

tions should be correspondingly great. And, as we all know, that as of ourselves we can do nothing, it is not meet or proper that I should close without reference to Him who maketh the grass to crown the mountains, and the valleys to smile with the ripening corn. It is from Him alone that all good things do come. It is in vain that we rise up early and so late take rest, if His blessing does not accompany our exertions. In all our efforts to obtain a livelihood, competence or wealth, especial reference must, in every step we take, be made to God, whom, if we devoutly and reverently acknowledge in all our ways, will, as surely as he has promised it, direct our paths.

#### HOME DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Autumnal Exhibition of this society took place on the 17th October, at Richmond Hill. The day previous was exceedingly wet, and the morning of the show day was any-thing but promising; but as the clouds began to disperse, and the genial rays of the sun put forth their cheering influence, a great number of people were drawn to the spot, where there was to be seen a goodly array of cattle, sheep, pigs, grain and other productions, usually met with at an agricultural show. We will now endeavour to give our readers a concise general view of the exhibition.

The horses were numerous, and, speaking generally, they were of a useful kind, several of them possessing qualities of very high merit. There were some eight or ten two-year-old colts which were sufficient of themselves to give a character to this department of the show. A still larger number of spring colts, together with their dams, afforded pleasing evidence that this important district is improving in its breeds of horses, particularly in those best adapted to agricultural purposes. As much of our land has now been under culture for a considerable period, a deep and thorough pulverization of the soil is yearly becoming an object of greater importance. We are glad to see an increasing disposition among our breeders of horses to combine adequate muscular power with quickness of motion. We must not omit to state that the blood mares, with their colts, were of a character to call for high commendation. Mr. Ashford's prizes for the best and second best colt and filly, from his celebrated horse "*Young King Alfred*," were awarded to Robert Erwin and Elias Snider, both of the township of York.

Of the cattle we can say but little in their praise. In this very important department, the exhibition was not creditable to the district. There was a few good fat cattle, but the absence of the pure breeds must have been strikingly obvious to the most casual observer. The previous state of the weather may partly account for this; but fresh imported blood, it would appear, is now become essentially necessary in the district. These are matters requiring constant attention and the exercise of a discriminating judgment. Well bred cattle, adapted to the wants and physical conditions of a country,

are essential to any improved system of husbandry. We can hardly think that the Richmond Hill show afforded a fair specimen of the neat cattle of the Home District; a fact, however, has been disclosed, which demands the serious attention of our farmers. A liberal outlay in improved stock, when under judicious direction, will always yield a profitable return.

The sheep in great measure made amends for the inferiority of the cattle. This part of the show was highly creditable; and we observed some fine specimens belonging to Mr. Miller, of Markham, and some rams of superior merit, owned, we understood, by Mr. Simpson, of Whitechurch, and Mr. William Miller, of Pickering, and others whose names we did not ascertain. Of Swine the number was small, but upon the whole we should say of excellent quality, indicating a marked improvement upon former years.

The show of implements was sadly meagre. An iron plough on the Scotch principle, a subsoil plough, a set of iron harrows, a seed drill, with a few chaff cutters, were all that we saw deserving of notice. We think the manifestation of more public spirit among our mechanics would, even in a pecuniary sense, answer their purpose. How different is it in this respect among the Americans! We noticed a very ingenious contrivance for gathering fruit with facility and without injuring the trees—an invention, we understood, of Mr. Holwell, of the Ordnance Department. There was something similar exhibited at the New York State Fair at Syracuse.

The committee had provided a large room for the exhibition of grain, roots, dairy productions, &c., and we must say the display reflects great credit on the skill of our farmers and the improving state of our husbandry. The wheat was superb; the specimens which obtained the three prizes belonged respectively to Messrs. Auburn, Dew, and Watson, and we should say could scarcely be excelled in any country. Mr. Franklin Jacques had some superior spring wheat, for which he obtained the first prize. The Indian corn, shewn by Capt. Shaw and Mr. R. L. Denison, could hardly be surpassed in a more southern latitude. The Swedish turnips, exhibited by Messrs. Dalzell and Denison, were very large and mostly well grown. We also observed some good specimens of white and yellow turnips, mangel wurtzel, and some splendid Belgian or field carrots, grown by Captain Shaw, whose gigantic pumpkins were the wonder of all beholders. The potatoes were excellent, and apparently free from disease. Of hops there were several bales, mostly of good quality, which might be made still better by cleaner picking. Butter was in abundance, and the general quality so good that the judges must have experienced no small difficulty in their decisions. Of cheese there was but little; and as we did not taste it, all we can say is that others who did pronounced it pretty good.

As this is the first instance, of the District Show being held out of the city of Toronto, we must congratulate the Directors as well as the Commit-