

tations." Mr. Moore has referred in his article to certain details of the work, and to manifest influences in the community in which he lives. The details of the work, as carried on, are pretty much alike in the five schools, and are in harmony with the recommendations and suggestions as found in circular 13, recently published by the Education Department in Toronto. This circular also contains the new regulations regarding the establishing of school gardens under Government support, and the payment of teachers who make special preparation for carrying on the work. Given a body of capable teachers who have the improvement of our rural schools at heart, and reasonable facilities for thorough preparation for the work, and we will see, ere long, "a new heaven and a new earth," and both will be found out in the open country.

In conclusion, we again quote from the report of the Educational Commission a paragraph which expresses most admirably our position and our contentions, which we believe we have verified during the last four years of active work in school-gardening:

"The Committee does not hesitate to say that, in its judgment, the rural schools, which train nearly one-half the school population of this country (in Canada it is considerably more than one-half), so far as school training goes, should definitely recognize the fact that the major portion of those being trained will continue to live upon the farm, and that there should be specific, definite, technical training, fitting them for the activities of farm life. Such schools will not make farmers nor housekeepers, but will interest boys and girls in farming and housekeeping, and the problems connected with these two important vocations. It will give such training of the hand as will enable both boys and girls to do more easily and effectively the things demanded to be done by these vocations, because it will offer them definite training in DOING along related lines of activity."

The Committee believes that the training afforded by the mastery of a course of study which includes the industrial phase of education, will broaden the outlook of pupils, and, because of this wider view, will open up and make attractive lines of work upon the farm which otherwise would not appeal to them; that it will develop self-dependence and moral stamina, through sustained effort for worthy ends; and that, for the boy or girl who does not remain on the farm, it is superior to the training afforded through the medium of the present course of study in the rural schools.

J. W. GIBSON.

Queen's University, Kingston.

## INDEPENDENCE FOR THE DAUGHTERS.

A WORD FROM ONE OF THE FARM GIRLS.

There is no subject which should appeal to farmers as much as providing their daughters with a means of earning a livelihood. I think I may safely say that the majority never give it a thought. Their whole aim and object is to make money and provide farms for their sons. Of course, the girls come in very useful to help gain that end, and they certainly value their daughters. But, what does a girl need with an education or business training? If she knows how to cook and keep house, that is all that is necessary. She is never supposed to look any further than making home comfortable for father and brothers; and then, after a time, for her husband, for, of course, all girls will marry. The Shorter Catechism gives the chief end of man, and the average farmer gives, as woman's chief end, to get married and be a dutiful wife and mother.

Now, there is another side to that story; take the woman's version. A girl is brought up on a farm,

given a good public-school education, and lives at home for the first few years of her life. Her father provides her with clothes and all the necessities of existence. She has never had to go out and rough it with other girls, and make her own way, for, of course, some day she will marry, and have a home of her own. The father is proud of his daughter, but, of course, the farm goes to the boy. Then, fate disarranges matters somewhat. The father dies suddenly, the son gets the farm, and what of the girl? She is left wholly defenceless, with, perhaps, two or three hundred dollars between her and starvation. She has no way of earning her living. She has a smattering of several things, but nowadays one must have something practical to point to before one can secure a situation. She must either marry or go to a factory or domestic service. All girls do not care to marry, although the men profess to doubt the assertion. Think of the shame and disgrace of being forced into a marriage for the sake of a home. Can anyone imagine a worse fate? The only other alternative is domestic service, where one is treated as a menial, and looked down upon as a being of a lower order than the family she is serving. Then, when sickness comes, who is to pay the bills? In a few weeks the saving of months may be swallowed up, and then it is charity.

I know of one case where a daughter came home and tended her father for years, giving him every loving attention, and when he died he left his daughter one hundred dollars, and the son a farm and stock worth thousands.

make a home for herself and sister. Now she lives in misery and unhappiness, wishing death would bring her release from the hated bondage.

Now, if the farmers would only use a little judgment. If they cannot leave their daughters enough to keep them, they should at least take a little and provide them with the means of learning some life-work. It means so much to a girl. A whole lifetime of misery may be saved by the expenditure of a little money in giving her a start now. If you cannot give the daughter money, at least let her go when she is young, so that she may work herself up in some trade. Do not keep her at home working and earning a farm for the boys. It seems rather hard that the girls, who have the weaker frame, and are so much less able to battle with the world, should have to do it, while the son remains at home in comparative luxury.

If the father could only be brought to see that the truest kindness to his daughter would be to advance her a little money when she is young, and let her go and learn a trade or study for some profession, I am sure a great many tragedies would be averted, and the daughter would in time come to be a credit to her parents, instead of, as is often the case, being a stranded wreck on the shores of time.

A FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

## CHINESE COWS.

We are indebted to Dr. D. Robertson, Milton, Ont., for the accompanying picture of Chinese cows. In regard to it, he writes as follows:



Neglected Cemeteries in China Also.

Cows grazing among the graves in a Hengchow cemetery. All the little elevations are graves, some of which have stones on them.

I know of other cases where farmers' daughters have been forced to go to the city to earn their living, without being prepared for it, and having no business training. Of course, they had to live, and how could they live on the wages of unskilled employees? In a large city there are always those who are ready to lead young girls astray, and when absolute want stares them in the face, they have sometimes gone from bad to worse, until they landed in a suicide's grave. I heard a medical man once say that the ruin and downfall of more girls could be traced to the want of a training in any occupation than to any other cause.

One more case only: A father died and left his property to his sons, and a few hundred dollars to each of the girls. One girl was a semi-invalid, and neither of them was disposed to marry. The brother married, and the girls felt that they were intruding, and a burden on his wife. The outcome was that one girl married a man she had not the least affection for, merely to

"The above picture was sent to us by Dr. W. Edgar Robertson, a native of Milton, Ontario, now a missionary in China. It is characteristic of the part of China where he lives, Hengchow, in Honan Province. The horse is small and shaggy. It is not used to draw or carry burdens, but is used by the officials as a saddle horse. It is more stylish, he says, to ride a mule. The cows are small, and give a small quantity of inferior milk. The cow is used in plowing the rice field. The ones that have been broken-in to the plow have a hump at the root of the neck, caused by the pressure of the yoke at that point. In Honan Province there are two kinds of cows, the "water cow" and the "yellow cow." Both are used for plowing. The water cow is also called the water buffalo. It is large and strong and has large horns, which lie back along the neck. It loves to roll around in the water."

The way to rise above the disappointment is to fix our eyes, not on others or our own failures, but on the mark, and press toward that.

## OUR LITERARY SOCIETY.

The best essay on Topic No. II. (d), as announced in our issue of November 14th, was sent by M. E. W., Lanark Co., Ont.; the best on No. II. (f) by "Apto," Halton Co., Ont., and "Ralph Erskine," P. E. I. J. L. Inglis, Grenville Co., Ont., sent a most excellent essay on the first part of No. II. (f), but as he omitted touching upon the second part, it was necessary to rule him out of the competition. Creditable work was also submitted by S. S. L., Waterloo Co., Ont., and M. Jose, Prince Edward Co., Ont.

The essays for which we have space to-day are as follows:

Subject.—"What constitutes (a) a well-educated man; (b) a well-educated woman."

## Essay I.

We take the position that a man should be educated, first, morally, for that is a good foundation to build on, and will have an important bearing on any other acquisition in his after life.

When should he begin this moral education? Our answer would be, as soon as he is able to discriminate between right and wrong. The Scriptural injunction, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth," etc., should be indelibly stamped on his mind by those who are over him at this period of his life. The inculcation of truthfulness at so early a period will be a gem that will outshine all others in his future life.

Second.—We think a physical education should be next in order. A sound body and a sound mind are two very essential elements in the make-up of any individual. How many boys and girls we see going around with high shoulders and contracted chests, caused by sitting at low desks in badly-constructed schoolhouses. A good drilling in physical culture would be a good thing, and would develop the boy physically and add years to his life, besides giving him a prepossessing appearance.

And now, having a moral and physical education, may be considered (3) a secular education. To be successful along this line, and to stand near the top, the young man must have an aptness for whatever line he wishes to pursue, which should always be congenial to his taste. His education should be practical as well as theoretical.

In the mechanical and the professional world, men of such acquirement invariably forge to the front, and are sought after in every avenue of life. The writer of these words graduated in the school of tribulation, not having seen the inside of a college, and knows by experience the disadvantage that men labor under who are not completely equipped.

What constitutes a well-educated woman? We do not wish to reiterate what we have stated above, but we think the same education we intimated the man should have for a foundation, we would recommend for women, with a few additions, one of which should be a thorough knowledge of housekeeping, and especially the culinary department, as that has a great deal to do with the health and comfort of those who happen to be members of the household. Secondly, she should have a good musical education, if her talents run in that direction; vocal as well as instrumental music should be included in this accomplishment, which has charms that cannot be estimated in dollars and cents. Thirdly, she should cultivate the social element, for, to be a good conversationalist is a valuable acquisition, and is a cure for many of the ills that flesh is heir to.

"APTO."

## Essay II.

The first great essential of a well-educated man is strength. By this, I do not mean that he must have more than ordinary muscular development; in fact, he may be physically weak; but he must be able to control himself, be able to