

❖ THE O. A. C. REVIEW. ❖

The dignity of a calling is its utility.

VOL. X.

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH, APRIL, 1895.

No. 7.

Editorial.

As we have followed the procedure of the Ontario Legislature in the session just ended, one feature has been most prominently placed before our minds. We have read discussions on agriculture in some of its various branches and aspects, and are led to believe that this occupation is coming to occupy in the minds of our legislators the place which its importance demands. This reminds us of the advance that has been made in the past few years among the farming classes themselves.

The evidences of such an advance are to be found in the existence of such organizations as Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, Dairy-men's Associations, Farmers' Institutes, etc. Further, the influence of the Agricultural College is being felt throughout Ontario and Canada through its students in bringing enlightened intellects and a knowledge of science to bear on the problems of tillage and economy in production. Another branch of work instituted by the College, which is becoming a powerful agency in swelling the profits for its members, is the Experimental Union. In short, the evidences on every hand are such that we believe the advance in education and general enlightenment, the reading of first-class literature, the gathering of knowledge from the experiences of others, is bringing about a state of affairs which augurs well for the future of our comparatively young country.

The present issue, our readers will notice, has been printed somewhat earlier in the month than usual. This was necessary in order to have copies ready for the present class of students before they leave for their homes on the 15th inst. We wish to state, also, that the Review

for May will be rather late in appearing. The issue for May will depend chiefly on the efforts of the third year students, and it would be unfair to ask them to spend any time on the journal until after their examinations have been completed. Subscribers will kindly accept this notice in explanation of the irregularity of the numbers for April and May.

Students of agriculture should have opportunities for observation outside of the actual course of work. There may be some reasons why the Ontario Agricultural College should not be situated in the Guelph district. It is an undeniable fact, however, that the opportunities the students have for observing and studying the methods of neighboring breeders must, in the most forcible manner, impress the necessity of a man having a natural liking for his occupation. Guelph, the centre of a district that has among its farmers a greater percentage of prominent breeders than any other district in the province. Outsiders are apt to mentally associate the handling and breeding of valuable live stock with elaborate and costly buildings and practices impossible for agriculturists in ordinary circumstances. An inspection of some of the farms on which this high-class stock is reared shows that, while fine buildings and expensive equipment may be very nice to have, they are not essential to successful breeding. On a farm where the buildings are but comfortable, and the rest only ordinary, we may see animals that are themselves prize-winners and which are producing prize-winners.

It is apparent that the whole secret lies in the manager being possessed of a keen interest in his profession. He believes that there is no other breed that can equal the one in which he