

played in the arrangement of what few cheese there are there. I was very much struck with the very meagre display made by the United States, both in cheese and dairy apparatus, and everything seems to be left to take care of itself. What few dairy apparatus there are exhibited are of the most ordinary kind; some of our Ontario manufacturers turn out much better made and finished work every day. This department does not reflect much credit to those who have the management. The writer went round three different times to see the Canadian cheese, but could not get in either time, the door being locked. This department is visited by thousands every day, and the one-half of them have no idea what these things are for, and there is no one to explain them.

The Western Fair.

This Exhibition, held in this city differs very little from the Provincial in extent of the display made by exhibitors, in fact, this Exhibition is always a good one; in some classes it surpasses the Provincial. The prizes offered by the Provincial, at whatever point it is held, will draw exhibitors, but stockmen and manufacturers of agricultural implements prefer exhibiting at this Exhibition, because sales are more apt to be made here, as no locality has such a fine agricultural country around it.

The weather was most unfavorable, but notwithstanding this the attendance was good, there were many animals exhibited that were owned in the States. At the Provincial we only heard of one American animal from the United States being exhibited. This Exhibition has always been a strong rival to the Provincial, and its independence of Government patronage shows what can be done. The farmers in this locality do not consider there is any necessity for Government to expend money on agriculture in any way; they feel quite independent, and think they "can paddle their own canoe."

We shall not weary you with a long description or prize list, as we devoted much space last month to the Provincial prize list, &c. Some of the animals and implements that gained first prizes at the Provincial Exhibition were only awarded second and third prizes at this Exhibition. We do not presume to say that the judges at the Western Fair are better than those engaged at the Provincial. The majority have undoubtedly acted honorably and to the best of their ability; all such deserve the thanks of exhibitors, but we fear that exhibitors sometimes have been awarded honors that should have been awarded to the products exhibited. We do not intend to imply that the judging at this fair has not been quite as good as at any we ever attended; but if a judge has been reasonably suspected by any Board, or the public, of acting partially, he ought not to be selected again, however good his address may be, or however much he may push himself into notice.

The Central or Guelph Exhibition.

The display of stock, machinery, and other productions, at this Exhibition, were nearly equal to the display made in London; in some departments they were not as good, in others may have excelled; the vegetable and root departments we thought even superior to either of the other Exhibitions. The exhibition of the Government stock was a part of the show that could not be at any other Exhibition. The stock looked healthy, and not fed beyond breeding limits. If they are superior to the cattle now owned in the country, it must consist in their pedigrees. The poled Aberdeen cattle had some admirers. We presume Mr. Brown did the best he could with the sum intrusted to

him. One could easily tell they were political cattle, by listening to remarks from different parties; one party would class them as worthless scrub, the other party could find many redeeming points to be considered.

The Guelph Exhibition of the fine arts is not what we could wish. We hope to see the amateurs in this department encouraged, by having a committee to decide what is and what is not fit to exhibit. Many of "Minnie May's" and "Uncle Tom's" family could do far better work than some that was shown at this Exhibition.

Our attention was attracted to a new and, we think, superior kind of barrel; it is exhibited by Mr. T. Sharp, of Guelph, and is made of two large sheets of wood cut very thin and nailed together. In one piece the grain runs round the barrel, the other lengthwise of the barrel; they are very light, strong, neat and cheap, and are much easier handled than the common barrel; the wood from which they are made can be cut round and round the log.

A fanning-mill was exhibited at this Exhibition that we did not notice at other Exhibitions. It is a Canadian invention, and from what we saw of it we consider it far superior to the American fanning-mill which Yankee sharpers are traveling through the country and selling patent rights of, or county or shop rights. Thousands of dollars have been lost by farmers by dabbling in the rights of two Yankee fanning-mills. We feel thankful that our pages have not aided the imposition.

Caution—Patent Rights, &c.

There are at the present time many smart, plausible sharpers travelling through the country selling nostrums, shoddy clothing, novel fruits or wonderful seeds and patent fixings of numerous kinds. Hundreds of such dare not let their name or address be known.

If there is anything worth having or worth the price asked, it can be procured from regular dealers or manufacturing establishments. If any novelty has not been favorably announced through some of the hundreds of papers published in Canada, as a general rule you may expect to be swindled. Hundreds make a living by selling such things as they know are worthless. Such persons should be stopped, as they give a bad name to the real legitimate business of selling such things as are of advantage. Agents have instructed farmers to use reaping machines, and many other useful implements have been introduced by them that farmers would not otherwise have had. Agents are not all to be condemned because some are dishonest; neither are all farmers to be condemned because one man sold his grain from a false sample, or because his wife had two kinds of butter in her basket. The law can follow a dishonest farmer, but a note given by a farmer to a sharper for any valueless patent will have to be paid if it turns his family out of the farm.

We are willing to expose any of these gentry, but the difficulty lying in the way is this, that the greatest losses are sustained by those that toil hard and read but little. Should a reader be swindled, he would often rather suffer the loss than let it be known. Many do not give information because they object to give their names; some because they do not care how much others are swindled. The question is how to remedy the evil.

Spring Wheat.

The question has already been put to us several times—What kind of spring wheat can we commend? The answer is not any easy one to give, as some varieties have answered well in some localities and proved failures in others. We wish you to help us to form a correct opinion by sending us re-

ports from different parts of the country, particularly of the following varieties, namely: the Red Fern, Odessa, Egyptian and the Brooks wheats; also of any other new variety that may be in your locality.

The Fife wheat is answering well in most localities to the north, but it is not giving general satisfaction in this locality. The Red Chaff, although yielding well in many places, is condemned in every place by millers. The Rio Grande, Red River or McCarling wheats are very similar in growth. In some parts they are lauded; in others condemned. If any variety is doing well in your locality, by all means continue to sow it.

We know many of our readers will kindly aid us in answering the question by giving us information or by writing for the correspondents' department.

Winter Feeding of Stock.

We have had enquiries from farmers in the Eastern Province as to the best mode of feeding cattle in winter for milk, for beef and for holding over till spring. One writer asks how is it that farmers in Ontario can fatten cattle without loss at the present price of meat. He says: "Here we could not do it."

Some writers on agricultural subjects assert that there is no immediate profit on winter-fattening stock, and the only profit is from the increased quantity of manure made thereby and its superior quality. This, they say, is considered by English farmers sufficient to defray the cost of feeding. They adduce figures to prove their assertion, thus reducing it to the solution of an arithmetical problem. An animal is of a given weight when being put into the stall for fattening. A certain quantity of food is consumed in the fattening, and when fit for the shambles he has gained in weight so many pounds or stones. This additional weight barely pays for the food consumed in the fattening, and hence it appears there is no profit other than the manure, against which is to be placed in account the labor of feeding.

But there is something to be reckoned more than the price of the additional pounds of meat. Those writers have overlooked, or at least they have not taken into account, the increased value of the whole carcass. In our home markets well fattened beef sells readily at 30 to 40 per cent. higher prices than it would if lean, and the difference in British markets is still higher. This profit we claim is made by fattening animals in addition to that from the manure, as fairly valued, to be equivalent to the food and labor.

A milch-cow can be brought well through the winter on good hay, without any other food, but the question arises—Will she not do as well or better on hay of inferior quality, with the addition of roots that cost less to the farmer than any other provender. We have had cattle kept in good, thriving condition throughout the winter on good straw, with two feeds of turnips daily. Cattle feeders assure us that a good-sized cow will eat 25 to 30 pounds of hay in winter when it is her only food. Straw is seldom treated by farmers as of much account. Roots, such as turnips and mangolds, produce from 600 to 1,000 bushels per acre, at the cost of the labor—say \$12 to \$15.

THE FATTENING PROCESS.—No definite figures can be given for the cost of fattening. The experience of feeders varies very much. Some animals are naturally inclined to putting on flesh; they are always in fair condition, and fatten at little cost to the feeders. Some, on the other hand, are quite the reverse. Much also depends on the condition of the animals when the fattening process commences. An animal in fair condition when put up for stall feeding will pay a higher profit for stall

feeding the good with profit of

Begin t

season.

large. A

some tim

per head

additiona

for a good

Oil cake,

English f

will be

farms.

meal will

ing proc

Railwa

There

time on a

the coun

there are

prefer th

if that w

the work

ing of t

settlers i

way exis

would no

tion and

class of

farmers,

by the g

country

lines hav

Quebec.

were aln

within a

markets

those lu

civilized

the labo

inhabita

ments a

hundred

but a fe

to seapo

ducemen

growing

had ever

backwo

tion of

seems t

introduc

Were p

the ope

that pr

to impo

constru

to them

new lin

creases

a more

and rig

our wh

would

mediat

more c

supply

The

way, a

with a

accrue

onizati

see a

provin

broug

in a c

made