

# AGRICULTURAL.

IT is the purpose and object of the Agricultural Department of this institution to so combine scientific and practical agriculture that young men desiring to follow this occupation may be best fitted to accomplish their purpose. This department is now being favored with an increased enrollment of students each year. The number taking the course last year were as follows: First class, 4; Second class, 9; Third class; 34; besides a large number in the Fourth class, which includes students of all courses. Still many farmers' sons do not take this course, for the simple reason that the majority of the practical farmers of the state do not understand how farming can be taught in schools and colleges, as they cannot comprehend how physics, chemistry, botany and other scientific studies relate to farming, and therefore do not encourage or advise their sons to follow this course.

#### WHAT THE COURSE INCLUDES.

Students taking this course receive a fair knowledge of chemistry, mathematics, soil physics, history, physiology, veterinary medicine, English grammar, phy-

sics, and in addition to the above receive instruction by a series of lectures on grasses and forage plants, irrigation and drainage, dairying, stock breeding, feeding, breeds of stock and farm management. Practical illustrations are made of all subjects taught in the class rooms and the students are given opportunity to prove what has been learned. For instance in cheese making, after learning all he can from the text books and lectures received relating to this subject, the student proceeds to the dairy and is given charge of a vat holding several hundred pounds of milk, and is required to heat the milk to the proper temperature, add pepsin in the right proportion and at the proper time, to cut the curd, drain off the whey, determine the acid in the curd, grind and salt it, and lastly to fill into cheese moulds and put in the cheese press. I have not mentioned all the details connected with cheese making, but have only given a general idea of what the student is actually required to do in practice work. All practice work, of course, is under the direct super-