

On the Wing.

(Continued from Page 57.)

OTTAWA.

At the time appointed we were admitted into the department of Hon. Mr. Pope, Minister of Agriculture. We found him seated at his desk, on which were numerous telegrams and letters, to which he had been attending. Mr. Pope appears quite a plain, unassuming, approachable gentleman. He is a practical farmer, and appears to understand our requirements much better than many other M. P.'s we have conversed with.

We explained to him our views in regard to the cattle and swine diseases in the States; we urged on him the necessity of more strenuous measures being adopted to prevent our stock becoming diseased. Mr. Pope said there were many interests to be considered. We conversed with him about the tariff, and we believe he will endeavor to protect and advance our agricultural interests as far as he can. We do not expect he will be able to have everything his own way, even if it were for the welfare of the Dominion.

Our position with England must be first looked at. Any step we may take is noticed with a keen eagle's eye, and Americans and their friends are ready to make a mountain of a plain, or any straightforward step we may take for our own interests. Then there are the conflicting interests of the provinces, each having power, which power appears at the present time to conflict with the interests of the whole Dominion; for instance, the Hog Cholera has been allowed to gain a fast hold in one of our provinces, and the Provincial Government has done nothing to stamp it out; this was known when the Provincial Parliament was sitting, and, in fact, it was known to members of that body months ago. Now it appears that the Dominion Parliament has not the power to enact a law to stamp it out, as our mysterious parliamentary arrangement confines that power to local legislation. We had not heard that a single instance of this dire disease had ever been known in Canada at the time we conversed with the Minister of Agriculture, but interested people have known it for months. We believe it is best to face the enemy boldly and stamp it out immediately at any cost. Any person should be heavily fined for allowing any infectious disease to destroy his stock and endanger his neighbors', without giving proper notice to proper authorities.

THE SIGHTS OF THE CAPITAL.

The high bluff rock overlooking the Ottawa River and the Chaudiere Falls is a very grand sight—one of the finest in Ontario. The side of this high rock is covered with trees, many of which are evergreens. The parliament buildings are spacious and grand, are substantially built, and are highly ornamental. We give every credit to the designer and architects. They are well worthy a visit from any Canadian or European; in fact, we admire the buildings and site more than any buildings we have seen, not excepting the British Parliament Buildings or the Tuilleries at Paris. We would advise any Canadians who can afford a trip to go there; they will be amply repaid if they have any taste for architectural beauty and magnificent scenery combined. The buildings are admirably arranged both inside and out; the Library is altogether the finest we have seen. We have not space to attempt to describe the magnificence of this gem of Canada. The immense quantity of well-arranged books will astonish you. This Library is free to the public. At different tables there were a few gentlemen of studious habits reading; at one table several ladies were seated. We had the curiosity to pass by this table; the books they were looking at were vol-

umes of gaudy and fantastically dressed ladies, having masquerade costumes of the most peculiar designs you could imagine. They were very nicely painted and got up in the highest style of art and fancy. Perhaps these were French, Italian, Spanish or Japanese productions; we did not stop to see, but we can assure you we had not seen such before, and we do not believe any Canadian that has not been to Ottawa has hardly dreamed of what might be seen there.

If we except the grand site for these buildings, and the buildings and contents, Ottawa would not compare with most of our Western cities. The people there are poor, very poor, and there are very few who may be termed well-to-do. We should judge that the people cannot compare to those of Western cities in average wealth, and in taste for beauty and ornamentation; in fact, we were informed that Lord Dufferin's ball ruined nearly half the citizens that tried to ape the style. In the city every attempt is made to add show and to go beyond the bounds of income. The hangers-on to Governments are too poor, too expensive, and often overpaid even then; but such is life! There are too many proud and poor in Ottawa ever to make it a desirable place to reside in. (At least our informant says so.)

(Continued on Page 59.)

Sugar from Maize and Sorghum.

We have received from Edward Lefroy Cull, of the Canada Company's Office, an article on this subject, by F. L. Stewart, from which we take the following brief extracts, on the possibility of manufacturing sugar from these products of our soil, in Canada as well as in the U. S.:

"There is no reason whatever why the British Provinces to the north of us should not share largely with us in the benefits of this new industry. Certainly no impediment exists in the climate of a vast area of that territory. It is important to observe that for sugar-making purposes it is not necessary that Indian corn or sorghum should ripen their seed. On the contrary, it is essential that the corn-cane should be cut before the grain has passed the milky stage of its development. Practical farmers in Canada have long ago determined where maize can be grown. To the west of you is a magnificent domain almost identical in climate and soil and physical features with our Minnesota and Dakota. The soil of the Red River Valley is as well adapted to sugar growing as it is to wheat. Sir John Richardson says that maize ripens well at Red River and Carleton House (lat. 52° 51 min. N.), and up to the 54th parallel generally in the Saskatchewan Valley.

"It is now determined beyond question that in the United States the beet-root, in no prominent respect as a sugar-producing plant, is at all equal to our own native maize, and that the latter is at least equalled in this respect by the Chinese sorghum. First, however, let it be said, to prevent mistake, that maize sugar is not the so-called and comparatively worthless 'corn sugar' made from the starch of the grain (or even from waste paper and linen rags) by a well-known chemical transformation, but it is a natural product of the juice of the immature plant.

"The stems of Indian corn, if taken at the proper stage of development, as well as those of the different varieties of sorghum, contain in great abundance a saccharine juice scarcely excelled in richness by that of the sugar-cane of Louisiana. The sugar produced by this process is true crystallized (cane) sugar. One hundred pounds of the stems of these plants, at the proper period of their growth, contain about 87½ parts of juice and 12½ parts of woody fibre and insoluble substances; 12 to 16 per cent. of the juice is crystallizable cane-sugar, nearly all of which can be extracted."

We have ere now spoken of sorghum and sorghum sugar, as well as of the sugar from the beet, which latter, we expect, will be pretty well tested in the Dominion this season. The manufacture from either can hardly be said to be, as yet, little more than an experiment.

Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Arts Association.

The Agricultural and Arts Association of Ontario met at Ottawa on the 19th of March. The following members were present: Hon. D. Christie, Paris; Rev. Dr. Burnet, London; Jas. Young, Galt; S. Wilmot, Newcastle; L. E. Shipley, Ailsa Craig; W. Saunders, London; D. P. McKinnon, South Finch; D. McRae, Guelph; W. Roy, Owen Sound; J. C. Rykert, M.P., St. Catharines; O. Klotz, Preston; J. B. Aylsworth, Newburgh; J. Leggo, jr., Gananoque; S. White, Charing Cross; C. Drury, Barrie; Ira Morgan, Metcalfe; George Graham, Brampton; R. Lees, Ottawa; Prof. A. Smith, Toronto; and J. R. Craig, Secretary. Mr. S. Wilmot was called to the chair.

The following officers were elected: President, Samuel Wilmot, Newcastle; Vice-President, J. C. Rykert, M. P., St. Catharines; Treasurer, George Graham, Brampton; Secretary, J. R. Craig, Toronto.

The following is an abstract of the Secretary's report:

| RECEIPTS. | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance on hand January 1st, 1878.... | \$5,054 15 |
| Interest account..... | 158 11 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 25 00 |
| Rents..... | 2,690 50 |
| Prize account..... | 139 40 |
| Registration fees..... | 363 75 |
| Legislative grant..... | 10,000 00 |
| Exhibition receipts..... | 22,570 21 |
| Total..... | \$41,001 12 |

| EXPENDITURE. | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Paid for prizes..... | \$15,419 04 |
| Exhibition expenses..... | 11,110 00 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 1,634 11 |
| Printing..... | 1,476 98 |
| Salaries..... | 3,022 50 |
| Council expenses..... | 2,313 00 |
| Stationery..... | 317 35 |
| Veterinary museum and library..... | 686 59 |
| Veterinary College..... | 536 50 |
| Prince of Wales' donation..... | 800 00 |
| Plowing match..... | 1,619 75 |
| Postage..... | 199 50 |
| Balance on hand..... | 1,865 77 |
| Total..... | \$41,001 12 |

A letter was read from the Governor-General, informing the President that His Excellency would be pleased to become a patron of the Association.

Hon. Mr. Christie presented a report in favor of a Dominion Exhibition, changing the Provincial for the current year, the opening to be by His Excellency and Her Royal Highness, and embrace the following: A convention of manufacturers, a convention of agriculturists, a meeting of the Poultry Association, a meeting of fruit-growers, a meeting of the Dairymen's Association, a grand musical competition, a volunteer review and military competition, a Dominion rifle match, a cricket, lacrosse and athletic competition, a grand levee and presentation, a general illumination and fireworks, and a balloon ascension.

It is our opinion that such a course as the above would tend to introduce might be advantageous in increasing the receipts of the Association; but we much doubt if the expenditure should be charged to the agricultural accounts, as such an exhibition might amuse and enrich the railroads and the citizens of Ottawa, but the farmers of Ontario would fail to reap pleasure or profit from it. Is our Agricultural Exhibition to be turned into a colored minstrel show?

Farmers in Texas, as a class, are making but a sorry living. At least one-half of them are in debt and pay one to two and a half per cent. interest per month, and money scarce at that.—[Rural New Yorker.