

to these grounds, had we been able to include among our live stock exhibits a larger number of entries from the stock farms which constitute so proud a boast amongst the agriculturists of those two Upper Provinces; but the fairs recently opened at Toronto and Montreal, to which exhibitors from all the neighboring districts naturally inclined, and which it was perhaps their truer interest to support, have operated against the efforts made by the Committee to this end, and the contributions of live stock from these quarters is comparatively limited. They include, however, one interesting specimen, to which it may not be thought improper to make a special reference. The Committee which prepared the prize list, with the most kindly intentions, no doubt, included a tempting prize for the best, or in other words, the greatest ass in the Dominion, and one might almost have supposed that this would have excited a very spirited competition, but it has turned out otherwise, and the only representative of that class which has shown sufficient ambition to claim its rank amongst the cattle creation here to-day is an asses colt, the property of a well-known gentleman in Montreal. The fact is suggestive and consoling, and it is something to be able to say that the prize ass of Canada would only be considered as half an ass in any other part of the world. The necessarily late hour at which the farm products of our Province have come forward renders it impossible to include here any reference sufficiently full to be just; they will be found, however, in quality and quantity, equal to any collection ever brought to our Provincial shows, and may be considered as a good index of our status in the agricultural world. No higher encomium can be bestowed upon the fruit display than to say that it well upholds the reputation established by our growers at the Centennial and the other great shows at which they have exhibited, and which has given to our Nova Scotian apples such well deserved prominence in the markets of the world. It is but right, however, to state that the apple season is not yet at its height, and that the show to-day, though creditable in the highest degree, contains many specimens of fruit imperfectly ripened, and does not represent the full capabilities of our western orchards.

That we have wealth in the bowels of our country, as well as in the soil and on the trees upon its surface, that, in other words, we are favoured in our mineral resources, is well shown in the gigantic coal columns side by side with rich specimens of iron ore and sparkling samples of native gold. The products of our mines have been shown on many occasions, on this continent and in Europe, and larger specimens have been occasionally displayed, but it is authoritatively stated that the collection brought here to-day by the Government is more complete in character as representing the actual wealth of our mines than the exhibit of any previous occasion.

In all our Provincial shows marked prominence has been given to the agricultural over the industrial department, by reason of the fact that the grant given by the Local Legislature was for the special encouragement of the former. The present Exhibition, however, is characterised by a more even adjustment of the prize fund, and one more consistent with the relative position of these two great interests in the Dominion at large.

As a result of this we find the great bulk of the space in this main building and in the "Machinery Hall" has been taken up by industrial exhibits, and we are thus enabled to contemplate a display which fitly reflects the great and rapidly growing manufacturing industries of the country in which we live. Wherever the eye rests within this hall it falls upon some article which speaks of the skill, the capital, and the enterprise of our Canadian people. Whether we look to the effective disposition of Christie, Brown & Co.'s biscuits, with their kaleidoscopic varieties of colors, and no doubt with a charming variety of tastes, which take up the northern portion of this floor, or to the coils of the Dartmouth Ropework Company which occupy the southern extremity, whether we take the boudoirs of the several rival sewing machine companies, from the Williams to the Wanzel, the furniture displays from Montreal, St. John and Halifax, the long lines of carriages in every variety, any one of which would pass a Hyde Park inspection; the woollen goods of Gault Bros., the Oxford and the Gledyer Companies, Tyler's or Simms & Co.'s brushes, Mott's soaps, MacDonald & Co.'s brass work, the tempting pints and quarts of the several breweries, or the dainty pills and potions of the druggists; whether we halt before the monster skate which surmounts the show of Aemes, those bright little world-wide advertisers of Nova Scotian genius, on which the sales of half the universe depend for the fleeting happiness of life, or whether, again, we turn to the tiers of neatly-finished packages which mark the exhibit of the king of our accomplished Nova Scotian enterprises—our Sugar Refinery,—wherever we look we find evidences of skill and industry allied with capital, and of the splendid results that flow from their union. It seems invidious to particularise where so many exhibits are deserving of equal notice, but detail would be inconsistent with an address which may be thought to have already outgrown its proper proportions, and, thanks to the energy of an enterprising press, so ably and so very generally represented here to-day, the merits of each particular display have already received full mention, and have been made known in every section of the Dominion. Another special reference, however, may seem justifiable in the case of an exhibit which is associated with the rebuilding of a sister city,—that of McDade & Co.'s zinc, copper and tin work, which is chiefly of an artistic character, and has contributed much to the architectural beauty of the splendid structures which now adorn the City of St. John, and have been erected since the disastrous fire,—that ordeal which proved our neighbor to be not only ambitious in aspiration, strong in will, and energetic in action, but even a perfect Phoenix when tried by fire.

While the industrial exhibit, as a whole, and in detail, is unquestionably good, and well illustrates the impetus given to our manufactures, and the standard they have already reached, it is not by any means pretended that it more than partially represents their true proportions. Many causes militate against the possibility of a display which can do full justice in this respect, but that which is the more acceptable to dwell upon is the fact, well known to every citizen of the Dominion, that the foundries, factories and workshops of every Province are overtaxed to meet the legitimate demands of their

every day custom, and are simply unable to give attention to the preparation of special work for exhibition.

While the attendance of so distinguished a company as that which immediately surrounds us is a matter of just congratulation to the committee, and evinces a full appreciation of the occasion on the part of those whose countenance and assistance is, in itself, an element of success, it is proper we should express our regret at the absence of one who is invariably with us on public occasions like the present. The non-attendance to-day of Judge Jackson, our respected American Consul General, is a reminder, if one were wanted, of the great sorrow which has fallen upon a nation with which we have so much in common, upon a people with whom our friendship is as that of brothers. Further formal expressions of regret are now out of place; the last act has been performed, and the flags on this building, which, like all others in Canada, were, until to-day at half-mast, are now at full height; and it only remains for us to hope that the sympathy so freely expressed by the Canadian people to their American brethren may serve still further to strengthen the happy relations which have so long existed between the two countries.

This Exhibition, like preceding ones, must tell upon the progress of the country. It is not possible that so many of our Industrialists from the several Provinces can be brought together without eliciting new ideas, suggesting improvements in mechanical processes, and leading to new lines of commerce.

In closing an address presented to those who represent so many diverse interests and who come from so many different and distant parts of our land, one may be permitted to suggest the hope that the Agriculturists and Manufacturers, and our Dominion and Provincial Legislatures, may direct their energies to the maturing of a plan whereby the isolated and sectional efforts of our people may be so aggregated and harmonised that we shall in future have, annually, or at least in every second year, one really grand competition, calling forth the very best efforts of those who represent the Agricultural and Industrial interests in every section of this growing Dominion.

On the conclusion of the reading of the Mayor's address, His Honor Lieut.-Governor Archibald, the chairman, called upon Lieut.-Governor Haviland, of Prince Edward Island, for remarks. On rising, that gentleman paid a tribute to the able inaugural address, and proceeded to descant upon the usefulness of such exhibitions and the satisfactory results which might be attained therefrom. Such a fair as this might, in a measure, be termed one of the results of Confederation, and showed how the Dominion of Canada was progressing. He felt proud, speaking more particularly for the section of the Dominion which he represented, that the Lower Provinces had had the pluck to enter into such a lively competition with the larger, older and more populous Upper Provinces, as this exhibition indicated, and that Prince Edward Island, the smallest province of the Confederation, with a population of only about