

INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

An International Agricultural Exhibition, with the co-operation of the German Agricultural Society, is appointed to be held at Hamburg, Germany, on the 14th to 20th July next. A large and highly influential Committee have been appointed to carry out the undertaking. Messrs. Austin Baldwin & Co., of 72 Broadway, New York, are the Agents of the Committee for this Continent. They are authorized to grant certificates and forms of entry to intending exhibitors. All the prizes are open to general competition. Entries must be made on or before 15th April next. Prizes are offered for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Implements and Machinery, and Agricultural Produce of all kinds. The prizes are on a liberal scale ranging for stock from 490 thalers (\$300) to about 20 thalers (\$15). We subjoin the following extracts from the prospectus :

The Committee, in placing before the Public the following List of Prizes to be awarded at the International Agricultural Exhibition, to be held at Hamburg on the 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th of July next, and the Regulations, under which the Entries are to be made, feel a confident hope that their desire to see this Exhibition numerously attended by Exhibitors and others will be very generally responded to.

Hamburg may certainly be considered as the most convenient place on the European Continent for an International Exhibition.

The advantages of this City for the proposed Exhibition in regard to its situation, so accessible from other Agricultural Countries—England, France, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Russia—are obvious. The numerous commercial relations with these Countries and other parts of the Globe, the total exemption from Duty and all every Customs Regulations have especially favored the Merchants of Hamburg in the interchange of Agricultural Produce and Machinery, and made this city a very important Market for Horses and Cattle.

The Exhibition will therefore be an inducement to Visitors to assemble from all Parts and afford them opportunities of comparing the Productions of various countries, enlarging their ideas and opening new channels for Trade.

The Committee are making exertions to induce all Steam Navigation and Railroad Companies to convey at reduced rates of freight Live Stock, Machinery, Agricultural Implements and Produce, that may be destined for the Exhibition. Their endeavours have not yet terminated, but, so far, every encouragement to this end has been held out to them and they will not fail to make generally known their ar-

rangements, as early as possible, for the information of the Exhibitors.

The Judges to be chosen will be impartial Men, well acquainted with the matters submitted to them for decision, and taken from Gentlemen of all Countries.

The Committee have secured the hearty co-operation of the German Agricultural Society, they are liberally supported by the Hamburg Authorities and other Governments; indeed so many Agricultural Societies in different Countries, especially the Royal Agricultural Society of Great Britain, have evinced such a warm interest in this the first undertaking of the kind in Germany, that the Committee are encouraged to use their most strenuous efforts to render the "Hamburg International Agricultural Meeting of 1863" memorable for its importance.

Hamburg, December, 1862.

IN-AND-IN BREEDING.

[We recommend to the earnest attention of our readers the following communication, which appeared in the *Mark Lane Express*, of Jan. 5th, from the able pen of Mr. Wm. Carr, of Stackhouse, England. It may be read with advantage in connection with an extended extract in our last on *Breeding in the Line*, from an excellent treatise by S. L. Goodale, Secretary of the State of Maine Agricultural Board.]

It is common to hear the in-and-in breeding of animals spoken of as a violation of the law of nature, which must necessarily result in deterioration and degeneracy of the breed. This assumption—which really argues as much ignorance of the definition of a "law of nature" as of the instinct of animal life—seems to be founded on a supposed analogy between the human race and the lower animals. It is argued that because, in the former, close alliances between blood relations are followed by evil consequences, indicating that in their case an organic law of nature has been infringed, that therefore the law must be extended to all organized beings. But we have really no evidence that any such analogy exists. That such a law has no primitive, inherent relation to animal life, derived from the nature of things, is evident from the fact that it was not originally imposed even on man himself, as appears (if we may still be allowed to quote the authority of the Pentateuch) from the records of patriarchal times, and the duration of life attained by the offspring of unions which are now held incestuous. It was instituted at a later period, for reasons manifestly connected with social expediency and domestic morality, the physical or rather mental penalty annexed to its refraction being the means by which, in