

away at a great rate, and some care is needed to keep visitors from dangerous proximity to them. The Detroit Mechanics' and Inventors' Association occupy nearly one-half of this building with models and machines of various kinds, and have also some forty agricultural implements out of doors. Several convenient and spacious refrigerators are shown here, one of them labelled "The coolest thing this side of the North Pole." Since the acquisition of Walrusia the United States ought to be able to produce any desired degree or amount of refrigeration. A large, and apparently effective cooking apparatus, occupies one corner of this building, so that the two extremes of heat and cold are in close juxtaposition with each other. "Manufacturers' Hall" contains a somewhat motley array of articles. At the front entrance is a large and beautiful assortment of cabinet-makers' wares, from the factory of Henry Weber, Detroit. Spring beds of various patterns, and bed-lounges, costing from \$25 to \$100 a piece, are shown by several makers. An assortment of cloths from the Jonesville Woollen Mills is much admired. It consists of beaver overcoatings, tweed and cashmere trousers, Canadian grey, and farmers' wives' dress woollens. Morgan, of Detroit, an enterprising boot and shoe maker, exhibits a large and varied assortment of goods. Hoop skirts, of their own manufacture, are shown by Bottomley & Land, of Almont. The Michigan Salt Company, of Saginaw, exhibit some fine specimens of "solar salt," so called because made by solar evaporation. It is of transparent whiteness, and said to be the best description of salt for packing purposes. A large collection of stoves occupies considerable space in this hall, and some styles of soap-stone stoves, especially an open Franklin pattern, are particularly deserving of attention. The Detroit Chair Factory, and House of Correction, display a variety of beautifully-made chairs. Specimens of wood-turning, India-rubber goods, combination school seats and desks, samples from the Detroit White Lead Works, and other things "too numerous to mention," attract the eye of the beholder. Two other prominent features of this Hall must not be forgotten—one, an exhibition of some fifty varieties of scales by N. B. Bowley & Son; and the other, a magnificent display of carpets from the stores of Messrs. Abbot, and J. Nall, Jr., & Co. "Agricultural Hall" is also somewhat motley in its contents, having in it many things not particularly agricultural in their character. Rock and ground Michigan plaster, raw-bone and super-phosphate, flavouring extracts, perfumery and pop-corn, are "all in a row" on one side. Samples of cider and malt vinegar, cigars and specimens of tobacco, both raw and manufactured, cheese, beets, pumpkins and a few other vegetable products, are collected here in a rather confused state. An ingeniously contrived desk and counter seat is shown in this department by S. E. Hatfield, of Oshtemo, Kalamazoo county, which folds away into a very small compass, and would be very useful as a means of supplying extra seats for churches and public halls in case of a crowd. But the chief object of attraction in this hall is "Bristol's dish-washing machine," a simply constructed piece of mechanism, which performs its allotted work with great dispatch, to the astonishment of all beholders. After a close observation and actual trial of it, we must own that Yankee genius appears to have added to its beneficent inventions for ameliorating the lot of woman, an effective dish-washer. Farewell now to scalded finger tips, and unlady-like hands. Ladies condemned to do their own work never need put their hands into dish-water. Eight dollars American money, remitted to John I. D. Bristol & Co., Detroit, will secure this domestic convenience, and with it escape from the sorrows of dish-washing. A machine for cutting leather fly-nets for horses is also exhibited in actual operation, and is said to be capable of cutting three hundred per diem. Cullen Brown, Detroit, receives orders for it. An important discovery in the shape of "Longsdorf's patent paint" is exhibited in this hall. It is said to be a complete substitute for lead and oil, not costing one-fourth the expense which they do. Longsdorf & Bros., Mechanicsburg, Penn., are the proprietors of this discovery. "Fruit Hall and Floral Hall" must be dismissed with a very brief notice. The time of the show was too early for a good display of fruit, and hence but a limited quantity is on hand. Grapes especially are not far enough advanced to show to advantage, the out-door kinds having scarcely begun to colour. Beside green fruit of various kinds, a large collection of canned fruits is shown, very nicely got up in glass jars. The fruit yield in Michigan this year is said to be below average; yet plenty of luscious peaches, pears, and apples were for sale, at low prices to all comers to the fair. The principal part of the show in Floral Hall was not the flowers, by any means. The chief floral exhibitor was that enterprising seedsman and florist, James Vick, of Rochester, N. Y., who by way of advertising his seeds sent a beautiful collection of dahlias, asters, gladioli,

and other late blooming plants. Messrs. Ford and Adair, of Detroit, and E. P. Powel, of Adrian, also show roses, asters, phloxes, &c. "Floral Hall" is, however, chiefly occupied with pianos, melodeons, and other musical instruments; with sewing-machines of all the well-known makes; with displays of jewellery, lamps, photographs, and paintings in oils and water colours. Near "Floral Hall" the bee-men had an attractive side show of their own. Messrs. Kidder, of Vermont, Flanders, of Ohio, and Thomas, of Canada, conducted this department, and had interested crowds around them all the time, witnessing their control over "the little busy bee," inspecting the hives, and buying bee-books and bee-charms. The Thomas' hive distanced its competitors, and carried off the first prize, thus confirming, by the judgment of disinterested parties, the high opinion formed of it by those Canadian bee-keepers who have put its merits to the test. "Racing—twenty-eight entries"—forms an odd and highly objectionable feature in the Exhibition; but with the exception of the State of New York, all the State Fairs, so far as I know, include the race-course as a permanent institution. This is very much to be wondered at, and regretted; for quite apart from any moral view of the matter, racing and the pursuits of agriculture are so foreign and incongruous to each other, that the introduction of the former cannot but militate against the interests of the latter. This is freely acknowledged by leading agriculturists here and in other States, where, nevertheless, racing is on the Exhibition programme; but the plea is, "we cannot get a sufficient attendance to make the thing pay if we exclude racing." This is a sorry confession, while it conveys a high compliment to New York and Canada, who can and do make their exhibitions pay without such a concomitant, and who could not be induced, there is reason to believe, by any kind or degree of persuasion, to introduce this feature. On the whole, however, the Michigan State Fair of 1867 is highly creditable to the industry, intelligence, in ventive skill, and energy of the people, betokening great progress, and giving promise of a bright future of agricultural and commercial prosperity.

Annual Meeting of the Provincial Association.

On Friday Morning, Sept. 27th, the annual meeting of delegates was held on the grounds, and on motion of Mr. McRae, seconded by Mr. Rykert, the City of Hamilton was fixed on as the next place of Exhibition. The Mayor of Hamilton said that the City Council had pledged themselves to provide sufficient and suitable accommodation, and to do whatever could be done for the Fair, within the bounds of reason. Mr. Swinyard had also offered the usual railway accommodation for freight and passengers to the exhibition, and an effort is to be made to prevent the transhipment of the freight at Toronto that week.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—On motion of Mr. Rykert, seconded by Mr. Caven, Mr. Thomas Stock, of East Flamboro, was elected President. On motion of Mr. Madden, seconded by Mr. Roderick, Mr. James Nimmo, of Camden, was chosen first Vice-President. On motion of Mr. Stock, seconded by Mr. Rykert, Mr. John Walton, of Peterboro, was appointed second Vice-President. On motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. H. J. Morgan, Mr. R. L. Denison was appointed Treasurer.

Thanks having been voted to all the officers for the past year, and to the Grand Trunk R. R., it was resolved on motion of Mr. R. L. Denison, seconded by Mr. Shea, that in the opinion of this meeting it will be advisable for the county agricultural societies, mechanics' institutes, and horticultural societies, each to appoint one delegate to attend a meeting of the Board of Agriculture during the month of November, in the City of Toronto, to advise with them upon an application to Parliament for a new Agricultural Bill—the time to be fixed by the board, who shall send a circular to each county society, and that the name of each delegate be forwarded to the secretary of the board; also, that each delegate be paid by his own society.

On motion of Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Woodburne, it was resolved that the Board take such steps as they may deem expedient for the repayment to the different societies of the deficiency caused by the failure of the Upper Canada Bank. Mr. Alexander said the Board were doing what they could. The matter had been represented to Mr. McGee and Mr. Howland, who promised to do their utmost to have the deficiency made good. Owing to the constitutional changes, nothing had been accomplished, but the Board would press the matter on every occasion.

Mr. McIver, seconded by Mr. Roderick, moved that the directors be requested to exclude the names of exhibitors from the tickets attached to articles until the prizes were awarded. Lost.

On motion of Mr. Hendrie, seconded by Mr. McLarin, it was resolved that it was desirable to change the day of the annual meeting to Thursday, and that the delegates to the Toronto meeting in November next be requested to take the point into consideration.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Lower Canada Agricultural Association, suggesting an Intercolonial Exhibition, to be held at Montreal. The meeting then adjourned.

The President's Address.

ALTHOUGH the President's address, in consequence of its premature publication by one of the local papers, was not delivered, it has nevertheless appeared in the public journals; it naturally ranks among the proceedings of the association, and our record of the exhibition would seem very incomplete without a document of so much importance, which is, moreover, well worthy of perusal by all interested in Canadian Agriculture. The following is the published address:—

FARMERS OF ONTARIO.—The revolution of another year imposes on me, as President of this Association, the duty of addressing you on some of those matters which we have again met to promote by an extended and open competition. In doing so, I shall not occupy your time at any great length, but simply offer for your consideration some plain, practical observations in reference to the great interests which it is the main object of this Society to subserve.

We are essentially an Agricultural Association, and cannot be too frequently reminded that whatever contributes to the physical support and comfort of man may, in one form or other, be traced ultimately to the soil, without the cultivation of which we should not only be deprived of our "daily bread," but also of those raw materials which the ingenuity and industry of man enable him to work up into articles of necessity or luxury, contributing to the wants and comforts, the refinements and elegancies of civilized life.

The beneficent author of our being has made the labour of the husbandman the means and condition for obtaining the necessities of life, thereby indicating the duty of cherishing that earnest thought, long and careful observation, and persevering industry in the cultivation and management of the soil, on the results of which the comforts and prosperity, and the very life of nations even, largely depend.

Now, how do we Canadian farmers stand in relation to the great question of the soil? The answer we can honestly give will be a correct exponent of the true condition of our agriculture, and afford data by which to measure our progress or retrogression. In the infancy of our settlements, as the dense forests were felled, the virgin soil generally produced abundantly, under a crude and primitive management, to which the term "cultivation" would hardly apply. In the course of years, sometimes not many, the productive power of the soil was found to undergo a gradual diminution, till at length it ceased, in too many instances, to yield a remunerative return—a state of things wholly brought about by constant cropping, superficial cultivation, and inadequate manuring. In this manner the soil has been gradually—in some instances almost insensibly—wearing down in various parts of this country; and from the nature of the treatment it has but too commonly received, no other result could in the nature of things have happened but the one which there is so much reason to deplore.

With the fact of the tendency of the soil to comparative exhaustion in many places of our older settled districts staring us in the face, it becomes important for us to ask what can be done to prevent or arrest this downward movement? The answer is obvious—a deeper, cleaner, and more thorough cultivation; the better preservation and more judicious management of manure, and the observance, as far as circumstances admit, of some sound, recognized principle in the rotation of crops. I have long been persuaded that farmers in general have been in the habit of cultivating more land than their means enabled them to do well, and, as a natural consequence, the results have become, by degrees, more and more unsatisfactory. In new soils, naturally adapted to the raising of wheat, as in the case with