

merit the exhibitor claims for his articles. Then, again, amateur and professional cultivators should be assigned separate tables or departments, and not be permitted to mingle their contributions; and each of these departments should be conspicuously designated, that no doubt could be entertained as to what class they belonged to. Then, again, every exhibitor who shows twenty varieties of apples, or ten varieties, or six varieties, or any number of varieties of apples or other fruits, should prepare a list of the same, and then when the judges have decided, they should insert in their reports the names of the varieties to which they awarded the prize and state the principal points of merit, which could be done in a few words. If this were carried out, we should have useful reports instead of mere barren announcements that such a prize was awarded Mr. A., and another to Mr. B., which amounts to nothing in the end, as far as the great aim and end of the show is concerned.

Another great difficulty is generally experienced in securing the services of faithful and competent judges, who appreciate the importance of the duties assigned them, and are willing to discharge them with care and patience. No fault can be found in general with the selections made by the Society; but it very often happens that of a committee of four or five not more than one or two will make their appearance, and the vacancies must be filled by such as can be found on the ground. Now, it is a responsible and delicate duty that committees have to perform, requiring careful and patient investigation and sound judgment, and, therefore, the greatest care should be taken in filling vacancies. There are always a number of persons ready to offer their services on committees, and especially on "tasting committees," who regard the duty as being simply to eat up everything that comes before them, if at all eatable. To allow such persons to associate themselves with committees is a manifest outrage upon the exhibitors as well as upon public decency. Every year we are surprised to see how far this thing is carried by persons of whom better might be expected. Committees should understand that they have no right, more than others, to cut up, eat and destroy people's fruits, and when they do so they should be exposed and punished. A mere taste to test the quality is all that is necessary and all that decency would permit. We think it would be well for every society to define the rights and duties of its committees and have them printed on every schedule of prizes, so that there could be no mistake.

There is another point still to which we must call attention, and it is this: Both committees and exhibitors are generally at fault in not having their arrangements completed in good season. We have seen it happen more than once, that in the horticultural department of our Fairs all the dishes for the display of fruits had to be procured, and all the fruits arranged, after the hour when all should have been submitted to the inspection of the judges. The consequence was that there was nothing but confusion and grumbling on all sides; nothing was right—nobody pleased. Timely and ample arrangements should by all means be made. It is much easier to make them before a crowd of uneasy exhibitors arrive, than afterwards

Abundance of water, dishes of various sizes, vases, pitchers, &c., &c., should all be in the hall in good season and placed in the hands of a person whose duty it would be to give them out as called for. Then officers should be in waiting to assign every exhibitor his position immediately on his arrival, so that he would not be subjected to the trouble and annoyance of inquiring all around where he could place his articles for exhibition. Exhibitors, too, would save themselves much trouble by being early on the ground and having their arrangements completed before visitors are admitted. Judges, too, should have their duties all discharged before a rush of spectators is admitted to interrupt or annoy them.

We feel it to be a very important matter for the country that these great shows be conducted with the strictest regard to order and regularity. The points to which we have called attention briefly, are but a few among the many that should receive attentive consideration, in order that the greatest possible amount of good may be derived from the time and money expended.

#### NEUTRALISING OFFENSIVE ODORS.

The North British agriculturist furnishes a statement of Lindsey Blyth, in relation to a very successful experiment for destroying a most offensive smell in a stable, arising from the decomposition of urine and dung. He tried the mixture of Epsom salts and plaster of Paris, (gypsum)—"the most wonderful effects followed, the stable-keeper was delighted." Previously, the stable was damp and unwholesome; and if closed for a few hours, the ammoniacal vapors were suffocating. After sprinkling the sulphate underneath the straw, and along the channel of the drain, the smell disappeared, and even the walls became drier. He recommends as an economical preparation for this purpose and for sewers, magnesia limestone dissolved in sulphuric acid, (forming sulphate of magnesia or Epsom salts,) with a portion of super-phosphate of lime (made by dissolving bones in sulphuric acid)—these, at the same time that they retain the escaping ammonia, also add greatly by their own presence to the value of the manure.

#### EXPERIMENTS WITH POUDDRETTE.

As all who till the soil are interested in the subject of manures, let me give you the partial result of some experiments tried during the few past years.

In the first place, I had a lawn of about an acre in extent, which had hitherto yielded only a light crop of grass, and which became quite brown and dry during mid-summer. As it was not convenient for me to break it up and seed down afresh, I determined last spring to try the value of some kind of top-dressing; and as sufficient barn-yard and manure could not be had for this purpose, I resorted to the following expedients:—

Dividing my grounds into several portions, I spread on the first part a light dressing of pouddrette, (at the rate of about fifteen bushels to an acre)—on the second a more liberal dressing, with the addition of a compost made of a little barn-manure mixed with rotten sods and other refuse; on the third a heavy coat of pouddrette, (at the rate of thirty bushels to the acre,) with the