

Agricultural Associations of Upper and Lower Canada. The information is conveyed in a letter from the Duke of Newcastle to Sir Edmund Head, from which the following is an abstract:

"The sum of £200 to be placed at the disposal of each the two Agricultural Associations of Upper and Lower Canada, to be applied by the Directors of those Societies in the distribution of prizes in such way as may appear after due consideration best calculated to promote the important objects for which the Associations were formed."

The Prince of Wales' prizes, in whatever way the sum may be appropriated by the Association, will doubtless be an object of high ambition at the Annual Provincial Exhibition.

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### Sheep in Ohio.

An Ohio correspondent of the *Boston Cultivator* states that a few years ago there were in that State five millions of sheep, but that the number has been reduced to three and a-half millions, chiefly in consequence of the destruction by dogs! "Many from this cause have abandoned sheep husbandry, although it is much better than raising cattle and farm horses." The same evil exists in Canada; many very valuable sheep, some of them imported at great expense, have, in different parts of the Province, been destroyed by dogs. And here, as in Ohio, some farmers have abandoned sheep, in consequence. Is there no remedy? Surely our Municipalities, or Legislature, might devise one!

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### Agricultural Exhibitions.—Autumn of 1860.

In the subjoined summary, condensed from the various sources of information at our command, we present our readers with a general view of what has been done by the farmers and mechanics of these Provinces and the adjoining States in the way of friendly rivalry amongst themselves during the recreation season of the present autumn. We give a hasty sketch of the leading features of the Provincial and State shows, and of the County and Township shows in our own Province, thereby enabling the reader to judge to some extent of the conditions of the development of the agricultural and industrial resources of each locality. It is a noticeable feature at

our own exhibitions, that the spirit of competition, and the ambition to obtain the award of superiority in the quality of animals or articles exhibited, has rapidly increased, and it has been generally noticed that the exhibitions this autumn have on the whole been better attended, and the stock and articles at them of a better character than ever before. This has been no doubt some extent attributable to the favorable season; but still the general remarks holds good, and the fact is gratifying, as affording encouraging and substantial evidence of the determination of our population to excel in the production of the articles which constitute the chief wealth of a nation. These exhibitions, especially the Provincial Shows, have been of incalculable service to this country, in the stimulus they have given to agricultural improvement, and the facilities to intercourse and the diffusion of intelligence amongst the farming population. In fact, an old and experienced farmer, one of our distinguished pure blooded stock breeders: to us the other day, "They have been the saving of the country." Without them, many are now amongst the most active and successful competitors at such shows, would not have known what improvement in the breed of cattle, in the various agricultural productions, in the varieties of implements used, have been introduced, even if the improvements themselves had taken place, which may at least be doubted, but would have gone on in their old careless and unconscious course, producing nothing but the most middling order of merit, to the end of days. But, under the influence of such stimulus as these exhibitions have given, a rapid improvement has taken place, and we hope to see duly maintained, of course under judicious management, and with an avoidance, so far as possible, of useless expenditure or waste of time, which have doubtless in some cases occurred.

### PROVINCIAL AND STATE EXHIBITIONS, 1860:

**MICHIGAN.**—The fair for this State was at Detroit, on Oct. 2nd to 5th. We give the following details from the *Michigan Farmer*:

The fair in its general conduct was a success, yet by a comparison of the entries of the previous years, there were some of its merits which were not as fully patronized as they deserve to be. The following comparison of the entries for 1859 and 1860, where the falling off was: