

tic industry, some hundreds of pounds annually are saved in the Prince Edwards and Midland Districts. Some five or six specimens of those shawls were exhibited by Mrs. Dougall, at Cobourg, and to the mind of the writer, they were not only worthy of a prize; but also some special mark of commendation.

FINE ARTS.

When the Provincial Association was first established, its founders and supporters had their doubts about combining with its exhibitions a department for specimens of fine arts. Some portions of the Press opposed it, and in one instance, some very scurrilous remarks were made, that were calculated to throw the whole affair into contempt with those who look merely at the surface of things. The encouragement of the Fine Arts, however, became one of the prominent departments of the society's exhibition, and all who have visited those shows have left them satisfied that native talent in this respect ought not to be neglected, and that the array of neatly executed drawings and paintings give a finish to the Exhibition. When the Association finds its financial affairs in a healthy condition, premiums for the best sketches of rural landscape, models of farm-houses and out-offices, and other useful drawings of a like nature, should be given.

INDIAN PRIZES.

This is decidedly a novel and quite an original feature connected with agricultural and mechanical shows. To have been complete, prizes should have been given for every description of grain, and agricultural live and dead stock that the civilized aborigines of the country produce on their farms. Only one tribe or settlement of Indians competed for the prizes, those living on the borders of Rice Lake. A lively interest was evinced by the different parties who entered articles for competition in this class, and to all appearances they appreciated the beauties of much that was to be seen in the various departments of the show quite as much as many of the whites. It is to be hoped that the Association will continue to stimulate the natives of the country to perform useful acts of industry, whereby they may ultimately be encouraged to adopt a sound system of agriculture on the lands set apart for them by Government.

PLOUGHING MATCH.

The place selected for the ploughing match was convenient to the show grounds.

There were nine adult competitors, and three boys. The performance, on the whole, was not very creditable to Canadian ploughing. There was, however, one exception to the rule; but in the main, much better is done at the meetings of the local societies. No. 1 on the boy's class was quite equal if not superior to No. 2 on the class performed by the men. The ploughing done by the boys was altogether superior to that executed by the men, when their respective ages are taken into account.

In concluding this report, allusion should have been made to the proceedings that took place at the dinner, and also many other matters of general interest that transpired, which came under the writer's notice, but prudence warns us to bring our somewhat unconnected remarks to a close.

Agricultural.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

We regret to have to announce to the agriculturists of Canada that the wool market is likely to be very dull for some time to come. The cause may obviously be attributed to the great attention that has been paid to wool growing throughout the entire world, and especially in the United States and South America. On the vast prairies sheep cost but a mere trifle beyond the expense of hiring shepherds to keep them throughout the entire year; and since cheap navigation has become the order of the day, wool may be transported almost any given distance, at a mere nominal cost. Wool, as an article of export, has never been an item of very great importance in Canada; but for domestic purposes, its value is vastly on the increase. If the woollen manufacturing establishments should increase during the next ten years, at the same ratio that they have done during the past ten, the result would be that the Canadian people would almost entirely be independent of other countries for a supply of woollen goods. In consequence of the coarseness of the staple of wool, manufacturers are obliged to make a heavy article of cloth, suited only for win-