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REPORT

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

EIGHTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE

STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,

LOCATED AT

AMES.

[PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.]

DES MOINES:

F. M. MILLS, STATE PRINTER.
1880.

REPORT.

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

YOUR Committee appointed to visit and inspect the State Agricultural College and Farm, located at Ames, in the county of Story, and to ascertain:

First. "Whether the appropriations made by the last General Assembly have been wisely and economically expended."

Second. "Whether they have been expended for the object appropriated."

Third. "Whether Chapter 67, of the Acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly has been complied with in not contracting indebtedness in excess of appropriations."

Fourth. "Whether there has been any diversion of any money from the specific purpose for which it was drawn out of the State Treasury," have performed the work assigned them and respectfully report the following:

We began by an examination of the "Sewer" contemplated by the appropriation made by the Seventeenth General Assembly, and which sewer leads eastward from the college building a distance of about one hundred and ten rods. This sewer is constructed of tile ten inches in the diameter, in the clear, manufactured at the city of Des Moines, and is believed to be sufficient for all the purposes for which it was intended. It cost the sum of \$1,472.25, as shown by the books and vouchers in the hands of E. W. Stanton, Secretary, and which books and vouchers were by us carefully examined and found to correspond with the statement of expenditures found on page eighteen of the Eighth Biennial Report of the Board of Trustees.

We next examined the new Laboratory constructed in the summer of 1878, for the Horticultural department. This is a plain wood building, 26x45 feet, with walled cellar for the storage of grafts

and vegetables—with "lecture-room," "seed-room" and "work-room" on the first floor, and with Horticultural museum and store-room overhead. Attached to this Laboratory is a "Green-house" and office, 22x44. Here are found an almost endless variety of plants and flowers, which have either been propagated on the premises, or collected by J. L. Budd, the efficient and accomplished professor in charge, and the proceeds of which when sold will be used to replenish the stock, and to purchase such new and valuable varieties as time and science shall disclose. In the immediate vicinity of the Laboratory, a cistern has been constructed, and equipped for use. The propagating hall is heated by a furnace and hot water pipes, which extend in their windings a distance of about two hundred feet.

The Laboratory is a model of neatness, much too small to accomplish all that is desired, but it is in good and reliable hands, and its prospective career is one of great promise to the State. The actual cost of this building and its attachments, including cistern and green-house, was \$2,500.00, that being the exact sum appropriated by the Seventeenth General Assembly for that purpose, and which in the estimation of your committee has been honestly and wisely expended. An inspection of the vouchers in the hands of Secretary Stanton, shows the items and amounts to exactly correspond with the schedule of expenditures and receipts, recited on pages twenty and twenty-one of the said report of the Board of Trustees.

On the farm is an orchard which has been planted for several years, and while some of the trees are doing well, many are hanging out the signals of distress and decay. Two years since another orchard of about one thousand trees was planted out under the supervision of Professor Budd, whose knowledge and experience in the line of his profession is a legacy to the State. A nursery of about forty thousand thrifty trees—one and two years old—of the Russian varieties, was also planted out by Professor Budd. The great value of this nursery consists chiefly in its winter varieties—of sweet and sour apples—something long desired, and as long denied to those who have chosen Iowa for their homes. These trees are the off-shoots from the fruit bearing orchards of Central and Northern Russia, and are believed to be as hardy and enduring as the oak. Leaving the orchards and the nursery, we examined the stock, and found the number and variety related in said report on pages seventy-five and seventy-six. All the stock is in good condition, and amongst the cattle were some fine speci-

mens—such as may now be found in many other stock yards of the State. There were a few remaining hogs, which were cholera proof—and a small flock of sheep.

We found so much of the farm as broken well cultivated, but neither the stock nor the crops yet produced on the farm have been of sufficient importance as to materially affect the European market. The farming implements were well housed and in fair condition.

As near as your committee could ascertain, there are about 873 acres of land known as the College Farm. Of these acres about one hundred and fifty are under the plow. About two hundred acres are subject to overflow in times of storm and flood. Three hundred and fifty are timber, brush lands, and pasture. The balance ornamental grounds and building sites, and suitable for little else.

The college building is an imposing structure, when viewed in the distance, but a careful inspection will disclose the imperfect foundation on which it rests.

The rooms of the college building, and their equipments, are generally in good order, and show the skillful management of those in charge.

In and around the buildings erected on the farm, are evidences of care and economy, but many repairs and enlargements are yet necessary to make them inviting and complete.

But whatever the number or character of the buildings, or the numbers and accomplishments of those who have them in charge, the *farm itself* was selected in an unfortunate locality for a model farm on the garden soil of Iowa.

Your committee are of the opinion that nearly all, if not the entire improvements, for which appropriations are asked by the Board of Trustees in their "Eighth Biennial Report," are absolutely necessary for the success of the various enterprises contemplated by the Government in granting, and the State in receiving, the immense public domain, upon the proceeds of which their present and future welfare greatly depend. But if some things asked for are more needed than others, as we believe they are, we would recommend that the buildings, erections, and improvements contemplated in the third, fourth, and sixth propositions embraced in said report be first considered.

Visiting this farm and College in time of vacation, your committee have no way of knowing more about their results and the scientific training and acquirements of its students than can be gathered from

reports, verbal and written, and from individual observation. Those whose educational career has begun and ended within its walls, are now scattered all over the State, and the people are the jurors before whom the students are on trial.

It should be remembered that the College and its auxiliary force has been in operation only about eleven years—a time hardly long enough with the limited appropriations made, to realize the great advantages which are expected to result to the State.

Changes of officers and plans, heretofore too often made, may have been disastrous to the best interests of the Agricultural department. From the first day of March, 1880, Professor S. A. Knapp will take charge of the farm and stock, and his good reputation, long since established, is the evidence of the beginning of a new and better life.

The trustees, president, professors, and managers of the College and Farm, appear to be enthusiastic and accomplished in the line of their professions, and should they fail to reach that degree of perfection desired, it will be because they are surrounded by difficulties and embarrassments which energy and science cannot overcome.

Secretary Stanton is deserving great credit for the rapid and accurate manner in which he is able to disclose the business affairs pertaining to his office, and Superintendent J. C. Hiatt should be remembered as a faithful and efficient manager of the stock and farm.

For answer to other instructions, we respectfully submit the schedule annexed, marked exhibit "A," and made a part of our report.

W. P. GAYLORD,
On the part of the Senate.

PLINY NICHOLS,
JOHN VAN STADEN,
On the part of the House.

SCHEDULE "A."

- A. S. WELCH, LL. D., PRESIDENT,
Professor of Psychology and Philosophy of Science.
Salary, \$3,100. Allowed \$150 for preaching on Sabbath.
- GEN. J. L. GEDDES, M. PH., PRESIDENT *pro tem.*,
Professor of Military Tactics and Engineering, Steward, and Deputy Treasurer.
Salary, \$1,900, divided as follows: Salary as Professor of Military Tactics, \$900; salary as Steward, \$800; salary as Deputy Treasurer, \$400; allowed, as Steward, board during the session of school.
- W. H. WYNN, A. M., Ph. D.,
Professor of English Literature.
Salary, \$1,600.
- C. E. BESSEY, M. S., Ph. D.,
Professor of Botany.
Salary, 1,600.
- A. THOMPSON, C. E.,
Professor of Mechanical Engineering, and Superintendent of the Workshop.
Salary, \$1,600; allowed use of house.
- F. E. L. BEAL, B. S.,
Professor of Civil Engineering.
Salary, \$1,600.
- T. E. POPE, A. M.,
Professor of Chemistry.
Salary, \$1,600.
- M. STALKER, R. S., V. S.,
Professor of Veterinary Science.
Salary, 1,600.
- J. L. BUDD, M. H.,
Professor of Horticulture.
Salary, 1,600.
- J. K. MACOMBER, B. S.,
Professor of Physics, and Librarian.
Salary, \$1,600.
- E. W. STANTON, B. S.,
Professor of Mathematics and Political Economy.
Salary, \$1,600. Allowed, as Secretary of Board of Trustees, \$200, and use of house, said house to be kept by him in first class repair.
- S. A. KNAPP, A. M.,
Professor of Practical and Experimental Agriculture.
Salary, 1,600; allowed \$150 for preaching on Sabbath; allowed also use of farm house, the furniture therein and the garden connected therewith, free of rent, provided Mrs. S. A. Knapp keep a boarding house, boarding the employes of the College, at the rate of \$3.00 per week, for each boarder, and others at reasonable rates.

MRS. MARY B. WELCH, PRECEPTRESS,
Lecturer on Domestic Economy.
Salary, \$1,100.

MISS MARTHA SINCLAIR, ASSISTANT PRECEPTRESS,
Instructor in French and English.
Salary, \$1,000.

T. L. SMITH, B. S.
Foreman in the Work-shop and Lecturer on Architecture.
Salary, \$700.

A. B. SHAW, B. S.,
Foreman and Instructor in the Printing Office.
Thirty cents per hour for time actually employed, amounting to about \$500.

C. F. MOUNT, C. E.,
Assistant in Civil Engineering.
Salary, \$600.

HERBERT OSBORNE, B. S.,
Assistant in Zoology and Entomology.
Salary, \$300.

WINIFRED M. DUDLEY, B. S.,
Teacher of Instrumental Music.
Allowed the tuition charged students, amounting to about \$300 a year.

G. S. FOX,
Teacher of Vocal Music.
Allowed the tuition charged students, and \$100 by the College for instructing the military band and taking charge of Chapel Music.

MRS. A. THOMSON,
Housekeeper and Assistant in Experimental Kitchen.
Salary, \$600; allowed board during the session of school.

H. D. HARLOW,
Proctor.
Salary, \$62 per month.

W. M. GREELEY,
Treasurer.
Salary, \$800.

JAMES GILMORE,
Foreman upon the Farm.
Salary, \$30 per month and board.

BRUCE ROBINSON,
In charge of the Stock.
Salary, \$30 per month and board.

JERRY SEXTON,
Foreman in Horticultural Department.
Salary, \$30 per month.

The following explanatory notes are deemed necessary to a correct understanding of the answer to question fifth embraced in our instructions:

1st. No salaries are paid by the State. The salaries of the Steward and House-keeper are paid from the receipts of the boarding department; all others from the college interest fund.

2d. The two music teachers receive no pay from the college fund (except the \$100 to Prof. Fox, mentioned above), since music is not a department of the college. Students are permitted to take music, paying the teacher for the instructions received.

3d. The Board of Trustees arranged with Mrs. Knapp to keep a boarding-house in the farm building, for the reason that no other provision could be made for boarding the farm hands.

4th. The President and Prof. Knapp were employed by the Board of Trustees to preach upon the Sabbath, because there is no regular chaplain, and to secure one would cost the college much more than the present arrangement.

5th. Mrs. Welch, Lecturer on Domestic Economy, was authorized by the Board of Trustees to visit New York, Boston, and other places for the purpose of studying the best models and most approved appliances for fitting up the experimental kitchen connected with the Iowa Agricultural College; her bill of expenses was ordered paid from the appropriation to Domestic Economy.