

of Devon stock, which, in most of the classes, was very highly and justly commended by the Judges. In sheep and pigs, the reputation of the exhibition was well sustained, and the department of the horse is said to have been excellent.

On Friday the grand annual dinner of the Royal Agricultural Society finished the proceedings connected with the anniversary at Exeter. The banquet was most numerously attended, and, moreover, the fame of M. Soyer, the furnisher of the feast, drew many who would otherwise have been indifferent to taste the culinary wonders he had announced his intention to prepare. His bill of fare promised among other things, "rounds of beef *a la* Garrick," "a new pudding *a la* Exeter," "a baron, with a saddle back of beef, *a la* Magna Charta," and a "grand agricultural trophy of agriculture."

The chair was occupied by the Marquis of Downshire; and the speakers were the Marquis, the American Minister, Lord Woodhouse, the Earl of Yarborough, and Mr. Lister. We give an extract of the very excellent speech of Mr. Lawrence, the American Minister:—

"Gentlemen, I come here not as a foreigner—I come here to claim relationship, for the first time of my life, to see the farmers of England with my own eyes—(cheers)—believing that when I see the farmers of England I see the back bone of England. (Great cheering.) I know too well the history of my ancestors, and of my kindred in England, not to know that the farmers of England have been loyal and true to the Crown. (Cheers.) I know history too well, not to know that the battles of England, and the glories of England, are indebted to the patriotism, the prowess, and the sacrifices of the farmers of England. (Cheers.) I come here because my ancestry were all farmers, and English farmers too—and I come here first as the representative of a country whose great material interests are founded in the soil—(hear)—I come here to pledge to you, and to offer to you, in that kind, in that fraternal feeling that should exist between two great nations, the sympathy and the kind feelings of the great body of the farmers of the United States of America. (Loud cheers.) I come here as their representative, to tell you, and to make you feel and realize, that they feel under great obligations to you for the experiments which you have tried here—which we being young, and not rich—(a laugh)—are not able to try—but you having the capital and skill, and what is more, the science which has been applied to the art in Great Britain, are well able to do it all. When I look at the state of agriculture in 1850, and compare it in England with the state of agriculture in 1820, I am perfectly amazed. I have been overwhelmed to day. I have heard so much, and have seen so much, that I have not had time

to digest it. (Cheers.) When I look back to this country only thirty years (and in the annals of time that is but a day), I look to that period when the average production of wheat, I believe, in this realm was not more than 20 or 22 bushels of wheat to the acre, and now high authorities, of all parties and shades of political opinion, agree that the average produce now is from 24 to 28 bushels to the acre. (A voice—30.) Thirty, then, if you please. If it were 40, I should rejoice and thank God for it. (Cheers.) We of the United States have not the slightest jealousy of the agricultural interest in England. (A laugh.) We rejoice at every new agricultural implement you bring out, suitable to your condition—we rejoice when you can, by the aid of agricultural chemistry, produce another sheaf of corn."

The cattle show is undoubtedly, the most interesting feature in these exhibitions; and on the present occasion afforded the highest satisfaction to every visitor. Of course, in the cattle classes, the great objects of attraction were the Devons, and on no previous occasion has there been brought together such a splendid collection of this breed. As a consequence, the competition was very keen, and the merits of the winners of the prizes were proportionally enhanced. The bull belonging to Mr. G. Turner, and to which the first prize was awarded, was as beautiful a specimen of the breed as it is possible to conceive. Mr. Passmore's bull, which carried off the second prize in the same class, was a handsome creature. The exhibition of short-horn bulls were inferior to those of previous years, but some of the short-horn cows and heifers were remarkably fine. Of Herefords the show was small. Among the cattle of any breed, Mr. Chapman's five years and four months old long-horned bull, which gained the first prize of £20, deserved the universal admiration which was betowed upon it.

As compared with former years there was a great falling off in horses, though there were some fine animals.

In sheep the show of South Downs and Cotswolds was considered very good, the Leicester being nothing remarkable. Some idea of the excellence of the South Downs shown may be formed from the fact, that Mr. Webb was offered £100 for the letting of a ram of his in the yard for a year, and refused it. The show of Cotswold sheep attracted as much attention among practical men visiting the exhibition as anything else. The number exhibited amounted to 135 Leicesters; 180 South Downs; 42 long woolled sheep; and 25 extra stock. It will, doubtless, excite the surprise of many of our readers to find that the prizes which for so many years had been carried off by Mr. Jonas Webb, have this year been won by Mr. W. Sainsbury, of West Lavington, Wiltshire. To have gained a triumph over such formidable rivals as Mr. Webb, the Duke of Richmond, Mr. Shelly, and other eminent breeders, of South Downs, is almost enough to make a man forget himself for a moment.