

FRUIT.

The display of fruit spread out over the greater portion of the long table which occupied the centre of the new building to the north of the Fine Arts Room, formed a most attractive feature of the Exhibition, and has not, we think, been surpassed on any former occasion in this Province.

Among the professional growers and nurserymen, Mr. C. Arnold, of Paris, exhibited 36 varieties of apples, some of them very fine specimens, both in size and quality. His "Gravenstein," "Benoni," "Duchess of Oldenburg," "Swaar," and a few others were particularly worthy of mention. The first prize has been awarded to Mr. Arnold for his apples. The same exhibitor also showed 10 varieties of pears, by which he has taken the second prize. Next to Mr. Arnold, comes John A. Bruce & Co. of Hamilton, who exhibited 20 varieties of apples, among which were some very fine specimens. He also showed a display of different kinds of fruit, including apples, pears, grapes, &c. For one collection of twenty varieties of pears he has been awarded the first prize. Among these, the "Stevens' Genesee," the "Bartlett," the "Bell Anguini," the "Glout Moreau," and the "Louise Bonne de Jersey," were most worthy of notice. They were large and of excellent flavour. Mr. George Leslie, of Toronto, had a splendid exhibition of apples and pears, including not less than 150 varieties of apples, and about 80 varieties of pears. He had also some remarkably fine Strawberry crabs, of which the most noticeable was the "Transcendent," or fine, large pink. Mr. Leslie also deservedly obtained a prize for apples, and was awarded the first prize for the best display of fruits of all kinds. Indeed, there can be no question, that, taken as a whole, there was nothing in this department of the present Exhibition to match it in extent, variety and quality. Next in order on the table were the contributions of Messrs. Wolverton & Smith, of Grimsby. These gentlemen exhibited some beautiful specimens of fruit, and have secured the first prize for the best twenty varieties of apples, the first prize for the best ten varieties of pears, and also the first for the best ten varieties of peaches.

The rest of the fruit exhibited was furnished by amateur growers. The display was certainly extremely creditable, and compared most favourably with that of the professional growers already noticed. The show of apples, pears and peaches was very beautiful, and elicited unqualified commendations from visitors of all sorts; among whom we heard several gentlemen from the "other side" remark that they could not produce anything equal to it in the United States.

APPLES.—Mr. R. B. Worden, of Picton, exhibited twenty varieties of very splendid apples, which, for size and beauty of shape, could hardly be surpassed. The following are the names of the varieties in this lot.—St. Lawrence, King of Tompkins County, Maiden's Blush, Cabashea, Twenty ounce Pippin, Golden Russett, Northern Spy, Bailey Sweet, Hawley, Alexander, Rome Beauty, Pumpkins Sweet Russett, Ribston Pippin, Canada Rennet, Baldwin, Lamense, Rhode Island Greening, Newtown Pippin, Monmouth Pippin, and Indian Rare-ripe. The same gentleman also showed four varieties of cooking apples, and a splendid specimen of single variety, the Alexander apple.

Mr. J. H. Brown, of Niagara, another exhibitor in this department, obtained the first prize for the best twenty varieties of apples. It must have been no easy matter to decide between the merits of this gentleman's contribution and those of Mr. Worden's.

A beautiful sample of twenty varieties was also shown by Mr. Rykert, of Grantham. Other specimens of apples, too numerous to mention, in ten, four, and single varieties, adorned this portion of the table, and presented a charming display of what our Canadian climate can produce in this kind of fruit. The principal contributors to this section were:—Mr. J. C. Ferrier, Islington; Mr. S. J. J. Brown, Niagara; Mr. R. Warren, Niagara; Mr. A. F. Currie, Niagara; Mr. J. M. Whitlaw; Mr. J. Nicholson, York; Mr. G. J. Miller, Virgil; Mr. James Moore, Etobicoke; Mr. G. J. Freed, Hamilton; Mr. S. Wood, Etobicoke. We particularly noticed the four varieties, and the plate of one single variety, Blenheim Orange, exhibited by the last-named gentleman.

PEARS.—The display of pears was also remarkably good; and showed that although this fruit is not extensively grown with us, the Province can furnish samples that may be placed beside those of New Jersey in the adjacent States, or even the French island of Jersey, without suffering by the comparison. We noticed some fine specimens shown by Mr. G. Rykert, of Grantham; S. J. J. Brown, Niagara; J. Buchanan, Hamilton; A. F. Currie, Niagara; G. J. Miller, Virgil; and J. Warren, Niagara.

PEACHES.—The show of this beautiful and luscious fruit, although inferior in number to the apple and pear, was not less creditable. We particularly

noticed some very large and fine samples exhibited by Mr. J. Buchanan, of Hamilton; a dish of white flesh peaches, labelled "stump the world," was remarkably fine; excellent specimens of early and late "Crawford's" were also piled in the most tempting manner on the various plates in this neighbourhood. Mr. S. J. J. Brown, of Niagara; G. J. Miller, of Virgil; A. F. Currie, Niagara; and H. J. Brown, of Niagara, also exhibited samples of this fruit.

PLUMS.—The collection of plums was not very large; but among them were several excellent specimens, exhibited by the Rev. E. Baldwin, of Toronto; Mr. R. B. Worden, of Picton; Mr. Bentham, of Guelph and other contributors.

QUINCES.—We noticed a few plates of very fine quinces, shown by Mr. A. F. Currie, of Niagara; Mr. S. J. J. Brown, of Niagara; and Mr. S. B. Harrison, of Toronto.

GRAPES.—It is no longer a question whether or no Canada is adapted for the cultivation of the vine. The most sceptical must have been convinced that it is on surveying the large assortment of grapes at the present exhibition. In no branch of horticultural improvement has there been more real and gratifying advance, during the past few years, than in the increased attention paid to grape culture. A brief detail of what was displayed in this line is all that can now be attempted. Mr. Arnold, of Paris exhibited no fewer than 26 varieties of open air grapes, among which his specimen of Delaware, Rogers, 3, 4, and 15 were very fine. Mr. Arnold has some promising seedlings, the best of which the Canadian hybrid, bids fair to be a valuable horticultural acquisition; but no prize being offered for any but established and named varieties, these were not on exhibition. J. A. Bruce & Co. of Hamilton showed 14 open-air and 6 glass grown varieties; among the latter the Black Hamburg and Muscat of Alexandria were especially fine. James Taylor of St. Catharines had 30 varieties of open air grapes, among them the Rose Chasselas which, until now we had no idea, could be ripened in this country except under glass. H. M. Switzer, of Palermo, showed 14 varieties of open-air grapes. Among them were fine samples of White Sweetwater and Delaware. J. C. Kilborn, of Beamsville had the largest collection of open-air grapes in this country in all. He was the only exhibitor of Jonas Dr. Grant's pet grape. Mr. Kilborn thinks highly of it. His Dianas, Delawares, Ontarios, and Concord were particularly good. He had the Creeping of which he was the only exhibitor, a grape of good promise. T. H. Graydon, of St. Catharines, had 25 varieties of open-air grapes, among them the best of Rogers' numbered grapes. The Nos. on exhibition were 1, 2, 1.5, 13, 14, 15, 19, 30, 33, 34, 41.

Some of these Mr. Graydon thinks are very valuable. He was sole exhibitor of Adirondac and Tokalon and speaks highly of them, especially of the latter, but it ripens late. The finest show of grapes grown in a cold vinery was that of the Rev. T. P. Hodge, of Port Credit. Among them are some varieties hitherto supposed to require artificial heat in this country. Two splendid bunches of Zinfandel are in this small but choice collection. One of these bunches was 14 inches long, 9 inches broad, and had a shoulder 7 inches deep. Both bunches are very close and compact. Among Mr. Hodge's grapes were fine samples of Chasselas de Fontainebleau, Bowood Muscat, Royal Muscadine, Muscat of Alexandria, and Chasselas Musque. I. Buchanan, Hamilton, showed 19 varieties of grapes, grown under glass, among which the Black Hamburg was particularly fine. By far the best collection of cold vinery grapes was that of John Gray of this city. He had 28 varieties, most of them very fine. Among them were Muscat of Alexandria, Golden Hamburg, Golden Sweetwater, Grizzly Frontignau, Rose Chasselas, Royal Muscadine and Victoria Hamburg, exceedingly well grown specimens. We quite expected this collection would take the first prize, but to our astonishment it was by some unaccountable mistake labelled second. This decision occasioned such exclamations of surprise and remonstrance, that the judges reconsidered and reversed their decision, and gave to Mr. Gray the honour that at first bestowed on the Messrs. Bruce. This was vexatious, no doubt, to the last named parties; but their collection, though a good one, was plainly inferior, both in extent and quality, to Mr. Gray's. "Honour to whom honour," would certainly award the palm to the larger and finer collection. George Leslie, of the Toronto nurseries, exhibited 22 varieties, 11 open-air and 11 grown in the cold vinery. Among them were several fine specimens as to size, but the open air kinds were somehow very backward as to ripening. This remark applies in a degree to all the grapes, and is to be accounted for by the lack of sunshine during the latter part of the present season.

VEGETABLES.

One side of the building, in which the fruits occupied the centre table, was set apart for vegetables,

and was well filled with choice samples. On the opposite side of the same building was ranged the collection of field grains and roots. Among the vegetables were magnificent monsters of the pumpkin and squash tribe, which might well claim the title of vegetable giants. One table squash, of large dimensions, was exhibited by Mr. C. C. Small, of Grafton, and marked as grown from seed imported from Australia. Mr. Gutthrey, Mr. Best, Mr. Holden, and Mr. Goldsmith, all of Toronto, exhibited splendid winter table squashes. Mr. Wright, of York, contributed some very large vegetable marrows. Large squashes for cattle were shown by Messrs. Burgess, Etobicoke; S. Wood, Etobicoke; James Moore, Etobicoke; and E. Stocks, of the same place. The first prize for winter cabbage was awarded to Mr. Nicholson, of York; the second to Mr. Gutthrey, of Toronto; the third to C. Holt, of Brooklyn. C. W. R. Gutthrey, of Toronto, also obtained the first prize for the best head of summer cabbage; G. Holt, of Brooklyn, the second; and J. King, of York, the third prize in the same section. There was an admirable display of red cabbage, for which the first prize was awarded to C. C. Small, of Grafton, and the second to A. W. Taylor, of Barton. Next to these imposing forms of vegetable production we noticed a very elegant collection of sweet corn contributed by Judge Morrison, Mr. J. Wickson, Mr. Hamilton, of Toronto, and Mr. Wright, of York. Above these, on the same table, were fine specimens of beet—the principal contributors being Judge Morrison, G. Rykert, of Grantham, H. Brown of Niagara, J. Miller, of Virgil, and Mr. Bentham, of Guelph. A good assortment of white, red, and yellow onions occupied a considerable space next to these. They were exhibited by Wright, of York, Hamilton, of Toronto, Taylor, of Barton, Smith, of Brockville, and Cooper, of York. Ranged against the wall on the same table was a goodly row of table parsnips, prizes for which were awarded to R. Gutthrey, of Toronto, and A. Baker of Guelph. On another table, on the same side of the building, were some very fine tomatoes, which, notwithstanding the unfavorable season, have ripened thoroughly. S. Cooper, Miller, Rykert, Armstrong, and Wright, were among the contributors to this section. Above and behind the tomatoes, was a first-rate display of cauliflower, the first prize for which was awarded to — Cooper of York, and 2nd, to J. D. Humphrey, Toronto. A prize for brocoli, in the same section, was awarded to A. W. Taylor, of Barton. Carrots for the table, and parsnips were shown by numerous contributors, and furnished a very creditable display. Among the contributors we may mention, Bentham, of Guelph, Daniels, Cooper, Nicholson and Wright, of York, Gutthrey and Holder, of Toronto, and Taylor, of Barton. Some very fine specimens of Capsicums, among which was a growing plant, loaded with the finest fruit, were exhibited in the same department. The specimens of celery furnished by Messrs. Burgess, Nicholson, and Gutthrey were very large and fine. A small collection of table turnips completed the assortment of vegetables on this side of the building. On the other side the field grains and roots were exhibited.

Meeting of Fruit Growers and Gardeners.

A MEETING of the more prominent of our Upper Canada pomologists, was held in the Crystal Palace on the last day of the Exhibition, Mr. George Leslie, of the Toronto Nurseries, in the chair.

The fruit growers present were Messrs. Vair, Forsyth, Fleming and Gray, of Toronto; Arnold, of Paris; Buchanan, Hanton, and Murray, of Hamilton; and D. W. Beadle, of St. Catharines. A committee was appointed consisting of nearly the whole of the parties just named to suggest improvements in the prize list, the appointment of judges, &c., with the view of laying the same before the Board of Agriculture. At present, the prizes offered are in several of the horticultural departments of less value, than in the opinion of the meeting, is consistent with the importance of fruit culture. The prize for the best display of fruit, for example, is only four dollars, while the New York State Society offer thirty dollars for the best collection of fruit. Most of the horticulturists present were also of opinion that at least six judges should be appointed for the horticultural department, instead of three as hitherto. Local horticultural societies are also invited to forward suggestions to the Secretary, Mr. John Gray, in order that the claims of every fruit-growing district may meet with due attention. The committee, we understand, will meet in this city in the course of a few weeks; and it is further determined to hold an annual meeting at the place where the Provincial Exhibition takes place on the Friday of the Fair week.