



## CANADA'S GREAT FAIR.

**T**HE Toronto Industrial Exhibition is over, and its success not only tops the record but has placed it beyond a peradventure at the head of any similar exhibition on the American continent. As a live Yankee said the other day regarding it, "you Canadians not only know how to get up a first class show, but how to go to it afterwards," and this is strictly true, for no matter how great may be the attractions of any exhibition, it is bound to fall flat if not liberally patronized.

The fact that the attendance at Toronto's great fair has gone on increasing year after year, may safely be taken as a proof that its management have pretty accurately gauged the public taste, and that their "greatest show on earth" has given both townsmen and strangers full value for their money. So far as we can judge personally, we should say that nowhere that we know of in America can any visitor get so much of both instruction and amusement for twenty-five cents as at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition.

Although the weather during the first week was so cold and wet as to make the receipts nearly \$4,000 less than for the corresponding period of last year, yet the splendid sunshiny days which followed and continued until the close, brought the total receipts of the Exhibition nearly \$10,000 ahead of any other year in its history.

On the 15th (citizens' day) and the 17th (farmers' day) it is computed that there were at least 75,000 people on the ground each day, and the aggregate gate receipts of the two days amounted to almost \$32,000.

The arrangements for the accomodation of visitors were excellent, and no accident of any kind occurred to mar the enjoyment of the occasion.

To the distinguished visitors, Lords Stanley and Aberdeen as well as to the English farmers' delegation now visiting this country, the Exhibition was a thorough and pleasant surprise the memory of which will color the reports that they will carry back across the Atlantic, and which should be productive of good in inducing a superior class of emigrants to pitch on Canada as their future place of abode.

As we have said before in these columns, we know of no better exponent of our industrial and agricultural interests than such exhibitions, and in our opinion no loyal Canadian could inspect the products of our workshops and farms exhibited at Toronto without feeling a glow of pride in the country which could from its own resources make such a creditable and imposing exhibit.

The exhibits pertaining strictly to the jewelry trade, although few in number, were of more than ordinary excellence.

SIMPSON, HALL, MILLER & CO.

The exhibit of Simpson, Hall, Miller & Co., plated ware manufacturers of 18 De Bresoles St., Montreal, occupied two large plate glass show cases almost in the centre of the main building, and was inspected by large crowds of visitors every day during the fair. Of the excellence of this firm's manufactures it is almost needless to say anything to the trade, for they have been upon the market for over a quarter of a century, and have always stood the practical test of actual wear. The features of their Toronto exhibit were the repousse silver and gilt hollow ware, and their collection of flat ware. One tea set in

repousse and gilt was a perfect gem and would delight the eye of any customer in art metal work, however critical he might be. In nut bowls and other fancy pieces of hollow ware, the same beauty of design and excellence of finish was apparent throughout, and in the opinion of first class judges in the same line of business, the company's exhibit of hollow ware far exceeded in point of workmanship and quality, that made by them at the World's Centennial Fair at Philadelphia in 1876.

Their flat ware exhibit consisted mainly of some large and elegantly appointed cabinets, fitted up with a complete assortment of fancy pattern goods. The largest of these, valued at about \$500, was a splendid specimen of the silversmith's art, both design and finish being all that could be desired. The display, taken as a whole, was very fine, and produced an impression on the public which must have the effect of increasing the sales of the already popular goods of this firm.

THE TORONTO SILVER PLATE CO.

In a large plate glass show case, situated almost directly in front of the entrance to the "crystal palace," was to be found the very attractive exhibit of the Toronto Silver Plate Co., of this city. This company confined themselves this year exclusively to goods of their own manufacture, and in our opinion made fully as effective an exhibit as they have ever done in former years, when their own work was supplanted by the best available specimens of American skill. Their collection consisted exclusively of useful and ornamental hollow ware, and some of the pieces exhibited were exceedingly chaste in design and meritorious in finish. Amongst the most beautiful and striking of these was a fancy table, the top of which was supported by four semi nude female figures, known to heathen mythology as Caryatides. A richly decorated vase and lamp stand, also having the same kind of figures for supports, were much admired, and would compare favorably with any similar work turned out by the best European silversmiths. The regular tableware part of their exhibit gave ample evidence that the company is yearly improving the quality and finish of the goods they manufacture, and are bound to make them equal to anything of a similar kind turned out elsewhere.

There is no branch of manufacture that we know of which has made greater strides during the past ten years than that of electro plated silver ware, and any jeweler who made a careful inspection of the goods exhibited by the Toronto Silver Plate Co. must have been impressed by the fact that this Canada of ours is, for many lines of goods, fast becoming one of the most important manufacturing centres in the world. The Company are to be congratulated on the success of their purely Canadian exhibit, the quality and finish of which is bound to help their sales in the near future.

ELLIS & CO.'S TOWER CLOCKS.

No visitor could well attend the Exhibition without having his attention drawn to the large tower clock which graced the eastern end of the crystal palace, and provided citizens and strangers alike with a sure means of regulating their movements. An inspection of the works which were placed inside on the first gallery floor, proved that, so far as tower clocks are concerned, this country can turn out work fully as good as that which we have hitherto been in the habit of importing. The makers of the clock on exhibition were Messrs. Ellis & Co., of Toronto, and so far as regards materials, construction and