

tion," in 2 vols. Incidents of this nature are worth recording, if it were only to show that sincere and judiciously directed attempts to diffuse agricultural knowledge and improvement, even among such as are not likely to engage in agriculture, as a business pursuit, do not fail to be appreciated. A more practical course has been given to a class consisting of individuals actually engaged in farming, and the experience acquired by these experimental trials, is such as to stimulate the Professor to increased and more systematic efforts next winter. During the summer it is proposed to give field instruction on the Experimental Farm attached to the University grounds, and by visiting farms in the neighborhood.

The following is the inscription written on the fly leaf:—

PRESENTED TO  
PROFESSOR BUCKLAND,  
AS A MARK OF THEIR HIGH APPRECIATION OF HIS  
PRELECTIONS ON AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY,  
BY THOSE STUDENTS OF KNOX'S COLLEGE,  
AND THOSE OF THE CONGREGATIONAL  
SEMINARY, WHO ATTENDED HIS  
COURSE OF LECTURES DURING  
THE SESSION OF  
1852 AND 1853.  
Toronto, April 1853.

#### NORMAL AND MODEL SCHOOLS.

The public examination of the Provincial Normal School was held on the 14th of April. The pupils were examined in geometry, algebra, English grammar, agricultural chemistry, natural philosophy, arithmetic, geography and history, by Messrs. Robertson, McCallum, Sangster, Fripp, and Robins, assisted by Professors Croft and Buckland. The Governor General's prizes for Agricultural Chemistry were given to the successful candidates, Mr. Benjamin Charlton, of Brant County, and Samuel Rathwell, of Carlton County, by Chief Justice Robinson, accompanied with a few appropriate remarks. The examination of the Model Schools, conducted by their respective teachers, took place on the 15th and 16th, but want of space prevents us from giving a detailed account of the different classes, the state of this noble institution and its system of teaching—the good effects of which are already felt throughout the country.

#### CANADIAN INSTITUTE.

On Saturday, 2nd April, the members of the Canadian Institute held their Annual Conversation in the hall of the Legislative Assembly in this city. The President, Capt. Lefroy, R.A.,

in the chair. The meeting was large, most of the literary and scientific gentlemen of the city being present. Refreshments of a very substantial nature were served in the lobby of the House. An interesting paper was read by Mr. Justice Draper on the Progress of Canada, another by Prof. Hodder, on the poisonous plants found in the vicinity of Toronto, another by the Rev. Mr. Scadding on the accidental discoveries in Science and Art; Rev. Prof. Irving gave an explanatory lecture on the Stereoscope. In the course of the evening, Prof. Cherriman, in the name of the members, presented Captain Lefroy, who was about to leave for England, with a beautiful piece of silver plate, as a token of respect for the benefits science has derived from his unwearied services during his stay amongst them, also expressing their deep regret at the decision of the British Government in removing him.—The meeting was afterwards briefly addressed by Dr. McCaul, Principal of Toronto University, and T. Henning, Esq.; but owing to the lateness of the evening, the meeting was soon afterwards brought to a close.

#### REAPING MACHINES.

As farms improve under the cultivating process, and as labor grows dearer through the competition of railroads, canals, and manufactures—the construction and working of which will necessarily absorb a large portion of the manual labor of the country,—it is very evident that Farmers will be obliged to avail themselves of labor-saving machines to a much larger extent than heretofore.

In many parts of Canada the "Reaper" can even now be used to great advantage. It has been introduced, and, we believe, has been found to work satisfactorily in this and the neighboring Counties. We would advise those farmers whose land is tolerably smooth, and who raise large crops of grain, to make inquiries in regard to these machines before the ensuing harvest.—They should be careful to select the best; and no test is so reliable as *actual experiment*. We will not attempt to decide as to the respective merits of the two principal Reapers now before the public, viz.—Hussey's, and McCormick's. They are probably both good machines, but adapted to somewhat different circumstances.—We believe in the State of New York the preference is given to Hussey's. In the West, it appears, McCormick's is most popular. At the Great Exhibition in England, these two Reapers