

rists has greater claim than horse racing, still their exhibitions are ruled in a great measure by horsemen. The best prizes are awarded to them, and the great attraction is speed. It affords opportunities for betting. Man delights in excitement, heavy purses, large stakes and high prizes in this class, connected with flaming placards, backed up by numerous friends of such a horse. This has a tendency to agitate the masses, who have probably come to attend to agricultural advancement. One man leads, and other men are like sheep, apt to be led. The masses attend day after day to the racing, agriculture being made a good cloak for it, and thus the most useful part of the exhibition causes but little attraction.

There is one thing to be considered, by allowing horse-racing a greater number may be drawn together, and receipts increased, but is the usefulness of the exhibition not detracted from by that cause? We believe it is, and consider that it should be confined to a particular time and particular day. We have conversed with several intelligent Americans and they are fully satisfied that this racing system is injurious, and further, some assert that their fastest horses are a curse to their country. That they tend to make people support and patronize that stock in the different parts of the country, filling it with slim, weedy, useless animals.

In speaking of horse-racing at the Fairs let us quote what the Americans say of themselves. In the *Prairie Farmer*, a neat and good agricultural paper published in Chicago, is a letter on this subject, from which we make the following extract:

"I feel sure that if the matter is not changed that it will ruin our Fairs and break them up. Stock raising has been my study from my boyhood, and the horse stands first with me. I do not feel disposed to give up our Fairs, or our horse shows at our Fairs, just because the reckless jockeys are disposed to abuse the horse, and the privileges allowed. I think we should try and reform in this matter."

We quote the following from the *Country Gentleman*, one of the best agricultural papers in America:

"I have reason to believe that several of our County Societies have been completely ruined by the horse interest. Horse fanciers have contrived to obtain control of the Society, and have converted it into a horse show rather than an agricultural exhibition. The reflecting and sober minded class of the community, are not of opinion that agriculture is all horse, but that there are other interests requiring an equal amount of encouragement, but we really do want more intelligent care bestowed upon the breeding and rearing of horses. Some years ago the Morgans were very popular in Ohio, especially in the Northern part, but time and

experience demonstrated that they were entirely too light, and just now the massive and muscular Normans are in great favor. A Norman was brought to Union County some fifteen or twenty years ago, and five out of six of his get were stout, well formed and very saleable horses, whilst of any other breed, not more than one out of every six was well formed and saleable. We want a strain of horse heavier than the Morgans, and a shade lighter than the Normans."

At our last Provincial Exhibition racing was more indulged in than usual. One horse was killed by it, but it would be of no consequence if a thousand horses were killed in comparison to the damaging influences in other ways. Betting, low language, and detracting from business of far more importance, are the pernicious and damaging consequences. There will be persons anxious for horse-racing to be allowed at exhibitions. In one of our cities at the present time, an attempt is being made to introduce it. We believe the farmers in the same section will not allow themselves to be made a cat's paw, but will maintain their own exhibition.

We strongly advocate the separation of the two distinct things, unless the control is entirely in the hands of the farmers and graziers of the country. To make these exhibitions to be most beneficial something of the kind must be done.

We ask our readers if the sentiments contained in the foregoing extracts are correct, and have not we been attempting to establish the right kind of stock in this class?

We see in the *Canada Farmer* an engraving of an Arab horse. We know not what it is exalted so much for, except for the encouragement of raising that class of stock, and for a further damage to agriculture and exhibitions, and loss to the country.

Let farmers attend as they ought to at the Annual meeting, and take part in the discussions. If you have directors that have shown partiality, or neglected their business, there is enough of you in every section to turn them out. You may not succeed the first year, but persevere. If you have good men in there are others just as good. It is better to change officers yearly. If it were appointed so by law we think it would be advantageous to the country, and greater interest would be taken at the annual meetings.

Directors should be taken from practical farmers, as they know what is most needed for their success, and would be most fitted to guard against encroachments. One

great want of success or cause of failure of exhibitions is, in the selection of judges that will not act fairly and unbiassedly to all. If directors will select such as they know would act favorably to any particular person or class, it is sure to be detected. Dissatisfaction will spread, and when once it is generally felt it is very hard to restore confidence. Where it has been practised the exhibitions fall off in interest year by year. We know of some township shows that are gaining in popularity very rapidly. It is due to the attempts of the managers trying to act fairly. Others fail from the lack of integrity and honor more than from an other cause.

We would recommend greater encouragement to the lady exhibitors, whether it should be in art, fancy or useful department. We would like to see prizes awarded to them at every Township exhibition for the best bouquet of flowers. It would tend to create a love of flowers, the boys would love them no less because they admire a flower. Many would attend the exhibitions to see the pretty flowers and pretty faces, and it would create a greater interest. A general holliday might advantageously be enjoyed after the harvest work is over. We hold up both hands for the encouragement.

TIME IS MONEY.

Farmers and others! *Time is Money.* Some persons will take a long journey to see us, to transact the smallest business. We are happy to see any one, but sometimes we are glad to see them leave, as we have business to attend to. While we are waiting on one person hearing their ideas or suggestions, or answering enquiries, the whole business might be done in three minutes by a letter. We say to you even if you live in the city, or adjoining it, write—it will take but a short time. If it is your business 10 cents postage is nothing in comparison to a journey or the time it occupies both parties. We can attend to ten letters easier than one person. If you wish your ideas published and they are of benefit to the country write them in as short space as possible, and we will publish them. If you have anything to sell write; if you want to buy write. We publish what we want. If it is our business we pay the postage. If it is your business you should send a stamp for return postage. We do not take unpaid letters from the office. We send a stamp for reply if it is our business.