

our own doors compared with India, I thought the matter would have been taken up very early. The Government have given very little attention to the matter as yet. The anxiety of the colonies here for large quantities of the raw material is the very reason I brought the matter so strongly before you.

A Member said that the India flax Company was no comparison. The flax raised by them could be brought there.

Mr. Hind—We are very anxious to get the raw material, for I think the trade was never in such want of it as at present. The flax has only to be sent here to be sold on the very best terms. If sent here it will be purchased, and I think the matter need not be proceeded with further.

Mr. Patterson did not concur in the apprehension that the Americans would cut out the trade of this country; but he agreed that the colonies here should not go to any great expense for the matter. Let what would be grown this year be sent over, and it would be seen the kind market it would bring.

Mr. Hind—2,000 tons could be sold before the end of the month if in Belfast at present.

Mr. Patterson—If flax of this sample were brought to this country it would pay freight, commission, and everything, and bring £60—or £65 a ton.

Chairman—Some of us have given £70 for better.

Mr. Hind begged to move that the matter be adjourned *sine die*. He thought that their having a ready market nineteen years for certainly out of twenty was great encouragement for the cultivation of the fibre. If the Canadian thought it profitable to cultivate it by having a good market for it, at the highest prices of the day, according to quality, they would do so. He (Mr. Hind) thought that it was all the encouragement they could give, and begged to move that the matter be adjourned *sine die*.

Mr. Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed from the chair and carried unanimously.

The meeting separated.—*Belfast Whig*, of 26th June.

The Fat Stock International Show at Poissy.

Judged from the Mark Lane Express.

In England we know a great deal about the military, France Naval, France political, very little about France agricultural. We are well acquainted with the *savans* of literature and science, but very little with the labours of

those whose enlightened researches into the principles which should govern the practice of the cultivator and breeder have produced wonderful results since 1815. We are very familiar with the ubiquitous red shirt of the barricade, but we know far less of the blue blouse of the peasant. The political revolutions which have shaken the land to its centre, are present to our minds in all their frightful and heroic details; but we scarcely know anything of the silent but potent agencies which are at work throughout the fertile plains and mountain regions of this splendid country, producing abundance where once was barrenness, knitting together village to village, town to town, district to district, department to department; connecting the whole, in fact, by iron or macadamized ways, with the great ganglionic centres of nervous force—the cities of France. We know but little of the markets which are thus being opened in localities where the population had no inducement to furnish more than their own wants, or, in fact, of the great stimulus imparted by the increasing strenuousness of demand to the energies of supply. The improvements effected since 1815 are scarcely to be credited; and the fact is the more interesting, because what occurred with us eighty years ago is here going on before our eyes. The foreign trade of France has quintupled, her manufactures have quadrupled, her agriculture has doubled its produce, under the influence of those three great principles of peace, justice and freedom, which are the eternal counterpoise to the hateful effects of war, violence and despotism. Eighty thousand miles of road have been opened, ten thousand miles of railway have been completed, canals have been cut, and rivers rendered navigable. Since 1789, 5,000,000 acres have been added to the productive area of the country; vineyards, and orchards, and meadows have increased, while woods have diminished. In tillage, we possess M. Lavergne's authority for stating that the cultivation of fallows has decreased by one-half; that the growth of wheat, barley, and oats has increased a third; that the water meadows have tripled in extent; and that the cultivation of roots, which was hardly known in 1789, now covers 5,000,000 acres.

We have often heard it stated that we have nothing to learn from French farmers; but the English who are here, and who have the advantage of being able to compare the present Show at Poissy with the Show held upon the same ground in 1857, are generally of opinion that if this is the case, it is equally certain that our French brethren will not much longer require our tuition. The carpet-bag and railway-ticket are fine institutions for settling men's ideas.—Until we visit the fair, we fancy we are masters of the best horse in the country. Nothing will prove of more service to English breeders than this trip to France, notwithstanding that some