

knowledge of a single fact of importance except by attending these shows, and then only from observation. No one knew how this wheat, or any other production of the earth which obtained a prize, had been cultivated. No one could tell from what he saw how to improve his own culture. This defect he thought might be remedied by requiring every person who sent an article for exhibition, to furnish answers to a list of questions which should be sent to them. By publishing these, every one could know in what manner excellence in any particular branch could be obtained. Another point was that they have hitherto had no practical test of the quality of the Agricultural Implements. It was quite impossible to tell the value of any machine, merely from an inspection of it on the ground. This year they had commenced the system, and the result was that he believed they would give the 1st prize to a reaping machine, to which, had they not seen it working, they would probably have given no prize at all. Another thing was that the decisions of the Judges at a show like this ought to be so reliable that farmers could be guided by them in purchasing machines; and without a practical test they could never arrive at that result. The same remark applied to the ploughs, fanning mills, and other kinds of machinery. Another important point was the places at which these shows should be held, and his opinion was that they should be held more permanently. Giving the people of Brantford every credit for the preparations they had made, still many complaints were made of the want of accommodation, and the high prices charged for what was to be had. Another objection was that the members of the Local Committee, from inexperience, could not be expected to make all the preparations that were required. He thought that the best mode would be to select three permanent places, one central, one in the east, and another in the west. He did not think that it was necessary to confine the shows to one place, as there were many advantages from changing the location.

E. W. Thompson, Esq., spoke of the difficulties which had been experienced in first establishing these exhibitions, and the success that had attended them; this was especially the case in agricultural implements. A few years ago all our implements came from the States, but this year there was not a single foreign implement upon the ground. (Cheers.) It was impossible to test the value of implements at this season of the year, and the only plan would be to appoint a Committee in various parts of the country to report upon the implements used at the time they were employed. It was also necessary to have a better implement to test the draft of the ploughs.

Mr. French observed that he knew of no school in his part of the country which was sufficiently advanced to make use of the splendid instruments displayed in the Exhibition. He thought the establishment of an Agricultural and Veterinary College would be of more benefit to the country. A great many things that were now spoken of as new had really been known of years ago, and the advance that had really been made was very small.

Mr. Jarvis approved of many of the suggestions of Mr. McDougall, with regard to reaping machines. He thought that persons intending to exhibit such machines, should give notice of the time at which it could be tried. With regard to manures, he had recently seen in Europe what care was taken of all kinds of manure; and he was glad to learn that a gentleman in town, too, was preparing to manufacture manure from the numerous kinds of offal to be found about all large towns. The Board of Arts and Manufactures with which he was connected, would work hand in hand with the Agricultural Association, for the benefit of farmers as well as machinics.

Mr. Stevenson spoke of the advantages derived from the establishment of the Association, and of the improvements it had effected in the agriculture of the country. Farmers were very much averse to what they called book-farming, and were slow to adopt anything until they knew the practical result of it. The working of the Association had been quiet, but had produced a much greater effect than was generally imagined, in showing farmers, by the example of others, what it was practicable for them to do themselves. In his county, a few years ago, there was scarcely any clover seed to be got; but by the encouragement afforded by the County Society, enough was now grown to be a source of profit. He could remember when there were no implements used but those made in the States, and now all that they required were made in Canada. It showed that they only required to make a market to have the article manufactured.

He spoke of the importance of having a more full record of their proceedings, and also thought that it would be very advantageous to require exhibitors to give a statement of the manner in which they had produced the articles. This was especially the case in re-