

GROUP XVII.

CARRIAGES, VEHICLES, AND ACCESSORIES.

The Judges have examined in all some 353 exhibits, in pleasure-carriages, wagons, and sleighs; 73 of the pleasure-carriages from foreign countries, 169 of American construction; 81 business- and farm-wagons, 4 hearses, 1 sleigh from Russia, and 25 from different manufacturers in Canada and the United States. There were, moreover, exhibits in large number of harnesses, saddles, carriage- and harness-furniture, and hardware goods, some of which were from foreign countries, but most from the United States.

The number of awards is 166, of which 105 are to citizens of the United States, 51 to individual exhibitors from foreign countries, and 10, carrying diplomas without medals, to foreign corporations and municipalities whose exhibits were not intended for competition.

It may seem to many of our manufacturers that the number of awards bestowed upon exhibitors from abroad is large in proportion to those given to American exhibitors, but it must be remembered that exhibitors coming from long distances were under the necessity of undergoing heavy costs in packing, freight, and other incidental expenses, which wholly excluded any but the very best, and such as had been successful at previous Exhibitions, from sending their wares to compete with those who were well established, with a first-class reputation at home; while the opportunity which presented itself to home exhibitors was such as to induce a very large portion of them to send their wares, the small expense involved in getting their exhibit forwarded not being a matter greatly to be considered.

As this was the largest exhibition of carriages ever shown in the United States, or perhaps it is not too much to say the largest ever shown, so it must be considered equal to any in point of merit, if not, indeed, the very best display of wheel-carriages, in all their variety, ever exhibited at one time in any country. Here were carriages for display, arranged with drivers' seats and all the accompaniments of a stylish turn-out, of which coachmen and footmen form a conspicuous