

into the fold, and in a single night destroy as many as 500 sheep. The decline of the interest of the public in agricultural fairs is due to various causes. In the first place the county and district fairs, which have been so successful as a rule, engross a great deal of the interest of the public. Then the expositions in large cities like Chicago, which are becoming so deservedly popular, tend to supplant the state fairs. Of course the hard times have something to do with the financial failure of these institutions. But this of itself does not account for the growing apathy of the country regarding them. Present indications go to show that their usefulness is ended in the present shape. We understand that the managers of the Illinois State Fair are undecided whether another shall be held—another evidence that the state fair is to be a thing of the past."

Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition.

The show recently held at Halifax, under the auspices of the Nova Scotia Agricultural Association, appears to have been in every respect a decided success. The exhibition was opened by His Honor the Lieut.-Governor, who had also with him on the platform His Excellency Gen. O'Grady Hailey, His Honor Lieut.-Governor Tilly, Sir William Young, and a number of other distinguished gentlemen. Governor Archibald in his opening address complimented the committee in charge on the success which had crowned their efforts; spoke eloquently of agriculture as a profession, and of the numerous resources and advantages of the Province. We regret very much that we cannot give more than a mere outline of the various departments of the exhibition. The display of fruit, especially by exhibitors from Kings and Annapolis counties, was magnificent. Apples and Pears were exceptionally fine. Plums were not so numerous, but the samples shown were good. The display of vegetables, especially Potatoes, was highly creditable. Plants and flowers were in endless variety and very choice. The show of stock was admittedly the largest and finest ever made in the Province—indeed in no department of the exhibition were the evidences of improvement so strikingly apparent. The number of visitors during the four show days exceeded seventeen thousand—a large number indeed for such a limited population—and over \$5,000 was awarded for prizes. We heartily congratulate our sister province on the success of the show, and trust that each succeeding exhibition will furnish still better and more unmistakeable evidences of the agricultural capabilities of Nova Scotia.

Crops in the United States.

The Department of Agriculture Report, for September, estimates the average corn crop throughout the country, at 63; the maximum, 109, was in South Carolina; the minimum, 37, in Nebraska. None of the large corn-producing states reach an average, while several of them show a falling off, even as compared with last year. The states that are average, or above, are Rhode Island, Connecticut, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, California and Oregon. All the states north of the Ohio River exhibit a depressed condition of the crop, whilst west of the Mississippi there will not be more than one-seventh of an average yield.

The average condition of the wheat crop is 94, or two per cent. less than last year. Delaware is full average, and all the other New England and Middle States are slightly above average. West of the Mississippi the states are all average, except Missouri. The South Atlantic states are all below average, except Alabama, which reaches 101; Arkansas averages 120.

In oats, the New England states reach an average, and all the other states fall short, reducing the average for the whole country to 86.

The average of rye is 92, barley 92, potatoes 83. Buckwheat is below average in all states except Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Tobacco

will not be more than half a crop. Cotton will fall very much short of an average. Hay is short except in New England and middle states—Virginia, North Carolina, Oregon and California. Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Jersey report a good apple crop. Peaches are more than average in Ohio, Michigan and Connecticut. In grapes Ohio stands 108, and Connecticut 119.

PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION AT OTTAWA.—The claims of the capital to its quota of exhibition visitations are too just to be ignored, and it is with unfeigned pleasure we accept the dictum of the Board of Agriculture, which fixes the next Provincial Fair at the City of Ottawa. We understand that the local authorities have guaranteed ample accommodation, and manifest a laudable desire to heartily co-operate with the Board in the endeavor to make the Exhibition of 1875 one of the most successful that has hitherto taken place in Canada.

ENTERPRISING.—The Massey Manufacturing Company of Newcastle, Ontario, recently shipped a carload of machinery for England, to be speedily followed up, we understand, by farther consignments to that country and Germany; and Mr. Watson, of the Ayr Agricultural Works, has just filled an order from a gentleman in Port Natal, Africa, for one of his celebrated "Victor" chopping mills. The latter gentleman, as most of our readers are no doubt aware, has also of late been shipping implements to Australia and New Zealand. Such enterprise reflects great credit alike on the parties more directly interested and the country at large.

GOOD SALES.—On Thursday last Mr. Henlock Young, of Guelph Township, sold one of his prize fat steers to Mr. Dean, of New Brunswick, at nine cents per lb., live weight. When weighed he turned the scale at 2,800 lbs., thus making the price received for him \$252. We congratulate Mr. Young on his great success as a stock breeder, and also Mr. Dean in procuring such a fine animal. Mr. Dean has also purchased a very fine heifer from Mr. Richardson, of Elora, which weighed 1700 pounds, at 7½ cents per lb., and a yoke of oxen from Mr. A. Weir, Puslinch, for \$200. All of the above animals are intended for the St. John's market, where Mr. Dean resides. So says the *Mercury*.

A CORRESPONDENT of *Bell's Messenger* gives the following sketch of a Victoria farm: "About nine miles from Melbourne, the country, without altering its forest character, being still timbered with heavy gum, undergoes a decided change in the quality of the soil. Here is situated Prospect Hill Farm, in the occupation of Mr. John Cooper. This property, containing 1600 acres, occupies both sides of the road, extending from the Plenty on the one side to the Darcabin Creek on the other. The farm takes its name from a conical hill occupied by the homestead, and commanding a splendid view of Melbourne, Mount Macedon, the Plenty ranges, and the Dandenong ranges on the south, west, north and east respectively, together with the intervening country. This farm, being on the edge of the good land of the Plenty district, is mixed in quality, some portions being first-class, the remainder partaking to some extent of the nature of the inferior land adjoining. About 250 acres are cleared and in cultivation; the remainder uncleared and used for grazing; the rental paid being at the rate of 10s per acre for the former, and 5s 6d for the latter. The first two years out of the four that Mr. Cooper has been in occupation he stocked with dairy and cattle, as did also his predecessor, but two years since he substituted sheep, the change so far being entirely in favor of the latter. What is called the good land of the Plenty district consists of a rich adhesive black loam, resting upon clay, and stony in places, with basalt, of which there are numerous quarries in the locality. About a fifth of Prospect Hill Farm is of this sort, the remainder being of a light sandy nature, bearing natural grass, and on this 3000 Leicester cross-breeds have been kept during the last year. Although the sheep, the proprietor states, have improved the natural pasture since their introduction, and are continuing to improve it by thickening the sward, still it is not sufficiently good to warrant the keeping of so large a number. How this is managed is explained by the system adopted in feeding the sheep. From immediately after harvest the cultivated land is available for sheep."

IT TAKES 374,000 cars and 15,000 locomotive engines to do the railroad trade of Canada and the United States.

THE RESULTS of a horse race at Dayton, Ohio, in one day recently were \$2,000, whilst the four weeks of the Cincinnati Exposition realized only \$69,000. How is this?

THE *London (Eng.) Agricultural Gazette* of Sept. 26, says: "What has yielded so abundantly everywhere this year that it is now one of the cheapest foods in market—cheaper, probably, than oats or barley, and cheaper than Indian corn or oil cake."

PROVINCIAL PLOUGHING MATCH.—A ploughing match, under the auspices of the Agricultural and Arts Association of Ontario, is to be held on the farm of R. Grant, Esq., adjoining the eastern limit of the City of Hamilton, on Wednesday first (4th inst.) The match is open to all ploughmen in the Province. Over \$225 will be offered, besides special prizes for jointer ploughs. W. M. Calder, Hamilton, is secretary.

HARVEST SERVICES. The plentiful harvest has been celebrated in London churches as well as in the country, and it was the subject of special solemnities on Sunday at St. Paul's Cathedral. The pulpit, lectern, railings, and choir were decorated with autumnal fruits, flowers, and grain, and a large cross of evergreens, and white and yellow dahlias, pendent from the first chanicle in the choir, was especially remarkable. There was large congregations in the morning, afternoon, and evening.

THE *Leamworth (Kent) Times*, is authority for this:—"Quite a novel little episode was witnessed a few days ago near an emigrant station at Manhattan. Three children surrounded a cow, which had been driven behind the wagon from the frontier, and each making a selection of a teat, proceeded by suction to extract nutritious nourishment therefrom, which, upon inquiry, proved their only means of subsistence, as the family, consisting of a man, wife and three children, were found to be destitute of food. Some humane gentleman procured a large quantity of bread at a baker's shop, and sent them on their way rejoicing."

MOSQUITOES IN ENGLAND.—Americans visiting England have hitherto been delighted to escape from the attentions of that pestilent bug, the mosquito. Of late years, however, the mosquito has been found in London, in increasing numbers, and the mosquito is one of the sensations with which the papers fill up during the "silly season"—that is, while Parliament is not sitting. It is noticeable that the mosquitoes are generally found near the places where American tourists most do congregate. Probably the blood-suckers are carried over in their trunks, and then multiply to some extent. The English climate is not warm enough to develop the insect in all its "cussedness," a fact for which the natives cannot be sufficiently grateful.

WEIGHT AND MEASURE.—The *American Agriculturist* says. Now that the season for selling and buying has arrived, we would impress upon our readers the necessity for accurately weighing and measuring everything they sell. There is too much guess-work done. Buyers are handling produce every day of the year, and they weigh and measure all they handle. They are well posted. Farmers are not. When they come to estimate the farmers are beat. "It is naught, it is naught," saith the buyer. And farmers are too easily persuaded by his pertinacity. Besides, farmers want the money and do not like to lose a sale. So they give way. There is no settler of disputes so stubborn as a good platform scale. A Fairbanks' scale will save many words, and much time and loss. Every barn should be provided with one, and nothing should be taken out for sale until it is weighed and plainly marked with its weight.

FARMING IN EGYPT.—The *Mark Lane Express* says: There are about 5,450,000 feddans, or acres, of land under cultivation in Egypt, and a feddan that in 1865 was worth £50 might have been purchased since for about £5. The whole of the population is available for agricultural purposes. Were Europeans, who could have redress against direct oppression, to purchase land and cultivate it scientifically, considerable profits might be made. They would have many annoyances to contend against, but none that an energetic Englishman, with the support he would be entitled to claim, would not be able by tact, firmness and patience to overcome. Such is the wonderful fertility of the soil, when fairly treated according to the normal succession of crops and the perfection of the irrigation system when not arbitrarily interfered with for the enriching of certain ground, that a good crop of grass and grain of all kinds can always be expected.