

denning the bakers of Paris to a fixed legal price, which was acknowledged to be below the cost price of the article, while the municipal funds of the city of Paris were to indemnify the bakers for this sacrifice.

The plan was, however, tried, and the citizens of Paris continued to eat cheap bread during a period of scarcity at the expense of the corporation, or rather at their own expense, since the loss had to be supplied by some other form of taxation. We know not how long the experiment lasted but we are happy to find that it is not to be renewed; and the *Moniteur* now lays down with authority the principles for which we contended on the former occasion. The public in France are told that all artificial attempts to lower the price of corn, or to establish a maximum of value, can only be attended with absurd and injurious results, and that confidence in the freedom of exchanges is the only basis of commercial prosperity and consequently of abundance.

The deficiency in the wheat harvest of France is estimated at about 7,000,000 hectolitres, or rather more than 2,000,000 quarters. The question is, from what source can this quantity of grain be most conveniently supplied; but as the *Moniteur* justly observes, in order that foreign supplies should be introduced into the country, it is necessary that the price should be and remain high. In the north of Europe the harvest has been short, and the corn trade with the most productive corn districts of the south and east is obstructed by the war. But the American harvest has been splendid; an unusual great breadth of land has been under wheat this year, and the crops have been successfully got in. The available surplus of wheat is estimated at about 5,000,000 quarters from the United States and Canada—a quantity which is more than twice sufficient to cover twice the alleged deficiency in France. Of this quantity it is stated that about half will be shipped for Europe between first of September and the 1st of May; and we have reasons to believe that very large orders have already been transmitted to the other side of the Atlantic for the French market.

THE UPPER CANADA AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION AT COBOURG.

The Exhibition took place according to announcement, on the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th October. The occurrence of the autumnal equinox at an early period this year—and a succession of cold, wet, and wintry weather, interfered to a very considerable extent with the attendance at the Exhibition, and caused great numbers who came from a distance to leave at the close of the third day. On the fourth day the weather was more favorable, and as His Excellency the Governor General and Lady Head were present, and as the Exhibition was crowded with visitors from Cobourg and its vicinity, the departure of those who came from a distance was not so strongly felt. We give the report at some length with the aid of the Upper Canada Journals.

The Show was arranged upon a rising spot of ground beautifully situated overlooking Lake Ontario, fringed on one side by forest with the variegated hues of Autumn curling

the landscape, and on the other commanding a view of the picturesque town of Cobourg, with the beautifully wooded heights which form an appropriate background to the picture. The grounds were arranged very much after the manner of the Exhibition grounds at Quebec in 1854, and the excellent arrangements of the Lower Canada Show were copied in many particulars. A Floral Temple occupied the centre and was surrounded with a large number of minor tents and booths, the pens for the animals being built around the fence. The offices of the Association were near the entrance gate, and here David Christie, Esq., M.P.P., the Chairman, R. L. Denison, Esq., the Treasurer, and Professor Buckland, the Secretary, had offices. The entrance was surrounded by a green arch with the word *WELCOME* erected in honor of the Governor General, but equally applicable to all who visited the Exhibition.

On entering the ground, and making a tour of inspection around the pens it was seen that the show of cattle was remarkably fine, there being a larger number of exhibitors than usual. In truth, the quantity of good cattle in the country is now so great that it is necessary to erect new standards of excellence. Formerly, when pure breeds were scarce, anything in the shape of a Durham would pass muster; now farmers begin to draw strong distinctions between the various bloods coming under that designation. Another proof of the general distribution of imported stock is to be found in the fact that no grade cows are now exhibited except they have so much pure blood in their veins as to make them rank almost with the thorough breeds. The Durham stock still continues the favorite in Canada, although there are many adherents of the Ayrshires, the Herefords and the Devons, who are backing their opinions by importing and breeding. A few years ago, the Devons were hardly known in the Province, yet here there are many fine lots from various parts of the country. Mr. Lock, of Yarmouth, shows a large herd of this breed, and finds a ready sale for them at high prices. Mr. Wollender, of Simcoe, Co., Norfolk, Mr. Tye, of Wilnot, Mr. Ferris, of Down, were also exhibitors, besides others. This stock thrives better on light pasture than the Durham, and, although not producing so much weight, in many cases is quite as profitable as the other. The Herefords were also more numerous than usual, and their quality was excellent. For many years, this breed has been preferred at the Smithfield market for its beef. In Ayrshires, however, the improvement was, perhaps, more marked than in any other breed. The County Society of Montreal, Mr. R. L. Denison, of Toronto, Mr. John Boyce, of Amherst Island, Mr. Wright, of Cobourg, Mr. Paterson, of Streetsville, Mr. Ewart, of Dundas, and others, showed capital animals. The black Galloway cattle, some of which were exhibited last year, for the first time, by Mr. Graham, of Vaughan, were represented here by the herds of Mr. William Roddick, and Messrs. Miller, of Markham and Pickering. They are held in great esteem in London and Liverpool for the prime quality of their flesh. Of fat cattle, the quantity was greater than usual, and the quality excellent. George

Elliot, of Clarke, showed four Durham steers, bred by Mr. Walton, of Peterborough, which could not be excelled anywhere; and Kirkwood & Lawrie, of Hamilton, had a pair of matched animals got by Mr. Christie's bull, Prince Albert, which were almost equally good. Altogether, the show of cattle gives marked evidence of improvement. Very soon, Canadian beef and dairy products will take their place in the same rank as the English; and our grazing farmers will receive a return from their animals which they could never have expected from the miseries which they are fast exchanging for the better breeds of Great Britain.

The show of Sheep is not so great this year at Cobourg as it was last year at London, but in quality there is nearly as great an improvement within a few years in this department as in the cattle. Until now, an imported sheep was so much better than the ordinary animal, that no very close enquiries were made into their particular excellencies. Now, however, every so-called Leicester is closely scanned, to see whether it is purely bred. Mr. Gordon, of Paris, has imported, during the past year, some animals from the flock of Mr. Sanday, of the Home-farm, Nottinghamshire, of the breed of Mr. Douglas, of Athelstamford, East Lothian, which are considered, by many, superior to anything hitherto brought into Canada. Mr. Stone, of Guelph, also exhibited some improved Cotswolds, called "New Oxford," which were very much admired. Of Southdowns, so much esteemed for their delicate flesh, Mr. Gordon, of Paris, showed some fine specimens, also recently imported; and Mr. Spence, of Whitby, excelled in the same breed. A single pen of Cheviots were shown.

The show of horses was remarkably fine. The number of matched teams dashing round the course marked out for them was large, and of all sorts of carriage and riding horses there was a much better display than usual. There was no lack, however, of agricultural horses of the old breeds—plenty of Clydes and Messengers and King Alfreds. The matched farm horses were not so numerous, but Mr. Simpson, of Bowmauville, and Mr. Henry Elliott, of Darlington, showed two very fine spans.

Of pigs and poultry there was nothing remarkable to note.

In the department of Agricultural Implements the display was highly creditable, the Show of 1855 being superior, it was generally thought, to any of its predecessors; and it was natural that it should be so, for in this department in a greater degree than in any other, competition is stimulated by the certainty that the manufacturers, whose implements carry off the palm of excellence, will be rewarded by an immediate influx of orders for the articles they produce. Especially is this the case in Canada, where the price of labour is very high, and every intelligent farmer confidently knows it to be his interest to be possessed of the most effective machines, those which will most economize time and human labour. A large number of ploughs were exhibited. J. J. Jeffrey, Montreal, exhibited the one that gained the first prize at the recent Lower Canada Provincial Exhibition, at Sherbrooke, being adjudged superior to Mr. Patterson's, which had been sent by the Committee to the Paris Exhibition. Mr. Bingham, Norwich, Canada West, exhibited a plough of superior construction, the same as one sent to the Paris Exhibition. Not anticipating the actual trial of ploughs which took