

The O. A. C. Review

Published monthly during the College Year by the Students
of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

THE DIGNITY OF A CALLING IS ITS UTILITY.

VOL. XV.

Ontario Agricultural College, March, 1903.

No. 6.

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TRAVELLING LIBRARY SYSTEM OF ONTARIO.

Walter James Brown, B. S. A., LL. B.

The need for a Travelling Library System in Ontario was first suggested by Dr. James Bain, Librarian of the Toronto Public Library, in his address, entitled "Public Libraries in Canada," delivered before the Canadian Institute on Dec. 11th, 1897. He said: "Outside of the larger cities, towns, and villages, lies a large proportion of the population of this Province as well as in the others, which are entirely without access to books. There are whole townships, and numbers of villages where the weekly newspaper is the only connecting link with modern science and literature. If we wish to create an attachment by the farmer for his farm, to give an interest in life to his children in their surroundings instead of in the city, and, in other words, to lay the basis for a successful and pleasant country life, we must try to make his intellectual surroundings more attractive and profitable. This is not a new problem; men who have had their country's good at heart have tried for years to meet the difficulty. The late Dr. Ryerson attempted to make every school house in the country a