

The *Mark Lane Express* of June 24th observes:—

Two members of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society—Mr. Thomson, M.P., and Mr. Brandreth Gibbs—have been appointed to act on the Central Committee for the class of agricultural machinery and implements, to see to a due representation being made, to encourage the production and preparation of suitable objects for exhibition, and to settle the distribution of space among applicants. It is highly desirable, therefore, that the two displays as regards agricultural machinery should harmonize well together.

Stepping from the Exhibition building in Kensington, after feasting their eyes upon commercial products and the result of the arts and manufactures of all countries, the visitors may have a taste of horticulture in the adjoining building, and pass on to live stock and farming implements in Regent's Park. The man who cannot gain some useful hints and practical information from this unprecedented combination of competitive display, must be boorish in the highest degree.

Canada, Tasmania, and South Australia, it should be remembered, will be at this London exhibition in strong force, with their implements, samples of grain and pulse, and other seeds. The Cape Colony, Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland, great wool-producing districts, will be there; good judges all of sheep and cattle, and with long purses ready to purchase anything that meets their approval for symmetry or blood. British Columbia, a young colony, but progressive, active and thriving, will be there also on the look-out for stock, and not unfitly represented in its agricultural produce.

Continental farmers from France and Germany, Belgium, and Russia will be there, scrutinizing with the glance of connoisseurs every good and bad point. Indeed it will be difficult to say what representatives of countries will be absent, except, perhaps, the fratricidal Americans, who, alas! are more intent at present on the bowie-knife and the rifle than thinking of displaying their labor-saving machines, their bread-stuffs, cured provisions, and their general agricultural progress. And yet, not very long ago there was a more hopeful prospect in view; for at the annual meeting of the State Agricultural Society of New York, a resolution was passed, calling the attention of American manufacturers of agricultural machinery, to the exhibition of industry of all Nations to be held in London next year. The leading agricultural journal there expresses the hope that their manufacturers will not allow the coming opportunity to escape them of representing abroad, fairly, whatever progress they may have made during the past ten years in the department of effort.

In all the British colonies a prominent inter-

est has been given to the representation of agricultural industry at the International Exhibition, and even in most of the Foreign States some eminent man connected with agriculture is associated with the executive commissioners. In Canada, the commission appointed acts in conjunction with the Provincial Board of Arts and Manufactures and the Boards of Agriculture of Upper and Lower Canada, to superintend the judicious expenditure of the large sum, £8,000, voted by the Legislature. Canada reaped so much credit and advantage from its exertions in connection with the past exhibitions at London and Paris, that it has every encouragement to repeat its efforts. In France the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce is charged with the execution of the decree for the transmission of French products, to the Exhibition. In Belgium, among the directing commission charged with the organization and control of the representation of Belgian products we notice the name of M. Bellefroid, Director-General of Industry and Agriculture. Indeed, there is scarcely a Continental State or British Colony that does not intend to send some official intimately connected with agricultural improvement.

There are several vegetable products that will be shown of the greatest interest, in a commercial point of view, to this country: among the chief of these are timber, fibres, and paper materials.

We shall, judging from the accounts already received, have a magnificent collection of timber, of which we stand so much in need at present. British Columbia, Canada and the Lower Provinces, British Guiana, the Cape Colony, Western Africa, Tasmania, New Zealand, and Queensland will come out especially strong in this article. Not specimens of exceptional character only will be sent, but such as will fairly represent what the colonial hard woods really are, showing their density, durability, and other properties that may recommend them to the engineer and ship-builder, when cut at the proper season and otherwise under favourable circumstances.

For vegetable fibres in a manufacturing point of view, adapted for cordage and textile uses, there is also an increasing demand in this country. Our wants for home consumption and export are extensive; and we do not care to be so largely dependent on foreigners for our cotton, hemp, and flax. The new fibrous substances introduced and utilized have shown that there is abundant room yet for belief that materials every way suited for spinning may be found that will come in aid of existing materials; while the attention now given in our own colonies to the production of the well-known staples for our textile manufactures, holds out the promise of better supply for the future.

It has come now to be understood, even beyond scientific circles, that rags are valuable to paper manufacturers only because they contain