

We again demur as to the expediency of including all breeds of horses indiscriminately in this class—farm-horses of every breed; the Lincoln and Clydesdale dray-horses against the Suffolk punches; and these in competition with the almost innumerable varieties of farm-horses throughout the country. These must necessarily be adjudged in a great degree in accordance with the prevailing taste of each individual judge (and in "horse-flesh" who has not his peculiar taste?) We do not impugn judges: they may act with the strictest impartiality, notwithstanding. Here all are to be judged by one standard—"for agricultural purposes": it must be much a matter of taste. We should prefer some division of breeds, as in the cattle and sheep classes. The Suffolk Punch is probably unequalled as a farm-horse; the Clydesdale and Lincoln dray-horses are more valuable on sale; these might be kept quite distinct in class, and so with any other kind that denote such manifest distinction in breeding; if not, as in pigs, our judges must define them.—The show has fully equalled our expectations, and many fine horses have been exhibited. The agricultural stallion classes are well sustained, though not so numerous as we expected to see them. The Society should have bethought them of the character of the country, and provided for it. A class should certainly have been organized for hunters, and a prize offered. Happily, the Mayor of Lincoln and the gentlemen of the local committee supplied this lack on their own means. The result has proved their wisdom, and is very worthy of the occasion. The yearling show surpassed, in some instances, anything we before remember. The mares and foals were well worthy of notice; but without giving further time to a preliminary notice, we will pass forward, and devote a cursory remark to such animals as commend themselves to our judgment.

In Class 1, devoted to stallions for agricultural purposes, foaled previously to the first January, 1852, we find a very noticeable improvement.—Those animals that have received prizes quite deserve them, and these that are commended sufficiently merit commendation; while we fancy that, had the judges possessed more tickets for distinction, they would have put them more frequently than they have done.

Mr. James Stockdale and Messrs. Edward and Matthew Reed bore away the prize in this class. The property of the latter gentleman was a fine old bay farmer's horse, more commendable in many points than Mr. Stockdale's.

In passing to Class 2, wherein are the two-year-old stallions for agricultural purposes, we notice that Rutlandshire and Suffolk take the prizes. Mr. Bran is the owner of the first prize horse, and Mr. Wilson of the other.

The most remarkable animal, in our opinion, in the yard, or at any rate amongst the horses, may be seen in the 3rd class. We need not say that we allude to Mr. Robert Howard's prize yearling. Every one mentions it with a glow of enthusiasm. It stands out alone in the class, and the other competitors suffer by the comparison, although there are some fine colts too. And Lincolnshire bears the belt. Never did we see

a yearling so furnished: his points excel those of some four-year-olds. The first prize could not have been more properly awarded.

With roadster stallions we were much pleased. The road horse is more difficult to meet with in perfection than either the hunter or courser. He must be a horse of all work; and so rarely is he to be met with, and so much is the demand increased for him, that we welcome any stallion likely to supply a want so universally felt and expressed. Mr. Innocent stands foremost in this class with his "Calton," a six-years-old, dark bay stallion. The judges have judged wisely, we think. "Sir Charles," the property of Mr. Taylor, is an exceedingly fine animal. His formation denotes strong constitution and good running properties. He seems peculiarly adapted for his work.

Amongst the fillies, Suffolk bears off the palm. The first prize is awarded to Mr. Barthropp, and the second to Mr. Bayles, for a Lincolnshire bred filly.

And now we pass to a class of especial importance, held as the present meeting is, in the midst of one great hunting county, and upon the borders of another. Mr. Tweed, the Mayor of Lincoln, and the members of the local committee, have come forward with prizes of their own, and their call has been promptly responded to. It was very desirable to have a display of hunters, and most praiseworthy was it on the part of these gentlemen to have foreseen this necessity, and arranged for it. The contest seems to us to be a very hard-run one between Mr. Denison's "Louthborough" and Mr. Watson's "Drayton."—The former is certainly a splendid type of a horse, but seems to us somewhat more adapted to get carriage-horses than hunters. From age and work he is shaky on his forelegs. He bears away the prize of £40.

SHEEP.

The show in all classes is very large, particularly of Leicesters and long wools; while the number of improved Lincolnshire exceeds that of any previous instance, when a local class has been provided by the society.

LEICESTERS.

CLASS I.—SHEARLING RAMS: In spite of close competition, one exhibitor was here able to carry off both prizes. The prize shearlings were bred by Mr. T. E. Pawlett, of Beeston, Beds, and are remarkable for their long and level backs, broad springing chins, good ramps and thighs, and deep plates. The rams of Mr. J. Barton, of Barton-le-street, Yorkshire, are deservedly famed; but in the present instance, we think, that although possessing good fore-quarters, and being well fitted, they have not quite sufficient depth (two of these are commended).

CLASS II.—RAMS OF ANY OTHER AGE: Mr. J. Barton takes the first prize, for a very handsome sheep, with good chest; and Mr. Abraham, of Barnetby-le-Wold, Lincolnshire, takes the 2nd, for a sheep with wide and straight back, heavy neck, broad chine, and good wool.