

PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION—TRIAL OF IMPLEMENTS.

(From the Globe.)

FIRST DAY.

The competitive trial of agricultural implements began on Wednesday, July 19th, on the farms of Messrs. Hiram and Horace Capron, in the vicinity of Paris. The last trial of a similar nature in this Province was held in 1864, in the neighborhood of Hamilton. A comparison of the two exhibitions shows very gratifying progress in this class of manufactures within Ontario. Then the Province was, to a considerable extent, dependent upon the skill and enterprise of the neighboring States. Now very few agricultural machines are imported. Nor is this manufacture by any means confined to our cities. Large manufacturing establishments flourish in most of the towns and villages throughout the Province, which supply to the farmers of this country implements and machinery inferior to none in the world. For the development of this important branch of business is not more remarkable than the improvement in the machines themselves. The ingenuity of mankind, ever active, has been especially so in the service of the husbandman. Experience suggests improvements, and year by year changes have been made in order to adapt the machines more perfectly to the purposes for which they were intended. The exceedingly keen competition throughout the province in this business has had the very best results. Manufacturers are ever on the alert for improvements, and the result was shown in the superior class of machines that entered the lists at Paris.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

As on former similar occasions the trial was under the auspices of the Agricultural and Arts Association of Ontario. The Directors of that body issued a circular some time ago announcing the trial and laying down the rules and regulations under which it would be held. These were, as far as practicable, the same as those relating to the Provincial Exhibition. In all the departments, competition was open to exhibitors from any part of the world without reservation. An entry fee of one dollar was charged to each competitor, and it was provided that entries for the trial would constitute membership of the Association for the current year. All entries were made in the names of the producers or manufacturers only. It was announced that the decision of the judges would be based on the combination of quality, style and price, and the adaptation of the article to the purpose for which it was intended. The usual arrangements were made with the railway companies for return tickets for passengers and freight at reduced rates. One provision in the regulations requires all the successful competitors to exhibit the articles for which they were awarded prizes, at the trial at the Provincial Exhibition in September, and their premiums will not be paid them till then.

THE LOCALITY.

A more suitable locality could not perhaps be found in the Province; conveniently reached by rail, and the centre of a capital agricultural as well as manufacturing country. Paris affords excellent advantages for a trial which is intended for the

benefit of farmers and machine-makers alike. Aside from these practical advantages are others, acceptable to all, but particularly pleasing to sight-seers. The scenery, though not grand, is picturesque, and, with a slight exercise of the imagination, might even in some places be called romantic. Nestling down under two lofty banks, between which, in meandering form, flows the Grand River. Paris, like many another pretty Canadian town, is a place where many a one will turn aside to see with pleasure. On the hills above the town a splendid prospect meets the view—hill and valley in endless diversity, well-tilled farms, elegant farm-houses, orchards laden with fruit, and golden fields of grain just ready for the sickle—if one may be allowed the anachronism. The farms on which the trial took place are situated between the railway station and the town, and extended from the line of the Grand Trunk pretty well down towards the town. The situation is somewhat elevated, and commands a view of the country for miles around. So much for the locality and the region round about.

Tuesday evening's train brought a number of visitors and exhibitors from a distance, as well as implements and machines in great variety. The majority, however, came in Tuesday morning. Before nine o'clock the road which runs between the farms of Mr. Hiram Capron and Mr. Horace Capron began to fill up, and by ten o'clock most of the machines intended for competition were on the ground and ready for work. Most of the machine-makers in the province from Whitby and Newcastle west were represented. Of machines for haymaking and harvesting there were 83; 29 for preparing products for use; and 47 implements for tilling the ground. There was considerable delay in getting started, much to the annoyance of the farmers, most of whom had left their own harvest fields to witness the trial. None of the Directors of the Provincial Association were on hand, and until some of them arrived to take control of affairs, of course very little could be done. However, Mr. Dickson, the secretary of the North Brant Agricultural Society, and other officers of that body, did what they could in the way of preparation, and by half-past ten Mr. Thompson, secretary of the Provincial Association, Mr. Rykert, and other directors, arrived and at once set to work, giving out cards to the competitors and arranging the work of the Judges. Mr. Graham, treasurer of the Association, also arrived shortly after. Notwithstanding the busy season, there was a large attendance of farmers from the neighboring counties. The interest taken in the exhibition and the opportunity it afforded of showing the strength of the country in the manufacture of agricultural machinery also attracted a number of people from various parts of the Province. Among the distinguished visitors present during the day were Mr. Baxter, son of the eminent member for Dumfries, Secretary-treasurer in the Imperial Government, and Mr. Dunlop, son of the late Mr. Murray Dunlop, M. P. for Greenock, who are paying a visit to this country. The Hon. George Brown, Prof. Buckland, Mr. Rymal, M. P., and Mr. Stirton, M. P., were also on the grounds.

THE TRIAL.

Owing to the delay in making the preliminary arrangements it was one o'clock before the actual trial of any of the machines commenced. The first called out were the single mowers: eight of these,