the most important topics for the American farmer.

For many years Dr. Miles was somewhat deaf. This infirmity increased with advancing years, until it almost precluded public work. In later years he and his wife lived quietly in Lansing. In his home and office his habits of study continued until the last. Now and then an article for the press, now a lecture and a lecture on one phase of his investigations showed his abiding interest in science and agriculture. He was well known in the thoughtful society of Lansing. To listen to his occasional addresses before the clubs of the city was always a treat to men and women. The leaders of the club often expressed the pleasure and interest which his lectures gave them. To spend an hour in his "den" and witness his delicate expenditure of energy and profit these lectures gave to his friends, and doted over a collection of a busy, a studious, a faithful society of Lansing. To miss his occasional addresses was to lose a delight. To look with interest on his stacks of books on Zoology and Agriculture showed him at his best as a genial friend and a thoughtful student. He showed his love for his friends, and his undying interest in his work, by leaving many of the books to those who best knew how to use them. The others will soon be scattered. Let us hope they will fall into hands skilled in the use of faculties as keen, as pure, and as unselfish as were to his whom they were a manual of a busy, a studious, a thoughtful, and an honorable life.

O. Clute, '62.
Agricultural College, Mich., 28th March, 1890.

At the College.

About two inches of snow fell Friday afternoon.

President Snyder was in Ann Arbor part of last week.

Two acres of peas for pasture have been sown on the farm.

Mrs. Landen has a stick-pin that was found in the reading-room.

A number of new tools have been added to the student's tool-room on the farm.

Mrs. Woodworth went to Grand Rapids Thursday, to visit Mrs. J. H. Brewer.

A pocket pencil-holder of superior quality has been found and left at the Secretary's office.

Friday evening a number of the students enjoyed an informal hop in the Union Literary House.

The farm house will be occupied by Mr. Alvord as soon as repairs now making are completed.

Mr. Vedder left on Friday evening for Ithaca, N. Y., to respond to a telegram announcing her mother's sudden death.

The Misses Wheeler entertained a few friends on Monday evening in honor of Miss Wellman and Mr. Nies of Holland.

Dr. Beal, Professor Barrows, Wheeler, Pettiti and Longacre spent part of their vacation in Ann Arbor at the meeting of the Michigan Academy of Science.

Extensive repairs are being made in the Secretary's office and Faculty room. Walls and ceiling are being covered with artistic stamped metal and later will be nicely decorated.

The President's office will be similarly treated.

The officers elected by the Y. W. C. A. for this term are: President, Miss Russell Taylor; vice president, Miss Grace Molony; recording secretary, Miss Libbie Browning; corresponding secretary, Miss Emma Bach; treasurer, Miss Caroline Graham.

President Snyder has consented to read a paper at the meeting of the National Educational Association to be held in Washington, D. C., next July. He is also on the program of the meeting of the National Association of Agricultural College and Experiment Station Workers to be held in Omaha next fall.

Last Tuesday evening, the French club at Prof. Noble's held an extra session, by invitation, during which only English was spoken. Story telling on a new and original plan was a feature of the evening. Noble and Mr. Eastman furnished violins and guitar music. All left at a late hour, feeling that they had had a "rousing good time."

Former students who have had like troubles of their own will appreciate the perplexity of one of our young women who desired to visit the Legislature. "Does the Senate sit in the capitol building?" corrected "Yes." "Well, I thought it ought to, but what is that building down on Washington avenue that has 'Senate' on the front window?" "A Saloon." "Oh!"

There are sixty-three different methods of saying "No," and a woman will frequently make use of them all in accepting a pound of chocolate cream. —Ex.

Sweaters do not make the man but one of those nice striped ones adds greatly to his appearance. They are not alone pretty, but comfortable, durable and medium in price. Come in and see them while the assortment is complete. Nice line of golf stockings, bicycle suits. Just received a large consignment of high grade mackintoshes at the lowest prices ever made on good qualities. Can save you money if you want a spring overcoat.

Elgin Milfin.

Are You About to Build? If so, you should Build Right.

By consulting HIRAM RIKERD.

You may learn how, where and when.

LUMBER OF ALL KINDS, Interior Finish a Specialty.

Lawrence & VanBuren PRINTING CO.,
Ottawa St. E. Lansing, Mich.

A trifle vain but commendable, is pride in looking well and nothing adds so much to a man's appearance as comfortable, stylish shoes.

Our $3.50 and $3.00 Russet and Black Bicycle suits. Just received a large consignment of high grade mackintoshes at the lowest prices ever made on good qualities. Can save you money if you want a spring overcoat.

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Ottawa St. E. Lansing, Mich.
From Suffering.

The most beautiful songs that ever were sung.
The most poet words that ever were spoken.
Have been from sorrow and suffering
Words of heartbroken.
Even the harp is meaningless, dead and dumb.
Till the strings are strained. Then the pure notes come.

News from Students and Graduates.

Geo. Appleby, with ‘92, called at M. A. C. Saturday.
G. J. Jenks, ’95, visited in Lansing last week.
E. D. Brooks, ’76, is now practicing medicine at Ann Arbor.
C. H. Piper, with ’92m, is at Colorado Springs for his health.
A. E. Walker, with ’95m, was in Chicago last week taking final examinations for West Point.

It is announced that Robert M. Kelso, with ’95, will be married, April 1, to Miss Esther D. Hawley of Chicago.

Till the strings are strained. Then the pure notes come.

The Civil Service Examination.

The Civil Service Commission will hold an examination for an eligible list of candidates for scientific and technical assistants in the Department of Agriculture, on April 25, in different parts of the country. Persons desiring to take this examination should apply at once to the Commission for information regarding the subjects and conditions of the examination.

Examinations of this character will be held only once a year.

The Wandering Singer and His Songs.

One of the handsomest College souvenirs ever published is the book of songs and poems written by Frank Hodgins, ’92, of Climax, entitled “The Wandering Singer and His Songs and Other Poems.” The book is bound in pebbled cloth with blue and gilt trimming, contains 155 pages, and is printed on excellent paper with full gilt edges. It is beautifully illustrated with halftones of College and other access and with sketches by Prof. W. S. Holdsworth, ’78, and E. N. Thayer, ’89. In that part of the book devoted to College poems there is a page that does not suggest the sterner realities of days gone by, not even for the student of the nineties who should read the student of the sixties but for the student of the eighties as well. Everybody who has seen the work not only for the student of the present but also for the student of the future.

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John Herrmann

Fine Tailoring.

210 Washington Avenue N.

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