

result. The sons of farmers, who are already doubtful of the policy of their being farmers themselves, will flee from farming as a pool that swallows up the profits that should be the reward of diligent labor, but at the best returns no profit. Whether the loss from the experiment be from purchasing at over rates or selling under value, or whether the mode of feeding or the qualities of the animals be the cause, the result is alike unfortunate. Whence is it that grade Durhams fattened for six months on turnips, mangold, pea meal, corn meal and fodder, were sold at \$4.40 per 100 lbs., and caused the feeders a loss of \$330.15 on an outlay of \$794?

In the report of the experiment there is nothing said of interest of money, etc.

Some of our readers have had experience in fattening cattle, and we would like to hear from them on the subject.

### The American National Fair.

[BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Washington, D. C., Nov. 3.

The National Fair, chartered by an Act of Congress of the United States, was formally opened at Ivy-city in the suburbs of the Capital, at one o'clock p. m., on the 28th ult. The President of the U. S., who was accompanied by the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of State and other Cabinet Ministers, addressed the assembled people from the portico of the main building, and the National Fair was, by its President, declared open.

A grand "industrial procession" on the broad avenues of this city preceded the opening of the Fair. All trades, industries and professions were represented on wheels. The blacksmith at his anvil, the printer at his press, the farmer at his churn, the baker at his dough, the miller at his burr, the cobbler at his last, and among the brewers the jolly god Gambrinus astride of a huge cask, holding aloft a tankard of foaming beer. The procession was two hours passing a given point, and the streets and avenues were gay with flags and bunting and evergreens and throngs of people.

The principal feature of the Fair is the stock display. One of the "Princes of the turf" remarked that there never was at any Fair in America a better exhibit. The two Arabian horses presented to Gen'l Grant by the Sultan of Turkey, attract general attention and universal admiration. The horse named "Linda" is a dark iron gray, is five years old, and weighs 750 lbs.; "Leopard" is a light dapple gray, is nine years old, and weighs 900 lbs. They are unbroken and full of spirit, graceful as antelopes, with bright clear eyes and great breadth between. In the stalls just opposite to them are two more horses belonging to Gen'l Grant—"Bob Acres," sired by the celebrated "Ethan Allen," and "Prince of Orange," sired by "Duroc." These two are larger-boned, have less symmetry of form and less spirit and intelligence in the eye than their Arab neighbors. In the same stable is the running horse "Stampede," sired by "War Dance," dam "Sallie Morgan," from the Woodbine Farm, Ky. This horse ran at Louisville, Ky., four miles in 7 m. 33 s. He also won the Kener Stake at Saratoga, N. Y. Just beyond this horse is the superb stallion "Vassal," from Carrollton, Maryland; he is a mahogany-bay, bright as polished ivory, 16½ hands high, weighs 1,200 lbs., and is pronounced the handsomest horse in the State of Maryland. The first premium was awarded on him to the owners, B. F. Shriver & Co., for the best thoroughbred stallion at the National Fair. John W. Garrett, President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, fills one entire stable with one of the most admirable exhibits of fine horses

in the country. The most attractive and interesting is the Arab mare "Saieda." She is 15 hands high, snow-white and of graceful, light form. She was purchased in Damascus, Syria, and imported to this country in 1857 by the late Wm. McDonald, of Baltimore; she was foaled in 1851 and is the dam of "Adinack," "Sultana," "Gulnare," and other noted horses. Notwithstanding her age, she is said to be a "clipper" animal. The two colts of "Saieda," in adjoining stalls, are "Adinack" and "Sultana," the first a silver gray foaled in 1864, and the latter a gray filly foaled in 1875. They are perfect pictures, and are driven on the road by their owner as a light buggy team; "Sultana" has trotted in 2.30. "Gulnare," the other colt of "Saieda," is a brown filly 18 months old, light as a gazelle and three-fourths Arabian. "Saladin" is a bay stallion, the pride of Mr. Garrett, sleek as a mirror, with an eye like a young eagle. He was foaled in 1869 by "Daniel the Prophet," out of the imported Arab mare "Esnea." The latter died several years ago. "Selim" is a beautiful bay stallion, and "Damascus" a chestnut horse, both from the Arab mare "Esnea." The beautiful jet black stallion "Hamlet" attracts the eyes of all; he is 15½ hands high, foaled in 1871, sired by "Joe Lane." "Hercules" is a heavy iron gray stallion, 16 hands high, compact and short coupled; the first premium was awarded on him as a heavy draft stallion. "Flora" is a graceful black mare, sired by the famous "Black Hawk Morgan." She made a record on the Chicago track of 2.51; the first premium was awarded on her as best quick draft brood mare. "Zoe" is a brown mare 15 hands high, light and spirited; she was sired by imported "Bonnie Scotland," dam imported Arab mare "Esnea." Her colt, "Young Esnea," 3 yrs. old, is said by the owner to be an exact image of the Arab mare "Esnea," whose skeleton is in the Yale College Museum.

The most curious collection among these rare and valuable specimens of horse-flesh is the little Shetland pony "Daisy," and her two colts. She is 12 years old, about the size of a Newfoundland dog, and was imported by Mr. Garrett; the two colts by her side—"Queen," aged 2 yrs., sired by the large stallion "Saladin," and "Princess," 1 yr., sired by "Damascus," before mentioned. Either one of these colts tower high above and would make two such as their diminutive Shetland dam.

While looking through the stables with Mr. Garrett, the card of Thomas Baily Potter, London, Member of the English Parliament, was handed to him, and in a few minutes the British statesman and his wife joined us, and were introduced by the affable American Railroad President to his distinguished "hosses."

In addition to the horses above named there is a splendid display of Kentucky thoroughbreds and a number of celebrated trotters, pacers and running horses from different parts of the U. S.

The light and graceful Alderney cows from the English Island of Guernsey, and a few heavy short-horn Durhams from Shenandoah Co., Virginia, are the chief attractions in the cattle stables.

The most complete exhibit is found in the Poultry Department. There are one hundred and twenty-five cages of chickens, and about one hundred cages of the different fashionable varieties. The exhibit of pigeons comprises the finest collection in America. For the best pair of light Brahma chicks, the first premium was awarded the Cumberland Valley poultry yards of Chambersburg, Pa.; these two chicks are 7 months old and weigh 18½ lbs. For the best pair of Dominique Cochins a first premium was awarded to Boileau & Heagy, of Middletown, Md. These chickens

are rare here; they are as large, but less clumsy than the light Brahmas. They are a cross of the Plymouth Rock and Black Cochins, are said to be excellent fowls for table, good layers and fine foragers; their average weight is from 8 to 12 lbs. There are several cages of Polish ducks and white China geese; the latter by their odd-shaped yellow head ornaments and singular gobble attract much attention. A pair of pure white Guinea fowls, a cage of Abyssinian Guinea pigs, and a pair of Angora rabbits, share the gaze and inquiry of the curious with their neighbors from China. The Angora rabbits, caged with a collection of English rabbits, have a long fine fleece like an Angora goat, and are as white as snow.

Among the rare collection of pigeons there is a fine lot of the carrier variety, including the celebrated "Red Cloud," "Black Hawk," and "Blue Dick, jr.," who flew at the Inter-State Race, June, 1879, from Max Meadows to Alexandria, Va., 240 miles air line, in 287 minutes. In the same building are cages of parrots, canaries, and 15 or 20 cages of dogs, in one of which is a Gordon Gip from Lord Drureale Kennel Co., of Cork, Ireland.

The fruit exhibit this year is a failure. In consequence of the short notice given by the Fair Association, and the lateness of the season, there are but a few varieties of apples and pears, and no other fruits among the exhibits. The dairy products, except the exhibits of butter, are all from adjacent farms. The exhibit of F. K. Ward, of the Alderney Dairy, D. C., is the only one worthy of mention; the milk used is from the imported Alderney cows, and the churn employed one of Blanchard's Factory Churns—having a capacity of from 40 to 50 gals., and turned by horse power. There are little golden-like cakes of butter with fine prints from Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio, but the sweet, fresh, golden butter of Pennsylvania made the red-card premium.

Among the agricultural implements which attract most attention among farmers are the Buckeye reaper and binder, from Canton, Ohio; the McCormick reaper and binder, and the Osborn self-binding harvester. All three machines cut neatly and bind in sheaves with wire, the cost of wire being about 25c. per acre.

There are some beautiful samples of flour made from Canadian wheat, but no samples of the wheat on exhibition.

On the 30th ult. there was a fine hurdle race, on Friday, 31st, a fox-chase, and on Saturday, Nov. 1st, a tournament, in which there was entered on the list a knight from every State. The race-course is pronounced by turf-men to be one of the best in the country, and before the Fair closes on November 6th, there will be some excellent trotting and pacing by celebrated horses for the several prizes of \$1,500, \$800 and \$400.

LOTUS.

### Notice to Subscribers.

We have a large number of letters—over twenty containing money, and despite our attempts we cannot tell to whom to credit the money, though we always write to postmasters to inquire. If any one wishes to stop their paper at any time, they must send word direct to this office by postal card or letter, giving P. O. address and name. Sending a paper back without written notice is useless; so is notifying agents or postmasters. Old subscribers should not trust their money with any one, but mail it themselves. This will save loss and confusion.

Packing apples in plaster has been highly recommended. It tends to keep a low and uniform temperature, and prevent evaporation. Like lime, too, it is destructive to fungus growth. The plaster for next spring's grass may be bought in the fall, and used for apples, and be ready for sowing when needed in the spring.