

and horse owners—especially unlucky competitors,—had either removed their animals, or with the keys in their pockets, kept themselves out of sight. Strange is it how soon pride in a horse evaporates when your neighbor eclipses your productions, and the animal which you fondly hoped would receive a prize draws a blank. Horsemen are peculiarly thin-skinned; and after the awards had been declared, doors were slammed to some purpose. When the grand procession of prize animals was in motion, we scanned as fully as possible the representatives of Canadian horsemanship. The number of entries was large,—more than 300,—and we looked for a remarkable display of good points. In some respects our anticipations were more than realized; in others there was an utter failure.

The show of *Heavy Draft Horses* was magnificent,—it could not be equalled on the continent outside of Canada. John Sanderson and Joseph Thompson, Markham; Robert Ferris and William Ritchie, Richmond Hill; John Wilson, Oshawa; John Shedden and James Armstrong, Toronto; James McConachie, Orono; Wm. Jackson, York Mills; E. Foster, Humber; John Miller, Brougham; Geo. Miller, Markham; J. G. L. Pearson, York; Geo. Scott, Woburn; James Young, Mayfield; John Wilson, Ontario; A. J. Nimmo, Kingston; John Thompson, Whitby, and James Lawrie, Malvern, were among the fortunate possessors of premiums, and their stock was certainly worthy of the honors bestowed. While thus giving expression of acquiescence in the awards, we must not be understood as conceding that the heavy draft horses are all their breeders claim; There is considerable doubt as to their efficiency and utility in comparison with somewhat smaller breeds. The question is a mooted one, and strong arguments can be plied by the disputants.

*Thorough-breds* were in some force, and had their friends, no doubt; yet we would require better samples to arouse our fancy for the class. They may exhibit the "poetry of motion," with jockey mounted and running for a stake; but walking round a ring is a poor way to exhibit action, stamina, or good looks.

*Agricultural Horses* were in goodly numbers, and some very fine specimens were shown. The winners were owned by Thomas Davis, Islington; Hector Scott, Brooklyn; James Cowie and Robert Armstrong, Markham; James Ferris, Galt; John Hewer, Guelph; Alex. Burgess, Agincourt; Thomas Teasdale, Grahamsville; K. Graham, Belleville; Geo. Higginbotham, Balsam; Rich. Powers, Columbus; Geo. Alton, Nelson; Thos. Gowland, York; Geo. Scott, Woburn; Chas. Pilkey, Claremont, and Robert Beith, Darlington.

*Matched Farm Horses*.—There were just a dozen span in competition. The successful individuals,—Andrew Allison, Burnhamthorpe;

Wm. Elford, Darlington; John Clarke, Brampton, possessed very excellent horses; but the entries were hardly sufficient to excite close rivalry, or fairly exhibit Canadian farm teams.

*Roadsters*.—Quite a display was made of roadsters; but nothing especially worthy was observed. This portion of the Horse Department was a failure in quality. Rochester, in essentials, style, and action, can easily eclipse what was presented.

*French Canadian Horses*.—This breed has its representatives, and some of those shown attracted much attention. Their hardiness and power of endurance, together with the fact that "flyers" are frequent among them, entitles the breed to consideration. Did they possess a little easier action and a longer stride, the breed would be much more sought after; but they come toward you like a tornado, evidently bent upon tearing up everything. As a friend expressed himself when viewing a pair under motion, "they are rum 'uns to look at, but good 'uns to go."

*SHEEP*.—Never was there a better exhibition upon the continent in *Long and Middle Wool* breeds. The entries amounted to more than six hundred in number, and among the animals were very many of extraordinary merit. An attempt to select even those which were deemed entitled to special note, would prove a labour requiring more time than is at our control, and more space than the *Rural* can afford. In this branch of farm industry Canada has ever had precedence; and in the recent exhibition she certainly defeated all competitors.

*Fine Woolled Sheep*.—There were excellent specimens on exhibition, but the paucity of numbers, in comparison with their coarser relatives, was such as to throw them completely into the shade. Quite certain is it that the Canadian Farmer looks for both wool and mutton, (as the present high rates for coarse wools are tending toward a confirmation of his philosophy favor Merinos and Saxons are not in general favor. The exhibitors were few—less, we think, than at any time in the past four or five years.

*SWINE*.—Here, too, was a large display. Although extensive accommodations had been provided on the last day, quite a number of crates still held their occupants in close confinement. All breeds were well represented, and we could not perceive, for the numbers shown, any indications of preference. If there was any material difference the majority was with the smaller breeds.

*POULTRY*.—The show of Poultry was good, where numbers are the criterion, and excellent as to quality. In the former respect the Exhibition last year at London was superior. The principal exhibitors were residents of London, and their display indicated considerable effort. Chicken Fever in that locality.