

In a country like Canada it would be absurd to expect the farming to be carried on in as scientific a manner as in England; the land is so abundant, a greater breadth is cultivated, in proportion to the population, in what an English farmer would consider a rough sort of a way. It speaks well for the character of the soil and climate that under such adverse circumstances such excellent crops are obtained; in too many instances the land is merely scratched over. The general excellence of the soil, and other favorable conditions for feeding all kinds of stock, which prevail in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, together with the immense areas available, I think leave no room to doubt that Canada, in the near future, is capable of supplying us with more cattle and sheep than she is now doing. It is not more than five years since the Canadian farmer looked upon wheat as being the chief production; to-day the growing of beef for England is their first consideration, wheat only taking second place. As this implies a complete cropping of the farms, the Canadian farmer of the future will have to practise what will be to him a new system of farming."

We have again been favored with a visit from His Excellency the Governor-General, who, like many of his predecessors, has taken the greatest interest in these annual displays of the agricultural and mechanical industries of the country. The many valuable and practical suggestions which he made cannot but have a very beneficial effect. The absence of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, through that unfortunate accident which lately befell her, has caused the most profound feeling of regret among all who have visited our Exhibition, many of whom still hoped that she would have been enabled again to have honored us with her presence. I am sure I but speak the sentiments of every person in this country, when I say, that no person has ever visited the Dominion for whom the hearts of Canadians have beaten with greater feelings of admiration, love, and respect, all of whom devoutly pray that Her Royal Highness may speedily be restored to health, and grace with her presence His Excellency's household.

In conclusion, I have to thank the directors and officers of the Association for their uniform kindness and courtesy shown towards me on all occasions since I have been honored with the highest position in the gift of the agriculturists of Ontario.

On motion of Senator CHRISTIE, seconded by Mr. WM. SAUNDERS, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the President for his address, after which Messrs. John Cavers, of Galt, and Henry Wade, of Port Hope, were unanimously chosen Auditors for the ensuing year.

Mr. THOMAS STOCK, of Wentworth, seconded by Mr. JOHN WHITE, of Halton, then moved the following resolution, which was carried unanimously: "That in the opinion of this meeting, the Provincial Exhibition—having been the means of developing agriculture in the Province—should not be held in one locality, but should be held in convenient and suitable places in different parts of the Province."