

is absolutely necessary that we should have the best class of animal, for by feeding only such we increase the value of our hay from \$8 a ton to \$12. Farmers are learning that they must look to the excellence of their products. We see this in a general improvement of agricultural products: the farmers have already learned much. How are they to learn more? Object lessons are the best lessons in life. We are not so much impressed by reading books as we are by seeing the objects. Now the farmer is a stay-at-home. He does not travel about so much as many of us do. And there is nothing that will give farmers the desired knowledge as these exhibitions. The advantage of a well managed agricultural exhibition lies not in the prizes but in what the farmer learns there. He benefits a great deal more than to the extent of the mere prizes. It is as an educator that the agricultural exhibition attains its best results. The farmer sees there what he wants. It brings the anxious buyer and the anxious seller together. Farmers confined to one locality don't know, what is doing in another. In Stanstead County, for instance, the farmers thought they were as good as any, and knew as much as any, in Canada; yet the President of their Agricultural Society, who lately went to Brome, was free to confess that he saw there a vast improvement over some things in Stanstead. Nothing will so tend to promote the good of agriculture as a permanent exhibition; and the gentlemen who have inaugurated this movement have done well not to confine their project to Sherbrooke. Sherbrooke, by the construction of railways, has become the centre of the Townships—as it should be. Stanstead has been isolated from Brome by the Lake; and both Stanstead and Brome have suffered from the separation; but this project will bring both together. I should like to see an annual gathering of the two. As Sherbrooke is situated, it is within easy reach from all surrounding points; and it is about equally convenient for both Stanstead and Brome to reach it by rail. It is a common centre. In the proposed exhibition opportunity should be given for the sale of cattle as well as for their exhibition. It should be a fair. A permanent fair of this kind, where it was known that products would be for sale would bring buyers from a distance. (1) With these advantages I think this project should, and will commend itself to the farmers, if it is properly presented to them. This is difficult; but it is for their advantage to do it. They may say "It is all for Sherbrooke," but the exhibition must be somewhere and it is better here; and I quite agree with Mr. Hall that the farmers should become interested in it, and that it should be held at Sherbrooke, as being the most convenient place.

MR. S. FOSTER, in seconding the motion said he felt flattered at the compliment paid to Brome. Such an exhibition as that contemplated would soon become a matter of necessity. Brome has been cut off from Sherbrooke, but as the W. & M. Railway was about to be opened he thought this would bind the two districts together more closely. It was an important object to secure to the project a large measure of support; and for himself, he would do what he could to further it. He referred to Judge Dunkin's valuable services to agriculture in Brome; spoke of the Brome Shows; of their success; and of what might be done with the two shows together. He would give the present project his hearty support and thought a few others from the District of Bedford would do so also; but he feared it would be but few. He quite agreed with Mr. Colby that Sherbrooke was as convenient as any point in the Townships. It is the principal city, and that is greatly in its favor. That the exhibition would be a success he had no doubt; and he gave the enterprise his support and best wishes.

It is precisely what I have been advising for the last 3 years. As a rule, farmers have no idea as to the value of their products.

A. R. J. F.

MR. R. H. POPE thought there was not much more to be said about the general principle of the case. In the past we were satisfied with small exhibitions; but as the country grows older we require something better. The farmer can't make money out of the premium list at an exhibition: it is the advertising he gets that benefits him. The speaker would not limit the association: that was the only objection he had to the resolution. He would not limit it to the Townships, but would open it to the world; and he begged to move an amendment to the effect that it be open to the world.

MR. HALL explained that there was no intention to limit the association to the Townships, although the "Eastern Townships" appeared in its name.

MR. R. W. HENEKER, as a member of the committee, desired to add his testimony to the fact that the intention was not to limit the operations of the association in any way.

MR. POPE thought there ought to be something in the name of the association to show that it was open to the world.

MR. HALL and MR. COLBY both thought it would be a pity to lose the distinctive name "Eastern Townships" out of the name of the association.

The resolution was then read and amended by striking out two or three words which seemed to limit the scope of its operations.

MR. HALL resumed the discussion by speaking of the cattle market. He explained in connection with this part of the project that it was hoped it would lead to a series of permanent cattle fairs being held in Sherbrooke. The idea suggested was that the last day or thereabout of the show should be a day for the sale of cattle.

MR. J. A. COCHRANE had much pleasure in expressing his hearty approval of the project. We have plenty of good stock in the province and he thought it high time that the farmers came forward and showed what they could do.

MR. E. H. LEBARON was not prepared to speak regarding the feeling of his neighborhood (Hatley) in the matter. He himself was in favor of it; but their agricultural society not having met lately he could not say what the attitude of the other members would be. He was pretty well persuaded, however, that the number that would take hold of the project would be somewhat limited. People in Stanstead are very careful: he thought perhaps 15 or 20 persons in the county would subscribe to the stock and as many more would become exhibitors. For himself he was quite anxious that the project should succeed, and he would bring it up at the next meeting of their association. He thought the locality of the show a good one; and that there could be no adverse feeling about that; but he was of opinion that Sherbrooke would have to bear a good share of the necessary outlay in establishing it.

MR. D. A. MANSUR did not think there was a farmer in the Townships but what would say the enterprise commends itself. The only question that occurred to his mind was, how far could the farmers contribute to its success? If not started on a scale that would prevent them, he had no doubt it would receive the support of the greater part. He thought that such an enterprise would succeed best where the district shows are most prosperous. He had no doubt such an exhibition would attract large numbers from the States. He should be glad to see it a success, and knew of no place better suited to it than Sherbrooke. And he knew of no men better able to make it a success than the men who have charge of it.

HON. J. G. ROBERTSON hoped it was clearly understood that the association would not interfere with the local societies. It did not; and it would be well if all of these societies that meet this month should give an expression of opinion on the