



ATKINS' AUTOMATON REAPER.

The proprietor of this journal, while on a recent visit to New York, devoted some time to a careful examination of newly invented Agricultural implements, especially those on exhibition at the Crystal Palace. Among several recent inventions that may be mentioned with approbation, is the self-raking Reaper, invented by a Mr. Atkins, of Chicago, Illinois. We believe some of these machines have been introduced into the western part of the Province already, but we have not yet heard of their performance in the Canadian harvest field. Perhaps some of our western readers will be able to enlighten us on the subject?

The above is a cut of the Reaper which in its general appearance resembles McCormick's but differs from it in several important particulars; the chief of which, is an ingenious contrivance for gathering the grain on the platform into bundles, or gavels, and depositing them at the side of the machine. The objection to this machinery is, of course, its liability to get out of repair. Several wheels and springs are required to produce the peculiar action of the rake, which moves as if in obedience to an *intelligent* motive power, but with even more regularity and steadiness. The additional weight of iron must increase somewhat the draft, but not to any serious amount. The weight, as well as the expense of a *human* raker is dispensed with. The manufacturer, Mr. Wright, of Chicago, told us that he would like to exhibit one at our Provincial Fair, which we urged him to do, and hope our farmers will examine it carefully, should it reach Hamilton in time.

From a large number of certificates, &c., we select the following. We may observe that this Reaper has only been in operation during two harvests. The price is \$160 at Chicago.

"The undersigned having witnessed the working of Atkins' Self-Raking Reaper, manufactured by John S. Wright, of the "Prairie Farmer" Warehouse, Chicago, cheerfully give this testimonial to its entire success. It cut two or three acres of wheat on very rough ground, having a thick under-growth of grass, and delivered it at the side (out of the way of the team as it came round again) regularly in good order for binding. Notwithstanding the grain and under-growth were quite moist from a rain a few hours previous, there was no tendency to clog the knife as in some other machines, and the stubble was left short and even. The raking was better done than it is practicable to do after a cradle, or in raking off other reapers by hand. The machine is strong; not liable to derangement; easily altered to cut high or low; not difficult to manage; thoroughly built; and draft easy for one pair of horses, requiring only one man (the driver) to attend to it. It not only saves the hard labor of raking off by hand as compared with other reapers, but handles the grain so carefully, that a considerable percentage is saved. The movement of the Raking is very curious and novel, and very simple to produce so complicated a movement. We cordially recommend this Reaper to the farmers in this vicinity.

"James S. Negley, Thomas Simpson, J. W. Biddle, William Dilworth, A. Bradley, James Wardrop, Henry Graff, Henry H. Collins, L. R. Livingston, W. P. Baum, H. S. Fleming, D. N. White, L. Wilmarth."

The above is signed by upwards of a dozen respectable farmers, (as we are told,) who witnessed a public trial of the Reaper last season in Pennsylvania. It has taken the 1st prize at the following Fairs:—

"Committee of the Ohio State Agricultural Society, Michigan State Agricultural Society, Kenosha County (Wis.) Agricultural Society, Racine County (Wis.) Agricultural Society, Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, Buel Institute (Agricultural), Illinois, Mechanics' Institute Chicago, Illinois, American Institute, New York City."