

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK STATE FAIR OF 1859.

SUBMITTED AT THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, FEBRUARY 23RD, 1860.

TORONTO, February 20th, 1860.

The undersigned, visitors to the Exhibition of the New York State Agricultural Society, held at Albany last autumn, beg leave to submit the following notes of their observations on that occasion :

ALBANY, N.Y., October 5th, 1859.

This, the nineteenth annual exhibition of the New York State Agricultural Society, is perhaps the most successful which the Society has ever held. Taking place at the capital of the State, the beautiful old city of Albany, where there is a large local population, with plenty of hotel accommodation, abundant traveling facilities in every direction, the city of New York itself at no very great distance, and delightful weather for visiting, everything has been, so far, favorable to a successful meeting, and the result has fully borne out the expectations of those interested.

The show ground lies to the eastward, about two miles from the centre of the city. The entrances to the grounds face the South-east, the business offices being placed along the front. Inside, on the right, is the Floral Hall, devoted to the display of fruit and flowers and the fine arts. It is about 130 feet in length, running North-east and South-west. To the North-west of this, running parallel to it, and at suitable distances from each other, are the Domestic Hall, the President's office, a refreshment shed, and six long covered sheds for sheep and pigs. To the right or North-east of all these is the horse ring, about three-eighths of a mile in circumference, enclosed by a slight board fence, with seats erected for the spectators to witness the action of the horses, trotting round the ring—this being one of the chief attractions. Going back to the entrance, and looking to the back of the ground, running in the same direction as the buildings already described, and parallel with each other, we have on the left two Mechanics' Halls, for the display of machinery and manufactures of various kinds, each nearly or about 200 feet in length and 50 in breadth, the dairy hall, a shed for carriages, and the vegetable hall for the exhibition of grain, roots, &c. Further to the left is the poultry shed. North-west of these buildings, and running north-east, are seven long sheds for cattle, parallel with each other, each about 200 feet in length, and each capable of accommodating about 40 head of cattle. In addition to all this accommodation for stock, all around three sides of the enclosure there are stalls or boxes for horses and bulls, to the number of some three hundred, or thereabouts. The implements are displayed between the mechanics' halls and the front and south-east side of the grounds. All the buildings described are slight temporary erections, of mere rough boards and scantling, which will, no doubt, answer very well with such fine weather as we have at present, but which, in case of a wet and tempestuous time, would expose the property exhibited to great damage. We have long come to the conclusion in Canada that such buildings are not good enough, or safe enough, for our Provincial Exhibitions, where property is exposed to all the risks of the weather for several days. The general plan of the grounds and buildings here, however, is excellent, affording plenty of room and convenient divisions for the proper arrangement and classification of animals and articles on exhibition. The ground itself is beautifully situated, and is in excellent condition for the purpose. It rises with a gentle ascent from the front or South-east towards the back, or North-west; the view in the back ground being terminated by a range