

observations I made, and from conversation with persons of experience. The official report may or may not confirm my opinions.

You will see in the English newspapers the names of other parties who had implements, and competed. The competition at this trial was entirely for the purpose of proving the merits of the machines and implements, as there were no prizes to be awarded. The contest was for the public favor alone. A traction locomotive was on the ground, moving with several cars attached to it, on the common road, from one part to another of the trial ground, and carrying numbers of the spectators. It seemed to be under the most complete control of the driver, and moved in any direction he willed with the nicest precision, turning corners and stopping and starting with more tractability than the best trained horses could have been made to show. The same machines are to be seen at the Battersea Show, careering around a circle of perhaps 60 feet diameter, crossing and passing each other as if they were going through the figure of a lively dance. It is now an established fact that these engines can be used on the common roads of this country, and their use has been legalized. From their great breadth of wheel they rather benefit than injure the roads, and cannot be objected to on that account.

The street railway has had its day here, and is at an end. The last, which extended from Kensington gate to the Westminster Bridge, has been taken up within the last few days. The agent was fined five hundred pounds for persisting in keeping it in operation after he was required by a decree of court to discontinue it. He claimed the sympathy of the public on the ground that it was the peoples' cheap mode of travel. Public meetings were called and handbills posted up with a view of procuring a reverse of the decree, but all in vain. There had been an infringement of the law, and punishment of the parties attempting to set it at defiance must follow. The annoyance to carriages, and the obstruction of the thoroughfare, was the ground of the complaint, which caused the removal of the roads. Large three horse omnibuses have at once taken the place of the street cars, and therefore the public are still accommodated with the means of travelling on the same route, which is a very important one.

The attractions here now are increased to day by the commencement of the great Rifle Match at Witherdon Common. I hope to attend this one or two days. Between the Rifle match, the Agricultural Show, the Great Exhibition building, the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, and the somewhat novel entertainment of a Dog Show, also going on, there is scope enough for the exercise of the attention of the sight-seers, of whom the numbers congregated here are not small.

The journals of the day contain articles on the marriage of the Princess Alice, just solemnized,

which are worthy of attention from their tone of heartfelt affection and regard towards the youthful Princess. I believe these articles are the true expression of the national feeling, and surely the people are blessed who can with reason entertain such feelings towards the members of the reigning family. That the prayers of millions of pious hearts in this glorious land have ascended to heaven in the most sincere and earnest manner for the happiness of the youthful pair, I do not in the least doubt.

You will perceive that on the 11th instant the crown labours of the jurors will take place. I shall have to remain here until after that date, and will probably attend the review of the Volunteer Riflemen which is to take place on the 12th, after which I shall immediately take my departure from this great city, and visit some few places in the North of England and Scotland, and thence proceed to Liverpool to embark by the steamer that is to leave on the 24th inst. My stay has been prolonged a week in consequence of the two public events above mentioned.

July 10th.

The Battersea Show is now over. I sent you some numbers of the *North British Agriculturist* which contain very correct information on the several departments in addition to what I last week sent you. I was disappointed at not seeing more horses exhibited, but the reason given by the Editor of the *North British* may perhaps account to some extent for the deficiency. The season for which the services of the best stallions are required not having terminated prevented their coming to the exhibition. No matched pairs, gig, or saddle horses were shown which made the show of horses, taken altogether, much below what I, at least, expected to see.

The principal objects of attraction this week are the International Exhibition and the Rifle match. The latter being at some distance and the weather very rainy, does not draw very many spectators; besides, persons soon tire of looking at the firing at long ranges, where not but the markers have access to the targets. I went one day, but as it was wet and uncomfortable I did not stay long. The targets, to the number of about 30, are all arranged on one side of the common, and the spectators on the other, so that it is rather a dull business for those who are not immediately engaged.

The Exhibition, however, attracts its admirers to the number of from 50 to 60,000 daily, and one never tires of visiting it, for after days of examination there is still something to be seen that is interesting and had not been seen before. The Western Annex, where the machinery is in motion, is exceedingly attractive. The effect of the vast amount of machinery in motion, all doing all sorts of work, is almost bewildering; the hum is inconceivable by those who have not heard it, and yet all seems to work with life-like