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these allurements, the old Batavia Agricultural Exhibition far excelled it in utility, in the exhibit of all kinds of agricultural productions and machinery. But to compromise matters, the Directors had granted the horsemen some privileges which tended to interfere with the trial of implements; for instance, they caused the trial of implements to cease at 2 o'clock on Friday to allow the horse class to draw more attention, and they certainly succeeded, for at one part of the programme a mule race was announced. The mules started off pretty fairly, but mules are different to horses; too much whipping will cause them to bolt, stop or turn. But they certainly caused the greatest amount of amusement that we ever saw at any race, for they would go just as they pleased and when they pleased, and in two instances the mules went right through the crowd, and the third mule took a notion to make a short cut, and was seen wending his way among the implements despite the exertions of the driver. You may be assured there was some loud laughing at this race. The "Mule Race" novelty is recommended to our Sporting Fair Directors.

Our attention was more devoted to the stock, products and implements. There was a fair show of stock in general; in the exhibit of Merino sheep they excel. They had a good exhibit of Holstein, Jersey and Devon cattle, and also a few Brittany cattle. This class we have not yet seen at our exhibitions. But in our opinion the crowning point of this Exhibition was the trial of agricultural implements. There were four different patterns of sulky gang plows on the ground, but only three exhibited their working capacities. Only two common plows operated. After the plowing was finished the rollers were tested, then the harrows, cultivators, scufflers, seed drills, &c. We cannot particularize about each, but in regard to new implements, Mr. Henry Ives has constructed a complete set of cultivating tools, to be attached to one frame, by which he believes that much better work can be done than is now being done by our present cultivating implements. He can keep the land entirely free from weeds, and loosen the ground; also cultivates deep or merely cuts the thistles and weeds, or extracts the roots of the couch grass. He harvests the beans in the simplest manner we have yet seen. He also attaches a potato digger, and all the implements appear to do very excellent work when properly used. They are growing in favor where known and used. None of these implements as yet are being made in Canada, but should be introduced and tested at once. Batavia is situated in an excellent agricultural district, the Genesee Valley, the Garden of the United States, which has long had a high reputation; but the frost has injured the bean and corn crop very much this season, and they depend on beans much more than we in Canada do for a main crop. The celebrated Wiard plows are manufactured here, and the new works of the Johnston Harvester Co. are now erected; the latter company employ from 700 to 1,000 hands when in full blast. But what astonished us most was, that our informant said that the majority of the machines turned out at this establishment were sent to Europe, and other foreign parts, even to New Zealand and Queensland. Well, perhaps some of our Canadian manufacturers may yet turn more of their attention to supplying our brethren in the antipodes, as the Waterous Engine Co. are doing with their milling machinery.

During the coming winter we hope that our readers may get up a good discussion in regard to the future management of our agricultural exhibitions. Amusements are right and proper, but it is a question to be answered whether at agricultural exhi-

bitions the main and controlling interest should be in the hands of the speculators or showmen, or in the hands of the practical farmer—or, in other words, where shall we draw the line? These trials of implements might with advantage be introduced into many of our exhibitions. A half acre of land is sufficient to put any quantity of implements to work at different times; we do not think much more than half an acre was used at the great trial at Batavia. We cannot say that we appreciate or favor fancy baby shows and similar exhibits at agricultural exhibitions. Still one American at Batavia said it needed something to stimulate the American ladies to exhibit children, because as they were progressing now, foreigners must inherit the property, as so few Americans leave descendants. We do not think our agricultural exhibitions should step so far out of their sphere; we must leave something for the moral teachers to do.

#### The Industrial Exhibition.

The first held was the Industrial Exhibition at Toronto. The railroads and steamboats gave unusual accommodation to visitors this year. The grounds and buildings were in excellent order, and the weather most favorable. Our coming King, Prince George, accompanied by the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, our present Governor-General, were the great magnets of the first week. They were all looking very well, but their visit happened to be when the weather was the least propitious, and the week before the stock and products of the farm, garden and orchard were on the grounds.

There was an excellent display of agricultural implements of high merit and finish. Similar implements have been exhibited at the principal exhibitions in years past, and will be seen at the leading exhibitions throughout the Dominion. This year some have slight alterations to make or talk about, but every alteration is not always an improvement. The greatest step in improvement has been made in the self-binding harvesters. There are now exhibited for the first time several binders that have decided improvements; some are entirely novel, or have so much novelty in their construction that they almost appear to be new machines. They are simplified, and many can be constructed at much less cost than the old binders.

Coming events cast their shadows before. The display of sulky plows this year exceeds anything ever before seen in Canada. This convinces us that our farmers are in future to be found riding and plowing, instead of walking all day. These sulky plows have been so much improved that in the field they are no longer an experiment, are efficient and give satisfaction. Thus many firms are about to enter into the manufacture of them for the coming year.

The Carter Ditcher has been remodeled and we think greatly improved. It appears like an efficient machine for many localities; it possibly and most probably is the best ditcher in the world, and may be of inestimable value for future generations. It is eighteen years since the inventor commenced the labor of inventing and perfecting it. He expended about \$20,000 of his own property on it; another person then sank nearly \$100,000 in it. Now he has a third person who has purchased a two-third interest in it. Such is quite often the lot of real enthusiastic inventors who bring out of their brains something that is of benefit to the world for future generations. These implements are now about to be manufactured on a larger pattern in England, and are also to be made in the United States. We say, well done, Carter! This Ditcher is entirely a Canadian invention.

Perhaps the greatest deficiency in the Exhibition was the display of potato planting and potato digging implements. There was one of the latter

implements exhibited, but its appearance was not such as to inspire confidence. We did not notice any hay tedder on exhibition. Often farmers have asked for them, but it appears no manufacturers deem them of sufficient importance to make them.

The main building contained a large display, principally from the Toronto stores, each line having something special to attract attention. The carriage building, stove buildings and machinery hall were all attractive, but exhibitors complain much about the length of time and expense of attending and exhibiting for two weeks, when all the business could as well be done in three or four days. The fruit, grain and stock were not on exhibition when we were there. We leave that for other assistants to attend to, as we are invited to attend other exhibitions, and cannot spare time for two visits.

#### Live Stock at the Industrial Exhibition

The display of live stock at the Toronto Fair of 1883 may fairly be said to have been an extraordinary one, both in regard to numbers and quality, nearly all the classes being well filled, and most of them with animals of high-class quality. A striking feature in many of the classes was the very large number of imported animals exhibited. This was particularly noticeable in the sheep classes, and led to the remark that it was more like an exhibition of English stock than of Canadian. Limited space precludes the possibility of giving a detailed account or criticism of the stock exhibited, and we confine our remarks to a general report.

##### HORSES

were largely represented in nearly all the classes, the heavy draughts taking the lead in numbers, and probably in the amount of interest excited, and these certainly made a grand show, something over seventy of the animals shown in this class being imported, while the class of Canadian-bred draughts showed very plainly the great value of the Clydesdales, especially for crossing with the common mares of the country to improve the character of the stock. There was also a very creditable display of Percherons, a class somewhat new in this country, but well worthy the attention of our farmers, their superior action and useful appearance indicating that in many respects they "fill the bill" for a farmer's every-day horse, and if they prove themselves as well adapted for crossing with other stock, they will soon be much sought after. The lighter classes were well represented, especially the roadster classes, but we noticed a lack of the lofty, large-sized carriage horse, and could not but think that something of the type of the "Cleveland Bay" is much needed to fill this want.

##### CATTLE.

The rings in which the different breeds of cattle were exhibited in competition for the prizes, formed centres of attraction for the lovers of bovine excellence, and visitors showed, by their close attention to certain rings, just where their fancy or their interest was centered.

The Shorthorn class being most largely represented in the show, as it is in the country, was surrounded by a large number of the leading breeders of the Province, who sharply criticised the work of the judges, who, in this case, were certainly competent men, but who seemed too often to forget that their reputation was at stake, and that it was the animals they were called to pass judgment upon, and not the owners. We have seldom heard so many expressions of dissatisfaction with the awards, not only from exhibitors, but also from disinterested on-lookers. This remark applies especially to the class of yearling bulls and the herd prizes, and there were those among the spectators who did not hesitate to express the opinion that the first prize in the former ring was given more with a view to the position the animal might take in the herd ring, than on account of any individual merits of his own; and with regard to the decision in the competition for herds, the most charitable comment we have heard was the expressed hope that the committee acted conscientiously. In this connection it may not be out of place to remind those who are called to fill the important trust committed to judges that they have to run the gauntlet of an intelligent criticism on the part of their brother breeders, and that they cannot afford to disregard it, or to be indifferent