

that a straight clean furrow was the basis of all good husbandry. In a country like this it was important to our well-being. He should propose a toast, "the men who drew these fine furrows." (great cheers.) He was thankful that he was not judge, he had to propose the health of them all, successful and unsuccessful. As he was going round the field some one remarked to him that the ploughmen were all Scotchmen, but another replied they were the sons of Scotchmen, and in this country the sons always beat their fathers. He was pleased with that remark, and he would tell them why, he too had a son born in this country, and if he did nothing better, he hoped he would beat his father. His Excellency then gave

The Ploughmen.

The President said he had been requested to state that the judges, after great difficulty, had come to a decision; he believed they had found it far more difficult to decide, than the judges did last year at the Whitby match. The Scarborough men have nearly been beaten! The President said he wished he could say they had been beaten for one reason—because he thought it would prove that we have better ploughmen in Canada than any where else in the world. Scarborough had done remarkably well at Whitby last year, and if Vaughan had beaten now, it would show that great improvement had been made during the year. Scarborough has won the day; only just won, they came very near been beaten.

The Army and Navy.

Col. Bruce returned thanks on behalf of the army. No naval officers being present, Capt. Irving was called upon to reply on behalf of the navy. He was glad the President had made an excuse for calling one for himself. He had never held a commission in the navy, but he had known many jolly fellows who belonged to the navy. He then complimented the ploughmen for the excellence of their workmanship, and Lord Elgin for his condescension for appearing there amongst the farmers. He warned the farmers of the lawyers, and to keep out of the storekeeper's debt; to leave disputes to arbitration, and they would become richer and better neighbors.

The Successful Competitors.

The President in giving this toast said the successful competitors had shown a great deal of skill; but they had been very closely matched.

The Unsuccessful Competitors.

The President then read the following letter from Mr. Perry excusing his absence on the ground of sickness.

Whitby, 3d of May, 1850.

To the President, Directors, Contributors to the Respective purses, and Ploughmen of the Townships of Scarborough and Vaughan, assembled at the great Ploughing Match to come off this day in Markham.

Gentlemen:—
I am extremely sorry that severe indisposition compels me to forego the anticipated pleasure I had promised myself, on meeting and joining heart and hand with you, in the interesting proceedings of the day. Firmly believing that such exhibitions and displays, are calculated to serve and promote the great—I may say paramount interests of Agriculture, they have (like all other hopes of the kind) and continue to receive my best wishes, and my motto and sentiment is, "May the best Ploughman never tire."

I have the honour, Gentlemen.

To be your obedient servant,

PETER PERRY.

He then proposed the health of
Peter Perry.

F. Jacques, Esq., replied on behalf of Mr. Perry. He said Mr. Perry was the originator of these ploughing matches. He looked upon Mr. Perry as a benefactor of his country, and as such he felt he would be hereafter regarded. Mr. Perry had looked for the great sources of Canadian wealth; and seeing that Canada had no gold mines, that her soil was her richest mine, he had discovered that to improve her agriculture was the way to make her wealthy; and the means he had taken of doing so was in originating these ploughing matches. He (Mr. J.) begged to return thanks on Mr. Perry's behalf for the toast that had been drunk.

The Manufacturing interests of Canada.

Mr. G. W. Gamble replied. He spoke of a corresponding population as necessary for the permanent prosperity of Agriculture; and the means of obtaining it "encouragement of the manufacturing arts." England he said was determined to be the workshop of the world; and to make us grow wheat to feed her population at the same rate as that grown by the serfs of Russia.

The Mercantile interests of Canada.

Hon. Francis Hinks replied. He said he was almost afraid to rise on behalf of the Commercial interests of Canada after one of the speakers had warned them to beware of the store-keepers. Still he held that the Commercial interests conferred great advantage on the Agricultural. They obtain for you what you want, and also provide the best market for your products, and find out the cheapest mode of getting them to that market. Manufactories were springing up in Canada and he rejoiced to see them. A commercial class were absolutely necessary in every country, for there was always a great many articles it was absolutely necessary to import. You have got to pay for these articles in some way, and it must be done either by Agricultural productions or manufactures. As Canada cannot hope to compete with England where labour is cheap and machinery in great perfection, we must pay for our imports in Agricultural productions. If we established a system of protection, the farmer would have to pay a great deal more for the articles he required. He had lately had a conversation with one of the largest manufacturers in Canada, Mr. McKechnie of Cobourg, who told him (Mr. Hinks) that he (Mr. McKechnie) wanted no protection. The honourable gentleman then referred to the great improvements that have taken place in the communications of the country, that vessels now take flour from the port of Toronto to Halifax direct. The worthy President had referred to the prizes given by His Excellency to the students of the Normal School; he would mention another instance of the judicious liberality of His Excellency; he referred to the offer of His Excellency for the best essay on the influence of the Canals on the Agriculture of the Province. These essays would have a great effect in diffusing correct information respecting our internal communications. We should soon be able to carry flour to England for the same rates it cost a few months ago to carry it to Montreal.

The Press of Canada.

The President said they owed a great debt of gratitude to the press; not to the agricultural press particularly, but to the general press which brings the intelligence of the state of the markets, and all other information respecting events that transpire in all parts of the world. He hoped every farmer would patronize the press by becoming a subscriber for a public journal.