

iron and wood, and the school for domestic economy for women, are all in separate buildings. They are commodious and substantial in their character, and have every appliance needed for carrying on the different branches of work for which they have been specially designed. There are also six detached dwelling houses, which are occupied by some of the professors.

Students entering this college are not obliged to take an agricultural course, but have the option of taking either a general course, which includes instruction in most of the important branches of learning, or either of the following special courses: agriculture, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, veterinary science or domestic economy. The result of this choice in studies is, that the larger proportion of students take the general educational course, and out of a total number of about 300 only 30 are at present taking the agricultural course; so that instead of this excellent institution being regarded a special school of agriculture, it might be more correctly designated a school for higher education and general training in industrial pursuits, with a special department of agriculture. Nevertheless, it has done and is still doing most excellent work, both in agriculture and horticulture.

Stock.

The stock on the farm consists chiefly of Holsteins and Shorthorns. A herd of five pure bred young Holsteins was imported four years ago, at a cost of \$240 per head, belonging to a very good milking strain. These have been found very useful, both as milking stock and for beef. A number of young males have been produced, both pure bred and grades, and these have been sold to the farmers in the neighbourhood, whose stock has been greatly improved thereby. The Professor of Agriculture claims to have watched the effect of these grade males in improving the general stock of the farmer, and while he would not compare their power to transmit their peculiarities with that of pure bred males, he believes their potency has been underestimated, and that where the service of pure bred males cannot be had that of half-bred grade males is infinitely better than that of males of common stock. A number of grade cows are also kept, both for milk and feeding purposes, and many experiments have been conducted in feeding calves, pigs and sheep. The animals are provided mainly for teaching and experimental purposes, and are not specially needed for the improvement of stock in the State, as there are about 500 herds of thoroughbred cattle in Iowa, chiefly Shorthorns, Holsteins and Jerseys.

In experiments with sheep, Southdowns have been crossed with Shropshires, with the result of materially increasing the wool, adding two to three pounds to the fleece, while the quality of the mutton is said to have remained about the same.

Dairying.

Experiments in butter making are carried on here in a building specially designed for that purpose, and fitted with every necessary appliance. Tests are made of the