

CHAPTER XI.

A pioneer fair—Three kinds of pioneers—Bereaved.

A FEW days after our return from the Crow's Nest excursion another short journey was taken to Macleod to attend the first Agricultural and Live Stock Exhibition organized in Southern Alberta, and I believe the first exhibition of the kind in the Territories. It was held on the 15th and 16th of October, 1886.

The weather was perfect, and I may note here that some careful weather observers of Macleod district state that the middle week of October is usually free from storm, and advocate either midsummer or the middle of October for holding a fair.

There was a splendid display of farm produce, roots, vegetables and grain, made by the Messrs. Grier, of Willow Creek, Mr. Ryan, Mr. McNab, and other experienced and practical farmers. It also goes without saying that the live stock was in keeping with the reputation of the country.

In connection with the object lesson given by this pioneer exhibition and the pioneer exhibitors, as well as those who "came to see the show," I had in my mind what an observing writer in the United States had published as to pioneers in his own country and