

exhibited. The large breeds were undoubtedly very good; and the snug, plump and neat Berkshires were quite little beauties of pigs; but still the Suffolks, after all, combined the prominent qualities of both breeds, and, in our opinion, are entitled to the preference. Perhaps the philosophy of cultivation can supply no better example of how to improve an animal, than these very pigs afford. The transition from pigs to bacon is so natural that we close this paragraph by regretting that so poor a show should have been made in this direction. Toronto cures hams and bacon, of superior quality, to the extent of more tons weight than we could specify; but neither from the city nor its vicinity was there so much as one single specimen exhibited, a neglect which casts reproach upon our public spirit on our own vantage ground. Surely there might have been found at least one, to exhibit what Toronto hams and bacon claim to be, the best in the country.

The Poultry last year was highly commended, but we are disposed to consider that in variety and quality the show of 1866 excelled it. The location chosen for the display of poultry was, to say the least, unfortunate. The whole ground in front of the coops was a quagmire, impassable until a few boards had been thrown on the mire, and even then anything but pleasant to traverse. Like the Fine Arts, the Fruits and Flowers, and Ladies' work, the Poultry forms a popular element in the Exhibition. Among the particular few who delight in Dorkings, or wax eloquent about Polands, as well as among ladies and young people, the Poultry department is quite an institution, which attracts a large gathering of spectators; and it is to be regretted that this year it was in effect a sealed book to the multitude, owing to the causes above mentioned. The Cochon China family was well represented by the grown-up bird and the chicken, and some of the former were handsomely developed specimens of their class. The trim looking Dorkings, coloured and white, were all fine birds; and in this as well as in other instances, a very trifling difference turned the scale between a first-prize fowl and its less perfect competitor. Hard as it was to judge other classes, to give satisfaction in the Poultry class would have tried the wisdom of a Solomon. There were all sorts of Polands, crested, golden, silver, and plain white, all as handsome birds as any connoisseur could wish to own. Then came the Hamburgs, black, gold and silver spangled, gold and silver pencilled, all beautiful birds. The black Spanish, whose curiously shaped comb, expansive wattles and white cheeks render him so conspicuous, was represented in great numbers; there was the game chicken "in spurs," crowing

lustily defiance to all and sundry, while, side by side, in striking contrast, the tiny bantam, despite his littleness, strutted and crowed as bold and as brazen as his next-door neighbours. There were white turkeys, black turkeys and colored turkeys of the finest description; and cowering in his coop was a woe-begone, bedraggled bird, exhibited as a wild turkey, although whether he was not more familiar with the poultry yard, where his progenitors had been cabined and confined, and had bred in their prison-house, remains to be settled; but to our eye there was small sign of his being a forest bird. Then there came geese, assorted; no end of Rouen ducks; a sprinkling of noisy Guinea fowls, and a marvellously fine collection of fancy pigeons, of which to win even a pair we would "hazard" a trifle. It would appear that some hundreds of various kinds of poultry were exhibited, and we venture to think there was not a really worthless bird among the whole collection. To particularize the comparative merits of so many, would be impossible, while to single out even a few for special mention would be invidious, and we therefore dismiss the Poultry class with a hearty commendation.

But before leaving this portion of our account of the Show, we ask permission to suggest to the authorities the advantages which would result from having all the prize horses and cattle paraded round the ring, say on the last day before being removed; so that this proceeding, being announced in good time, would thus enable a large number of persons to see all the finest animals in an easy manner, and much more to their comfort and instruction than by tramping through the dirt, and then left to judge for themselves which are prize animals. Publicity at all exhibitions is desirable; and it is not too much to say that many a purchase would be made under such circumstances, but which are rarely thought of under a different system. The purchases made for the Nova Scotia Government by Professor Lawson at the late Exhibition, may have had their origin in the parade—such as now suggested—which took place at London for the benefit of the Delegates; and though not many of them availed of the opportunity, yet those who did enjoyed it greatly, and spoke much as well as warmly in praise of what they had seen. In truth, that parade of the prize horses and cattle was the feature of the London show.

Having thus disposed of the cereals proper, and the live stock, let us turn to the agricultural seeds and roots as next in importance; and passing over the small seeds we stop at the flax seed, the association's first prize for which was awarded to Mr. Morton, Bradford; and then go on to hops, the first