agricultural colleges and societies, and of the general subject of agricultural education. Papers were read by Dr. O. C. Abbott of Michigan, Mr. Augustine Smith, Hon. Jno. A. King, Prof. J. A. Holmes of North Carolina, and Hon. D. W. Aiken of South Carolina.

Animal industries were discussed on Jan. 25, 26, and 27; and papers were presented by Mr. R. Baker of Ohio, Dr. James Law of New York, Mr. R. V. Gaines of Virginia, Mr. T. D. Curtis of New York, Mr. H. B. Guller of Illinois, Mr. Ezra Stetson of Illinois, Prof. Wesley Webb of Delaware, and Dr. M. G. Elizey of Virginia. Much interest was manifested in both of these sessions, and the general discussions were animated and interesting. On the 29th, the last day, and the one set apart for the consideration of the cotton industry, there was a decided falling-off in attendance; many of the delegates having left for home Saturday night, the 27th.

These conventions which Dr. Loring has called together, and which he inaugurated a year ago, have been productive of much good in bringing representative agriculturists into closer relations with the department. They indicate the desire of the commissioner to study the wishes and opinions of the people in the management of the department, and thus to increase its usefulness.

—Advises received from the U. S. consul at Montevideo, through the Department of state, show an alarming condition of affairs in parts of Uruguay from the ravages of destructive locusts. Foreign countries frequently apply through the state department for copies of the two reports of the U. S. entomological commission on the Rocky-Mountain locust; and it may be well to announce that they were published under the interior department, and are both out of print. The agricultural report for 1877 contains a condensed account of the more practical chapters by Professor Riley, and this may yet be obtained of the commissioner.

The agricultural committee of the house has agreed to report favorably a bill introduced by Mr. Anderson of Kansas, which empowers the President to appoint nine commissioners whose duty it shall be to investigate thoroughly the movements of agricultural products from points of production to their final markets, the actual cost to the common carrier and his profits, and all matters which practically affect the difference between the prices received by the producer and those paid by the consumer.

In Salusbury's translation (p. 79) of Dialogue first of Galileo on 'His Systeme of the World,' 1601, Sagredus is made to say, "You put me in mind of a man, who would have sold me a secret how to correspond, by means of a certain sympathy of magnetick needles, with one that should be two or three thousand miles distant; and I telling him, that I would willingly buy the same, but that I desired first to see the experiment thereof, and that it did suffice me to make it, I being in one chamber, and he in the next, he answered me that in so small a distance one could not so well perceive the operation; whereupon I turned him going, telling him that I had no mind at that time to take a journey unto Grand Cairo, or to Muscovy, but that if he would go himself, I would perform the other part, staying in Venice."