

The Farmer's Journal

And

TRANSACTIONS OF THE LOWER CANADA BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

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PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

The great event of the year for the agriculturists of Lower Canada—their second Annual Exhibition took place on the 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of the last month, near Quebec, on the Plains of Abraham, already famed in history as having been before used by our ancestors as a field for competition, of a very different kind, nearly 100 years ago.

A more beautiful site could not have been selected. The ground sloping gently towards the St. Lawrence, commanded a full view of the busy scene enacting on its majestic waters, with Point Levi in the distance. About 20 acres were enclosed for the purposes of the Show—yet the ground was literally crowded for several hours, together on Thursday the principal day. The excellent arrangements and good order, supported by most beautiful weather, seemed to put every body in good humour with their holiday, and with pleasure do we add, that we did not hear of a single instance of intoxication on the ground during the whole time of the Exhibition.

HORSES.—The show of horses was the best that has ever been collected in Lower Canada. The Clydesdale pure and crossed with Canadian mares; noble animals for heavy draught were also well represented. Some small active Canadians had their admirers, but we must confess, that with all their merits, and they are many, they are not entitled to rank as the most remunerating class for our farmers to raise for market.

They want height for carriage and saddle, and weight for heavy draught. There are exceptions to this observation, nevertheless it applies to the very great majority of the breed. A score or so of their ancestral stock from Normandy might be imported with advantage to the Province. Blood and carriage horses were few, but those few were good.

CATTLE.—*Ayrshires* of a superior quality mustered strong. They are a beautiful class of cattle and deservedly great favorites amongst us. Several of the cows and bulls had been imported from Great Britain and could not be surpassed.

SHORT-HORNS DEVONS AND HEREFORDS.—None like the noble short-horns which appeared at the Montreal exhibition were forthcoming, and the Devons and Herefords were absent altogether.

CANADIAN OR ALDERNEY.—Under this class were entered a number of ugly cross-bred beasts and premiums were awarded to them—we have not heard whether the Judges accompanied their awards with any observations to justify the conclusions they came to. But it was so papable that they were neither Canadian nor Alderney cattle, that the judges ought to have disposed of the whole posse with a couple of words—"none exhibited."

SWINE AND SHEEP.—There were only a few pens of each. Some good animals amongst them but nothing to excite particular attention.

POULTRY.—Cocks and hens of many weights colours and breeds from the 12lbs. Shangae to the 12 oz. Bantam attracted

general attention. Several of the finest came from the neighbourhood of Boston and were disposed of at long prices to Canadian amateurs.

IMPLEMENTS.—Implements were very few—we endeavoured to see some of them tried but did not succeed—our disappointment was in common with several practical men who suggested that our future premium lists should mention the hour that the different implements are to be proved.

The mechanical and industrial branch had many things of interest which not being exactly in our line we have taken a description of from a contemporary.

We observed in attendance Major Campbell, Messrs. Watts, Dodds, Thompson and Deblois of the Board of Agriculture of Lower Canada, and Messrs. Thompson and Marks, Ex-Presidents of the Agricultural Association of Upper Canada, besides several leading agriculturists from different parts of the Province. The Governor General visited the ground on Thursday by invitation. An address was presented to His Excellency on the part of the Association, to which he answered in his usual happy style.

As all things are judged of by comparison we will say of this exhibition, as compared with that held last year in Montreal, that the arrangements in every respect were a decided improvement. We consider them so perfect as to be a model for future shows. The advantage of reporting to the Secretary the stock to be entered beforehand was most conspicuous, as well as of having different gates of admittance for the different classes of stock. The instant an animal appeared