

sufficient proof of the nutritious qualities of the succulent herbage of the prairies and of the suitability of the climate for all the wants of the cattle breeder. Sheep and swine were not largely represented, nor have these animals yet become at all numerous in this part of the country; probably in the future the settlers will find it to their interest to raise their own pork, with possibly a considerable amount for export, but it is scarcely to be expected that these broad plains should compete in sheep-raising with the more suitable uplands of Calgary and its surrounding foot-hills. Poultry received a good deal of attention, and their owners were rewarded by the offer of 57 prizes, the competition in some of the sections being keen and close. But it was perhaps in the classes set down under the headings of "Grain and Seeds" and "Roots and Vegetables" that the best idea could be obtained of the almost infinite

VARIETY OF PRODUCTS

that can readily be obtained from the fertile soil and genial climate, to reward the industrious husbandman and his family for the outlay of their time and labor. White and red Fyfe wheat, barley, black and white, oats, field and marrowfat peas, rye, Indian corn and flax seed were all of superior quality, and would have attracted attention at any exhibition in Canada; while the roots and vegetables were abundantly represented by potatoes of several varieties, turnips, carrots, parsnips, mangolds, beets, onions, cabbages, cauliflowers, tomatoes, radishes, pumpkins, squash, cucumbers, melons, citrons, celery and a host of other garden vegetables, excellent in quality and all but infinite in quantity and variety. Tons of prime butter and cheese contributed their oleaginous evidence in favor of the claims of the district to be regarded as a first-class home for the dairy industry.

I have already spoken of the exuberant fertility of the soil illustrated by the various exhibits, of the effect of civilization on the Indians and of other matters of which the exhibition gave ample evidence; but what most forcibly and persistently impressed me during the two days of the show was the astonishing

SPARSENESS OF POPULATION

in the surrounding country, indicated by the slightness of the increase to the population of the capital. With very few exceptions, every farmer's house for at least a score of miles