

BIDDULPH.—Fifty members; subscribing \$1 each; no further report.

CLINTON.—Fifty-three members; subscription, \$71; share of grant, \$29; total received, \$100. Paid in premiums, \$85; expenses, \$16 85.

EXETER.—Eighty members; subscriptions received, \$74; balance from 1858, \$28 59; grant, \$41 70; total received, \$144 29. Paid premiums, \$107; expenses, \$24 28; balance in hand, \$13 01.

HARPUREY.—One hundred members; subscriptions, \$100; balance from previous year, \$36 27; grant, \$58; sundries, \$14 10; total, \$208 37. Paid in premiums, \$168 25; expenses, \$32 27; balance in treasurer's hands, \$7 85.

HAY.—Forty-four members; subscriptions, \$15 50; balance from 1858, \$24 15; government grant, \$40 56; total received, \$14 21. Paid premiums, \$80; expenses, \$16; balance in hand, \$14 21.

HOWICK.—Thirty-nine members; subscriptions, \$73; awarded in premiums, \$117 50. Report defective.

MCGILLIVRAY.—Fifty-eight members; subscribing \$1 each. No further report.

STANLEY.—Eighty members, subscribing \$1 each. No further report.

Miscellaneous.

An English Dog Show.

At the late Birmingham Cattle and Poultry Show, there was one notable novelty,—an exhibition of Sporting and other Dogs. This feature of the Show is thus described by the *Tines*:—

“Under the presidency of Lord Carzon and the management of an impartial committee, prizes of large amounts are competed for by some 300 dogs, in the Horse Repository of Messrs. Bretherton and Harrison. No such complete classification had ever been attempted before. Viewing the strange diversities in form, capability, and disposition of the dogs in this whining, growling, menagerie, we can scarcely admit the doctrine that the animals are varieties of one species, and that all have been developed by differences of food, circumstances, and training from a single original pair; or, as some say, are collectively a tamed derivation from the lean and savage wolf. In this gathering of all descriptions of hounds, for instance, what extraordinary differences are observable in the nature and uses

of the several breeds. Whatever of swiftness in pursuit of nimble game, of miraculous keenness of scent for a hidden or flying enemy, of untiring patience of search, of lithic agility and enduring speed, may be required for hunting over the open field, across the deep flood, in the barrowed entrenchment or the recesses of the rock—in short, whatever excellencies and peculiar instincts are valuable in the mighty hounds that chase the antlered deer; in the keen, swift and sturdy hound that seeks the wily fox; in the slender, facile greyhound, all elegance and ease in rapid flight and leap; in the shaggy, half-amphibious otter hound; in the terrible blood-hound, with his pendent lip; in the clever pointer and careful retriever—all are illustrated by perfect and unusually fine examples among numbers of the highest superiority of breed. The blood-hounds form a very grand class, to which the Earl of Bagot contributes the most magnificent specimens, remarkable for their character of head and expression. The foxhounds would have been a larger class at any other season of the year. Viscount Carzon and Earl Grosvenor are the prize winners. Harriers and beagles are but few. The large rough-coated deerhound make a fine show, each a seeming original of Landseer picture. There are some specially fine greyhounds. The large pointers are the principal class, most of them of great merit; and the small pointers, especially the bitch class, still more extraordinary—the Hon. H. W. Popham, Mr. J. S. Soresby, Mr. H. Gilbert, the Earl of Derby, and the Earl of Lichfield carrying off prizes. The English setters are highly thought of. The Irish setters are not so grand a class, though the prize dogs are very fine. See setters and spaniels shown by Mr. Bardett, considered unequalled. The retrievers are exceedingly good, Mr. Brailsford and Lord A. Pagwinning the prizes. There is a good class. Clumber spaniels, used for cover shooting. Mr. Doales and Earl Spencer exhibit the most marvellous. Turning to the other division of the show, we have the majesty of the massive furred mastiff, ferocious as a tiger to strange, sagacious “as a Christian” in detecting thievery and chicanery, gentle as a lamb to the hand that feeds and loves him, and we have the wretched slim Italian greyhound, in form suffering from internal and external stricture, yet all grace and tenderness; shivering at the end of a ribbon or a watch-chain, and incapable of stronger exercise than the hunting of a guinea-pig. There is the nobility of the Newfoundland, with colossal paw—humane savour of wrecked mariners from the swallowing wave; and there is the antic loving toy terrier, ridiculous for its littleness, delighted to be caressed upon his hind knee. There is the iron-jawed bulldog, with stealthy spring and unrelenting grip, fierce, flinching unto death; and there is the C. spaniel, which loves to be nursed and dandled.