THE CENTRAL FAIR.

THIRD DAY.

[FROM OUR OWN REPORTER.]

GUELPH, Oct. 3.

In all classes of live stock the show is large and good. No such complaint can be made against stock exhibitors as is so frequently made respecting would-be artists, who do not show enough to keep their bad productions from the scrutiny of the public. What is shown in the way of live stock is throughout good, and is deserving of the attention which the public in general are disposed to give to this department of exhibits. To-day and yesterday visitors have enjoyed all the pleasure that can be derived from witnessing the judging of horses and cattle in the prize rings, from viewing the fat sheep in their pens, and from poking dropsical-looking pigs in the sties with umbrellas and walking-sticks. It is remarkable what joy some people experience in making poor inoffensive porcines squeal and in frightening prize sheep almost out of their existence; but such is human nature. There is one thing about the live stock which is patent to almost every other department, and that is, that nine out of every ten of the exhibits have done duty at the late fairs in Hamilton and London. This state of things is by no means unfair or disagreeable, as it is quite in accordance with all rules of propriety, and is only noticeable by those whose business or pleasure has led them to visit the other exhibitions. It merely shows a praiseworthy desire on the part of owners to give farmers and stock raisers in all districts in which exhibitions are held an opportunity of viewing some of the best animals owned in the Province, and gives owners an opportunity of comparing their cattle with others on the ground. There is one point in which the exhibition authorities and the exhibitors might pay attention next year with advantage, and that is to see that the stalls of all animals are duly labelled. It would be of great benefit to the public, and would add to the interest of the show.

The horse boxes are, as usual, the great centres of attraction for others even than horsemen, and there is plenty there to occupy the time of the visitors with profit. Among the animals shown are some which have been deservedly very successful in the west prize taking at several exhibitions. Mr. White, of Milton, shows his celebrated blood horse Terror, which took a silver medal at the Centennial, and the first prize and diploma at London. J. Ely, of New Hamburg, shows his Dr. Butler, of the same class. Mr. Long's Royal Tom, in the heavy draught class, and his carriage stallions, Lord Zetland and Emperor, are also shown. They have been highly spoken of by all who have seen them. The imported five-year-old Clydesdale stallion, Duke of Argyll, is shown by George Duff, of Everton. John Race, Caledonia, Allan Pickering, Brampton, S. Hicks, Mitchell, J. Vance, Orford, M. Barber, Normandy, H. Brown, Brampton, and R. Young, Beverly, are among the exhibitors in several classes.

There is a tolerably good show of cattle. Thomas Guy of Ancaster, exhibits a herd of Ayrshires. Jardine & Son, Hamilton, also exhibit the Ayrshires with which they were so successful at London. J. W. Stone, of Guelph, shows a herd of eighteen Herefords. J. West, of Guelph, exhibits again his 3,450 pound four-year-old steer, which took first prize at the Provincial show. Several really excellent Durham steers and a number of bulls are also shown by various breeders in the township and vicinity. The Yorkshires are in good condition, and are exhibited by J. & R. Millar and James Main, of Pelargon; Robert Gibson, Delaware; William & Thomas McCrae, of Guelph township, show largely in Essexes, as also do J. Fee, Guelph township; Thomas Ballantyne, Stratford, although there is a large show of Suffolks in point of quality they are in the minority. Robert Wilson, of Nassagaweya, J. Howe, J. Featherston, and J. Main show in that class.

The poultry shed is very conveniently situated; it is also light and airy, and well arranged for the exhibition of birds. All day, as on the previous days, it has been visited by admiring lookers-on, who take as much interest in the poultry as the farmers do in the stock. The show this year, though it is said not to be so large as on previous years, is quite large enough, as it gives ills the shed overflows. It is more of a fancy character than usual, a fact which is owing to the large number of professional breeders exhibit. John Dixon, of Berlin, had a portion of his collection of chickens of all breeds, including Dorkings, Houdans, Leghorns, and silver Islands on show. John Bogue, of London, who exhibited both at the Provincial and Louisville fairs, has a good exhibit in chickens. The name of F. Shurly, of Guelph, also figures very prominently among the exhibitors of fancy stock. Geese, ducks, and turkeys are well represented. The improved exhibit in pigeons is an evidence of the increased popularity of these favourites. The exhibitors are mostly residents of Guelph. Rabbits are shown in the poultry shed, but what relation they have to be classed amongst poultry is a point impossible to solve. Not being cattle, however, they have to be placed in a class amongst the domestic pets. It is surprising that there is not always a larger show of rabbits, considering the enthusiasm which their care gives to the younger members of the family.

FOURTH AND LAST DAY.

GUELPH, Oct. 6.—At half-past one this afternoon the President of the Central Fair Association delivered his closing address in the rotunda of the Palace, as follows:—

"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I feel as a precedent having been established, whereby it is understood that in my capacity as President of the Central Exhibition, I should address you before the final closing of the Fair, which should be unbecoming on my part were I not to carry out the custom so by the honourable gentlemen who have preceded me. I extend the hearty welcome of the Directors of the Central Exhibition to the visitors of all parts of the Province to the city in which the exhibition has been supported, I also acknowledge the kindness of the corporation willingly by the County Council, the Corporation of the City of Guelph, and the Directors, special prizes, which have afforded so much assistance in carrying out the objects of the Association. Having been connected with this Association since the formation of the Central Exhibition five years ago, I think I may be permitted to give an opinion upon the advancement made during that period; more especially in regard to the Arts Department, of which I have been the honorary Superintendent during the four years.

THE EXHIBITS.

"The exhibits of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs, although somewhat inferior to those of other years, show to the world an advancement has been made in the breeding of stock, and the specimens of stock exhibited here is as least equal, if not superior, to that of previous years, and the influence of the Association has fully accounted for by the presence of prominent breeders at the Centennial, where they have carried off the highest honours. And, further, a large share of entries may be attributed to the numerous exhibitions which owners of stock in these parts have been attending during this season, and their consequent inability to take their stock to any other points. A marked feature in our exhibition are the animals owned by parties in the Dominion, and purchased by Professor Brown, of the Ontario School of Agriculture, which we feel compelled to believe the selections of sheep and cattle made by that gentleman, exhibited in the ring at his command, prove the wisdom he has displayed in his purchases, and the judicious care lay for the benefit of the institution which he so successfully fills. Of the horses shown. They have been highly spoken of by all who have seen them. The imported five-year-old Clydesdale stallion, Duke of Argyll, is shown by George Duff, of Everton. John Race, Caledonia, Allan Pickering, Brampton, S. Hicks, Mitchell, J. Vance, Orford, M. Barber, Normandy, H. Brown, Brampton, and R. Young, Beverly, are among the exhibitors in several classes.

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FARM AND OTHER NOTES.

STEAM CULTIVATION.

It is impossible to predict with anything like certainty that the use of steam in the heaviest labours of the farmgan at present be made profitably available. Considering the many disappointments that a farmer meets in making experiments, and the subtle character of many farm operations which seem to forbid the application of ordinary analogies it is risky to be too predictive. But if there is one thing more than another or which one might seem safe in predicting that steam, in its cheap cultivation either upon farms large enough to employ an engine—say of 300 acres and over—or by a few neighbouring farmers who should jointly own the machinery. If we reason from analogy we might say why should not steam-ploughing, under the circumstances mentioned, be found profitable here as well as in England? Why should not one of the immense California or Kansas farms, upon which a furrow miles in length may be made, be ploughed more cheaply by steam than by horses? There, at least, are all the favourable conditions that could be asked for to make the attempt successful. Again, in the whole history of steam we know of no case in which its employment has been commenced with the most delicate sewing-machine to the manipulation of a large printing press, with all the complicated processes of the feeding of the paper, the inking of the rollers, the cutting into sheets of the printed rolls, and even the proper folding, ready for mailing, of the completed papers, steam has not been found to be adapted, and to be skilled to the highest degree. Steam can make pins, count them, and put them in papers, but the whole thing comes to the woman's hand; it can make a nail of any size or the smallest tack, finishing the head and all; but the finishing itself with the plates of iron needed for raw materials and all with greater perfection and a vastly greater economy than the most skilful mechanic can do. In short, it is by the work of the hand, the intelligence and almost everything of daily use has been enlarged and cheapened to a degree that can only be realized by one whose memory dates back to the time when handwork was common and steam machinery only in its infancy, and that is but comparatively a few years ago. Many are yet living who remember when it was declared by a scientific authority that a steam vessel could never possibly cross the Atlantic. And we now hear it said that ploughing can never be done by steam in America.

It is unfortunate for the agricultural interest that we are still compelled to work along in the hallowed ways of years ago with the plough behind a pair of horses or oxen, slowly turning our acre or less in a day, while every other industry has been quickened to an amazing extent by the use of steam. It is unfortunate because a workman's pay and profit are measured not by the time he works, but by the quantity of effective labour he can perform in given time. Compared with other industries, agriculture is far behind, and the effect of a day's work up the farm is not nearly so productive as valuable as a day's work in a factory or workshop. To some extent the farmer compensates for his disadvantage by the use of machinery. In the dairy, in harvesting, threshing, and in other ways he is enabled to be greatly helped by labour-saving machines and by steam. But for railroads and steam vessels the great West would be as inaccessible by a single farmer. He could not reach a market for his crops, cattle, or wool but for them. Our farmers get big gains by them he loses by using the old methods in cultivating his soil. There is no doubt of this. If steam could be exchanged for the horse, the cost of the new heaviest and skilled labour would be greatly in favour of the former, and the latter would be merely lessened. If the farmer, with one horse and a gulding a simple implement, can break up twelve acres a day, the gain is clear. He could not only cheapen the cost of the work he could accomplish in some many times, and it is in this possibility of enabling one man to do the work of many that one of the advantages of steam consists. Other advantages that appeal directly to the farmer are the speed with which the work can be hurried at the right moment without taking the efforts of living muscle, which is so exhausted and unfitted for work that when the work is done the animal requires rest and, only requiring sustenance when at work.

The idea that with the introduction of steam upon the farm the use of horses will be diminished has been disproved by all experience. Improved cultivation, with a thoughtful farmer, without giving very much consideration to this point, can readily see how he could employ more horses than he does if his ploughing were done by steam. The breeding of horses would not then be more profitable than it now is.

The whole point to consider is how to procure the most economical and effective power of the engines and ploughs. This is the first consideration. The opportunities of using the machinery are not limited, though, it might be pertinent to suggest, if there is some other way of using the power than by Husbandry in this country, one that could make the first move in this matter and procure an engine of the best and most economical pattern. We do not think it would be a failure if our farmers generally should be obliged to confess that they cannot do their ploughing by steam cheaper than by horses, and that thousands of steam ploughs at work, they may as well abandon every hope of making their farms productive in the industrial world, and be content to fall behind all other industries which, if right, they should stand at the head.—*N. Y. Times.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

I would myself just as soon have shavings mixed under my food as bone meal, and in the case of one that eats his litter they are most valuable.—*English Mechanic.*

For boiling or steaming pigs skim milk is quick, good lards, and any one who sows rye or oats or turnips with the seed to protect it, ought to be sent to the insane asylum.—*Vick's Guide.*

Another test of a good cow—subject to exceptional doubtless—is this: If the skin is as smooth or of such a character as to take on a healthy glossy appearance in time, the year is likely to be good in flavour.—*Bulletin d'Arboriculture.*

Ashes are used in furnaces, keep grate low; grate surface large; grate bars thin; spaces between bars narrow; begin firing with clean fire; fire often; use less sawdust in a very thick layer, and it will burn without difficulty, even if wet.—*Lon. Engineering.*

Colorado potato bugs have been washed ashore at Mistetone and other places in the neighborhood in such numbers of late as to poison the air. The captain of a New-London vessel says they came up from Atlantic. And we now hear it said that ploughing can never be done by steam in America.

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TORONTO ITEMS.

The concert season at the Horticultural Gardens closed on Monday night, the 9th ult.

The average attendance at the city schools for the month of September was 6,166.

McDowell's Shaughnan Company are at the Royal Opera House, and F. S. Chanfrau is the attraction at the "Grand."

The corner stone of the Central Presbyterian church was laid on Wednesday, the 4th inst. The church will stand upon the site of the old Knox College on Grosvenor street.

Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, the eminent pastor of St. Andrew's church has returned from Europe in the best of health; as his flock and the public at large will rejoice to learn.

The annual rifle match of the "Queen's Own" took place on the Garrison Common on Saturday, the 7th inst. The weather was cold and windy, and the scores were rather indifferent.

Navigation is drawing to a close. The Royal Mail line of steamers only make three trips a week now between Hamilton and Montreal. The steamer Southern Belle has been withdrawn for the season and is at present lying at Tinning's Wharf.

The annual match of the Albert Rifle club took place on Monday last. The weather was most unpropitious, being cold and gusty, and a half rain, one pound Russian tallow, one pound linseed oil. This simple remedy has been proved upon a piece of very porous leather in the form of a belong, and has two coats of this liquid being applied caused it to hold water as wellvas any earthenware vessel.—*London Builder.*

The seed potatoes were stored on shelves in a garret until toward the end of August, when the planting was commenced with. In two months the plants had made stalk of six feet in height, when Mr. Tourniol set himself from home for a time. On returning, about the first week in November, he found that his orders to lend the crop and cover in over with straw had been entirely disregarded—not a leaf was to be seen; the cold and the snalls had destroyed everything above ground. Nevertheless, on digging up the soil, it was found that the experiment, despite the adverse circumstances under which it had been conducted owing to this neglect, had been a complete success. The first turn of the fork uncovered ten pounds weight of potatoes, varying in size from a walnut to a hen's egg. M. Tourniol was astonished. This year he commenced operations on the 1st of June, and intends to plant out every fortnight till the end of September. We hope to be able to report, in due time, that satisfactory results have been obtained.—*Rose Horticole.*

The Kerry *cow* is a remarkably grateful feeder, or, in other words, will live on the commonest and scantiest diet, and when her lot falls into pleasant places will yield a bountiful lactal return for the generous keep. Everywhere and under all circumstances she has the reputation of being an excellent milker. "The average yield of milk produced by the Kerry cow belonging to a gentleman who has for many said great attention to the breed, is 6,000 lbs. Quoting in his review of Irish Agriculture, "a twelve quart pail, and the average yield of butter from six to twenty pounds per week. Some of the cows have produced more, but the figures stated have been above the average." Pringle considers this to be a very high yield, considering the scanty food and the small amount they consume. A Kerry cow was known to have been kept for five years in a stable in Dublin, which had only two calves during the period, yet was scarcely ever dry, and kept up a full supply of milk.—*Lon. Mark Lane Express.*

Wash harness thoroughly with warm soft water and castile soap, and brush out every particle of dust before putting on the oil. This is also important for horses, if not at all than to apply it in dirty leather. The harness should be taken apart, and the piece washed and oiled separately. Rub on the oil while the leather is softened with the water. It can be applied to the wet leather is rubbed a little with a dry cloth; it should be soft, but not too wet. After applying the oil, let the leather lay for an hours till the oil is absorbed. Old harness that has been neglected and is dry and hard had better not be oiled; it will do no good; the evil is already done. The fibres of the leather have lost more oil than can be given city, and oil will not restore it; in fact, by softening the leather it only weakens it. Just as wet as it was when it was put away usually than a dry one. Oil does not add to the strength of leather; it softens and keeps it from cracking; it is a preventive of decay, not a restorer. Harnesses are now so high that it costs more than ever before to take care of them. Never let them suffer for the want of oil; keep in good condition. The public business requires an appearance, and better Kenneth than neglecting.

On Monday evening, the 2nd inst., the residence of Mr. Joseph Vise, 153 King street, was entered by burglars, and two sets of cloth, two new pairs of trousers, and two pairs of boots were stolen. The thieves were heard that a woman, named Annie Howard, had disposed of some of the stolen property. On Thursday morning Detectives Reburn arrested her on Front street and brought her to the Central Police Station. During the day Detectives Reburn and Burrows tracked a man named Charles Gencor, a shoemaker, who had been recently released from the Penitentiary, who, they were informed, had stolen the goods, to a tavern on the corner of Trinity and Front streets, and after a search found him hiding under a feather bed, and conveyed him to the Central Police Station. Nearly all the stolen property has been recovered.

Late on the night of the 9th inst., or early on the following morning, some burglars broke open the clothing store of Mr. Bernstein on King street east, and stole therefrom wearing apparel and jewellery to the value of $300. It appears that they cut a hole near the lock of the front door with a jimmy, and then, making an open sure large enough to enable a man to thrust his hand through. The key was then taken out and the door opened from the outside. The burglars then proceeded to take all the jewellery of value that they could lay their hands on. They also took the best wearing apparel and underclothing on the shelves. Some boys who were lying at the corner of Sherbourne and King streets, found three sagers and a keyhole saw secreted underneath a great deal of rubbish, and left Mr. Bernstein to the Police Station.

On Wednesday, the 4th inst., the Ancient Order of Foresters held their half-yearly district meeting of delegates from the various Courts in Toronto as the Knights of Malta Hall, Adelaide street. Delegates were present from Amicable (Stratford), Oshawa, Yorkville, Woodbridge, Brampton, &c. The usual routine business was transacted. General satisfaction was expressed with the financial and numerical progress of the Order, which promises to be one of the most successful institutions in connection with the Order. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—C. D. Wilson, Toronto, D.C.R.; Bro. J. G. Davidson, M.D., Bowmanville, D.S.C.R.; Bro. R. W. Abell, Toronto, D.S.; Bro. J. Ewart, Toronto, D.T.; Bro. W. D. Davidge, C. Lanning, A. McIntyre, J. Threadgold, G. White, Board of Management. At the close of the meeting the brethren adjourned to the Yorkshire Hotel where a most enjoyable supper and excellent repast in true Foresters' style under the presidency of Bro. F. H. Medcalf.

On Sunday, the 8th inst., a most lamentable occurrence took place in the house of Mr. Wm. Gardner, on Sumach street, near Sumach street. It seems that Fogarty is at least partially insane, and during Sunday afternoon he attempted to assist his daughter Johanna because aware of his design, and went to his room in his absence in order to get possession of his pistol. Almost as soon as she got hold of it, however, it went off, and immediately afterward her father came running up stairs and attempted to snatch it from her when another chamber was discharged during the scuffle that ensued. The girl fell fainting on the floor after this, and on examination was found to be wounded in the left breast. She only lived a short time, but stated distinctly before she died that she had not fired herself, and that it was accidental. Coroner Riddel held an inquest on the body on Monday, when the jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

A meeting of the Corn Exchange was held on Friday, the 6th inst., to take action with regard to the difficulty which has arisen in consequence of the use, in Chicago, of the Winchester measure instead of the Imperial in the measurement of barley. The matter was a good attendance, and Mr. Galbraith, the President, occupied the chair. The President briefly explained the object of the meeting. Mr. W. H. Howland stated that he had had two cargoes of barley tried, and he found that the difference between the Winchester and Imperial bushel was two pounds instead of one and a half. He attributed the difference to the use of a funnel in pouring the grain into the tester, which he thought very unfair. He was of opinion that a definite course should be taken with reference to the matter, and therefore moved, That, in view of the differences which exist in the inspection of barley between Toronto and Chicago, the Association is of opinion that it would be in the best interests of the members to instruct their agents in Chicago not to allow their barley to be inspected in that port until some satisfactory understanding is arrived at between the two cities as to grading barley. The Association would also hope that all dealers throughout the country will pursue the same course." Mr. Marsden seconded the resolution. Mr. Chatham expressed his opinion that it would be of great advantage if there was a fixed standard between the two cities, and he thought that by that standard barley should be tested by sample, and irrespective of the bushel. The resolution was then put and carried, and it was decided to telegraph the resolution to the Owego Board of Trade, and to communicate with the Boards of Trade in Canada on the subject.

On the afternoon of Saturday, the 7th inst., a serious accident was occasioned by the falling of a scaffold in the rear of Mr. Irwin's new house on Granville street. It seems that before leaving the building at noon the carpenters, who quit work for the day at that hour, sawed about two inches off the ends of the prop supporting the scaffold which was placed near the cornice in the rear of the main building and immediately over the kitchen. Three painters, who were there while the workmen to put on the felt paper, with which the house was being sheathed. In the meantime two painters and an apprentice, in the employ of Mr. Stanley (corner of Granville and Yonge street), came respectively George Usherwood, Henry Johnston, and Samuel Townley, came to attach a cornice to the house, and knowing nothing of the scaffold, which was placed near the cornice in the rear of the main building and immediately over the kitchen. Three painters were there at work