

together by themselves for competition in that section of the class. Not so, however, with the judges, whose minds became exceedingly elastic on this occasion—so much so, indeed, that the word collection was held to include all fowls exhibited by one person, no matter whether placed together or competing in their respective classes; and, acting on this unprecedented decision, the prize was actually awarded to an exhibitor who showed no birds as a collection. Comment on this is unnecessary. We are glad, however, to be able to record the fact that at least one judge of the quartette had the manliness (we should say honesty) to enter his protest against this and other unwarrantable acts of his co-judges, but failed to enter it on the judges' books, in ignorance of the fact that to make it effectual it was necessary to do so. We trust, however, he will yet take occasion to make public his dissent.

It is to us matter of regret and mortification to be compelled thus to write of that department of our Provincial Exhibition to which our journal is devoted. Persistent fault-finding is not our hobby; but in the interest of poultry breeders and exhibitors, we cannot, and will not, allow such glaring acts of injustice to pass unnoticed. In the future, as in the past, we shall continue strictly to watch the actions of those who control it, and not fail to point out their shortcomings when necessary, and thus continue our self-imposed task until the management of the poultry class shall cease to be what it ever has been—a by-word and a reproach.

THE CANADA GOOSE.

This is one of the most beautiful of the goose tribe, as well as one of the most abundant of the North American species, breeding even in the milder latitudes, but in vast numbers in the

more northern parts, from which it migrates southwards on the approach of winter.

In a state of nature the Canada Goose eats worms and soft insects, as well as grass and aquatic plants, which the typical or goose proper never does. It is stated by those who have kept them in a domestic, or confined state, they do not breed till they are at least two years old, and so far approach the swan, like which also, the male appears to be fit for reproduction earlier than the female. But Audubon says "That this tardiness is not the case in the wild state, I feel pretty confident; for I have observed having broods of their own many individuals, which by their size, the dullness of their plumage, and such other marks as are known to the practical ornithologist, I judged to be not more than fifteen or sixteen months old. I have therefore thought that in this as in many other species, a long series of years is necessary for counteracting the original wild and free nature which has been given them; and, indeed, it seems probable that our attempts to domesticate many species of wild fowls, which would prove useful to mankind, have been often abandoned in despair, when a few years more of constant care might have produced the desired effect."

The Canada Goose, or as nearly all American writers call it, the American Goose, is universally known over the whole country; its regular periodical migrations are the sure signal of returning Spring or approaching Winter. Late in the autumn, especially when the wind is from the North, these wild geese are seen sailing high in the air, making their accustomed tour at that season. The Autumnal flight lasts from the middle of August to the middle of November; the Vernal flight from the middle of April to the middle of May.

The flight of the wild goose is heavy and laborious, generally in a straight