

It will be a long time before the Canadian landscape can equal it. I can call to recollection, however, several spots in Canada that would look very like England, if they had only those picturesque attractions—green and living fences. Although I am gratified to an indescribable degree with the beauty, richness, and loveliness of the country, I cannot say so much of what little I have yet seen of the cities. In Manchester I was particularly struck with the unseemly conduct of great numbers of people on the Sunday—that sacred day of rest, emphatically the poor man's day. There are all kinds of games going on in back streets and open places; bar-rooms open, people fighting, a continued noise like any other day, and in fact several shops are open. I never knew till I came to Manchester, what life is in a large manufacturing city; a most marked mixture of good and evil. I have already availed myself of the former to some small extent by visiting the Museum of Natural History. The geological department is exceedingly rich, especially in fossil specimens belonging to the carboniferous group. The Horticultural Gardens are a great source of attraction. But I am leaving the object with which I commenced,—a few words about the great show at Chester.

I was, unfortunately, not present at the trial of machines and implements, which occupied two or three days at the beginning of the week. It was understood that the testing was never before conducted in so careful, searching, and scientific a manner, and the report of the committee of this department will be more than usually interesting and instructive. I devoted the Thursday to the inspection of stock, and Friday to the implements and machines; a portion of Saturday I gave to visiting some of the principal points of attraction of the city and its vicinity.

The ancient and usually quiet city of Chester, during the week of the great national show, was the scene of bustle and gaiety. The streets were thronged with visitors, and the royal standard of England, the eagles of France and of Prussia, as well as the banners of other nations, waved proudly and majestically on the ancient walls of this loyal city. The visitor, on entering the city from the railway station, is first attracted by the appearance of a beautifully decorated arch, covered with the laurel, and adorned with banners, bearing the inscription, "Welcome to Chester." In passing from this archway, which so nobly spans the street, to the show ground, the stranger cannot but admire the gaiety of the scene, and the citizens of Chester are deserving of great praise for the enthusiasm which they displayed on this very interesting and important occasion. The show was held in an enclosure called the Rooder, comprising, I should suppose, about thirty-five acres. This piece of land is set apart for the Chester Races, and has a level and beautiful surface. It was in an early period of the nation the arena for the sports of the Roman soldiers, and it is a very curious fact, that the very field which was once covered with the Roman army, and was the play-ground of the ancient Roman games, should now be covered with improved breeds of cattle and agricultural implements, of the latest mechanical improvements.

The general show yard of live stock and implements was opened to the public on Thursday; on the preceding days none but officials, judges, exhibitors, &c., were admitted. Upon paying a fee, however, visitors were allowed to witness the testing of the implements and machinery. From all I could learn, it may be safely affirmed that upon no former occasion was the display of horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, and implements, so large, or so deserving of praise, as upon the present occasion; and from this it may justly be inferred that British agriculture has made a grand step forward, both in theory and practice. I am inclined to think, however, that the agriculture and stock raising of Canada, during the existence of the Provincial Association,—some ten or twelve years,