



The Agricultural Hall.

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Each side of this building was divided into seven compartments, four of which were entirely filled with competitors' samples for the great prize of the day. The very large quantity of wheat entered for the Canada Company's prize—consisting of not less than twenty-three samples of five-and-twenty bushels each—occasioned much crowding in the grain department. It was however very pleasing to witness the large accumulations of sacks containing the staple production of Canada, a quantity which might well have occupied one-half more space than could be allotted to it in the Agricultural Hall. In the compartments next to those in which the wheat for the Canada Company's prize was stowed, the two bushel samples of fall wheat were arranged in order, then came specimens of spring wheat, oats, barley and rye. Marrowfat and common field peas occupied the last compartment on the west side of the Hall. On the east side numerous specimens of various kinds of potatoe, some of a size we have seldom seen surpassed, filled the first and second compartments. After these were placed bales of hops, flax in the raw and manufactured state, &c. The next two spaces were filled with very neat specimens of flour in barrels, all exhibiting exteriorly, much neatness and care in workmanship and some aiming at a style of decoration which though showing a praiseworthy endeavour to attract public attention, yet seemed scarcely in keeping with the homely nature of their contents. We do not think that the very useful yet common-place article, flour, requires to be placed in a varnished barrel, even in an Agricultural Hall. We think that the objection which so many urge against gilded ploughs obtains with equal force in the case of varnished flour-barrels. The succeeding compartments were filled with turnips,

khol-rabi, mangel-wurtzel, Indian corn, cattle carrots, field beets, and broom corn. Between the compartments on the east side, large cattle squashes placed on dividing shelves, occupied a prominent position.

The centre of the Hall was occupied by a large table, about fifty feet in length by six broad. In the middle of the table a raised platform eighteen inches in breadth served to exhibit various articles to which we shall afterwards allude. The supports of the roof of the building were very tastefully decorated with the ever-green hemlock, which gave to the general appearance of the whole, a rustic and even graceful finish.

Reposing upon the table, the first object which attracted the attention of the visitor, was an enormous cheese, weighing 658 lbs., from the dairy of Mr. Ranney of Dereham, County of Oxford. Other cheeses of smaller dimensions were exhibited by the same gentleman. We were told that they were a portion of the produce of 126 cows, which constitute Mr. Ranney's dairy. The monster cheese was backed by two bee-hives, one merely a model, the other filled with a rich store of honey and comb. Several other hives of less pretending dimensions, but enlivened by hosts of living occupants, were arrayed on one side of the larger hives. We were glad to see these little industrious communities so well represented; no Canadian farmer should consider his farm properly stocked until he has secured a good hive of bees. Specimens of foreign oats, Canadian tobacco, and several varieties of British wheat succeeded the bees, and were themselves preceeded by numerous bags containing turnip seed, while beans, clover seed, flax seed, timothy seed and hemp seed followed, up to the top of the