

subject of this kind, but as his opportunities of addressing the public were very limited, he wished to call attention to this matter, as he intended at an early day to bring forward a proposition to advance the agriculture of the Province, in which he confidently relied upon the cordial support of all parties and classes of the population. He could not but think that some mistakes had been made in previous efforts of the same kind, or they would have been attended with greater success, to only one of which he would allude—that of the too brief notice which preceded agricultural fairs.—Unless two or three years notice were given it could not be expected that any thing like desirable competition could be brought into play. His Excellency concluded his observations by a feeling allusion to the early departure of his valued friend Sir Houston Stewart, whose long acquaintance with Halifax had endeared him to every section of the community."

#### EXHIBITIONS.

The season of Autumn Agricultural Shows and Fairs is now nearly or quite over for the present year. From early in September to the present time, probably from a dozen to twenty five or thirty county or township exhibitions have taken place every week in one part or other of the Province. Some persons indeed are of opinion that we have a great deal too many of them, and that there would be both economy and advantage in many instances in combining several of the small county or township shows into one of larger pretensions. Let this be as it may, it is beyond question that much progress and benefit has resulted from these annual gatherings and exhibitions of skill; and if any decided improvement can be effected in the mode of conducting them, it may reasonably be anticipated that correspondingly increased advantages would be gained. The farmer whose whole summer has been one continued season of active and laborious industry, not unmingled with occasional anxiety and suspense, having at length secured his crops in his barns or stacks, threshed out and disposed of so much of them as his immediate occasions require, and got his fall wheat satisfactorily put in the ground, fenced, drained, &c., looks forward to the visits of himself and family to the township, county or provincial show as a season of leisure and relaxation from their long sustained labor. The mind there receives some pleasurable sensations in the change of scene and of incidents from those of every day occurrence.—Friends are met with, perhaps, who had not been seen since on a similar occasion the preceding year. Some superior animal, agricultural product, improved implement, or specimen of mechanical skill meets the eye of the farmer or the mechanic, which convinces the former that his live stock, his products, or his farm implements are not all they should be, and the latter that he must make another trial before he can pronounce his own work or manufacture quite perfect. For these reasons and numerous others, the autumn exhibition season is to many persons one of the most interesting and pleasurable which occurs during the year. In fact, it is to very many, owing to the nature of the farmer's occupation, his peculiar dependence upon the seasons, &c., almost the only term of relaxation and enjoyment which they indulge in, apart from their ordinary occupation. The farmer's life and occupation affords him, in the study of his art, and in the unfolding of the beauties of nature which he sees every day around him, not to mention numerous other advantages of his position, material, if properly improved, for as pure enjoyment and as high mental cultivation as any other profession. But even supposing the home circumstances fully turned to advantage—which is, we fear, in few cases—the farmer, as well as other people, requires an occasional change of scene and of occupation. And when he is from home he should not be satisfied with merely looking at something which he is convinced is much better than anything he has himself, and then go back and forget all about it; he should make a note of it and be determined at the very first practicable moment to have something as good or a great deal better.—*Canadian Agriculturist.*

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