

North Perth, Stratford.....	Oct. 3 to 4.
British Columbia, New Westminster.....	" 3 " 6.
Six Nations, Oshweken.....	" 4 " 6.
East York, Markham.....	" 4 " 6.
North Renfrew, Beachburg.....	" 5 " 6.
South Norwich, Otterville.....	" 6 " 7.
"World's" Fair, Rockton.....	" 10 " 11.
Burford, Burford.....	" 11 " 12.
Orford, Highgate.....	" 13 " 14.
Norfolk Union, Simcoe.....	" 17 " 19.

UNITED STATES.

Ohio State, Columbus, Ohio.....	Sept. 4 to 8.
New York State, Syracuse, N. Y.....	" 4 " 9.
Cambridge, Cambridge, N. Y.....	" 5 " 8.
Monroe County, Stroudsburg, Pa.....	" 5 " 8.
Inter-State, Trenton, N. J.....	" 25 " 29.
Michigan State, Grand Rapids, Mich.....	" 25 " 30.
Illinois State, Springfield, Ill.....	" 25 " 30.
St. Louis, St. Louis, Mo.....	Oct. 2 " 7.

Most Successful Exhibition.

Three weeks more (Sept. 7 to 16) and the great "Western" Exhibition at London, Ont., will be in progress, and it looks at the present time as though it would be the most successful fair ever yet held. It seems most difficult to gauge the popularity of the Western Fair. Notwithstanding the annual enlargement of the various exhibition buildings, space in the machinery hall and transportation building, and, in fact, all of the departments, will be at a premium for the fair of 1899. Secretary Nelles tells us that were some of the buildings double their size they would be filled, and still there would be a cry for more space. The entries are coming in rapidly from many new as well as old exhibitors. An old exhibitor the other day said that "the Western" was of more benefit to him than any other show in Canada; that as a livestock and agricultural show it beat them all. This season it will be marked by the immense number of entries of agricultural, mechanical and scientific articles, showing the great advancement made in Canada's resources and industrial development. Visitors will be greatly struck by the many changes in the more convenient arrangement of some of the buildings—changes which have been made at an expenditure of several thousands of dollars.

The agricultural, horticultural and dairy halls have all been moved from their old positions, and the effect will be to give increased space at the Dundas street entrance. The horticultural hall has been shifted to the south and west a distance of fifty-four feet, bringing it to the west fence, and the agricultural hall has been removed to the south end of it, a distance of two hundred feet from where it formerly stood. The dairy hall has been placed to the south of the agricultural hall, and enlarged, the three buildings combined having a total length of over 900 feet. Many changes to the same size as those formerly in use are added in the dairy hall, increasing the room for the products by one-third. The telegraph and express offices have also been removed from the dairy hall, doubling the space for exhibition purposes. The three halls are joined and continuous passageways arranged from end to end. A new building has been erected immediately inside the King street gate for the use of the telegraph, express, telephone, parcel, bicycle, press, and other purposes. The building is 150 feet in length, and will have thirteen offices. The machinery hall has been doubled in capacity, giving 4,800 square feet additional floor space. The central band stand has been overhauled, grandstand ticket offices being placed underneath, thereby avoiding all crushing in the vicinity of the grandstand entrance. A new open stand has been built, with a seating capacity of five thousand persons. The stage or ring platform has been doubled in size, which will furnish all on the stands a good view, and have two performances at the same time if necessary.

The Western Fair grounds (Queen's Park) have been much improved and beautified by the alterations and changes made in the situation of the buildings, also by the new and shady driveways improving this most beautiful natural park, adorned as it is by many fine shade trees of natural growth, in the shade of which visitors can rest and enjoy the surrounding sights. The Park is constantly used by the public for picnic and pleasure parties. The beautiful drives and walks, flower beds and shrubs, miniature lake, together with the special conveniences provided, such as dining, refreshment booths, etc., its convenience to steam and electric cars, and many other conveniences, make it a very popular resort for pleasure-seekers.

The railway facilities, as in former years, are the best obtainable. Freight and stock unloaded and reloaded from the grounds. Electric car service as usual. Special trains and rates are given on all railways, and late trains leaving London each evening to accommodate visitors who remain over to the grand pyrotechnic display and the other special attractions.

The Midway, or Fakir's Row, will be alive and as interesting as ever to both old and young; merry-go-rounds and many other attractions, including tamed and wild animals, curiosities of all kinds, making both pleasing and profitable entertainments. The admission to the Fair still remains at 25 cents for adults, and 15 cents for children.

The daily programme in the ring will be most attractive and varied. The special attractions are the best that could be got, and include Cook's Royal Roman Hippodrome and Equine Parade, Chariot Races, Roman Standing Races, etc., etc.; the Carl Dammann Troupe of Acrobats, famous on both continents; the world renowned Imperial Japanese Troupe; the Dunham Family, the world's leading Aerialists; Randolph, the wonderful Swordsman; the funny "Six Sennets; Hermanetti Bros., the strong men; Miss Mabel Howard, and her stallion, Mikado; Harty, the great Juggler; Lily Bletsoe, the child Cornetist; and others.

Four nights of grand fireworks display, giving a most realistic representation of the "English and Americans before Samoa," and many other set-pieces of brilliant design. Stage performance will be in full swing both afternoons and evenings.

Ottawa Central Fair.

The special prizes for the Central Canada Fair, Ottawa, Sept. 11th to 23rd, number over 50, including 32 gold medals. A special of \$10 will be given for factory cheese, and gold medals for creamery and dairy butter. As usual, there will be a milk test. Without a doubt the fair this year will eclipse any previous show. The directors are offering great inducements for a larger and better displays in all the departments, and there is a general move on the part of exhibitors to avail themselves of the opportunities afforded. Moreover, the programme of special attractions is a costly one. It includes trotting and running races, water coastlies, daring balloon ascensions and parachute drops, marvellous acrobatic feats, the presentation of the spectacular, "The Bombardment of Pekin," in which several hundred soldiers of the Capital will take part, and a beautiful display of fireworks every evening from the lake. The fair is to last two weeks this year, and the directors realize that no expense must be spared to make the show a success. The exhibition opens Sept. 11th.

Toronto Exhibition.

Readers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE will be pleased to hear that all classes have filled well at the Toronto Exhibition, which opens on the 29th inst. Entries for live stock, dairy products, honey, fine arts and manufactures closed on the 5th inst., and in every instance are up to the average, and in some cases beyond. Entries for the grain, field roots and horticultural classes did not close until the 12th, and, consequently, much cannot be said about them, as they had not been made

up when the FARMER'S ADVOCATE went to press. Horses and cattle have done a great deal better than might have been expected, considering the busy and heated season. The liberality of the Dominion Shorthorn Association in doubling the prizes for Shorthorns has enticed some extra exhibitors, but more would doubtless have come out had the suggestion to devote a part of the money to securing a good judge from England for Toronto, London and Ottawa been acted upon. However, there will be at Toronto the best show of Shorthorns Canada has yet seen. The classes for buttermaking competitions and for export bacon hogs have filled sufficiently well to prove that they will increase in popularity, as the years roll by. Extra pigpens have been provided, the poultry house renovated, the annex extended, the new machinery hall nearly completed, the dairy department enlarged and fitted with a new refrigerator, a new Grand Trunk building erected, and many other things done that will add to the convenience of exhibitors and the pleasure of sight-seers. The entertainment features are to be on a grander and more elaborate scale than ever. Features have been secured in Europe. On the opening night a monster tattoo, bivouac and reveille will be given, and on the following nights a great dual spectacle illustrating the battles of Omdurman in Egypt, with the Sirdar in command and the Dragons charging, and of Iloilo in the Philippines, the whole terminating with a magnificent tableau amid a halo of fireworks designed to represent the Anglo-Saxon unity. In the meantime it should not be forgotten that entries for poultry and for dogs close, the former with Mr. H. J. Hill, at 32 King St. east, Toronto, and the latter with Mr. W. P. Fraser, at the same address, on Saturday, the 19th inst.

MARKETS.

FARM GOSSIP.

Kent Co., Ont.

DESTRUCTIVE HAIL STORM.

We have had an exceedingly cool and showery July. Late hay (timothy) has been considerably damaged, and wheat-harvesting delayed, but pasture is excellent, and stock are looking well. Barley is ready to harvest, and is a very heavy crop. In fact, spring crops generally never looked better. Spring-sown clover has grown to such a height that the butts of the wheat sheaves are full of it. The most disagreeable feature of the month was a terrific hail storm that swept through Kent, a few miles north of Chatham. The track of the storm was about one mile wide and several long, and hail fell to the depth of two or three inches on the level. Wheat was threshed out, corn cut to ribbons, oats, barley and peas beaten into the ground, trees were stripped of fruit and leaves, and poultry and even pigs killed. The farmers of the stricken section will not have a dollar's worth of grain to sell, and it is expected that the council will be petitioned to relieve them of their taxes this year.

The horn fly has been getting in its work, consequently the price of butter has advanced to 16c. and 18c. per lb. Eggs, 10c. and 11c. per doz. Early potatoes, plentiful and cheap. Raspberry season is on, with prices ranging from \$1 to \$1.60 per crate. Quite a number of buyers are here buying for Eastern canneries. This tends to keep the price up.

July 20th, 1899.

Lincoln County.

The last two months has been a fairly hot and a particularly dry time in this district. There have been a few lively thunderstorms, but such rains as have come with such a rush that the greater part of the water ran off the rolling lands. Pastures have become dry, and many people are feeding fodder corn and hay. Butter is 18 cents per pound, and likely to be considerably higher. Eggs, which were at 15 and 16 cents, have dropped a couple of cents. Take the whole district through, the grain crop is better than was at one time expected, but by no means a full yield. In barley and oats the straw is decidedly short. Hay touched \$10 towards the end of last month, then dropped to \$8. Last Saturday, on St. Catharines market, blue grass changed hands at \$7 a ton, but before the end of the day good timothy hay sold at the \$10 mark, and it is quite unlikely that much will be sold below that figure. Pork is fairly plentiful, at 5 cents live weight. Beef is changing hands at \$4.25. Lambs are somewhat scarce, good stuff realizing 10 cents by the carcass. Chickens are 40 to 60 cents per pair. Apples will scarcely go half a crop, take the county through. Greenings and Ribston Pippins are among the better loaded varieties. Pears are turning out about half a crop, and should realize better prices this year. There is a fair sprinkling of the early varieties of peaches, but the Alexandras generally were a poor sample, and pulled prices down very low. Along the lake shore there will be some fairly good crops of Crows and other freestone peaches, but inland the orchards are many of them practically bare of fruit. There has been little or no "leaf curl" this year, but some of the orchards show a deplorable percentage of dead trees from the severe conditions of the past winter. Plums appear to be a fair crop, and the Japanese variety, "Abundance," is going into the market now in considerable quantities. Both these and the "Burbank" trees (another Japanese kind) have a tendency to overload, and many trees would have been better "thinned." Grapes are looking very well. I have noticed little mildew, and the indications are for a clean, good crop. M. B.

Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Following table shows current and comparative live stock prices:

	Extreme prices now.	Top Prices		
		Two weeks ago.	1898.	1897.
Beef cattle.				
1500 lbs. up.....	\$5 30 to 6 05	\$5 75	\$5 40	\$5 20
1350 to 1500 lbs.....	5 05 to 6 00	5 85	5 60	5 20
1200 to 1350 lbs.....	4 70 to 6 00	5 85	5 65	5 20
1050 to 1200 lbs.....	4 50 to 5 90	5 65	5 40	5 00
900 to 1050 lbs.....	4 40 to 5 60	5 35	5 20	4 85
Hogs.				
Mixed.....	4 35 to 4 75	4 65	4 05	4 05
Heavy.....	4 00 to 4 65	4 70	4 10	4 02
Light.....	4 50 to 4 87 1/2	4 65	4 02	4 10
Pigs.....	4 00 to 4 75	4 30	3 90	4 10
Sheep.				
Natives.....	2 50 to 5 25	5 25	4 50	4 25
Western.....	3 50 to 4 30	4 70	4 35	3 75
Yearlings.....	4 50 to 5 50	5 40	4 62	4 10
Lambs.....	3 00 to 6 25	7 00	6 65	5 35

The first Western grass range steers of the season sold here, August 7th, at \$4.90 for 1,193-lb. steers, with a car of 1,464-lb. five-year-olds at \$5.25. They were considered to be in middling condition, and not as fat as rangers usually are at this season. On the corresponding day last year the following sales were made: Wibaux, 1,311-lb. steers, \$4.50; 1,128-lb. heifers, \$4.35, and 870-lb. cows, \$3.00; Brewster cattle, 1,333 lbs., \$4.15.

A man just back from the south-west says grass is very good in Texas, with lots of water, and cattle never looking better. He says there has been a wonderful improvement in the grade of cattle in Texas during the past year or two. Texas cattlemen value their cattle like gold nuggets from Klondike. There is nothing cheap in Texas, excepting prairie dogs.

Average weight of cattle, hogs and sheep at Chicago for months mentioned:

	July, 1899.	June, 1899.	July, 1898.	July, 1897.	July, 1896.	July, 1895.
Cattle.....	1,080	1,051	1,065	1,066	1,105	1,003
Hogs.....	237	236	232	238	219	233
Sheep.....	79	82	79	81	83	78

Last month's average weight of hogs was the heaviest of the year, while sheep was the lightest since last September. Average weight of cattle last month was the heaviest since last March, and the heaviest July since 1896.

Prospects are that the strong tendency to make younger beef will prevent any increase in the average weight of cattle in the future.

I predict that in five years the quality of cattle will have so increased as to be beyond the expectations of the most sanguine," said John McCoy, before the Kansas and Missouri Shorthorn Breeders' Association.

The corn crop is practically assured now, and the fact is sure to make a great demand for young cattle. A report from Nebraska says: "Cattle buyers are already in the field making contracts for fall delivery. They seem anxious to get stock and are offering good prices."

Ripe cattle are scarce. A prominent buyer declared that out of 18,634 cattle in Chicago one day recently, there were not ten cars of strictly good cattle, though there were about 50 carloads at \$5.80, \$5.85, \$5.90, \$6.00, and \$6.05.

The exporters are carrying lighter cattle than ever before. They are taking a good many that average only about 1,200 lbs.

Carloads of live stock received here last week, 4,382, the smallest total since last April. Cars the previous week, 4,782, and a year ago, 4,512.

Pillsbury & Westerlund, of Lynn Centre, Ill., had in 15 steers, averaging 1,386 lbs., which brought \$5.70. They were Galloways of their own feeding.

E. D. Griffin, of Earlham, Ia., marketed 18 head of 1,290-lb. steers at \$6.00. They were part Shorthorns, part Herefords and part Angus.

R. Lunschen, of Tipton, Ia., was in with 44 head of 1,362-lb. Western cattle of his own feeding, which sold at \$5.55, and 28 head of draft horses, which he is taking to Hamburg, Germany. Upon his return he expects to bring back seven or eight choice coach stallions which he purchased last spring.

H. C. Hale, of Warrensburg, Mo., had four cars of cattle of his own feeding on to-day's market; 18 sold at \$6.05, averaging 1,587 lbs., and the remainder at \$5.80, averaging 1,401 lbs.

Toronto Markets.

The live stock receipts at the Western cattle market, Toronto, comprised 97 carloads—1,400 cattle, 1,300 sheep, 2,000 hogs, and 50 calves. The cattle show evidence of short keep. These unfinished cattle have a tendency to depress the market on the better class.

Export Cattle.—Choice heavy export cattle in good demand, with prices a shade easier. Quality of fat cattle only medium. Pastures burnt up and want of water reported from many places. Choice loads of heavy exporters sold at \$4.75 to \$5 per cwt. In one or two loads \$5.30 was paid for extra choice. Mr. Wm. Murby sold 20 export cattle, fed on his own farm near Strathroy, Ont. (average 1,300 lbs. each), at \$5.20 per cwt. Mr. Wm. Snell, of Exeter, sold one load of extra choice cattle at \$5.20 per cwt. Mr. W. Levack purchased one load of extra choice export cattle, 1,400 lbs. average, at \$5.25 per cwt. Light shipping cattle ranged from \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt.

Butchers' Cattle.—The demand for butchers' cattle not brisk. Only the better class wanted for local trade. One choice load of best butchers' cattle touched \$4.40 per cwt. Common to inferior grades sold at from \$2.75 to \$3.75 per cwt. Mr. James Harris bought 80 mixed butchers and exporters at \$3.65 to \$4.25 per cwt. As this is Jim's first venture in country-buying for this market, he has our congratulations on his successful judgment. Mr. H. Maybee sold to Mr. Roat, Sudbury, 15 butchers' cows at \$3.25 per cwt. This is Mr. Roat's initial visit to the Toronto market. Mr. John Scott, Owen Sound, sold one load of butchers' cattle at \$3.50 and \$4.25 per head. But.—Mr. T. A. Marquis sold a fine Shorthorn bull, bred and fed by Mr. M. Raynard, of Zephyr, Ont. Mr. John O'Keefe, of Dublin, Ont., bought two bulls, 1,710 lbs. each, at \$4.60 per cwt.

Stockers.—Very little demand from the Buffalo market. Prices ranged from \$2.50 to \$2.75 for heifers and rough steers. A few extra good quality steers fetched \$3.30 per cwt. Mr. Zeagman bought 20 stockers at \$3.25 per cwt.

Feeders.—Light feeders wanted, worth from \$3.40 to \$3.50 per cwt. Those weighing from 1,000 to 1,100 lbs., with good breeding, are worth from \$3.75 to \$4 per cwt.

Sheep.—Export sheep sold at \$3.50 to \$3.75 per cwt.; bucks at \$2.50 to \$2.75. J. Harris exported four double decks of best sheep per G. T. R. for Liverpool, Eng. Butchers' sheep ranged from \$3 to \$4 per cwt.

Lambs.—The demand good, with prices a little firmer, at \$3.50 to \$4.50 each, or \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt. Mr. Westby Dun purchased four double decks for export.

Milk Cows.—In good demand. About 11 on offer, at prices ranging from \$25 to \$45 per head.

Calves.—About 60 on offer, at from \$4 to \$8 per head. A few rough culls sold badly.

Hogs.—As foretold in my last letter, a rise of 25c. per cwt. has taken place in all classes of hogs. Those weighing 100 to 200 lbs., choice select bacon hogs, unfed, off cars, a shade over this price for next week. About 60 per cent. of the hogs on view to-day at the Packing House were rejected for export. On removal from the brine tubs they proved to be soft. These hogs were purchased from the Western districts. As they were tagged, it is known from whom they were obtained, and the drover has been warned not to purchase for this market again. The large amount of pork products that are now prepared for local consumption has caused the trade to take a decided move in the right direction. The most choice parts—hams, sides, and backs—are exported, the shoulders, ribs and offal or minor parts worked up for local trade. The Northwest, Vancouver, Sudbury, and all the mining camps are now relying entirely on this market for supplies, and our packers are meeting the demand in a very satisfactory manner.

Messrs. Davies & Co. are going extensively into the canning trade, and their goods are meeting with great favor and increasing demand. A further enlargement of their premises is under consideration. The rise of 25c. per cwt. brought a full supply, 8,000 this week. Prices firm and advancing, at \$5.50 per cwt.; thick fats and lights at \$4.75 per cwt. We look for a slight advance next week over this price, but do not anticipate that it will last for any considerable time. Messrs. Ironsides took four carloads of hogs to Winnipeg, Manitoba, paying \$4.75 per cwt. for them from this market. Unculled car lots of hogs sold at \$5 to \$5.25 per cwt. Essex and Kent corn-fed hogs are worth from \$4.80 to \$4.90 per cwt. Sows at \$3; stags at \$2 per cwt.

Eggs.—The demand light; outside offerings; dealers sell at 12c. per doz.; small lots, select, in farmers' market, at 15c. per doz.; warranted fresh-gathered, 17c. per doz.

Butter.—Supply very good, of choice quality; creamery scarce, from farmers' wagons; dairy tubs, 14c.; small dairy prints, 15c. and 16c. per lb.; creamery tubs and boxes, 18c. to 19c. per lb.

Ordn.—Receipts of farm produce very light, only 150 bushels of grain. Wheat.—One load of red sold at 70c. per bushel. Oats.—Steady. One load of new at 30c., and one load of old at 35c. per bushel.

Hay.—Supply limited. Steady, at \$10 to \$11 for old, and at \$8 to \$9 per ton new. Baled hay, \$8 per ton.

Straw.—Steady, at \$7 per ton. No. 1 green steers, 9c. per lb.; No. 2 green steers, 8c. per lb.; cured, 8 1/2c. per lb.; calfskins, 9c. per lb.; sheepskins, fresh, 80c. to \$1; lambskins, 35c.; wool, 13c.; wool, pulled, 15c.

August 11th, 1899.

Live Stock Exports.

The following is a report of live stock shipments for week ending Wednesday, August 2nd, as prepared by R. Bickerdike, of the Live Stock Exchange, Montreal: Cattle, 3,577; sheep, 3,954. For week ending Wednesday, August 10th: Cattle, 2,050; sheep, 1,930.