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. XVI. **Ontario Agricultural College, November, 1903.** No. 2.

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THE EXPERIMENTAL UNION.

The early history of the Experimental Union is somewhat obscure, and indeed very little seems to be known of its origin. I remember visiting the O. A. C. in January, 1881, and, being asked to join the Union; they had not at that time adopted the term Experimental. I naturally wanted to know what the Union was and was presented with some matter, of which to-day I have a very hazy remembrance. I do remember though, that it had a very robust constitution and by-laws, and its principal object was declared to be to hold the students and ex-students of the O. A. C. in "the everlasting bonds of friendship." I, very much impressed with this declaration, contributed my fee, and never heard of the Union again for some years.

The Union is practically an outgrowth of the experimental department of the O. A. C. When the institution was first established one of the principal objects was declared to be the protecution of experiments in all lines of agricultural economy and research. In 1874 and 1875 the opening years, nothing practically was accomplished, but in the spring of 1876 a small field of about 4 acres on the slope in rear of the carpenter shop and main building was set apart for experimental purposes, and put in