GOATS FOR NORTHERN WISCONSIN.

HON. A. R. HALL, Knapp, Wis.

The land I have fenced in for flock of goats (shown in the accompanying illustrations) was a ten-acre lot of hardwood timber land from which the saw timber was cut five years ago, and most of the cordwood two years ago last winter. It was covered with a heavy growth of underbrush, sprouts, briars, and in places many coarse weeds could be found. Sprouts from the basswood, white and black ash, the different kinds of elm, oak, butternut, ironwood, and box elder were to be found on it, and the different kinds of brush that usually are found growing on hardwood timber lands.

Into this ten-acre lot I turned 299 goats, of which number there were 121 kids. In three weeks from the time they were turned in there was not a leaf nor anything green within their reach, and in addition to devouring everything green they ate the briars to the ground and took the bark from all the basswood, elm and ash sprouts, and the lot looked very much as though a fire had swept over it. Cuts Nos. 1 and 2 show the condition of the ten acres after the little fellows had been in possession three weeks.

They showed their preference by taking the bass, ash and elm sprouts first and leaving the butternut and ironwood till all else was gone. They are very fond of the prickly ash.

I presume more or less sprouts will put in an appearance on this piece another year. My plan is to still let them run on the same, adding to it about ten acres at a time as their needs may require. By so doing the young sprouts, if any, will receive prompt attention, they being preferred to the older growth.

From my experience I am satisfied that the brush lands of northern Wisconsin can be more cheaply cleared with goats than in any other way. With fair management the goats can be made to pay a good profit outside of any return they may create in clearing land.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE WORK OF THE GOAT IN BRUSH LANDS OF NORTHERN WISCONSIN.

PROF. W. L. CARLYLE, Madison, Wis.

In the latter part of September of the present year it was the privilege of the writer to visit the large farm of Hon. A. R. Hall, near the town of Knapp, in the western part of Dunn County, Wisconsin. The shrewd, far-seeing judgment and clear-cut business ideas that have made Mr. Hall the power he is in Wisconsin’s Legislature have evidently been factors in his selection of this ideal location for a farm. The approach to it at present follows the course of a beautiful spring brook, which winds its way down a wide valley thickly grown with a variety of small timber, of which maple, elm, basswood, oak, ash, and butternut are the criterion of what the underlying soil must be. On reaching the farm we learn from Mr. Hall that it comprises a block of land some 1,200 acres in extent. Until a couple of years ago this land was in the condition known as “cut-over hardwood timber land.” During the past two winters quite an area has been cleared of the smaller growth of timber which has been utilized and found a ready and remunerative mar-