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Custom House Officials will please bear in mind that Lady Loft's luggage is not to be examined when she returns from Europe. What is the use of being a minister's wife unless you have some privileges?

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W. P. PAGE } Editors.
 S. W. HILL }

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20, 1892.

EDITORIAL.

CROP REPORT.

In this week's FARMER we inclose blanks to be filled in as accurately as possible. We hope those who receive them will comply with our request speedily, and return the blanks filled out with as little delay as possible.

FARMING.

It seems to us the future of farming has never looked so prosperous as at present. Agriculturists are realizing more freely every day the fact that theirs is the foundation rock of all prosperity, and that they are the medium, or motive power that runs and sustains all industries. Learning and acknowledging this fact is a long step towards improvement, and when they come freely to realize the necessity of education and the assistance this will give them, a marked change can be looked for in the financial and social condition of the farming community. It is not enough that we know how to plough a straight furrow, or swing a scythe or cradle, there must be a general change of social life and intellectual culture, a broadening and expanding of mind, a better knowledge by reading, study and social contact; not so much living alone with the plough, and the hoe handles as principal company, but seeking contact more with the world. The welfare of this country is in the hands of the farmers if they know it; its commercial as well as political management might be subject to their will, if they would only exercise the mind power, but in this latter (political) condition there is no more subservient class to the will of their masters—political wire-pullers—than they. It is the farmers' votes that elect our legislators, but not their voice, for but few have the courage to study and discuss questions on their merit, and without party prejudice. If they did a different class of men would rule the country, and the agricultural interest receive more direct encouragement and attention.

The Minnesota Farmer, published in Minneapolis, is now issued as an eight-page weekly. It is a live paper, full of information, and deserves, and idently gets extensive patronage. It is sure to succeed.

The Prairie Farmer published in Chicago has changed its form from an eight page to a sixteen page paper. The first number in the new form came out two weeks ago, and it certainly shows a very decided improvement in get up. The Prairie Farmer is an excellent paper and this change will increase its reputation as one of the best agricultural journals of this continent.

We have a few bound volumes of the FARMER, for 1892, for sale. Apply to this office.

MARTIN'S AMBER.—A sample of this fall wheat which we have from Mr. Everitt, is one of the finest we have ever seen. It is beautiful in color and perfect in contour. This wheat is for sale by Mr. J. A. Everitt, of Watertown, Pa., at 50 cents per lb., or \$10 per bushel, with smaller amounts in proportion.

THE OBJECT OF THE AGRICULTURAL FAIR.

The near approach of the season for agricultural fairs renders the methods of conducting these autumn festivals subjects of intense interest to the farming community. Few will dispute that the main object of a farm fair should be its educational features, manifested especially in the exhibition of choice farm products, whether of cattle and sheep, grain and roots, fruit and flowers or agricultural implements and machinery. This exhibition which approaches nearest this standard will exert the most beneficial influence on its participants and upon its visitors. Agricultural fairs should cease to represent only museums of curiosities, collections of monstrosities, or exceptional products. Neither should these societies attempt to include within their encouragement articles foreign to the direct interests of the farm and the farmer.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

Continued success has marked the course of this exhibition the past week. Large crowds of people were in attendance, and the interest kept up well. The exhibition as a whole, compares favorably with past years, in some respects is better. The special attractions, the bombardment on Monday, the electric light, speeding in the horse ring, &c., all helped to draw a crowd. In fact, these special attractions were advertised, as they are absorbing features of the exhibition. It is questionable however, if the efforts put forth in this direction result in as much benefit to the people as if applied to the legitimate work of our Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition.

In machinery, farming implements, &c., the exhibition is a success. The facilities offered for getting exhibits to Toronto and the unequalled accommodation for exhibitors to display to advantage, especially machinery and implements induces manufacturers to exhibit here who will not be seen in other places, and if the interest among agriculturists and others can be sufficiently kept up to induce them to attend, exhibitors will continue to improve the opportunity and advantages this exhibition offers. We learn from a prominent member of the Board, that in future it is contemplated with drawing the prizes from machinery and implements and giving it instead to other classes, stock, products of the

field, orchard, &c. The reason for this is that let the judges do as they may, a great deal of dissatisfaction is expressed, and those who receive a third prize or none, feel their trouble has been for nothing, and a possible injury done their business, while if no prizes were offered the public would judge for themselves, and the opportunity of showing their goods would be sufficient inducement to call forth a good display. Besides, by placing the funds used in paying prizes to manufacturers, upon agricultural products and stock, a much larger show in these classes would be the result, and hence, greater interest among agriculturists.

STOCK.

The show of stock this year was very fine indeed. A more interesting scene is seldom visited than that when the prized animals were all paraded in the ring on the closing day of the exhibition.

There were horses of all classes Clydesdales, Percherons, Thoroughbreds, Suffolk, &c. This latter class is not so well known as some others, but a look at one especially, exhibited by Wm. Sadler, of Galt—a chestnut stallion—will warrant us in saying they will prove a valuable breed of horses.

The Percherons are also a fine class. Among these is the celebrated horse Romulus, a fine specimen, also another called Young Romulus, owned by F. A. Brickman & Co., Redner-ville, looked upon by many as quite his equal if not better. In this class also were shown several brood mares, the first prize was carried off both for mare and colt by Ballachey Bros, of Brantford. This mare is a gray, not in as good condition as some others having a foal by her three weeks old, still shows well her good points. She is called Peerless, is 16½ hands high and weighs 1600 lbs.

In Clydesdales the show was large, also in thoroughbreds.

CATTLE.

Among these were seen Durhams, Devons, Herfords, Polled Angus, Jerseys, &c., also a breed of cattle called the West Highlands, shown by Mr. G. Whitefield, Rougemont, Que. These cattle are imported from the highlands of Scotland and are a peculiar class of cattle, not large, short legged, heavy horned and long haired. They are noted for their good beef qualities and their hardiness. Mr. Whitefield also exhibited other classes of cattle, his exhibit comprising the largest, most varied, and finest exhibit of thoroughbred cattle on the grounds. Mr. Whitefield exhibits some fifty, all comprising specimens of the Polled Angus, Galloway, Devonshire, Sussex, and West Highland breeds. The farm at Rougemont is about 1,400 acres in extent, and some five or six hundred head of cattle are at present in stock there. Beside breeding largely for the supply of others, Mr. Whitefield keeps an extensive dairy of Ayrshire and other cows, where the butter made is mainly for the export trade. In this establishment a vast deal of money has been expended, and the Canadian public is deeply indebted to the enterprise of this gentleman in his efforts to improve and increase the breeds of cattle in this country. The cost of the present exhibit alone is, in its way, something enormous. All the thoroughbred animals shown are imported, and some of them have come here almost direct from the Old Country.

EXPERIMENTAL FARM'S EXHIBIT.

The exhibit of cattle from the Ontario Experimental Farm naturally attracted a good deal of attention. It