

Honorable mention was obtained by T. W. Carter, Victoria, for his exhibit of bottled ale made from provincial malt and hops. From the rapidity with which the beverage disappeared, it may be inferred that it was appreciated. Mrs. Fales of New Westminster won the prize for the best five pounds of honey in the comb; R. Stevenson of Chilliwack the prize for the best flour made in the province; Ewen & Co. of New Westminster the first prize for the best Frazer River canned salmon, smoked and fresh; Kyle and Tilton of New Westminster second prize for salmon, canned by the Richmond Canning Co. on the Frazer. John Morley of Victoria, won the first and second prizes for the best horse shoes made in the province; E. M. Swickard of Victoria deservedly obtained the prize for the best assortment of provincial made gloves. The Royal City Planing Mills had a room full of exhibits of beautiful workmanship in wood. The ornamental turner's work could not be surpassed anywhere, and the door, table and bracket work was excellent. John Walsh of New Westminster won the prize for the best suit of dress clothes made in the province.

SECTION XII.—FLORAL.

Miss Lee won first prize for the best table bouquet, Mrs. Fales being second; Mrs. Bunte was first for the best collection of plants in flower, Mrs. Nelson being second; Mrs. Webster was first with best fernery and best specimen of fuschias; Miss Trew being second; Miss A. Webster showed the best hand bouquet. All these exhibits were from New Westminster. In Section 13, many ladies exhibited beautiful works of art, consisting of crayon, water color and pencil drawings, wax work flowers and fruit, photographs, moss pictures and a fine collection of native minerals and fossils. In the millinery and hand sewing everything was useful and beautiful.

COWICHAN AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

This institution was inaugurated years ago in the barn of the Rev. Wm. Reece, then Parson of the district. He, with a few neighbors, suggested the advisability of establishing an annual Show or Fair. The idea was popular and "took" and the nucleus then formed has proved a sound and permanent foundation, the society thus formed having held on the "even tenor of its way" through good and evil report gradually extending its basis, till now it may fairly claim to be the oldest establishment of the kind in the Province.

Having been one of the original members, I jumped on board the "Hunt" to see how the old thing kept up its prestige.

Punctually to time, the steamer cast off to the inspiring strains of Prof. Hayne's band, with about 200 excursionists bound to see the show and enjoy the beautiful scenery and the life-giving sea breezes, and surely nothing is more reviving than the bracing air on such a beautiful autumn day in the straits. Away she goes, past the steamers loading and unloading, past Dexter's "clamdigger," 'out in full view of the Olympian Range and the Haro Archipelago, islands and islets. Presently we salute in proper steamboat

style, the "Slope" bound down from the mainland show. She slows down and we take off the Hon Wm. Smithe, Premier, and Supt. Todd. Into Brackman's Mill where some twenty more join us, and now for Cowichan. The "Yosemite" is seen in the distance, but she cannot transfer her passengers, about a dozen of whom wish to go to the show and take their exhibits with them. On through a narrow place where you might almost jump ashore on either side, but all is safe; the captain is there; she snorts through and the music peals louder as we dash into a broader expanse, and now the Cowichan Valley opens in the distance. Past the Saanich Peninsula and strike into Sansum Narrows, leaving the white houses nestled in green in a deep bay on our left, from the head of which the river extends away up to the "lake," the high mountains on each side showing clear escarpments against the sky.

We come to the wharf at 1 p. m. where there is a large number waiting to welcome the excursionists. After a proper amount of kissing and handshaking, the living stream is seen pouring towards the grounds.—carriages, buggies, saddle-horses. The grounds are half a mile up and on a queer place for an agricultural show, no farms, or any place to be seen where a farm could be, but we are crowded and drive on up to the gate "open sesame" and we are within the grounds. Cattle are tied all along a substantial railing and horses all round the enclosure nearly.

The Hall occupies the centre of the grounds; a long shed where dinner is served by Mr. W. C. Brown, a large open platform to the left where the terpsichoreans tip the "light fantastic." We anchor near a nice clump of pine, and indulge in roast chicken &c. Lunch over, we have a look at the cattle. They are coarse and not by any means what you would expect to see as prize animals, but I know how it is: one of the greatest drawbacks to the show is its site, the difficulty of getting stock there from the more distant districts excludes a large number, so that the cattle shown are by no means a fair gauge of what the settlement has and can produce. Hardly anyone but the most enterprising individuals would think of taking a good milch cow to the show for several reasons:—the prize is small and no object is gained by the exhibitor to counterbalance the great inconvenience of taking stock.

The judges had an arduous task, having to take horses, cattle, pigs, sheep and poultry, but their awards gave general satisfaction. A number of visitors were in from other districts, among whom we noticed Messrs Peck and Horth of Nanaimo, and D. W. Gordon, Esq., M. P.

Horses are much better represented, most of them having been used to bring their owners to the show. The splendid dapper grey percheron of Todd's took first prize; J. Kier's taking second. The mares and foals of J. Hobert and Donald McPherson would