

shown are very fine. Shropshire seems to be the favorite breed, Cotswold coming next; both appear to thrive well in Yarmouth. The swine made a fine show. Yorkshire, Chester White, and a third breed, Poland China, (new to most of us) made up the entire exhibit in this class. This last breed is represented by a fine boar, No. 28. We are not able to report improvement in swine on former years, for the reason that for a number of years Yarmouth has been No. 1 in this line.

CLASS 4.—POULTRY.

In this class there was a very small number of entries, many varieties for which prizes were offered not being shown at all. This year's poultry exhibit was not equal in any respect to that of last year, and may be reported as exceedingly poor, if not altogether a failure. With the exception of a few coops of very fine birds, the fowls shown were not pure bred and not worthy of premiums, and in many instances want of competition was almost the only reason why premiums were awarded by the Committee. In some cases the only indication of the particular breeds which the fowls were intended to represent were the labels on the coops, and without the labels the Committee would have had great difficulty in deciding from the appearance of the fowls themselves just what the breeds were. Much better poultry can be found in our county than was shown at the Exhibition this year, and the Committee hope that next year our poultry fanciers will exert themselves a little and contribute to the success of the exhibition by showing their fowls.

CLASS 5.—DAIRY PRODUCE, &c.

Entries of Crock Butter, good all through, with the exception of saltiness. Roll Butter very good. Butter by girl under 16 years old, only two entries, both very good. Competitors for largest quantity of Butter from one Cow in one week were three, but only one having complied with conditions prescribed, only one premium could be given. Dairy Cheese exhibit small and quality nothing extra. Factory Cheese one entry, very good. We think butter makers should be rather more particular in salting, as some of the samples were almost uneatable, while the quality of the butter was very good.

CLASS 6.—GRAIN AND SEEDS.

Your Committee report grain and seed not as good a show as last year, but considering the season very good. Entries not as numerous as last year, showing a want of interest. Committee recommend that exhibitors pay more attention to measure of grain.

CLASS 7.—VEGETABLES, ROOTS, &c.

The advent of the cold wave just previous to our day of Exhibition without doubt caused the show of vegetables and roots to be somewhat less in volume than would have been the case under balmier skies. Our farming lads are not of those who are afraid of cold fingers or of muddy boots when duty calls them, but when the duty is only a sort of "side show," it can hardly be expected that extraordinary efforts will be made; or at any rate, such expectations are very apt to "bloom but to decay."

Nevertheless, the show of vegetables was not a mean one. The writer has for many

years of the existence of our Society occupied the responsible position of Chairman of the Committee on vegetables, and has never been more "out" in his calculations than this year. The unprecedented "badness" of the weather, ever since the first of May, had filled him with gloomy anticipations of bad crops, but the harvest has smiled all the gloom out of the business. The crops may be in some localities a little short, but the quality of roots and vegetables is much above the average. This was particularly noticeable in potatoes, so susceptible of damage in wet and muddy weather, in pumpkins and squash, which delight in sunshine, and in those roots whose well-being and life almost depend upon "cultivation,"—that is, the use of the hoe and cultivator. Now these operations cannot be carried on where the earth is saturated with water, and to catch the opportunities when it was not so saturated this summer, required "eternal vigilance." Let us go a little into "mutual admiration," and infer that there must have been a great deal of eternal vigilance on our farmers this year. Mangolds, beets, carrots and parsnips are seldom seen of better quality than those exhibited. Cabbages were very good, but they do not deserve so much credit, for they are notoriously hard drinkers. And the best cauliflowers ever seen at a Yarmouth show made their appearance this year. We hope they grew in this county.

The Committee are of the opinion that it is about time Egyptian beets were dropped out of the special list. They are not the best table beets and might well be displaced by some other new variety.

A special prize was awarded to some very flourishing tobacco plants. Tobacco may come in profitably as a fancy crop some of these days, but it is not likely to become a staple.

Honorable mention is made (in the first place for the honor of No. 162, and in the second of No. 73,) of two fine samples of Swiss Chard, a green-folger plant of the beet family, which yields an enormous growth of succulent leaf-stalks and leaves. In this instance no premium has been awarded, the Committee trusting that "virtue will be its own reward," to say nothing of the honor and glory. But space wanes, and this report must close, with the hope of a better season next year and continued improvement in all the years to come.

CLASS 8.—FRUIT.

The show of Fruit, considering the exceptional character of the season of 1881, was remarkably good. Three Yarmouth County collections, of 25 kinds each, were shown, all good, well grown, well colored, and free from blemish; one collection from Annapolis county, the only other in competition with these, was decidedly inferior to any of them. Indeed it looks as if Yarmouth County might have taken first prize against all comers at the Dominion Exhibition at Halifax for a collection, and our growers must be on the look out hereafter for oil and unfavorable years.

It is certainly most encouraging to observe so decided a progress. A lady familiar with the markets of Great Britain said that she had never seen there so fine a show of apples as were on our tables to-day. In making collections for exhibition not only should the best kinds be preferred, but only perfect specimens of each should be shown; a

single blemished apple spoils the plate, and a poor plate the collection.

Of dozens for which prizes were offered, 120 dozen were shown, mostly very good, and the greater part grown in the county, with some 16 dozen of extras. Mr. Asa Porter, of South Range, Digby County, showed some fine varieties from his orchard, of which McIntosh Red appears to be a choice kind.

A careful inspection of the whole lot of apples failed to show a single kind grown in the county that should be added to the prize list, but as our prizes were open to all it might be well to induce some other kinds grown in the fruit counties successfully. The show of pears was limited to a few dozen, of not much merit; one good plate of Bartlett; the same of plums. In these sections any grower in the fruit counties would carry off all the prizes.

Grapes from cold graperies were good, one collection of five kinds of choice foreign grapes, a single plate of three bunches, all good, and one fine bunch of Black Hamburg. No peaches, two dozen of quinces, a few lots of crab apples and two half bushels of cultivated cranberries complete the list of fruit.

It has been observed during this summer that after a strong southerly gale the foliage of most varieties of apple trees became blighted, black and shrivelled, growth for the season ceased and fruit dropped. Whether this be owing solely to the salt in the air which is sometimes so abundant that, in the vicinity of the town windows facing the sea are so incrustated with salt after a southerly gale as to become opaque, or to some obscure constituent of the atmosphere at such times is not perhaps certain; in any case inadaptability to the coast is apparent and varieties subject to this blight should be discarded. To enumerate them all is to include nearly all, and to name the few successful kinds for the shore the simpler way. These in the order of value for productiveness are Keswick Codlin, Duchess of Oldenburg, Wagener, Gravenstein, Blenheim Pippin, Fall Jannetting and Northern Spy. Alexander and Golden Sweet bear occasionally fair apples, Ontario, one of Arnold's Hybrids, planted in 1880, has four fine large apples on a very small tree now, foliage and growth good.

PICTOU COUNTY EXHIBITION AT NEW GLASGOW.

The Exhibition building on Wednesday morning, Oct. 12, presented a confused and busy scene. Parties were constantly arriving with their exhibits—the farmer with his box of large turnips or potatoes jostled against the tinsmith with his arms full of cans and coal scuttles, who, in his turn, trod on the toes of the anxious-faced Committee man who wore a blue ribbon in his button hole. However, the committees did their work admirably, and before ten o'clock they succeeded in bringing order out of confusion. The lower flat was devoted to grain, roots and different kinds of agricultural produce,—the upper to manufactured goods, fancy work, &c. The upper flat was gaily decorated with bunting and the arrangement of