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AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

There are but few, if any, inhabitants of Canada that are not aware of the benefits and utility of these exhibitions, either held in Townships, Counties, or as the Provincial Exhibition is now held, perambulating from one part of the country to another. We are fully convinced of the benefit conferred by the Provincial Exhibition at each place. It now makes its quartennial tour. We notice attempts being made to make it a permanent and fixed institution at one place. We consider the plan would be injurious to the Exhibition, and to the Agricultural prosperity of the Province. Some object to its moving, because at some places it has not been so profitable as at others. This can hardly be expected, as some parts of Canada are more wealthy and more populous than others. By centering it in Toronto, or at any other place, the interest in it would diminish. Parties at a long distance would not have the opportunity they now have of seeing or procuring any improvements that are continuously being made. It sends a new stimulus into the section wherever it may go each year. This should be considered more for the good of the influence it infuses, than for the profits to be derived. Even were it to take a move to the north or more places, Guelph for one, and use temporary buildings, much good might be the result in that section of the country. We strongly object to the centralization of it in one place. The Emporium, for testing and disseminating seeds, would necessarily be at one place, but whether Toronto or some

other locality would suit best, would yet have to be discussed. The County exhibitions are next in magnitude, and from the delegates attending the meeting held in Toronto last month, we should infer that they may be doing as much good as the Provincial Exhibition is. We are aware that the delegates of the County Exhibitions have considerable influence, and we think there will be a tendency to increase the power of County Societies, and diminishing the assistance to the Townships. This we also dissent from. We believe were the voice of the majority taken, the Townships would have as great privileges accorded to them as any. We consider that as much or more good is done by them than by either of the others. When Township societies consider it would be advantageous and convenient to join, or to form County societies, they would do so. These Township Societies often very far excel the County Society. As much emulation and spirit is evinced as at the County or Provincial Fairs. The prizes are not so large, nor does it give to the winner of a prize so much honor or so much cash, but by these Township societies thousands are induced to come forward and exhibit, that would not venture at first to exhibit at a County or Provincial exhibition. This stimulates the masses to improve. The larger Exhibitions induce a few to speculate.

We know many will disagree with us, and feel convinced that pressure will be brought to bear against the Township Exhibitions. Many members of Parliament, nearly all the delegates at Toronto, and the large breeders and persons advocating city interest might differ with us on this point. We might join with that number if we spoke from personal interest as large prizes would be much more acceptable to us than small ones.

If we were not to express our views in an unbiassed manner, we do not think we should be entitled to the name we claim the—*Farmer's Advocate*. To those that may disagree with our opinion or views on this subject, we have but to say that you have the columns of this journal freely open to you for discussion on any agricultural subject.

We know another editor in Canada who professes to give agricultural information, and offers space in his paper for that purpose, recently rejected the main portion of an article written by an able and experienced person, because it would clash with the interest of the city where the paper is published, although it was for the benefit of agriculture generally. We may in a future number give more particulars, but we must now confine ourselves to the subject we are now treating on. There is a quotation from Josh Billings going the rounds of the papers. It is as follows:

There was tew yoke ov oxen on the ground, besides several yokes ov sheep and a pile of carrots and some wosted work, but they did not seem to attract eny sympathy. The people hanker for pure Agricultural Hoss trots.

The above was written on an Agricultural Exhibition in the States, and from what we have seen of their State Fairs, we consider his remarks contain a great deal of truth, but we must look to the causes before we can suggest a remedy. We know that the interest of agricultu-