

so much. Of the Highlands proper I saw nothing. Still here and there the scenery reminded me of the characteristic imagery of the poet :

“Caledonia, stern and wild,
Meek nurse for a poetic child,
Land of brown heath and shaggy wood,
Land of the mountain and the flood.”

In these times of deep and wide spread anxiety, when several of the nations of Europe seem trembling in the balance, go where you will in these free and happy Islands, which form the central heart of the great British Empire, you will find a united and determined spirit of resistance to any foreign aggression, and of devoted loyalty to the Queen. I read in an Edinburgh paper the following extract from a speech of Sheriff Gordon, when distributing the prizes awarded by the Edinburgh Highland Society, whose anniversary was held during the week of the Exhibition, the spirit of which will find a ready response in every true Briton's heart, whatever portion of the Empire he may inhabit:—“I think that I may look with some confidence around me; and although we do live in times of uncertain atmosphere, when the storm and the peril may burst upon us almost without warning, we have no reason to distrust the sufficiency of these living ramparts, which shall repel the rash invader, and shield our dear and sacred homes: and when I saw about me the uniforms of those riflemen, I called back the words of Sir Walter Scott, and said to myself:

“Still as of yore, Queen of the North,
Still can'st thou send thy children forth,
Ne'er readier at alarm bell's call,
Thy burghers rose to man thy wall,
Than now in danger shall be thine
Thy dauntless voluntary line,
For fosse or turret, proud to stand,
Their breasts the bulwarks of the land.”

G. W. B.

Agricultural Intelligence.

EXHIBITION OF THE HIGHLAND AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND.

The Annual Show of this venerable Society—the parent of all other agricultural societies in the British Empire, took place in Edinburgh the first week in August.—Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather for two or three days, and some internal difficulties recently experienced by the society, we are happy to find that the exhibition was a success, and that everything went off in the happiest manner. The following account, abridged from an elaborate report in the *Mark Lane Express*, will be interesting to many of our readers:—

“There is no denying that this Edinburgh Meeting was regarded as something of a crisis in the career of the Society. Had anything gone wrong, had anything ungracious or offensive occurred, there is still an undercurrent of opposition quite ready to make the most of such arguments. But we must repeat that everybody was on his best behaviour, and that the business of the week so far as we could watch it, was not marred by a single mischance or dispute. A certain desire, moreover, to march with the spirit of the times is now clearly observable. For the first time the public had two days allowed them to inspect the stock, and for the first time, too, were the cattle covered in. It is very fortunate that they were, as the weather was by no means settled, and some heavy rain fell on the Wednesday afternoon. But the Society has to go a step further in this direction, and give the implements the same protection. We were loth at first to offer any very strong opinion as to the arrangement of this department of the meeting, but the experience of year by year only the more confirms our English notions as to its few advantages and many drawbacks. The rain itself was, perhaps, the most severe commentary on such a system. Only picture prize ma-