

## MONTREAL DISTRICT CATTLE SHOW.

This exhibition took place at Terrebonne, on the 6th of October last, and the attendance was numerous, though the day was not favorable. The officers of the Society had provided ample accommodation for any stock that could have been expected, and we regretted to see the pens were not all occupied. The show of stock, though very good, was not so numerous, or so generally excellent, as we might reasonably expect for the District of Montreal. There was a numerous display of horses, and a few of them very good. We may apply the same remark to the brood mares, colts, &c.,—some were good, and others of very middling quality. The show of neat cattle, both English and Canadian, was very creditable, but we did not observe any very superior specimens upon the ground. We admit that we might have been difficult to please after seeing the Toronto exhibition, but we would have wished to see at Terrebonne a show of neat cattle that would be very little inferior to those exhibited at Toronto, as we believe the District of Montreal is fully capable of keeping as good and profitable a stock as any District in Canada. We do not advocate the expediency of cultivating the Durham cattle generally, but we would wish to see a good selection of neat cattle at our exhibitions, that would be creditable and profitable to farmers, and show that we possessed excellent specimens of suitable breeds for the country. The habit of bringing inferior animals to our shows is calculated to injure the character of these exhibitions, and it shows a want of judgment when very inferior stock are brought forward. It is difficult, however, to check this evil, and it is only time and experience that will cure it. There is also a defect in the mode of exhibition, which might readily be remedied. We allude to the manner in which the stock are kept upon the ground, either in pens, or scattered over the ground. It would be a much better plan to fix several ranges of railing to which the animals might be secured, and each class kept completely separate, and

thus afford Judges an opportunity of comparing the merits of each animal competing in the same class, which it is impossible to do, while kept in high pens, or scattered over the show-ground. The necessity of this arrangement is so manifest, that it is astonishing more attention is not given to it. At the great exhibitions in England, Ireland and Scotland, no animal is allowed into the show-ground without being secured by the head, by a chain, strap, or cord, by which they can be placed in their proper position and secured there. If this plan was adopted here, parties would be more particular about the stock they brought to Cattle Shows, and those that would be brought there, would appear to much more advantage when in their proper places and classes. We have been constantly recommending this plan, but to little purpose, up to this moment. If Cattle Shows are calculated to be useful, it is certainly our duty and our interest to make them as much so as possible, and one of the principal means of making them so, is to give Judges a fair opportunity of making awards according to real merit, and this is almost impossible as our present exhibitions are managed. It is very injurious to agriculturists to award prizes for animals that do not possess sufficient merit, as it is calculated to lead those who have not sufficient experience into grave errors. There is another regulation which we think would be generally expedient—that is, not to allow any competitor to enter more than one animal in the same class. We abhor the system of prize catching and we are persuaded that any party who wishes to obtain all the prizes offered in any one class, deserves the appellation of a prize catcher, better than that of a lover of the general improvement of agriculture. We must now return to our report of the exhibition. The show of sheep was very fair, and some were excellent stock. In Leicester sheep, we believe, we might enter into a fair competition with our agricultural friends of Upper Canada, but not in the South Down breed. Some good pigs were exhibited that proves we have good