

good, and among them were birds that would have taken prizes in competition with adults. The varieties most meagrely represented were the Hamburgs, though there were good birds among them; and of pigeons also there was a very small show. Of the larger breeds of fowl, especially the dark Brahmas and Cochins, there was a fine display, with some magnificent specimens recently imported. The discrepancy between the number of entries and the amount of accommodation or the number of birds actually sent rendered it very difficult to make proper arrangements for the disposition of the birds according to their breeds, and the show was lacking in this element of order and instruction.

Among the adult birds the Cochins were represented by some magnificent specimens of the three varieties, cinnamon, white and partridge. Of Mr. Forsyth's birds, imported this year from Great Britain, we have before spoken in noticing the exhibition of the Toronto Electoral Division Society, at which they were previously exhibited, and where they deservedly swept the prize list in their respective sections. His adult birds were all imported, and the magnificent partridge cock which gained a prize at Birmingham was, strange to say, passed by at Kingston without any award, whilst a first prize was awarded to a cinnamon cock, with dark hackles spotted with black feathers.

Mr. H. M. Thomas, of Brooklyn, showed also some fine Cochins, from imported stock, or actually imported last year; and Mr. Russell, of St. Catharines, had fine birds of cinnamon and Partridge Cochins. Of the latter variety there were particularly good specimens—all imported.

The light Brahmas were scarcely up to the mark, either in merit or numbers; but there was a very fine display of the dark Brahmas, all birds of recent importation. Mr. Forsyth's, which gained the first prize, were particularly good. Mr. Thomas' specimens, of the same variety, were also very fine, though they give place in the judges' award to a trio in which the cock had a single comb.

Mr. Wallbridge had also good imported birds of this variety.

The Dorkings were a remarkably fine class, better, taken altogether, than we remember to have seen at any previous show. Mr. Miller gained the first prize, and Mr. Jas. Main, of Trafalgar, the second for an imported trio.

Game fowls were shown in considerable numbers, but were not, as a class, so meritorious as those already mentioned.

The Polands were not very numerous, but there were good birds of the different varieties.

The Hamburgs, as already mentioned, were not so well represented as usual. Mr. Briggs, of Kingston, showed the only pair of silver-pencilled. Mr. Wallbridge and Mr. Thomas showed each a trio of imported golden-spangled Hamburgs.

There were only a few hens of Spanish fowl. Mr. Miller's were the best.

Of French fowls there were a few hens of Creve Coeurs and Houdans recently imported, shown by H. M. Thomas, J. A. Miller, and Simon Beattie.

In the extra class Mr. Thomas showed a beautiful pair of English pheasants, for which a first prize was awarded.

There was a small show of bantams, the white feather-legged variety predominating. If there were any birds of special merit amongst them, they escaped our notice, partly perhaps from their diminutive size, and partly that they were placed in the lowest tier of pens.

There was little to notice among the ducks, with the exception of the Aylesburys, of

which there were some very good specimens, as well as others very much misnamed and misplaced. Mr. Forsyth's first prize Aylesburys were very large and pure. Mr. Miller's ducklings of the same variety were also excellent birds.

There were but few of the larger class of poultry, turkeys and geese. Mr. J. Cullis, of Hamilton township, showed, as heretofore, very fine specimens of the white variety.

Of the chicken class, we can only say that it was, without exception, the best display of the kind that we have ever seen in Canada; and they were shown to advantage, being in excellent feather, while the season of the year was unfavourable to adult birds, many of which were in bad feather, and none, of course, at their best. The Dorking chickens were a beautiful lot. The larger varieties also were remarkably fine. Mr. Forsyth's Partridge-Cochin chicks, just arrived from England and exhibited here for the first time, were astonishing, and bid fair to be magnificent birds in the spring. Nearly all the chicken pens were good, and reflect great credit on the exhibitors.

In awarding the prize for the best collection of poultry, the judges departed from all precedent, and certainly adopted a new principle of interpreting the terms of the prize list. There were but two collections of poultry shown as such—Mr. Forsyth's and Mr. Thomas's; but instead of confining themselves to these, the judges took into consideration all the separate entries, and gave the first prize to Mr. Miller, of St. Catharines. That gentleman certainly exhibited a very large number of poultry, and of excellent quality, having entered something in nearly every section, and deserves great credit for his enterprise; but he had not, like the other two just named, any separate collection. In awarding the prize for the "best collection of fruit," it has never been the custom to look over all the tables and all the entries, and award the prize from such a general comparison; but the judges have only looked at the displays of fruit entered as such and disposed by the exhibitor in one lot. The same principle, it is supposed, is to be adopted in other departments. If otherwise, the exhibitors should know it. We understand that a protest will be made, and we think very properly, against this decision.

IMPLEMENTS.

This department of the show shared in the general improvement, as compared with that of 1867, which has characterized nearly every part of the present exhibition. At the last Provincial fair held in Kingston, the show of implements was indeed rather meagre, and very far below what is usually to be seen in any of the other cities where the Association holds its annual gatherings. But this disparaging contrast has been completely removed, and the display of implements will compare favourably with any that have been seen during the last few years. Many of the implements are well known throughout and have become well-established in the estimation of farmers; some others are less known than they deserve to be, while a few among the number are entirely new, and are the result of that increasing need of agricultural machinery felt by every farmer in consequence of the scarcity and cost of manual labour. There is scarcely a department of farm work in which machinery of some kind is not destined to supersede the old-fashioned, slow and laborious methods of procedure with which so many of the pioneers of agriculture in Canada have been content to plod along after the fashion of their fathers.

Labour is becoming scarcer and dearer, and as it will no longer pay to reap grain with the sickle, neither will it be found profitable to sow or harvest, or prepare for use or feed, any other product of the field, or indeed perform any of the ordinary work of the farm, in the rude methods hitherto practised. An exhibition of agricultural implements is a very good index of the status and progress of agriculture in any community, and to the practical farmer is one of the most instructive and interesting features of an exhibition like the present. There was much intelligent discussion and comparison among the visitors on the ground, whose taste or knowledge of the great wants of the farmers' calling led them to this part of the show.

Most of the classes in the prize list were fairly and some very fully represented; though in a few of the sections there were no entries. Many of the exhibitors also have apparently failed to bring all the articles entered for competition.

MOWERS AND REAPERS.—There was an excellent and extensive display of these machines, ranged in three lines, according as they were entered, as single mowers, single reapers, or combined machines. Of the first class there were seven or eight on the ground, including a Sprague mower shown by John Abell, of Woodbridge; a Kirby, exhibited by A. Harris & Son, Beamsville; a Cayuga mower, by Brown & Patterson, of Whitby. These machines gained prizes in the order named; though the last had been successful at the trial of implements at Paris, in carrying off the first prize. Among so many excellent machines perhaps no two sets of judges would give exactly the same awards. Certainly every one who has used the Sprague mower speaks in the highest terms of its efficiency and lightness of draft. Mr. Watson, of Ayr, exhibited his Humming-Bird mower, another extremely light and compact machine, which, notwithstanding the lightness of the draft, its small size and apparently slight construction, is still capable of doing good work on heavy grain. It is all of iron, with but few castings, and no belts to get out of order. L. D. Sawyer, of Hamilton, exhibited a Woods mower; John Forsyth, of Dundas, and W. H. Wallbridge, of Belleville, and Bell & Son, of St. George, had also their excellent single mowers on the ground.

In the section of reapers we find for the most part, the same name, amongst the exhibitors, the largest proportion of whom showed the Johnstons reapers. The successful competitors for premiums in this section were, in the order named, Brown and Patterson, Forsyth and Abell. Of combined machines there was even a larger display than of either of the single class. John Forsyth, of Dundas; J. H. Groat, of Grimsby, and Hagger, Brothers succeeded in carrying off the prizes. The only additional names amongst the exhibitors in this section, besides those not mentioned already in other sections, were those of G. & J. Brown, of Belleville, and John Herring, of Napassee.

PEA HARVESTERS.—There were three of these much needed implements on the ground, in the neighbourhood of the reapers and mowers, among which they are very naturally looked for as belonging to a similar class of harvest implements. One of these is simply an attachment consisting of long projecting iron teeth that may be affixed to any ordinary reaping machine. This appendage was shown by Anderson and Johnson, of London. A second implement, in principle much like a reaper, was shown by