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Montreal Exhibition, 1884

(Continued.)

Every Montreal paper, the Gazette excepted, takes my view of the late Exhibition. If the present management of these most important meetings is to continue, I hope the members of the board will take warning by the past, and see that the people of the province are not to be trifled with. I know, of my own knowledge, that many hard things have been said as to the motives which guided the conduct of the council, and I can only trust that the accusations in question are unfounded. It cannot have been any intentional laches on the part of the very respectable committee that led to the complete failure of our Exhibition, but, probably, nothing more or less than inexperience, and, perhaps, in some measure, carelessness.

Holstein Cattle—The milk-cows of this breed are very striking in appearance. They are, doubtless, in some measure, the fore-runners of the Shorthorns; in truth, the Lon-

don dairyman's cow, the largest milk-producer with which I am acquainted, is, in all points except colour, a fac-simile of the Holstein, though better built in the hind quarters, and more suitable to the butcher's purpose after her dairy-duties are over. Still the Holsteins are fine roomy beasts, with good square udders, the teats well apart, and the fore-quarters and head as good as can be wished. The old bull, shown by Messrs Lord, Cook, and Son, of Aultsville, Ontario, was of gigantic height and bulk, and as full of faults as he could hold. He is, doubtless, a good specimen of the breed, but, if so, beauty is not a requisite. Mr. Pierce of Stanstead and the firm of Lord and Cook divided the prizes for this breed rather unequally: in the proportion of 5 to 1.

The Kyloes and Shetlanders of Mr. Whitfield demand little notice. Useful cattle in their particular localities, they are out of place in the province of Quebec, where, for many a long year, good milk-yielding cows, with a fair chance of making meat of the steers, must be the sort kept.

Canadian Cattle.—There were none! Poor M. Larocque, who offered through me a sum of \$80.00 to be given as prizes for this kind of stock, must feel grievously disappointed at the non-acceptance of his offer.

Sheep.—Allowing for the absence of Mr. Cochrane's Ox-fords and Shropshires, the sheep were well represented. A good many French Canadians usually distinguish themselves in this department—always in the long wool classes, I observe—and I doubt not, if they had the chance they would do equally well with their own breed of cattle. It is established, I think, beyond a doubt, that there is a race of cows tracing back to the original race imported from France into Canada, and the prices given by Americans for the picked specimens show the value they attach to them. It is childish to run the race down because there is no pedigree. Why, the Jerseys themselves were unpedigreed 30 years ago. No one can be more opposed than I to breeding from cross-bred male animals, but the Canadian bull is not a cross-bred at all, his almost unvarying colour alone proves it. I am not talking of the wretched little runts that run about from pillar to post at Sorel—they are scrubs and mongrels, if you like—but cows of the same stamp as La Major, as engraved in