

severe rain storm, and many things were damaged by a small shower; while all the receipts of the Fair (\$21,500,) great as they were, would not cover the injury from the clouds of fine clay dust, which hung like a thick sea-fog over the race track inclosing all these great "halls," and along the single narrow road by which all vehicles and pedestrians came to the gates. When the races were held on the same ground the managers contracted for \$200 to have the dust laid completely. When the managers of the State Fair were receiving money by tens of thousands of dollars they could not, or did not, expend one dollar to lay the dust, which ruined many fine bonnets and dresses of visitors, as well as many things on exhibition.

Beside the road dust "Floral Hall," which should have been floored, had the ground covered an inch deep with turners' chips and sawdust, and as soon as the crowd was admitted this flooring was ground into an impalpable woody powder, and that mixed with the fine white clay of the dry earth, for it was sodless, and the whole rose up hour after hour, and day after day, until the place was absolutely unfit for any human being. Flowers and fruits, and people, were all one color—all white dust. The Pleasant Valley Fruit Growers Association of Hammondsport, Steuben County, N. Y., had the best show of grapes probably ever made at any State Fair. The fruit was worth for market, when put upon the 150 plates, at least \$150. I doubt whether it would have sold for a 150 cents when the Fair closed. Other exhibitors of fruit and flowers suffered proportionate losses vexation, disappointment, and chagrin. Yet \$20 would have paid for the use of lumber for a floor, or \$5, would have paid a man to keep the dust sprinkled; provided he could get water, which was so scarce on the ground that men and beasts suffered, and men said they drank rum, wine or beer because they could get no other liquid. The stock suffered constantly, for their tubs were emptied faster than the slow carts could fill, and so were the water casks, placed here and there for people to drink. Besides, as they stood open and near the dusty road, there was a constant need of using one of those filters before the water was fit for drink.

In short, in every respect the whole ground, and all the arrangements, were the most unfit, inconvenient, uncomfortable, unsightly, unsatisfactory, that were ever selected, devised or used for any agricultural fair ever held on earth. The whole arrangement completely illustrated the term "higgledy-piggledy." I only repeat what I heard constantly repeated. "There never was a more inefficient set of officers." "The concern has no head." Yes it has. They are all heads, and that's what's the matter." "I should say all tail and darned small at that." "At any rate, the arrival is always tail foremost." There is neither head nor tail, body nor soul, life nor aught that, is worth preserving about the present organization of the New-York State Agricultural Society. The only object now is how to get money under false pretenses. Buffalo was assessed \$9,000 for the glory of having this Fair located here. The pretence was that all these "halls" would cost that sum. I forgot to mention that a great number of stalls

for horses and cattle, and pens for sheep and pigs, were erected. I herd one man say, who took pains to count, that just one-fourth of those were occupied by beasts, and that he found some of the closed horse-stalls occupied by worse than beasts—male and female.

The exhibition of stock is not a farmer's exhibition. It is made by men who breed fancy stock as a genteel speculating business, and use and have for years used the State Fair as an advertising medium. Every notice they get in the paper by this means is clear gain. It was heralded far and wide that one Vermont man had a ram at the Fair, valued at \$8,000. Of course his name and post-office address was given, so that those who want high-priced grease and wrinkles would know where to apply. I have mentioned only one herd of cattle, and that only because I know it is for the interest of a great many people to become better acquainted with the Alderney breed, which has been overslaughed and demeaned by the "Short Horn interest." I write for the benefit of farmers, not fancy breeders, nor for the glorification of managers of agricultural fairs. I know that something better than the present organization is needed. I want to see State Fairs made for the people. I am tired of seeing the people used to fill pockets which yield no good fruit to the honest farmer. It is time now for them to take the matter in hand and hold fairs for their own benefit. Let us have no mere shows, but actual fairs, such as are held in Europe, where everybody who has anything to sell, swap, or buy, can go, and thus make such meetings useful and profitable. To save us from the disgrace of having a State Agricultural Society, with headquarters in Albany, that offers its annual exhibitions to the town which will bid the highest for it, let us have one, two, or three, if necessary, permanent locations and decent buildings. Let us hear of no more black-mail levied upon our town for such accommodations as we have seen erected. Let the New-York State Agricultural Society cease to exist if it is dependent upon subscriptions of rum-sellers, brothels, and gambling-houses for its support. These are only given because the fair draws victims into their dens. It is time that fairs supported by such means and conducted upon such free rum principles as this one just closed were suppressed by the people. As at present managed they are not intended to serve the farmers nor advance agricultural improvements half as much as they are to get money from the man for the use of a few.

GOING TO THE DISTRICT SCHOOL.

Barefooted boy and little girl,  
She with rosy cheek and curls,  
His a forehead brown with tan,  
Sturdy little farmer man.

Old straw hat, with broken rim,  
Is the least that troubles him,  
As the dinner-pail he swings,  
Full of mother's choicest things.

Happy little pair are they,  
Chatting blithely on the way,  
In the morning fresh and cool,  
Going to the district school.

From the shady farm-house door,  
Mother watches, till no more,  
She can follow—out of sight.  
They are gone, her heart's delight.

Can you see them sitting there,  
On the benches hard and bare,  
Tired feet swinging to and fro,  
Counting o'er the lessons low?

Sitting at the noon of school,  
By the gurgling streamlet cool,  
'Mong the brakes and bending trees,  
Eating up the bread and cheese!

Or, with merry laugh and shout,  
When the boys and girls go out,  
Books and pencils cast away,  
See them jump, and swing and play.

Hark! the ferule on the pane,  
Rap, and rap, and rap again,  
Rushing in with cheeks aglow,  
Half reluctantly they go.

Glide the busy hours away,  
Till the warm sun's westerly ray  
Slants across the open door,  
And the hours of school are o'er.

Happy, healthy girl and boy,  
Full of simple, careless joy,  
Free from tyrant fashion's rule,  
Going to the district school.

LONDON MARKETS.

LONDON, Nov. 1, 1887.

Fall Wheat, per bushel	.....\$1.45 to \$1.65
Spring Wheat do	..... 1.37½ to 1.45
Barley do	..... 60 to 73
Oats do	..... 40 to 42
Peas do	..... 70 to 73
Corn do	..... 60 to 70
Rye do	..... 75 to 85
Hay, per ton	..... \$8.00 to \$10.00
Butter, prime, per lb.	..... 12½ to 18
Butter, keg, per lb.	..... 12½ to 14
Eggs, per dozen	..... 12½ to 15
Flour, per 100 lbs	..... 3.75 to 4.25
Wool	..... 25
Mutton, per lb., by quarter	..... 5 to 6
Potatoes, per bushel	..... 37½ to 50
Apples, per bushel	..... 40 to 75
Pork, per cwt.	..... 4.50 to 5.00
Hides, per lb.	..... 7
Sheep Skins	..... 40 to 75

New Advertisements.

WANTED.

A GIRL to do general housework. Liberal wages given. Apply at the residence of M. D. Dawson, Clarence Street, between Bathurst and Horton Sts.

NOTICE.

ANY PERSON HAVING ANY GOOD Chilian Wheat, Rio Grande Wheat, CROWN PEAS, NEW BRUNSWICK SEEDLINGS, GOODERICH & GARNER CHILLIE POTATOES, Are requested to let us know what quantity they may have to spare, the price, and if perfectly clean. We had an application for two car loads of Spring Wheat for seed, and two car loads of breeding Ewes, for an Agricultural Society in Illinois, last week, but were unable to supply the kinds required. A few grains of seed as a sample can be sent in a letter. Apply at this Office.

MONTREAL VETERINARY SCHOOL

Established under the Patronage of the Board of Agriculture, Province of Quebec, D. C. LECTURES commence on Wednesday, 20th Nov., in the Anatomical Lecture Room of the Medical Faculty of McGill University, Cote Street. Introductory Lecture by D. McEACHRAN, M.R.C.V.S. Subject:—Epidemic Diseases among Horses. Bursaries will be granted by the Board of Agriculture to young men residents of the Province of Quebec, which will enable them to attend free of expense. Special Tickets issued to amateurs for Lectures on Veterinary Medicine and Surgery. For Prospectus, apply to Geo. LECLERE, Secretary Board of Agriculture; or to D. McEACHRAN, Veterinary Surgeon, 609 Craig Street.