

Agricultural Chemistry.

It must have been highly gratifying to the friends of agricultural improvement, to have read Mr. J. W. Gilmour's communication, which appeared in the March number of the *Cultivator*. It omens well for the future prosperity of Canada, to see farmers' sons place themselves under the tuition of men of such distinguished attainments in agricultural science as Professor Johnston. There are a number of aspiring and zealous young farmers from the United States now in Edinburgh, who daily attend the Laboratory of the Agricultural Chemistry Association, for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of the science of their exalted profession; some of whom appear considerably piqued at the idea of having so successful and talented a rival from Canada, as our correspondent, Mr. Gilmour.

We have not been made acquainted with any movement to improve the agriculture of this province that is half so well adapted to ultimately establish a sound system of Education for the productive classes, as that of placing talented young farmers under the tutorage of such masterly minds as Prof. Johnston. It must be obvious to every one at all interested in the agricultural prosperity of this country, that there is a necessity for the farmers' sons to be made better acquainted with the causes and effects, which influence favorably or unfavorably, their several practical operations; and in our opinion, this object can best be attained through Agricultural Colleges and Seminaries of Learning, where both the science and practice of agriculture form the essential features of the pupils' education. Such institutions will doubtless be established in Canada, when the people become better acquainted with their intrinsic merits, and complete adaptation to expand the genius of the young aspiring farmer and artisan.

Decision of Character.

Every person has a character of some sort or other, but every person is not possessed of that decision of character, or rather of *so much* decision of character as they ought to have. By this we mean that prompt and speedy mode which some have, of coming to a determination now to act, and then immediately commencing the action accordingly. It will be perceived that it does not follow, by any means, that such persons always act right; for many of the most wicked

and atrocious deeds recorded in history, exhibit astonishing traits of decision of character, which, if exerted in a better cause, would probably have been as productive of good as they were of evil. Nor is it necessary that the act should be one of great or momentous importance in order to exhibit this trait, although in such acts it is the most conspicuous. In actions of small and trivial importance it is not so plainly seen, or not so much is thought of it, when exhibited, as the lack of it is, when persons stand dallying and talking hour after hour whether it is best to do so and so or not, and then perhaps, after commencing it, fall back and begin again to parley and make inquiries and objections, and at the same breath give reasons for and against the doing what was wanted or attempted to be done. Young people should cultivate a habit, when anything presents itself that requires their action, of looking at both sides as rapidly, but as carefully as possible, and of immediately deciding upon a course, and of following it with energy. By doing this, in cases of every day occurrences, it soon becomes habitual, and will then be exerted with comparative ease, when any great emergency happens. They should also in the course of their reading, note those instances of decision of character which present themselves, whether good or evil, and thus aid their judgment in conducting their own movements in future. If this trait could be cultivated, it would make a vast difference in society, especially if guided by sound judgment and the dictates of morality. Many of the evils which society suffers, arise from the vacillating, undecided course of individuals, who are desirous of doing well, but are kept from it by a want of that promptness and energy in deciding to go forward.

In all branches of business, in all pursuits of life, whether in high or lowly sphere, decision of character is essential to success, and although it may sometimes be directed in the wrong channel, and be productive of evil, yet the chances are in favor of its exercise at all times and on all occasions. Endeavor then to be decided—to be prompt, active and energetic.

To save Oats in feeding Horses.—Bruise or crush your oats in a mill, or otherwise as convenient, and your horse will become fatter on half his usual allowance of these oats than he has before on double the quantity unprepared. If you cannot bruise the oats, pour hot water on them and let them soak for a few hours.