

rous offer saves a great part of the expense, for it is a well-known fact that, in England, when a foreigner wishes to purchase a superior animal, the proprietor asks a high price, especially when it is for exportation. Now at the Great Exhibition in London there will no doubt be a large gathering, and the proprietor would rather sacrifice something in the price than take back the animal to his farm, for there will doubtless be a large number of animals of all sorts for sale after the closing of the show. All these would be on the same ground, in a small comparative space, all sorts of races and breeds, and it will be easy to judge of their merits and the one best suited for the purpose without the expense of agents, and the running, may be for days, over England, before we could meet an animal to please. One thing is quite certain that the agent of the Board of Agriculture will be furnished with a pedigree of all the animals there exhibited. Thus the choice will be from among the many, and there will be the greatest security against imposition either as regards pedigree or breed.

From London to Liverpool, which is the port of embarkation, the trouble would be nothing compared with the difficulties to be surmounted when a horse is purchased in Normandy, and we are led to believe that the greatest number imported will be of the Percheron breed.

The French government are now actively employed in sending over the Percheron breed, and we are led to believe that for a moderate sum we can procure a fine specimen of a draught horse as strong as the *Clyde*. The Percheron trots with ease 8 miles an hour harnessed to a load; the omnibuses at Paris are all drawn by this breed of horses, and the French Artillery are mounted on the same breed.

We have had occasion to converse with the proprietors of the Montreal Ocean Steamships on the subject of transport of animals, and these gentlemen have assured us that they would do all in their power to insure the object; they would be disposed to put the whole of the forepart of the vessel at the disposition of the Board of Agriculture, and they would for that purpose decline to take third class passengers, so as to give a large space for the importation of stock; it is certain that a number of animals may be brought here for about half the usual price.

We have already advocated the importa-

tion of choice animals for crossing our own breeds, and we have witnessed its success during our late "*rambles*."

In many counties the societies have only distributed the funds among the local farmers, and this has been the case year after year, and we have often raised our voice against this sort of family compact. We need not here repeat our arguments, for wherever we have suggested the employment of the funds for any other purpose we have generally met with the entire approbation of the enlightened farmer; and we have often met conscientious and intelligent men whose only aim is the advancement of agriculture. But these men are often bound hand and foot in their actions, being opposed by a majority who have no reason, and are only guided by their own narrow notions and the following the old customs; happily this majority is day by day losing their strength and influence, and we predict a triumph at no distant day of progressive and improved agriculture. The small minority now stand up manfully for its legitimate rights.

The Board of Agriculture has by its generous offer tendered to put a termination to the apathy and indecision hitherto evinced. Many of the county societies are aware of the good that has already resulted by the annual exhibitions and prizes offered for competition, but feel that something more is required and necessary for keeping up a proper and progressive movement, and feel doubtful what new plan to adopt: some of those have seized with vigour the offer now made by the Board to obtain the best and choicest of animals and produce at a moderate rate.

In some places the societies have not only voted sums from their funds, but private individuals have not neglected the opportunity to obtain male animals of all kinds. These persons have, through the medium of the local society, given a sufficient guarantee of the cost, and the society intend importing them in their own name through the Board of Agriculture; in this manner these persons have 3 years to meet the demand of the purchase and costs of importation, and surely these facilities must give great advantage to the farmer and to the county at large.

Such are some general remarks which we gleaned in our recent *rambles*; and these suggestions we have given both to the individuals we have visited, and also to the directors of those agricultural societies that