

Agricultural Education.

The accompanying cut represents what we regard to be a model school house for the country. It was designed for us by Messrs. Stewart & Denison, architects, Toronto, who have made a special study of school buildings. The cost is only \$1,300, including blackboard, bell, fences, play sheds, side walk, and all complete. It is ventilated on the most improved plan. The walls are of brick on a solid stone foundation. The roof is painted slate color. The class room is 25x40 feet, 12 feet high, and will seat about 100 children.

But the bare building is only a mite, compared with the whole requirements. A model school suggests model surroundings, a model teacher, and model pupils taught modelly. The "cramming" business is a crying disgrace to our school system, and any change, having for its object the introduction of more practical modes of teaching, would be hailed with delight. Young children especially should be taught pleasing things, and in order to accomplish this end a variety of pleasing objects should be presented to them. Their little faces should not be "sicklied o'er with the pale cast" of dry tasks, or their sports

much so as the soil supplies all the products necessary for the bodily wants. The boy who can accurately formulate and work out an equation which gives the proper feeding ration for a cow, or formulate what chemical reactions are taking place in the manure heap or in the soil, need not go any deeper into arithmetic or algebra; and if he can be taught to appreciate the inspiring scenes of those surroundings which his own hands have helped to embellish, he need not wander back into the dark ages of antiquity to have his imagination brightened up and made more fanciful.

Even the bright youth who has his eye on a profession, or a course in science or in arts, or a business pursuit, need not feel demeaned in studying agriculture—a science which has engaged the attention of the greatest minds of the age during the past thirty years; an art which is of the greatest and most immediate utility in every phase of our well-being, and is engaged in by men of the greatest wealth and

spectacles, which will enable them to read at the natural distance of twelve inches.

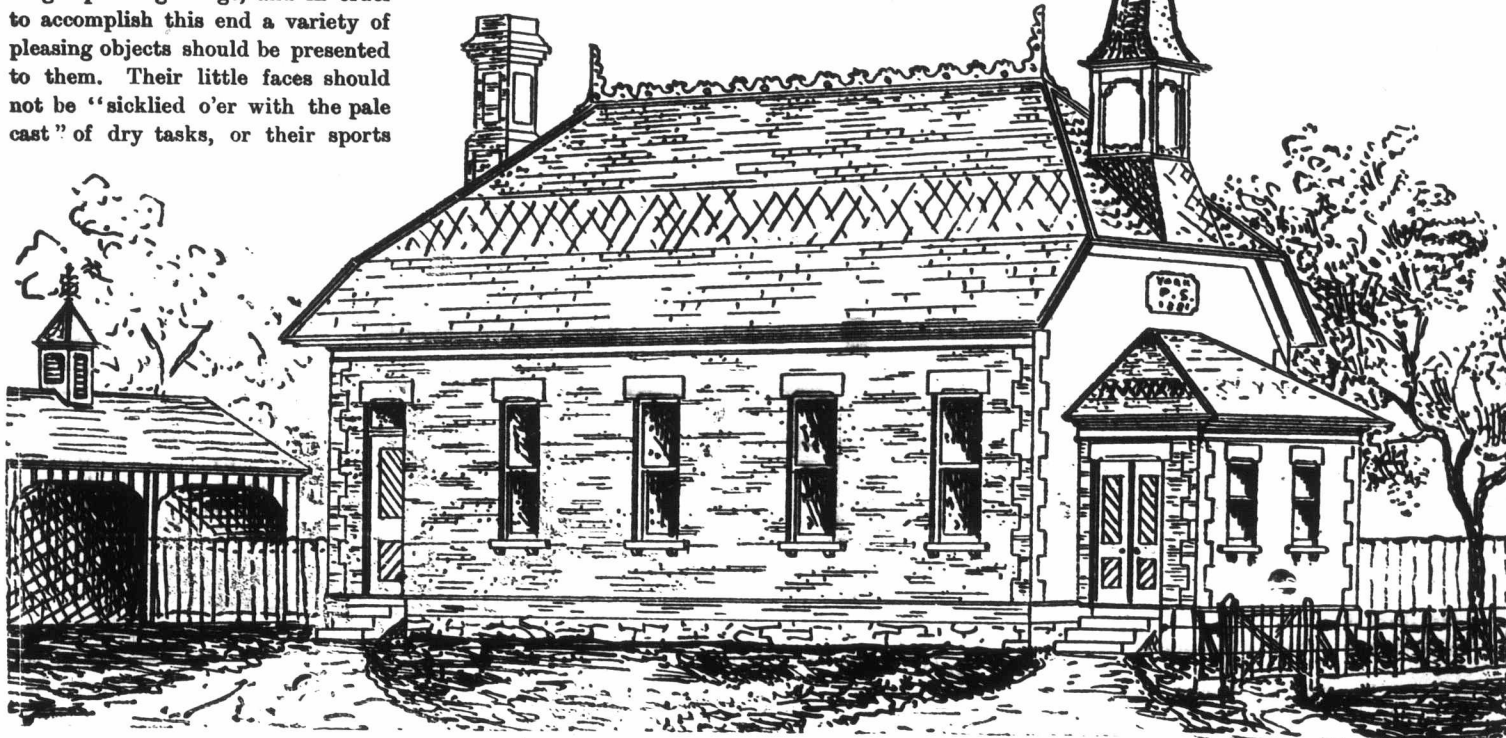
8. Furnish pupils with well printed books.

9. Furnish abundance of light, without producing glare. Let it come from the left side, if the room is narrow; from both sides, if the room is wide.

10. Provide for the physical education of school children, and teach them the importance of out-door exercise.

Ornamenting of Country School Grounds.

The grounds of every country school ought to be an exponent of its pupils, for it is upon them that the future ornamentation of the whole country mainly depends. Much talk is



A MODEL COUNTRY SCHOOL.

deadened within the narrow limits of the dusty highway. Why should not a portion of the play ground be a model arboretum, in which every child may have a hand in its establishment?

Our ideal of a model teacher is the man who is ready to devote his life's energies to the study of the best method of making the boy a man, correcting any mistakes made by the parents in the process of making the child a boy. Putting it into proverb shape, we should say, Cultivate the masters; weed out the pedagogues.

The most complete drill in gymnastics is to be found in farm work; but it is falsely supposed that the public school cannot furnish all the necessary elements of training for the mind. Classics are thought to be required to enliven the fancy. In our educational system the fact is not recognized that the study of agriculture in its different bearings furnishes a complete drilling for every faculty of the mind—just as

highest rank; a profession which demands the deepest erudition; a business which requires the greatest tact, policy, and enterprise.

Dr. Lundy has summed up the subject of school hygiene in the following few sentences:

1. Avoid the cramming process in education, and the nervous excitement due to the spirit of rivalry.

2. Reduce the number of subjects in the curriculum, and shorten the periods of study.

3. Ventilate the school rooms in accordance with the most approved methods.

4. Regulate the temperature of the school room; an atmosphere which is too warm debilitates the system.

5. Provide properly constructed and arranged seats and desks.

6. Instruct pupils to sit erect, and to hold the book or paper at least twelve inches from the eye.

7. Provide highly myopic pupils with proper

wasted about planting trees, shrubs, etc., for the beautifying our homes. Give a school-child, as a prize, a cutting to propagate, or sapling to plant, show him how it is to be attended to, and give him another prize if he brings it up better than his mates bring up theirs, and you do more for the cause of arboriculture than if you literally strewed the land with literature on the subject. These prizes, arranged artistically around the school grounds, would soon become the admiration of the whole neighborhood, instead of (as is often the case with book prizes) being hidden from the view on a dusty shelf. This would make every boy and girl in the country wish that he or she had a home like that. These prizes could be removed to the children's homes, and the parents instructed in ornamenting their grounds.

Feed superior cows to their utmost limit and the result will be a gain; but if inferior cows be so fed the result will be a loss.