

primary object sought in originating these lectures was to create an interest in the subjects, and to give the young men attending them so much knowledge of the proper method of study, that they would be enabled to follow up their studies to advantage at home. The design was also, further, ultimately to establish, if found practicable, a regular Veterinary School, at which a thorough knowledge of the profession can be obtained. Although somewhat extending beyond the period of time this report is intended to embrace, it may not be out of place to state here, that the course of lectures has been continued during the past winter of 1863-4, and with equally favourable results.

#### THE AGRICULTURAL HALL, MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

The Board, having been put to much inconvenience and expense for the want of adequate accommodation for offices, and for want of space to carry out the various objects for which it was instituted, determined to appropriate a large portion of the money which had accrued in its hands and been held as a necessary reserve fund, towards the erection of a suitable building. Accordingly a large and commodious building, 80 by 40 feet, and three stories in height, now known as the Agricultural Hall, and situated in a central position in the city of Toronto, was commenced in 1861, and finished in 1862. The total cost of the building has been about \$14,000. The lower portion is leased as an Agricultural Seed and Implement Warehouse, and the upper portion appropriated to the offices of the Board. The Board has already accumulated a respectable library of reference, containing many valuable and standard agricultural works, and trusts to be able to add to it considerably from time to time, as opportunity may occur. The Hall contains a large room, which it is intended to fit up as a museum, for the reception and display of natural and agricultural products of every kind which will illustrate the resources and industrial capabilities of the country. The Board has now on hand a considerable number of interesting specimens of seeds, &c., and will take every pains to accumulate a collection which will render a visit to the museum at all times interesting and instructive.

#### EXHIBITION BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

The annual Provincial Exhibitions having rapidly increased in extent and importance

after their establishment, it became evident in a few years that the system of erecting merely temporary, slight, board structures, for the reception of the animals and articles at each exhibition, was no longer suitable to the wants of the Association. They involved either the inconvenience of insufficient accommodation, and the risk of exposure and damage to the numerous animals and articles exhibited, or else, if it were attempted to erect temporary buildings large enough and substantial enough to afford the accommodation and security required, an enormous and constantly increasing annual outlay must be incurred. Under these circumstances the system of appropriating sufficiently extensive grounds, and erecting suitable permanent buildings upon them for the use of the exhibitions, has been inaugurated and carried out at several leading points in the Province. The first suite of such buildings was erected at Kingston in 1856, at a cost of about \$15,000, and additions and improvements have since been made to them in 1859 and 1863 at a further cost of about \$11,000. The second set of buildings was erected in Toronto, in 1858, at a cost of about \$30,000, and additions were made in 1862, at a cost of about \$9,000. The third set of buildings was erected in Hamilton, in 1860, at a cost of about \$26,000, and these are again to be brought into requisition for the Exhibition of the current year. The fourth set of buildings was erected at London, in 1861, at a cost of about \$20,000. There are therefore now in existence these four suites of permanent substantial buildings, which will be sufficient to accommodate the Exhibition, for the four leading divisions of this section of the Province at which it takes place alternately, for many years, without additional outlay, except perhaps for some unimportant additions and repairs, and fitting up. The sums above stated of course include the fencing and improvement of the grounds and other necessary works. The cost of erecting these buildings has been borne chiefly by the localities where they are situated.

#### THE EXHIBITION OF 1863.

The Provincial Exhibition of 1863 was held at the city of Kingston. From several causes the Exhibition was not, on the whole, so successful as some that had previously taken place, either in its pecuniary results, or as an exposition of the Agricultural re-