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The Exhibition.

The first we attended was the Guelph or Central Exhibition. It was a grand success, particularly in the stock department. The dairy, implements, roots, fruits and flowers were well represented; the fine arts and ladies' department were very well in quality, although the quantity shown did not appear to us quite as large as last year.

Guelph is a good place for stock shows. A great many farmers in the neighborhood devote their attention principally to stock raising. The quantity and quality to be seen at this place is well worth the expense of a visit to those who desire to procure or examine the different animals and classes.

We consider this Exhibition as, perhaps, the most important, excepting the Provincial. A large quantity of stock was exhibited at this place that would have been sent to the Provincial but for their failure in carrying off as many prizes as their owners anticipated, and large numbers of very fine animals were returned to the farms, but a large quantity was, nevertheless, sent. The managing committee was tasked beyond its power to accommodate all the stock that was brought forward, although they retained the carpenters erecting new buildings for stock up to Wednesday, to try to accommodate as many as possible.

The Quebec Provincial Exhibition was held in Montreal the same week that the Central Exhibition was held in Guelph; one of our staff attended the Exhibition there and reports it a failure in nearly every department except Ayrshire cattle. In this class the Quebec Exhibition surpasses our Western Exhibitions. The farmers of Quebec complain of the impossibility to compete with the large capitalist, and say it is of no use for them to try to bring out any of their stock. They cannot afford to expend the time and great amount of extra feed necessary to prepare animals for Exhibition. They have attempted it, and have been driven from the field. This caused dissatisfaction among the farmers, which has been taken up by their wives and families, therefore the ladies' department, we hear, was not nearly as well represented as it ought to have been.

We think an improvement might be made in the prize lists, especially to draw out the farmers and their wives, who are the main support of the country, but the present prize lists are arranged so as to accommodate and suit the importers and great feeders. We by all means wish to see our importers encouraged, but would also like to see the farmer that has raised his sheep or his roots by common and profitable means, encouraged to show the re-

sult of his labors. We hope improvement will be made in this particular, and that the farmers who cultivate the soil may carry off more prizes.

We know of a Government institution sending out productions raised at the greatest expense that time, labor and manures can cost, and carrying off something like thirty prizes. Had these prizes been obtained by farmers, how many would they have encouraged. Farmers every year make attempts, fail, and never attempt again. We say, encourage the productions raised in a natural manner; they should not be competed against by imported productions or prepared hot-house products. Draw a line; state if imported, if forced by hot-house heat or artificial means, or raised by the usual mode of common culture. If we are to keep our Exhibitions successful and popular with the farmers, we must look more to them and their interests, but poor and injurious will our Exhibitions become if the Government expends money against the farmers' interests and checks private enterprise.

The Provincial Exhibition of Ontario, which took place in London this year, has been pronounced by some of our American cousins as the best Agricultural Exhibition ever held on this Continent. This exhibition has been nearer to what we aimed to bring it this year than in any previous one.

There has been nothing approaching a horse race, a dance or ball, no prince, governor or potentate to draw a concourse of people, or distract attention from agricultural affairs; no baby shows or gambling has been brought into play, and, greater still, no prizes have been even offered to the manufacturers of large frame implements, still the Exhibition, even in that department, has never been surpassed in Canada.

We had at this Exhibition the very animals that took the prize at the World's Fair, at Vienna. We never had such a fine show of Durhams; in fact, some judges say that animals could have been picked from our Exhibition that would compare favorably, and, if it were not for the name of pedigree, would sell to competent judges at as high figures as the animals that recently sold at Mr. Campbell's sale for \$2,500, \$27,000, \$35,000 and \$40,600.

A great compromise has taken place; the city and Western Fair men have worked harmoniously with the Provincial Board, and all has passed off well. Such was the demand for space by exhibitors of stock of all kinds that suitable accommodations could not be found by the Association for all that was presented. The Americans also made our Exhibition

more attractive. The Nebraska R. R. Co. made a very fine display of cereals, fruits, woods, plants, &c., &c., from that State. Some Canadians we heard objected to this, but we say let them come on; we are desirous for them to exhibit their products amongst us, for they allow us to exhibit among them. Mr. Jas. Vick, of Rochester had the largest and finest display of dahlias and gladiolas we have ever seen.

Thunder Bay and Muskoka were also represented by productions; they exhibited some good cereals, soil and vegetables; also, a specimen of silver ore was shown from Thunder Bay that may give some indication of the wealth which lies below the surface of the earth in that picturesque region.

We think we have had larger and finer collections of fruit and flowers of Canadian growth than were exhibited by Canadians this year.

HAMILTON EXHIBITION.

The Hamilton Exhibition was not quite as largely attended by exhibitors or visitors as the Directors would have wished or their efforts entitled them to. Their display and preparations deserved the thanks and support of all. The display of stock, farm produce, machinery, &c., was very good, but not quite equal to the Guelph Exhibition.

One great reason why the Guelph Exhibition was better than that of Hamilton was because the Guelph Exhibition was the first held, and many breeders exhibited their stock there previous to going to the Provincial Exhibition, and nearly all those that did not gain as many prizes as they wished, took their cattle to their farms and left the prizes at Hamilton to be taken by the successful exhibitors at the Provincial Exhibition, but after leaving London a considerable number of the prize takers sent their animals to the States to gain additional laurels for our country.

Many of the animals that were taken from the Guelph Exhibition to the farms of the owners, would have carried off prizes at Hamilton, but three weeks of continued exhibitions is rather too much of a good thing for the majority of our farmers to indulge in. The Guelph and Provincial Exhibitions had absorbed two weeks, and thus Hamilton taking the third week stood but a poor chance for a very large exhibition. For a county or united county exhibition it was a very good one.

One thing appears very plain to us; that is that none of these Exhibitions should exceed two days except the Provincial. Three or four days is far too long to call exhibitors away from their business. Next year London, Guelph, Hamilton and Toronto will all be desirous of having good exhibitions, but to be successful they must shorten the time of holding them.

OXFORD EXHIBITION.

The North and West Ridings of Oxford held their Agricultural Exhibition at Inger-

occasion to use any for my horses to why. Independent properties, which I e excelled by any cattle Feed, I should men to use it as a believe it to be safe hope farmers and it a trial; they will saving to them in tor's bills. I am, y, Wm. LONG, Im- er in Entire Horses, Ont., Yonge St.

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