Before any actual expense is incurred, the President and Directors are requested to take a second sober thought as to *how* a model farm can and will advance the interest of agriculture, beyond, the means at present open to every active and enquiring youth who intends to make agriculture a profession.

A lad of fourteen brought up on a farm must know all the practical details, or he will be a useless student at the model farm, the library will assist him. but is this more than he can learn at home with a few dollars expended on the periodicals of the day; these will teach him to cultivate a farm and raise crops if industrious, to carry theory into practice.

Not so with stock, a good judge is one of *nature's* favourites, like painters, poets, and musicians; the gift is inherent, it cannot be learned by books, lectures, or even in the field, it belongs to its owner and comes without study of any kind; experience may improve, but natural ability will always be more than a match for book learning in this important department. A good judge will always have good stock for the simple reason he knows how to select it.

To purchase, build, and stock a farm of 100 acres will require a considerable outlay, and what more can be done with this 100 acres than is practised every day upon thousands and tens of thousands of acres in a good state of cultivation, or by any one of the Society? Labour and manure are the great and efficient agents in productive farming, and if a well qualified manager is not procured the great object will not be obtained, and likely the society will have the difficulty of finding a good farmer and a good judge of stock in the same person. The President and members would do well to enquire into the present state of those model establishments in France, Germany, Switzerland, &c. which have outlived their founders and supporters; talent, if employed, must be rewarded or home will be as good as the model without the expense.

That a well conducted school would be an advantage in connection with the model farme or without it is not altogether Utopian, if a proper teacher can be procured and liberally paid for his services. Here again *all* depends on the person employed, if any peculiar advantage is to be gained over and above what the district school should afford.

By each one in his school district supporting and encouraging a good teacher, a good practical education could be gained at home as a two years residence at the model could give, by concentrating the home resources on the district school, a teacher of superior talent could be employed, and a higher standard of the *useful* only be brought into full action, if all parents and each teacher would ask *themselves this one* simple question, what kind of instruction does my child or my pupils require to render them useful members of society? The answer would be reading and *mental, not slate arithmetic*; the young mind should be roused to activity by being daily exercised in the first four rules mentally and apply to practice in the every day business *of social life. With dollars and cents a smart* lad of eight or nine would thus master reading, and as much of arithmetic as he can employ to advantage in after life. If a few require more let the few learn, *not all, and the after years* devoted to the study of language so as to be able to write correctly and speak with propriety; and this can be learned at home, if proper means are taken to write a handsome letter or make a common sense speech is the aim and end of all school learning, let the pupils study the *useful*, and the *useful* only, and the point will be easily gained.

Yours, &c.

JAMES JONES.

WOOL FROM PINE-TREES.

Interesting accounts have recently appeared in foreign journals of a novel branch of industry carried on in Silesia, combining so much of ingenuity and utility, as to render a summary of the information very acceptable to those who are seeking for new sources of employment or of profit. It appears that in the neighbourhood of Breslau, on a domain known as Humboldt Mead, there are two establishments alike remarkable; one is a factory for converting the leaves or spines of the pine-tree into a sort of cotton or wool; in the other, the water which has served in the manufacture of this vegetable wool, is made use of as salutary baths for invalids. They were both erected under the direction of Herr von Pannewitz, one of the chief forest-inspectors, and the inventor of a chemical process, by means of which a fine filamentous substance can be obtained from the long and slender leaves of the pine. This substance has been called *Holz wolle*, wood-wool, from a similarity in its quality to that of ordinary wool; it may be curled, felted, or spun in the same way.

The *Pinus Sylvestris*, or Scotch fir, from which thi new produet is derived, has been long esteemed in Germany for its many valuable qualities; and instead of being left to its natural growth. is cultivated in plantations of forest-like extent. In this way, many parts of a vast dreary, sandy surface, are turned to good account, for the tree grows rapidly on a light soil, imparting to it solidity and consistency, and affords shelter to the oak, which, under such favourable circumstances, acquires such vigour of development as to outgrow its protector. About the fortieth year of its growth, the pine yields considerable quantities of resin; and the value of the wood for building purposes, and for constructions immersed in water, is well known. Mr. Pannewitz has however, added another to its list of useful applications; and if the leaves can be employed as described, the *Pinus sylvestris* may become an object of culture in countries where it is now neglected.

The acicular leaves of firs, pines, and coniferæ in general. are composed of a bundle, or fasciculus, as a botanist would say, of extremely fine and tenacious