

tremes. That one, for instance, has three rods from the beam to the handles. One of them could very well be dispensed with. Ah, here is the side hill plough, with its revolving mould board; very useful, I should think, for many townships in the neighbourhood of the mountain. This is a sub-soil plough, much needed in the older parts of the country. It does not look as if it would plough deep, do you say? You must recollect it is intended to go in the furrow of a common plough, and turn up or loosen the clay which has been receiving the salts and richness of the surface soil for these thirty years or more. Here are cultivators of every description. Seed-sowers, &c., &c. This long one for sowing wheat was got up by Mr. Austin, of the Galt harrower. He says it also answers well for sowing plaster. And here is Mr. Kent's new harrow, which was described in our last number. I have no doubt but it will take the first premium.

Now sir, I will bid you good day, as my time has expired. I would advise you to spend an hour or two in examining the Durham Bulls and Cows, and that fine collection of noble Horses. If you have ever seen a more splendid exhibition of either, I am sure it has not been in North America. I must go over and see the ploughing match, which, I observe has commenced, then to the city to witness the reception of the Governor-General who is expected to arrive about 4 o'clock.

Having taken our friend over the fair ground we proceed to inform our readers in general, but as briefly as possible, of the other events of the day. The ploughing match went off admirably. The soil was not the most suitable for the purpose, but the best that could be had. The 1st and 2nd prizes were carried off, we have since learned, by two young Canadians from the Home District. Mr. G. Harrison and Mr. Johnston, both of York township. At a little after 4 His Excellency was announced by the firing of cannon from the Fort on Burlington Heights. An immense concourse of people went down to meet him in the midst of the rain. We are sure Lord Elgin was well pleased at the hearty welcome with which he and his beloved Countess were received, for he told us so the next day. The 2nd day of the fair was worse than the first. Rain, still rain. Notwithstanding, great numbers of people from all parts of the country were present. Between two and three, the Governor and his Lady in a covered carriage, came on the ground. After passing through the room containing the "Fine Arts," he appeared at a stand, was received by three cheers from a thousand throats, bowed very graciously to the people, who, with exemplary courage, stood up to the knees (almost) in mud, and exposed their faces to the leaky clouds, in order to look upon the smiling countenance of a noble descendant of the renowned and immortal Bruce. The President read only a portion of the address, after which His Excellency made a few pertinent remarks, mounted his horse, and in company with Mr. Thompson, the (President) Sir Allen McNab, and others, proceeded to examine the stock, implements, &c. with great apparent satisfaction. The dinner took place in the evening. Upwards of six hundred persons crowded into the temporary erection, provided for the purpose just south of the Court house. Through the kind attention of Mr. Brown, of the Globe, we were so fortunate as to get a ticket, else we should have been in the same predicament as the editor of the Colonist, who was unable to procure one & had to get in by some other means. And we must here say a word upon the gross neglect with which, from first to last, the Press were treated. The Committee published that "Editors would, of course, be received as guests." A meeting of all the editors who could attend, was had to determine who should reply to the toast, & to ascertain the arrangements made for them, and although it was well known to the Committee that they had a room at Week's Hotel, and could, at any moment, be found, yet after waiting until within half an hour of the time, no tickets were forthcoming. One of their number was despatched to learn the cause, and if possible, get tickets. He was very coolly told that there were no tickets for them, and it was with the greatest difficulty that they could even be purchased. It was determined unanimously that no report of the speeches should be made or published. Editors had at great expense attended themselves, hired reporters, employed extra printers, to give the proceedings the earliest and greatest possible publicity, and it was by the merest chance that they got in at all! As a punishment for such want of courtesy and to teach the managers of public meetings in future to behave with decency towards the Press, it was agreed that nothing but the most general notice should be taken of the Dinner. We can make every allowance for the Committees, who, on such

occasions have onerous and perplexing duties to perform. But after inviting the "Press" the utter inattention with which they were treated, was too palpable an insult to pass without rebuke. We cannot blame our brethren for their resentment.

We have only room to say that His Excellency made an admirable speech, proving himself an orator, a scholar, and a man of sense. The Countess of Elgin, with several ladies, came in about 7 o'clock, and remained, greatly to our surprise, till the toasts were all drunk and the speeches ended. The enthusiastic manner in which the daughter of the noble and lamented Lord Durham was greeted, by so large and promiscuous an assembly of Canadians, appeared to gratify his Lordship exceedingly. With a few slight exceptions, everything passed off harmoniously. The Chief Justice, Hon. Robt. Baldwin, Hon. A. Ferguson, Ex-Consul Buchanan, Sir Allen McNab, Solicitor-General Cameron, our friend, L. F. Allen, of Bellefleur (who made one of the best speeches of the evening), Mayor Boulton, Major Campbell, of Lower Canada, and Dr. Ryerson were among the speakers. The prizes will be given in our next number.

We are at present only able to mention a few of those who took the first prizes. Best aged Bull, E. Musson, Etobicoke, H. D. £7 10s. Best, c. d. since 1st Jan. '45, Hon. A. Ferguson, £5. Best Cow, J. Howatt, Esp. Guelph, £5. Best 3 year old Heifer in calf, Hon. A. Ferguson, £4. Best Bull, under one year, J. Wetenhall, Esq., Nelson, G. D. £2. Best Heifer, not over one year, J. Howatt, Esq., £2. Best yearling Heifer, G. Miller, Esq., Mulham, H. D. £2. The Canada Company's Prize, of £25 for best 25 bushels of wheat, was awarded to Mr. Clarkson Freeman, of Hamboro.

Fergus Fair—Want of Post Offices—The Canada Farmer—Eramosa Cattle Show and Ploughing Match—Dairy Produce—Dowry Manufactures—A Model Farm—The Eramosa Dinner—The Toronto and Godrich Railroad.

To the Editors of the Canada Farmer.

DEAR SIRS,—Agreeably to the intimation in my last letter to you, I attended at the Fergus Fair.

The day was very wet and unpleasant. The number of cattle exhibited was not large. Working Horses very good. Sheep superior. The productions of the dairy, which I did not see, I heard well spoken of. I was happy to observe a considerable number of ladies present, to countenance the exhibition. The exhibition over, the members assembled at Mr. Black's Hotel to dine. Mr. Broadfoot occupied the head of the table, and Mr. McNaught the opposite end. A great number of toasts were drunk; and we were favoured with a short speech from Mr. Gwynne, on the prospect of the Toronto and Godrich Railroad, of which he has the honour to be the projector.

In going to Fergus, I went by Ballinafad, to the top of Erin, and then through a part of Garafusa by McKee's tavern into Nichol, the Township in which Fergus is located. This road is considerably travelled, and is tolerably good; but the inhabitants labour under the great disadvantage of having no Post Office, between Erin Village and Fergus; a distance of 25 miles! The people near the centre of this wide locality, have frequently petitioned the department for relief, and it appears the authorities have taken so much action on the subject as to call for a return, from the neighbouring post offices, of the number of letters that are addressed to the above neighbourhood, in a given time; and it was found so very small that it would not pay the expense of an office, and therefore no office was established. But in the opinion of some—in which opinion I concur—regard ought not to be had, in a remote locality like this, to the number of letters received, so much as to the amount of population. It is they who write and are written to; and because they do not write when they have no post office within their reach, for no reason why they would not do it when they have an office. I remember, when a boy, having to walk 26 miles to the office and back for the purpose of posting a letter. Who would write if he could help it, under such circumstances? And I remember my father receiving 26 numbers of a weekly newspaper at one time! They had been accumulating in the post office half a year without an opportunity of his receiving them. Who would take a newspaper under such circumstances? with the hope of obtaining that for which it is most particularly published,—to give to its readers the earliest account of the current news.—And I am frequently met with the objection, "we would take your paper if we had a post office within a reasonable distance of us." And there is no doubt, independently of the advantage to be derived by the people themselves, that the

revenue of the fourth estate would be much increased, if post office accommodation were extended to the numerous places in the Province where the people are prepared to appreciate, and who would ultimately pay for it.

I am glad to find that the Canada Farmer in proportion as it is known, is establishing itself in public estimation. At the Fergus Agricultural dinner, when the health of your humble servant was proposed, in connection with it, it was stated by the vice President that Mr. Harland had said it was a good agricultural paper as he had ever seen, and subsequently I heard Mr. Harland say, at the Eramosa Show, that he had read it from its commencement and that he considered it to be the best agricultural paper on this continent.

In passing down through Eramosa I found the people all on the qui vive, on account of their Cattle Show and Ploughing-Match that was to come off next day. I was pleased to find that in your last number this township had come in for a well deserved share of editorial approbation.

The day of the Fair was very fine. The collection of bipeds was considerably larger than of quadrupeds, though of the latter there was a goodly number, and of goodly appearance. Some of the young cattle were remarkably good; so also were the sheep. The show of working horses was below that of Fergus. The swinish multitude were well represented by some prodigious specimens of the bacon race. The samples of farm, dairy and garden produce were all excellent in their kind; the butter especially drew high encomiums from the judges. There was also evidence that the spinning-wheel and loom had been at work; and I remarked particularly a pair of premium blankets, the production of a widow lady named Mrs. Conmack, that surpassed any thing of the kind that I have seen of domestic manufacture.

But what excited more interest than any thing else, was the ploughing-match. There were in all ten competitors; seven in the senior, and three in the junior class. The first premium of the latter was taken by a boy of thirteen, and small of his age. He wore his red ribbon with much apparent satisfaction, and had the honor of his health being proposed at the dinner, by an M. P. P., Mr. Webster.

The 1st and 2nd premiums in the senior class were taken by two persons named Armstrong; and with ploughs invented and made by Cornelius Armstrong, the father of one of the competitors, who resides in the township. This is the more creditable from the fact, that there were on the ground some of the best Scotch non ploughs, and in the hands of expert and experienced ploughmen, one of whom, Mr. Lazarus Parkinson, had taken the first premium for the last two years. While standing on the show-ground in conversation with ex-Judge Ferguson, who, like his distinguished father, takes great interest in every thing connected with agriculture, he observed, (pointing over to the farm of Squire Parkinson just opposite) they may talk of model farms, but there is a model farm that has been formed without my expense to the country. One model farm in the Province, established by government, he continued, would be useful; but to have one in every District would be furnishing jobs to many individuals who, under other circumstances would not, perhaps, be able to make a living on the farm. Mr. F. may perhaps not thank me for giving such publicity to a private conversation; but as it relates to an important subject, I thought it might with propriety be repeated.

After the business of the day was over, we sat down, with a good relish, at 6 o'clock, to a well prepared and numerous attended dinner. Among the gentlemen present was Mr. Gwynne; who, upon his health being drunk, rose and travelled over his railroad with a good deal of oratorical energy and velocity, explaining, illustrating, and defending, in a very forcible manner, the principles on which it is proposed to be established; leaving no doubt upon the minds of most present that it will, if completed, be highly profitable to the proprietors, and of course, extremely useful to the public, as one of the best means for developing the great resources of a great country. He was ably seconded by Mr. Smith, of the "Guelph Advertiser," who replied upon the "Press" being given.

As your readers will probably agree with me that this letter has grown to a sufficient length already, I will conclude, and remain, Dear Sirs,
Your obt. Serv't,
W. A. STEPHENS.

Durham Agricultural Society—Good Show of Cattle and Implements—New Horse Rake—Peaches—The Dinner, &c.

Newcastle, October 1st, 1847.
GENTLEMEN,—Yesterday I attended the Newcastle District Agricultural Show: the day was fine, and there was one

of the largest and finest collections of cattle and implements I ever saw. One thing which attracted much attention was a new description of a Revolving Horse Rake, manufactured by Mr. Peleg Bowen, which is a great improvement on those in use at present. Mr. B. has secured a patent for it. The beautiful Durham Bull belonging to the society, was sold at auction, at the close of the fair, for £12 10s. The show of manufactures was quite respectable. On the whole the exhibition was superior to most that I have seen in other parts of the province.

The business being over, seventy gentlemen sat down to a first rate dinner, at the "British Canadian,"—which was served up in splendid style, by Mr. Moses, the landlord.
Yours, &c.,
M.

We learn from another Communication that Mr. Bailey, of Clark, exhibited a sample of very superior peaches.

EXPERIMENTAL FARMS AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.—As it is not improbable that something of this kind may, at an early day, be attempted in Canada, it is well to know what practical men in other countries think as to the plan on which they should be established. We were lately on a visit to New York, when the Hon. N. Burchard delivered an address on Agriculture before a respectable audience, at the Mechanic's Hall, Broadway. He referred to the Agricultural School to be established in the neighbourhood of that city, dwelling upon its advantages and the course of instruction to be most properly prosecuted therein. We give his views upon the subject as those of a practical man. He said the liberal arts should be excluded in the service of Agriculture—in schools of Agriculture let there be established a nursery, a healthy growth of Mathematics: teaching the pupil to calculate the amount and strength of the laboring force of the farm, and in fact to form estimates of all that is requisite to form an intelligent and practical farmer. Mr. B. then reviewed in course the different sciences and languages (French, German, Spanish, included) which he thought essential for this purpose, giving some cogent reason for each proposition. There should be a Professorship of Veterinary Surgery; a Hospital, where a deposit of all forms of mal-organization of fruits, animals and flowers would be of immense value to the patient and persevering student—Economic Geology should also have a place—a deposit for the curiosities of different species of animals, &c.—all classed as near as may be according to the soil around. These museums are replete with wonderful, entertaining and useful truths.—A Chemical Laboratory should by all means form a part of such a school: where might be elucidated by scientific men, the newest discoveries or improvements in Chemistry, a science which has been more really beneficial to man than almost any other—one which has scattered to the winds the vague, unsubstantiated theories of the wildest philosophers.

But the Experimental Farm itself must be the student's great Laboratory, where he shall be able or be obliged to note the best modes of cultivating land—so that he may arrive at the cheapest and most useful but yet tasteful and picturesque cottage and farm management.

Mr. B. closed his address with a graphic delineation of the evils of young agriculturists forsaking their right employment for other pursuits, while Agriculture, for want of their assistance, still remains too much in the background. Young men!—leave the cities and stick to the Country, learn to cultivate its fruitful soil to the best advantage, and so through life, you will earn a certain and comfortable subsistence!

We fear the French, German and Spanish are rather too much for the mass of young farmers to swallow.

FALL TRANSPLANTING.—The experience of many able orchardists and terriculturists would seem to indicate the fall as a much more favourable season for transplanting than the spring. In cases, however, where the subsoil is hard and impervious to water, large and deep holes should be excavated, and the bottom filled in with small stones—the rest with loam, the finer and fresher the better. A little lime mixed with the loam, will be found very beneficial.—[Maine Farmer.