

THE
Canadian Agriculturist.

VOL. VIII.

TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1856.

No. 10.

THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION AT KINGSTON.

The Eleventh Annual Exhibition of the Provincial Association was held at Kingston on the 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 26th of September. The weather was, upon the whole, satisfactory. It was rather cold and windy on Thursday, and in the afternoon there was some rain, but Friday was a fine day, and large numbers of people thronged the gates until evening. The number of visitors was, probably, equal to any previous Show; though, from the large number who were admitted as members of the Local Societies, and by means of carriage tickets, which were issued liberally, and circulated freely, we apprehend the *books* will not shew an extraordinary crowd. The number of entries made in the Secretary's books was larger, we believe, than at any previous exhibition; but an immense number of articles, in nearly all the departments, were not forthcoming. Whether exhibitors found difficulty in shipping, or discovered that the expenses would be too great, we cannot say; but it is evident something of this kind induced many to change their resolution after entering their articles. Upon the whole, the Exhibition of this year is creditable to the Association, though not equal to some of its predecessors. The condition of agriculture in the vicinity of Kingston is not so good as in more western localities, and as a large portion of the Exhibition must necessarily be contributed from the surrounding country, it was to be expected that in variety, completeness, and general excellence the Show would be inferior.

The most striking feature of this Exhibition was the Crystal Palace erected by the people of Kingston in the middle of the Show ground. It is a large building, in the form of a Latin cross, and is enclosed chiefly with glass. The transepts run east and west, and north and south. There is a spacious door for entrance or exit in each of the four ends. The transports are large enough to allow a double row of stands for fruit, &c., in the middle of each, and also along each side, with space for the spectators to pass between. The convenience, safety, and ornamental appearance of this structure suggest the propriety of similar erections at other points where the Provincial Shows are likely to be frequently held. We believe it is a very general opinion that these