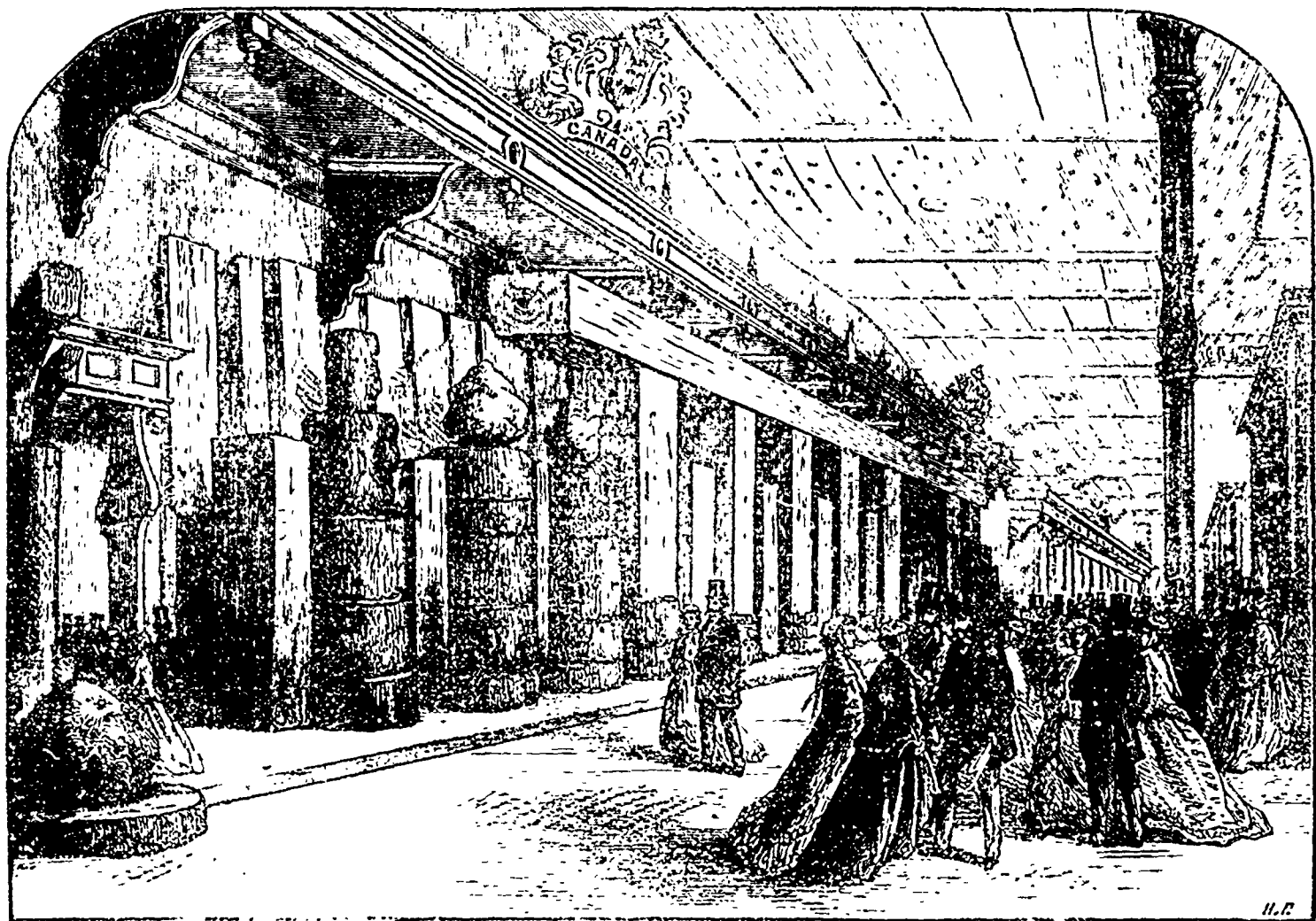




CANADIAN DEPARTMENT OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

Canadian Contributions to the Paris Exhibition.

The accompanying illustration represents the Canadian Court at the Paris Exhibition, and is thus referred to in the *Illustrated London News*, from which our artist has copied his beautiful engraving: At the extremity of the British section of the Exhibition, and adjoining the machine-gallery, the various British Colonies make their modest display. Canada, South Australia, Queensland, Victoria, Nova Scotia, and even Malta, are here represented. Canada exhibits specimens of timber, in the form of a series of rude-looking columns, some of which are a couple of feet square, and which extend from one end of the Canadian Court to the other. Above them is a kind of canopy made of birds-eye maple. The collection of polished fancy woods exhibited in this court is a very fine one. Here are samples of blistered, birds-eye and white oak; black walnut, birch and cherry: blistered and black ash; birds-eye, curled and soft maple; with tulip tree, butter-nut and button woods, and white elm, and white and yellow pine.

Here also are collected other Canadian contributions in natural productions, manufactures and arts; among them specimens of natural history, consisting of birds, fishes, insects, minerals, &c.; backwoods-men's tools made from native iron; a variety of Indian work, furs, &c., and a large and interesting model of the village of St. Anne.

A Canadian writing from Paris, thus speaks of the agricultural contributions from this country to the world's great exhibition:

Canada's frontage on the fourth gallery is marked by pines and sylvan scenery *à la mode*, that makes it an easy place to find. An English manufacturer of muslins has had the audacity to make each pine the

upright; down which to suspend a muslin curtain: an incongruous addition which detracts not a little from the otherwise picturesque and appropriate device which introduces the visitor to various specimens of the productions of our forests and fields.

There is a table of woods that is really the gem of our exhibition, contributed under the heading of "collection of woods for educational purposes" by the Abbé Brunet, of Quebec. These specimens, all carefully selected, and of the most ornamental woods we have, are in the shape of veneered boards, two feet by one, arranged in tiers, so that the polished slice and the plain slice of the same piece are seen together. It is really too hot to take more than one glance at the splendid skins and furs that decorate the compartment wall, and are sent by G. Cote, of Quebec. Round about the court are tubs or barrels, with their covers on to keep out the dust. The public are requested to touch nothing; but a very curious and impertinent British farmer who chanced to lift the cover, would see some samples of grain that are quite worth being hidden, if there is any chance of their being run away with.

The wood trophy is in the form of columns, great at the base, and with each ring in the structure growing smaller, till they culminate at a height of about twelve feet surmounted with an enormous piece of squared pine, running horizontally across their tops. Two fair sized "knees" act as sentinels at the entrance to the court, but in my presence were severely criticized by a Montreal gentleman, who seemed to doubt Canada being so far "gone in them" as to be without better specimens. Dr. Tache, however, assured him that they were selected from the best at Quebec, by the official inspectors, who were in no case refused when offering to purchase on account of the exhibition appropriation. There was a stick to my own knowledge, of white oak, lying a few months

ago on the bank at Oakville, that could have swallowed all the specimens here as easily as did Aaron's rod swallow its rivals of yore. The Doctor expects, however, to stand well with the jury.

The show of agricultural implements is not to be compared with what I have seen more than once at United States Fairs. Here, it is true, are root-cutters, cotton-choppers, hay-tedders, hog-lamers, corn huskers, an excelsior horse pitch-fork, and patent potato-digger; but the reapers and mowers are not the attraction they used to be. Perhaps it is that we know them better now.

Edible farinaceous products, and the products derived therefrom, are one of our chief staples of trade; and as our show, if not an advertisement, is nothing, in this department we should excel. The chief exhibitors are St. Anne's school, Messrs. Bell, Shaw, Fleming, and C. J. Bloomfield, of Toronto, Messrs. Peib and Pike, of Whitby, John Smith and Thomas Brownlie, of York, Bartholemew and Tran, of Markham, John L. Paterson, of Scarborough, E. McNaughton and Walter Riddell, of Cobourg; and a host of Lower Canadians make up the list. Wheat, winter and spring, barley, rye, peas, buckwheat, maize, oats, flour, beans, oatmeal, fecula from potatoes, and some other articles comprise our effort in this class; but nothing is said, so far as I saw, of the weight per bushel, or the yield per acre, and in this respect the show we make is deficient. It wants detailed placarded information to arrest the passer-by. A man always stops to read, if, in the confusion of bewildering objects that he does not recognize, a friendly card tells him all about a thing.

Colonel Denison has some flax, raw and steeped; and Mr. Bloomfield, of the Canada Land and Emigration Co., makes a similar contribution; the latter being one of the most tastefully arranged ones in the department.