
THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1871.

The Executive Committee met at 7 o'clock A. M., according to adjournment, and proceeded to locate and inspect the building site of the **Mechanical and Drill Hall.**

On motion of Mr. J. H. Pickrell, it was decided that the building for Mechanic shops and Drill Hall be located on the lots owned by the University, situated between Springfield road and the horse railroad, bringing the center of the building opposite the center of ——— street (east side of parade grounds,) the north side of said building being placed not less than eight feet from south side of said Springfield road. It was further voted that the foundation of the above building be laid as low as to bring the level of the ground-floor one foot over the present sidewalk.

On motion of Judge A. M. Brown, the Regent was authorized to contract for and have done, the excavating for the University Building; also, wells and drainage for same.

On motion of Judge A. M. Brown, it was—

Resolved, That the contracts for the construction of the University Building and Drill Hall shall provide, that at each monthly meeting of the Executive Committee, the contractor shall present an account of the value of materials for said buildings, placed on the ground by him, and also the value of labor done, which account shall be first submitted to Mr. J. M. Van Osdel, the architect, for his approval. Upon his certificate of the correctness of such account, the same shall be allowed and proper orders for the money be drawn as required by law.

A report of the Corresponding Secretary, Hon. W. C. Flagg, of the work of the past year, etc., was accepted, viz :

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

Not being able to be present at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, I respectfully ask leave to report at this late day.

Our third annual report has been duly published and distributed, with the exception of 600 copies left in the hands of the State Binder to be bound in muslin, which were destroyed by fire with other State documents. By countermanding an order for distribution, 500 more copies were placed in the binder's hands, and I hope will soon be ready for use.

The increasing demand for bound copies of complete sets of our reports suggests the desirability of increasing the number of bound copies, which has hitherto, for economical reasons, been confined to 500 annually. We still have on hand, in paper, a large number of reports that can, as fast as needed, be bound in muslin, and in that shape will be more valued and better preserved by those who receive them. For the future I believe it will be better to ask the State authorities to bind the entire edition.

I have sent, as required by law, copies of our last report to the Secretary of the Interior and to the several colleges founded on the national grant, so far as such are known to exist; and to the Secretaries

of the various States and Territories in which no colleges have yet been organized. I have also sent packages, by express, to gentlemen at those points where Industrial University lectures have been held, for distribution among persons who attended the meetings, and have made a very considerable distribution through members of the General Assembly, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture.

Agricultural lectures and discussions were held at Champaign, January 9th to 20th, 1871; at Springfield, between January 12th and 18th; at Pekin, between January 23d and 26th, and at South Pass, February 6th to 9th. I was unable to be present at any except those held at Springfield, but learn that they were as a whole successful, though not always as well attended as could be desired. The fact that since we commenced these annual courses such institutions as the Iowa Agricultural College, Cornell University, and probably others have organized similar courses, goes to show that the plan is approved and imitated by industrial teachers in other States, and may encourage us to persevere in the same direction.

The exact cost of these lectures is not yet ascertained, but excluding those of Dr. Hull and Dr. Miles, who were primarily engaged to lecture before the students, they will cost considerably less than last year.

Applications have already been made for lectures at other points, and in case the Board approves, arrangements ought to be made at an early day for the next winter courses. We now have a State appropriation to aid us, which makes it perhaps obligatory to do so.

The time has come when, as I would respectfully suggest, the Board should make further provision than it has yet done to enable me to make the annual report of this Board a more thorough and complete attempt to collect our statistics bearing on the industries, and to obtain and set forth facts of observation and experiment.

We ought to have—

I. Meteorological observations—of which I already have a large amount, collected from different observers in the State, but which should be carefully made, also, here at the University, by some person appointed for the purpose. Probably this could be done most cheaply by the employment of a careful and thorough person from among our students. It would furnish him remunerative employment, and insure the doing of a work which is too great for Professors already over-taxed.

II. Trials of Implements.—At least once in each year there should be held on the University farm a trial of plows, cultivators, harrows, reapers, mowers or some other class of implements, agricultural or

or other. Our leading agriculturists should be invited to assist at these trials, and give their aid and counsel. The University would thus become more a center of attraction to the farmers and mechanics of the State, and its name and objects become better known.

III. Experiments in the effects of different degrees of heat, light, electricity and moisture on vegetation, should be carefully made, probably under cover, so as to better control the conditions.

IV. Chemical experiments, bearing upon the industrial pursuits, are of course still desirable and, as soon as the chemical-teaching force is sufficient to admit of so doing, ought to be zealously prosecuted. We need analyses of soils, coals, manures, plants, and annual products.

V. Experiments in practical agriculture, especially the growing of field crops and the breeding and feeding of animals. For this purpose, and the carrying on of annual courses of lectures, we have an appropriation of \$3,000 per annum for two years, which should be applied to the best advantage for 1871 and 1872. On the Experimental farm there remains about 70 acres to be cared for this year, and which may be used next year for experimental culture. A small portion of this has already been staked into one-twentieth-of-an-acre plots, and a part has already been sown with grains and grass seed. The remainder of the staked ground, it has been suggested, might be planted to corn with a view of determining the variability between different plots in their productiveness. There still remains a large tract of land on which it would cost too much to endeavor to institute any detailed experiments, but on which, planted mostly to corn, a variety of experiments in varieties of grain, different kinds of seed, different depths and distances of planting, and the like, might be roughly tried. Several crops of other kinds ought to be tried in small amount—such as field peas and beans, rutabagas, carrots, parsnips, sugar beets, flax, hemp, broom corn, hops, mustard, etc.

VI. The collection of statistics, and their exposition by maps, tables, etc., is desirable. In this connection I would call attention to the maps of Mr. Fred. P. Wines, Secretary Board of Public Charities, exhibiting the corn and wheat crop of 1870, in this State, the density of population, etc., as affording some valuable hints.

In our last annual report I called the attention of the Governor and of the General Assembly to some of the above points, and, as we now have a partial appropriation, I hope that we may be placed in such condition as to go on and do more than we have yet done in observation, experimentation and statistics.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. FLAGG.

Dr. J. M. Gregory presented a report of the Professor of Mechanics, S. W. Robinson, asking for an appropriation to begin the construction of necessary machinery for the mechanical shops.

On motion of Mr. E. Cobb, \$2,000 were assigned for the purpose aforesaid, and the Regent and Mr. J. M. Pearson appointed a committee to expend these funds.

A committee, consisting of the Regent and Messrs. Pearson and Goltz, was instructed to determine upon a compensation, to be paid by the contractor, Mr. E. Gehlman, for the use of working room in the present mechanical shop, and such machinery thereof as he may desire to use, and can be spared.

The Regent and the chairman of building committee were authorized to have such repairs and alterations done in the present University Building, as they may deem necessary, not to exceed the appropriation of \$1,000 made by the Board.

The Regent was further authorized to allow the use of rooms in University to such students as may be employed here, and deserving such favor.

On motion of Mr. Pearson, it was—

Resolved, That the Committee on Contracts be instructed to prepare a proper form for the bills for the contractor on the buildings, and that some of these bills be sent in blank to the members of the Board of Trustees to secure the necessary number of signatures, so that when the signatures of the Executive Committee be added, the bills may conform to the law of appropriation for these buildings.

It was moved and carried that Dr. M. Miles be employed as Professor of Agriculture; that he give his services through the winter term, and receive a salary of \$1,000.

The statement of Bookkeeper of expenditures was then read and approved, a number of bills presented for payment were audited and allowed, and a contingent fund of \$75 for defraying petty expenses was placed in the hands of the Bookkeeper.

It was ordered that the balance of salaries for the academic year be paid.

The committee appointed to report on employment of Dr. H. J. Detmers, recommended the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That Dr. H. J. Detmers be employed to give a course of instruction in Veterinary science during the winter term of the college year; said instruction to comprehend the diseases of domestic animals, and the care and medical treatment of same, and the holding of a free clinic for the illustration of such treatment.

Resolved, That there be appropriated the sum of \$600 as compensation for such service.

It was moved and seconded that \$120 be allowed for the services of Prof. D. C. Taft, teaching geology during the spring term, 1871.

Carried.

J. H. Pickrell, Esq., of Harristown, presented to the University farm, two pigs—pure Berkshire breed.

Mr. Goltra moved that the gift be accepted, and the thanks of this Committee be extended to the generous giver.

Carried.

The Secretary was instructed to express the thanks of the Committee, in behalf of the University, to Messrs. Fenner & Call, of Urbana, Ill., for the donation of one superior Trench plow, patented by Mr. R. R. Fenner.

The Committee on contracts of Buildings was also authorized to temporarily employ a Superintendent of Buildings, if necessary, until the next meeting of this Committee.

On motion of Judge Lawrence, it was voted that the whole matter in reference to purchases for the library and chemical apparatus, be referred to the Regent, with power to act.

The Regent was further instructed to buy a pair of blooded pigs for University farm.

The Committee then adjourned to meet again at the call of the Regent.
