

At the close of the exhibition, the Minister of Agriculture addressed the assembled competitors, on the occasion of the distribution of prizes. The following is an extract from his speech:—

"Gentlemen,—I think I may without pride proclaim at the outset of the ceremony, the full success of the Exhibition, and the definite triumph of the cause of Universal Agricultural Competitions. This institution, very modest in its origin, was commenced in 1850; how rapid, therefore, has been its progress, and how much its circle has been increased, even since last year! The vast palace erected for the Exhibition of Industry has not been large enough for this agricultural show. The bovine race alone almost equals in number that of all the animals exhibited in 1855. Independently of the races, the principal qualities I pointed out to you last year, there is now in this Exhibition for the first time the polled breed of Angus, those from the mountains of Scotland, the Irish breed from Kerry, that of Central and Eastern Switzerland, those of Denmark and Holstein, and lastly, thanks to the enlightened zeal for which I thank its government, the most highly esteemed breeds from Austria. Near those noble animals are also ranged more than 9,000 specimens of other races, which fill the farmer's stalls, animate his fields, or give life to the poultry-yard.—Round them have been classified in innumerable quantity the most precious gift of the soil, the most varied productions of cultivation, and the newest and most ingenious machines—those powerful and indispensable auxiliaries to human labor. * * * * * Examine the catalogue of our Exhibition; in addition to its agricultural value it has a great political signification. Have you not remarked with pleasure that names the most separated by civil dissensions have come together at this peaceful tournament? The reason is that agriculture has its rewards for every legitimate ambition, that all parties have an equally powerful interest in it, and that the beauty of the productions of agriculture give the measure, and in certain respects the degree, of civilisation. * * * * * Before separating from you, gentlemen, I give you an invitation to meet here again next year; you may rely on the same kind hospitality, and allow us to hope that you will evince the same eagerness to attend here."

THE CROPS.—MANNY'S MACHINE.

To the Editor of the Agriculturist.

SIR,—Having been engaged during the last three months in introducing "Manny's Patent Combined Mower and Reaper," and putting them into operation, I have had occasion to travel in various parts of the country, and to observe the prospects of the crops, and the benefits derived from the use of these machines. I therefore purpose making a few remarks for publication in your valuable Journal, if you think them worthy of a place. With regard to the crops, then, I think that our farmers are more highly blessed with an abundance than they have ever been in any previous year, particularly with wheat, of which there has been a much greater breadth sown, and which, with very few exceptions, promises more than an average yield. These exceptions, I find on enquiry, are mostly confined to light farms, which have suffered for the want of rain, and to farms which have been badly tilled, and to the want of carrying out the principle of rotation of crops. Prices of wheat have been so high of late, that farmers are anxious to reap the immediate benefits, without regard to injuring their farms, and without considering that other kinds of produce are just as remunerative, and perhaps more so, as the weevil is making its appearance in some parts, and consequently a change will be necessary in order to exterminate them. There have also been very large crops of hay and oats, particularly of the former, of which I think I never saw better crops, or a more favorable time for securing them. In this farmers have been very much assisted by the use of Manny's machines, which I had the pleasure of introducing last year, and which I find have given very general