

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Since our last issue we have had the honor of being returned a member of the provincial Parliament, by the County of Richelieu, with a majority of 213 votes. This result is certainly most satisfactory to a pupil of the Royal Agricultural College of Cirencester and of the Imperial Agricultural School of Grignon, who had his diploma as his only title to the confidence of the electors; and it goes far to prove that agricultural education, when thoroughly possessed, is the most ready means, in Canada, of taking a prominent stand in our community. How is it that the agricultural interests of this country are represented in parliament by so small a number of agriculturists? For the very simple reason that farmers have not the occasion of acquiring agricultural knowledge in the schools now open to their education. They are condemned forever to inferiority if they do not stand out boldly and ask for themselves, from our representatives, that education which is so lavishly spread through the land in favour of every professional pursuit. It is high time that farmers' sons should have their share of public patronage, to acquire that agricultural knowledge which alone can place them on an equal footing with the more favoured classes of our community. We must have our agricultural colleges as well as our universities; and it is high time that public opinion should be directed on this very important question. We will make it a duty to bring it up in parliament so as to put an end to an injustice which bears so intensely on our agricultural interests.

FRUIT TREES.

In calling the attention of the public to the importance of setting out fruit trees, I would urge not only the pleasure of eating the fruit and the profit of its production, but the more important consideration of the good moral influence it tends to secure in the town, village or neighborhood.

Young people of both sexes are universally fond of fruit; and when it is ripe and is used in proper quantities, it is conducive to health.

But how shall they enjoy this luxury lawfully unless there are fruit trees on the premises where they live? Few families who live in villages are in such circumstances that they can afford to purchase a good supply of the various kinds of fruit that might be raised on a small piece of ground. Many persons, when they build a house, surround it with forest trees instead of fruit trees. This taste for forest trees around one's house, no doubt, arises mostly from a desire to be in the fashion. But should the desire to follow the fashion or taste of others deprive our families of one of the best privileges that can be enjoyed?

When I see a house shaded all around with forest trees instead of fruit trees, my first thought is, that the inmates care little about good ripe fruit. Is that the case? Most assuredly it is not, for those who are thus situated are generally more anxious to get fruit than those who have it round their homes. I have

noticed that when there is no fruit on the premises where a family live, the children are in many instances very much inclined to obtain it, if it is growing in the neighborhood. Children have so great a desire to get fruit to eat, that in many cases, although they have been cautioned against taking what does not belong to them, they will, when they think no one is in sight, help themselves to what they want.

The habit is soon acquired of taking what does not belong to them, and by a little practice, which will naturally follow, they soon consider that it is a small affair, or no crime at all to take fruit; and in this way, those who by care and proper attention to the raising of fruit have obtained a supply of good quality, are deprived of it by the families who have paid no attention to its culture.

But this is not the worst part of the result of not having fruit on the premises where a family of children live. They who are in the habit of purloining small things, in many cases contract a habit which lasts through life; and no person, young or old, can long continue to take what does not belong to them without being disgraced, as a loss of reputation naturally follows. If they remove from the place where they were brought up, their neighbors may visit the place from which they removed and inquire what their reputation was, and are informed what character they sustained when young. There will thus remain a distrust, in many cases, through life. A great portion of those who are, and have been confined in our States' Prisons, can trace their downfall to the practice of taking fruit and other small things in the days of their youth, and will inform those who inquire, that if they had been furnished with those things at home, they would not have obtained them unlawfully.

CHURNING.

Cream from fresh cows should be in such a condition and at such a temperature that the butter will come in 30 minutes. In autumn, it will require an hour. If the butter comes quickly, it is not so good, nor in full quantity. If churned too long, it is injured. The temperature of the cream should be 62° to 65°, regulated by a thermometer. Guessing will not do. Do not pour hot or cold water into the cream, to temper it: but, if there is no thermometer churn to be had, put the cream in a tin pail and set it in warm or cold water, as the case may require; or set a tin pail, with hot or cold water, into the cream. Cold is most readily imparted by the latter mode, and heat by the former, because cold descends, and heat rises. Butter is delayed in coming, in cold weather, by four causes, namely: keeping the milk so cold that the cream does not sour; mixing sour and sweet cream; mixing cream from old and new cows; and too low a temperature for the cream. Sometimes the granules of butter will not 'gather'—in which case a lump of butter thrown into the churn will form a nucleus, around which the butter will soon collect in masses.