

PRESS NOTICE.

We have received advance sheets of a little work called "Muskoka Sketch," written by W. E. Hamilton, editor of the Dresden Times. It gives a highly interesting account of Muskoka and Parry Sound districts, written with much spirit and strict fidelity to truth. Few people have any accurate idea of the great country to the north of us. Those who read Mr. Hamilton's pleasant and entertaining sketch will acquire very full information concerning it, and will be amused as well as instructed. Some time ago the *SPECTATOR* referred to the fate of a Muskoka exhibit sent to the Provincial Fair at Hamilton in 1880. The story is graphically told in the sketch. The exhibit was fine in every respect; it proved the great capabilities of Muskoka as an agricultural country, and received a special diploma from the directors of the fair. But the Provincial Government declined to pay a cent toward the expense of making the exhibit. Mr. Hamilton expended a good deal of money; Mr. Dill, a merchant of Bracebridge, the present Reform candidate in Muskoka, aided him liberally; the steamship and railway companies gave him free transportation; but the Ontario Government refused to countenance the thing or to give a penny in aid of it. Afterwards this patriotic Government paid a lot of money to aid a Muskoka exhibit at the local fair in Toronto, but that at the Provincial exhibition, because it was in Hamilton that year, was sternly frowned upon.—*Hamilton Spectator*, Dec. 31, 1883.