

kind, either for utility or beauty. The dairy, the house or garden should have one for their shade or beauty. This is the best self-climber, and the most beautiful ivy. Be among the first in your locality to introduce some improvement. You can obtain it without cost by referring to our prize list. In other parts, except in the southern part of Ontario, we would advise you to keep to the Virginia creeper; that we know will thrive well in Manitoba.

James Vick & Sons, who have long been known as the leading florists, are now propagating this plant in an extensive manner; they have it planted in front of their seed establishment, which is two miles from the centre of the city of Rochester, N. Y. The cross was erected by them in the centre of the road in honor of the assemblage of the Sir Knight Templars, who were at that time assembled in the city from different parts of the States and Canada, and marched to this cross with numerous bands. All in the procession were decorated with a profusion of badges and medals, and the cross decorated the hilts of their golden swords and all parts of their handsome attire.

For this new and beautiful ivy, see our prize list in this issue, or apply to Mr. J. Vick, Rochester, N. Y.

The cross has many significant and important meanings. It is now the ruling power of the world; the greatest joys and most enduring pleasures are obtained by its influence to all that apply it aright. Hoping that its blessings be increased and injuries lessened, we wish you the compliments of the season.

#### NUT-BEARING TREES.

Perhaps as a food-producing tree, no nut-bearing tree that we can grow in Canada is equal to the chestnut. Nor is there any we are aware of that will thrive as far north as this tree; the limit at which some trees and plants will grow is yet to be more clearly defined by experience. The chestnut thrives well in this western part of Ontario. It thrives best on light sandy, gravelly and porous soils; we never see it on low wet land. There are hillsides on many farms that we have seen where nothing could be more profitably grown than the chestnut. It is our opinion that no tree possessing so much value receives so little attention.

There are several varieties of chestnuts, the most promising of which is the Japan chestnut. It has been tested in several places, and found the most valuable. It comes into bearing three years after planting, and produces a large-sized, marketable nut. They are as yet known or propagated by very few nurserymen even in the States, and we do not know of any nurseryman in Canada yet growing it. By what we have been able to ascertain from the most reliable sources, we believe we are now introducing a product that will be found valuable, as we hear of the chestnut thriving as far north as Minnesota, but only in light, porous soils. Do not attempt to raise them on wet or stiff clay soils, or you may be disappointed. Even the little common variety that is to be found plentifully in many places, might with advantage be dug up and planted in more suitable places and grafted.

Many years ago, when we were at Mr. Swan's farm, in Geneva (that is where we purchased the Clawson wheat which is now so generally known in Canada), we saw a young English wal-

nut tree which then had borne half a bushel of walnuts in one year. On our old homestead, 14 miles from this city, lots of black walnuts are grown every year. This makes our most valuable furniture timber. Walnut trees grow to a larger size than any hard-wooded tree we have ever seen in England or the States (we have never seen the Californian Giants). The hickory is the nicest nut, and hickory timber is the most valuable to our implement manufacturers, and yields the quickest and perhaps the most profitable returns. The butternut produces the most oily nut; the chestnut is capable of being made a greater food-producer than any of the above named trees. To old men we say, plant and endow one nut-bearing tree this year; by this means you may erect a memorial that will stand and last longer than any other. You may erect one that will be a living testimony of your utility here—one that may delight your children in generations to come.

Why cannot we in the Dominion of Canada improve our properties, our financial position and our pleasures by devoting a little more attention to nut-bearing trees? There are persons who may talk of having millions in a railway, or hundreds of thousands in mortgages on farms, or in farm property, tens of thousands in one or more animals, but where can we point to the man that can show us a thousand dollar plantation of nut-bearing trees? And what would be a safer, more pleasurable, more profitable, or even a more permanent or patriotic a sight?

The incoming year we intend to devote a considerable amount of our attention to nut-bearing and other trees, and hope to enlist the attention of every one of our readers in this cause, and also to induce every reader to plant in some place one or more trees in 1886. We introduce these in such a manner that they cost you nothing. Try and see who will be the first to secure a tree, and see whose tree will grow the best. See prize list.

#### AN INDIAN AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

Perhaps the most remarkable exhibition we visited this year was held in Oneida, in the township of Delaware, Middlesex Co. This was an agricultural exhibition gotten up by the Oneida Indians, who own between three and four thousand acres of land. They purchased four acres of land and fenced it in with a board fence. Each Indian belonging to the agricultural society brought his number of posts; other willing hands soon put them in the ground, while others nailed up the boards. This was done at an Indian bee. They have their president, secretary and directors. The charge for admission to the ground is 15 cents. They have their cattle, horse, sheep, pig and poultry pens, and the several classes were well represented. Of course the animals were not sheeted, blanketed or dyed, as some at the large exhibitions, but were exhibited direct from the pastures or from the plow, and a highly creditable display they made. The honor and honesty with which the officers were elected, and the decisions of the judges given would put to shame some of the decisions of experts, with rule and tape and wire-pulling, that we have seen. The school house close to the ground was used for the grain, fruit, ladies' work, etc., etc., and here we were astonished and pleased. Here was shown woolen yarn

spun by the Indian women or squaws, knitted woolen mits, fine needlework, crazy patchwork and other quilts, straw hats, bread, cakes, preserves, and lots of household appliances gotten up in a highly creditable manner. The displays of apples and grapes, corn, wheat, oats, peas, beans and barley were all good, and there was quite a strong competition for the prizes. Vegetables, mats, baskets, axe handles, wooden pails, etc., etc., were in competition for the honors. Specimens of writing and drawing were shown. One ingenious Indian had made and exhibited a good patent gate that he had constructed from seeing the illustration of it. Another exhibited some well-made horse shoes he had made; he learned the business by seeing the work done in a blacksmith's shop; he served no apprenticeship. He has erected a good shop and does the horse-shoeing and repairing for the other Indians, and is doing well with it. One Indian had made a pottery model of poor old Jumbo, with a suitable notice of his demise. This scene was enlivened by an Indian brass band. These Indians migrated from New York State, purchased the block of land and receive no pay from the Government. It has taken a long time to bring them to this advanced state of civilization.

We lived and farmed for twenty years adjoining an Indian Reserve, and we continually employed Indian labor; we never looked our house, our barn, hen house or smoke house; chains and axes were always lying about; our cattle, pigs, sheep and horses would be often on the Indians' land for weeks without being looked after; we had a large apple orchard on the farm, and Indians were continually about the place, and we do not think any Indian ever stole from us or from our farm any one thing, not even an apple. Do not these Indians set an example to many of us, when they can unaided successfully carry on an agricultural exhibition in a corner of a small township? Would it be judicious for our government to enact laws to militate against township exhibitions? There are some who are agitating for such a measure. Farmers desirous of maintaining the township exhibitions should attend at the annual meetings to be held next month.

#### The Canadian Fat Stock Exhibition

This year the exhibition is to be held in Woodstock, on the 10th of December, and bids fair to be one of the best ever held in Canada. Many parties at a distance often look for additional attraction of some kind beyond the sight of the magnificent animals that will be there. Oxford takes the lead in Canada as the great dairy county; its fine pasture lands, its cheese factories, stock and appliances are of the best kind, and its inhabitants well informed on dairy questions. Any one desiring information about the great cheese industry of our country will not be disappointed in taking a run through this county. The town of Woodstock is gradually rising to importance. It has a good college where both the sons and daughters of farmers receive a good sound education. Two large organ factories, employing a large number of hands, are here. Mr. Whitlaw's foundry is gaining a good name for his steam engines. A bonus of \$25,000, we hear, has been paid to the Patterson Manufacturing Co., of York county, to come to this