

FARMERS' ADVOCATE

THE MONTHLY

VOLUME V.

DEVOTED TO THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY.

NUMBER 11.

WILLIAM WELD,
Editor and Proprietor.

LONDON, ONT., NOV., 1870.

\$1 Per Annum, Postage Prepaid.
Office—Dundas St., opp. City Hotel.

The Farmer's Advocate

LONDON, ONT., NOV., 1870.

The Provincial Exhibition of 1870.

This has been another grand success, judging from the number of attendants and the large and varied amount of things exhibited. From the position given to blood horses in the bills, we should think them of the most importance, but in reality we consider many classes ought to take preference to them for all the good or evil they ever have, or are ever likely to entail upon agriculturists. We cannot say that any material improvement has been made in the class or utility of them. Some imported general purpose and agricultural horses were exhibited, and, as usual, a great fuss is made about any imported animal, even though it be inferior to some raised in our own country, and it is to be regretted that some importers should receive great praise, and higher prices even, for importing an animal far inferior to what they are allowing the Americans to take from our country, at perhaps half the cost. A person does more good by retaining a really known good stock producer in our country than importing one that may produce inferior stock, or, as instances have been, of incapacity to produce stock at all. The great Durham mania that is now raging causes every old pedigree to be hunted up, and has given a new impetus to our real Canadian breeders. Among the foremost of recent importers of Durhams is Mr. R. Miller, of Pickering. He has not been so conspicuously brought before the public as many other breeders, but the energy evinced by him, coupled with his real practical knowledge, convinces us that many of the old breeders must shortly lay their laurels at his feet. We have devoted so much of this paper to the Exhibition that we refrain from making remarks on every class. Mr. Snell carried off the Prince of Wales' prize for the best pen of Leicesters. Messrs. Love and Douglass brought on the ground some very fine Lincolns and Leicesters that were just imported, but arrived after the judges had completed their work.

But the class that called our particular attention was the agricultural implements.

In this class ingenuity and money had been fully employed. The most important of all was the Ditching Machine. It was to be seen there in operation again improved, and in its glory threw up the earth from the depth of between two and three feet, leaving a first-rate ditch ready for laying the tile or board. It was admired and approved of by every one, and what an important implement is this to our country! We know not the inestimable benefit that this is destined to perform. We think the Board of Agriculture should devote as much attention, time and encouragement to such a highly valuable implement as they do to any single class of animals. The inventor of such a machine should be as much belauded as any political demagogue: and they should award as high an honor or as high a prize to such a useful and tried invention as this, as to any thing. Their duty is to foster every thing for the advancement of the prosperity of Agriculture; and they should look beyond the receiver's gate, and do good, and show the country that they are not mere nonentities, treading or grovelling in the wake of some precursor's brain, but that each man of them has brain of his own, and can do some good to posterity by using it and the power placed in his hands.

Our attention was drawn to a new process of hardening cast iron, by which means the inventor claims that it becomes twice as durable as steel. He informs us that it has been fully tried. It is our opinion that this invention will also be of very great importance to us, as the process is not expensive, and we well know how soon our ploughs wear out. We consider this may become of very great importance to us, as a plough saved is equal to a plough earned. Mr. B. Ploverman, of Weston, is the inventor of this new process.

Gang Ploughs were well represented, and are gradually coming into use. A very superior two furrow plough was exhibited, but it was made in England. The English implements are, as a general thing, much more completely constructed than implements manufactured in Canada; we do not mean the putty, paint, polishing and varnishing system, as seen on implements made for exhibition here.

The Traction Engine made a sorry sight. It ran into the mud and remained embedded in it, despite of screws, and planks,

and steam, until about the close of the Exhibition. The Portable Engine, made after English principles, was to be seen on the ground; and in a few years will, we have no doubt, be used in many sections, instead of horses, for threshing and other purposes.

It is necessary again to call the attention of the Board of Agriculture to the necessity of a proper trial of Implements. Particularly was this called to our mind by hearing the great dissatisfaction that was expressed by manufacturers and farmers at the last exhibition. For instance, the general complaint was that a first prize was awarded to what was known to be the worst working machine on the ground. It is a perfect farce to have mere paint and polish carry away a first prize. We as farmers want to know which is the best working machine, the most durable, and the least expensive to keep in order. Some manufacturers turn out implements that will last twice as long as the same implements manufactured by others, and are not half the expense to keep in repair. Another very erroneous judgment was displayed by the judges of implements.— They awarded the first prize to an expensively constructed and complicated machine, that the proprietors refused to have tested, and had never dug an acre of potatoes nor ever likely to, as it must choke as soon as put in operation. And they awarded the second prize to one that has been fully tested, and the proprietor offered every opportunity for trial, and gave what ought to be considered satisfactory references to the judges. If a judge does not know any thing about an implement, or animal, or other article he may be appointed to judge, he should make due enquiries and get himself posted. Cannot the Agricultural Association afford a few hundred dollars to have a good trial of implements? Or could not some of our enterprising farmers in some other section of the country, induce the association to aid them in bringing about a Provincial trial of Implements?— We do not think it should be at the time of the Exhibition, nor even is it necessary to be in either of the places where it is held. Clinton, Paris, Stratford, Guelph, might be honored with it, if they chose to bestir themselves. We shall be willing to lend our aid to any that may take the matter up. We say, let us have a trial of Implements.

Humbugs Again.

GEORGE BROWN'S SALE.

We deem it our duty to the farmers of Canada to give our opinion on the different herds and different breeders, fearlessly; also to condemn or praise such things as we deem of importance to farmers, whether an implement, stock or seed.

George Brown, no doubt, borrowed the idea of establishing a stock and seed farm from writings that appeared in sources not under his control, and he has strenuously endeavored to keep the originator of the plans he is trying to carry out in the dark. We do not consider him either honorable or honest for such a course.

He commences his Stock and Seed business by hiring a person to go all over Canada and purchase the cheapest lot of Durhams procurable; and we are credibly informed that he gave his employee instructions to make out pedigrees for animals that had not a pedigree that would stand the test. However, he manages to get a lot of the scum of other breeders, and by means of toadying to a lot of his satellites of the press, got up a great talk of his farm last summer. Then by advertising largely a lot of names, pedigrees, &c., he succeeds in drawing a large attendance from the States and Canada. So far he succeeded, but the animals and the management gave utter disgust to the parties present. We hear from good authority, that not less than 100 Americans attended this sale, from various parts of the States, with the intent of purchasing, but the Stock of all kinds was so unusually mean that not one purchased. One American called in our office the following day, and informed us of his disappointment, and of the dissatisfaction of Americans and Canadians generally. The Pigs and Sheep offered were not so good as can be picked up on the commons in the county of Middlesex. The Americans were too good judges of stock to be gulled in the manner that some poor green Canadian's have been. For instance, Brown bought one Cow for \$75, last fall; put her to a bull that only sold for \$80, and the bull calf sold for \$130. This is one instance. We have heard that many of the animals sold, even at the low prices they brought, were not worth one quarter of the money.

We did not attend this sale, but we have our reports from a good source. The attendance was very large, about 100 Amer-