

and now does not exceed six. It would thus appear that this mode of imparting instruction does not meet the requirements of the country at large; and that but few young men desirous of studying agriculture, are disposed to spend their time at University College for that purpose.

If the Commissioners should propose to discontinue the connection of the Chair of Agriculture with University College, it will not be with any intention or expectation that the agricultural interests of the Province would be deprived of the valuable services of Professor Buckland, but they submit that in another way, such services can be brought within the reach of much larger numbers of the farming community, and be made of infinitely greater practical value to the whole Province.

The attention of the Commissioners has been directed to the draft of a Bill published in the "Agriculturist" for March 1862, the result of the consultations of Agricultural Delegates held in the city of Toronto, January 30th, the object of which is to repeal the present Statute, cap. 32 C.S., and "otherwise provide for the encouragement of agriculture, &c., &c."

In this draft of Bill, provision is made that "the Board of Agriculture may retain two and half per cent. out of the whole amount voted for agricultural purposes in Upper Canada, to be devoted to agricultural instruction in such manner as the said Board may recommend." This provision would enable the Board to secure the entire services of Professor Buckland (and none know the value of such services better than the gentlemen who comprise the Board of Agriculture), and it is submitted that the periodical delivery of short courses of lectures in various parts of the Province to practical farmers, would produce results which it would be out of the question to look for from services confined to a city, and to a very small number of students. Experience teaches those who have most deeply interested themselves in the subject, that if agricultural instruction is to be made available for practical purposes to any large number of farmers, it must be elementary in its nature and brought to their immediate locality.

With this Chair discontinued, the aid which pure science affords this most important subject would still be available, as agricultural chemistry is within the range of subjects so ably taught by Professor Croft.

The Commissioners appointed to enquire into Queen's Colleges, Ireland, report:—"For reasons which we shall hereafter state, we recommend the abolition of the Chair of Agriculture, in the science division of the Faculty of Arts.

"From its nature it is questionable whether Agriculture should have a place in the course of studies at the College of a University.

"Practical agriculture is best taught by that experience which constant occupation on a well managed farm affords.

"The scientific knowledge which a farmer requires will be readily acquired by any one who has attended the ordinary courses of Lectures on Chemistry, Natural History, Geology and Engineering. * * *

"The Agriculturist is best formed in the field of the Farm, not in the Hall of the College."