

1st prize and silver medal for best maple sugar, 30 lbs.	cakes, O. Beaudry.
2nd " " "	Ovide Marion.
3rd " " "	J. Lemaire.
3rd " " "	stirred, A. A. Laporte, St. Gervais
1st " Best maple syrup, 5 galls.,	O. Marion.
2nd " " "	Jos. Lemaire.
2nd " " 12 varieties fall apples,	W. B. Davidson.
2nd " " 12 Pond's seedling plums,	"
1st " " 6 seedling plums,	"
2nd " " Hartford Prolific Grapes,	H. Parker, Aylmer.
2nd " " champion grapes,	H. Parker.
1st " " 3 bunches any other variety,	H. Parker.
1st " " green flesh melon,	W. B. Davidson.
2nd " " citron,	W. B. Davidson.

### Official Exhibitions and Independent Organization.

As will be seen by the following article, taken from one of our Ontario exchanges, and also from the general tone of *The Press*, the results arrived at in the Province of Ontario clearly demonstrate the superiority of independent organizations for Exhibition purposes, over those officially organized by the Board of Agriculture and Arts.

We must sincerely confess that, in our opinion, the same results would soon be reached in our Province were the interested parties, in and around Montreal, to take up with a will the organization of the on-coming so-called Provincial Exhibition:—

The broader question of Provincial Exhibitions opens up another field for discussion. The growth of the system of voluntary fairs, first introduced by the promoters of the Western Fair, has demonstrated that the plan upon which the subsidized Provincial Fair has been run is rotten at the core. London first proved by actual results that public subsidies were not necessary to the existence of a first class central exhibition. Guelph and Hamilton followed suit, and corroborated the soundness of what London had taught them. Toronto, slow to admit that she could be taught anything by her smaller sisters, finally essayed the experiment, and its success, as shown in the Industrial Exhibition, extending over three weeks, more than exceeded the most sanguine expectations of its promoters. While Toronto and London were holding successful self sustaining exhibitions, the Provincial Fair, backed by heavy donations from the Provincial and Dominion treasuries, was languishing and losing money at Ottawa. There must be something radically wrong in the organization of the Provincial Association when it fails to pay its way, even with large Government contributions to its prize list fund. The perambulating principle must be excessively expensive, or the executive must absorb a larger share of the funds than is advisable in traveling backwards and forwards attending advisory meetings and making necessary arrangements. But whatever the cause, the fact stands out conspicuously clear that the Provincial Exhibition in its present shape is an expensive failure. Several schemes have been mooted for its improvement. One is to locate it permanently at a central point, say Toronto, another is to abolish the Provincial and apportion the subsidy between three places—one to serve the Eastern counties of the Province, one the Central, and the other the Western, and a third is to cut off the Government subsidy entirely and leave the holding of great fairs to the enterprise of the several cities. Probably the suggestion to divide the subsidy into three portions would meet with the most favor, and the only drawback to its adoption would be the difficulty of deciding between the

claims of rival cities as to the proper place for holding the respective fairs. For the west, London has no rival at present; in the east, Ottawa, Kingston, and Brockville would be apt to contend for position; and Guelph, Hamilton, and Toronto, would have a lively war over the central selection, though there is no doubt Toronto offers superior advantages for holding the exhibition. The jealousies of the cities have a great deal to do with the fact that the Provincial Fair alone is recognized by the Government. If they would only settle their differences amicably we believe the plan of apportioning the grant into three parts would not be long in coming into operation, as all are agreed that the grant to the Provincial is little better than thrown away in its present shape. Sooner than see the public funds frittered away upon the Provincial Association any longer, through the petty jealousies of rival cities blocking a more useful distribution, we would favor withdrawing the grant altogether from the estimates and leaving the cities to settle between themselves, by their annual competitions, which is best entitled to recognition as a centre for holding fairs. A little discussion of the question at the next meeting of the Legislature might bring matters to a focus.

### Poultry manure.

As I have lately seen in many Agricultural Journals of the United States a statement to the effect that the excrements of Pigeons, Fowls, Ducks, etc., are equal to Guano in manurial value, I think it will not be useless to the readers of of this publication to give a concise description of what guano is, and how it comes to be what it is; together with analyses of the Peruvian article, and of the different sorts of manure voided by our domestic poultry.

Guano is the dung and urine of sea fowls feeding on fish alone. It is found in cavernous holes in a tropical climate where no rain ever falls. It is, except the upper layers, of great, of unknown age, and pressure and heat have combined to condense and solidify it.

Poultry, on the other hand, feed on grain, and seeds of different sorts, almost entirely. Their droppings, as we use them, are recent and raw, and instead of containing only 7 0/10 to 8 0/10 of water, like guano, they rarely contain less than 50 0/10. The two chief manurial substances in both poultry manure, and guano, are Ammonia and Phosphate of Lime (bone earth) — the potash is of course valuable, but, with the Carbonate of Lime, can be left out of consideration, as they are present in very small quantities.

The following is Dr. Ure's analysis of Peruvian guano in its best days, the guano of to day contains about 12 0/10 of ammonia instead of 16 0/10 as was the case with the best samples at the time this analysis was made.

Water .....	7.83
Organic matter containing Ammoniacal salts.....	59.85
Chloride of sodium, sulph. of soda, phosph. of potash	12.24
Phosphates of lime and magnesia.....	15.15
Carbonate of lime .....	.97
Sand.....	3.39
99.43	

Guano, in England, is now worth about £14 (\$70) a ton (2240 lbs.)—of course a sample equal to the above would be worth considerably more, probably £17.—

Now contrast this with Anderson's analysis of pigeon's dung, which is thoroughly to be depended on.

Water.....	58.32
Organic matter containing ammoniacal salts	23.25
Phosphates.....	2.69
Sulphate of lime (plaster).....	1.75