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### The Eleventh Annual Convention of the Dairymen's Association of the Province of Quebec.

The meeting of this Association will be held this year, 1892, at Ste-Thérèse de Blainville, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 14th and 15th of December.

As the place where the convention is to be held is in the immediate neighbourhood of Montreal, a large attendance of the dairy-farmers of the Island of Montreal may be expected, from whom, no doubt, many valuable hints will be gained.

A. R. J. F.

**Notice**—**Gratuitous distribution of plans of barn-byres, and of pamphlets on drainage.**

The Hon. L. Beaubien, Commissioner of Agriculture and Colonisation, requests us to inform our readers that, by addressing the Secretary of the Department, plans of barn-byres and pamphlets on drainage may be obtained gratuitously.



### A DAIRY SCHOOL.

A most important step is being taken by the directors of the Provincial Dairy-Association, by which there will be established a complete dairy school for this province this fall. For the three years back, the managers of the Dairy-Association have felt that this is the greatest need of our dairy-industry, and efforts have been made to bring about such arrangement, but the means have been wanting until this summer. Now, an offer has been made by the authorities of the College of St. Hyacinthe, by which a first-rate site for the necessary buildings is given, and an arrangement has been come to by which the funds necessary to build and equip the school are supplied. Prof. Robertson, the Commissioner of Dairying for the Dominion, than whom there is no more competent authority in dairy matters on the continent, has undertaken to provide the instruction and practical working of the school; and the Local Government has agreed to devote sufficient of the grant for dairy purposes to aid this arrangement, so that we may confidently expect to see a first-rate dairy-school in full operation by the fall.

That this is a matter for congratulation all those connected with the butter and cheese trade will easily see, and as this trade is becoming more and more the greatest item in our agriculture in this province, the interest in this announcement should extend to all. The Provincial Dairy-Association has been working steadily and energetically for the improvement of the industry without much fuss or flourish, but the work they have been doing has borne important fruit, and the fine position which the butter and cheese of Quebec holds to-day is largely due to the efforts of these men. A few years ago the average price paid for Quebec cheese was from one to one and a-half cent a pound below that for Ontario cheese. To-day, it is only about one-quarter or at most one-half a cent below the best Brockville, Belleville or Ingersoll prices, and occasionally we find sales made fully as high as in those markets. The system of inspection or instruction which was commenced some five or six years ago was the foundation of the improvement. Two years ago this system was much extended and improved, under the Mercier Government, when a complete arrangement for local inspectors was drawn up by the officers of the Dairy-Association submitted to the then Minister of Agriculture and approved, and the necessary vote given to carry it out. By this arrangement, any group of cheese- or butter-factories could, by complying with certain rules and conditions, obtain a grant from the department to aid them in forming a syndicate for inspection purposes. The factories engage a competent instructor, who goes round and teaches the makers in the factories of his syndicate, inspects the milk brought to them, and gives all the information he can to patrons, owners and makers. The syndicate pays half the expense, the government the other half. This scheme has been found to work very well, and this year there are some eighteen or twenty such instructors in the Province. The Dairy-Association, besides has a chief inspector, who goes from locality to locality helping or keeping watch over the local inspectors. All these men have to submit to an examination, and win a certificate of competency before they can be thus employed. This was a most important first step in advance, and now, to crown it and complete it, we are to have a dairy-school where our inspectors of the future, our cheese- and butter-makers, can go for training in their business. This is very necessary, as, heretofore, it has been rather difficult to find men properly qualified for these places, and we have had to look outside our own Province to get some of them. Last year, so important and necessary was this instruction considered that some young men were sent down to the butter-school which the State of Vermont inaugurated at Burlington,

and they have been using the knowledge and practice there obtained to good advantage this season.

The idea of this school at St. Hyacinthe is to have the operations of cheese- and butter-making carried on as much as possible all the year round, in such a way that those attending can at all times have practical instruction in the work. At the same time lectures on the theory of manufacture, the properties of milk and the chemistry of the process will be given, so that a complete knowledge of the why and the wherefore of the various processes may be acquired. By the expedient of working the school in winter as well as summer, opportunity will be given those who are already in the business to learn more, and many farmer lads and lasses, who are kept close at home during the busy season, can spare a few weeks or even months in the slack time of winter, to go and learn the most improved methods of dairy-work, and study out the reasons for much that they have already done by rule of thumb.

The time is past when the farmer or dairyman can successfully compete by old methods and old appliances, but, fortunately, the knowledge which science is constantly obtaining for us is being more and more put within the reach of all. Already, in various States of the Union, in Ontario, and even in conservative Old England, the example of Denmark has been followed and the greatest benefit has resulted to the people wherever Dairy-schools have been established. We must follow in the train. Quebec Province has many of the natural advantages necessary for successful dairying, and her people have made a good start in progress. Let us then give all honour to the association of men who are thus pushing onward, and we are sure the best encouragement they can receive will be to find that advantage is taken of the facilities thus being supplied, and to see that the Dairy-School will be full during the coming winter.

SYDNEY FISHER.

### SELECT NURSERY STOCK.

While objecting to the urging of persons to buy trees which, from want of knowledge on the part of both agent and purchaser, are often unsuitable, I think the public should not be discouraged as to this important part of rural economy—but if they do not know what, how, where or when to plant, should be instructed by competent authority. After a life-long study and practice, together with experience gained by travel during the last few years as to the adaptability of certain soils, aspects, and localities for tree planting I feel that I am in a position to give the information required to insure success, and if intending planters will do me the honor to consult me I will advise them on the subject, and recommend such varieties as will suit their purpose.

I have the pleasure also to state that I have arranged with reliable Canadian Nurserymen to supply my friends with such trees, shrubs, &c., as I know with ordinary care will yield them pleasure and profit.

GEORGE MOORE.

### Fruit and Fruit-planting.

Mr. Barnard, in the November number of the *French Journal of Agriculture* writes:

At our special request, Mr. George Moore, our official Departmental lecturer on fruit planting and horticulture generally, is willing to advise and help our readers as to the best fruit to plant, and how to raise the same. We strongly advise our readers who are desirous of learning and practising improved fruit-planting and cultivation, to write to Mr. Moore and secure his advice and assistance. In our own plan-

tations of last spring, at *L'Ange-Gardien*, near Quebec, we were fortunate in securing Mr. Moore's assistance and have to report unprecedented success.

Correspondence should be addressed, for the present to 36 *Victoria Street, Montreal.* ED A BARNARD.

#### Clean land for permanent pasture

The importance of having land thoroughly clean before seeding down to grass is a matter, I notice, not sufficiently recognised by many farmers, there can be no more fatal mistake, because if bad weeds are not eradicated before the seed is sown, they cannot be afterward, as in a root crop.

It is better to wait until this is perfectly accomplished even if it involves the loss of a whole season. Couch-grass especially should be completely destroyed or it will soon gain the mastery to the detriment of the crop.

Another great mistake is the purchase of cheap and therefore inferior seed. A good article is always worth its value in the market, and there are always poorer ones to be purchased for less money. Economy of course should always be practised—but it, is not economy to sow cheap seeds—and as the farmer is in the seedsman's hands he should always deal with a firm of well known respectability and not take any but the best quality which he recommends. A few dollars saved in the purchase of cheap seeds is running the risk of the loss of many instead of making any gain.

If our friends would not be penny-wise and pound-foolish in this respect, we should not see so many ox-eye daisies, thistles, sorrel, and other noxious weeds in our pastures or hear of them so quickly running out. Be sure to have clean land and clean seed when you stock down to permanent pasture or hay land. GEORGE MOORE.

The weather in this section (County Megantic) has been very trying to the patience of the haymakers. The continuous and heavy rains have made the operation tedious, but not much of the crop is lost because farmers, acting with caution, have only cut small quantities at once, however that which is standing is not so good because too ripe and has lost a good deal of its succulent and nutritive quality. Last year the crop was poor having been injured for the want of snow covering in many places—this year the weather is unpropitious. These circumstances are perhaps providential, as they will lead farmers to the adoption of the silo system and the culture of crops of Indian corn and clover to supplement the hay in a hard season. A few years ago it was hard to make people believe that corn would grow on account of the short season. But that idea is gradually losing ground and frequent patches of corn are met with en route. The fallacious impression is also on the minds of many that, because the season is short, the corn must be planted very early, this will apply of course to almost every other crop but corn, but this being a plant of tropical origin will only grow during the hot weather, therefore to plant it until the soil is well mured and the sun has power is a fatal mistake. Great reforms are slowly accomplished, but, when found to be for the best are sure to come, and the sooner we can make this great subject well understood the nearer is our day of prosperity. GEORGE MOORE

#### SYNDICATE OF FARMERS.

We reproduce with pleasure the documents connected with the syndicate of farmers. It will be seen that they relate to an organisation particularly favourable to farmers' clubs, agri-

cultural societies, and, generally, to all who wish to assist the progress of agriculture in its various branches

We trust our readers will without delay notify their adherence to this society to the secretary Dr. Couture, for which purpose it is only necessary to send their signatures affixed to the declaration required by the law, which will be found on the last page, so that it may be cut off without injury to the rest of the number.

The signature, it will be noted, must be made in duplicate. The subscription need not be forwarded at the same time as the signed adherence, but the latter is required in order that the syndicate may be recognised in a legal manner, which is to be done without delay.

Quebec, August 1892.

Dear Sir,

The "farmers' syndicate" authorised to act in the Province of Quebec generally, in accordance with an amendment to the Agricultural Act passed at the last Session, has for its object the promotion of Agriculture, in all its branches, very much on the lines followed by the Royal Agricultural Society of England and similar societies, which, wherever established, have proved of invaluable advantage to Agriculture.

Its annual meetings are to be held in Quebec at the beginning of each Parliamentary Session, in order to lay before the Legislature what is needed to improve our agriculture generally. The members are expected to work in their different localities in order to secure improved agriculture, to the best of their ability.

The promoters are anxious to secure the best representative men, through the Province, as members of the "farmers' syndicate." Much work can be done through correspondence, so that it will not be absolutely necessary to travel in order to be consulted and immediate action be taken on the advice thus obtained.

It is proposed to make a special study of such means as shall:

1. Promote improved dairying, diminish the cost of production, increase the net returns.
2. Encourage drainage, and profitable irrigation where needed.
3. Improve our farm-stock, and market-produce to the best advantage.
4. Produce and market improved seeds, fruit trees etc. suitable to the various districts etc.
5. Improve our farm-buildings, in order to economise time, food, manure etc.
6. Secure the testing of new implements, seeds etc, and the publication, through the daily press and otherwise, of the results carefully obtained.
7. Generally, how best to instruct farmers and their families in all subjects pertaining to profitable agriculture.

The Syndicate intends to watch carefully over all public questions interesting to agriculture, with the object of promoting agriculture in all its branches, but outside of all party-lines.

The Syndicate fully trusts, Sir, that you will favor it by becoming a member, signing in duplicate the enclosed legal formula, as one of either class of members, at your own selection, and that you will please send the signed formulae with your subscription for this year to the undersigned.

For the local Committee of Organization.

J. A. COUTURE,  
Honorary Secretary.

## The Agricultural laws of the Maritime Provinces.

Quebec, 27 August, 1892.

ED. A. BARNARD ESQ.

Director of the *Journals of Agriculture*

Sir,

As a member of the commission on the liquor-question (*régime des boissons*), I have just been visiting the capitals and principal districts of the maritime provinces.

In conformity with the instructions of the Hon. Louis Beaubien, I, at the same time, investigated the agricultural laws of these provinces and their manner of working.

## NOVA-SCOTIA.

## AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

At Halifax, I was fortunate enough to pass some time in conversation with Mr. George Lawson, secretary of the department of Agriculture.

In this province, the law allows as many societies to be established as the farmers choose to form; only 25 members and \$40.00 worth of subscriptions are necessary to the organisation of a society. In the eighteen counties of Nova-Scotia, there were, last year, 81 societies, eight of which were in the county of Lunenburg; 4159 members; subscriptions, \$5,211.20; and government grants \$6,432.00.

Although the government be authorised to grant twice the amount of the subscriptions, up to \$400.00 a county, it will be observed that the farmers have subscribed a sum almost equal to the grant of the Legislature. I beg to remark, en passant, that, in the province of Quebec, in 1890, the members of these societies subscribed \$25,136.69, and the government grant in aid was \$35,978.30. From what I heard, the societies of Nova-Scotia are very popular, and do a great deal of good. Their chief aim is the improvement of cattle, and all of them buy breeding-stock. If I may rely on Mr. Smith, director of the agricultural school, these societies are at the same time, to a certain extent, farmers' clubs. They are authorised to expend a certain part of their funds in the purchase of agricultural publications; they meet occasionally to hear lectures from some of their members, or from lecturers sent out by government. Last winter, Mr. Smith himself gave several lectures in the presence of the members of these societies.

The last report of the department gives the names of several agricultural publications that the commissioner advised the societies to buy. In this report is shown the special efforts each society has made for the improvement of stock or of farming in general, and the results obtained. These details are most interesting, and it is highly desirable that our societies should, in their reports, enable the Commissioner to make known to the public the progress they are making in agriculture.

## THE COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURE.

The council of agriculture in Nova-Scotia was abolished in 1885.

## THE AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

At Truro, I visited the farm-school of 104 acres established by government: it cost \$7,000.00. The local government is about establishing a new school at a cost of \$7,000.00. Last year, 25 pupils attended it. There is a creamery on this farm.

## CONDENSED-MILK FACTORY.

At Truro, I went over the condensed-milk-factory. Every summer's day, it takes in 6 to 8 thousand pounds of milk, every winter's day four thousand pounds. The secretary told me that he could get from the farmers in winter, more milk

than he buys at present; if he does not, it is because the company does not want to make more condensed milk than it can get rid of.

To this factory is attached a creamery which is worked when the company has too great a stock of condensed milk on hand. In summer, 75 cents, in winter, \$1.25 are paid for 100 lbs of milk.

The sale of this condensed milk has been tried in England, but it did not pay. The manufacture consists in the evaporation of about 75 % of the water the milk contains, and the addition of a certain quantity of sugar.

All the farmers of the neighbourhood are large milk-producers; although Truro is 60 miles from Halifax, it supplies that town with a part of the milk it uses. The milk is sent by the "milk-train" every morning. "The farmers here never emigrate," said a Truroite to me, "for those who, with care and intelligence, devote themselves to dairying always succeed."

I wish I could say as much for the whole of the province of Quebec. At Truro, a good proportion of the cows calve down in the fall, so the farmers have plenty of milk to sell in winter, when it fetches a higher price than in summer.

## FRUIT GROWING.

Fruit-growing has been highly developed in the province. It exported, they told me, last year, to England, more than 300,000 barrels of apples, the greater part of which was grown in the Annapolis valley. From the train that took me to Yarmouth, I saw the numerous fine orchards that adorn this important part of Nova-Scotia. Close by, I saw the quay where the Acadians embarked when they were expelled from their country. Near the quay, was an ancient elm that was the silent witness of the tears and groans of these unhappy exiles.

In this part there are also long sea-banks or dikes built by the Acadians before their banishment. They protect from the inundations of the sea large tracts of land which, without them, would be useless.

Nova Scotia has a fruit-growers' association. In its last report, the members pressingly request the government to establish a school of pomology. As I read these lines, I was pleased to recall the fact that the Hon. Louis Beaubien had decided to fill up, in our province, the void of which the Nova-Scotians complain. Fruit-drying factories exist in this province, where the fruit is preserved by drying or evaporation.

## NEW-BRUNSWICK.

## AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The number of societies established in each county is unlimited by law, but at least 50 members and \$100.00 of subscriptions are necessary before a society can be founded.

Here, as in our province, the proper working of agricultural societies is a problem hard to solve. In accordance with the dispositions of the law, the societies in New-Brunswick are made larger, as regards the extent of country they cover, than those of Nova-Scotia. Mr. Inches, the secretary of the department of agriculture, does not think much of the good resulting from the operations of their societies. He specially complains of the exorbitant outlay for exhibition buildings made by some, and declares that the majority of the fall-shows are of little use to the furtherance of agricultural progress. The prizes are frequently given in an injudicious manner, and tend little to the development of the most remunerative agricultural industries. He seemed, like me, to admire the system of Nova-Scotia, and told me that the society that did the most good in the province was the smallest, that is, the one that covered the least extent of land. Mr. Inches retains a pleasant recollection of you, and takes pleasure in

repeating that the advice and the information he received from you have been very useful to him.

#### THE COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURE.

No such thing exists as the council of agriculture : it has been established twice and twice abolished.

#### NATIONAL STUD.

The government seems to have been unlucky in its agricultural legislation. Five years ago, intending to found a stud, the government bought 25 stallions : Percherons, Clydesdales, Haeknoys, &c., some from the States, but the greater number from Europe. They were let out to the agricultural societies, and so neglected by the grooms that they were ruined. Consequently, the stock was abolished shortly after its establishment and the horses were sold for a mere song. By this, the province lost several thousand dollars.

The government also started a stock-farm, but had to give it up, as the animals on the farm were too much neglected.

A few siloes are beginning to be made in this province.

There is no school of agriculture.

#### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

At Charlottetown, Mr. Morrison, the Commissioners' secretary was good enough to show me over the stock-farm, which is about three miles from the town. On this farm, there is a shorthorn bull that weighs 2,500 lbs., an Ayrshire, from Scotland, costing \$180.00 ; 20 thoroughbred Ayrshires cows, 25 thoroughbred shorthorns, Berkshire and Yorkshire pigs, and Leicester and Shropshire sheep. The animals reared on the farm are auctioned off by the commissioners in the spring and autumn. The only condition imposed on the purchasers is that any animal bought by them should be kept in their possession, *on the Island*, for three or four years. At Southport, I saw a farmer who, having bought a shorthorn calf for \$45, sold him, a few years afterwards for \$117.65, i. e. 2353 lbs. at 5 cents a pound !

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Here, there are neither societies nor council of agriculture. The exhibitions are held by means of grants from government.

The beauty of the crops that covers the island astonished me. What a fertile province it is ! Everywhere are fine fields of grain and potatoes, as well as rich pastures, where the cattle graze on perennially green and abundant grass. It may well be called a garden. The soil is a *red loam*.

Only in New-Jersey can a similar soil be found. It is not uncommon to find fields of potatoes of 6, 8, and even 10 arpents. The abominable potato beetle made its appearance in the island two years ago, having sailed over the Straits of Northumberland—so they say—on the sea-weed. This seaweed is a great addition to the natural fertility of the soil of the island ; at low-tide, the farmers gather it on the shore, and spread it in their yards, mixing it with the manure of the cattle.

#### DAIRY-SCHOOLS.

In each of the maritime provinces there are dairy-schools, to the support of which the federal government contributes.

#### BREEDS OF STOCK.

Of cattle, the chief sorts kept are : Jerseys, Ayrshires, and Shorthorns ; of sheep : Leicesters and Shropshires ; of pigs : Berkshires and Yorkshires.

#### CONCLUSIONS.

As the result of my investigations on the working of the agricultural laws of these provinces, I have arrived at the following conclusions :

#### IMPROVEMENT OF STOCK.

These provinces, by their legislation and societies, take more pains to improve their stock than we do, and we ought to imitate them.

I do not advise the establishment of stock-breeding farms. We have breeders who can get for us all we want. Our agricultural schools, too, ought to keep pure-bred stock, to register those they rear, and be in a position to supply our societies with all the animals they require.

If they would do this, they would find it, as others have, a paying business. I am not in a position to say what breeds should be kept ; I leave that to more competent persons. Some farmers say Jerseys are the breed, and if butter be in question, they are doubtless right ; but if cheese, then we should listen to the admirers of the Ayrshires.

Others will tell you that we have no need to search for foreign breeds ; that we have in our province a race of hardy, milk-producing cows, whose superiority over others has been proved by the Director of the Central experiment-farm, where there is a herd of Canadian cows, as well as by experiments you yourself have made at Quebec. We have only to improve this race, by selection, to prove that in hardiness as well as in abundant yield of milk, it is superior to all others.

The agricultural societies ought to make more frequent purchases of pure breeding stock. Instead of retaining them as their own property, they should follow the system adopted by most of the societies of Nova-Scotia, and by the commissioners of Prince Edward Island. This system consists in selling the animals by auction, the purchasers being bound to keep them in their possession for so many years, and to fulfil certain conditions imposed upon them by these societies in the interest of their members. Thus, the purchasers become interested, as proprietors, in taking care of the cattle, which, if left to the care of the servants of the societies are generally neglected. This has proved to be the case in a hundred instances, among others, here and in New-Brunswick.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

In Nova-Scotia, the agricultural societies, which resemble our farmers' clubs, appear to give satisfaction, and I do not see why we should not adopt the same system. All we need is to allow the legal organisation of those clubs that number at least 25 members, and subscribe at least forty dollars : at the same time we might grant them the same rights and advantages as the other agricultural societies. These clubs are doing good and useful work. All they need to complete their utility is the aid and privileges we give to the agricultural societies. This legislation would not increase the expenditure ; we should only have to decree that the government grant be the same it is now for each county, but that it be divided between the agricultural society and the clubs of the county, or *pro rata* of the amount of the subscriptions of each association. This is the system pursued in Nova-Scotia, where the grant cannot exceed \$400 a county, whatever be the number of societies it embraces. More liberal is the government of the province of Quebec, since it allows for the agricultural societies \$656 00 a county. Every one admit that the agricultural society No. 2 of Terrebonne, composed of farmers' clubs organised by Dr. Grignon, has rendered and continues to render great service to the farmers of that part of the country. The funds of this society are divided between the clubs, each of which deals with its share either by holding exhibitions, by

buying breeding stock, or in any way it thinks most useful to its members. Nothing prevents the holding of regional exhibitions, and, for that purpose, several clubs might be united every three or four years.

For some time, our bishops and clergy, recognising the usefulness and importance of the farmers' clubs, have advised and encouraged their creation. Their appeals have, unfortunately, too often remained unanswered, and many clubs, after having been founded, have perished. These failures must be attributed to the government not having made their existence a legal one, and having given them no pecuniary help. From my point of view, the clubs deserve the aid and sympathy of the government as much as, if not more than, the societies. Their members hold frequent meetings, they possess treatises on farming, they study them and make well thought-out reflections likely to produce good results. There is more life in the clubs than in the societies.

In Ontario, the government makes a grant to each farmers' club, which meets twice a year, and makes a report to the government of its operations and of the deliberations of its meetings.

We must not hide from ourselves the fact that many agricultural societies do next to nothing for the improvement of farming, and, too frequently, nothing at all for the improvement of stock. This expression of opinion is only the echo of what I have heard from many farmers. In a letter, dated 20th of July last, Mr. Robertson, the Commissioner of Dairy Industry told me that he thought the funds expended at a crowd of fall-exhibitions were completely frittered away. In the same letter, he strongly advised the agricultural societies to aim more at the improvement of stock by the purchase of pure-bred bulls, stallions, &c. The members of an agricultural society are gathered from only two or three parishes of a county. In 1890, out of 14,402 members, 5,484 came from one solitary parish in each county. Where we to convert the clubs into societies, several would be formed in each county, and the advantages derived from the government grants for the improvement of farming would be more generally diffused. By the reports of the clubs created in Terrebonne by Dr. Grignon, we see that the pure-bred boars bought by the clubs have been worth hundreds of dollars to the members.

Annually, we expend on the agricultural societies more than \$35,000. It is a large sum, and all the friends of the province and its agriculture have a right to demand that its expenditure be so managed that it shall tend to the prosperity of agriculture and put a stop to the movement that is depopulating our rural districts for the profit of our towns. It certainly could be employed more beneficially than it is to-day, were a large part of it devoted to encourage the creation of farmers' clubs, that shall fulfil at the same time the duties of agricultural societies. Our curés, and those citizens who have at heart the interests of agriculture, can create many clubs in each county, and these associations, with the assistance of the government, would contribute powerfully to the improvement of the position of the farming population.

Truly yours,

G. A. GIGAUULT,  
Assistant-Commissioner.

#### OUR ENGRAVINGS.

The portrait shows the noted Jersey bull Exile of St. Lambert, for whom it is claimed that, beside having 31 tested daughters, his sons stand at the head of a larger number of herds than do those of any other. He was bred by M. Babcock of Montreal, sire Bachelor of St. Lambert 4558, dam Allie of St. Lambert 24991. He weighs over 1600 lbs, and has great vigor, but is finely finished as well as beautifully

proportioned; and has golden skin, thick, soft and pliable, fine silky hair, deep chest and great breadth, strong loins, and a magnificent tail that touches the ground. He is owned by Mr. P. J. Cogswell, Rochester, Y. One of his sons took first prize against strong competition in the bull-calf ring at the Albany show last week, as noted in another place in this issue, and was much admired by critical judges.

C. Gentleman.

The American Agriculturist for September has so life like a portrait of the champion Jersey cow, Signal's Lily Flag 31035, that we are tempted to copy it. We need hardly remind readers that this cow produced during the year ending May 31 last, 11,339 lbs. milk from which was made 1,047 lbs 6½ oz. of butter. The Agriculturist remarks:

Signal's Lily Flag does not belong to any of the fashionable families as the first part of her name would imply, as she is only one-twelfth Signal blood. The credit of her work belongs to the breed, and as Bis-on's Belle was of the same class, this should encourage testing the best cows to find the wonders. She was eight years old at the time of this test and weighed about 950 pounds. While perhaps not a model cow in appearance, yet she is of good form and, what is much better, of strong constitution, and she looks well enough to go through another year's trial. She has two tested daughters, one of 14 pounds a week and another of 20 pounds, thus showing that she possesses that greatest of all thorough-bred gifts, the power of transmitting her good qualities to her offspring, and as she has dropped eight calves (one pair of twins) the world is likely to be greatly benefited by the good work of Signal's Lily Flag.

#### Sweepstakes Short-Horn Heifer at Last Royal Show.

The out, reproduced from the London Live Stock Journal, shows what that paper calls a "grand short-legged heifer, very wide and even." Her name is Truth, and she was bred and is owned by Lord Polwarth, Mertoun, St. Boswell's. She is red and-white, calved in April, 1888, got by Sir Arthur Irvine from Timbrel by Prince Stuart 45421—Timbrel bred by the late J. B. Booth of Killerby, and of his well-known Heouba tribe. She was exhibited with great success in 1891, winning first and "champion" prizes at the shows of R. A. S. E. at Doncaster and the Great Yorkshire at Bradford, and first at the show of the Highland and Agricultural Society.

#### THE EXHIBITION OF 1892.

We go on improving, there is no doubt about it. Last year's show, allowing for the comparative inexperience of some of the managers, was very good, but this year, the quietness and regularity with which the arrangements were carried out were beyond all praise, and I did not hear of one complaint about the decisions of the Judges; which is almost miraculous.

The cattle were comfortably housed, and, as many of them were evidently accustomed to be tenderly cared for, that was a great point. Very few inferior animals were exhibited, though, as is usually the case, two or three shorthorns and a few pens of Cotswold sheep might have met with accidental delays without damaging the look of the show.

Only one lot of *Devons*, the same owner, Mr. Rudd, as last year. A useful herd, but, I fancy would be none the worse for the introduction of new blood. I do not see in the cows, however, the signs of plenty of rich milk, such as I was accustomed to remark in the good North Devons when I used to see them on their native pastures in Devon and Cornwall in the *forties*, ah! how long ago! A good carcase of beef does the Devon give, but the dairy should not be forgotten. Mr. Bickerdike's two fat oxen were of prime quality. If they

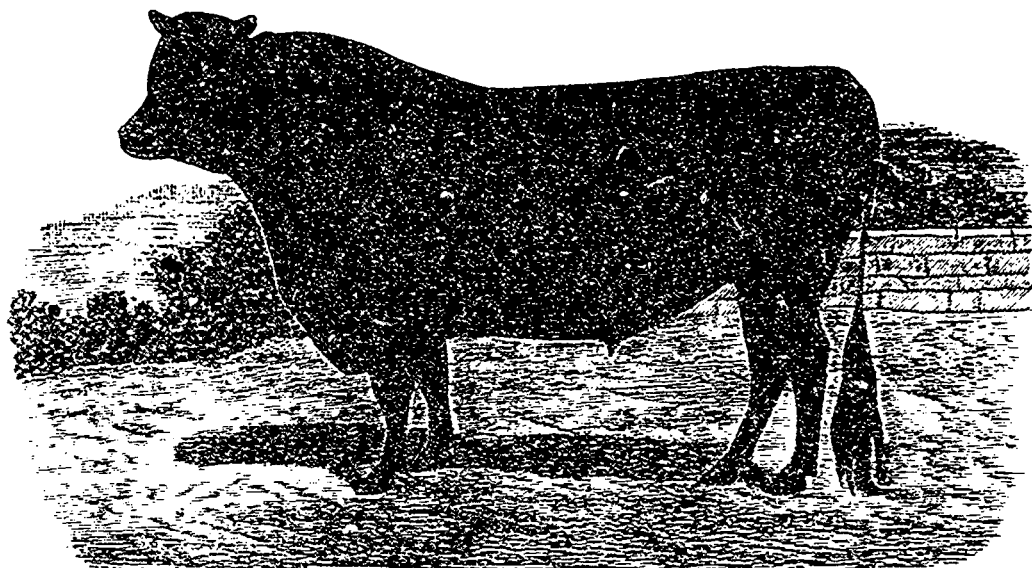


were for exportation, though, it pains me to think how their "too, too solid flesh would melt" unless their voyage was made over a very calm ocean.

I was very glad to see such a capital show of Guernseys I tried, till I was tired some years ago, to get Sir John Abbott to exhibit some of his excellent herd, but I never succeeded. Now, however, come two brave competitors, Mr. Greenshields, of Danville, and Mr. Sidney Fisher, of Knowlton, and divide the prizes in this class between them. As Mr. W. Crezier, of Northport, Long Island, was the judge, I feel quite easy about the decisions, though before I knew who was to decide in such a contest, I confess I felt rather in doubt, as very few people here have ever had an opportunity of learning the distinctive points of this most excellent breed of dairy cattle. Mr. Greenshield's bulls should in a few years work a very great change in the butter-producing cows of the Danville district. If I remember, the cattle in that neighbourhood are mostly half-bred shorthorns, giving plenty of milk, but of rather poor quality. A cross with the Guern-

I observe that my friends do not make much fuss in the papers about their herds, remembering, probably, the old line in Austey's Bath Guide (does anybody read it now?) "Of their own merits modest men are dumb." The other prizes in this class were divided between Mr. Reburn, Mr. Crossen, and Mrs. Jones, the last of whom took the 1st herd-prize, for a bull and 4 females, and this, after all, is the "blue-ribbon" of the lot.

In *Ayrshires*, a wonderfully good class, the prize winners were from various parts of the country, Montreal with its Drummonds, Irvings, and McLachlans, coming out well, but Morton and Sons, of Hamilton, were too strong for them in the herd-prize contest. Who the Judges of this class were I do not know, but they must have known their business, as Mr. James Drummond told me he was perfectly satisfied with the decisions. It was a splendid class, at least in my opinion; but, then, I never could feel that I understood the points of an *Ayrshire*, though Mr. Drummond, after testing my judgment last year, holds a different view.



JERSEY BULL EXILE OF ST. LAMBERT 13557;

sey would cure this, and would not make the cows less capable of taking on flesh when their milking life is over. We cannot afford to do without cow-beef yet. Any one who will take the trouble to read my essay written for the Mountmagoy meeting of the Dairymen's Association, (1892) when it is published in the report of that society, will see that I recommend the Guernsey (in the absence of the true Dairy-shorthorn) for crossing with ordinary dairy cows. They are hardy, prolific, and give a good flow of coloury, rich milk. At all events, if any of my readers feel inclined to invest their money in cattle of this kind, a more favourable time cannot be expected to occur than the present; for they have not been "boomed", like the Jerseys, and although, before long, they will probably be held for higher prices, now they can be bought for a comparatively low price, and so can all other stock, in England. *Now, now, is the time to buy.*

The *Jerseys* were both numerous and select, but I confess I was surprised to see my friends, the Messrs. Dawes, of Lachine, so extraordinarily successful. They took 7 first prizes out of 10, including one for the best female of any age, and one for the best bull of any age, together with 2nd herd-prize.

The *Polled Angus* were about as usual, Messrs. Cochrane, Craik, and Dawes dividing the honours, the last getting rather the worst of the cow test. The herd-prize went to Hillhurst.

I was glad to see Mr. Smith, of Compton, take his share of *Hereford* prizes, as his stock winning would gratify the original proprietor, Mr. Vernon, whose losses by fire my readers may remember. Mr. Fleming, of Weston, Ont., however, carried off most of the honours, including 1st and 2nd herd-prize, the Dawes taking the 3rd.

What shall I say about the *Canadians*? That they looked more like really a *race* of cattle than I expected to see. Mr. Denis, of St. Norbert, had several black cattle that looked carefully bred; Mr. Guy Carr, of Compton, showed four head, evidently descended from those he exhibited at Sherbrooke about five years ago. M. Frs. Dion's were Jersey-Canadians for the most part, if not entirely. The five little *Breton* cousins of these were curious to look at. One bridled heifer was singularly like a Kerry. I do not think they will pay the importer for his trouble.

The majority of the sheep exhibited were of a very high

class, in spite of some wretched specimens of *Cotswolds* and *Black-faced Scotch*. I do not mean that the latter were bad of the sort, but I cannot conceive what is the use of importing a lot of animals that are very slow of maturing, and whose wool is as coarse as goat's hair. Good mutton enough at 4 years old, for those who do not care for fat, and the gravy is as dark as that of venison. Many years ago, a friend of mine used to send me two hind-quarters of his 4 year-old wethers, from Dumbartonshire, every Christmas, but we preferred our own Hampshire-downs.

The *Dorset horns* were in perfection, and pretty numerous, considering there were only two exhibitors, Messrs. McGilivray, of Uxbridge, Ont., and Hector of Springfield, Ont. I am rejoiced to see this valuable breed increasing in public favour. They are, of course, principally intended for the production of early-lamb, but, like my beloved dairy-short horns, when they have borne their third or fourth progeny, they fatten rapidly, and nothing was more common in my

while to contest them. Are there no Hampshire-downs in the Dominion?

The *Lincolns* and other long-wools were numerous, but, as I have often observed in this Journal, I would rather somebody else than I ate them. How anybody who can get *Shropshires* can refer *Lincolns*, *Leicesters*, or *Cotswolds*, will always remain a puzzle to me. The most of the short-wools shown were, of course, *Shropshires*, decidedly the best, always, in my opinion, excepting the *Hampshires*. They (the *Shropshires*) were very good this year, almost without exception good, though the wool of some of the peas had been badly managed. One pen looked to me as if the cross of long-wool in it had taken place rather recently! Still, I had not much fault to find. The mutton is good, the wool is good, and the ewes are prolific, so a farmer cannot go far wrong if he takes to this breed. Their meat is very popular on the London market, and really, my dear friends, if you mean to export sheep to England you will find that you must consult the



SWEEPSTAKES SHORTHORN HEIFER AT LAST ROYAL SHOW.

part of England, some 50 or 60 years ago, than to see "lamb and dam" go to the butcher together. I was told by the man who was in charge of one of the departments that there were no *Oxfords* on exhibition, but seeing in the distance the spotted nose of a ram standing out of a pen, I found my informant was mistaken, and that Mr. Neilson, of Lyon, Ont., had entered several of this breed, carrying off all the prizes, as no one else showed; Mr. Arkell, Ont., apparently, not thinking the diminished value of the premiums worth contending for.

Now, I must confess that this was my fault, if fault it was. I hated to see cross-breeds, like the *Oxfords*, classed with thoroughbreds, the *Hampshire-downs*, as has been the practice for the last few years, so I persuaded the committee on sheep to separate the *Oxfords* from the *Hampshire-downs*, with the above consequence; for the arrangements of the Company would not admit of an additional grant of money to the sheep-classes. Well, I gained nothing by my motion, for not one *Hampshire-down* was shown, though I fully expected Mr. Woods, of Mount-Cisco, New-York, would have taken the trouble to send some specimens of his flock. I suppose he, too, thought the prizes too small to make it worth his

taste of the people of that country who are in a position to pay for "neat, small joints." Miners and manufacturers' workmen consume lots of meat, but it will pay you better to supply the tables of the so called "Upper-classes", and, were no long-wools admitted. The highest price is paid for a *Down sheep* the carcass of which weighs 78 lbs.

Not many *South-downs*, but what there were were, emphatically, good. The Judges must have had a hard task to decide between three such breeders as Douglas, of Galt, Jackson of Abingdon, and Shaw, of Glanford Station, the two latter of whom carried off the whole of the prizes last year, but were obliged to cede all the 1st prizes but one to Mr. Douglas this year.

As for the *Merinos*, it is, I think, a pity they are encouraged here. Mutton mutton is the thing, with wool thrown in as an accident. I heard one of those loud talkers that infest every exhibition preaching away in favour of a cross between merinos and *Shropshires*, as being "a splendid mutton-sheep"! Better try a goat! The fat-sheep had a busy job to keep alive one or two days of the show, with a camp heat of 65° F. I do not think fat-sheep ought to be troubled so early in the season, and one or two of the long-wools I fancied would hardly reach home, except as carcasses. I was

glad to see that the number of *shorthorns* considerably exceeded that of last year. Mr. Edwards, of Rocklands, Ont. who made a clean sweep of the board last season, had to succumb in a majority of cases this year. His 3 year-old heifer was very neat, her head perfect, but, on the whole, the Herefords were so very superior that they took the shine out of the shorthorns. Shall I never see a class of *dairy-shorthorns* at Mile-End? If I could get hold of Mr. Greenshields, who seems to be the "coming man", I would try to talk him over into importing a small herd of that breed, and a small flock of Hampshire-downs. But, I fear, my tongue, as well as my pen, has lost its magic.

Mr. Fletcher's *Holsteins* were models of the "town-milkman's" cow, carrying off nearly all the 1st prizes. A very neat 2 year old heifer of Mr. Rice's. Why these *Dutch* cows should so persistently be called *Holsteins*, neither I, nor any one else, can tell. Professor Henry says, in "Hoard's Dairyman": "The milk of the cow seems to be a definitive substance as incapable of change from feeding as is the colour of her hair or her size, and general form." I should like to take one of these *Holstein* cows and, with bean-meal and crushed linseed, try to show the professor that we English cow-feeders are not such fools as he seems to think us.

#### Pigs.

Mr. Featherston, of Springfield, Ont., almost pledged himself to exhibit some "*Tamworths*," if the prize-list was arranged to suit him. We did what we could, making a class of "*Essex* and *Tamworths*," but the latter were not forthcoming. I was rather disappointed at this, for though I knew the breed, years ago, in England, I had never seen them in their improved state. I hear that they carry a great deal more lean meat in proportion to fat than any other breed of quality, and that is what is wanted here; but our market-hogs are either lumps of fat, or rough, hard, dry old brutes, neither fit for roast-pork, pickled-pork, nor bacon.

The pigs in general deserved, as they always do here, a "highly recommended" ticket. Why do the Dawes no longer exhibit? They used to have a good lot of *Berkshires*.

In improved *Yorkshires*, Mr. Greenshields had several 1st prizes, but in the herd-prize he had to succumb to Mr. Featherston. The latter did well in 4 classes: *Berkshires*, 2 *Yorkshires*, one *Essex*, but he was not so universal a conqueror as he used to be some 6 or 7 years ago.

My friend, Monsieur Bouthillier, of Ste-Thérèse has been kind enough to send me the following "appreciation" of the horses on show at the Exhibition. I was happy to see his diatribe against those useless beasts the "standard-bred trotters. The breed of farmers' horses in the neighbourhood of Compton will long show the effects of the Hambletonian stallions imported at vast expense by Messrs. Pomroy and Paige. They did not love me when I told them, in 1892, what I thought about them!

Mr. Bouthillier speaks of the "handiness" of the English hackney; I had one, when a very young man, that I rode till she was 24 years old, and I can honestly say that she never made a mistake in her long life. What she would have done if trained by an American driver I cannot say, but I have ridden her—I was not such a fool as to put her into harness—a mile in 5 seconds over the 3 minutes, and after a run with the "Kent and Surrey" staghounds from Chislehurst Windmill to the milldam at Sundridge, in which she carried me over as stiff a country as one would care to see, she got me home at 8.30 P. M., to all appearance as fresh as when she left the stables in the morning.

JENNER FOST.

It is really too bad that the whole province of Quebec should not be able to muster more than two thoroughbred stallions, at our annual Exhibition. At this particular time there must be fewer animals here, of this description, than ever before, at any rate within the limit of my recollection. One could not wish for better thoroughbreds than I have seen, at various times, in possession of the Messrs. Dawes, Mr. Andrew Allan, Dr. Craik and others, but they do not remain in the country long.

Compare with Toronto: Thoroughbreds, 62; roadsters, 207; carriage, 136; hunters and saddle, 168; Clydesdales, 280; English shires, 16; heavy draft (Canadian bred), 73; Hackneys, 23.

For one horse, that goes from Quebec, to be sold, in the States, or in England, I should say 50 go from Ontario. Add to this that, whenever a member of the Montreal Hunt wants a hunter, or a wealthy citizen of Montreal a stylish pair of carriage horses, they send to Ontario for them, or buy them from a dealer here, who has bought them there. Until we have a similar proportion of thoroughbred and hackney stallions we shall never do any better. And a horse trade, equal in extent to that of Ontario with the States and England, is as much worth cultivating by the province of Quebec, as is the supply of beef and mutton for the City of Montreal, which is at present almost wholly derived from Ontario breeders, as was shown in Mr. Bousquet's Bank report some time ago. The Ontario breeders go to the expense of buying thoroughbred animals for the production of superior beef and mutton, and the result is apparent.

I see in the Gazette, that Mr. Ness, although finding it an easy matter to get representatives amongst cattle, and some classes of horseflesh, does not think it probable that he will find anything in the thoroughbred class from the province of Quebec worthy to send to the Chicago Fair next year, and no wonder. There were plenty of heavy draught horses on the ground. Quite enough for the needs of the farmers who wish to breed or use this class of horse; either for their own use, or for the use of those who need them for heavy traffic in towns.

With the single exception of General Banks, whose thoroughbred dam, by Blenkiron, gives him his good looks, there was not a single really handsome standard-bred, or trotter, on the ground. They are all lanky, long bodied, flat sided, weedy looking specimens, very light in bone, with mean drooping quarters, showing no appearance of a combination of substance and quality whatever. These animals are not of any use for improving the general breed of horseflesh in a country. They may, when judiciously crossed, be useful, in giving an increased rate of trotting speed, but they are just as likely to transmit their objectionable characteristic of peculiar formation as well. Far better for farmers to breed to a few good English Hackneys, if we only had them. There, you have fast trotting action enough for all ordinary purposes, with a handsome shape, and happy combination of substance and symmetry, which does not exist in the standard-breed.

The most generally useful class of horses at the Exhibition, were the Norman coach horses. Three very handsome and very useful horses indeed in this class were the 3 year-old bay Calvados, shown by Mr. Ness, the 6 year-old Heliophorne, by the Haras National, and a 4 year-old brown, standing 16, 3/4 inches, with a smallish eye, and plain but very varmint looking head, by Mr. Globenski, of St. Eustache.

It may not be generally known either in England, or here, but it is a fact, that the French coach-horse of to-day, the Anglo-Norman, contains more English thoroughbred blood, mixed with Norfolk Hackney strains, than the so-called thoroughbred coach horse of England, the Cleveland Bay, or

what has been attempted to be resuscitated of him, under that name. Mr. Quetton St. George, of Oakridges, Ontario, who knows the breed (the Anglo-Norman) well, aptly says of them that they are a kind of enlarged Hackney. That is indeed true, and, with increased size, they have retained, in a great measure, the wonderful quickness and handiness of action characteristic of the English Hackney. Under the roadster class I noticed a two year-old stallion, as round and well furnished as a 4 year-old, with very nice action and shape quite equal to an English Hackney though not of course to one of the best type. He was shown by Janvier Bousquet, of Varennes, who told me, that he was by a colt by Ben Morrell, out of a St. Laurent mare.

Last but not least, I must especially mention Charwoman, 3 year-old bay filly by "Matchless of Londesborough", exhibited by the Hon. Mat. Cochrane, of Hillhurst, first prize in Hackneys. I did not see her out, but her shape is very good, and no better object lesson could be applied, than placing a mare like that alongside of a standard bred of the same age, and asking anybody, with an eye in his head for the shape of a horse, to note the difference. I have seen portraits of Sunöl, Maud S., and Nancy Hanks, and I certainly, cannot be accused of selecting second-rate specimens of their class, and they look like mules (*Good. J. F.*) alongside of a good English hackney. The value of a Standard-bred, or racing trotter, is not discernible externally however, nor is it recognisable by any kind of symmetry or beauty of form, it is all on paper, written up in chalk on the black board, or revealed by the stop-watches of the fanciers of this particular kind of horse. The Americans seem to have got as near as possible to creating a race of fast trotting horses, that reproduce great trotting speed, with a very considerable degree of certainty, but they decidedly have also succeeded in creating a type of horse, which is anything but beautiful in appearance.

C. F. B.

#### THE HORTICULTURAL SHOW.

A wonderful improvement over the miserable exhibition at the skating-rink last year. Satisfactory both as regards flowers and vegetables. Among the *orchids*, I must specially mention two of the loveliest I ever saw; one, like an artificial wreath of flowers fit for any modern Helen of Troy, the other a superb pink, or rather *rose-tendre*, that, with the light just behind it, looked as if it were waiting to be plucked by Oberon as a morning present to Titania. Both exhibited by Mr. W. Wilshire. I could have passed hours in looking at them.

Mr. Betrix' collection of decorative plants, kept in full vigour by the action of a fountain, was refreshing to two senses: sight and hearing.

I was glad to see that my young friend, Logic Girdwood, of Isle aux Prunes, took a prize for *tuberous begonias*; it is rather plucky for such a novice to enter into competition with veterans like the Davidsons and the Smiths of Lachine, and come off with flying colours.

The *fuchsias* were past their best, and though palms are interesting enough when seen in large houses devoted to them alone, I cannot say that I care for single specimens mixed up with other plants. I suppose the Chatsworth Palm-house, with its *drive* up the centre, spoils one for any minor show.

Mr. Charles Smith, a young and very deserving Gloucestershire man, in whom, as coming from the neighbourhood of our family estate, I naturally take great interest, was very successful; which will of course be highly pleasing to his employers, the Messrs. Dawes, who are to be congratulated at having two such servants as Mr. Charles Smith, their gardener, and Mr. Henry Tuck their foreman, or bailiff as we call the man who looks after the farm and stock.

Vegetables, roots, &c., much as usual. Two special lots of white-turnips, both of delicious quality, worth a dozen bushels of yellows or swedes. Why is this most delicate vegetable neglected so much here? Cooked, when young, mashed, after thorough draining, I place a white-turnip of good quality next in succession to peas, French-beans, and cauliflowers.

At the Poultry show, the coloured Dorkings of Messrs. Hannaford and Roddiok, Côte St. Paul, took my fancy most.

I tasted some *Canadian wines*, which would bear improvement. Port, as sweet as syrup, sure to turn sour before ripening; sherry almost flavourless; and claret rather a good rough *vin du pays*, not unlike an inferior Médoc. That is, at least, my judgment, and I used to be considered a trustworthy taster among men who knew what good wine really was. But my palate has probably grown less sensitive than it was, from want of practice, as, during the 34 years I have passed in Canada, I am sure I have not drunk a dozen bottles of wine of all kinds. Still, as my memory is a very good one, I dare say I am not far out, after all.

ARTHUR R. JENNER FUST.

#### THE EXHIBITION OF 1892.

Whether of the whole World, or of a district, whether special or general, "The Exhibition" is unquestionably one of the most striking features of this very wonderful *fin-de-siècle*. Various and powerful are the thoughts raised by the sight of such preeminently important a concourse. How many discoveries and improvements did it display to the mental eye of the enquirer, who, by the energy and enterprise of a band of patriotic citizens, was invited to visit and investigate the rich field of marvels the Exhibition Company set before him in September last. The exhibits almost defied specification, so various were they, and the greatest skill must have been exerted in their nomenclature, as, in spite of the most careful classification, like that at the Exhibition at Paris in 1889, and that at London in 1862, they were too numerous to be easily drawn up in rank.

We should like to consider such an enterprise, which as it has grown on a very much smaller scale than the former, yet keeps in itself a large interest, a provincial exhibition, that of Montreal especially.

This is the "great event" of the season for the St. Lawrence shore. I am sorely tempted to an try impartial review of this interesting matter. Impartial, I say, for this is the first merit to be exacted of such a study. I am induced, in undertaking it, as well by the remarks I gathered while I made several trips through both the old and new continents, as also by a special acquaintance with Canada, to which I am tied by friendship and business bonds since five years. I hope it will be useful to every one, provided that excessive flattery be not searched for in it or an ill-minded censure. For, at first, I wish to state I here intend to praise what is laudable as well as to blame what is blameworthy, and also to propose occasionally some improvements in such points as I had some opportunity of testing the value of during competitions in which I formerly took part as either exhibitor or judge. I consider it my first duty to acknowledge the zeal and devotion of the Company's directors in so hard a task. Mr. Stevenson especially deserves unanimous praises. His assistants and attendants were numerous, and very well managed; the publicity was perfect.

But, we should like, in future, to get an exact and complete catalogue including all the exhibited animals, machines, &c., with each a number and indication of class, category, &c.:

without such a catalogue no one is able to discern any thing.

This, indeed, is as indispensable as the daily programme, very clearly drawn up for every Jury's operations. Places, dates, times, objects, judges' and exhibitors' names, &c., must be beforehand appointed. Thus you save time, and every one is of course instructed in his own duty and takes measures accordingly. This programme should be printed, published, and distributed everywhere. A list of the awarded prizes with a summary of the day's work and an advertisement for the next day should be given to the Press.

The buildings reserved to the sundries, machinery, &c., are all right. We will not speak about them, but rather talk of the agricultural departments. There is, in fact, the main key to the *raison d'être* of the whole exhibition amidst a country for which, more than an other, the soil's wealth is the basis of prosperity.

The stables for horses and cattle are very comfortable indeed, but they do not suit at all an exhibition's purpose; for you cannot judge these animals, seen from behind, in narrow stalls, and jostled, as you are on all sides, slipping about on a soil saturated with dung among straw and hay in piles.

A large building with a double rank of stalls placed head to head, and separated by wide alleys, both before and behind, this only is good for the exhibitor's purpose. A broad walk round this building, at a first floor's height, would advantageously complete such an edifice. Water should be placed before each animal, and the muck be thrown down through trap doors in the ground-flat. The sheds are used as coachhouses, so that every thing is prettily set in order. (Some boxes may be reserved in it for thoroughbreds, mares, &c.)

In France, the Judges begin their work at eight o'clock. A M. at the latest, and close it at about three or four in the afternoon. These judges take care to keep away the noisy and towns-people. The competitors, interested and practical men only are their witnesses and spectators. No music, no jugglers, no importunate visitors, not even any sailors' or firemen's reviews. At about four o'clock the entertainments are beginning. The fashionable ladies now come to sanction the judges' decisions, and enjoy the jumping contests the laureates' show &c., that take place on the closing day.

In Montreal, perhaps, this method is not yet practicable. However, it would be wise to endeavour to make it known as much as possible.

The show-ground is broad enough, and the townsmen's overflowing multitude may be pretty well kept to a fixed stand instead of multiplying their rallying places. The study of the serious visitors is not possible at all amidst such a revel rout, and the judges are forcibly diverted from their duty by such a crowd. While we are talking about this matter we might also consider the judges' work itself. We find too much confusion there. Every one not competing in the present trial must be severely kept away from the enclosure. The people, behind a fence, along the side-walk, when the horses are introduced, do not trouble the judges' work. This sidewalk is very easily got with a well levelled ground, and a thick bed of sand, saw-dust or tan.

The horses become crazy amidst these fields of the Exhibition; the judge is positively unable to examine them quietly for one instant, through the ground being so cut up by the horses' feet, to verify their steadiness and gait. Let me still admit a few reflexions. The dress of the lads riding or driving the horses is very much neglected. They need not to be, properly so called, *gentlemen*, but at least they should observe a relative etiquette, and an irreproachable cleanliness. Except the Haras National's men and very few others, all the grooms positively were inadmissible in a public meeting. We would willingly forget these poor people's dress, were they acquainted

with even their own profession. But their ignorance of the latter is worse even than than the former's. There are some very laudable exceptions, but I repeat it, these should be carefully offered to the others as examples in order to improve their good style and manners.

The Company should enlist some professional grooms and substitute them for the *vauriens*. The former should be paid for their services by those employing them. Thus you would get a certain symmetry.

In France, the horses in hand, ridden or driven, are quietly brought on the ground and ranged before the judges. Every one bears its number well displayed on its frontal, or better, on the breast. Then the jury proceed in their standing examination; afterwards the horses quietly go forward one by one, taking the side-walk's round. The judges give orders for trotting. They stop, back, start again, and gallop if it is necessary. In the meantime, the judges are debating with each other, preparing the classing, and sending the most worthy to the front. This work is done slowly, exactly, and gives every one satisfaction.

The laureates, only, remain on the field and receive the ribbons with a commemorative plate. The ribbon is fastened to their left cockade. The medal and money are given at the solemn prizes' distribution, which is an opportunity for a fashionable meeting at end of the competition.

Every horse entered is examined by an admittance committee. This at once would advantageously reduce the number of competitors, and eliminate many subjects only good for dis-figuring the trials. (1)

The admitted horses were as follows:

1st In hand, without any kind of harness, &c.

2nd Riding and jumping the two feet high fence.

3rd Driving alone—and at last,

4th Driving as a team.

Is a coacher meant by these two last numbers? (2)

No one may be examined if it did not already satisfy the preceding trial.

Thus, classes and categories are well limited: which does not happen here. For instance, the Normans are mixed with English and American horses, the draught Percheron with the light roadster of the same race. But, except the said race and the same, nothing is to be compared with one another, in a competition. Such a mixture is tolerable only for the international prizes; and then the whole are judged above all.

The meeting's great attraction, that makes the highest fame of the Paris, London and New York horse show, unquestionably is the jumpers' trial. Civilians and soldiers take part in it by special categories.

In Montreal, the "Hunt-Club" helping this enterprise, there is no doubt that it will very soon grow most interesting. The hunt causes some excellent jumpers, men as well as horses, and these competitions will advantageously afford this beautiful sport a very practical improvement. It only wants for that a large space, covered with either sand or tan, and fenced on every side as high as a man's shoulder. Four jumps geometrically disposed are plenty—a wall, a bar, and two intertwined hedges. At the centre is a tolerably wide water jump; the obstacles' height must be varied from 2 to 6 feet at pleasure.

The classes and categories in France are pretty various: civilians, soldiers, ladies, children, &c., &c. The people are very fond of these performances, and no doubt they would

(1) Yes; and I wish Monsieur des Etangs' advice could be carried out all through the classes. There were Shortborns and Cotswolds that were, to put it truthfully, a disgrace to the show. A. R. J. F.

(2) This must refer to exhibitions on the continent at which the writer was present. A. R. J. F.

be very profitable to the Montreal Exhibition Company's cash-box also.

Now let us pay a visit to the cattle-show. This looks and really is very much better than the horses in every respect. I observed the same thing not only in Canada but even in the States, except at New York. The cattle are perfectly well groomed, classified and exhibited. The kinds varying from the tall Hereford to the fine little Breton.

I should like to form some special categories for fat beasts, milch-cows and even working oxen. All these are not separated enough and it would be wrong to neglect the working ox that is so useful a servant for the hard clearings on the farm.

Notwithstanding these remarks, the cattle-show is very magnificent indeed. (Very right indeed, Sir. A. R. J. F.)

After horses and cattle, we are to examine the agricultural implements, which are their inseparable partners in the fields. While travelling through the Canadian countries, I was

struck with their poverty in implements. This is very grievous and, moreover, the committee offers no rewards for this department. The old *araire-plough* may suit the primitive culture, but it is quite insufficient after the clearing off of wood and stones. And the riding-ploughs or others of that sort are impracticable in such fields; they were often not even subsoiled. (1) For, to scratch the soil's surface is not the husbandman's whole science, though, from the exhibition you might guess so. After the plough come the *cultivators*, seed-lips, harvesters, hay-presses; some horse-powers and straw-cutters conclude this very poor material. You would not at all fancy that you were in the centre of this country of which so many good agricultural machines must be had as perfect as in Europe. How will you manage good cultivation with such bad implements? And can you complain of the bad yield of land so ill-treated?

An agricultural machinery-show is like the performance of the multiple works of agriculture itself. It includes not only the whole series of the machines used for these works, but even practical trials of every one of them in fields especially chosen for this purpose.

Here is the plan I should recommend for this department of the Exhibition. After the tools for clearing off wood and stones, we should take the plough *araires*, (2) *Dombasles*, riding-plough, and even some *steam*. Then following the work's increase itself, we should reach the two or three-barred harrows as well as the other specimens of this class. Clod crushers, such as the excellent "Crosskills" and prairie-

(1) If I had the French copy I might be able to get at the intention of some of the writer's words. As it is I must ask the reader to accept the will for the deed. A. R. J. F.

(2) *Araire* does this mean the "stubble-plough"? Of course, a "*Dombasles*" is a plough invented by M. Matthieu D. A. R. J. F.

cultivators should take place here with their partners, all the various cultivators, scarifiers and extirpators. The manure spreaders with the drills and rollers should close this lot.

Now we are entering the harvesting machinery, binders, rakes, fodder-elevators, wagons, &c., &c.

So that we end with the steam thrashing of crops, locomotive engines, &c., &c. The thrashing is no longer done by the old system of horse power, but by steam, and the machines are made with drums and concaves in order to save the straw that is chaffed by the mills used in this country. Thus you get a very good straw for both food and litter. Let us not forget the chaff-cutters, sieves for winnowing grain, sorters and extractors, washers and outters for roots.

All these implements should be tested and seen working on fields not far from the Exhibition grounds. The common people are to be made acquainted with them and not to consider them as phenomena suitable only to learned or wealthy theorists.

If this were done, an unheard of improvement would be observed. I saw it myself, in France, these last years: it is indescribable. I think this is the best witness of my opinions. Now France is harvesting 330 million bushels of wheat, with its little resources in area in land; while the United States reach only 540 millions, on their new soil and with a population a third bigger than France.

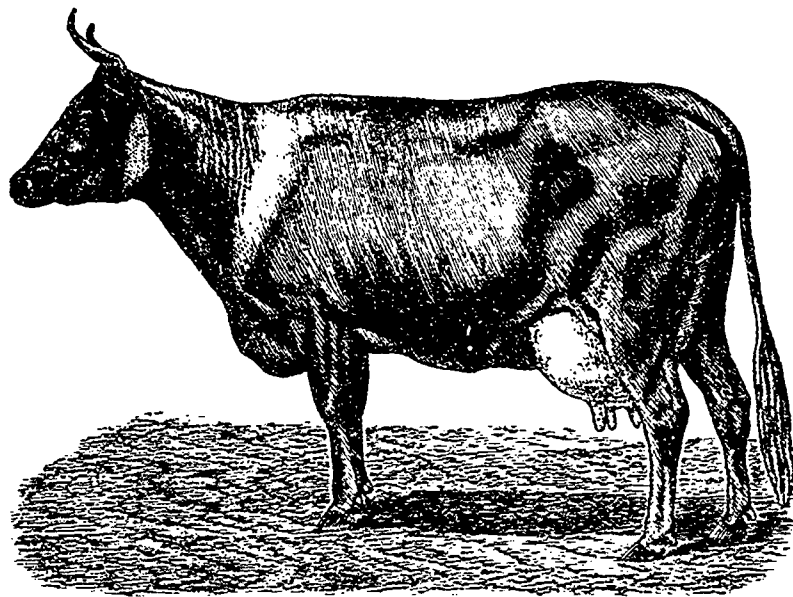
I was struck with an important deficiency at the Exhibition.

The Government Experimental Farms were not taking part in the meeting. They should be, in the front rank. Why are so many subsidies granted to them, except in order to demonstrate better than by reports very learnedly drawn up, I am glad to confess, the excellency of the most recommendable proceedings of farming. Experience is the best teacher, that is well known. Every one is not able to get to the nearest government farm, and, even should it be possible, a comparison between the products of these farms and the neighbors', or even foreigners', is most instructive.

The produce show should be out of the crush and all information be given to every visitor by professional men. A special building should be kept for it, so that it might get the necessary display, as well as for the C. P. R. and the Western Provinces, to which a too narrow place was conceded this year.

Another deficiency: agriculture is very wealthy in derivatives of all kinds but we find here only grains, fruits, flowers and ornamental plants. That is not sufficient. Trees of all sorts and nursery products should be as largely represented as the industrial crops from which the agriculturist is drawing the richest profit.

I will only touch on the sugar beet. How many losses has it caused to Quebec and what a profit would it get from them, if this industry was not mismanaged as it has been



THE CHAMPION JERSEY COW.

during the last ten years. The factories' agents certainly are wrong doing so, but even that does not excuse the Exhibition directors' negligence of such a precious root. Their duty is to raise any demonstration of the agricultural industries in whatsoever line they may be: sugar refineries, distilleries, starcheries, &c., &c. There are the true wells of agricultural wealth. And, once more, the Exhibition's aim should be to make them known.

Such were my thoughts as I strolled through the Montreal Exhibition. I think I am right in giving them up to the public, with no vanity or critical feeling. But in that manner I hope to serve this preeminent cause of agriculture, which is, and will ever be, the best pledge both of the public and private welfare.

The trials crowned with unquestionable success, and the zeal of so many competent men, are the most certain angury for me. At this too long essay's end I am glad to acknowledge it, and to pay a sincere homage to them!

COMTE E. DES ETANGS.

Montreal, Canada, Sept 29th, 1892.

#### Death of Dr. Bruneau, of Sorel.

It is with the deepest regret I have to inform my readers of the death of one of the most devoted friends of the farmer that I have met with in this country. Dr. Bruneau, of Sorel, died on the 22nd of October, after a long and painful illness.

Amiable, beyond the common run of men, in disposition, he was beloved by all who knew him, even by his political opponents, and during our long friendship I never once heard him say an unkind word of any one.

ARTHUR R. JENNER FUST.

#### Montreal Horticultural Society and Fruit-growers Association of the Province of Quebec.

This year these societies held their show in connection with that of the Provincial Exhibition Society, and its success was unprecedented.

A more liberal prize-list of plants and flowers had been prepared with the natural effect of inducing exhibitors to bring out their choicest specimens to delight the visitors who daily thronged the building.

The display of fruit did not suffer by the more generous prizes offered for the plants and flowers, but, instead, the entries were more numerous, the display larger, and the quality as fine as the unpropitious season would admit of.

The arrangements of the Exhibition reflect great credit upon the managing committee, which was made up of practical men who knew what they were about. In the centre of the Hall was a floral canopy beautifully decorated with flowers and foliage plants and a number of choice exotics, and models for flower-gardens were placed upon a bank of beautiful fresh green turf. Extending the whole length of the building were similar banks of the same on which were displayed magnificent groups or single specimens of the rarest and choicest productions of Flora, collected from the jungles of the tropics, the wilds of Africa, and the hills and vales of Asia and Australasia, and brought to a state of perfection, by the gardener's skill, surpassing in beauty even that which they present in their native habitats. On either side

of this central display were tables on which were placed the cut flowers, vegetables and fruits well arranged, with a background of specimen plants in pots, which made them show up to much greater advantage.

The only faults that could possibly be found with the arrangements were that the prize cards were of such colours as to prevent them harmonising with the plants and flowers and the ink with which the names of the prize winners were written was—indistinct—the stands on which the cut blooms were exhibited not having been newly painted, and the introduction of flags of bright colors as decorations detracting from the general effect produced by the beauty of the flowers and foliage, and the light being admitted from the sides instead of from the roof of the building.

Improvements in these particulars, will no doubt be effected another season.

The new state of affairs is greatly due to the indefatigable exertions of a few practical men who have succeeded in placing this society on a footing which merits the liberal support and help of the Department of Agriculture—ad thus placed it in the position of an educational institution in the useful science of horticulture, pomology, and floriculture.

With your permission, I will continue this notice in another number of the Journal, giving more particulars as to the articles exhibited and the successful exhibitors &c. whose clever achievements certainly deserve public recognition.

GEORGE MOORE.

#### Department of Agriculture and Colonisation.

Quebec, October, 1892.

Sir,—In reply to the letter you sent me, concerning the prizes offered by the government in connection with the silos built in 1892, I have the honour to draw your attention to the following paragraph of the circular distributed by the department of agriculture in the month of June last:

"The department of agriculture being desirous of imparting a fresh impulse to the erection of siloes, on which the success of the dairy-industry in this province mainly depends, hopes that every parish in which no silo at present subsists will build one in the course of this year, and, to that end, the department places to the credit of each of these parishes a prize of \$20.00, payable in the autumn, to the person who shall have built a silo fit to serve as a model for future purposes. Judges will then be appointed by agricultural societies to examine all the siloes built during the present year, and the above mentioned prize will be awarded, in the case where several siloes shall have been built in the same parish, to the person who shall obtain the greatest numbers of points."

As you will observe, this prize will only be payable on the report of the judges appointed by the agricultural societies in each county. These judges, during this autumn, will examine the siloes built in 1892, and, as soon as the report shall be transmitted to the department, the prize will be handed over to the winner.

Before receiving the promised amount, you will have to wait for this decision which, we hope, will be in your favour.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Secretary of the depart. of Agric. and Col.

# THE FARMER'S SYNDICATE

(Having power to act all over the Province of Quebec)

WE, the undersigned, agree to form ourselves into an association under the provisions of section fifteenth of chapter seventh of title fourth of the Revised Statutes of the Province of Quebec, respecting Farmer's and Dairymen's Associations, in the Province, under the name of "THE FARMER'S SYNDICATE", our principal place of business to be at Quebec, and we hereby severally agree to pay to the secretary-treasurer, annually, while we continue members of the association, the sums opposite our respective names, and we further agree to conform to the rules and by-laws of the said association.

.....Founders \$20.00 a year for 5 years

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.....Life members 5.00 do do

Address.....

.....Active members 2.00 a year.

Address.....

Please give your name in full opposite the class of membership you are requested to select, add your full post office address, the date, and sign *in duplicate*.

.....the....., 189

DUPLICATE

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Please give your name in full opposite the class of membership you are requested to select, add your full post office address, the date, and sign *in duplicate*.

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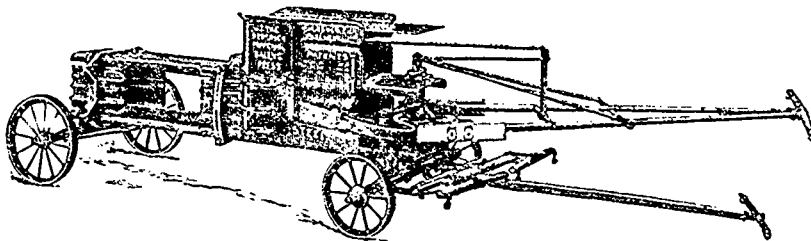
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