

Richard Starr having each taken it once, are to have the benefit of these successes in the final competition.

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AN APPLE FREAK.—“On a tree bearing Pound Sweet Apples growing in the garden of C. C. Hamilton, M.D., in Cornwallis, three apples formed and grew on a small twig the size of a goose quill and eight inches long. Two of these apples had all the characteristics of the Pound Sweet, in colour, size, shape, and other peculiarities; while the middle one was smaller, perfectly russeted, and different in shape, more ribbed at the blossom end, and having a shorter stem. The twig with its three apples was exhibited at Somerset, and recently the fruit was tested by the Council of the Fruit Growers' Association, when it was found that the apples differed also in their qualities. The two apples appearing to be Pound Sweets had all their true characteristics, whereas the middle one which was russeted was smaller, less fine in flesh, with a finer oily grain, inclined to wilt, and with a yellow cast of flesh. When tasted, the flavor seemed somewhat different, being by some considered slightly acid.

Nothing was done to bring about this singular phenomenon; and the fact of the three apples growing upon the same twig, and differing as they did, was not known to the proprietor until about the first of October.

It is for fruit growers to speculate upon this subject, and assign if they can, the true cause of this singular “apple freak;” there is not a tree bearing russeted apple within ten rods of where these apples grew.”

ANNUAL EXHIBITION.—The Annual Exhibition will be held at Somerset in October, as already announced in the *Journal of Agriculture*.

NOVA SCOTIAN DOG, PIGEON AND POULTRY CLUB.

PATRON.

Sir W. F. WILLIAMS, of Kars, Bart, &c.

COMMITTEE.

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J. Hunter Duvar, *Hon. Secretary*.

Martin G. Black, *Treasurer*.

HONORARY MEMBER.

R. W. Boyle, Esq., *Dublin*.

RULES.

1.—That this Society be called the “NOVA SCOTIAN DOG, PIGEON AND POULTRY CLUB,” its objects being the improvement and exhibition of the breeds of dogs, poultry, and other domestic animals.

2.—That an annual subscription of One Dollar, payable on admission, constitute membership.

3.—Ladies are invited to join as members.

4.—That at least one annual Exhibition be held, in the month of June, at which shall be given such prizes as the Committee shall be in a position to offer.

5.—A general meeting of members shall be held twice a year, for the transaction of business.

6.—That this Club be guided by the Rules and Regulations of the “British National Poultry Club.”

7.—The Shows of the Club will be open to competitors from all parts of the Province.

8.—That the government of the Society be vested in a Committee, to be elected annually at a general meeting of the members.

It is intended to offer prizes, (subject to future arrangement as to conditions and amount.) at the Exhibition in June, for the best Dogs of the following breeds:

- Land Spaniels,
- Water Spaniels,
- Newfoundland, (rough and smooth haired,)
- Pointers,
- Setters,
- Sheep and Cattle Dogs,
- Terriers, English and Scotch,
- Hounds,
- House Dogs,
- Lapdogs, in their varieties,

POULTRY.—For the best coop, containing one male and one female, in the classes of

- Game, Dorking,
- Spanish, Cochin,
- Brahmas, Hamburgs,
- Polands,
- Bantams, and other varieties,
- Geese,
- Ducks, of varieties,
- Turkeys,
- Ornamental Poultry generally.

PIGEONS.

CAGE BIRDS.

Also for such birds or other domestic animals as may be distinguished by their rarity, beauty, or usefulness.

Mr. Boyle, a gentleman of high celebrity as a fancier and successful exhibitor, has kindly offered to act as purchaser in Britain, and the Committee have placed a sum of money at his disposal for the importation of birds and eggs.

A few eggs of choice broods may be now had at the rate of one dollar a dozen, on application to the Secretary—the proceeds to be given in prizes.

For any further information connected with the Club, apply to the Secretary or any member of the Committee, if by letter, post paid.

Miscellaneous.

PEAT IN MICHIGAN.

The *Detroit Free Press* has an interesting article upon this subject. The peat is found in dry bogs, of which there are several hundred in the State. The supply is believed to be practically inexhaustible. It is also of a very fine quality. Professor Douglass, of the State University, after a careful analysis, places proportion of ash and sooty matter at only three and two-tenths per cent. It is generally known that peat is the vegetable soil of swamps, made up of matted roots, leaves and stems of plants. To obtain it, the surface, containing the living plants and roots, is taken off; the peat is cut by a peculiarly shaped spade into oblong blocks, which are thoroughly dried in the sun; it is then powerfully compressed by hydraulic machines, until its size and weight are reduced nearly two-thirds; next it is ground to powder, and dried in cylinders which revolve in a heated chamber; finally, at a temperature of one hundred and eighty degrees, it is caked by a powerful pressure, and is ready for market. Some of the Michigan farmers use it in preference to wood; its superior cheapness commends it to many others. The *Press* says that it has found a ready sale in Boston and elsewhere. Several peat companies have been formed and machines invented during the last six months. Peat also gives forty per cent. of illuminating gas, at the rate of about fourteen thousand feet per ton. The best coal does not equal this. The *Press* thinks it will become very popular for parlour use, as it can be burned in an open grate, and would be far more cheerful than the dull air-tight stove.

A VEGETARIAN FESTIVAL.

A rather remarkable festival was held at Blennerhasset, Cumberland, on Christmas day, upon the farm of Mr. William Lawson, son of Sir Wilfred Lawson, of Brayton. The farm is conducted on the co-operative principle, a title of the profits being divided among the workers, and Mr. William Lawson and his servants are vegetarians. All the people of the district who chose to write beforehand for free tickets or to pay 4d. on Christmas day were invited. Musicians were re-