

rich variety of their color, and their fine symmetrical form, accounts, perhaps, for the popular admiration they generally excite. This breed was represented by no fewer than 163 animals, and most of them perfect types of the short-horn. The show of Herefords was also very fine, they possessed an evenness of growth, and had none of those heavy protuberances of fat which many used to admire. The Devons were indifferently represented as to numbers, but many beautiful specimens were exhibited, particularly those shown by Prince Albert, which were entitled to the distinction known as "commended." His Royal Highness the Prince Consort, obtained a first prize in the bull-calf class. Sheep mustered strongly, and like the cattle, showed marks of steady and general improvement. In the Southdowns, whose characteristics are a fine quality of meat, and short close wool, the celebrated breeder, Mr. Jonas Webb, was defeated by the Duke of Richmond. The show of pigs was equally fine. The display of agricultural implements and machinery was a source of great attraction. Agricultural machinery, like all other machinery, has bent itself to the law of progress and improvement. The agricultural classes, unwilling at first to acknowledge the mighty power of steam, and the scientific skill of man as applicable to the culture of the land, have learnt and are still learning how wonderfully labor may be abridged and the land improved by the application of this machinery, and the adaptation of science to the various occupations of the farm. How very useful then must these annual meetings be, when the most skilled and the most famous of England's manufacturers send forth their excellently adapted implements not only for exhibition but for competition. It is a gathering together of the best their factories can produce, and every farmer has not only an opportunity of inspecting them, but a chance of seeing them on trial.—Warwick is a good example of an ancient town, the more remarkable as standing in such close proximity and contrast with its new neighbor, Leamington. But during the Show Warwick lost somewhat its antique and venerable appearance from the numerous banners and various other decorations, almost covering every building. Approaching the town, the castle forms a magnificent object, as it rears its long front and massive towers with stern majesty against the sky. This castle, which is considered the most splendid relic of feudal times in England, is approached by a long winding narrow passage, deeply cut through the solid rock; the numerous branches of the variegated and thickly planted wood forming a canopy above, with the moss and ivy creep, & in fertile wildness beneath, forms a picture romantic and pleasing. Continuing on and passing what is called the great gateway, the vast extent of the building is seen; here the Lane is presented to the view, and excites admiration. The spacious area of the court is clothed by a carpet of rich green sward. On the one side stands the grand irregular mansion of the feudal Barons of Warwick; on the other, many dark massive towers and embellishments. The scene is truly a grand one, "and so perfect is the fascination, that it would be difficult to say what might be added that could improve, or what might be taken away that would not injure the effect of the whole." This castle, perhaps, the finest now in England, has been the scene of many a bright and many a gloomy occurrence.

I am very much pleased with Shropshire, it is a fine picturesque agricultural country, resting extensively on the New Red Sand Stone of the geologists; a formation largely developed in the centre of England, and particularly favorable to agricultural purposes. A large breadth of turnips is cultivated here, and extensive flocks of Shropshire Downes are bred and fattened. There are several good herds of Shorthorns, and other breeds of cattle kept in the county, and barley is extensively grown, of the finest malting quality. The four and five year's courses of rotation seem pretty generally to obtain. The farmers as a body seem well to do, and comfort and order appear to pervade the whole texture of social life.

The scenery from the *Wrekin*, a noted hill or rather mountain, in this county, is truly magnificent. The summit commands a view over sixteen counties, the finest and most extensive view I ever beheld. Looking towards the west the vast extent of country, with many towns and villages scattered over its surface, was bounded by the blue far distant hills of Wales; while towards the east the country appeared like a vast plain, or perhaps more correctly, garden. The scenery is not wild and romantic as that of Wales or the Highlands of Scotland, but it is peculiarly rich and beautiful, calling forth in the spectator the deepest feelings of admiration. Sheep do well on the lower portions of these hills, and the valleys, particularly that of the lovely Severn, sustain an incredible amount of sheep, horses and cattle. The agriculture of Shropshire, as far as I could judge, appears to be in an advanced condition. G. W. B.