

MAPLE SUGAR.

The past season, being a very unpropitious one for the manufacture of maple sugar, in most parts of Western Canada, as was expected but few lots were exhibited. In point of colour, they were inferior to the samples shown last year, at Hamilton. In point of strength, no particular fault could be found, but sufficient pains had not been taken in the process of clarifying. To some the manufacture of maple sugar may not appear an interest worthy of much attention or encouragement. The subject, nevertheless, is worthy of a careful investigation; and those who look a little deeper than merely at the surface of things, will find, that in an average of seasons the business, where farmers have a good sugar bush, may be prosecuted with profit; and the country might be nearly supplied, in the course of time, with a superior article, being the growth and manufacture of this Province. When a future time is here mentioned, it is intended more particularly to the production of sugar by the Indians in the Northern and Western Territories of British America, bordering along the north shores of Lakes Huron and Superior, and the rivers entering those vast inland seas. As unfavourable as was the season for manufacturing maple sugar last Spring, nevertheless the Aborigines of the country, located on the great Manitoulin Island, in Lake Huron, sold or exported upwards of *one hundred tons* of excellent sugar. The business requires encouragement. Information regarding the best methods of clarifying and preparing it for market should be published, and widely circulated. Not only the Aborigines of the country, but every farmer in the Province ought to know how to manufacture, from his maple forest, sugar equal in point of quality to the best South American; and, if desirable, to know also how to manufacture from the brown syrup of the maple an article of loaf sugar equal in every respect to that sold in the stores. Information like this need not cost more than a few shillings; and the expense of putting it in practice may be made to cost nothing more than a little trouble.

CABINET WARE.

In this class there were a number of tasty and well-executed specimens of furniture; but they were not as numerous as were exhibited last year at Hamilton. This may be accounted for, in part, from the few cabinet factories in Cobourg, when com-

pared with those at Hamilton and the villages in the surrounding neighbourhood. In making this remark, nothing derogatory to the character of that branch of mechanics in Cobourg is intended; but, on the contrary, we were agreeably surprised to see so many excellent and beautifully-executed specimens on the ground.

HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

This, to the mind of the writer, was decidedly the most interesting branch of the Show. Horticulture, especially that portion of it that applies to pomonology, or the cultivation of fruit, has been hitherto too much neglected by the Canadian people. The Provincial Society has already materially contributed to awakening an interest among our farmers, in the improved management and cultivation of the garden and orchard. What has been done in this respect is trifling indeed in comparison of what remains yet to be done. The great mass of cultivators of fruit do not act upon any well-defined rules; nor are they at all conversant with the nomenclature of the ordinary varieties of improved fruits, and the mode of management best adapted to their cultivation in the orchard and garden. The Association, in connection with the Local Societies, all acting, of course, in concert, for the promotion of the same object, will doubtless, ere long, remove most of the barriers that prevent our people making that progress in the improved management of the garden and orchard that the adaptation of the country would seem to warrant. The New York State Society has this year set the example in correcting many of the mistakes that pomonologists have been so frequently indulging in, at the cost of the public. A Pomonological Convention, under the patronage of the New York State Agricultural Society, was held lately, at Buffalo; and the various Agricultural Improvement Societies in the State, as well as many in other States and Canada, were represented by efficient delegates. A vast fund of valuable information must have been elicited; and the report of the proceedings, when published, doubtless will throw much light on many points connected with the improved management of the orchard, that will become highly useful to all lovers of choice fruits. A similar Convention, to be held at the period and place of the Annual Meeting of the Upper Canada Agricultural Association, would, within a very few years, become a means of awakening an interest among all classes of our peo-