

EXHIBITION SUPPLEMENT.

THE purpose of the following pages is to give, in brief, a succinct account of the salient features of the Exhibition lately held in this city. It is not pretended that the sketch is exhaustive; yet we trust it will afford our readers a fair idea of the value of the Exhibition in its various departments. It will be seen that considerable prominence has been given to mechanical and musical instrument manufactures. Both of these have assumed increasing importance of late years: one of them closely connected with material progress, the other with æsthetic culture. From a pecuniary point of view the recent Exhibition was a most encouraging success, as the following figures will show by comparison with previous years. Visitors:—London, 1869—60,152; Toronto, 1870—69,816; Kingston, 1871—24,224; Hamilton, 1872—50,252; London, 1873—63,800; Toronto, 1874—77,040. These figures do not include those admitted on members' passes, which have increased in about an equal ratio. The receipts during these years were as follows:—1869—\$15,038; 1870—\$17,450; 1871—\$6,056; 1872—\$12,563; 1873—\$15,950; 1874—\$19,260. The preference given to Ottawa over Kingston as the place of exhibition of 1875 was perhaps determined quite as much by chagrin at the loss suffered in 1871, as by a desire to do justice to the Ottawa valley. The Ottawa Exhibition will, no doubt, be unique in its character. We can hardly expect that the show of stock will be as large or as good as in London or Toronto; and agricultural products, as well as machinery, will not be so fully represented. On the other hand, the wood and the mine will furnish a display unequalled on any previous occasion. The textile fabrics and manufactures on both sides of the river Ottawa and from Cornwall down, will show to increasing advantage. New buildings are to be erected, and we would submit for consideration whether it would not be better to erect detached buildings connected by passages, rather than the great barns at present in vogue.

In spite of the efforts of the Committee, the din, the dust, the noise and the confusion of our so-called Crystal Palace is almost unbearable. The Art Department, especially, suffers in many ways from defective light, crowding, and the Babel of sounds which do not always proceed even from musical instruments. The Annual Address of the President, Mr. Gibbons, was full of practical hints to the farmer, and traversed a good deal of ground in a forcible and business-like way. The effect of forest-tree destruction in producing drought, recommendation of fruit (especially grape) and flax culture, the propagation of fish, &c., all came under his practical survey of the field. We desire to throw out one hint more. The departments of Arts and Manufactures are not fully represented at the Agricultural Fair. We therefore propose that adequate buildings be erected in Toronto, and that a Provincial Exposition of our progress in these departments be *annually* held here. This is the proper place for such a display; it should be a complete exhibition in every class of articles produced, from Ottawa to the Sault, and, under proper regulations, it would be, not a competitor with the ordinary Fair, but a very valuable feeder to it. Offering these suggestions for future consideration, we may proceed to a detailed account of the recent Exhibition in its various departments.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

HORSES—CATTLE AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, AND FRUITS, GRAINS, &c.

The show of thorough-bred horses, of which there were 31 entries, comprised the best stock in the country, and was a marked improvement upon that at the former Exhibition. The best "blood" in the country was on the ground, and the arrangements for its accommodation were as good as the time and means at the disposal of the Committee could make it. The list comprised roadsters, carriage horses, Canada bred draught and farm horses, which were especially fine, and many of which sold for "fancy" prices. The bidding for the last class of stock was spirited, and competition exceedingly keen. We may mention a few of the most celebrated: "Whalebone," an imported stallion, own-