

a knowledge of Meteorology and Physical Geography to farmers.

### III.—THE PRACTICE OF AGRICULTURE.

- (a) Methods of acquiring a practical knowledge of farming. Importance of an agricultural literature. Connection of theory and practice. Popular fallacies.
- (b) Principles of cultivation: instruments of tillage, illustrated and described.
- (c) Draining: its value and various modes of execution explained. Subsoil ploughing. Fallowing. Rotation of crops, &c.
- (d) History, cultivation, and economic uses of the various grains, roots, &c., raised on the farm. Weeds. Blights and their remedies. Harvesting and securing crops.
- (e) The practice of manuring, and the means of restoring exhausted land. Management of pasture. Irrigation, &c.
- (f) The management of stock, and the construction and arrangement of farm buildings.
- (g) Dairy management: butter and cheese-making, &c.
- (h) Management of landed property: principles of the lease: theory of rent: relations of Political Economy to rural affairs.
- (i) Agriculture as a pursuit: economic importance of, its place in a system of general education, tendency to foster feelings of patriotism, &c.

N.B.—Instructions are regularly given on the experimental Grounds attached to the College, illustrating the principles of practice with science. The Professors of Chemistry, of Natural History (including Botany and Entomology), of Mineralogy and Geology, and of Meteorology, will give special Lectures on those branches of scientific Agriculture which come within their respective department.

*Books of reference*—Stephen's Farmers' Guide; Adon's Encyclopædia of Agriculture; Morton's; Johnston's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry and Geology; Boussingault's Rural Economy; and Practical Agriculture, and Domesticated Animals.)

From the above it will be seen that in order to obtain the Agricultural Diploma from the University, three examinations are required. The subjects for the first examination the student desires to know before going, and which he can easily get up at the common grammar school. The other subjects are taught in the college. If he succeeds in passing this first examination, he is then entitled to attend the whole *free of charge*, under a staff of professors, the ablest in Canada, if not in all America, having free access to the library, museum, &c. He of course has to pay for his board, which he obtains in the college, or elsewhere, as he fits. By attending two winters he completes the course, and at the end of the second receives the diploma. Should he be fortunate enough to win the scholarships offered, they will about pay his whole expense.

There is scarcely a farmer in the older parts of the country, who cannot afford to send his

sons through this course. And should he send but one, the influence on the rest of the family will be immense. Try it. You will never regret it. H. R.

### The Dundas Report.—County, versus Township Societies.

EDITOR CANADIAN AGRICULTURIST,—The direction of the Dundas Agricultural Society, are taken to task in your last number, for the concluding suggestion contained in their report as quoted in your journal, recommending the Legislative grant, to be appropriated exclusively to County Societies. The subject is one on which considerable diversity of opinion exists, and in my humble opinion, it is a legitimate one for fair discussion. In what manner the Directors "have abused their privilege," in giving expression to an honest and deliberate opinion, I am at a loss to discover. Of one thing I am certain, that they are open to conviction by reasonable arguments if temperately advanced, and that they have no desire to thrust their opinions upon others who may hold to the opposite view; these must just take them for what they are worth. Nor can I see any reason, why any party should stigmatize the motives of the directors, as "odiously selfish, and arrogant;" a good course needs not to be defended by any such hard terms. I am sure sir, that the directors of the Dundas Society learn with great satisfaction, that in the neighbourhood of Mount Forest, at least, "Township Societies are doing much good," and that they will cheerfully concede them to be an honourable exception, to what they still consider to be a general rule. Your correspondent affects to sneer at the "literary and scientific improvement," and "the liberal reward of merit in general" referred to in the report, overlooking altogether "the introduction of good stock." This I conceive to be one of the main objects of Agricultural Societies. Certainly one in which there is more room for improvement than anything else I know of. If there is no room for improvement in this respect at Mount Forest, I am sure even your correspondent C. will admit, that in this at least they are an exception. We all know that the importation of good stock implies a large outlay of money, so large that few farmers can undertake it for themselves; and if a County society steps in, and by a judicious expenditure of a portion of its funds becomes an importer of stock, or *adequately* rewards the farmer who incurs the risk himself, I conceive that it does more for the permanent benefit of the Province than by trifling that money away in prizes for wheel-barrows, old carts, and rickety rollers, carpets, counterpanes, and quilts, embroidery and fancy netting, and such like. If farmers are found among us with capital and enterprise enough to introduce improved stock, so much the better, but no thanks to the society, for the highest premium it can afford at present to give,