

on the surface, which preserves the pulp from decaying and from insects. It is also advisable, after having cut the tubers, to expose them to the sun to make them green before being planted.

We may further observe that seed potatoes should be chosen from the most productive parts, and free from disease. The soil should be well and deeply ploughed, when practicable, before winter, and surface furrowed, to prevent stagnant water. Upon much of our old cultivated land the incorporation of a good dressing of quick-lime would be beneficial to the potato, and succeeding crops. Farm yard manure, particularly if in a rough or long state, would be better applied early, and broad cast, and thoroughly mixed up with the soil, rather than in drills. These hints will no doubt be suggestive of others by observant, practical men. A warm, dry, well prepared soil, admitting of early planting with selected, healthy tubers, will always be found among the most favourable conditions for securing a remunerating crop.

AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY INSTRUCTION.

It is intended to resume a series of popular lectures on the Science and Practice of Agriculture, and the Veterinary Art, about the middle of January next. The course, like that of last year, will be open and adapted to young men from all parts of the Province free of charge, and will be finished in four or five weeks. In the department of Agriculture, Professor Buckland will be assisted by the Professors of Chemistry, Geology, Natural History, and Meteorology, in University College, and Mr. Smith will give practical instruction in the Anatomy, Physiology and Diseases of Farm Animals. This course being specially adapted to the wants of young men engaged in, or intended for Agricultural pursuits, who cannot conveniently be absent from home for a longer period, and who have not had the opportunity of studying these subjects systematically, it is hoped that a goodly number will be found to avail themselves of the advantages hereby offered. The main object of the course is to assist in forming correct habits of observation among those who cultivate the soil, to awaken a spirit of enquiry and foster a taste for knowledge, and to put young men in a way of reading and studying at home. Fuller particulars

will be given in our next issue; meanwhile further information may be obtained by addressing Professor Buckland, University College, Toronto.

For the *Agriculturist*.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION OF 1863, LATELY HELD AT KINGSTON.

The elaborate reports of the *Globe*, *Leader*, and *Kingston News* render it unnecessary to describe it at length. The reporters certainly confer a favor on the Association and the Province by their earnest and full work. Old visitors, exhibitors, and officers find but little difficulty in connexion with these annual gatherings, not unmix'd with profit and pleasant re-unions. New hands at the business do not do so well, and it is not to be wondered at that the vexations, tediousness, and absolute expense attending the occasion, deter many from being present either as visitors, exhibitors, or delegates.

Arriving at Kingston, on Wednesday, we remained until Friday evening, inspecting the working of the business of the Association, by its officers, exhibitors, and passing observation upon the position of the visitors. A Provincial exhibition is undoubtedly attended with much labour, a great expense, and considerable anxiety, worry and care.

An eastern delegate naturally feels that his enterprising neighbours of the west have got firm hold of the great Association, and that his interference is almost fruitless. He looks at the leading officers and exhibitors, at the delegations, and crystal palaces; he hears the oft repeated statement that the exhibition pays in large places only, such as Toronto, Hamilton and perhaps London, and asks if all is well, as it should be. There is a straining after great *show*, requiring a great outlay—a great attendance to meet the cost—a large staff of officers to do the work—large and handsome structures, and expensive and capacious grounds. If the weather is fine and a glad sun beams overhead, and the attendance is good, all well. But, if these things fail, then alas! and heavy loss are the result.

Do not the managers of the Association ask at too much? Why look for a great *show* every year? Would not the objects of the association be better attained by husbanding resources—by extending the exhibition to parts of the Province where *reasonable* visions could be made, and by looking forward to and having one great Provincial Exhibition every three years, embracing both Upper and Lower Canada, to be held alternately, at such places as Toronto and Montreal?

On the present occasion Guelph and I ville made vigorous efforts to secure the exhibition. The County and Town Com. aided by handsome private subscriptions,