

ly completed. Still the Show in point of numbers and quality was considered successful. The implement department was well filled, most of the English makers being represented. A new and capacious Hall has recently been erected and the society now possesses extensive and convenient premises for the purposes of the Show, as well as permanent offices, museum, etc., in the heart of the city. The live stock, on the whole, appears to have been large in quantity and excellent in quality. *The Irish Farmer's Gazette*, which ranks amongst the most influential and widely circulated agricultural journals of the United Kingdom, remarks:

From our spring shows, breeding animals have been sent to Australia and to America; and whilst English breeders of the highest eminence have drawn upon its sections for the far-famed excellence of their herds, some animals which have stood under the glass covered arches in Kildare-street are to be found even as far north as "John O'Groat's House." It is the ready sale afforded for breeding stock which draws together such a number of superior animals as our spring shows exhibit in the Shorthorn sections, and not the intrinsic value of the prizes offered by the Society; and for this reason, therefore, we might as well expect Ballinasloe fair to change its site, as to think that the spring shows of the Royal Dublin Society should be held anywhere but in Kildare-street.

The plan of admitting the public from the moment when the judges commence operations, which was tried for the first time on Tuesday last, was found to give general satisfaction. There was a considerable number present even from an early hour, and as the best of the different sections were paraded, their several merits and demerits were closely criticised, and sometimes in a manner which told that public opinion did not go always with that of the judges. Of one thing, certainly, the public felt assured, that whatever might be the judges' decisions, those were never given hurriedly. They were most painstaking in all they did, and we dare say several who were present on Tuesday went away not only fully satisfied that the public lie under very great obligations to gentlemen who acted as judges on such occasions, but also that being a judge at such shows is not the easy matter many, perhaps, imagined it to be. At the same time, we do not see any necessity for quietly endorsing every decision which may be made by those gentlemen, simply because they have willed it to be so.

*The Gazette* furnishes four excellently executed wood cuts of Shorthorns' which obtained first premiums, medals and challenge cups. The Marquis of Waterford's bull, "*King of Hearts*,"

a two year old white heifer of Captain Baly county of Limerick, called "*Nightingale*," a yearling heifer, "*Florentine*," the property of Mr. Abbey, of Tralee; and a roan bull, "*Sombadar*," owned by Mr. Coppinger, of Carringtonhill. The latter was awarded not only the first prize in his section, but also the costly challenge cups of the *Irish Farmers' Gazette* and the *Irish Railway*.

The prizes were distributed in the evening by the Lord Lieutenant, who on a vote of thanks being passed spoke as follows:—

I feel very certain that those whom I have the pleasure to address do not need to be assured of the real interest which I feel in the exhibition of this society, connected, as I conceive them to be, with the advancing progress of Irish agriculture (hear). I am only copying the example of the Prime Minister of England, and, I have no doubt anticipating the example of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when he brings forward his approaching budget, when I make some allusion to the inclement character of the season through which we have recently passed (hear). True it is the spring, summer, autumn, and winter have conformed to the usual law and course of nature in the respective lengths of the night and days; but hail, rain, frost, and storm have appeared to occupy a joint preponderance throughout the whole of those seasons (hear). Seldom, indeed, have these island shores been more strewn with wrecks, and we have had lament the loss—outweighing unnumbered agonies—of brave human life (hear). But difficulties and drawbacks seem to be the appointed schooling through which improved agriculture, as well as everything else that is sterling and valuable in our knowledge, is destined to struggle, to emerge, and to thrive, (hear, hear, & cheers). And I think it may justly be said to the show in your yards this afternoon has given good proof that even the weather of last year has not impaired the vigour, or the beauty, or the lustrous proportions of the Irish stock (cheers). I think no one can have witnessed the exhibition of this day without feeling an increased conviction of the conviction which we must have entertained of the progressive character of Irish agriculture (hear, hear). The agricultural returns which are collected every year, while they show the material changes in various crops, and the general condition of agriculture, uniformly exhibit a steady increase in the quantity of live stock. It is true that these returns, while they tell us of quantity, are necessarily silent with respect to the quality. It is to general observation and to advancing prices that we must look for information in that particular; and such shows as those of Baker-street in London or in Kildare-street here, give the very best.