

examining the many interesting articles which it contained.

#### FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS.

Prince Arthur was loud in his commendation of this department, and well he might be, for nothing superior to it was probably ever seen in any single country. These articles were shown by themselves in a large booth, and prospered as this season has been, we hardly thought Ontario could have made such a display. Such roots, such vegetables, apples, peaches, grapes and flowers, can seldom be seen in any single country, and during the same season. The Canada Company's prize for Wheat (8100) was taken by Mr. James Hay, Watford. Wood-hill, the estate of the late Hon. Adam Ferguson, was the place on which it was grown. It was impossible to pass through this booth, without thinking that the country which can produce so many fruits of the earth in such perfection and abundance, had all the elements necessary to render its inhabitants wealthy, happy and independent.

#### "THE BEST DISPLAY EVER MADE."

This was the general observation regarding the agricultural machinery. Seven or eight years ago, the number of machines brought to these fairs was comparatively limited—at London, they made one of the largest departments. The number of threshing machines, mowers, reapers, seed drills, cultivators, ploughs &c., was never equalled before. Among the minor implements were machines for digging potatoes, pulling peas, digging post-holes, making tines, unloading hay, making ditches, extracting stumps, cutting down timber, and many others—all going to show how very rapidly our adoption of labor-saving machinery is progressing. Our manufacturers of agricultural machinery are among the most enterprising class of our inhabitants, the best evidence of which was afforded at this exhibition. This department manifested greater progress than any other, and the different machines were a constant theme of admiration.

#### PROGRESS STAMPED UPON ALL.

Taking the Exhibition all through, the people of Ontario have much reason for congratulation. Some departments we have seen fuller, but progress was stamped upon all. There were over one thousand entries, more than on any previous occasion, and, in point of quality, the stock and articles shown at London were never previously equalled in this country.

#### THE NUMBER OF VISITORS.

The attendance of visitors was decidedly larger than on any previous occasion. The Great Western and Grand Trunk Railways reaped a rich harvest in conveying them to the city. There were at least 5000 more tickets sold than at any previous Exhibition. The numbers are given as follows: tickets sold on Tuesday, 8,500; on Wednesday, 23,600; on Thursday, 25,500; and on Friday, 4,500—total, 60,100. At 25 cents each this would make the revenue of the Association from this source over \$15,000. The greatest crush was on Thursday, and a more animated scene than the Fair grounds presented on that day could hardly be imagined. Fully 20,000 persons are supposed to have been present at one time!

#### THE MEETINGS HELD.

The Society of Agriculture and Arts met on Thursday evening. The members decided, by 45 to 35, to have the next Exhibition at Toronto instead of Ottawa. The Capital will almost certainly have it in 1871. The Beekeepers' Association held an interesting meeting, the Rev. W. F. Clarke, of the Ontario Farmer, being elected President. The Association of Mechanics' Institutes met on Wednesday evening at Beatty, Cobourg, was re-elected President, with a seat at the Board of Agriculture and Arts. The Fruit Growers' Association and the Entomological Society also held their annual meetings at both of which the proceedings were important and interesting.

#### THE BALL TO PRINCE ARTHUR.

Was hurriedly got up, but it brought together a brilliant assemblage. It caused a great flutter among the beauties of London, and the honor of dancing with the Prince was at a premium. Strange to say, His Royal Highness danced principally with married ladies! By 1 o'clock he had danced eleven dances, only three of which were with young ladies. The happy ones were Miss Graydon, Miss Gregg, and Miss A. Meredith. Probably Prince Arthur found it difficult to choose when so many of our Canadian beau-

ties were present. The ball came off on Thursday night.

#### TRUTH ENDS MY JOYTINGS.

From the London Fair. The occasion was one highly creditable to the noble Province of Ontario, telling, as it did, of the rapid progress it is making in agricultural wealth. It was also highly creditable to the people of London and the officers of the Agricultural Association, whose energy and spirit contributed so much to make it the most successful Agricultural gathering which ever took place in British America.

September 23th, 1869.

### THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE COLONIES.

#### VIEWS OF A BRITISH WORKINGMAN'S ORGAN.

The following article is taken from a recent number of the London *Weekly Despatch*, a paper of Chartist sympathies.

The necessity for some settlement of the British colonial question is becoming greater and greater, and it is of the highest importance that some decisive step be taken as speedily as possible. The colonies learn only by accident as it were, by some rebuke, by some specially evoked Ministerial utterance, what is the policy of the Imperial Government in regard to them. That policy differs in all its essentials from the policy hitherto adopted, and the sooner it is clearly understood to be the policy that will be pursued, the better for all concerned.

The old idea of the relation of colonies to the mother country was that the latter accepted the responsibility of keeping the colonies from harm in return for the honor and glory of having the colonies as dependences. Imperial Governors were appointed, in some cases to rule as absolute monarchs, in others to play the part of constitutional kings to a self governing community with a Parliament of its own. Soldiers and fleets were supplied at the cost of the Imperial Treasury, and any injury done by another Power to the colony was made the subject of inquiry by the authorities at home. No unfrequently it led to war. There were many festers about a system of this kind.

Apart from the fact that each additional colony having to be defended, was a cause of weakness, the knowledge that the colony would be defended under any circumstances, made the colonists careless about giving offence; and their conduct towards foreign nations, and towards aborigines in the colony where they were settled, has been in many cases, reprehensible in the highest degree. We English are slow to learn out of the book of experience, or we might long since have applied the lesson taught us by the United States: when they threw off our yoke viz., that, whereas the dependencies of colonies are to draw away from the mother country, and to become independent, it is the wisest policy on the part of the mother country to encourage such tendency, with a view to independence at the earliest possible date. The fact that the tendency of colonists towards independence has by no means abated since the formation of the union, is proved by many leading features of the colonial policy of to-day, notably by that which, notwithstanding the relations existing between the parent country and child, leads the colonists to impose a duty upon British manufactures, in order to "protect" their own, and to raise a revenue which is often employed in resisting the authority of the Imperial Government. Either the colonies, if retained at all, must be ruled in Imperial fashion, and by the Colonial Office, or they must be so nearly independent in fact, and save themselves from the reproach of being mere appendages to a country which would rather be without them. Circumstances have altered materially since our colonies were acquired.

War has altogether changed its form, and its new character precludes the possibility of any nation being able to defend a number of isolated dependencies. It is no particular disgrace to anybody, but the truth is, that Great Britain is no longer able to do for her colonies what she did during the last great war—she cannot sweep the seas of all the war vessels that float, and she cannot, therefore, prevent the surrender of her most important colonial city to the owner of the gun-boat which carries a two-hundred-pounder. She cannot undertake to do this; but her colonies respectively can, each for itself, within its

own dominion. Impose upon the colonies the duty of carrying out the first law of nature, and, by some means or other, they will be equal to it. Withdraw, as soon as the community which went out from England can reasonably be looked on as established, the fostering hand of Imperial protection, and you shall have growing up a vigorous shoot from the old stem, instead of the sickly branch which now presents a temptation to the pruning knife of the first nation that has a mind to go to war. Wean the colonies from the mother country, and so save them from liability to be destroyed in that country's quarrel. Maintain the friendliest possible relations with them after they have been detached, and so secure a goodly band of allies, knit to the mother country by the strongest national ties, and by all the instincts of race language and religion.

The time has come for Great Britain to put her children out into the world. They have had a fair education, they are blessed with fine constitutions, and they are, almost all of them, perfectly fitted to take their stand in the ranks of the nations. There need not be, indeed there should not be, any soreness, any anger, at parting. On the part of this country, of course there can be none, and the colonists who now complain so bitterly of the changed attitude of Great Britain towards them, must, if they will only look at the subject from both sides, see that they have very little cause for complaint. Some colonies, as New Zealand, may perhaps, have reason to complain that in particular instances they are aggrieved by the tardiness of the Home Government in making known its policy; and though the Home Government might not unreasonably say that the colonies have been so touchy about interference from home, that it has forbore hitherto to make any positive declaration, we admit there is something to be said for the colonists on that score. Still, the policy once decided, it is far better it should be announced and acted on at the same moment, than that there should be more delay, more uncertainty, more unsettling of the colonial communities. We look forward with confidence to the results of the new policy, and hope soon to be able to congratulate the dominions of Australia, Canada, and New Zealand upon the recognition of their majority.

### IMPERIAL AND COLONIAL RELATIONS.

From the Times, Sept. 10th.

A fortnight since, in discussing the Viceroy's sent to the several Colonial Governments by some Colonists who had met at the Westminster Palace Hotel, we spoke of "a great, a fascinating idea, were it only practicable, involved in the suggestion of a Federal Council of all English communities, armed with a federal army and a federal navy, and charged with the single duty of preserving the self-governed States of the Union in a strict offensive and defensive alliance," but we added that "the very situation in which our Colonial relations now stand precludes the possibility of contemplating this as feasible." At the same time we expressed our approval of the proposed Conference next Spring, in order that the transitional condition of the terms which connect the Home Government and the Colonies might be thoroughly discussed and apprehended, so that "the end should be foreseen and provided for, and not at last achieved hurriedly and in an unfriendly spirit," and also that an opportunity might be given for discussing "all possible schemes of future union between Englishmen all over the globe, even if the result of these discussions should prove nothing but the impossibility of realizing them." As a preparation for such discussions we adjured Colonists and all who were interested in the subject to beware of the snares involved in such metaphorical expressions as "mother country," "dependencies," and the like, and to remember "that what we are called upon to determine is the proper relations of Englishmen, Australians, and Canadians."

The possibility of a sovereignty of the bonds, even though they be nominal rather than real, uniting the parts of the Empire together, was in it something which wounds the Imperial sentiment; and if we had any doubt of this truth, it would be removed by the reception our remarks provoked among those who agreed in our conclusions. Unable to avoid arriving at the same end, they relieved their feelings of annoyance at the unpleasant truths they were forced to recognize by condemning those who preceded them