

ed for, which were highly creditable to the parties engaged in designing and carrying out the exhibition. The show of short-horns was really a magnificent spectacle; that of the other acknowledged varieties was excellent, and in several cases very superior. Sheep were numerous, and numbered amongst them many highly bred and valuable animals, and pigs were so thoroughly bred, and so numerously superior, as to make it a task almost approaching the impossible, on the part of the judges, to make their awards, and to leave even our best breeders scarcely anything more to do in the way of improving our swinish multitude; the difficulty now appearing to be to keep them permanently up to their present standard of excellence. In horses were exhibited many excellent animals; and the poultry, though not numerous, presented very superior specimens of the most approved varieties. Amongst the implements were exhibited some of the best and most successfully-adapted inventions of the best makers in the three countries, several of them being new and local ones, which, in design and workmanship, were fit competitors with our friends at the other side of the Channel, particularly in field implements. The judges of implements proceeded with their inspection, and unexpectedly had a trial of ploughs in a field about a mile outside the city, the swing-ploughs selected being those of Ransome and Sims, Ipswich; Ritchie, Ardee; Clarke, Moira; Fleming, Monaghan; Gray, Belfast; Miller, Dunleer; Allen, Money-mors; the subsoil ploughs being Ransome's and Gray's. They also tried Gray's turnwrist plough, and a sevenbull harrow of Mrs. Jane McConnell's, Armagh. Our readers will gather a pretty correct idea of the character of the Show and the present state and prospects of Agriculture in Ireland, from such portions of the speeches given at the public Dinner, as our limit will admit.

The DUKE OF LEINSTER, President of the Society, proposed the health of the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of St. Germans, when his Excellency observed:—I had great pleasure last year in meeting the members of the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland on the shores of the Lake of Killarney, and I have equal pleasure now in meeting them in a less romantic but not less fertile and important district [hear, and cheers]. It is very agreeable to me to be present at this meeting, and to witness the progress which agriculture is making in this part of the country [hear]. Much of that progress is, I think, fairly attributed to the labours of this society, by

bringing together large numbers of the finest animals of every breed, and by collecting, I am afraid not quite an equal proportion but still many of the most approved implements of husbandry, and also for enabling the farmer to see and to converse with experienced agriculturists from any part of the kingdom, and to confer upon the farmer a benefit, the value of which it would be difficult to overrate. [Hear, hear]. But gentlemen, much as has been done in this way, if the agriculturists of the country wish that it should retain its present proud position at the head of the agricultural countries of the world, they must redouble their exertions [hear]. A noble friend of mine, who is present at this table, Lord Claude Hamilton, placed in my hands, the other day, a very curious and interesting account of the proceedings of a French commission appointed by the government of France, to visit the Great Exhibition of 1851, and afterwards to travel through the most important agricultural districts of Great Britain and Scotland. That account shows the attention bestowed by that country upon all the inventions and discoveries that are made in this empire. They give detailed descriptions and drawings of all the most recent machines and implements that have been applied to the purposes of agriculture in this country, and also drawings of the animals of various breeds which they conceive to be best adapted to the soil and climate of their country. I believe that other Continental states are travelling in the same direction, and are now convinced of the importance of increasing the quantity and improving the quality of the produce of the soil to the utmost possible extent. It must be borne in mind that in those countries they have the assistance of the government, and I believe the expense of the commission to which I have referred was entirely borne by the French government, and they also defrayed a considerable proportion of the cost attending on the introduction of new breeds of cattle, and of carrying into effect various agricultural experiments. Now, such an interference on the part of our government would be quite hostile to our feelings and wishes; but we have a resource in the co-operation and union of agriculturists among themselves, and to that resource we must look, if, as I said before, we would retain the position we now occupy as the first agricultural country in the world [hear]. I have adverted to the various ways in which the society has promoted the cause of agriculture in this country in the same manner as the sister societies in Scotland and England have furthered the same cause. But I trust my noble friend near me, and other gentlemen who are members of the council of the society, will not suppose I am in any way dictating to them, if I venture to offer one or two suggestions, which I hope will be received in the spirit in which they are made [hear, hear]. I have heard to-day, for instance, that the quantity of implements on the ground did not quite answer the expectations which had been formed. Nothing, I believe, could exceed the beauty and the perfection of the implements which were exhibited, particularly the one which we all saw with so much pleasure. I speak of the moveable