

horses were exhibited, his *city* friends in amazement asked, "who does he expect to visit him in that outlandish place." The most romantic believer in the future splendid destiny of Toronto, would have scarcely dared to suppose, that in one short generation, the forest wild would have become the judiciously chosen spot for a Canadian Provincial Show, to which many hundreds of exhibitors contributed specimens of their industry or art, and to allude to one department only—but one which above all others stamps, perhaps, the character of an agricultural people, namely, farming stock,—of such individual and collective excellence were the animals exhibited, that the President of the New York State Agricultural Association publicly acknowledged their superiority to the specimens shown at the late fair of the Empire State.

These are facts which speak volumes for the progress of Toronto, and scarcely less for the hand-in-hand development of the magnificent province of which she is the capital, and from which she has derived her present imposing position and stores of solid wealth.

We must not forget, however, that Upper Canada owes much, very much, to her admirable position for commercial intercourse, her bountiful soil, and her salubrious climate—three glorious

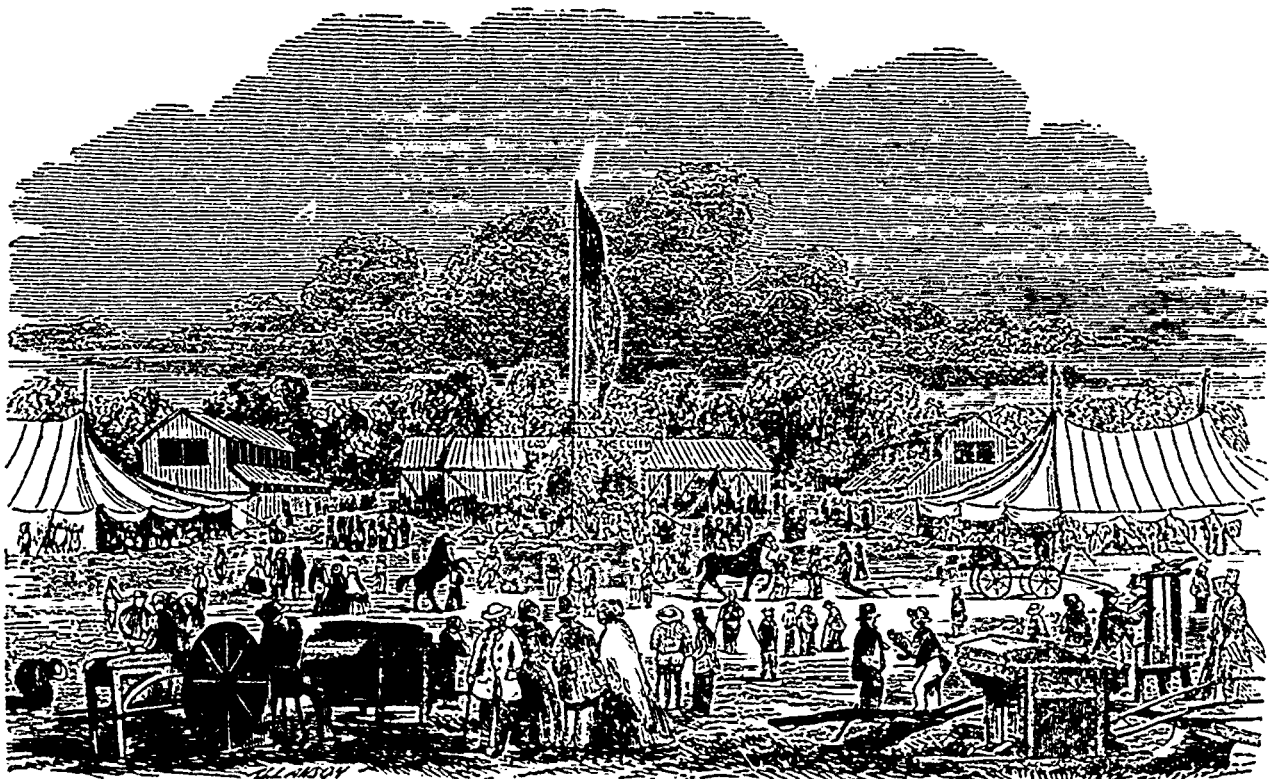
gifts which nature has showered lavishly upon her, and which must always be present to our view when we would truly estimate the industrial and social position of her inhabitants.

One of the most valued lessons taught to the British people by the Great Exhibition of all Nations, was an acquaintance with their own ignorance of numerous artifices and processes familiar to the manufacturers and artisans of other competing nations.

To compare small things with great, but to ourselves of highest importance, what are the lessons which the late Exhibition at Toronto is to teach the people of Canada?

Striving among ourselves, we can only form an estimate of individual excellence in a contracted sphere. To arrive at a useful appreciation of our merits and demerits, we must have a more exalted standard of comparison, and turn to a world-wide field where competition is a struggle between giants; there alone shall we be able to ascertain whether there has been brought to bear upon our works of industry and art that general knowledge and practical skill which distinguishes true progress from energies improperly directed.

We now proceed to give a general description of the show-ground, and shall afterwards advert more in detail to the particular departments of the Exhibition.



View of the Show Ground.

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The ground enclosed for the purposes of the Show contained an area of about seventeen acres, exclusive of the horse parade; its form was that of an oblong, nearly equally divided into two parts by a winding but shallow ravine, through a part of which a running stream of water found its way. The southern half of the ground was quite clear of trees, with the exception of one or two noble elms, stately records of the fairs which a few years

since covered the spot. The northern half of the enclosure was prettily wooded with second growth timber, which afforded an admirable park for the display of numerous varieties of cattle collected in groups under the shade of the trees. A circular open space near the northern boundary of the enclosure was originally intended for the horse parade, it was found, however, to be much too small for that purpose. The horses were exhi-