

in Ireland, and altogether 200 centres of disease are reckoned, with probably 400 or 500 separate cases."

#### ILLINOIS WOOL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

At the annual meeting of the Illinois State Wool Growers' Association, held on the State Fair Ground Sept., 27th 1871, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That the wool growers of Illinois recognize with satisfaction increasing activity in the markets of the country for the products of their flocks, and look hopefully for the restoration of sheep husbandry to its former prominence among the agricultural industries of the United States.

2. *Resolved*, As, in their opinion, the existing tariff has largely contributed to the returning prosperity of both the growers and manufacturers of wools, they deem its continued enforcement demanded by the highest considerations of justice and sound policy; and Congress is hereby petitioned to leave unimpaired the basis of equity embodied in the tariff law affecting the wool and wooleed industries.

#### FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION—AUTUMN MEETING.

(Reported by the Secretary.)

##### DISPLAY OF FRUIT.

The Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario held their autumn meeting in Goderich on Friday, the 15th September. There was an extensive display of fruit, which was exhibited in the Drill Shed, where the Goderich Horticultural Society were holding their Fall Show. The combined collections of fruit were very fine. Most of the day was taken up in the examination of the fruit on exhibition, and it was not until four o'clock in the afternoon that the Association met in the Court House for the discussion of matters of interest to themselves.

The prizes offered by the Association were keenly contested. In the twenty varieties of apples the prize was taken by Mr. John Freed of Hamilton, who also carried off the premier prize for the best twenty varieties of pears, and for the best dozen quinces. In apples, Mr. J. Stewart, of Goderich, was second, and Mr. James Torrance, of Porter Hill, was third. These were all very fine samples of fruit. In the twenty varieties of pears, Mr. Geo. Leslie, Jr, of Toronto, was second, and Mr. M. D. Baldwin, of Brantford, was third. The collection of pears to which the premier prize was given was one of the finest samples ever exhibited in this Province.

The collections of grapes were exceedingly fine, and some of the samples laid upon the table for exhibition merely were such as to call fourth expressions of astonishment from every one. Three bunches of the Wilder grape (Rogers' No. 4) were of surpassing size and beauty. They weighed respectively sixteen, eighteen, and twenty ounces, and were the growth of Mr. Matthew Bell, of Hamilton. It was stated by gentlemen at the meeting, who had seen the grapes growing on the vines, that no ringing of the vines had been practiced. The highest prize for the best collection of ten varieties

of grapes was given to Mr. W. Haskins, of Hamilton, the second to Mr. John Freed, of the same place; and the third to Mr. A. M. Ross, of Goderich.

The display of plums was very fine, though the greater number of fine varieties had been ripe for some time, and were mostly gone. Goderich and vicinity has been famed for fine crops of plums of the highest quality, and it was to be expected that the prizes in this fruit would be carried off by gentlemen resident there. The highest prize was won by Mr. A. Watson, of Goderich, and the second by Mr. J. Stewart, of the same place. We did not learn who gained the third.

There were but two collections of crab apples, of fine varieties, and these were both from Hamilton. They were very beautiful specimens of this very pretty fruit. Mr. W. Holton received the first, and Mr. W. H. Mills the second prize.

The prize for the best Canadian seedling apple was given to Mr. Geo. Smith, of Brantford. The apple to which this prize was awarded was of very fine texture and pleasant flavour, though, not being in season, it is impossible to tell how fine a quality it would have him when perfectly ripe. It was of a dark red colour, smooth and free from blemishes.

There were no seedling pears exhibited that were thought by the judges to be worthy of a prize. The only samples we saw were inferior both in size and quality.

There were some very fine seedling peaches exhibited, especially prominent a considerable collection from Mr. Cowherd, of Newport, near Brantford. Several of these were cling-stones, and though of good flavor in that class, the fact that they were cling-stones rendered them less desirable. But the variety to which the judges awarded the prize was certainly a very fine peach, of good size, handsome appearance, and excellent flavor. It was a yellow fleshed fruit, with dark crimson cheek, and was marked No. 1. It is a very highly commendable feature in the action of the Directors of this Society that so much effort is made by them to induce amateurs to undertake the production of new varieties of these and other fruits; and we confidently expect that we shall yet have produced among us a class of peaches, &c., of excellent quality, and better adapted to our climate than many of the sorts now in general cultivation.

In seedling plums we noticed only one plate, which was placed on the table by W. H. Mills, Esq. of Hamilton. It was of medium size, ripened rather late, we fear, for general usefulness in this climate, and hardly sufficient excellence of flavor to rank higher than a cooking plum.

There were several varieties of Canadian seedling grapes exhibited. One was shown by Mr. J. Dougall, of Windsor, grown from seed of the Clinton, sweeter than that variety as grown in this climate, and evidently ripening earlier, though in size of berry and form of bunch much resembling the Clinton. Mr. Arnold's seedling varieties were also on the table, and though the berries are not large yet the character of the pulp is a great advance on such grapes as the Concord and Isabella. From what we saw of these grapes at this time, and from tasting them on our own grounds, and elsewhere, we are disposed on the whole to give the preference to the variety which Mr. Arnold calls "Canada." It is fully ripe now, Sept. 18th, sweet, fine flavoured free from pulp, and only lack size to make it a very