# The গl. ©. ©. Record. 

## Natural History Society.

An interesting program was presented at the meeting of the Natural History Society last Friday evening. Professor Barrows spoke of the additions to the museum and exhibited a large tusk and tooth of a mastodon, the remains of which were found in Berrien county. He said the absence of the raven in southern Michigan is due to the presence of the crow. No raven has been seen south of Saginaw for twenty-five years.
Mr. Longyear gave a talk on parasitic fungi and their methods of spore distribution. Some fungi have a very offensive odor which attracts flies and thus accomplishes the work of scattering spores.

Mr. Skeels talked about the snakes of Michigan and assured us that the massasauga is our only venomous snake.
Mr. Barlow gave an interesting outline of the work of the zoology class, in which he spoke of the nature and cause of the chalk cliffs of England.

## Plan for Choosing Our Orator for the Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest.

Several mass-meetings of the faculty and students have been held recently to formulate a plan for choosing our representative to the Intercuiiegiate Oratotical Contest which will be held in Albion next May. From the first a local preliminary contest seemed the best plan, the only question being how to conduct this contest so as to get the best man. It was finally decided that any student in College taking the amount of work required by the rules of the Intercollegiate Association may be a participant in the preliminary contest. If an orator in the Intersociety contest desires also to take part in this contest, he must signify his intention before the Intersociety contest ocurs.
In this preliminary contest the candidates will give their orations in the chapel, begimning immediately after the Intersociety contest, and continuing with one oration each morning until all have spoken. The number of candidates will be narrowed to three by a popular vote in which each student and each member of the teaching force shall be entitled to vote. The regulations governing this ballot, and the subsequent choosing of our representative are as follows:
. The vote shall take place on the day after the last contestant has spoken, and shall be by ballot.
2. Each ballot shall contain three names, and a statement that the voter has heard at least jo per cent of the speakers, and has graded them at the time of delivery, and that he has voted for the highest three according to his marking. Then shall follow the names of the persons for whom he has voted, together with his own signature.

The three persons receiving the highest number of votes shall submit their manuscripts to three disinterested judges to be chosen by
the executive committee one week before the Intersociety contest. 4. The person whose manuscript receives the highest marking from the judges shall be the representative of the College.
The management of the local contest will be in the hands of an executive committee of three, the chairman of which shall be the College representative in the Intercollegiate Association. This committee consists of Dr. Howard Edwards, chairman, Mr. D. A. Seeley and Miss Lucy E. Monroe.

## The Horticultural Department.

The department has received from Governor Pingree a number of potatoes obtained during his recent trip to Venezuela. They are of medium size, about twice as long as broad and somewhat flattened. The eyes are strong, but are for the most part even with the surface. In a few cases they are somewhat elevated so as to give the tubers a prongy appearance. The skin is smooth and of a purplish red color. They are said to be very good to eat. They will be tested in the garden next year and at the suggestion of Secretary Butterfield will appear on the records as "Gov. Pingree."

The fruit house is now complete. The last work was the construction of the trays in which the varieties of fruit are to be stored in the show room. They are seventy-eight in number and are arranged about the walls in a rack. The trays are three feet long and fifteen inches wide; one-half of them are six and the others four inches deep. They will be divided by cross partitions into either two or three parts so that they will hold about 200 varieties. Space remains for nearly as many more, which will be added as necessary.

The chrysanthemums in the forcing houses are beginning to show flower. Most of them are planted in the benches and are trained to a single stem. In most cases each plant is allowed to produce but a single flower, although in others from three to five have been left. In the east bench of the east house are some twenty-five new varieties which have not been grown here before. The earliest is Midge, with Mrs. F. Bergman and Glory of the Pacific but little behind. The plants in the center benches of both houses number about sixty standard sorts and are being used in a fertilizer test. The soil upon the east half of each bed was enriched with stable manure, and for the past two months has received an application of liquid manure twice each week. The other half of the bed has been fertilized in a similar manner with chemical fertilizers. Various combinations of wood ashes, ground bone, nitrate of potash, phosphate of ammonia, etc., are being tried. It is not expected that any marked differences would be noticed in the growth of the plants, butit was hoped that the use of the chemicals would produce a healthier foliage, and above all that, the florets would be of a thicker texture than when grown with stable manure.

The other beds in the forcing
houses are filled with lettuce, radishes and carnations. Most of these will also be used for fertilizer tests.
The apple crop will amount to about 600 bushels, nearly all Northern Spy. A few of the trees bore more than half a crop.

The flower beds have been cleaned up and are now being planted with bulbs for spring flowering. Part of the bulbs were obtained directly from a grower in Holland, while others were purchased of an American dealer. Those imported direct were somewhat larger and, even after the expense of importing was paid, they were about twenty-five per cent cheaper.

## Electric Light Contract Let.

The Capital Electrical Engineering Company, of Lansing, has been awarded the contract for the secondary wiring on the College electric lighting plant. The company will begin at the Harrison House and put up a pole line across the flats, upon which will be erected four runs of wire to comnect with the present College system. The Harrison House will be completely wired, and have a special transformer.

The contract provides that the company shall overhaul the present College line and put it in the best possible condition. It also provides for the erection of all transformers,
lamps of all laboratories, classrooms, work-rooms, residences, apartments, club-rooms, societyrooms, corridors, student-rooms, green-houses and barns. The lamp schedule calls for 1,566 lamps.
Each house will be furnished with a certain number of neat lamp fixtures, with the understanding that if the occupant desires more elaborate fixtures he can have them by paying the difference in price. Twenty lamps is the regular allowance for each residence.

There will be one main service switch for each house, which will control all lights in that house. In addlition there will be a snap switch at the head of each basement stairway. It is designed that for the present at least the occupant of a residence shall have the care of the campus light in his immediate vicinity. That is, the lights in the hall, one on the porch and one campus light within 100 feet of the residence, will be controlled by a snap switch in the hall.
The Capital Electrical Engineering Company put a force of men at work on the line yesterday, and will push the work to completion as rapidly as possible.
A contract has been closed with A. A. Piatt to furnish power for running the plant. The College dynamo, which will be furnished by the Westinghouse company, wlll be installed at Mr. Piatt's power house, at the foot of Logan street, Lansing. Mr. Piatt will erect a pole line and necessary wires to connect with the line erected by the Capital Electrical Engineering Company at the Harrison House. The hours of service will be regulated by the College

## Football-M. A. C. at Olivet.

M. A. C. and Olivet engaged in a very spirited game of football on the Olivet grounds Saturday afternoon. Both elevens showed improvement in team work, and the game was much more sportsmanlike than the one played here two weeks before.

Olivet kicked off and soon after got the ball on a fumble. Our boys held them for downs when only $21 / 2$ yards from the goal line, and then by steady work carried the ball the length of the field for a touch down. Before the first touch down, Russell, the only man on our team who can kick goal with certainty, while going down the field with the ball at a terrific pace, was tackled by Moore in such a way that both men were disabled. Aided by Fuller's run for 35 yards, Olivet scored a touch down and kicked goal. Then M. A. C. put the ball over and Brainerd kicked goal, making the score io to 6 in our favor for the first half.
In the second half Olivet scored two toach downs and two goals; and M. A. C. secured two touch downs, but no goals, making the final score 18 to 18.
Most of the old players in the M. A. C. line were playing out of position in order that new material might be tried. While the new line is stronger than that of a weck ago it is evidently not on strmne as it will be when the players become accustomed to their new positions.
The Olivet correspondent for the Frce Press is evidently some irresponsible young fellow who is not aware of the friendly relations that have always existed between Olivet and M. A. C. Otherwise he would not court the displeasure of both institutions by such glaring allusions to "Woodworth's steal of a touch down" or the demoralized condition of the M, A. C. players at the end of the game, when it was plainly evident to all that M. A. C. was prevented from securing another touch down and the game, only by the mistake of the Olivet linesman.

## Institutes for December.

| County. | Place. | Date. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Midland, | Laporte, | Nov. 30, Dec. 1. |
| Gladwin, | Gladwin, | Dec. 2-3 |
| Ogemaw, | West Branch, | If 3-4 |
| Oscoda, | Mio, | " 6-7 |
| Crawford, | Grayling, | " 8-9 |
| M'tmorency, | Big Rock | " 9 |
| Otsego, | Vanderbilt, | $4^{14-15}$ |
| Cheboygan, | Cheboygan, | " $15-16$ |
| Presque Isle, | Onaway, | 17 |
| Chippewa, | Pickford, | 17-18 |
| Marquette, | Chocolay, | 20-21 |
| Houghton, | Lake Linden, | 22 |
| Baraga, | Baraga, | 22 |
| Mason, | Ludington, | 13-14 |
| Manistee, | Onekama, | 14-15 |
| Benzie, | Frankfort, | ${ }^{15} 516$ |
| G'd Trav'se, | Trav'se C'y, | 16-17 |
| Emmet, | Petoskey, | 17-18 |
| Charlevoix, | Charlevoix, | 20-21 |
| Antrim, | Centr'l Lake, | (1) 21-22 |
| Missaukee, | Lake City, | 13-14 |
| Wexford, | Manton, | 14-15 |
| Kalkaska, | So. Bo'rdm'n, | 15-16 |
| Osceola, | LeRoy, | 16-17 |
| Lake, | Luther, | (1) $17-18$ |
| Mecosta, | Remus, | "4 20 |
| Newaygo, | Big Rapids, Ashland, | $\begin{array}{ll}\text { ". } & 21-22 \\ \text {.. } \\ 22^{\circ}-23\end{array}$ |

## THE M. A. C. RECORD.

## published weekly by thr

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## Our Representative to the Inter Collegiate Oratorical Contest.

The plan agreed upon for selecting the representative of the College in the inter collegiate oratorical contest to take place at Albion next May, presupposes a general interest in such selection and a spirit of loyalty to the best interests of the College as a whole. There is in the hearts of our men when one probes deep enough to find it, a very real and hearty pride in the reputation of the M. A. C. as a college, but this feeling is too often overshadowed by devotion to something lying nearer to the surface, something that if it does not affect us more strongly, yet reaches is more immediately. The student thinks immediately of his society and only mediately of the College which makes the society possible. The professor is tempted to ask primarily, "How does this affect my department?" And only secondarily, "Does this promote the best interests of the College?" This condition is due, not to any excessive development of narrowness or selfishness in either student or professor, but to the force of habit, in that the College customarily presents itself to student and professor through the medium of these special features. It would seem then, that anything tending to emphasize our essential unity, to fuse the segregated interests into a glow of love for the College in all its features, would be a matter of congratulation. Hitherto, perhaps, ath-letics-the field-day meets and the ball games-have constituted the one common ground of interest for all. Our plan of having all take part in the selection of our oratorical representative seeks to enlarge this common ground and to cultivate in the individual member of the College, disinterested loyalty and clearness of judgment under temptation toward bias. We are to appear in competition with these colleges on their own ground. The two forms of education, ours and theirs, are to be tested side by side. And in a way it is a fair test, too; for in a form of society such as ours no class can afford to abandon to another the power of influencing men, of convincing the judgment and swaying the feelings of their fellows. The spoken word must always be to artisan or to professional man a matter of supreme importance. Now our form of education may not be able to compete with theirs in the nicer arts of the
rhetorician and declaimer, but it should give us a wider range of facts, a firmer grasp of realities, and a greater facility and keenness in arriving at generalizations through comparison and coördination of particulars. And these are the things that count in the spoken word after all; not the word itself and the cadence with which it is uttered, but the magnetism of the personality and the intensity of the conviction behind the word, is that which sways the hearer and incites to action. The representative we want, then, the one through whom we may confidently expect victory in the contest, is he among us who possesses the sanest mind, the strongest personality, the broadest sympathy and the greatest intensity of conviction on subjects that relate to his fellow men. There is here much of good to the College and to the individual who with alert mind and independent judgment makes his choice and deposits his ballot.
H. E.

## Bird Life About M. A. C.

## t. L. hankinson, columban literary

 society.To a person interested in birds, our College campus and the surrounding region offers a rich field for study and observation. The several tracts of woodland in the vicinity of the College give us an excellent opportunity to become acquainted with the interesting bird life of the woods, and to listen to the music of some of our finest songsters, such as the wood thrush, the Wilson's thrush, the scarlet tanager, the oven-bird, the towhee ant others.

The Red Cedar River flowing along the south border of the campus, brings near to us a few of our interesting aquatic birds, such as the green heron, the spotted sandpiper, American coot, and occasionally the great blue heron, blackcrowned night heron, and possibly other species.

By taking a short walk in almost any direction, a person may find a piece of low, bushy swamp land; where the redwing blackbirds, the tree sparrows and song sparrows, the catbirds, the yellow warblers, the white-throated and white-crowned sparrows, are found with other such species that inhabit these low regions of the landscape.
In the fields of the College farm, and in those of other farms in the neighborhood, we find many of those birds that partake of the terrestial life, such as the horned lark, which remains with us in large numbers throughout the winter, but becomes most abundant in the spring. About the first of March, just as the snow is going off, we hear the cheerful song of this bird everywhere about our fields. It is the first voice of spring. Soon the meadow-larks and vesper sparrows arrive, and their songs add much to the charm of early spring. Later, as the season advances and the clover has begun to grow, the bobolink comes, and everywhere about the meadows we hear the beautiful song of this, one of the finest of American songsters.

There is one drawback to this region for finding birds, and that is its distance from a lake, but in the pleasant weather of spring and fall a trip to Pine Lake will well ripay one. Here we find the various species of ducks, divers, terns and other water birds.

Perhaps the best place in this locality for birds, especially the water birds, is Chandler's marsh. This is a large area of low, level, uncultivated region lying about two miles north of the College. A good deal of this ground is covered by bushes, but there are often found pools and flooded places, about which we may find many shore birds, such as snipes, sand-pipers, plovers, yellow-legs, etc. About the deeper water during certain seasons of the year, we find a good many ducks, mostly mallards and teal. Among the reeds and cattails we find rails, gallinules and coots, with bitterns and other marsh inhabiting species.

But to learn many interesting things about our birds one does not have to leave the campus. The beauty and pleasantness of the place seems to be most enjoyed by the birds, for they gather here from the surrounding region and build their nests in the foliage of the many beautiful trees, and sing to us their sweetest songs.

## Report of Base Ball Manager.

contributions.
J. L Snyder
C. D. Smith
L. R. Taft

Walter B. Barrows
Chas. L Weil
Chas. L Weil
I. H. Butterfield
H. H. Bandholtz

One bat
One ball.
One dozen balls
Express on one dozen balls
One bat
One telephone to Olivet
Tickets for picked nine from Lansing Tickets for R. T. Gayle.
Tickets for picked nine from Lansing Postage
One bat . . . . . . . . . . . . .
Tickets for picked nine from Lansing
Tickets for league team
One telegram to Kalamazoo
125
125

One load saw dust.
Express on a pair of pants to Kala-
ma
35
Two bats

| 324 |
| :--- |
| 1 |

Supper in Lansing for B. B. team . $\quad 215$
Telephone to Hillsdale. . . .... 70
Telephone to Olivet
Twine for bats :
Bus fare from Lansing
One dozen balls
One dozen balls ........... Io 100
Express on one dozen balls . . . . . 65
Ono telephone to Ypsilanti
One telephone to Ypsilanti
Railroad fare for B. B. team field day 1950
Paid K. T. Gayle for coaching . . , 50 oo Paid R. T, Gayle for board
Gave of funds. in my hands, for medals
Street care fare for manager
H. K. Vedder

## H. Edwaras

E. A. A. Grange
W. O. Hedrick

Herbert W. Mumford
C. E. Hoyt .
P. B. Woodworth

Thos Gutison
E. S. Good.

Fred C. Kenney
P. M. Lyman
W. Babcock
. $\$ 1000$
W. Babcock
M. IV. Fulton
D. J. Crosby .
A. L. Westcott

Chace Newma
H E. Smith
H. P. Gladden .
$\$ 25394$

## SUMMARY. <br> Total receipts $\$ 28912$ <br> B tlance in cash in treasury. $\begin{array}{r}\$ 3518 \\ \$ 39\end{array}$

The above is an exact statement of all expenditures and receipts of the baseball team for the season of 1897 .
C. M. Krentel,

Manager.

## A Bullet Located by the X-Ray.

One day last week Dr. Shank telephoned the Physical Department that he had a patient with a bullet in his leg, and that the probe had failed to locate it. Would we try the X-rays? We assured the doctor that we are always waiting for such opportunities. The patient was seven year old Willie Beck of Lansing. The bullet had entered the fleshy part of his leg several days before and was causing a great deal of trouble; the leg was swollen to about twice its normal size, so arrangements were made immediately. When Dr. Shank and the boy arrived the X-ray machine and photographic plates were all ready. A photographer's plate-holder was tied to the boy's leg and the X-ray tube operated for three minutes. In three minutes more the plate in the dark room gave positive evidence of the exact location of the bullet, which had gone within one-half inch of the entire distance through the leg. Next the fluoroscope was used and the bullet located again. Willie enjoyed the experiment. When Dr. Shank announced that he saw the bullet, Willie turned to his father and said, "I want you to see it too." The bullet was removed next day without any trouble.

## At the College.

Representative Kimmis called at the College Wednesday.
C. H. Hilton, 'oo, has been entertaining his father for several days.

Part of the cattle in the College herd are being tested for tuberculoses.
The farm crops are nearly all secured with the exception of the sugar beets.
T. L. Hankinson spent a few days in Chicago, returning to the College yesterday.

Wind and Barometer in Forecasts of the Weather.

DR. R. C. KEDZIE.

The weather bureau has issued a small pamphlet, "Wind-Barometer Table," to assist persons who are not skilled in meteorology to form some notion of what the weather will be for a day. This pamphlet was prepared by Prof. Garriott, with the approval of W. L. Moore, Chief of Weather Bureau. The table of Prof. Garriott I have modified to suit the barometric conditions for central Michigan, and I have used his text without giving due credit beyond saying the credit of this paper is due to him.

In consequence of the great movements of air in our periodic winds, the influence of the earth's rotation in changing their direction, and the effect of local heat and moisture, there occur great depressions (low barometer) in this atmospheric ocean at certain places, and lofty mountains of air (high barometer) in other places. The air blows spirally inward toward the regions of low barometer, the wind moving "against the sun" in such spiral; from areas of high barometer the wind moves spirally outward and "with the sun." These areas of "high" and "low" are not stationary, but move across our State from west to east at the rate of 20 to 40 miles an hour, carrying their wind systems with them.
"The areas of high barometer are usually attended by settled, fair and cool weather, and low areas by unsettled, stormy and warm weather." If a "low" passes north of us, which is most usual, the direction of the wind will follow the sun, e. g., from N. E. to E. to S. E. and S. and S. W., bringing in warm weather. If the "low" passes south of us, the wind will back in the contrary direction, bringing in cold weather.
"In weather calculations the barometer is the pulse, the wind is the breath of storms, and the thermometer registers the variation of the vital function of heat. A consideration of these symptoms in their various phases constitutes a diagnosis of the weather changes in the near future. Rapid changes of the barometer indicate early and,marked changes in the weather. A falling barometer, the wind and temperature co-operating, indicates foul weather; a rising barometer supported by certain winds and temperatures will give fair weather; a stationary barometer indicates the continuance of the present weather."

In the following Wind-Barometer Table the height of the barometer is taken at 29 inches, which is nearly the mean height for central Michigan. No other change of importance is made from Prof. Garriott's table.

Wind-Barometer Table.

| Barombter, | $\left.\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Direction } \\ \text { of } \end{array}\right\| \begin{aligned} & \text { WIND } \end{aligned} \right\rvert\,$ | Character of Weather Indicated. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2900 to 29.20 and steady. | Westerly. | Fair, with slight changes of temperature for one or two days. |
| 2900 to 29.20 and rising rapidly. | Westerly. | Fair, followed within two days by warmer and rain. |
| 2900 to 29.20 and falling rapidly. | E. to | Warmer, and rain within 24 hours. |
| 2920 or above and falling rapidly. | E. to | Warmer, and rain |
| 2920 or above and falling rapidly. | W. to N. | Cold and clear, quickly followed by warmer and rain. |
| 2920 or above and stead | Variable | No early change. |
| 29.00 or below and falling slowly. | E. to S. | Rain within 18 hours that will continue for a day or two. |
| 29.00 or below and falling rapidly. | N.E. to S.E | Rain, with high wind, followed within two days by clearing, colder. |
| 29.00 or below and risin | S. to W. | Clearing and colder within 12 hours. |
| 28 | N.E. to S.E. | severestorm of wind and rain imminent. In winter, snow and cold wave within 24 hours. |
| 2880 or below and falling rapidly | N. to E | Severe northeast gale and heavy rain or snow, followed in winter by cold wave. |
| 28 So or below and rising rapidly. | Going to W. | Clearing and colder. |

Mrs. Thomas Carruthers, of Cincinnati, is the guest of Lieutenant and Mrs. Bandholtz.

A number of the students with young ladies from Lansing, enjoyed a hay ride Friday evening. Dancing in the Hesperian rooms followed.
Last week instructor in dairying, G. H. True, spent several days on a bicycle trip through Barry and Allegan counties looking up the cheese making interests in those counties.

Prof. U. P. Hedrick returned to College Friday after spending two weeks in the nurseries and orchards in the vicinity of Adrian, Monroe, Detroit and Ann Arbor. He located the San Jose Scale in several places in the vicinity of Detroit.

In 1892 Malcolm Forbes paid $\$ 400,000$ to Senator Stanford for the horse Arion, making it the most valuable equine ever known.

The Lewis Institute in Chicago would like to secure the services of Mr. C. E. Hoyt as instructor in their wood-shops.

At the tea table. First Magni-tude-"I weighed myself to-day, and I've lost five pounds in the last three weeks." Second Magnitude -"I've been losing like everything lately, too." Third Magnitude"And I'm sure I've lost." Land-lady-"I can't see what ails you people, unless you are like neighbor B.'s tom cat. They say it eats so much that it gets poor carrying the load around." And the stars of all magnitudes twinkled and disappeared in outer darkness.

## Only the Latest Styles

In Men's Furnishings find place in my stock.

Would be pleased to have you come in and inspect my Fall Offerings in the way of Hats, Caps, Ties, Sweaters, Shirts, Golf Hose, Night Robes, Underwear, in fact everything in Natty Furnishings.
Students' patronage respectuilly solicited.

## $*$ Elgin Mifflin.

## The Houlse that Jadk Bullt- <br> Must have been from the good old

 LUMBER.It Stands the Test of Ages.
Suits all Places and Purses.

## Simons

DPI Goods 60.

## OCTOBER OPENING

 ...SALE... of DRESS GOODS CLOAKS.
## DRESS GOODS DEP'T.

All the new stylish weaves in Poplin and Canvas Cloths at 50 c , 75 c , and $\$ \mathrm{r} .00 \mathrm{Yd}$.

## CLOAK DEP'T.

Ladies' and Misses' Jacketsthe latest Fall and Winter Styles, at $\$ 5.00, \$ 7.50, \$ 10.00$, and \$12.00.
New Line of Wool Shirt Waists. New Line of Dress Skirts.
New Line of Mackintoshes.
New Line of Wrappers.

## NEW FALL GOODS

in all departments.
Students will receive Special Attention....
Simons Dry Goods Co.


Cameras --Photographic Supplies.

## F. J.Williams $\boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{6}$.

Opera House Pharmacy.
R. H. STocovm, College Agent.


News from Graduates and Students.
A. B. Cook, ' 93 , Owosso, is visiting friends at M. A. C.
Leon J. Cole, with ' 98 , has again taken up work at the college. He plans to graduate with ' 99 .
E. M. O'Neil, with '93, and wife, of Hoytville, visited the College Sunday.
Z. Veldhuis, with ' 97 , is a practicing veterinary surgeon at Fremont, Mich.
George J. Jenks, ' 89 , is now "Pa Jenks." It's a boy, born last Friday.
A. H. Sissakian, with '98, is studying medicine at the Northwestern Medical College.
C. E. Meyers, '96, has gone to Oklahoma to spend the winter with his father.
Harry Hodgman, with ' 95 m , is engaged in engineering work for the U. S. government at Amberstburg, Ontario.

Thomas Bradford, with '92m, has been spending several weeks at the old home near the college. He left for Boston last week to attend the Emerson School of Expression.
W. R. C. Smith, with '96, a brother of J. H. Smith, mentioned below is the manager of the western branch of the American Electrician. He is the same old "hustler" as when at college he earned the title of "Auctioneer Smith."
M. S. Gregory, with '92, commissioner of schools in Benzie county, made college friends a pleasant visit last week. He still hopes to recover the use of his eyes sufficiently to enable him to complete his course here. He left for Ann Arbor Thursday to have his eyes examined.

Prof. J. H. Smith, ' $8_{3}$, who has been traveling for the American Electrician in the south, was offered the position of business manager of the main office of that publication this fall. He declined the honor however, and has quit the road and returned to his old position, principal of the Roger's Park School.
H. E. VanNorman, '97, superintendent of the Moore Park Farm, Terre Haute, Indiana, writes: "I am enjoying my work and have lots of it. Will winter ninety head of fine Jersey cattle, nearly sixty now milking. Have just had the first rain in ten weeks. Have a large crop of apples for the season and locality.

Frank Hodgman, '62, was at the college Wednesday to make plans for the publication of his collection of College Poems. It is his plan to illustrate the edition profusely with sketches and half tones representing characteristic college scenes - in short, to make it a souvenir of college life that every alumnus will want-and to put it on the market at the cost of publication. If you want a copy, drop Mr. Hodgman a card at Climax. As soon as a sufficient number to cover the cost of publication signify their desire for the book, Mr. Hodgman will hasten its publication.
W. J. McGee, '96, Chicago, once personal editor of the Speculum, still has a fellow feeling for personal editors and very kindly sends us several items besides the one regarding himself. "As for myself there is nothing to say. I am a broker on the board of trade, in
business with my father. Amateur photography is my hobby as it was at M. A. C. Mrs. W. J. McGee is also an enthusiastic devotee of the art. Our home in Morton Park is known as the house where they bore you to death with pictures. I have a chemical laboratory in my house and am still pursuing the chemical studies, of which I learned the beginning at M. A. C."
Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jason E. Hammond, '86, is planning a very thorough investigation of the rural schools of Michigan, with a view to publishing the results of the same in his next annual report. Personally he will investigate the condition of the schools, grounds, buildings, adornment of grounds and decoration of school rooms, school apparatus, libraries, qualification of teachers, graduation and promotion exercises, attendance, cost of maintenance, kind of books used, visitation by officers and patrons; and will also publish exterior and interior views of the poorest, medium and best school houses in the counties visited.

## To a Lone Robin Singing.

The north wind moans adown the dale And sweeps through orchards bleak and bare,
But red-breast rocking to the gale Sings lusty as the twilight falls, "Cheer up; cheer up; for spring is here.' "The earth lies locked in sleep, my bird, The north wind bloweth cold, A silly message thou dost bring ; For birds like thee are over-bold
To herald forth the spring.
But yet the robin caroled free, 'Cheer up; cheer up; the spring is here."
The streams are full, thou sightless man The sun will rise again.
The south wind listens for my cail Ere coining with his rain.
Take heart; take heart; for spring is here.
Sing on, blithe bird, thy song of hope, God grant such loving trust
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