

labour, proving both his reins and his courage, in order to find out if he had a real vocation to this pursuit, so that the provincial grant and the labour of his instructions might not be wasted. A novice has its *raison d'être* in agriculture, as well as in other things.

I never had any doubts about the devotedness of the professors. I admired them all the more that they showed proofs of it without being discouraged at their persistent failures.

There ought to be now at least a hundred and fifty pupils at each of our schools.

I mean to remember with gratitude the services rendered by these professors; to try to profit by their constant good intentions, directing it, if I can, gently into a road rather different to the old road, but leading always to the same end, the formation of good farmers. Hurried along as we are, thirsting eagerly as we do for instantaneous progress, let us endeavour to instruct, by surer and prompter means, the sons of our farmers, but only on condition that they are certain to enter on a farmer's life when they leave the school.

I intend to profit by what exists now, altering things perhaps, but with prudence, with discretion. When one can reckon on good will and devotedness, one can undertake with confidence that which is dictated, not by the desire to do great things, to make a show, but by the desire to do good according to the ratio of our powers, and with the co-operation of all those that can assist us.

I do not think that, especially at present, a central school under the guidance of the Government, as has been already proposed, is what is wanted. Grignon, in France, has not yet succeeded as regards the number of the pupils there. Let us first find pupils, bring them forward, and when we shall have succeeded in crowding the schools we have at present, it will be time enough to cast a glance elsewhere.

And we must treat the lads whom we propose to enlist under the standard of agriculture with consideration and respect; we must show that we mean to care for them.

For my part I shall at once tell the cadets of our great agricultural army that in them I see a hope of a salutary change for the country. Let them flock to the farm schools to do honor to labor, which in turn will do honor to them. They are called upon to go abroad over our country, distributing the good seed that will restore fertility to the heritage they have received from their ancestors.

When our good lads shall have worked for a year, we must help them