



OCTOBER IN CANADA.

AFTERNOON of autumn lies a'tween me and the hill
Rising like a giant amethyst a mile away,
Dimmed by opal-tinted airs that intervene, until
All looks like a cobweb mist of purple and of grey.

Lying where the pebbles sprinkle all the river sands,
I can dip my fingers in the water warm and clear.
Watch the sunlight shimmer in the waves above my hands
Watch a snowy little sail that lazily floats near.

Far beyond the flats where some are husking Indian corn,
I can see the oval, yellow stacks of straw uplift.
Hear the hum of threshing; for, since early hours of morn,
'Round the barns a cloud of amber chaff has been adrift.

Flocks of crows at random fly within the upward air,
Ebon tufts that dot the clouds athwart a pinkish sky;
Far away the stubble fields are stretching dun and bare,
Edged with golden rod and flecked with leaves a-blowing by.

Night comes steadily and thieves the color from the hill,
Nought she leaves upon its brow of amethyst or blue;
Day will soon be over, and the twilight grey and still,
Whispers very gently that my dreamland darkens too.

—E. Pauline Johnson.



Toronto Industrial Fair.

FOR years the superiority of Toronto's Annual Exhibition has been a thing of such proverbial recurrence that to again remark on its

high excellence seems but wanton tautology; the success of Canada's great fair is something that might be taken for granted. We cannot, however, refrain from alluding to the magnificent display which the agriculturists of this country made on the occasion of this the sixteenth annual fair of the Industrial Exhibition Association of Toronto. The large attendance of farmers was a constant topic of conversation on the part of visitors, while the high standard and the number of farm product exhibits exceeded all previous years in the history of the Association. The appended table shows the relative proportion of the various live stock exhibits for this year as compared with last:

	1894.	1895.	Increase.
Horses	1218	1259	41
Cattle	608	720	112
Sheep	472	487	15
Pigs	395	425	30
	2693	2901	208

Not only did the number of live stock exhibits exceed that of last year, but the cereals and root crop display was better and larger than on previous occasions, while the apiary and dairy departments were fully up to their usual high standards. Again must we congratulate the farmers on this splendid showing, but in doing so let us draw attention, in the interest of still

greater achievements, to a few things which in our estimation have tended more than others toward the furtherance of such desirable results. To begin with, the work of the Government Experimental Farms both at Ottawa and Guelph has had a most appreciable affect upon agriculture in this country. The value which attaches to modern scientific apparatuses and up-to-date principles cannot be overestimated. By these means alone can we, in agriculture as in everything else, ever hope to reach that high standard of excellence which competition and civilization demand in this nineteenth century of inventions. It is being demonstrated more clearly every day that the man who refuses to make use of approved modern ideas is being left steadily behind his more progressive brother who agrees to adopt them. In the natural course of events this cannot be avoided, for the moment a man makes up his mind to stand still he begins to fall back; that moment dates the time of a retrograde movement in his life, and this backward motion, however imperceptible at first, is something that is difficult to check if not arrested at the start. The Agricultural College and Experimental Farms have always recognized the necessity for the adoption of newest methods, and the great success of the farming community of Canada to-day is in no small measure due to the principles which these institutions are daily inculcating in the minds of young Canada. Then, again, the willingness of the farmers themselves to take advantage of the opportunities afforded them to advance their profession, must also account in no small degree for the success that was obtained this year. It is a common thing in other countries to find the agriculturists indifferent to progress and advancement. Friendly Governments offer all sorts of tempting offers and inducements; private corporations and public concerns unceasingly endeavor to encourage the languishing rural industry—that backbone of every country—but their efforts are but feebly responded to. In Canada, however, things are different. Here the agriculturist is invariably the first to demand the highest point of perfection in machinery as in everything else, and will not be put off with inferior appliances. Here he must master the latest achievements of science or he is not content, nor is he satisfied with any but the most enterprising journals. The Canadian farmer is not willing to sit idly by and see the grass grow under his feet; he makes the effort and battles for himself, he aims high and is rewarded by success. It is this spirit of perseverance, energy and self-respect that has qualified him for the exalted position which he occupies to-day and enabled him to make such an admirable showing last year at Canada's Industrial Fair—this spirit of "not to be outdone by others." Pessimists may decry the country as they like and optimists find delight in everything to their heart's content, but neither can deny the fact that the avocation of the farmers of Canada is exceptionally situated in the matter of adventitious and natural advantages. When we look around us and behold the condition of the rural population in other countries, we must arrive at that conclusion. When we consider the empty homesteads and vacant farms of Vermont, New Hampshire and Connecticut, when we bear in