

We have had two big picnics here lately. On the 12th. inst. a special excursion train over the C. P. R. brought in between 550 and 600 people, most of whom were connected with the Farmers' Institutes of East and West Kent. While the visitors were partaking of lunch in the barn, the President bade all a cordial welcome, and then gave explanations of the farm and College work. After short speeches from a few of the visitors, Prof. Robertson made a short but very amusing speech, and then the party dispersed over the farm and college buildings taking a lively interest in everything. On the 20th. inst. we had nearly as large a crowd mostly representative of the East York Institutes. The Hon. Chas. Drury and Mr. Simpson Rennie followed the President and Prof. Shaw in very able speeches immediately after lunch. The proceedings were greatly enlivened by sweet strains from the Ellismere Cornet Band. A football match in the city attracted our visitors away at an early hour. Shortly after their departure we were surprised at seeing several armchairs up in the apple trees by the greenhouse.

TWENTY-FOUR and a half able bodied men left the College after examinations to rest their overtaxed brains, and enjoy military glory for 12 days under Major Davidson at Niagara Camp. The weather was delightfully propitious, and "on summer eve by haunted stream" many sighs were heaved for the girls left behind in Guelph. "B Battery" came up well to the front in general efficiency, gaining second place on the list, while College boys shone conspicuously in the Non-Com. questions and the driving competition. General Adams and the Silver Medalist both came off as "clean men," and if the College picket did not succeed in running anyone in, they were praised for their appearance. Dark-eye and Cox enchanted the neighborhood with their sweet voices, while the Brigade-orderly-room-clerk-staff-sergeant entertained Tent No. 3 "with service high and anthems clear" about missing blankets, etc. Apropos of blankets, one of Chumpy's men made acquaintance with one which was both close and distant. The Y. M. C. A. tent was largely patronized, and the supply of writing materials gratefully appreciated. The heat was at times intense, and two or three men surrendered themselves to the doctor's care. A favorite joke was to blacken a man's face during his peaceful slumber and then hurriedly awaken him to say the Colonel desired his presence. Altogether the Niagara camp was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all the men, and we hope that the College Battery will be encouraged even more than it has been.

THE Closing Exercises were held in the dining hall on Monday, June 30th. Despite the intensely hot weather, visitors from the city and surrounding townships completely filled every available inch of space. The room was profusely decorated with flags and evergreens while on the platform was a very fine collection of hot house plants. Besides the College staff there were present on the platform:—Sir Daniel Wilson, Hon. C. Drury, Mr. A. Blue, Jas. Innes, M.P., D. Guthrie, M.P.P., Judge Drew, Prof. Creelman, Rev. Rural Dean Belt, Rev. R. J. Beattie, Rev. David McLeod, etc., etc. After a few words of welcome from the President, the valedictory address was delivered by Mr. C. F. Whitley, who reviewed, in a humorous manner, the experiences of the 2nd. year students. The diplomas were then presented by the Hon. C. Drury, who managed to say some exceedingly neat and appropriate things to each recipient. The following is the list:—

ASSOCIATES.

Brown, H. H., Chatham, Kent, Ont.; Buchanan, D., Hunsall, Huron, Ont.; Campbell, C. S., Brantford, Brant, Ont.; Cowan,

J. H., Galt, Waterloo, Ont.; Cowan, R. E., Galt, Waterloo, Ont.; Dolsen, W. J., Chatham, Kent, Ont.; Elliott, R. Seaforth, Huron, Ont.; Field, H., Cobourg, Northumberland, Ont.; Hadwen, G. H., Mons en Bareul, France; Harcourt, J., St. Ann's, Lincoln, Ont.; Hewgill, E. A., Heathcote, Grey, Ont.; Holliday, W. B., North Shields, England; Hutt, H. L., South End, Welland, Ont.; MacFarlane, T. W. R., Ottawa, Ont.; McKergow, J. G., Montreal, Quebec; Monk, W. D., South March, Carleton, Ont.; Mulholland, F., North Toronto, York, Ont.; Sleightholm, J. A. B., Humber, Peel, Ont.; Webster, F. E., Creemore, Simcoe, Ont.; Wells, E., Chilliwhack, B. C.; Wilson, F. G., Green River, Ontario County, Ont.; Wood, W. D., Cornwall, Stormont, Ont.; Whitley, C. F., Enfield, Middlesex, England.

Mr. H. L. Hutt then read a very thoughtful essay on "The Education of the Farmer's Son," bringing prominently forward the immense advantages of a knowledge of science.

The medals were then presented by James Innes, M. P., D. Guthrie, M. P. P., and Judge Drew in order, each addressing to the successful competitors a few words of congratulation.

GOLD MEDAL.

H. L. Hutt, South End, Welland, Ontario.

SILVER MEDALS.

Stanley Silver Medal J. Harcourt, St. Ann's, Lincoln, Ont.

Second Silver Medal R. E. Cowan, Galt, Waterloo, Ont.

Sir Daniel Wilson then delighted all present with his polished and eloquent address. He spoke of his pleasure at the affiliation of the O. A. C. with the Provincial University. Though not an agriculturist he could institute comparisons between now and nearly forty years ago, and realize the tremendous progress which had been made. In 1853 when there were no railways, he took the steamer from Toronto to Hamilton to visit the Provincial Agricultural Show. Accommodation was very scarce, and he had to lodge in an attic without a window. Early in the morning Prof. Wilson was enquired after. He presented himself, was cordially received, driven all round the city and was most hospitably entertained in every way. He was then told that his lecture on Mangold Wurtzel was set down for two o'clock. As he was not quite sure whether mangold wurtzel was a vegetable or an animal, he was somewhat at a loss until it was discovered that the committee had mistaken him for a Prof. Wilson, of New York, a specialist on agricultural topics who had been invited to address them, and who was fretting and fuming in his hotel. Sir Daniel said that if he was not a professor of agriculture he had received the honors due to one. (Laughter.) Dealing with the subject of higher education, he said there was a cry that this was over education, that men were being tempted to the professions from the farms, trades and commerce. He ridiculed the plea which he said was sometimes put forward that higher education was being carried to excess, and that by the wide diffusion of knowledge men were unfitted to be farmers. This meant in other words that the prosperity of the Dominion depended upon the perpetuation of ignorance. With the touch of a master hand, and in most elegant diction he briefly reviewed the history of the great nations of the world to show that their greatest commercial prosperity was contemporary with the greatest development of learning among the people and that the nations which were behind in culture were behind in industry. Knowledge was power to all, and intelligence and moral training could not be too highly cultivated. Lawyers and doctors could not be too highly educated. In concluding he expressed the confident belief that because of the