

I was about to leave the room when clerical tones beat upon the tympanum. "Brother, wait a minute will you?" I stopped and looking in the direction whence the sounds came, I saw, all united in brotherly affection,—*The Baptist*, still dripping with water; Knoxonian with his witty sayings ready to bubble out; *The Guardian*, with his troubles of College Confederation weighing him down until he almost groaned; and a host of others all with a more or less clerical look. The general complaint seemed to be that unless there was a fascinating story among their pages, not read very often, is stamped on the face of every issue as it is removed by the Librarian. Each paper has at least one student who peruses its columns and as these papers are all sent free by the publishers, the advice of less quantity and better quality (the quality being good) is not so applicable in this case. How a better appreciation for our friends can be developed is a work worthy the attention of a wise person.

Just as I was passing out of the door a voice which seemed to come from the gas jets said—"And where, I pray are all the magazines which contain the best literature of the day?" I retraced my steps to discern, if possible, where these were kept. After an unsuccessful search I gave it up. Can it be possible that students are supposed to be acquainted with the literature of the day, yet not one of the leading literary papers and magazines is to be found in their reading room? No wonder that they are almost dumbfounded when asked to criticise the latest works in prose or poetry; or to "State what you know of Ignatius Donnelly." Surely there is some excuse for them. After hearing all sides I came to the conclusion that the literature in the O. A. C. reading room is rather *one-sided*; that there is too great a quantity of some kinds and a lacking in quality.

The weather outside had begun to clear; sounds which tokened the approach of students aroused me; the talking of the journals ceased; and now I know not whether I was in a day-dream or actually heard their voices.

Farmers' Institutes to be Addressed by the College Staff.

President Mills will address institutes at the following places during January: Shelburne, Dufferin; Dundalk, South Grey; Flesherton, East Grey; Meaford, North Grey; Greenore, West Simcoe; Alliston, South Simcoe; Elmvalle, Centre Simcoe; Aurora, North York; Markham, East York.

Prof. James at Drayton, North Wellington; Tara, North Bruce; Chesley, Centre Bruce; Formosa, South Bruce; Tecumseh, South Bruce; Wrentham, East Huron; Mt. Forest and Kenilworth, East Wellington; Goderich, West Huron; Hensall, South Huron; Elora, Centre Wellington.

Prof. Shaw at Lucan and Parkhill, North Middlesex; London, East Middlesex; Altrinton, East Lambton; Glencoe, West Middlesex; Botany, East Kent; Zone, East Kent; Windsor, North Essex; Amherstburg, South Essex; Tilbury Centre, West Kent; Chatham, West Kent.

Prof. Grenside at Freelon, North Wentworth; Drumbo, North Oxford; Inverkip, North Oxford; Mount Elgin, South Oxford; Shedden, West Elgin; Watford, North Norfolk; Aylmer, East Elgin; Simcoe, South Norfolk; Selkirk, Haldimand; Marshville, Monck.

Prof. Robertson at St. George, North Brant; Brantford, South Brant; St. David's, Lincoln; Weston, West York; Preston, South Waterloo.

Prof. Panton at Picton, Prince Edward; Centreville, Addington; Inverary, Frontenac; Lansdowne, Leeds; Algonquin, Grenville; Iroquois, Dundas; Lancaster, Glengarry; South Finch, Stormont; Lanark, South Lanark; Carleton, South Lanark.

Agricultural News.

The next annual meeting of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union is to be held at the College on Thursday and Friday of the first week of February, 1899. An interesting and instructive programme is being arranged and results of experiments on agriculture, live stock, horticulture, dairying and bee-keeping as conducted during the present year, will be presented to the meeting.

The College herd of thoroughbred cattle is now nearly complete and consists of Shorthorns, one male and five females; Aberdeen Polls, two males and two females; Herefords, one male and one female; Galloways, one male and two females; Holsteins, one male and one female; Devons, one male; Ayrshires, one male and one female, and Jerseys, one male and four females. The best animal as yet purchased is the magnificent two-year old Shorthorn bull, bred at Bow Park. In pedigree, the top crosses are straight Booth upon a Waterloo foundation. This bull won the sweepstake's prize at Detroit in September, in a competition open to the world, beating the celebrated Collyne bull, Cup-bearer, and at present in the Bow Park herd.

Agricultural Experiments in Canada.

One year previous to the first Agricultural Experiment Station in the United States, was established the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. It was not, however, until two years after the commencement of the College that actual work was performed in the Experimental Department, this being the year 1876. When the fifth year's work was being conducted at the above institution, there were still but four other agricultural stations upon the American continent.

In the year 1886, an Act of Parliament was passed by the Dominion Government making provision for the establishment of five experimental farms throughout Canada. The principal one to be situated at Ottawa, and to serve for both Ontario and Quebec. The other four to be located as follows:—One in the Maritime Provinces, one in Manitoba, one in the North West Territories, one in British Columbia.

The farms have been purchased, and a superintendent engaged for each. Experimental work was commenced on the Central Farm in the fall of 1886 and upon the others about two years later. No pains are being spared in making these experimental centres an honor to every true Canadian farmer. There is truly a great work before these institutions, and we wish for them every success in their noble undertakings.

The fourteenth year of work in the Experimental Department of the Ontario Agricultural College is about to close. Did space allow, a review of the many scientific and practical experiments and investigations, both in the field plots and with live stock, would be interesting and no doubt highly instructive. It must suffice, however, to give herein a very brief review of the development of the work from its commencement. In 1876 there were forty field plots; in 1885 one hundred and seventy, and in 1889