

## Agricultural Intelligence.

### North Riding of Wellington Show.

WE learn from the *Guelph Herald* that the eighth annual Exhibition of the Agricultural Society of the North Riding of Wellington, was held in Elora on Wednesday, the 11th inst. The weather was auspicious, and the concourse of competitors and spectators probably exceeded that of any previous similar gathering, while the show itself in the quantity and character of the animals and articles exhibited, certainly eclipsed those of previous years. The exhibition of live stock was worthy of all commendation.—There was a very fair show of horses, and the younger animals gave promise of a still greater improvement. In cattle the Durhams gave evidence of being the favorite breed. There was a good display of bulls, a two-year-old thorough-bred Durham, owned by Robert Cromar, Esq., being a very fine animal.—In sheep the display was good—far in advance of last year. Messrs. Tindale, Gordon, and Metcalf carried off a large proportion of the prizes. In swine the show was indifferent, but there was quite a fair display of poultry, showing that adequate attention is paid to that not least profitable class of farm stock. The samples of grain and roots exhibited were alike numerous and excellent. Mr. McQueen's first-prize fall wheat, and several samples of other varieties of grain, for which the Messrs. Hunter and other exhibitors took prizes, being of very superior quality. The show of roots was very fair, the varieties of potatoes numerous, and most of the samples excellent. Turnips were good for the season. In the class of dairy produce there was not much competition for salt butter in firkin, but in fresh there were sixteen entries, and in moderately salted seventeen. The dairy department gave evidence of much skill and taste on the part of the farmers' wives and daughters, the samples of butter being not only excellent, but most tidily got up. The display of fruit was the best we have seen in North Wellington. Mr. G. Armstrong, of the Fergus Nursery, and Mr. B. Bolding showed some fine varieties of apples. Some very fine pears were shown by Mr. J. Burnett and Mr. John Beattie. The domestic manufactures have ever been a favorite and well-fitted department in the North Riding. We notice that Mr. James Gordon, who took a majority of the prizes for many years in this department, has found formidable opponents in Mrs. Jamieson, Miss Couse, Miss Kelly, Miss Bain and others. In the mechanic's department, the show of buggies, cutters, &c., was very creditable to the builders. The ploughs were tested in a field adjoining the village. Two handsome prizes were offered by Mr. Major—\$20 for the best iron plough, and \$10 for the best wooden do. In the first class the judges decided that the iron plough belonging to Mr. George McInnes, Fergus, was entitled to the first prize, both from its make and finish, and on account of the work. A very superior wooden plough by Mr. Robert Anderson, of Alma, won the prize of \$10, Mr. McInnes coming in second.

**TORONTO GORE FALL EXHIBITION.**—The annual Fall Fair of the above Society, took place at Clairville, on the property of J. P. Delahaye, Esq., adjoining Mr. G. Smyth's hotel, on Wednesday, Oct. 18, the day appointed by his Excellency the Governor-General for thanksgiving. The grain, roots, vegetables, and ladies' work, were shown in a large tent erected in the field. The morning was rather gloomy, with slight showers, but cleared up by noon, and by one o'clock quite a large number of people had collected on the grounds. The horses, cattle, and sheep, were of fine quality, and showed that the farmers of this locality are giving a great deal of attention to improving their stock. The show of horses and colts was particularly fine. It was the opinion of those qualified to judge, that they would compare favourably in quality with those shown at the late exhibition in London. The show of farming implements, although not large, was of good quality. The grain and roots were excellent. Exhibitors evidently were particular not to bring anything but the choicest kinds. The ladies' department was well represented. Some fine specimens of needlework, knitting, quilts, rugs, wool-work, leather-work, &c., shown, were deserving of all the praise they got from the visitors.

A sample of the second crop of hay has been exhibited in Quebec, upwards of three feet in length.

A small freehold estate of about 214 acres, in the Parish of Merton, Surrey, and about 10 miles from London, was lately sold for the extraordinary price of £60,000, being at the rate of £250 per acre.

**OHIO STATE FAIR.**—From the *Ohio Farmer* we condense the following statements as to the success of this Show, which took place at Columbus, Sept. 12-15th:

"The show of cattle of the Shorthorn breed, was better than we have anywhere seen since the great show at Dayton in 1860, when the prize herds of Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana, so stoutly contested for the palm of excellence. \* \* \* The quality of those on exhibition was of marked excellence, and there were enough in number to show that we have the means among us to bring up, within a few years, an interest which in former times was the pride and glory of Ohio, and which contributed in a great measure to the solid wealth of the State.

"As was to be naturally expected, the sheep department was filled with a numerous and notable host, showing the progress which our wool-growers are making in the production of one of the greatest staples of domestic consumption. \* \* \* Besides the main feature of fine-woolled sheep, there was a handsome show of South-downs, and a still larger show of Cotswolds and Leicesters, and a few Shropshires. The raising of these latter breeds of sheep ought to attract more attention than is at present bestowed upon it in this country. The increasing demand for this sort of wool, and the greatly increasing demand for mutton, in connection with the special adaptation of pasturage and markets in certain localities, point to this as a profitable branch of neglected husbandry. The growing of these sheep, though considerably on the increase in Ohio, is still far behind the greater increase of demand. Large wool-growers can probably do better with fine woolled sheep. On the whole, we believe there has not been a better show of sheep at any State Fair in the country, than was exhibited this year at Columbus."

The show of implements was also good, and the attendance of visitors excellent.

**GEORGETOWN MONTHLY FAIR.**—The first Monthly Fair, held in Georgetown, on Friday the 6th, was a great success. Some three or four hundred head of cattle changed hands, besides a large number of sheep, hogs, &c., also an extensive quantity of grain and farm produce was sold. Several thousand dollars was interchanged during the day, and a large business done by the merchants and business men of the place.—*Guelph Mercury*.

**THE FALL WHEAT.**—The report of the condition of the fall wheat crop in this vicinity is extremely favourable, the late rains having given it a fine start, so that it bids fair to attain a strong and healthy growth before winter sets in; and should there be a good covering of snow during the hard frosts of winter, there is every prospect of a good crop of the staple cereal. The pasturage keeps wonderfully good, and the abundance of feed should have a tendency to keep down the price of dairy produce.—*Guelph Herald*.

**FRUIT NORTHWARDS.**—To show that fruit can be profitably raised in this country, we take pleasure in mentioning that Mr. G. S. Armstrong this year raised in his nursery garden, near Fergus, 100 bushels plums of all sorts, which produced the handsome little sum of \$250. The crop was an immensely large one, some of the trees bearing over four bushels each. Mr. Armstrong is an enterprising and successful gardener, but others have an equally good chance in fruit growing, and none should be without a few trees of various kinds—apples, plums, &c.—*Fergus Constitution*.

**AMERICAN INSTITUTE MOWING-MACHINE TRIAL.**—The judges appointed at the great field trial of mowing-machines, held at Hunt's Bridge, July 25 and 26, have awarded the gold medal of the society to the Buckeye mower, built by ADRIANCE, PLATT & Co., Poughkeepsie, and No. 165 Greenwich Street, New-York, the many severe tests to which the various machines were subjected having developed so many points of excellence and superiority in the "Buckeye," as to fairly entitle it to this award.—*New-York Times*.

**SHEEP SALES IN ENGLAND.**—Recent British papers contain accounts of the usual yearly sheep sales and ram lettings, from which we gather that there is no diminution either of interest, or of prices. Rams sold at from 8 to 23 guineas a piece, and ewes at from £3 to £5. Tups were let at from £3 to £9 each. These prices were obtained at what may be called ordinary sheep sales, but far higher ones were obtained at the offering of flocks of high repute. Thus, at the Biscathorpe ram letting, 150 rams were let at an average of £16 9s. One animal brought the extraordinary price of £137. Our Sheep farmers are as yet but partially awake to the value of choice animals, as improvers of their flocks.

**LARGE DROVE OF CATTLE.**—Drovers, American and Canadian, are doing a heavy business between this and Owen Sound. Last week nearly 800 head of cattle came down the Owen Sound Road, on their way to the American market. Mr. A. Speers, of Gait, had 220, and Mr. Thomas Head 150 head—the rest were owned by American buyers. Everything on hoof in that district is being bought up, and fat or lean, all are making their way to the markets of our cousins across the border.—*Dumfries Reformer*.

**OVER SPECULATION IN GRAIN.**—The *New York Commercial Advertiser* says that the grain speculation in the West appears likely to result disadvantageously to that section. Large amounts of breadstuffs have been bought up by speculators, upon the supposition that the crops will prove largely deficient, enabling the holders to realize a handsome profit. The movement has checked the natural flow of flour and grain to the seaboard, and resulted in the general rise in the prices of those products. But a short time can intervene before the closing of the canals, when it will be impossible to forward the usual proportion of crops east, and the result will be that the speculators will have to carry their stocks until next spring.

**THE PRICE OF STOCK IN NEW YORK.**—Everything on hoof is running up in price, and some people wonder how American buyers can afford to pay the price they are doing. The reason is simple enough—the prices they are getting at this time are enormous. For example:—In New York milch cows are in active demand at \$125 to \$150 in greenbacks—at present rates being about \$102 in gold. Thus, if an American buyer picks up a likely beast for \$30 here, he can nearly triple his money by it in New York. This is the secret for the great run upon cows of late. In swine, too, the prices hold good, 14 cents in greenbacks being paid. In beefs the sales have become a little dull, under heavy receipts, but best cattle sell as high as 18 cents per pound. No wonder, then, at the price being paid here.—*Ec*.

**THE CATTLE EXODUS.**—A number of American buyers are now, and have been, through the County of Bruce, buying up large numbers of cattle—fat or lean. Drovers have been gathered at Fort Elgin, Paisley, and other places, and forwarded to the States. The local drovers have, in a great measure, been driven out of the market by the Americans, who, we understand, give very good prices. Our Port Elgin correspondent says that \$70 has now been offered for Mr. Scott's three year old heifer. A fair was held at Fort Elgin on the Saugeen Show day, and about \$1,000 changed hands. The farmers of Bruce have raised great numbers of cattle during the last few years, and now have a good chance of getting rid of their surplus stock at prices which will well repay them, and leave a great deal of money in the County.—*Paisley Advocate*.

**PORK RISING.**—The price of pork is evidently on the rise, or as the market quotation sometimes states, "dead hogs are looking up." Yesterday, one splendid hog sold in the market at the rate of \$3 75 per 100 pounds, and other purchases have recently been made in this city and throughout the country at \$9 and \$9 75 per 100 pounds, according to quantity. This price is of course for first-class. A great deal of light pork comes in, however, which does not command anything like the above figures. Farmers will profit no doubt by holding their hogs over till the season is more advanced, and fatten them well in the meantime. There is every reason to think, from the present demand, that the hog trade will be more brisk this year than for a long time past. The principal need is for export demand.—*London Free Press*.

**NOVA SCOTIA.**—In accordance with a suggestion of the Board of Agriculture, and a recommendation of the Agricultural Committee of the House, the Legislature of this Province at its last session voted a sum of \$10,000, for the importation of stock, with a view to improve the breeds of horses and cattle in the Province. The *Journal of Agriculture*, published at Halifax, states that after much consideration it has been determined to purchase both horses and cattle in England, and to defer the final arrangements for the importation till December. It is found that there will be facilities for having the animals brought out in a comfortable manner very early next spring, in time for use next season, so that the advantages of a fall importation will to a certain extent be secured, without the risk and expense of having to keep the animals over winter in the Province. It is probable also that the Board of Agriculture will add to the sum voted by the Legislature such surplus sums as can be spared, after providing for other requirements.—*Ec*.