

THE STATE FAIR.

We have just returned from the State Fair at Alton, and have only time to say that it more than realized our expectations. The drouth and the cold weather for the first two days were unfavorable; but there was a large attendance of people, and on Thursday, according to the most reliable estimates there were from 16,000 to 20,000 people upon the grounds. The cattle exhibited were fine, and more numerous than at any preceding fair. The same fact may be stated in regard to horses, mules and jacks. There was a good show of sheep; and a tolerable show of hogs. We say tolerable, because we think there were better hogs in Madison County than were exhibited at the Fair. The fruit department was well sustained in apples; there was little other fruit presented.

There was much worthy of admiration in the ladies' departments; and the farm products were superior to our anticipations. The dairy was well represented; there was present more fine butter than we have before seen at the Fairs, and the cheese would have done credit to any dairies in the world. There was a large amount of machinery, and the agricultural implements n exhibition were in great variety and excellence.

Indeed, without going into particulars, we may say that the exhibition was eminently successful. The collections made at the gates were nearly \$9,000,—sufficient, it is believed, to pay all the expenses of the Fair.—*Farmer.*