

form a more powerful inducement to persevere in our onward course, from which, we are morally certain, permanent prosperity will eventually arise; and it shall be no fault of ours, if our society does not, in the ensuing year exhibit renewed exertion and increased improvement. We omitted to allude, in its proper place, to the fact of having last Spring purchased a quantity of timothy seed, an article which this settlement has always been obliged hitherto to procure from other quarters, but, by a judicious sale and contribution of our supply, we will be henceforth enabled not alone to raise enough for our own use, but to have a surplus quantity to dispose of elsewhere.

By an outlay of part of the Provincial aid, we have also laid the foundation of an Agricultural Library, and we would most earnestly recommend it may be enlarged and continued, and that our farmers will endeavour to reap, from judicious books, that knowledge of the improvements in the science and management in the Mother-Country, and other advanced quarters, which their own experience cannot supply.

The awarding of premiums upon ploughing, which took place in both the years 1841 and 1842, has also been productive of competition and improvement, and it may be mentioned as an evidence of increased zeal and conviction of the advantages of Agriculture, that the quantity of land broken up and prepared for the reception of crops this Fall is at least double what it has been any preceding year.

In conclusion we would recommend to the Society in the ensuing year a particular attention to the improvement of swine, a subject which has not hitherto received the attention due to its importance, and in vacating our office, we have the satisfaction of transmitting the affairs of our Institution to our successors in a state of progress, and, we trust, permanent improvement, and only requiring moderate attention and combined action, without which nothing effectual can be done, to ensure final success.

Wm. John, 21st December, 1843.

The following are the Office Bearers of the Society for the present year:

President—Kenneth McLean, Esq.

Vice President—James O. Nash.

Secretary and Treasurer—Lawrence J. Den.

Committee—Robert Patterson, (V. P. 1841), George Perin, (V. P. 1842), Malcom Sillars, John Mochler, Charles Surberland, Thomas McKenzie, William Gammon.

From the American Agriculturist.

TOUR IN ENGLAND.

ENGLISH HORSES.—Notwithstanding what has been said about the degeneracy of the horses of England, the best informed we get abroad, think that on the whole, they are still improving. The good mushroom growth they now give their racers, and above all, at an early age at which they are brought on to the turf, are, however, exceedingly prejudicial to their strength and endurance, if not to their speed, and if persisted in, must ultimately, if it has not already, materially injure the breed in these most desirable qualities. There are, however, some exceptions to the above observations. Harkaway, for example, is a real phenomenon, and is thought to be equal to any thing England ever bred. He is a horse of remarkable speed and of prodigious power and substance, standing within an inch of 17 hands, of great bone and muscle, and is considered among turfmen, as the very perfection of form for a racer. According to the official report, he won the Godwood cup at five years old, carrying 130 lbs, performing the distance 2 1/2 miles in 4 m. 58 s., but according to another report, it was done in 27 s., which would have been at the rate of a mile in 1 m. 1 s., but English time is very loosely kept, and but little to be depended on, unless reported by our own countrymen. There is

no doubt but Harkaway is as good and fast a horse as Fireball, Eclipse, or Flying Childers ever was; although it is said of the latter, that he ran a mile in one minute, and of the former that he performed the same distance in 1 m. 4 sec. But this time is not authenticated, and is, without, so incredible, that it should be rejected as totally unworthy of record in the calendars of veritable racing.

We could not but admire the beauty of form and great size of the English colts. Most of them stood 15 hands high when brought out at two and a half years old; and some of them were full 16 hands; and as a celebrated jockey remarked to us, "it was really wonderful what the young things would do," and this sentimental expression of the shrewd jockey, seems to be the whole gist of the thing, its sport and excitement. But to us it was a painful sight to see animals reared with such care and expense, one half of them broken down in training, and the larger share of the other half in early racing, and then cast like worthless weeds away—whereas, had they been kept till five years old before being brought out, they might have proved of some value, at least, as saddle horses, and for light cavalry. In one particular, however, we will give the English credit over the Americans, they usually make but one run, and to be called upon four, five, and as it sometimes happens with us, even six heats, would be considered here, as we wish it universally was everywhere else, as the very height of cruelty, and an indictable offence. But this is a painful subject to dwell upon, and little interesting to the agriculturist; we will therefore pass it over, merely premising that owing to the manner in which English horses are now bred, it seems to be generally thought, at least on the western side of the Atlantic, they would prove no match for our racers in deep mud and over hard gravelly courses at four mile heats.*

The hunters of England are now nearly thorough-bred, are strong made, clean limbed animals, stouter and more compact than the racer usually is, and reminded us of our finest high-bred carriage-horses, such as the more dashing city prefer for a display in Broadway, or upon the Third avenue.

Carriage horses differ but little from those among us, save that they are usually larger, 16 hands being the general height, and we have occasionally seen them in most superb shape in the London parks, full 17 hands high. The stage coaches, omnibuses, cabs, &c. are recruited from the broken down hunters and condemned carriage horses, and are of course wofully cursed with grease, corns, founders, spavins, broken wind, and the whole catalogue of horse diseases, so much so, as to make one's heart ache at times to ride after them; and the cabs, especially, in the apparent age and condition of their horses, would occasionally bring Mr. Pickwick's ride to the Golden Cross to memory.

"How old is that horse, my friend?" inquired Mr. Pickwick, rubbing his nose with the shilling he had reserved for the fare.

"Forty-two," replied the driver, eyeing him askant.

"And how long do you keep him out at a time?" inquired Mr. Pickwick, searching for further information.

"Two or three weeks," replied the man.

"Weeks!" said Mr. Pickwick, in astonishment—and out came the note-book again.

"He lives at Pentonwill, when he's at home," observed the driver, coolly; but we seldom take him home, on account of his weakness."

"On account of his weakness!" reiterated the perplexed Mr. Pickwick.

"He always falls down, when he's took out o' the cab," continued the driver, "but when he's in it, we bears [reins] him up werry tight, and takes him in werry short, so he cant werry well fall down, and we've got a pair o' precious large wheels on, so when he does move, they runs after him, and he mus: go on—he can't help it."

Even the very gentlemanly and intelligent coachman, who otherwise make themselves so agreeable on the road, have a cruel art, with their long lashes, of striking the ears of their jaded horses

* Some object to this conclusion as too hasty, and say, for example, that Lady Elizabeth at five years old, carried 135 lbs. ran four miles at the Doncaster course, in 1833, in 7 m. 25 sec. time almost as good as that of Fashion's late unequalled race in America of same age, and carrying only 111 lbs. But we are confident, on the fine elastic turf of the courses of England that a horse can carry more weight with greater ease than over the hard and unelastic courses in America, but as a discussion of this subject is more proper for a Turf Register than this paper, we shall forego entering further upon it.