

where, after a few years of hard but healthy work, but never of want, they will become independent men. Indeed were but half the money expended by the Government in bringing out emigrants to this country and paying inefficient agents, employed in founding colonization companies for our own unemployed population, we would not have to-day so many poverty-stricken people in our midst, hardly knowing where, during the coming winter, to find food for their families, or even a home to shelter them.

BELLEVILLE.

WEST HASTINGS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW.

Happening to be at Belleville during the days of the Annual Show, on the 2nd and 3rd October last, we visited the grounds, in order to examine the machinery, animals and agricultural products there exhibited. We regret that we cannot, in justice to the capabilities of the country, which ought to have had a much better display on the ground, pay any flattering remarks on the exhibit there made; there was evidently a want of life and interest shown this year in the exhibition. The cause of this falling off, for a falling off we were given to understand it was, from previous exhibits, we do not pretend to account for, farther than to remark that there appeared to be rather a feeling of growing discontent among exhibitors, and a desire that the judges should, on such occasions, be selected from a neighbouring county. Of course every allowance must be made for disappointed competitors for premiums, but these remarks were generally made to us on the first day of the show, before any prizes had been adjudged. We have always held the opinion that the introduction of young men into the committees for the management of all such societies has a very beneficial effect; they naturally are more active and ambitious to carry out the meritorious objects of all such societies in a way to prove satisfactory and with a certain eclat, and they are better able to take upon themselves the burthen of the most arduous portion of the duties. We do not know whether there is a deficiency of this youthful element in the Hastings Agricultural Society, but certainly the exhibit was not to its credit this year, and in making these remarks we do so in all kindness, for it is our greatest desire to see the industries and agricultural interests of the country encouraged by pleasant competition for excellence. We are not an advocate for the distribution of many prizes in the form of money, the amount of which, after all, is but a bagatelle to many of the farmers. We think that honorary badges, or medals, as a mark of distinction, would answer equally as well, in lieu of prizes, for all minor exhibits—but that the funds of the Society should be applied to granting one, two or three silver cups or salvers for continued merit or excellence in some particular line of agricultural machinery or produce, and that these valuable prizes should have to be won three years in succession before they finally became the property of the successful contestant.

In the exhibits of grains and vegetables, we far prefer the custom of the Old Country: there the crops have to be reviewed on the ground, and the mead of merit given, not to the man who can pick out, grain by grain, a bushel of the finest looking wheat or barley for an exhibit, or make a selection of roots, grown, perhaps, in a few feet of garden land brought to the highest degree of culture,

but given to the man who can show the best field crop, the result of his superior farming.

Our remarks in a mechanical journal will principally be made on the vehicles and machinery exhibited. The most extensive among the former was the exhibit of CARRIAGES, which, certainly, were extremely creditable to the exhibitors; the trimming, in particular, of some of these being deserving of all praise. The foremost among those exhibited in this line were Mr. C. Ashley, of Foxboro, and Brown and St. Charles of Brockville. Mr. Palmer exhibited a very neatly finished democrat; Messrs. Bristol and Brother, of Madoc, exhibited two exceedingly well finished buggies and a sleigh, to which was fitted a shifting and folding seat, by which contrivance a buggy could be converted from a two into a four seated vehicle; the arrangement is light, strong and comfortable; it struck us as being a style of vehicle that will soon come into general use, particularly as the mechanism is so exceedingly simple and easily adjusted.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The largest and best display in this line was by Messrs. G. & J. Brown, and by Messrs. J. M. Walker & Co. The latter, we observed, had a very superior threshing machine and separator on the ground, with horse power attachment—also, a very powerful straw cutter, besides grain and cider mills, and ploughs of improved style. We also noticed some excellent light ploughs by Martin Bros., of Brockville. The Massey Company, of Newcastle, also exhibited a very superior reaper and horse rake, and the combined drill and broadcaster of the Masson Manufacturing Company, of Oshawa, seemed to be very favourably noticed.

In the Fine Art Department, the exhibition of Canadian butterflies, moths and insects, was very good and attracted much attention, as well as a splendid specimen of a stuffed beaver. Among the paintings exhibited, those by Miss Goldsmith, Miss B. Walker and Mr. W. H. Gooding, of Trenton, deserved the palm of merit. We may here venture to remark, however, that we would sooner award a prize to the smallest drawing taken from nature, than to those, however well executed, that are simply copies. If our Canadian artists aim at perfection they must cease to copy. A well executed water color or oil drawing from nature, or the well executed portrait of some well-known individual (not a coloured photograph), would, in our estimation, deserve the highest prize in preference to the most perfect copy of another's art.

Mr. J. H. Ford had some very good colored photographs increased to nearly life size, but this is an art in itself, to which the above remarks do not apply.

The domestic manufactures in wools and cottons were very poorly represented.

Mr. Beasley, of the Belleville Broom Factory, made a very fair display of well-made brooms. We had, however, previously visited his factory, and were very favorably impressed with their general excellence.

Owing to the lateness of the season the flower show was inferior—not up to excellence—but what fruit was exhibited was exceedingly fine.

We cannot close these few remarks without expressing deep regret that so much rudeness and ill-conduct was exhibited by several boys, and even young men, on the afternoon and evening of the last day. Such conduct is a disgrace to the city, and should be put down with a strong hand. In the Centennial Exhibition at Philadel-