

"We then found our way to the Cattle, picketted and folded in the rear of the Garden, and along the edge of the Common bordering on the main road. Here we beheld fine bulls, some looking cross, some benevolent, and some roguish—clean white woolled sheep, and pigs of all sorts and sizes, and ages. We wound up with climbing up a wheel, and looking down into a countryman's cart, where we saw—and we say it without wishing to be personal, the largest pig we ever saw in our lives. He was said to weigh 900 pounds."

At one o'clock a movement was made towards the tent stretching from the Horticultural Hall, and seats were hastily provided for numerous Ladies, among whom were Lady LeMarchant, the Ladies and daughters of the Admiral and General Gore, Mrs. Young, and other ladies of distinction. The SPEAKER ascended the steps of the building, and in presence of the Governor and Admiral delivered the following address.

As no arrangements had been made for a formal sitting and the whole thing came off in *Pic Nic* style; the only accommodation for the "chiel amang 'em takin' notes," were a few cards and a pencil, with his knee for a desk. However, we took the speech and here it is:—

THE SPEAKER'S ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen.—I have had the honor of being commissioned by His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, and by the General Committee for conducting this Exhibition, to open it with an address. This has been the practice usually followed in the great Agricultural Exhibitions which we constantly read of in the United States and Canada, and which have shed lustre and renown over the industrial pursuits of these sister countries. We cannot expect, in our first inception of such undertakings, to attain either the perfection or extent of the Agricultural displays which have given New York and Toronto their wide-spread fame; but we can follow at humble distance, with emulating and progressive spirit; and I think he must want the warm fervour of a Nova Scotian who can look without a feeling of proud exultation, on the gathering we witness to-day. Such occasions as this have sometimes been taken advantage of by men more thoroughly conversant with their subject than I can pretend to be—to dilate on some popular theory, or to press home some favourite idea in the pursuits of husbandry; and sometimes the charms of rural life have been painted in the glowing tints of a high-wrought and poetic eloquence. To this I shall not aspire. Having had the honour of being Chairman of the meetings held to promote this object—having in concert with His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor been committed to the agreeable but responsible duty I am now fulfilling, I will not shrink from it. True it may be that had I anticipated the singular and imposing spectacle here presented, I would hardly have undertaken this delicate task; yet I feel that cold must be the imagination—insensible the heart—that is not warmed to enthusiasm by a scene so novel—so attractive—so animating as this.—(*Cheers.*)

Ladies and Gentlemen, we are in the habit of hearing much on the value and importance of the culture of the soil. It is the great and leading interest of every prosperous country. The recent census of the United States gives the Agricultural Population of that great republic as three fourths of the whole, or nearly twenty millions of people; and I have little doubt that, in our own population of 300,000, the proportion engaged in agricultural pursuits is nearly the same. His Excellency, therefore, in conceiving the idea of fostering this occupation—of improving the stock of the country—and encouraging the growth of seeds which spring into beauty, and bring a luxuriant harvest—has only been consulting the interest of the great mass of the people whom His Sovereign has committed to His care—He is doing that which deeply affects and will promote the prosperity of two thirds, if not three fourths of the population of our Province.—There are one or two striking facts in connection with this which I wish to press home upon the minds of our farming population, who are in the habit of thinking and judging for themselves. It is known from statistical returns and the proceeds of the revenue—(without which the Government could not exist, nor the public improve.

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