

notice of the Irish shows. He had six young boars of the same litter, that for uniform excellence have seldom been surpassed, and one of which took a prize, three more being highly commended, and the two others commended. The small white pigs were also very evenly good; and the judges had a deal of difficulty in placing the boars of this division, the companion-lot of sows being equally creditable to their class. The small blacks, on the contrary, made nothing like the sensation they did at Battersea; and the supplementary compliments amongst them did not extend beyond a couple of commendations. The large boars were indifferent, and the competition limited; but the large sows, though few in number, were a capital lot, and Mr. Wainman's Fresh Hope, bred by Messrs. May of Beamsley, an extraordinary animal for size, symmetry, and quality combined. The pens of three of almost any breed rarely ranked above mediocrity, and we did not meet with any of those wonderful match lots, or trio of Graces, that one comes occasionally across when Mr. Mangles is just in the vein. With Birmingham so handy, and Bingley Hall so famous in this way, the Worcester Pig show might have been better.

## THE INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT HAMBURGH.

*Abridged from the Mark Lane Express.*

The Battersea International Show has already had its effect upon the Continent; and the German States have been the first to move. A guarantee fund of £10,000, by fifty-seven persons, first gave the key-note, and the project was set going in October last. The Executive Committee comprised six merchants, three farmers, and one dealer, with the famous Baron Merck as President; Mr. Olde, the dealer, and Messrs. Bieher and Ross, farmers, having also been very active. The show-yard covers 1½ million square feet. The total cost of holding the Exhibition will not be less than £20,000. All the German States, Austria, France, Sweden, America, Denmark, Switzerland, Holland and Belgium are represented by Commissioners: these work by executive committees. The lamented death of Baron Merck cast a sad gloom over the proceedings; but General-Consul Schanseeback undertook the office of President. These committees have been ably assisted by the General Agricultural Society of Germany; and Baron Nathasius, their President, who was one of the first to secure English animals for the Continent, is well known on this side the water.

Hamburg, at once selected as the site for the meeting, is built on a square English mile of ground, with a population of 200,000 inhabitants. The whole of the Hamburg territory does not amount to more than 33 square miles; but it has to keep 72 English miles of river in

a navigable order, surrounded by foreign states, that try to strangle them through toll-bars: and in spite of this they have been able to work themselves up, without marine or military forces or diplomacy. The suburbs and the immediate neighbourhood, round the banks of the Alster, are garnished with the finest villas and gardens, which you may count by hundreds, and scarcely see two houses alike. Englishmen who visit this place use the expression, "This is a paradise." The Alster, an artificial lake, raised eleven feet higher than the Elbe, has a good supply of fresh water from a large extent of country lying to the north-east. It empties itself into the Elbe at the back of the famous English Hotel, from the "summer-house" of which you see the falls of the water.

The show-yard was within an easy distance of the city. On entering, you could not fail to be impressed with the importance of the gathering. A tastefully-arranged lake, with a fountain in the centre adorned with flowers, &c., backed by an ornamental pavilion for the ban., first caught the eye; while in the distance stood the working offices and refreshment rooms, supported around by the exhibition classes and implements. The varied costumes, the many tongues, the several characteristics of the many breeds of stock, coupled with the weather and the novelty of an international gathering in the German States, had its effect upon the visitors. These were numerous and distinguished; but it was singular to remark the absence of the English aristocracy, the leading breeders and, we may even write, nearly everybody else except the officials. The Royal Agricultural Society was represented almost alone by Sir W. Watkin Wynn—the breeders by Mr. Crisp, of Butley Abbey; Mr. Sexton, of Suffolk; and Mr. Woods, as Lord Walsingham's agent. Nevertheless, England was tolerably well represented by her animals.

Proceeding now from the course to the show-ground, we may begin by saying that as it is difficult to follow the classification as arranged by the committee of management, we must make our remarks as general as possible. In primis, the English exhibitors of sheep ran great risk of being without a representative or a judge, for no person was appointed to act in this department. It was, however, preliminary arranged that Mr. Robert Smith, of Emmett's Grange, should officiate, both for the English cattle and sheep. The Merinos stand first in the catalogue, and are classified as rams and ewes with fine wool, and rams and ewes of coarser or different descriptions of wool. It must be understood that in each class of sheep animals of all ages are exhibited, and not as at the English exhibitions, where there are classes for rams of one year old, and others for rams of any age. The entries were as follows—