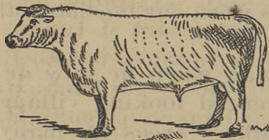


well as all state legislation upon the subject to here provide for the education of young men in agriculture and the mechanic arts, this, of course, has been its leading object. It was, however, not intended to exclude other scientific and classical studies.



Agricultural Equipment
in '76.

In the early days of the college, these agricultural and mechanical features caused much trial and tribulation to the directors and to the faculty. Without giving them time to perfect a system upon these new lines of technical education; without means or funds with which to carry into effect such views as were formulated, the management was under continuous criticism for not putting into practical operation these branches. At all time their importance was recognized. Step by step they have advanced until now, arriving at the twentieth milestone of her career, we find that the most bilious critic has been silenced, and that the Texas A. & M. College is one of the first-class institutions of the kind in the country.

Its usefulness is only limited by the extent of its accommodations. The great masses of the people have been friendly to it during all the vicissitudes and changing scenes of these years. It was filled to overflowing the second year of its existence, and there have been but few years since, that all students applying could be admitted for want of room. The college property has increased in value more than 100 per cent. A barren prairie has been made a garden. The theory of an agricultural and mechanical college has been reduced to a practical realization. Hundreds of skilled young men have been sent out from it, to adapt their knowledge to conditions and resources surrounding them and to upbuild and develop our state. Other scientific and classical studies have been combined with the chief branches and her graduates are finished scholars as well as practical men. In those early pioneer days facilities were meager and accommodations scarce. An able faculty, with an earnest body of students overcame obstacles and undismayed by disappointment or adverse legislation, neither the one taught nor the other learned to respect the word fail.