

# THE FARMER AND MECHANIC.

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## THIRD MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA.

Since the publication of the first number of the *Farmer & Mechanic*, the above exhibition took place in the town of Cobourg, the capital of the Newcastle District. Owing to the unfavorable state of the weather, during the days on which the entries, by announcement, were to be made, many were deterred from bringing forward their stock, and other articles to be exhibited; and, not a few from this cause, together with a boisterous storm, which experienced sailors say has not been equalled for fifteen years on Lake Ontario, were prevented from attending the show. From these causes, therefore, both the number of articles entered for competition, and the visitors from a distance were not so great, as, doubtless, otherwise would have been the case. The Exhibition, however, on the whole, was highly creditable to the gentlemen who took a prominent part in maturing and completing the arrangements, and also to the noble cause of agricultural, mechanical, and general improvement of the country. Every friend of Canadian improvement, who visited the great national fair under notice, must have returned to his home under a strong conviction of the benefit that has been conferred on the country, by the establishment of an association which has for its object the encouragement of every branch of productive industry, and especially the annual concentration of the choicest productions of our land, including the handiwork of the ladies, men of genius, the promoters of the arts, and, in fact, of everything that the industry and ingenuity of all classes of our mixed population are capable of producing. The three exhibitions that have been held by the Agricultural Association of Upper Canada, have taken place

at too late a period of the year, thereby detracting materially from the interest that thousands otherwise would have taken in them, simply in consequence of the bad state of the roads, and the risk that the competitors have been exposed to in having their property injured by taking it long distances, and in receiving damage from exposure several days to the inclemency of the weather. This evil, happily, in future will be obviated, and the next exhibition will be held during the first week of September, in the city of Kingston, at which period, in an average of seasons, the weather in this country is favorable for large gatherings of people.

As the character of the Association is now fairly established, those who take an active interest in aiding the accomplishment of the great objects for which it has been founded, will only have to unite their energies and talents in the most efficient manner, and patiently await the results. The Association has strong claims for support upon the government of the country; its claims are equally strong upon the District and Township Agricultural Societies; and it has still stronger claims for support upon every friend of Canada. This institution was not established to confer benefits upon a few interested persons. All classes and conditions of society may avail themselves of the valuable benefits that will be conferred as a reward of merit, at its annual gatherings. The premiums, though small, will doubtless be increased from time to time, as the state of the funds, and the general feeling evinced in its welfare, would seem to warrant. To ensure a large collection of the choicest articles of the country for competition, it is essentially necessary that large premiums should be awarded, and in order that the association might be warranted in