

wish some of our ingenious young Canadians would put themselves to work, and invent an implement that would get me over this difficulty, and the farmers too. And yet it is not so bad, especially if the younger branches of the family could be enlisted to take their share of this part of the labour. This might be encouraged by giving them a direct interest in the share of the crop. In the German settlements a great deal of this part of the labour is done by the daughters of the farmers, and in a short time they become more expert at it than men at high wages. Four hands are allowed to pull an acre per diem, and at the worst it will only cost three dollars more than cutting an acre of wheat. Whether it be pulled by men or boys, great care should be taken to keep the root ends as even as possible, and in every case when it is pulled before the seed is ripe, which is invariably the rule in Ireland, in order to procure the best quality of fibre. It should be taken immediately after pulling and put into the cesspool or vat, when it is intended to be steeped. This is however seldom done in Canada, dew-retting being the method usually adopted. When flax is allowed to stand in the stock with the seed on, it is necessary to turn the beets or sheaves, to prevent the action of the sun from injuring the fibre.

THE EXHIBITION.

The people of Upper Canada may well be congratulated upon the results of the Exhibition, which has just closed. It has been a great success in the widest sense of the term. It was not merely that the Association succeeded in bringing together an immense variety of animals and articles to compete for the prizes offered, nor that the people flocked by tens of thousands to see them. In those respects there may have been much to rejoice over; but it is only when we look more closely at the merits of the collection, and compare the Exhibition of this year with its predecessors, that we fully appreciate the triumphs which our farmers, and indeed our whole people have won. Comparing the recent Exhibition with previous ones those best able to judge declare it to have been on the whole, the best ever held in Upper Canada, inasmuch as it gave abundant evidence of the gratifying progress which the country is making in very many respects. It furnished now evidence not only of the superiority of Upper Canada as an agricultural country, and of the increasing intelligence and enterprise of her farmers, but of the rapid advancement we are making in nearly all the branches of industry of which the varied prize list takes cognizance.

The show of Stock was better than ever before. Horses, cattle, sheep, pigs,

and poultry, were all in advance of former years. It is not so much that particular animals were shown which have never before been equalled—as that the average was better than on any previous occasion. Almost without exception the animals shown were excellent. The points of good animals are becoming so well known to our farmers, that scarcely any one now makes the mistake of bringing an inferior beast to the Provincial Show.

The progress which our agriculturists are making in the introduction of improved breeds of horses, cattle and sheep, is of the greatest advantage to the country. As the Exhibition from year to year gathers together the most intelligent farmers from all parts of the province, the advantages of having the best kinds of farm stock are impressed upon a greater number of farmers; and every year thorough-bred animals are bought and taken away from the Exhibition to be introduced into farm-yards where they were never seen before. By this means the stock of the country is being steadily and rapidly improved.

In machinery and manufactures the Exhibition was exceedingly good. It is only by carefully looking through these departments and remembering how meagre they were a dozen years ago, that we can appreciate the advances which Canadian manufactures have made. The excellence of the articles exhibited is quite as gratifying a feature as the variety. In many descriptions of Canadian-made goods, our manufactures have attained a degree of excellence not surpassed in any country.

The show of roots and vegetables was better probably than on any previous occasion. In grain, our farmers have so long excelled that they could hardly improve much upon the high reputation which Upper Canada wheat and barley already holds. The excellence of the show of fruits and grapes, was especially gratifying. One gentleman exhibited no less than thirty-eight varieties of out-door grapes grown by him. It was also shown that by the aid of glass without heat, some of the choicest foreign grapes can be brought to great perfection in our climate. After the glass structure has been provided, there is no more trouble than in growing out-door grapes. We have long felt that Upper Canada is capable of becoming a great fruit growing country. It used to be pretended that the soil and climate of this Province were not favourable to the growth of fruit. But this fallacy is now entirely exploded. The profits of fruit growing are as much within the reach of our farmers as of any in the world. In much the same way it used so be alleged that bees would not thrive well in Canada. The exhibition in that department this year must be accepted as conclusive proof of the con-

trary. Not only was the show of bees, bee-hives and honey better, but the interest excited by the bee-exhibitors was one of the leading features of the Show. Like the big cheese, the bees were constantly a centre of attraction to large crowds, many of whom not only examined the bees, hives and honey, but determined to become bee-keepers themselves.

Another branch of agricultural industry which this Exhibition shows to be rapidly rising into importance is that of cheese-making. The dairy produce was all good, but especially satisfactory was the show of factory-made cheese. This is comparatively a new thing in Canada; but the rapidity with which it is being introduced is most gratifying. A few years ago we imported nearly all the cheese used in Canada from the United States; but our farmers have learned that they can make an equally good article for themselves, and reap larger profits from it than by growing grain.

These things show how greatly the farmers of the country are widening the scope of their operations. Nothing can contribute more to the prosperity and independence of both the individual farmer and the community than the development of all branches of the farmer's calling. Formerly, when a farm ceased to produce good wheat crops, the owner thought himself ruined and his farm almost worthless. Now, every intelligent farmer understands that in such a case he has several resources left him. A year ago, gloomy prophets told us that, when the American Government put tax upon our grain, we should be ruined. But grain-rising is only one of many resources which our farmers enjoy, and they are surprised to find how little injury we are likely to suffer from the American tariff. The Exhibition of 1866 must be of inestimable value in increasing the confidence of our farming community in the variety of their resources, and in strengthening the feeling of sturdy independence and self-reliance which is beginning more than ever to pervade all classes of our countrymen. By cultivating a diversity of crops, and turning out a variety of products, we of necessity lessen the evil effects of failure in any one direction, and it is on the basis of a mixed and varied husbandry that the fabrics of commerce and manufacture must be built, if we are to become a thoroughly self-contained and thrifty people.—*Canada Farmer.*

WASTE OF TIME.—“Our lives are spent either in doing nothing at all, or in doing nothing to the purpose, or in doing nothing that we ought to do. We are always complaining our days are few, and acting as though there would be no end of them.”—*Seneca.*