

**Island Greening.** The first prize for the best fall dessert was given to the same apple, and the second to the St Lawrence. For the best fall cooking apple to the Cayuga Redstreak; second to the Duchesse d'Oldenburg, and third to Maiden's Blush.

The apple that took the first prize as the best winter dessert was the Montreal Pomme Grise; the second was given to the Swazie Pomme Grise, and third to the Spitzenberg. In winter cooking the R. I. Greening was adjudged the best, and Baldwin second.

In pears the display was very rich, showing a marked advance in the cultivation of this fruit. To the Flemish Beauty, Bartlett, Seckel, Grey Doyenne, Beurre Clairgeau, and Belle Lucrative, as shown by L. Springer, of Hamilton, was awarded the first prize as the best six varieties; the second prize was given to a collection composed of the Bartlett, Flemish Beauty, Beurre d'Anjou, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Duchesse d'Angouleme, and Easter Beurre; and the third to Bartlett, Belle Lucrative, Beurre Clairgeau, Flemish Beauty, Sheldon and Duchesse d'Angouleme.

The three best varieties were Bartlett, Flemish Beauty, and Belle Lucrative, as shown by Gage Miller, of Virgil. The second prize for three varieties was given to Flemish Beauty, Beurre Clairgeau and Duchesse d'Angouleme; and the third to Flemish Beauty, Beurre Boe and Beurre d'Anjou.

The first prize for the best Fall Pear was given to Flemish Beauty, second to Bartlett, and third to the Jeckel. We most heartily approve of the decision of the judges in this case. It has long been the fashion to place the Jeckel first on the list of pears, but though of the highest quality, it is not as generally valuable in this Province as either of the two other sorts.

For the best Winter Pear the first prize was awarded to the Vicar of Winkfield, second to the Glout Merceau, and the third to the Winter Nelis.

Some very fine Seedling Winter Apples were shown by H. J. and S. J. Brown, of Niagara, to which a first and second prize were awarded, with a recommendation that they be submitted, when fully ripe, to the President of the Fruit Growers' Association for further examination and enquiry.

The display of Plums was not very large, but the samples shown were of the first quality. The first prize for the best dessert plum was given to Martin's Seedling, the second to Haling's Superb, and third to Jefferson. The cooking plum that received the first was Coe's Golden Drop, second Duane's Purple, third Pond's Seedling.

The display of Peaches in this class was small. The Sweet Water received the first and second prizes in white peaches, and Royal Kensington the third; in yellow peaches the first and second prizes were given to the Early Crawford, third to the Orange peach.

The collection of six varieties of open air Grapes which carried off the first prize was not named; the varieties which composed the collection that received the second prize were Concord, Hartford Proline, Creveling Rogers No. 19, Delaware and Allen's Hybrid. These were shown by Mr. A. J. Ross, of Goderich, and were very fine, particularly the Creveling.

The first prize for the best variety was given to the Delaware, second to the Rose Chasselas, and the third to the Concord.

The grapes grown under glass were truly splendid, the Black Hamburgs most beautifully ripened, indeed, the best we remember ever to have seen.

In looking over this display of fruit, we are sure every Canadian has just cause to

feel proud of the soil and cultivation that will produce such splendid specimens, and that he may safely challenge the world to competition in the fruits of the temperate zone.

#### GARDEN VEGETABLES.

In this class there was a very fine display, and many of the samples of superior excellence. The cauliflowers were very good, though not just as perfect as a whole as we have seen on other occasions. Summer cabbages were of extra fine quality; winter sorts were very large and solid, and the red very good. We never saw finer samples of long red carrots, and the intermediate were of unusual excellence. Parsnips were also extremely well grown, and the celery, both red and white, was extra fine. The capiscums were of monstrous size. In tomatoes there was a most rich and beautiful display, and we were much pleased to note that the prizes had been awarded to specimens of a medium size, but of great solidity, smooth and even form. There is evidently a tendency in exhibitors to show overgrown and monstrous specimens, and judges have been in the habit of awarding prizes to the largest samples of garden vegetables, forgetting that these overgrown samples are usually coarse in grain, insipid in flavour, and wholly worthless for the table. The true standard of excellence is the value of the samples shown for culinary use, and this may be found in the highest degree in the smallest specimen on exhibition. The Judges also did themselves great credit in their award of the first prize to D. Allan, of Guelph, for the best long blood beets, which though by no means as large in size as many of those shown, were evidently of the finest quality for the table. In white onions, the only very good sample was that shown by W. A. Taylor of Hamilton, and which received the first prize, while in yellow and red onions the whole collection of entries was extra fine. The turnips were all coarse and poor; indeed the best turnip was a sample of the Yellow Globe shown in a collection of six varieties as an extra entry. The sweet corn was very good indeed, and delicately tender. We noticed among the garden potatoes some of the new varieties which are so extensively advertised now-a-days, and prominent among them the Early Rose. Here also exhibitors committed the error to which we have already alluded, showing samples that were really too large to be of the highest excellence. The display made by D. Anderson, of London, who received the first prize for the best and greatest variety of vegetables, was exceedingly rich and varied, and reflects great credit upon his good taste and skill as a cultivator.

#### APIARY DEPARTMENT.

There was more than the usual amount of competition in this department, and each competitor seemed determined to win laurels at all hazards. Of bee hives there were seven exhibitors. The first we came to was Mr. A. C. Attwood, of Duncreef, who exhibited the Thomas hive, as improved by himself.

A little further along we found Mr. Mitchell, of St. Marys, who also had hives and bees on exhibition. His hive is constructed upon the movable comb principle; is a large hive, apparently well made, but we fancy it must be quite inconvenient to handle, and will occupy much room in storing away for winter.

Mr. Reekie, of Wilfrid, also exhibited a hive similar to the well known Thomas hive. It may be called a hive within a hive, and is designed, like Mitchell's, for wintering out of doors.

A hive was also exhibited by Messrs. Minieley & Co. of Warwick. It is a modification

of the Gordon hive, having triangular frames. It is claimed the bees cannot glue the frames in the hive, but this is a mistake.

Another new hive was exhibited, called the New Dominion hive, by B. Stone, of Bondhead; but we discovered no novel feature in this hive. It was a movable comb hive. Messrs. Wray and Foe, of Strathroy, exhibited a hive which, on account of its novelty, must attract some attention. It is round like a barrel-churn, it has only four frames. We must say of this hive that it is worthless. Last we came to J. H. Thomas, of Brooklin, who, as usual, had a number of hives, stocks, bees, Italian queens and bee furniture, of every description. Mr. Thomas has this season made some improvements in his hive in connection with the entrance and ventilation. We consider this hive well worthy of the reputation it sustains.

#### HONEY.

There were several exhibitors of honey, and much of it was very fine considering that it is acknowledged to have been a very unfavourable season. There were five exhibitors of honey in boxes:

George Walker, Ingersoll; A. Hetherington, Denfield; G. Bennett, Cobourg; H. M. Thomas, Brooklin; J. H. Thomas, Brooklin. Of clear honey there were nine exhibitors: Hugh Kennedy; G. Walker, Ingersoll; A. Hetherington, Denfield; H. M. Thomas, Brooklin; R. Scott, Telfer; O. C. Attwood, Duncreef; J. H. Thomas, Brooklin.

We consider it a very difficult task for the judges to determine who is entitled to the first prize, especially in clear honey.

A very fine specimen of bees-wax was also exhibited by J. H. Thomas, Brooklin.

On the whole we consider this department of the Fair exceedingly well represented, showing a growing interest in bee culture, speaking well for the bee-keepers of Ontario.

#### NATURAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT.

In few departments of the Exhibition was there a more noticeable improvement than in that of Natural History, especially in the show of insects, which, this year, embraced the finest collection of butterflies, moths and beetles ever brought together in the Dominion of Canada. This improvement was entirely due to the exertions of the resident members of the London Branch of the Entomological Society of Canada, who, at the cost of considerable time and labour, had prepared their private collections for exhibition to the public. The whole number consisted of sixty-three cases, embracing probably two thousand different species, and five or six thousand specimens. They were all neatly arranged in their proper scientific order, and were also labelled in a general way with reference to their beneficial or noxious qualities. The principal collection is the property of Mr. Wm. Saunders, of London, a gentleman who has attained a high reputation among scientific men as a thorough entomologist. It includes twenty-two cases of Canadian insects, and four of foreign species. It is undoubtedly the best private collection in the Dominion, and would be worthy of consideration anywhere. Next to this was a collection of English butterflies and moths, the property of the Entomological Society. The case of butterflies included a representative of every British species. The moths were not so complete. These are interesting as objects of comparison with the allied species of this country. Mr. Edmund Baynes Reed, the Local Secretary of the Society, exhibited his private collection of sixteen cases of beetles, butterflies, moths, dragon-flies,