

age was 22 tons an acre, the value of which we will now discuss. What was the cost? 30 bushels of wood ashes, 15s.; 2 cwt. of guano, 17s.—32s. For manual labour, 19s. 6d. The rent I have placed at 5s. an acre, rates and tithes at 2s. In all, round numbers, 4l. Now let us see what the Swedes were worth. I find that 112lbs. of Swedes will, on the average, put on 2lbs. of live flesh. Then the value of that at 7d. a pound, dead weight, reckoning that the live weight is to dead weight as 4 to 3, brings my Swedes to 17s. 1d. a ton. Now what is the value of the dung? I bring it to 4s. 1d., which makes it equal to 21s. 2d. But I'll take the popular value of 15s. a ton. Now for 4l. an acre I have a return of 300 per cent., and if that is not a sufficient return, I don't know what is. You see I want you to be enthusiastic. If you will only be as enthusiastic as I am, you may laugh at these free traders. We agriculturists support 27 millions of people, and our produce amounts to the enormous sum of 540 millions sterling, whilst the exported manufactured goods amount, on the average of 6 years to not quite 47 millions. Then I tell you, you must become enthusiasts. Now about the hay—that is a piece of hoggety. There is a large body of experiments carried on by the Highland Agricultural Society, and in their reports is contained the relative value of hay and grass before it is dried, and it is calculated that 1 cwt. of grass cut green will produce more milk than dried hay. You know that hay by drying loses a third portion. You make it wood by drying, and give the poor animal's stomach the trouble of reducing that wood to sugar and gum. Well, I tell you what I did; I took some straw, and upon that I put three hundred weight of vetches, and then having some salt prepared, I had it carefully sifted over them at the rate of 2lbs. to each hundred weight, and we went on adding a layer of salt to a layer of vetches until we had got a rick as high as this room. About two months ago we cut it open; nothing could be more beautiful than the smell, and the vetches were as green as when they were put in. So much for the value of salt. If you were to mix sawdust with vegetable juice and salt it would become soluble—the human stomach might eat it. Well, what's the result? I can get nine or ten tons an acre in this green state. Now, I ask you whether these things are not worth trying? By giving the animals these things we keep their stomachs in good condition, and enable them to give plenty of milk. I hope you will not make your clover into hay, but get all the straw you can, and turn your green grass into green hay, saving thereby all the juices as well as one-third of the bulk. Well, now may I say something about manure? I found sheds might be erected at 1s. 3d. a foot, and I think if we can do without the dung-heap we shall get all the ladies to see us. I have therefore had a large house erected, entirely by my own labourers, to hold at least 50 or 60 tons of manure, wherein all refuse matters are thrown; not long shaggy stuff, but in a comminuted state requiring no turning. Well, now again about your dead animals. I am afraid, sir (turning to Mr. Farquharson), after what I tell them, they will sell you no more dead horses (*laughter*). I have a very large sawpit, made of Memel timber; and if you cut a horse in half, he will lay in it easily. We throw him in, and pour sulphuric acid over him: he looks very uncomfortable, but in the course of a fortnight he is turned to a jelly (*loud laughter*). Now he's worth double his weight in guano. I am almost afraid to say it before you, sir (Mr. Farquharson) but he will grow five tons of Swedes (*laughter and cheering*). I've talked so immensely, that I don't know that I ought to say any more; but I want to advise you not to buy any more guano. I bought last year 150l. worth; and I conscientiously believe it will be an admirable investment to buy up all the dead horses you can lay your hands on. I have laid out 2,000l. in building, and 700l. in draining; and I verily believe that by next year, charging on the whole outlay an interest of 10l. per cent., I shall clear 2l. per acre. We consumed last year 130,000 tons of guano, and next year we shall have to pay a long price for it, because there is only 10,000 tons allowed to be exported; and that is the way

these people pay their bonds (*loud laughter*). Now if you go and buy good bones, and dissolve them in three quarters of their weight of sulphuric acid, you have that weight by weight, which is equal to the best guano, because it is proved that it is identical in its composition with Ichuboe guano; and why we should go to Peru to get that which is at our own doors is what I cannot comprehend. I think we ought to reclaim all poor lands and poor pasture, and then we shall be enabled to give full employment to the labourers. After extolling the services of the labouring population, Mr. Huxtable resumed his seat amidst loud cheers; and the company then rose, and gave him three rounds of applause.

#### PROVISION TRADE OF LIVERPOOL.

In addition to their weekly report, we insert the following admirable summary of the provision trade of that town during the bygone year by Messrs. Adams and Banks:—

Liverpool, 29th of December, 1845.

The present year was ushered in with the highest prospects of commercial prosperity, and the realization of those prospects continued unabated during two-thirds of the year, and were blighted only by the probability of a defective harvest, and the abstraction of capital and energy from business pursuits to the share mania; the latter, however, brought the antidote with the bane, and the former, whether as regards the grain crops or green crops, are not turning out so defective as was anticipated. And although the commercial arm of this great country is at present a little paralyzed, it is not shortened. There is plenty of money in the country, the manufacturers are busily engaged, the artisans in receipt of good wages, and the mining population equally well off. The shipping interest has been doing well all this year, and still has undiminished good prospects. The agricultural population, as a whole, are better employed than formerly; and the formation of railways is finding employment for numerous branches of business, besides the superabundant labourers. Articles of food are moderate in price, and the consumption of everything enormous. Let the political horizon become settled, the corn-law question set at rest, confidence restored amongst the commercial community; enjoying as we are, a universal peace, and we may look forward to bright rather than dark spots in our commercial history, and a revival of healthy and active business as the spring advances.

It is natural that our provision trade with America, after three years' working, should be fully developed. It is not quite so with regard to swine products. It was at first expected that bacon and hams would be sent forward freely. Such has not been the case, and the expectation of a trade cultivation in these articles is much abridged. A greater business was looked for in barrelled pork, but the value of this article in America being nearly equivalent to that of Irish or Hambro', importations have been in a great measure precluded thereby; saying nothing about the disparity in quality, the American proving much inferior to the other two. However there have been some good lots of American imported, and we must not take it as a security that, because little has been done in this article this year, an extensive business is not yet to be cultivated in it. Lard has become a staple article of commerce, both for culinary purposes and pressers' and soapers' uses. With respect to beef, there can be no mistaking American superiority. The imports this year have been of uniform good quality, and nothing is now inquired for, for ship stores, but American beef. It has been