

As to quality, it is difficult to imagine how it could have been much better; probably no premium was taken by any sample weighing less than 63 or 64 lbs. to the bushel, while I was told by one of the Judges that the weight of the first prize sample of two bushels was 66½ lbs., while that of the whole *twenty-five bushels* shown, in one or two instances, averaged throughout over *sixty-five lbs. per bushel*.

The **FRUITS** which, with a less extensive assortment of flowers, constituted the most ornamental and striking display in the Palace building, represented excellently well what I suppose to be the best Fruit region of Canada—that lying between the two lakes, Ontario and Erie, especially that part of it more immediately adjacent to the northern shore of the latter, while, indeed, it is probable that through a great part of the two counties of Lincoln and Haldimand, fruit may be cultivated to better advantage than in any other part of the province of equal extent.

But our time is limited and we shall see nothing of the Live Stock unless we abandon at once the charms of Pomona. I said there were half-a-dozen prominent features of excellence in the Show, and if the Grains and Fruits were entitled to rank among them, not less so is the display of cattle throughout, and that of Sheep in the classes of Cotswolds and Leicesters. I say nothing of the Horses, for beyond one or two good specimens of the heavy English day horse, I saw none of them; and, as to the Swine, it may be added in few words that the Show was a respectable one, without anything particular to attract attention unless it was some pens of imported large breeds, which were almost constantly surrounded by an admiring crowd.

Among the **SHORT-HORNS**, some were entitled to praise as really first class animals, and the range of merit throughout was above the average, while here in some degree, and still more among the Devons, not only does the contribution by so many different exhibitors to make up the show, speak well for the distribution of improved stock in the hands of the farmers of the country, but the excellence of the young animals bred from imported parents also proves that the breeders are working well for the interests of the herds they are rearing.

The Devons, as will be seen from the number of entries, were out in large force, and this, together with the excellence of many, gave the breed some prominence over others. The Gallows showed an evident gain in public opinion, and I cannot but renew the opinion I expressed in writing from Scotland, last year, that they are well worth more attention than we have ever given them. I should regard the display of them here as a very fair one—the aged stock showed good size in several instances, straight and tolerably even contour and good “quality,” while among the young things there were one or two promising even better.

What can I add, with regard to the sheep, what has been already said? Mr. Stone, who has just returned from England, has imported recently over 50 head of Cotswolds. He is exhibiting about 40 out of his flock, upon which he had altogether 14 prizes. He also showed a pen of South Downs, two imported and two of his own breeding, that were very nice. The tries of Leicesters alone were 176 in number, including among them many that I should begin to notice at length, and the Cheviots formed a class seldom seen in our show-yards, but one which I may repeat what was just said of the Gallows, that they deserve to be better known.

The show of Poultry was large, the collection admirably arranged as regards the comfort of examination of their contents, and the large range of roofing under which they were sheltered was constantly crowded.

Among the implements no visitor could fail to notice the number and variety of Cultivators that were exhibited, and connected with this may be mentioned a second, namely, that of show of Roots—although a gentleman assured me that they had had more and better on some other occasions—was certainly among the best that I have ever seen, including particularly Long Red and Yellow Globe Mangolds, Sugar Beets, Swede Turnips, and Yellow Aberdeens. The show of Potatoes was also very large and admirable.

It is in this matter of sheep, roots, and implements of tillage, that we “Americans” might profitably study the example of those of our brethren in Canada West, who have brought into the practice of colonial cultivation some of the best ideas of the old country farming. My friend above alluded to had 40 acres of turnips and rape on his farm, the latter for sheep; during August and September when grass is likely to be short, and he represented this attention to roots as no unusual thing in his district of country. Over twenty-five years experience in this country had only served in his case to strengthen that very peculiar British prejudice in favor of ample manuring through the agency of the farmer's sheep and cattle, which is most singularly to have melted away under the free and enlightening influences of republican agriculture. I cannot pursue the subject, but shall hope sometimes to have the opportunity of examining more closely the farming, of such roots, and sheep, and cultivators, and emblems, for they, as well as the crops, of which I have above given an example, are more strongly of the principles and the spirit of “English Agriculture” than anything I have seen for just about a twelve-month past.

As one draws to its conclusion a letter thus, which must be mailed, whether raining or not, at a certain hour of the clock, many thoughts press forward upon the mind, for which I can scarcely be found in pen and ink. As matters especially demanding notice is the spirit with which Hamilton, in common