

those sciences bearing directly on agriculture, and would suggest that for this purpose and the cultivation of a taste for beauty in our surroundings, that every school-house be provided with suitable grounds where the teacher will be required to devote some of the time now expended in holidays to healthful recreation in teaching the nature of plants, landscape gardening, &c.

"We have observed with regret that our school books, especially the Readers, do not give that prominence to agricultural subjects which we think desirable, and would again suggest, as was done by your Committee of last year, that the insertion of biographical sketches of successful agriculturists would tend to create an interest in the subject, and convince the rising generation that other classes do not get all the prizes in life.

"At the present time a strong effort is being made to secure for females the same educational privileges as have been given to males in the past. This your Committee think should be granted, as upon the intelligence of our matrons more than upon any other one thing depends the *future* of this country. If they are educated and imbued with principles of integrity and right, then will the coming generation advance; but if on the contrary they are frivolously devoted to pleasure and luxury, then may we expect indolence and effeminacy to prevail, for the character of the woman is indelibly stamped upon the man.

"Another matter to which we would draw attention is that feeling so prevalent, that when well qualified to fill positions hitherto occupied by men, women are expected to do so at greatly reduced salaries. This, we think, inflicts much injustice, and should be in every way discouraged.

"Your Committee have been waited upon by a gentleman with reference to a new series of reading books for schools, which, from a cursory examination, we judge may be found preferable to those now in use. Those, while not giving that special attention to agriculture which we think desirable, apparently give much greater prominence to Canadian subjects and surroundings than has been hitherto given, and in this way must beget a feeling of respect for and pride in our own country which will prove highly beneficial. Subsequently your Committee received the annexed letter from the publishers, which we submit for your consideration.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"A. GIFFORD.

"A. E. HUGHES.

"W. E. STARRATT."

"TORONTO, Feb. 16, 1882.

"A GIFFORD, Esq:—

"DEAR SIR:—Since I saw you this morning I have referred the consideration of your suggestions to the Managing Director of the Canada Publishing Co.

"He will be pleased to have lessons inserted in the Readers having special reference to successful agriculturists. Will you or your Committee kindly make note of a few names such as you would wish to have brought forward for this purpose.

"In connection with articles (for the Readers) that are now being pre-