

THE NORWICH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its exhibition on the 7th and 8th of October, at Ottaville.

MAPLE SUGAR MAKING.—The *Geolph Advertiser* says that School District No. 9 in London comprising twenty families, has made 22,010 lbs. of maple sugar the past season—over 1,000 lbs. to a family in the aggregate. If other districts have done as well or better let them report.

WEATHER AND CROP ITEMS.—"J. W. B." of the Township of Oxford, County of Grenville, writes under date of May 27th:—"The month of May here has been very wet, so much so that the farmers could not get the spring grain sowed when it should have been (we raise no fall wheat here), but still I cannot regard it as a very late spring. Wheat that is sown is coming on beautifully; the meadows and pastures are looking remarkably well."

"A. H." writes from Hosierville, Moore, also at date of May 27th:—"In this part of the country, fall wheat has been very much winter-killed, so much so, that some people have ploughed their fields up and sown them with other grain. The spring here has been very cold and wet, until about two weeks ago. Since then we have had fine weather, and farmers have got nearly through with their seeding. Fruit trees are in full bloom just now, and bid fair for a good crop, and there has been no frost to do them any injury as yet. Stock has wintered in general, pretty well and I hear no complaints of sheep or cattle dying."

A correspondent in the *E. R.* of Northumberland says, "what little fall grain was sown hereabouts, looks well. The grass I think never appeared more promising. Continued wet weather has thrown spring sowing late."

"A SUBSCRIBER" writes from East Oxford, at date of May 26th:—"As I travelled through the township recently, I was surprised at the rapidity of the growth the last two weeks. Winter wheat is damaged greatly in a great many instances, and some of the farmers are ploughing it up and sowing spring wheat on the ground. I saw a field belonging to John Weir as good as ever I saw. The seeding, in general, is now almost done. A great quantity of the grain is up, and looks well. Grass looks well also."

"S. W.," Township of Mornington, County of Perth, May 26th, 1864, says:—"We have had a very backward and wet spring, but from the beautiful weather for the past two weeks, the crops at present look remarkably well. Very little fall wheat sown in this township. What little there is looks well and healthy. Never has there been a better growth in spring crops than has been for the past two weeks."

DARLINGTON FAIR.—The Spring Show in connection with the Township of Darlington Agricultural Society, was held in Bowmanville on Friday, May 5th. In the class of Draught Horses there were four entries, but the animals were first class, and there was considerable difficulty in deciding. In the general purpose class there was not much difficulty in deciding, there being but three entries, and a marked difference in the horses. Of carriage and saddle horses there were seven, some of them really first-class animals, and equal to any turn out generally seen at a Spring Show. The Durham bulls, although good animals were not in first-class trim, and but two shown. Of Devons there were two, about as fine animals as are to be found in the Province. Altogether, the fair was a decided success, and gave general satisfaction.

THE NOTTAWASAGA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY held its Annual Spring Show at Bowmanville, on the 2nd ult. The day was most unfavourable, being raining all the time of the exhibition, nevertheless the exhibition was a successful one. The entire Horses looked well, and were an improvement in comparison with last year. The Bulls, also, taken as a whole, were much superior to those exhibited last fall. The best one—a through-bred Durham, shown by Mr. Hewson, and which was from the stock of Walter Raikes, Esq., Barrie—is a fine-looking animal; also that exhibited by Mr. Taylor, to all appearance, will produce excellent stock. The Judges, Messrs. William Bethune, Thomas Robinson and Samuel Gordon, ranked them as follows:—Best Stallion, Alexander Hannah; 2nd do., do., P. McSherry; 3rd do., do., John Isaac; 4th do., do., Melville, Fair & Co. Best 3-year old Bull, F. Hewson; 2nd do., do., Patrick Taylor. Best 2-year old Bull, H. M. Frame; 2nd do., do., Peter Dallas.

Exhibition of the Toronto Horticultural Society.

The first Exhibition of the Toronto Horticultural Society for the present year, took place in the Music Hall on the Queen's birthday, and was among the most successful shows of the kind ever held in the city. The attendance was large, exceeding that of any previous exhibition, the hall, especially during the evening, being uncomfortably crowded. The display of flowers, plants and vegetables was really fine and decidedly the best the society has yet made. There were eight large tables, covering fully one half of the floor of the hall, and every inch of them was occupied by either flowers, fruits, or vegetables—of the latter there was a fine collection, considering the backwardness of the season. The rhubarb, celery, lettuce, onions and cucumbers were very fine, while the asparagus could not, we believe, be surpassed. The floral collection, however, offered the chief attraction, and a great attraction it certainly was. The geraniums, roses, fuschias, gloxinias, tulips, and verbenas were highly creditable to their respective exhibitors. Mr. Fleming's collection of geranium blooms, was much and deservedly admired. So were Mr. Gray's hybrid perpetual roses. But the most attractive objects among the flowers were the first prize verbenas, exhibited by Mr. G. Vair, gardener to D. L. McPherson, Esq. These were the observed of all observers on account of a simple but most effective mode of training, whereby the creeping habit of this flower is corrected and the spikelets of bloom made to stand erect. We give a cut of this mode of training which will enable our readers readily to understand and adopt it.



FIRST PRIZE VERBENA.

There was a large table devoted exclusively to foliage plants and specimens of new and rare plants which were much admired, particularly by those versed in botany. Some very beautiful and tastefully arranged bouquets table and hand—were also exhibited. The collection of fruits was small, as of course, must be the case at this season. A very fine orange plant, bearing fruit, stood at the head of one of the tables and was an object of unusual attraction.

The Hon. G. Allan's gardener exhibited some table apples which, though long since out of season, appeared as fresh and sound as when taken from the tree. It is said that Mr. Allan has a secret for preserving tender apples from decay and keeping them sound and fresh-looking for any length of time. If so, we hope he will let the entire brotherhood of Horticulturists have the benefit of it without delay. A rare fruit from the hot house of Judge Harrison attracted much attention, from its shape and taste. It somewhat resembles a cucumber in appearance, and its flavour is not unlike that of the pine-apple. It is named the *Philodendron pertusum*. For the prize list in full we refer our readers to the city papers. The Horticultural Society have reason to be proud of their first exhibition for this year, and we trust future ones will surpass that just held.

FARMERS' CLUB MEETING.—A regular meeting of the North York Farmers' Club, took place at the Railroad Hotel, New market, on Thursday evening the 5th ult. After the usual routine business, the Club proceeded to the discussion of the question previously announced, viz:—"The Root Crop—mode of culture—soil best adapted—manner of seeding, and kind of plant best suited to this section of country."

LIME AS A MANURE.—"ENQUIRER," of Greenbank, wishes to know, "How, when, and where" to apply lime to land, and puts the following questions, on these points. 1. "Should lime be applied to the dung-heap in the yard?" 2. Should it be used as a top-dressing to crops. If so, what kinds? And where? 3. Should it be applied to the land when ploughed? If so, at what time? spring or fall ploughing, and for what crops, will it be the most suitable? 4. For what kind of lands, heavy or light, is it more useful? 5. Should lime be mixed with any other fertilizer, such as gypsum? &c., &c.

ANS.—1. Caustic, or quick-lime, should not be applied to the dung-heap, but lime compost may. 2. Lime acts very beneficially as a top-dressing upon

meadows and old pastures, giving clover and the grasses a thick luxuriant growth, and choking down the weeds. Late in the fall or early in spring are the best times for applying it. 3. The usual practice is to spread the lime on the land just before ploughing, whether in the spring or fall, but some recommend scattering the lime after ploughing, especially on sod land, as its more immediate effect will thus be secured, while it tends to settle down into the soil. Leguminous plants of all kinds are benefited by lime. Beans, peas, vetches, &c, produce heavier straw and grain of better quality under its action. Barley is most stimulated by it, the finest barley in Britain growing in what are called the chalk districts. Lime in small quantities must exist in the soil to render it good for wheat. Lime is an important element in tobacco, potatoes, turnips, and the clovers. 4. It is good for both, but especially beneficial to clay lands. 5. A compost of lime and vegetable refuse makes a valuable manure, and when the compost has been made long enough to extract the caustic properties of the lime, to mix it with barn-yard dung makes a most valuable manure. Gypsum is a compound of lime and sulphuric acid.

[The above communication and reply having been already kept back some time, by the pressure on our correspondence columns, we insert them out of their proper place, rather than defer them any longer.]