

is excellent water power and a large number of manufactories here. Much of the land in these townships is admirably adapted to dairying and stock raising, and some of the best stock farms in Canada are located here. The land is much more undulating and picturesque than in the west, with numerous fine streams and fine rich pasture lands. The land, considering the quality and location, appears to us remarkably cheap. If it were located within 30 miles of Toronto or London, it would command double the price that much of it can be purchased for here; and yet this is about 500 miles nearer the seaboard or the markets of the world. Why is this? While we in the west have suffered from drouth the past year, many of the farmers here say they have had an excellent year—plenty of rain. Potatoes are a large crop, but unfortunately they are rotting very badly. We meet friends from New Brunswick, who inform us this has been a fine year for farmers there—plenty of rain, rather in excess than otherwise, while from Maine and New Hampshire we hear that the rain has been so incessant that hay has rotted on the ground. What a diversity from our experience in Ontario.

The exhibition is located on a fine elevated plateau, from which a very pleasing view is obtained, overlooking the city, the hills in the distance and the Memphremagog River, with its cascades and busy mills. In the exhibition are to be seen the products of the different factories and mines, to supply the demands of our western farmers. The fruits are all fine; the cereals are good, but not in such large quantities as in the west. Here is a larger squash exhibited than we noticed at either of the previous exhibitions mentioned. In stock there are many animals here that would have carried off the prizes at the Dominion Exhibition in almost all the classes, but there are many breeders and producers that do not care to go far from home; and in fact some first-class men we know are not exhibiting at any exhibition.

A very sad affair occurred here that threw a damper on the exhibition this year. A fire occurred in one of the horse stalls (said to be attributable to a pipe), which spread with almost lightning rapidity, and burned fifty-two horse stalls, destroying twenty-nine of the most valuable Clydesdale horses in this Province. The fire department, which is very efficient, did almost miraculous work in staying it from doing further destruction. There is a great feeling of sympathy felt for the exhibitors that lost their animals, as many of them were almost entirely dependent on this industry. Some of the best home-bred and imported mares and stallions were destroyed, some of which were estimated worth \$2,000. A subscription is being taken up.

The Government are expending a large sum of money for the encouragement of agriculture. If some of it could be directed to the relief of those who have really been doing good, and would do good to our country—a charitable, merciful and beneficial act could be done. The loss is estimated at about \$30,000. It means ruin to some; no insurance, and no blame can be attached to the officials or the losers. Let us see what the Government supporters of agricultural expenditures say to this at the next meeting of the Provincial Legislature.

We arrived at Ottawa at noon on the 17th,

and drove around and went on to the Dominion Experimental Farm, 2½ miles from the city.

THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

This exhibition does not appear to be as progressive as the others previously mentioned. A tardiness in preparation and a lack of spirit appears to have been evinced. On the whole, it is hardly equal to its previous exhibits here, although there are many fine exhibits, some of which were not to be seen at any of the other exhibitions. The cheese interest, which this year has been the most profitable, is well represented. Three large ones, weighing over 1000 lbs. each, lead the exhibit, followed by smaller cheeses of various qualities to the Stiltons, which can be made in Canada of as good quality as in England. We listened to some discussions, in one of which it was generally conceded that the large expenditure by the Government in butter literature was a waste of money. Another discussion was held about the introduction of our best qualities of cheese into our own country. It is a known fact that nearly all the cheese used in Canada are culls, or those made out of the shipping season; the consequence is that too often at our leading hotels only inferior goods are placed on the table, or sold at stations, etc. This should not be, as to strangers going through our country it gives a bad impression.

The Ontario wheat men were rather exasperated here by the attempt made by Manitobans to capture the first prize for wheat under the name of Imported Russian Wheat. The Ontario wheat men appeared to be satisfied that it was an old, inferior and rejected wheat. The Canada Co.'s prize of \$100 was this year awarded to a variety the exhibitor called the Star Wheat. We know of no seedman that we can remember who ever catalogued the Star Wheat. If \$100 is to be given, surely the public might expect some good reliable results or information. Is this Bohemian Oat or Red Lion Wheat fraud to be countenanced, or should the farmers know what the \$100 prize is awarded for?

We also paid a visit to the Dominion Experimental Farm here. We may comment in future if we believe any good may be done by our remarks, and we believe there might. But we are on an exhibition tour now, and leave here for Winnipeg, Manitoba, Assiniboia and British Columbia.

We have heard that very great changes are about to be carried out at Guelph. We believe they will be improvements. As soon as we can gain any reliable information direct from any one of these establishments that we have not given, or that we deem will be of any practical value to you, we shall most assuredly give it to you.

The present general rains are gladdening the hearts of our subscribers, as the fall feed now promises to be abundant. This should put our stock in good condition to go into winter quarters. We advise our subscribers to purchase all the feed they may possibly require early, and reduce their stock, so that they will be sure not to be under the necessity of purchasing next spring.

The Agricultural Department at Washington estimates that 10,000,000 acres of forest are used yearly in this country for fuel and lumber. Fires, it is calculated, destroy about 10,000,000 acres more. The forest area of the country is less than 450,000,000 acres, but young forests grow up rapidly.

Caution.

Since going to press with our September issue we are in receipt of one of our most valued eastern exchanges, the Canadian Journal of Commerce, published in Montreal, dated Sept. 2nd, a very influential and valuable publication, patronized by the most wealthy corporations and by Government advertisements, from which we extract the following:

Arrangements have been made by the government of Nova Scotia for importing a supply of seed oats of the kind known in England and the Southern States as *winter oats*. It is thought that if this oat can be successfully grown in Nova Scotia it will prove valuable. Winter oats are preferred in England as horse feed. They are sown early in September, in well prepared land, and as far as possible in fields from which the snow does not readily blow off. This year winter oats were ripe and ready to cut in England before the end of July. The oats ordered are expected to arrive from England in the course of a few days, and will be sold, to those desirous of experimenting, in quantities of not less than one bushel, at about the ordinary market price of common seed oats.

Having tested the sowing of winter oats and winter barley in this locality, we are in a position to pronounce that those that sow this importation in Canada in the fall—unless in a protected place—will never harvest a grain. The fall sowing of oats and barley may answer, and does answer where the frosts are not so severe as in Ontario or the Maritime Provinces. We would suggest that the Government should advise those they supply with these oats to sow only a few ounces to try them; it may save much loss of labor and land. We would advise our subscribers to let others try them.

The recent large and small failures of monetary and limited liability companies, and the immunity from punishment of the defrauders of widows and orphans, and the gigantic and petty swindlers, have caused a lack of confidence in some quarters which is injuriously spreading. The excitement raised among agriculturists and others in regard to political changes affecting agriculturists in different ways, in our different Provinces, forbodes strife, and, in some localities a bitter verbal war. We trust the good judgment of the mass may extend it no further than words. We trust that every real friend of the farmers will use the influence they may have, either on receipt of Government pay or otherwise, to encourage the peaceful and ennobling calling of agriculture, unalloyed by any thing that may be interpreted by either party to foster partyism. We hope the FARMER'S ADVOCATE may not find it necessary to speak more distinctly on this point. If we are led to believe that any plan would tend to the advancement of the agricultural interest we shall be pleased to make it known. It is to be regretted that some interested in directing the minds of agriculturists pay so little attention to facts. To endeavor to convince the most sceptical we have abstained from using our franchise for over 21 years to convince all that we have been independent of party influences.

The number of sheep in Great Britain attacked with sheep-scab during 1886 was 23,676, as compared with 23,718 in 1885, the counties infected being 74, while in 1885 the disease was returned from 69.

Agents! Agents!

Active, responsible agents wanted to canvass for the Farmer's Advocate. An excellent opportunity of seeing the country. Steady employment and good terms.