

agricultural products of that country, but the principal attraction was at one end of the building. This consisted of a museum of Indian relics, &c. Here the crowd assembled. This point took the attention of the exhibitors, to keep the people from making a raid and breaking the railings. Very little attention was paid to the agricultural products, compared to this part of the exhibit. One of the attendants informed us that he had never had so much trouble in his life as to keep the people moving on in order. One Member of Parliament threatened to thresh him, and fifty Frenchmen had done the same. Nothing could induce him to undergo such a time of abuse and trouble again.

The Americans from the Northern States exhibited a handsome railroad car, very tastefully and neatly fitted up with the products of their soil.

Fruits and flowers were not exhibited at this exhibition.

The exhibit in implements was very small.

The Massey manufacturing company, of Toronto, exhibited some of their highly finished work that was exhibited in Toronto.

Larmouth & Sons, of Montreal, made the largest display of useful agricultural implements made by one exhibitor. Many of these implements are manufactured by Cossett & Bros., of Brockville, conspicuous among which is Cossett's hay rake and Cossett's one-horse reaper and mower.

Mr. Jas. Jeffrey, of the Empire Works at Petit Cote, P. Q., made the largest display of any of the machine manufacturers. Among his exhibits was a Paris Green sprinkler. This is a new invention. It sprinkles the Paris Green in a spray along one or two rows at a time as desired. It is wheeled along the drills, and it appeared to us the best machine we have yet seen for that purpose.

Gurney & Russell, of Dundas, were the most successful exhibitors we heard of in this department. They sold one car-load of reapers to Messrs. Moody & Sons, of Terrebonne, P. Q., and another car-load to Messrs. Baushman & Sons, of Sorrell, P. Q.

There always will be complainers, but when they are as numerous and as just as the following they should be made known and steps taken by other societies of less pretensions than that of a Dominion one to prevent repetitions of such a nature. Some of the following we saw, others we heard of. The first prize for butter was awarded to a poor miserable mess, resembling salve; the grain was entirely worked out of it, if it ever had any. Some said it was oleo-margarine, but as we saw it we consider oleo-margarine far superior to it.

In the Stock Department we were informed that the judges awarded two prizes for Essex pigs to white hogs and one to a spotted hog in England and in Western Ontario; we believe the Essex to be a black pig.

The exhibitors of implements informed us that the judges were entirely ignorant about implements, that they did not know the difference between a wheelbarrow and a mowing machine, and that their awards—so little did they know—that they were ashamed or dare not attach the prizes. Many of the awards were not made known even when the machines were pulled to pieces, ready to leave the ground, and the exhibition had been closed.

In the Grain Department we examined some of the grain and made inquiry of some French farmers. We could see what kind of oats these were. Taking a handful of the Angus oats they all informed us they were Canadian oats. We then took a handful from a bag of black tartarian. These were also Canadian oats. We then took a handful of Poland, and they were also Canadian oats. We believe that a French farmer knows oats from peas and oats from wheat, but we do not believe that one in a thousand can tell the right name of three varieties of oats, wheat or peas that might be shown to them; we know there are many pretended farmers in Ontario that cannot, but when in a crowd, as at a Dominion Exhibition, there will be many farmers that have read and observed that do not know what butter is, what a wheelbarrow is, what an Essex pig is, or what an oat is. Very few of the French farmers take a paper of any kind.

A. D. Cables, of Ottawa, formerly of New York, made the curt remark:—"This a Dominion Agricultural Exhibition. Why, here's the last day and no award of prizes. Why, in whiskey, images and pictures the prizes were awarded the second day, but agriculture was not attended to till the last. These French folks are 100 years behind

the age, and what is more they appear perfectly content to stay there. This is no place at all. Ontario is all there is of Canada anyway."

The reason the horticultural display was so small was because the Horticultural Society were holding a separate exhibition about two miles from the ground; this thousands of visitors did not see. We hear that attempts are to be made to elect more officers that take an interest in agriculture in future, and to maintain an annual exhibition.

Ontario Provincial Agricultural Exhibition.

We attended this Exhibition on Wednesday, the 29th of September. The exhibit on the whole evinced a sad falling off; most particularly was this noticeable in the machinery and implement department, many exhibitors being conspicuous by their absence. The attendance was not as good as in former years, and the loss of money from the lack of visitors must be met by an additional Government grant, and partially by the inhabitants of Hamilton. The expensive and inefficient Board of Management are wasting the money that should be applied to the agricultural interests of the country. Such exhibitions are unworthy to be called Provincial and agricultural. Such measures will not and can not be acceptable to the farmers of Canada. They want such measures as are really for their benefit, and not pretended to be so.

Notwithstanding the falling off in interest and the unsatisfactory and expensive management, there was a good exhibit of stock, many of the same animals being here that were shown at Toronto, of which we gave a full report. Hamilton retained its name for making the best display of fruit to be found in any part of the Dominion.

We cannot say one word about the display of grain and vegetables, etc.; we went twice to the agricultural hall between the hours of 12 and 3 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, but the building was closed from the inspection of visitors at that time; thus, after having this exhibition open for two long, expensive weeks, they were not ready to open the agricultural hall on that day, which was the last day but one, as Friday was of no account to visitors. This closing of parts of the exhibition at such a time, when the largest number of farmers attend, is deserving the attention of all who are in any way connected with agricultural exhibitions. We should have a pattern to follow from a Provincial Exhibition, especially when the Board is so old, so numerous and so well paid. The Dominion Exhibition at Montreal evinced just about as bad a pattern to follow in their poultry department; a common township exhibition would be managed better in this respect. And yet there are a lot of citizens and exhibitors who desire to carry off the lion's share of the public money for prizes, who attempt to discourage and drive out of existence these useful township exhibitions, where far more good is done for the amount of money expended than at some of the larger monopolizing exhibitions.

The most astonishing thing we noticed was a first prize ticket placed on a wooden framed cultivator made by Mr. C. Thain, of Guelph. This is a cultivator that has been in use for many years, and notwithstanding the many new iron and steel implements, here the first prize ticket was placed. We remarked this to some farmers close by. The reply was made: "We have tried the different kinds, and there is no cultivator made equal to this one at the present time."

On entering the main building the most conspicuous and obtrusive display was a lot of coffins standing erect. In some exhibitions we have attended funeral equipments have been displayed in separate enclosures and in a less conspicuous manner. The musical instruments near by were

sounding their lively dancing airs. It brought to our memory the words of Tennyson: "Lives of great men all remind us," etc.; also, "In the midst of life," etc.

On the following day we went to the

Elgin Agricultural Exhibition.

held at St. Thomas. This is about 90 miles from Hamilton and 20 from London. The inhabitants of this locality have, with a proper spirit of emulation, exerted themselves to establish an agricultural exhibition to represent the production and advancement of their favored, rich and productive locality; and well they succeeded. They erected a lot of creditable buildings, and they were literally crowded with the fine agricultural productions. To compare this County Exhibition with the display made in agricultural productions, such as grain, roots, fruits, flowers and vegetables, it literally eclipsed all that could be seen at the Dominion Exhibition, in these departments, in quality and quantity. There appeared to us to be from five to ten times as much to be seen and admired in the above-mentioned department as there was at the Dominion Exhibition. The farmers have all turned out to compete for the prizes. There was no display of empty pews and empty sheds, but the spirit of rivalry to obtain the honors was quite evident in every department. This is as it should be. The farmers here are real, live independent men, and know what good stock is, and keep it. In the implement department many agricultural implements were in motion, and in this department this exhibition threw the Dominion Exhibition entirely into the shade. Messrs. McKay and Pearson, nurserymen, both laid out a piece of ground, which they neatly planted with trees, shrubs, flowers, &c. Here you might find any quantity of good butter and good cheese to compete for the prizes. The display in the main building was very good, and beautifully arranged. The horses shown here attracted almost as much attention as the Governor's carriage.

The stock may not have been quite as choice as the imported, high-bred and high-fed animals to be seen at the Dominion Exhibition, but for breeding and feeding quality, and for general utility, they were not much, if any, behind the best.

The Marquis of Lorne favored the exhibition with the honor of his presence. He had an address read to him in the Gaelic language, and in his reply to the address he recommended the people to maintain and keep up that language.

A remarkable incident was evinced at this exhibition. Mr. John King, one of the great magnates of this exhibition, expressed in the strongest terms of disgust his disapprobation of side-shows being held on the exhibition grounds in the City of London, while at this exhibition it was difficult to pass through the grounds to the stock and implement as the whole space was blocked up with horses, showmen, salesmen, and money-taps to a greater extent than we have ever seen any exhibition blocked before.

The managers wished to give all the entertainment possible to visitors, and to do this they had boat races at Port Stanley on the last day. Great fun came on in an unexpected manner. A large stand was erected on the water for the ladies and other spectators, and so great was the crowd, or so weak was the building, that in the midst of the sport the stand tumbled into the water, taking with it the crowd of ladies and gentlemen. This caused a good deal of fun to those who did not occupy the grand stand, but the poor ladies were fished out in a most deplorable plight, dripping from head to foot with mud and water, and no chance to change or dry themselves. Fortunately none were drowned.