

them that provincial exhibitions are not calculated to benefit the gentleman farmer more particularly, but each class of the community. Indeed to this day competition has been impossible to the general farmer, through the very few prizes offered for grades and their very small amount. In fact they did not go far enough to meet expenses in attending the show, even to the successful competitor. The present prize list is calculated to meet those expenses and something more, besides offering a great number of prizes and being thus far in proportion with the competition.

#### First Prizes not allowed to compete again.

It was equally with the view of opening the objections to the many that the board has decided on not allowing first-prize animals to compete a second time in the same section, which decision has been the ground of the second complaint in the communication already referred to. In relation with this question what has been the experience of past years? That we have seen the same animal, year after year, taking the first prize in the same section, thus practically shutting it up to the competition of all the other farmers, and discouraging their attendance to the shows.

The moment an animal takes the first prize of his class, he must retire, for he is supposed to be very superior, and the result is gratifying to the board, to the breeder, and to the public. To the board, because its object and that of the exhibitions, is to produce, encourage, and recommend a superior class of animals, well calculated to bring about the improvement of our stock, all of which is done by the award of a first prize. To the breeder, because his object is a high recommendation which places his stock in a favorable light, adding considerably to its value in the market, also that encouragement which is represented by the amount of prize money offered; all of which is obtained by the awarding of a first prize. To the public, because its object is to know where the best cattle is to be had for improvement of stock, and this again is done by the award of a first prize. Provided always that it is not, year after year, repeatedly given to the same animal, for then all these advantages fall to the ground, and both the public and exhibitors lose all the benefit to be derived from them. We need not add anything more to justify the course followed by the Board of Agriculture on this subject, which is that of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and of the agricultural societies of the continent.

We have insisted rather at length on this question, because it shows the principles on which our gentlemen farmers act. They appear to be so exhausted by the production or rather the purchase, at a high price, of a first prize animal, that they fear being unable to achieve again so wonderful a feat, and as a consequence insist on being allowed to take prize after prize for a succession of years, with but one superior animal, while the whole herd may oftentimes be unworthy of a commendation. The Board appreciates those views for what they are worth, and as their opinion is that the sums voted by Parliament

are not to gratify the ambition of a certain class of farmers, but to promote the agricultural welfare of the whole community, they pass those regulations best calculated to meet the requirements of the country.

#### Preparations at Sherbrooke.

Intending exhibitors should not lose one moment in sending their entries, the 1st of September being the last day allowed, and the pressure of business at the last hour may be the cause of some misunderstanding which might lead to exclusion from the show grounds. We are satisfied to learn that the neighboring counties of Sherbrooke have joined to complete the general arrangements, and that the work is progressing steadily with the active co-operation of the local authorities. The buildings, located on the river shore, are being erected on a most lovely spot, where the visitor will have a glance at the renowned scenery of the Eastern Townships. No doubt thousands will avail themselves of this extraordinary occasion of visiting Sherbrooke, and in the expectation of the great crowd which is expected from the vicinity as well as from a distance, extensive preparations are now being made by the hotel keepers, who will be quite prepared to receive comfortably, on reasonable terms, any number of strangers induced to attend the next provincial show, either by the interest taken in the exhibition, or by the very important consideration of a half price ticket from any station on the Grand Trunk Railway. In short nothing will be wanting at this large display of our agricultural welfare, and we are happy to notice it; for although we personally are in favour of changing on each occasion, the place of our provincial exhibitions, we know of many of the most influential farmers who profess quite the reverse, and whose arguments with regard to large expenses and small attendance, would have found a very good ground in the partial failure of the Sherbrooke exhibition. But, from all we know, we see with pleasure that Sherbrooke will argue quite against them, and that the distant counties will in future as heretofore enjoy the advantages of provincial exhibitions in their neighborhood. Exhibitors must not forget to send along with their entries that information about cattle, implements, or production, which are fit materials for publication in the exhibition catalogue to be sold on the grounds at a low price.

#### Entries and catalogue.

Every farmer will understand at once the advantage of giving and receiving all the desirable information about all which will be exhibited on the grounds, thus saving innumerable questions, and proving a valuable note book with addresses complete, when in want of a superior article. So as to make allow us to publish this catalogue, particulars should be sent at once, with pedigrees, &c. Implement manufacturers as well, should be very particular with their descriptions. We extract the following from the catalogue of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, as models of the style in which these notes should be written.

For cattle.—“Jonas Webb, of Babraham, Cambridge, ‘First Fruit,’ white, ten months,