

## PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

*(From the Kingston Daily News.)***Preparations for the Exhibition.**

To Kingston belongs the honor of erecting the first permanent buildings for the purposes of the Agricultural Association of Upper Canada. Previous to the Exhibition of 1856, the Government of the day granted a license of occupation for the term of twenty years, of an area of about twenty acres on a portion of the Penitentiary farm lot, and on this the Local Committee raised a handsome and substantial cruciform structure of wood and glass; also ranges of commodious buildings for cattle, horses, pigs, sheep, &c., and a Mechanics' Hall for machinery and agricultural implements; the whole costing about sixteen thousand dollars. The main building, or "Palace," though not so extensive as its heavy, ungainly rival at Toronto, is a light and elegant structure, and well adapted for the purposes for which it was erected. The transept is 190 feet long and 56 feet wide; the general height of the building 34 feet, and that of the cupola about 60 feet. There is in the whole structure about 24,000 feet of fluted glass, being more than double the quantity in the Toronto Palace. The building is undergoing various repairs and improvements, and additional room will be secured by the removal of the unsightly and useless orchestra, which now occupies a large space in the nave. The repairs to the woodwork, under the superintendence of Mr. George Brown, are rapidly approaching completion, and Mr. William Robinson has made good progress in the painting and glazing. In the interior the roof has been colored a pale yellow, the ribs vermillion, and the elliptic sweeps and posts a bright blue—the contrast being exceedingly lively and pleasing. The coloring of the outside is blue and white, and, when finished, the exterior of the building will present a clean and attractive appearance. The Mechanics' Hall, a neat and substantial two-story structure, lying to the south-east of the Palace, is being extended by an addition of sixty feet to its length, its original dimensions being 108 feet by 26. It, also, will be colored, outside and in—the interior red, white and blue—which will greatly improve its appearance. The old cattle sheds have been thoroughly repaired and strengthened, and the accommodation for this class of animals has been largely increased by the erection of a new range of buildings on the west side of the grounds. The old range is 428 feet long by 32 broad, and the new 300 feet by 12, both being capable of housing comfortably upwards of two hundred head of cattle. On the west side have also been erected new sheep and pig sheds, and a capacious carriage

house. The dimensions of the former are 300 feet by 12, the capacity being sufficient to accommodate about 500 animals. The carriage shed is 400 feet long by 16 wide, and will, no doubt afford ample room for the class of manufactures which it is intended to accommodate. The old horse stables at the south end of the grounds are in pretty good condition, and will require but few repairs. The range is 660 feet long, and can house comfortably about two hundred animals. The ventilation, however is very imperfect, but the evil will be remedied to some extent by cutting an aperture in each door and inserting therein a strong wire grating, which will also increase the facilities for viewing the horses. Another old range of stables on the east side, is in a very dilapidated condition, and extensive repairs and alterations are needed to render the stables serviceable. It is believed, however, that they will not be required; but it is the intention of the committee to have them thoroughly repaired in case the other stables should prove insufficient to accommodate all the horses entered for exhibition. This second range is 300 feet long, and when put in order will house about one hundred animals. On either side of the Mechanics' Hall are two tiers of poultry coops, each 108 feet long, and containing 54 compartments—the whole four tiers being capable of holding upwards of two hundred pairs of fowls. These coops are in a fair state of preservation, and need very few repairs to render them secure. In addition to the buildings already noticed, it is intended to erect another, to be devoted to various purposes. It will be 55 feet long and 20 wide, and will comprise, among other apartments, a refreshment room and a retiring room for the ladies. All the buildings on the ground are substantial permanent structures, and when the repairs and improvements they are now undergoing are completed, will compare favorably with any similar buildings in Upper Canada. Mr. Power, the architect, and the contractors, Messrs. Brown, Robinson and R. M. Horsey, are pushing forward the work in their respective departments with great vigor, and in a few weeks everything—so far as the buildings and ground are concerned—will be in readiness for the coming Provincial Exhibition.

**Flax Cotton**

A Flax Cotton Manufacturing Company has been organized in Oswego, in the State of New York. It occupies a stone building one hundred and forty feet long, and five stories high. Fifty looms for flour sack sheeting are ready for operation; also several knitting machines. The farmers have begun already to reap a profit from this movement. The culture of flax, in some instances, in that vicinity has paid a net profit of \$175 per acre.