

KITCHEN EDUCATION—COOKEY SCHOOLS.

We are pleased to learn that there is a prospect of a movement being made to establish a School for Cookery in Toronto. We hope the project will be carried out, and that many schools of this kind will soon be established in Canada. Many are springing up in England and in the United States.

The national training school of cookery at South Kensington, London, has a world wide reputation. It was the outgrowth of the London International Exhibition of 1873; a division of the exhibition having been devoted to 'Food and its Preparations.' The Duke of Westminster is president of the school, and it is patronised by all classes. Ladies, young and old, many of whom are representatives of nobility, meet there not only to study, but to learn by actual practice the preparation of soups, meats and dishes of all sorts, which shall render appetizing and healthful the future dinners of the English people rich and poor.

The following remarks of Prof. Youmans in reference to the kitchens of the United States, are in a large measure applicable to Canadian kitchens: 'Our kitchens, as is perfectly notorious, are the fortified intrenchments of ignorance, prejudice, irrational habits, rule-of-thumb, and mental vacuity, and the consequence is that the Americans are liable to the reproach of suffering beyond any other people from wasteful, unpalatable, unhealthful, and monotonous cookery. Considering our resources, and the vaunted education and intelligence of American women, this reproach is just. Our kitchens, are, in fact, almost abandoned to the control of low Irish, stupid negroes, and raw servile menials, that pour in upon us from various foreign countries. And, what is worse, there is a general acquiescence in this state of things, as if it were something fated, and relief from it hopeless and impossible. We profess to believe in the potency of education, and are applying it to all other interests and industries excepting only that fundamental art of the preparation and use of food to sustain life, which involves more of economy, enjoyment, health, spirits, and the power of effective labor, than any other subject that is formally studied in the schools. We abound in female seminaries and female colleges, and high-schools, and normal schools, supported by burdensome taxes, in which everything under heaven is studied except that practical art which is a daily and vital necessity in all the households of the land.'