

table. At one side of the entrance two barrels of bone-dust, of different degrees of fineness, showed that attention is now being directed by our farmers to the subject of special manures.

Butter in numerous kegs, firkins, pots and dishes, occupied about one-half of the east side of the table and elevated platform, the remaining portion being filled with a pretty large variety of cheeses, including the Stilton from the dairy of Ralph Wade, jun., Cobourg.

The narrow platform in the centre of the table was covered with samples of biscuits, maple sugar, a model straw stack, manufactured chicory, &c. At the south entrance of the hall we noticed some splendid specimens of Indian corn growing in boxes, some of the stalks of which could not be less than fourteen feet high.

Although we were very favourably impressed with the satisfactory evidence, offered by the contents of the Agricultural Hall of the progress of husbandry in the Province, yet in some instances our expectations were not fully answered. The show of roots was very defective, the specimens exhibited were few in number and generally not distinguished by those excellent peculiarities of size and figure which one expects to meet with in Agricultural shows. The grain was unquestionably good, a splendid evidence of the admirable adaptation of our climate and soil to the growth of the cereals. The display of butter and cheese was not large, nor, if we except Mr. Ranney's monster cheeses, and Mr. Wade's excellent Stilton and double Gloucester, not particularly noteworthy, either in appearance, quantity or quality. We looked in vain for many varieties of vegetable produce which should especially engage the attention of the farmers of this magnificent Province. To advert to two classes of agricultural plants only, viz., dye plants and oil plants; why are their representatives absent from our annual exhibitions? It is true that hemp and flax are gradually coming into favour, and thanks to the Canada Company, they will soon, we hope, become a staple article of growth and manufacture; but, where were the specimens of oil from their seeds, from the white and brown mustard, and the sun flower; where was the oil cake for feeding cattle? And respecting dye plants, the bastard saffron, yielding the rich Turkey red, and of which upwards of \$2,000,000 worth is annually produced in the neighbouring States, found not a place in the exhibition nor in the prize list. Madder was alike unrepresented, and others which might profitably be introduced into our exhibitions.

In glancing at the prize list, after the awards were published, we were surprised to find that, in some instances, three prizes were given to one individual for specimens of the same description of article, in other cases but one prize was awarded, although there appears to have been no competition, and yet two or three prizes offered by the Association. We think the regulations for the entry of articles for competition should limit the exhibitor to one specimen of each kind. Under present arrangements, it appears to us that a successful cultivator of any variety of vegetable may secure to himself the whole of the prizes offered for any one article, by sending to the exhibition as many specimens

as prizes. Every one knows how frequently it happens with field produce, that where you succeed in obtaining one bushel of fine roots or seeds, you may generally select half a dozen very little inferior to the one designed for exhibition.

The regulations for the guidance of Judges do not appear to be sufficiently explicit; and we feel sure that the very existence of any description of rules could not have been credited by the Judges of Ayrshire Cattle. In their report to the Association they state that,—

"The Judges of Ayrshire Cattle beg to submit their regret at the limited competition in this class of animals, there being only twenty-one entered for twenty-four prizes. The competitors were also few. The Judges, if they had the option, would not have awarded all the prizes when there were so few competitors. In the class of Cows, for instance, all were owned by one gentleman. The undersigned respectfully suggest the expediency of leaving to the discretion of Judges in future to withhold prizes under such circumstances, unless in case of very superior merit in the animals exhibited."

The report was presented in the face of the subjoined regulation of the Association attached to the prize list:—

8th. In the absence of competition in any of the Classes, or if the Stock or Articles exhibited be of inferior quality, the Judges will exercise their discretion as to the value of the premiums they award.

Many discrepancies also occur in the award of discretionary prizes; some Judges are inclined to be too liberal, others too exacting. Prizes are awarded because an article possesses novelty, or exhibits ingenuity, though without profitable application, or shows a disposition on the part of the contributor to add to the interest of the show, or evinces sharpness and energy in advertising his wares, &c. &c.

We are inclined to question the propriety of awarding a prize to Bride Cake, to Soda Biscuits, to specimens of Biscuit baking, with the name of the manufacturer in broad letters on his boxes, to Four Reversible Coats and one pair Pants, to an assortment of Wigs, or to an Over-coat, all of them articles which are unquestionably very useful and creditable in their way, but which scarcely have a right to come in for a share of the prize money of the Agricultural Association.

We would respectfully urge upon the Association the propriety of preparing and publishing a series of regulations for the especial guidance of Judges. They should be printed upon the first page of each prize book placed in the hands of the Judges before going their rounds; and they should be of such a general character as to make them applicable to our county as well as to our Provincial Expositions of Agricultural Industry, thus leading to that uniformity and exactness which is so greatly to be desired.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS.

JUDGES—Jos. Webster, James Williams, James L. Green, James Crawford, Wm. Matthie, Thos. Hatt, James Wright, James Rogers, J. P. Gage.

The Canada Company's Prize of £25.

For the best 25 bushels of Fall Wheat, the produce of Canada West, being the growth of the year 1852. The prize to be awarded to the actual grower only of the wheat, which is to be given up to, and become the property of the Association, for distribution to the County Societies for seed. J B Carpenter, Townsend, £25; 2 (by the Asso-