

is nothing to prevent the premium being £100, or anything you like. To be sure settle the principle first, and the details will suggest their own adjustment.

THE Hop Crop in England and France is poor, very inferior to last year's; but Germany promises a fair yield. The American crop is also very short. The old stock of hops is very small. The increase in brewing and beer drinking is spoken of as "immense." All these facts point to high prices for hops.

SOME splendid awards have been made to British Colonies at the Vienna Exhibition. The Australian Colonies have received 139 medals besides diplomas for wines, woods, meats, fibres, minerals, fruits. Cape of Good Hope, 16 medals, besides other awards for diamonds and wool. Ceylon, 6 medals and as many diplomas. Mauritius, 11 medals, 6 diplomas, for sugars, woods, fibres. Jamaica has the cigar medal. Banner Brothers have a medal for Ashantee Implements, cloth, palm oil, nuts. Trinidad, medal for woods. Iahama, diplomas for sponges, fibres, shell work. As faithful reporters we should like to add the Canada Medal (which is omitted from the Jurors' Report.) The nearest guess we can make is: Leather Medal for scandals and slanders.

THE Belgian horticulturists have obtained a new plum, not yet known in England, which we advise our Nova Scotian fruit growers to look after. It is called the St. Aubert Plum. Outwardly it resembles the Golden Drop, in flavour and color of flesh the Greengage, but it is stated to ripen earlier and to be more productive than either. A figure, copied from the *Bulletin d'Arboriculture* is given in the *London Gardener's Chronicle* of 6th September.

THE Tomato Disease is worse this year than usual. It is very similar to, if not identical with the Potato Disease, and a moist Autumn is consequently ruinous to to es.

WE doubt whether the riches of our forests have as yet been fully realized. Wood Engravers are at their wits' end to find material to engrave upon, and here is an opinion expressed the other day respecting our native Amelanchier, which grows in almost every wood in Nova Scotia, and has not hitherto, so far as we know, been used even for firewood:—"Upon examining with a sharp instrument the species of various southern woods, deposited in the Museum of the Elliot Society, I was struck with the singular weight, density and fineness of Amelanchier Canadensis. I think I can

confidently recommend it as one of the best to be experimented on by the wood engraver."

THE September International Fruit Show held at Manchester was the best that has ever been seen in the north of England, and it is stated that the Society would profit to the extent of a thousand pounds sterling. The Earl of Derby presided in a "downpouring" rain. One bunch of Black Hamburg grapes weighed thirteen pounds and two ounces! The first prize three bunches were taken from a sixty year old Vine that annually yields four hundred pounds weight of grapes. The Duke of Buccleuch was the sort chosen this year for the prize for best seedling. The heaviest bunch in the show was a cluster of Syrian grape from Langholm, which weighed 16 lb. 6 oz. A Queen Pine apple from the Earl of Beattie weighed 8 lb. 4 oz. The staging of fruit was all completed on the previous evening, and "finishing up" by seven o'clock in the morning, so that judges had time to make their decisions before the appearance of "the public." Cannot things be managed in this prompt way at our own small Exhibitions? In addition to Fruit, there were Flowers and Vegetables. Among the latter, there was the greatest gathering that has ever been seen out of Ireland, or in it, of varieties of potato,—

"The blessed fruit that grows at the root." King of the Flukes was decided to be the perfection of a potato. Veitch's Giant Autumn Cauliflower was shown in beautiful compact white froth-like heads of 15 inches across; the eatable part of one of these cauliflowers is said to fill a hat box. It appears that the Savoy is not genteel enough for a gentleman's table in England. The Cæsarean Cow Cabbage is spoken of by the reporter of the exhibition as having been sold in Regent Quadrant at one shilling per seed; the flower stems were reputed to form avenues to shelter exposed farms. Amid such triumphs of skill, is it to be wondered at that several gentlemen offered on the spot a hundred guineas apiece to pay off the debt on the Manchester Society's garden.

THE fifth National Cat Show was held in the Crystal Palace, London, from 20th to 23rd September.

THE Sheep sales in England have brought very high prices this season. A lot of 34 Shropshire Downs, sold singly at the Hattons, averaged £33 14s. 6d. each. At Panton a yearling Lincoln Ram was sold for a thousand dollars to Thomas Russell, Esq., of Auckland, New Zealand. The same gentleman paid \$500 for another sheep and his nine Lincolns cost \$2380. One Lincoln Ram was hired for

the season for \$325. At Biscuthorpe, Mr. Russell bought 13 more rams for \$1788.

MR. McLENNAN has sent in the Annual Return of members' payments of the Middle River (Victoria) Agricultural Society, showing a membership of eighty-eight fully paid up at 8th September.

THE end of August gale, although so destructive to shipping and sea side property in Cape Breton, does not appear to have been so disastrous to farm crops as was anticipated. Mr. McLennan, of Middle River informs us that in his locality the grain crops have not suffered much, although quite a number of barns were blown down, causing considerable loss and inconvenience to the owners. Hay was an average crop and was saved in good condition by all except those who suffered from the gale. The potato crop is not so abundant as last year, not being so numerous in the ground, but of excellent quality. Oats, Barley and Wheat, at the time of writing, (8th Sept.) all promised to yield good crops.

MR. DICKSON, President of the Parrsborough Agricultural Society, has sent in the Annual Return, showing an attested membership of exactly 100. The Society is desirous of obtaining one of Dick's patent Potato Diggers, "with shovel plow and cultivator, price \$15.00." We have ordered the Digger from Mr. Badgely of St. Catherine's, but fear it will not reach Parrsborough in time to be of service this season. Mr. Dickson suggests as a good plan, that the Board of Agriculture should order a lot of them,—say one or two dozen to be distributed among those societies that will accept of them at cost and charges. By this plan they would probably be supplied cheaper than by ordering a single one, as the advertisement says: "A liberal discount from the above prices will be made to the trade." Mr. Dickson's suggestion is a very good one, and we have no doubt that the Board of Agriculture will be prepared to do their part, if a sufficient number of Agricultural Societies express their willingness to benefit by it. Mr. Dickson states that in the Parrsborough district the potato crop is good this year.

THE season for gardening is now reaching its close, yet there is much work to be done, chiefly with a view to results that may be realized during the following summer. We therefore condense from the *Gardeners' Monthly* some seasonable "Hints":—

In most of the countries of Europe, summer gardening is the most attractive, and most that is done there is with that view. With us the spring and