

petition introduced by free trade—then comes to Scotland this Season, and by a large number of judges, consisting of practical farmers and mechanics, confirmed by the opinion of a deputation of Irish agriculturists, is declared to be inferior, in every respect, to the original reaping machine of Mr. Bell.

THE HIGHLAND AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW.

On Thursday, August 5, at the close of the Society's Exhibition, about 700 gentlemen sat down to dinner in the City Hall, Perth, the use of which was gratuitously placed at the disposal of the Committee of the Association by the Town Council. The Duke of Roxburgh, the President of the Society, occupied the chair—supported on the right and left by the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Provost of Perth, Lord Kinnaird, Sheriff Craufurd, Sir J. Ogilvy, Sir D. Dundas, Dr. Grant of St. Mary's Edinburgh, Chaplain to the Society, Sir John Richardson of Pitfour, Dean of Guild Ross, and Bailie Hewat. At the other end of the table, around the Duke of Atholl, who discharged the duties of croupier, were the Earl of Mansfield, Lord Panmure, Mr. Stirling of Keir, M. P.; Lord Strathallan; Sir Archibald Campbell, M. P.; Lord Stormont; Hon. T. Bruce, Lord Blantyre; Sir Michael Shaw Stewart; Sir Patrick Murray Thriepand; Bailie Imrie; Bailie Honey, Treasurer Kemp, &c. In the body of the meeting were Mr. Campbell of Craigie; Mr. Stirling of Kippendavie; Mr. Grant of Kilgraston; Mr. G. Patton, advocate, Edinburgh; Mr. Campbell of Monzie; Mr. D. Hunter, Blackness; Mr. W. B. Callander, Prestonhall; Mr. Richardson of Carhamhall; Mr. Turnbull, of Bellwood, &c. &c.

After the discussion of a substantial dinner the cloth was removed, and the intellectual department was spiritedly filled up. The chairman after a few happy introductory remarks, said—The Highland Society has now existed for a period of seventy years; and, if I may be allowed the expression, has been looked up to and respected by every other agricultural society throughout the kingdom. (Cheers.) It rarely indeed happens that the efforts of patriotic men to benefit their country have been attended with such signal success as that which has marked those of the founders of this Institution. I firmly believe that this was owing, not so much to the eminence and distinction which many of them held, but to the soundness of the principles on which the Institution itself was based, and to the admirable good sense and prudence which has characterised, and which still in its present Board of Directors continues to characterise those who watch over the administration of its affairs. I trust, gentlemen, that it may long

continue to maintain this high character, for it does appear to me that in the present state of the agricultural world every exertion will be required to promote improvement. But let me remind you that these exertions depend in some measure on yourselves. At the same time I hope and trust that the landlords will at all times be ready and willing to aid you in these efforts. (Cheers.) I say, gentlemen, it will require our united exertions to maintain for the tenantry of Scotland that superiority to which their skill, their industry, and I may add, their indomitable perseverance and integrity so justly entitle them. Great as are the advantages in a practical point of view which have resulted from the establishment of the Highland Society, I venture to say a new and more extensive field now lies before us. At present we are eminently called upon to proceed in the path we have been hitherto pursuing, when each day some fresh discovery opens to our view, the further we proceed and the greater success we attain in a work so honourable and so elevated. For if ever there was a case in which that truth comes before us in its full force—I mean knowledge is power—it is pre-eminently so in the aid which science confers on practical agriculture. (Loud cheers.) Each day we see the adaptation of some new principle in implements of husbandry or in the employment of some new substance to fertilize our soil. I trust, then, that the Highland Society will not lose sight of these ends, and that in connection with the landlords of Scotland it will do its utmost to foster and promote that spirit of improvement now abroad, from which, in my humble opinion, so much is at present to be expected. Gentlemen, by pursuing this course, you will secure both a physical and a moral object. We shall thus be scattering plenty and diffusing contentment throughout the land; and, what is more, by our constant intercourse with our tenantry, and our constant practice of giving them all encouragement when they stand in need of our assistance, we shall be extending the influence of kindness and kindly feelings around, we shall, so to speak, be ploughing up the subsoil of feelings and affection, and exposing what might perhaps have remained inert and barren but for the refreshing rays of social intercourse and converse. In a word, we shall be sowing on earth the seeds "of goodwill towards men." It is in this opinion, and looking back with satisfaction on the past exertions of this Society, and with brighter anticipations yet for the future, that I call on you to drink, as though the words of the toast came home to you in their fullest acceptation—"Prosperity to the Highland Society, and success to the agricultural interest." (The toast was drunk amid the greatest enthusiasm.)