

peasant classes in the improvement of all those productions upon which the property of Her Majesty's dominions so mainly depends." His Royal Highness in his reply said, "Blessed with a soil of very remarkable fertility, and a hardy race of industrious and enterprising men, this district must rapidly assume a most important position in the markets of the world."

Of this exhibition an able reporter states, "The Exhibition of the Agricultural Association of Upper Canada, which has just been brought to a close, will long be regarded as a most brilliant epoch in the records of the Society. Closely connected with the visit of the illustrious personage, who made it the scene of his last public appearance in this part of the dominions of his Royal Mother, it possesses an historical interest which time will not readily efface, while as a memorial of the progress which we have made in those branches of industry most essential to our prosperity, it far outshines all that have preceded it."

We come now to the Sixteenth Annual Exhibition of the Association, that of the present year, when we enjoyed the opportunity of witnessing one of the most complete and successful displays which has yet taken place. In the ordinary course of events in Canada we naturally look for general progress in the staple industries of the country, notwithstanding years of depression and stagnation. One advantage of the periodical return to stated districts for the purposes of the Provincial Exhibition is the evident facility offered for making comparisons between the past and present, and estimating the amount of progress made in different departments near the scene where so much friendly rivalry and competition take place. It is not only reasonable to suppose, but it is a supposition well borne out by fact, that the merits of such exhibitions depend to a great extent upon the locality where they may be held. Proximity to the arena where competition takes place induces many to enter the lists who would be otherwise mere spectators of the rivalry of others. London is situated in the centre of one of the finest agricultural districts in the Province, and the expectation that all departments of husbandry would be fully represented, was more than realised.

The same object strikes different observers in many diverse ways. At the late London exhibition one fact could scarcely fail to arrest the attention of any visitor not wholly intent upon special subjects, but free to admire, or condemn, according to his unbiassed opinion.

While examining the workmanship we were mindful of the workman. It was a rare sight to witness so vast an assemblage and look in vain among them for a single object seeking compassion or indicating poverty and distress. Within the limits of the exhibition, such would necessarily be vain on account of the admission fee, but outside the gates where a large crowd

remained during the days when the exhibition was open, not only was there an absence of any approach to mendicancy, but the appearance of the individuals composing the crowd indicated perfect freedom from privation or indigence.—Not less surprising was the appearance of visitors of all classes and grades, but especially of those who are the bone and sinew of the country.—Thousands of strong and healthy looking men, the majority above the average height, spoke a language by their looks not to be misunderstood and far better than words, described the country of their birth or adoption. Another marked feature of the present exhibition was its truly Canadian character, owing no doubt to the troubles in which the United States are involved, our friends across the border were not present with their usual strength, and though we may regret the cause, yet it shows us that we are now fully able to organize and carry out an unusually successful exhibition among ourselves, without even missing extraneous aid.

We do not propose to enter into a minute description of the London exhibition, nor indeed is such the province of this journal, but in a succeeding number we shall be able to describe and comment upon such articles in the department of Arts and Manufactures as may appear deserving of special notice. For the present it will be sufficient to give a general sketch, the particulars being so fully and truthfully furnished by the daily papers of London, Toronto and elsewhere, and already no doubt familiar to the readers of this journal.

The building erected by the local committee was described in the last number, but for the sake of uniformity a brief notice is again given.

The exhibition building is erected in the vicinity of the Barracks, and within half a mile of the centre of the city, on a beautiful piece of ground of about twenty-six acres, a portion of which has been purchased from the Government by the Corporation for this purpose.

The ground plan of the building is a regular octagon, its dimensions from opposite angles, being 186 feet. The space offered by the ground area is upwards of 24,000 feet, while the galleries give an additional space of 4,000 feet more. The external wall is built of white brick, on a foundation rubble masonry and concrete, and is twenty-one feet in height. The entrance is through eight door-ways, each eight feet wide and fourteen feet high, one at each angle. In the brick wall, on each side of the octagon and between the door ways, are five spacious windows, making on the ground floor forty windows. The roof of this portion of the structure is covered with felting, gravel, &c. The second tier of the building, containing the gallery, rises to the height of thirty-two feet above the ground line, and is 114 feet in diameter from opposite angles, giving a wall accommodation of more than 300 feet, lighted with forty-eight windows, every alternate one being hung on a pivot to