

Despite the combined opposition of manufacturers of the old pattern, one-wheel, rigid-bar machines, who foresaw that the introduction of the Buckeye must drive them from the field, its fame spread rapidly throughout the country, and the manufacturers were able to fill but a small part of the orders which poured in upon them from all sections. Manufactories of the Buckeye were established in different parts of the country, and machines turned out in greatly increased quantities, but the demand still kept constantly in advance of the supply.

Rival manufacturers, finding it impossible to sell their rigid-bar machines in competition with the Buckeye, were obliged to seek a foreign market for their old stock, and to get up new machines bearing some resemblance to the Buckeye, in order to make any sales at home. A few years completely revolutionized the mowing and reaping machine manufacture of the United States; the Buckeye was accepted as the standard, and the measure of success which other machines met with was proportioned according to their resemblance to the Buckeye model.

In 1857 or 1858 the firm whose name heads our article commenced the manufacture and sale of the Buckeye at Poughkeepsie, with salesroom in New York. The business has increased and enlarged in their hands materially, and they have attained such excellence in the manufacture of their machines that a rival manufacturer, who exhibited at Syracuse a couple of years ago, says that there is a large variety of Buckeyes built in this country, differing materially in quality and construction, and that "the award in Class I was made to the 'Buckeye' of Adriaance, Platt & Co., who build much the best machine of that name."

At this trial, which was held at Syracuse in 1866, and at which fifty-nine machines competed, the judges said: "For several years past every new mowing contrivance has gravitated more and more toward the Buckeye principle, until, as will be seen by an examination of the tables of dimensions, and the descriptions given in this report, all the machines are grouped around this central type, only differing from each other by the introduction of different mechanical equivalents for accomplishing the same purpose."

This trial occupied about three weeks; the tests were the severest and most comprehensive, and the trial was the most thorough and important ever held in any country. The first prize grand gold medal was awarded to the Buckeye machine for superiority in all the points selected by the judges as the essentials of a perfect harvester.

Many improvements have been added, and the works of the firm at Poughkeepsie have been constructed especially with reference to the better manufacture of the reapers. Twelve years have sufficed to extend the sale of the Buckeye from twenty-five machines to thirty thousand in a single season, and the number now in the United States is not less than one hundred and fifty thousand, while the demand has been so great that thousands of farmers who desire to obtain Buckeyes have been unable to do so. There is no prospect that this demand will cease in the future. The firm take all needful means of obtaining publicity, issuing circulars and advertisements in profusion, and doing work so thoroughly that the future will but repeat the past.