

THE DOMINION EXHIBITION OF  
1883.

This exhibition has been the only one we have ever attended worthy the name of Dominion Exhibition. It has been a grand success, and the inhabitants of St. John deserve great credit for the enterprise, generosity and spirit evinced in setting such a pattern for others to follow. St. John has not the population, the wealth, or the amount of Government patronage that some of our western cities can command, but she has shown an example worthy of being copied by some of the owners of riches in the west; for instance, a wealthy merchant, Mr. Manchester (of Messrs. Manchester, Robertson & Allison), of St. John, N. B., being desirous of improving the butter products of the country, had at his own expense, engaged Prof. J. F. Sheldon, of the Agricultural College of Salisbury, England, one of the leading dairy authorities in England, to come to this Exhibition and give an exhibit of the latest appliances in butter making now in use in Britain, and to give addresses and instruction on the subject in Canada. A large space of the horticultural buildings was fitted up for the display of the utensils and for a lecture room, and as this had been well advertised, it drew a large concourse of farmers and their wives daily to see the appliances and hear the addresses, great interest being evinced in this department. Mr. Sheldon is a very pleasant speaker, and has awakened a great deal of thought upon this important branch of our industries, especially among those who have not had an opportunity of seeing the new process or reading about it. The cans for the different methods of setting milk were on exhibition and explained. The perpendicular and horizontal barrel churns were exhibited. The butter was churned in the perpendicular churn and was made up before the gaze of the spectators. The principal feature shown was the working of the butter in the globular state, and manipulating it by means of paddles instead of using the hand. The Laval centrifugal machine was exhibited in motion, but owing to some slight defects in the motive power, it did not separate the cream from the milk when we were there, and we watched it closely every day we attended the Exhibition. We do not consider the churning or the manipulating of the butter as shown at this Exhibition to be equal to what we have witnessed at the Kirkton Creamery, in the county of Perth, which was described in this journal two years ago, or at Montreal, as described this year. In another part of the Exhibition there was the Danish Centrifugal machine in operation, which

separates the cream from the milk in an efficient manner. It was exhibited by Prof. Barre, of Montreal, and Mr. W. H. Lynch, of Danville, P. Q. It was a much superior and more complete implement than the one exhibited by Prof. Sheldon, but the cost is much greater. Mr. Barre has been employed by the Quebec Government to give instruction in butter making in that Province, where they have already five creameries using the centrifugal machine for separating the cream from butter. The principles have been previously explained in this journal. Mr. Lynch was at the Exhibition. We believe he is preparing a publication on the butter question under the auspices of the Ontario Government.

There was a very good and large display of live stock of excellent quality. The stock on an average was not in as high condition as is generally to be seen at our large western exhibitions, although a considerable quantity exhibited showed that liberal feeding had not been neglected. The Government Stock Farms of Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick strongly contested for the honors against each other; both carried off a large number of prizes, much to the chagrin and disappointment of the practical farmers who had brought their stock to the Exhibition. Loud and grievous were the complaints about this. It is a debatable question whether the Government stock of the different Provinces should compete for prizes at Exhibitions; also whether the Government sales of stock are checking private enterprise. The stock exhibited by the two Government Farms did credit to the feeders, but they would not have carried off so many prizes had some of our best Ontario breeders exhibited. But the latter would not take their stock so far; in fact, some of our best breeders do not exhibit at our Ontario Provincial Exhibition, although they hold stock that could not be excelled at any of the exhibitions.

At this Exhibition a few Polled Norfolk cattle were shown, the only cattle of that breed we have seen in Canada. There was exhibited one Holstein bull, a much larger and finer animal than any of that class that has been shown in Ontario. There were working oxen exhibited that would have taken the prize in Ontario; but what surprised us most was the large numbers of Jerseys—some remarkably fine animals, too; for instance, there was a large, solid colored Jersey cow, having good points, good pedigree, and a body well formed, straight back, wide brisket, showing a strong constitution; she was in milk and her milk veins were very prominent—in fact, she was the largest and best developed Jersey cow we have

ever seen, such as a judge of a Shorthorn, Hereford or Galloway would not have looked at twice before giving her first prize. But the judges of Jerseys do not look so much to the symmetrical points of an animal, or the beef-making qualities, as they do to the escutcheon and yield of milk; the quality and quantity of milk are the crowning points in their estimation. Many a noted milker is but a very inferior looking animal in the eyes of the butcher. This remarkably fine cow deserves attention, as we saw some of her stock, and faultless animals they appear to be, and we know that the appearance of an animal must have some weight among many Jersey breeders. We hope to refer to this stock again, as it is our opinion that some German fanciers will aim for size, form and docility, and an animal that tends to fatten is generally docile. We do not meet any of our Ontario stock men at this Exhibition, and only one or two from Quebec. W. H. Rodden, of Plantaganet, took some Ayrshires and was successful both in the prize ring and in sales.

Implements were shown by agents, but many of the leading manufacturers were unrepresented. We believe that fully one-half the implements on the ground were shown by Messrs. Johnston, of St. John. There is an opening for some of our western manufacturers to effect sales in the Maritime Provinces, which would be of advantage not only to themselves, but to the farmers in those Provinces. The Machinery Hall was interesting, and the manufacturers of cotton and silk goods were better represented than at any of the western exhibitions.

In addition to being the Dominion Exhibition, it was called the Centennial Exhibition, as it is 100 years since the founding of St. John.

The display of grain was much better than we expected: in fact we thought it superior to the exhibit at our principal western fairs this year. In some vegetables and roots they excelled our exhibitions, more particularly was this noticeable in potatoes, and the display of apples from Nova Scotia was such as would rival, and, perhaps, surpass any State or Province on this continent. We are not aware whether British Columbia contributed anything. Ontario was very poorly represented and Quebec not much better; but Manitoba had a varied and magnificent display, by far the finest we have ever seen from that Province, both the quantity and quality being excellent, and very nicely arranged, reflecting great credit on the collectors and the arrangement. The grapes, grain, roots, the soil and the vegetation of Manitoba were viewed with intense