THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

FIRST DAY.

HAMILTON, Sept. 19, 1876.

A large proportion of the arrivals today are exhibitors, and as yet few have visited the grounds except those whose business calls them thither. At present the exhibits are in no condition for inspection as the utmost disorder prevails in every department, owing to the continued arrival of articles for exhibition.

THE ENTRIES.

The entries this year have been larger than on any previous occasion, and the prospect of all who entered goods coming to time and placing them on exhibition is good, judging from the waggon loads of machinery, wooden ware, agricultural implements, etc., etc., which are hourly arriving on the grounds. An idea of the extent of the show can probably be obtained by a comparison of the number of entries made on previous years with the number this year. The following are the figures from 1870 to 1876, inclusive:—

Year.	Place.	Entries.
1870	Toronto	6,267
1871	Hamilton	6,609
1872	Hamilton	7,714
1873	London	8,320
1874	Toronto	8,592
1875	Ottawa	8,716
1876	Hamilton	9,456

It will thus be seen that there is an increase of nearly 3,000 over last year's entries, and 600 over the entries for 1874. The increase seems to be principally confined to the following classes:—Cattle, horses, sheep, poultry, ladies' work, machinery, fine arts, and fruit. In the other departments the entries are almost equal with those of last year. In horses there has been a remarkable increase in the number exhibited, for, for 252 last year there are 999 this year. In sheep the entries have risen from 469 to 871, and in poultry from 562 to 978. The following comparative statement, although already published in the columns of *The Mail* in detail, may prove interesting while on the subject of numbers:—

Classes.	Entries. 1875.	1876.
Horses	999	252
Cattle	1,000	1,000
Sheep	871	469
Pigs	481	400
Poultry	978	562
Agricultural implements	1,000	1,000
Small field seeds	1,000	1,000
Field roots	1,000	1,000
Dairy produce	77	120
Honey, sugar, bacon, etc	40	40
Domestic wines	36	33
Fruit (preliminary list)	1,000	1,000
Fruit (general list)	215	207
Garden vegetables	232	224
Plants and flowers	200	200
Fine arts (oil paintings)	117	117
" (water colours, etc.)	100	100
Statuary, photography, etc	37	37
Paper hangings, commercial	20	20
Chemical manufactures	17	17
National history	30	17
Ladies' work	273	305
Musical instruments	40	40
Cabinet ware	27	27
Carriages and sleighs	61	61
Building materials	16	16
Machinery, stationary, etc	92	92
Metal work	57	57
Sewing machines	40	40
Saddle, engine hose, etc	29	30
Shoes and boots	40	40
Wearing apparel, cotton, flax goods, etc	40	30
Woollen goods	40	40
Groceries and provisions	40	40
Total	8,456	8,786

THE EXHIBITS.

The whole of the day has been occupied by exhibitors in rendering presentable the animals and articles intended to compete in the various classes.

HORSES.

The exhibits in this class are as yet so far from complete that anything like a description of them is at present impracticable. Nearly all the exhibitors have brought their stock by rail complain of the way in which they have been knocked about on the railways, the Grand Trunk railway coming in for the greatest share of the censure. Only a few thoroughbreds had arrived up to a late hour this afternoon, though there are some very fine animals in this class that will come in for notice in due course.

Of saddle horses, roadsters, coach horses, general purpose horses, and agricultural horses, but few have been on the ground long enough to be made presentable, but there will no doubt be a great change in this respect between now and to-morrow morning.

There are already a good many heavy draught horses (nearly all Clydesdales), and among them are some fine animals, but of these particulars will be given hereafter.

CATTLE.

The short-horns are coming in slowly, but judging from those already on the grounds, the exhibit in this class, when complete, will be a very fine one.

Of Herefords, Ayrshires, and Galloways, there will doubtless be a first-rate show, as a large number of handsome, well-conditioned animals are already in the stalls. There are also a few very fine Devons, the show of grade and fat cattle being still very small.

SHEEP, SWINE, AND POULTRY.

Like all the other departments these are still incomplete and unpresentable, but to-morrow will probably reveal a very different state of affairs.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY.

The space usually allotted to these departments is already over-crowded and new exhibits are constantly arriving, so that it is fair to conclude that there will be a full representation in these classes. Just now machinists are busy with emery cloth and oil removing from the polished surfaces of the various articles of ironwork every speck of mud and rust contracted in their journey over the slushy streets of the city. At present, however, but much confusion prevails in these departments to admit of anything like an adequate description of the articles exhibited.

SECOND DAY.

HAMILTON, Sept. 19.

To-day has been devoted by the judges to the examination of exhibits and the awarding of prizes. As a result of this some cases have been extremely arduous, owing to the close competition; but, in others, owing to the fact that the exhibits consisted of collections of classes there may have been only one or two exhibitors, they have been lights.

The prize lists in none of the departments are yet prepared for presentation to the public. We give below a short sketch of the exhibits in general of the departments which are ready for inspection.

SEWING MACHINES.

There is this year a very good show of sewing machines, all of which are to be found in the south wing of the gallery. Probably the largest exhibitor is the Wheeler Sewing Machine Company, which occupies one side of the gallery. There are twenty-five machines altogether in eight different styles shown by this Company, among which are some very showy as well as useful articles in that line. Besides the ordinary run of family and tailors' machines which are to be seen every year there are two or three entirely new. One is a cabinet which is made to close up and appear in the form of a walnut card or work table. The machine proper is placed on the top of the table and there is an extension which at first sight appears to be hanging by means of the ordinary hinge. When it is seen that a little trap in the side of the machine is raised, the slab on which the machine is placed is slid about three inches from the table in the front direction, and then it can be dropped into a box fitted in the reception below. The extension table is then swung round and it covers the place on which the machine stood, leaving the table with nothing but the pedale by means of which the machine is worked, to indicate that it had ever been in a sewing machine manufactory. The other machine with useful and ornamental does not hide the fact, when closed up, that it is a sewing machine. An extension table is added to the ordinary machine, and below it is a row of drawers. When the machine is not in use the extension table can be removed, and placed in a receptacle behind the drawers. It is then covered with a semi-circular walnut top much in the form of the lid of a tea caddy the drawers can be dropped up and as the lid is let down all the drawers are locked simultaneously.

The Gardner Sewing Machine Company, of Hamilton, show ten handsome machines, among which are three with full cabinet cases, one of polished black walnut, panelled. The side and back panels are beautifully decorated with oil paintings of flowers, and the panels in the fore part of the machine, which are a part of the doors of the cabinet, are finished with pretty oil paintings of landscapes, etc. Several of the ordinary machines are painted in an entirely new manner of various colours to suit the tastes of purchasers. One, which is of the class known as half case, has a hood or cover of an entirely new design. This part of a machine, which is generally looked upon as an incumbrance rather than anything else by most people, is made to answer the purpose of a work box and an extension table. When not used to cover the machinery over and keep out the dust it is affixed to the left hand side of the machine, and thus forms an extension which is quite as good as, if not better than, the ordinary extension. The top of the hood opens by means of a lid, and a work box large enough to hold all the cottons, tapes, needles, &c., that can be wanted in an ordinary household is exposed to view. It is a neat contrivance and deserves notice.

Messrs. Wheeler & Wilson have as usual a show which is no way behind their usual exhibit. Their exhibits are ten in number, comprising two No. 1, one No. 2, and three No. 5 family machines, two No. 4, and two No. 7 manufacturing machines. No. 8 is an entirely new machine, specially designed for work of a superior character.

The Osborne Sewing Machine Company have a large show for sale, but their goods are not yet opened out.

The Williams' Singer Machine Company, of Montreal, are about the same as their exhibits are concerned, in a similar state of forwardness. Several of their machines are on view, but the larger number of them have been detained in consequence of the unfortunate accident to the Chesapeake, on board which vessel they were shipped to Hamilton.

KNITTING MACHINES.

Of these useful machines, which are now almost indispensable to a household in which there is a large family, there is a show which should have been attached to the sewing Exhibition week. So near winter as we are now, woollen goods and the means of manufacturing them into articles of clothing must be subjects of interest to all classes of the population. In the same department as that in which the sewing machines are to be found are the knitting machines. Two firms are represented. The Lamb's Knitting Machine Company and Franz & Pope's Knitting Machine Company. The former patties have large stocks of woollen goods on exhibition as specimens of work done by their respective machines; they also have machines in operation.

STOVES.

Of stoves there is an enormously large show, in fact, there is a large show in that department that in any department represented in the Main building. One manufacturer, who has visited the Centennial several times in order to get an idea of the class of stoves exhibited there, asserts positively that there is a far larger show of stoves here than there is in Philadelphia, and he adds, the stoves are of a better class altogether. It may be interesting to know that there is only one Canadian manufacturer showing stoves at Philadelphia.

The principal exhibitors of stoves are Hamilton manufacturers, whose proximity to the exhibition make it much easier for them to bring their stoves forward than it would be for outside manufacturers.

Messrs. E. & C. Gurney have a space of thirty feet by eight feet for their stoves alone, and very well have they filled that space. Among the many exhibits might be mentioned a few which are very noticeable. There is Magee's portable cooking range, a size larger than is usually made, and suitable for family use. The "Granger" is a large wood stove fitted for the use of hotels, and is very complete in every respect with regard to the use of mica, which has also been introduced in the Gurney stoves in most of their other stoves. In lighting a fire the smoke often covers the mica and causes a great deal of trouble, but this can be removed, or if it is not removed the effect of smoke on the mica is not so marked as. By the introduction of small pieces of sheet iron which, by means of a handle, are made to cover the mica while the fire is lighting, the mica is preserved in its original state. The idea is an exceedingly happy one, and its use adds greatly to the convenience and value of the stove. The Granger stove has also a false bottom, elevated ovens, and broiler for kettles. It has a pretty cast iron design on the face representing a farmer ploughing and a train of railway cars in the distance, illustrative of the progress of agricultural science. The Gurney Age, a cooking stove made in all sizes, is provided with a portable hearth and elevated oven, and by arrangement for preserving the mica from the effects of the smoke. The Gurney is also so constructed that there can never be any difficulty about the draught. "Gurney's Wood Cooking Stove" is on the same principle as the former, but the beauty of it is that it is furnished with a double oven, which, when taken from can be removed and replaced by a new one. The principal ball stove shown by the Messrs. Gurney is the "Argus," which they make a specialty of. It is a Franklin with a tender, and the grate is so divided, that when the fire goes out, one-half of it can be removed, and the other can be dropped out without the difficulty and trouble which generally accompanies an attempt to empty a stove in such a reversible grate. The "Argus" stoves are finished in nickel silver and Japan. The Gurney Base Burner is a very handsome stove, and the Hecla Furnace, and the cast iron Hecla, are well known to be good articles. The Gurney Tilt Stove is a very good article for a country hotel, and the Gurney Ventilating Stove is a very good one for a family. The material used and the workmanship employed are of the very best class, and nothing needed and where extra expense is dispensed with, and the result is the production of vehicles of much better pretensions than many other vehicles offered to their weight.

Messrs. Jardine of Hamilton, show a single open buggy with light piano-box, and handsome light peaches without top.

Messrs. J. P. Pennyer, of Hamilton, show a number of articles of a high class finish and excellent proportions. Among the many exhibits mentioned an English five light landau, with Collins' axles. It is a massive rich looking carriage, plainly painted and cushioned in olive brown. The same gentleman also exhibits a couple of handsome half-top brettis, with platform carriage and C springs. They are said to be worth $1,000 each. A hackman's landau, and a compact and elegant family waggonette, with platform carriage and elegant springs, are also shown by the same exhibitor.

Morgan, Mallory, and Malcome, of Hamilton, exhibit eleven articles. One covered pony phaeton, one waggonette, two covered buggies, one single and Brewster road waggon, two open buggies, an express and a market waggon, one Portland sleigh.

Wm. Mole, of Beamsville, shows among other things a handsome landau, cushioned in olive brown with silk curtains to match. This elegant carriage is valued at $1,000, and is an striking contrast in a natty little road waggon, light unoccupied, carry two, three-quarter seat and Brewster springs: weight, 125 lbs. A side box waggon with Brewster springs, and one market and one express waggon, each with platform springs, are also shown by the same exhibitor.

Brown & St. Charles, of Belleville, exhibit a finely finished open buggy, a light two-passenger omnibus, and Little Brown, of Listowel, show some very fine covered and uncovered buggies and a couple of highly finished single sleighs.

J. B. Armstrong, of Guelph, shows an extensive top two-horse family carriage, an expensively finished hearse, and several buggies of various styles and patterns.

Besides a neat-looking pony phaeton, McPhail, Barrister, Toronto, Q.C., will have on exhibition a large omnibus, and a six-spring buggy with a newly invented static gearing to supply the place of reaches.

S. Turner, of London, has three phaetons in the shed, one of which has a basket body and umbrella top.

Thomas Reid, of Cornwalls, has two plain serviceable-looking lumber waggons, and one two-horse, and another one-horse market waggon.

Peter Adams, of Paris, shows a light lumber waggon with wooden axles for farm use and another heavy one with iron axles for heavy loads. Both of these are well proportioned, of fine workmanship, and very neat finish.

There are also other exhibitors in this class, but their exhibits are not yet ticketed.

CARRIAGE HARNESS.

In this class there is a first-class show in the western wing.

The Singhamons of Hamilton shows a handsome drawing-room suite walnut frame, the sitting covered with maroon cotteen, with gold flower and trimmed with maroon fringe and blue silk piping. He also shows a walnut hall seat with marble-topped wash-stand and dressing table. Mr. Zingsheim is agent for Barth & Zerslein of Rochester, N. Y., for whom he shows two elegant walnut bedroom suites, one with marble-topped wash-stand and dressing table and another with polished granite-topped washstand and dressing table.

Mr. C. B. Isaard of Hamilton also shows in this department his well known Triumph, Lady's Favorite, Section, Duplex and Climax spring mattresses.

Mr. James Reid, of Hamilton, shows two walnut bedroom suites, veneered with English walnut; one early oak bedroom set, veneered in oak panelled with Spanish mahogany, and with satin cashmere; a set of walnut parlour chairs, covered with figured rep; a walnut sofa to match; one large walnut sideboard; three walnut centre tables, veneered with Spanish walnut, and one walnut-divan, covered with silk brocade, and eleven pieces of upholstery covering, satin cashmere and figured rep. The furniture is all of the finest make, and is the manufacture of the exhibitor.

GLASSWARE.

The Burlington Glass Company have a large stand in which they show a fine assortment of flint and green glassware, comprising lamps, globes, chimneys, spoons jars, &c., &c. They also have exhibited a number of their adamant or unbreakable glass chimneys.

POTTERY.

Mr. R. Campbell of Hamilton, exhibits a large quantity of Rockingham ware, consisting of teapots, spittoons, pitchers, bowls, ware, etc. He also shows an assortment of flower pots and a handsome assortment of rustic work for gardens and ornamental grounds. An assortment of fine bricks are shown at the same stand. Mr. Campbell has a very fine assortment of terra-cottas, comprising fern cases, flower pots, flower brackets, etc. The show is exceedingly good, and attracts considerable attention.

OILS.

Isaac Anderson & Spooner, of Adelaide street, Toronto, show an assortment of lubricating oil, lubricating oil, and other oils.

Wm. Rock & Co., of Toronto, have also a great assortment of machine oils of all kinds.

NATURAL HISTORY.

G. F. Norvell, of Hamilton, has on exhibition a large show in this class. He has a mounted stuffed peacock, an Indian pheasant, a couple of English pheasants, and a case of stuffed birds. There is also a bear, which has been caught in Burlington bay, and stuffed for the Canadian Government. A very amusing exhibit is that of a stuffed monkey seated in a chair, and represented to be smoking with the aid of a large meerschaum, and reading a newspaper. The monkey is in the act of turning the leaf of the paper on the back of which are the words, "Darwin's theory of the origin of the species." Which may or may not be a collection of native stuffed birds and a collection of native birds.

Mr. R. Kyle, of Dundas, shows five cases of native insects, principally composed of moths and butterflies, which are arranged in a very tasteful manner.

A large collection of beetles, butterflies, and moths is also shown by Mr. J. A. Moffat, Dundas.

Mr. G. F. Townsend exhibits nine cases of stuffed birds and squirrels. Among the birds are some of the rarer species found in Canada, and they are perfect specimens of their plumage.

Mr. Alexander Rutherford, Hamilton, shows a fine display of English birds and American warblers.

There is but one collection of Canadian fossils in the exhibition, and that is the collection of Mr. John Wilkie, of Guelph. It is accompanied by a collection of iron ore, copper ores, and other specimens illustrating the resources of Canada. To say nothing of the collections of ores which are very fine, the fossils are certainly the most interesting and instructive of the collections, and that kind which it has been the good fortune of visitors to the exhibition to see for some time.

Mr. S. Barber, of Guelph, shows a collection of wild flowers and forest leaves, which are very tastefully arranged.

The Buchanan Mineral Company, of Hamilton, show an assortment of mineral paints and colours.

WATER COLOURS.

James Griffiths, of London, contributes several of his highly finished fruit and flower pieces, the peculiar features of which are quite familiar to every admirer of the fine arts who has visited the Ontario Art Union exhibition for the past two or three years. The pictures are certainly very fine, but it may be questioned whether their admirably finish does not detract somewhat from their strength. Mr. Griffiths has also some flower and fruit pieces in crayon.

W. N. Cresswell, of Seaforth, is out with a very effective though simple little picture entitled "The Dying Ewe." The effort is a modest one but the result is strongly realistic. The same artist has also a picture representing a bit of sea coast storm-beaten and half overshadowed by a great heaving cliff. It is vigorously designed and shows at the same time strength and truthfulness of colour.

Miss Clara Mountcastle has several water colour scenes of which are decidedly good. One of these, a group of four kittens in full of life, two of the kittens looking out at you from the cardboard in a way that cannot fail to arrest the attention of the most casual observer. The dead partridge is also a very fine picture of its class. The two pieces already referred to have the same boldness of touch and freedom from elaboration so characteristic of Mr. Fowler's work.

Mr. Verner, of Toronto, shows a scene in a wild and desolate looking marsh after a fiery sunset. The colouring is very striking and effective.

Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Baigent each contribute a very fine water colour, the former selecting a pastoral subject and the latter a group of small dead birds.

Among the exhibitors of photography are Hunter & Co., of Toronto, Farmer Bros., Crossman, and Baines, of this city, the latter showing some fine photographs finished in water colours.

OIL PAINTINGS.

With one or two exceptions the portraits in oil are absolutely outrageous. Mr. Verner has a splendid marine moonlight scene, which would attract attention in almost any picture gallery, so that one can easily imagine that it attracts considerable attention in its present surroundings.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

It is remarked by all who have visited this department, that no such display of agricultural implements has ever before been seen in this Province. It is not alone that some of general interest are covered by the articles competing in this class, but almost every implement exhibited is a model of neat, tasteful workmanship, in which the intelligence of the inventor is apparent to the dullest comprehension.

John Watson, of the Ayr Agricultural Works, makes a very large display, but does not compete for any of the prizes, his articles being all prominently labelled "for exhibition only." In all he shows twenty-seven machines, including straw cutters, root cutters, chopping mills, hay rakes, a grass seed sower, a plaster sower, a turnip seed sower, a grain drill for all kinds of grain, a drag saw, horse powers of various kinds, ploughs, jacks for coupling powers with machinery, one humming bird mower, and one Royce mower and reaper. The latter must be, if half that is claimed for it, a perfect little prize in its way.

It is said that it will do anything that the reaper will do; it will cut grain as rapidly, and go over rough ground with less danger of breakage, and yet it weighs only 500 lbs., and has an average draft of only 125 lbs.

Forsyth & Co., of Dundas, make an excellent display both as to quality and quantity. The material used and the workmanship employed are of the very best class, and nothing needed and where extra expense is dispensed with, and the result is the production of vehicles of much better pretensions than many other vehicles offered to their weight.

Messrs. Jardine and Sons' Bonnie Jean, $25; 2nd, Jardine and Sons' Primrose 3rd, $22; 3rd, Jardine and Sons' Lady Fife, $20.

Best two-year old bows, Henry Beamer, Hamilton, $8; 2nd, Henry Reid, Toronto, $6.

Best spring calf, Henry Beamer, Hamilton, $6; 2nd, Henry Reid, Toronto, $4.

Best two-year old heifer, Henry Beamer, Hamilton, $8; 2nd, Henry Reid, Toronto, $6.

Best spring calf, Henry Beamer, Hamilton, $6; 2nd, Henry Reid, Toronto, $4.

Best 3 years old steers, Wm. Wood, Grundy, London, $8; 2nd, do.

Best two-year old bows