

not appear to good advantage, though some varieties, notably Daisy, Williams, Beder Wood and Haverland, seem to retain their shape and substance in spite of any amount of hard usage. Of the newer varieties, the Wolverton, sent out by the Fruit Growers' Association last year, attracts much attention, being a large, well-formed berry, of fine appearance and high flavor. And just here is a good place to say a word for Mr. L. Wolverton, Dominion Superintendent of the Fruit Department, who has made a name for himself among the fruit growers for his energy, activity and good taste.

The Province of Quebec astonished those who were ignorant of its capabilities by its very extensive show of apples, in which were included all the best known varieties of the best quality. The far-famed Annapolis Valley, of Nova Scotia, also sent specimens of its apples, and very good they were. New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island are also represented.

In the south curtain the apples of 1893, shipped from New South Wales in March—the October of the Antipodes—were of the very choicest, though the names of many of them are strange to me. New York, Illinois and other states have displays similar to Canada, and the predominant feature are the citrus fruits of California, which are shown in enormous quantities, and must result in a great extension of trade with the Golden State.

TROPICAL PLANTS.

In the early May days, when the weather was as miserable as could be imagined, the dome of the Horticultural Building, with its north and south curtains, was a place to invite one to linger. In tramping about the muddy grounds in the sleet and the rain, one got chilled to the marrow, and the opening of a door took one at once into a tropical temperature. Right under the dome, and stretching almost to the top, was the beautiful collection of tropical plants included in the New York State exhibit, and arranged under the direction of dear old "Uncle John" Thorpe, as he is lovingly called by those who have the honor of being reckoned his friends. A rare good gardener is Mr. Thorpe, and no official of the World's Fair more thoroughly understands his business than he. Just at the entrance to the north curtain is to be seen the Ontario exhibit of tropical plants; collected principally from the government greenhouses in Toronto, though a few private individuals have sent choice specimens. This is a lovely corner to rest the eye on after hours of sightseeing, and while the ordinary visitor will see nothing more than a mass of rich green, the expert in such matters can at a glance discover that it contains a wealth of rare and valuable plants, many of which are the superiors of any on the ground. This exhibit was installed by Mr. Wm. Houston, gardener at the Central Prison, and Mr. A. H. Ewing, of the Normal School, Toronto, but is now in charge of Mr. Gilchrist, of Guelph. Just beyond the Ontario exhibit is a quaint Japanese garden, opposite it are the gigantic tree and staghorn ferns of New South Wales, and in the south curtain the almost priceless collection of orchids of Pitcher & Manda, Short Hills, and the cacti of endless queer shapes shown by A. Blanc, Philadelphia. Besides these there are varieties from all parts of the world, such as were never, perhaps, before collected in any one building. Flowers in bloom were shown in the greenhouses, and very marvellous they were; tulips and pansies bloomed in profusion in their season in mammoth beds on either side of the Horticultural Building, and have given place to thousands of cannas, whose gorgeous hues will fairly paint the landscape in a few days. Over on the Wooded Island is a garden of great extent, where bloomed the rhododendrons, whose immense clusters and rich colors bewitched those who saw them for the first time. Now the air is heavy with the perfume of roses, and despite the unfavorable soil every variety of rose known to European and American growers can be seen in great perfection. There are beds also of all the leading annuals and perennials, and many a lesson can be learned as to the best method of culture, grouping, etc.

ONTARIO WINES.

Retracing our steps to the Horticultural Building, we find in the south annex an exceedingly creditable display of wines made by Ontario vinticulturists, among them many of rare excellence, and also a brandy made at Windsor, and said by connoisseurs in that liquor to be the equal of any French brandy, and certainly much purer than the vast bulk of what reaches this country.

MINERALS.

Now we emerge again into the open, and strolling along the lagoon enter the Transportation Building, and in passing admire the splendid collection of vehicles of all kinds, for transit by land and water. We admire the beautiful train sent by the Canadian Pacific Railway, wonder at the quaint old locomotives which were the first attempt at the solution of rapid transit, and compare their crudity with the highly finished machines which now hurl a train load of passengers through space at the rate of nearly a hundred miles an hour; pause a minute or two before the model of H. M. S. Victoria, draped in black, out of respect to the hundreds of unfortunate men who went down in the ill-fated vessel, off Tripoli, a few days ago, and then out under the beautiful arch, and over to the Mines Building. Wandering down the broad central aisle we discover again, almost in

the middle of, the building, the familiar legend Ontario, and are prepared by this time to find something worth our attention. In this we are not mistaken, as the exhibit is claimed to be one of the best in the building, principally on account of the variety and the high average quality of the specimens. No effort was made to collect extraordinarily rich samples of ore, but rather such as would give the practical miner and capitalist an idea of our resources. The nickel exhibit, made by the Canadian Copper Company, shows that metal in the ore and various manufactured forms, including an ingot of 4,500 lbs., valued at \$2,250. There are some fine gold specimens, and any quantity of iron and other economic minerals. Petroleum in every shape, from the crude material to the finest paraffine wax, is shown by the Imperial Oil Company, of Petrolia, an interesting feature being a replica in the latter material of Hamilton McCarthy's celebrated bust of Sir John A. Macdonald, which is incased in a glass case and has been very much admired. The most interesting feature of all, however, is the mammoth geological map of Ontario, which was specially compiled for the World's Fair, and is the subject of much intelligent attention. The geological formation of the province is illustrated, and the location of the leading minerals given, besides a summary of the mining regulations and valuable statistics regarding the province. The Ontario exhibit is under the charge of Mr. David Boyle, of Toronto, who is assisted by M. J. Driscoll, of Oshawa; N. McCrimmon, of Hamilton; J. H. Chestledean and Jas. T. Boyle, of Toronto.

Looking out of the south door of the Mines Building, the beautiful gold dome of the Administration Building is directly in the line of vision. It is one of the most artistic pieces of work in the White City, and when lit up at night with thousands of electric lights its beauty passes description. The Administration Building is devoted mostly to offices for the officials of the exhibition and press headquarters. To the south again is the

PALACE OF MECHANICAL ARTS.

which is a place full of interest for all who are fond of seeing machinery in motion, and who is not? As a province, Ontario has no exhibit in this building, but her manufacturers have contributed the bulk of the display, the other provinces being conspicuous mostly by their absence. There are iron and wood-working machinery, brick machines, stationary and traction engines, marine furnishings, etc., and so excellent is the general character that many foreigners who have come over to buy machinery have promised to place orders, including a large manufacturing concern in Sweden.

CEREALS, ETC.

One morning during the early days I was wandering through the buildings, and asked a Columbian guard where the Canadian exhibit was. With a sweep of his arm around several points of the compass, he remarked: "Canada! oh, it's everywhere round here!" And so it seems. With the exception of electricity, Canada is represented, and well represented, in every one of the great departments of the great fair. And, as I have before remarked, the general excellence of her display has been a revelation, and thrown a flood of vivid light on our country which must be productive of great good in the near future. Even now many people find it impossible to disassociate the name of Canada from Indians and ice and wild animals. Thanks to the craze for winter carnivals and winter photographs, which were a picturesque but not specially profitable advertisement!

"The farmer feeds us all," the old proverb truly says, and the importance of soil culture and products in every form has been most liberally recognized by the makers of the White City. The Agricultural Building is a truly palatial structure, and the space allotted to Canada is prominent and liberal. Her court is in the southeast corner of the building, Ontario having about 1,500 square feet fronting on two sides. No similar space in the building is more attractive, thanks to the excellent taste displayed in the design and the admirable manner in which it was carried out by the superintendent, Mr. James Marshall, of Binbrook, with his assistants, Messrs. Hart, Geddes and Foran, of Saltfleet. The first object to catch the eye is the huge archway bearing the name "Ontario, Canada," in gilt letters, easily to be read from any distance. A series of smaller arches extends along either side, covered with dark velvet and decorated properly with samples of all the grains and seeds grown in the province. In the interior is undoubtedly the finest trophy in the building, if not the handsomest ever erected for a purpose of the kind. Covering a space of nearly 150 square feet, it raises about 25 feet by a series of terraces, and on it are artistically arranged glass vases filled with grain samples. The name of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, is embroidered, so to speak, on either side of the trophy in cross sections of Indian corn. There are no less than one hundred varieties of oats, one hundred and thirty of wheat, seventy of barley, and others in like proportion, all the produce of the College Farm, which is the pride of every Ontario farmer, and acknowledged to be one of the leading schools of practical agriculture in the world. Surmounting the whole is an enormous glass jar containing about a bushel of choice peas.

Photographs of large size, illustrating farm scenes in Ontario and well-known herds of cattle, are hung on the walls of the College trophy, as well

as on a smaller one to the north, while in the rear, on a partition some twenty-two feet long and seven feet high, are artistically arranged more samples of Ontario grain and grasses in the straw. Not a foot of space has been wasted, and so large was the quantity of material collected that double the area could easily have been filled.

To the north of the Ontario court, Quebec makes a creditable showing, principally of tobacco of good quality, with a few samples of grain in the straw; while on the east the Dominion Experimental Farms display the cereal products of the provinces. The Northwest Territories and British Columbia merit a column to themselves, so extensive and varied are their exhibits, a special feature being the cases of stuffed birds and animals; but this article concerning itself specially with Ontario, further mention of them will have to be deferred.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

In the Agricultural Building, towards the southern entrance, the leading Canadian implement makers occupy a good deal of space with their machines. Owing to pressure of other sight-seeing, I have not had time to fully examine them, but a casual glance or two has convinced me that we have little to fear from the competition of the companies in similar lines on this side of the boundary.

HONEY.

Upstairs, in the east gallery, is the sweetest spot in the whole fair—for what is sweeter than honey? The goods are arranged in glass cabinets, and include bee products of all kinds—very tempting and lovely to look upon. Mr. Allan Pringle, of Selby, well-known as an enthusiast in apiculture, has put his whole soul into the collection and arrangement of the Ontario display, and should certainly feel rewarded by the compliments he receives almost every hour of the day. Extracted honey of all the different flavors is shown in glass vases, and comb honey in sections, while something of a curiosity are two immense blocks of granulated honey, which retain their shape in spite of the heated temperature. Most of the honey-producing states are also represented, but I am much mistaken if the highest award does not come our way.

DAIRY TEST.

The general exhibit of live stock will not take place until August, and in this Canada will be largely represented. Ontario will likely furnish the bulk of the animals, and not only so, but I should not be surprised to see a good many of the awards which go to American stockmen taken by cattle and other stock purchased from our breeders.

In the meantime a test of dairy cattle has been going on, which commenced on the first of May, and so severe were the conditions that only three breeds would face the music—Jerseys, Guernseys and Shorthorns; twenty-five cows of each breed are in the test, Ontario showing up only in the Shorthorn class, where she has five cows selected from the best milking herds. No doubt some results of these tests have already been published in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. They are given to the world by means of intricate tables, which, when completed will be the most valuable record of the relative merit of the various breeds ever compiled. The object is to ascertain which cow gives the most profit to the farmer, every item being taken into consideration. There is no pampering or feeding of specially rich foods, but all are treated alike. The ration is of the same quality throughout, but the quantity is regulated by the superintendent in charge of each section, and each cow is debited with what she eats. It has been the intention to approach, as nearly as possible, the conditions attainable by the average farmer, though I hardly think any farmer in Canada or the United States stables his cattle all summer, giving them only an hour for outdoor exercise, as has been done in this test. Nor is it usual to continue the use of ensilage and dry feed so late in the season, but that was unavoidable. The first test, for cheese only, ended on the 26th May; the second, for butter only, began on the 31st May and will last till the 28th August. Without going into figures to any extent, I will just say that while the Jerseys led throughout the first test in quality and richness of milk and weight of cheese, the largest quantity of milk, 50 lbs. per day and over, has been given by two of the Ontario Shorthorns. The very strongest endorsement of the Babcock test as a means of ascertaining the value of milk for cheese-making is also given. There will be two more dairy tests after the butter test is finished, but that is a good way in the future.

CHEESE AND BUTTER.

No special exhibit of cheese or butter was made by Ontario, those two articles being included in the general Dominion display. Prof. J. W. Robertson, of the Dominion Experimental Station at Ottawa, took the matter in hand, and if there is any better man to manage such business, or one able to extract more advertising out of it, I think he has yet to be discovered. We who are doing press work in the White City, and endeavoring to obtain favorable mention of our country and its resources in the foreign press, find that above all things the reporters like a sensation—something that will make a good story. Canada's big cheese, made at Perth, Ontario, by Mr. J. A. Ruddick, Mr. Robertson's right hand man, filled the bill to a nicety. The details of its manufacture were given to the world last autumn, and during its journey to Chicago by special train it was everywhere seen by thousands and written up by every newspaper along the line.

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