

distinguished for. This was particularly the case with the steam engines, in the order of merit for which some very remarkable changes occurred. The saving in coal in the first-prize steam-engine is regarded as something extraordinary, and the performance created a very general sensation. It is but right to add that the award was unanimously agreed to, while the achievement must have the effect of calling forth all the energies of other firms who have so far, perhaps, been but too well satisfied with what they had attained to. The steam-engine trials at Chelmsford next year will be something more than usually interesting.

Of almost equal importance, and unquestionably of more attraction to the agriculturist himself, are the trials of the ploughs and the reaping machines. In the former of these the struggle was, as usual, between the Ransomes and the Howards, for both of which Mr. Ransome was declared successful; Howard's lighter plough receiving a high commendation. The ploughs of both these firms were beautifully turned out; the competition in the light of general purpose plough very close, and the award in this class one of the few that was at all canvassed. We speak on the authority of one of our best judges who saw the work when we say that the Bedford plough had hardly justice done to it; while a contemporary declares decisively that it ought to have had the prize. We are always loath to go against the judges, and in doing so here we are only quoting the opinion of others.

After but a partial experiment upon rye, the further trial of the reapers has been postponed until harvest, when four have been selected to meet again on the farm of the President, Mr. Miles, in the neighbourhood of Bristol. These are Crosskill's Bell, Dray's Hussey, Burgess and Key's, McCormick, and Palmer's—a Scotch implement. Crosskill's, Dray's, and Burgess and Key's have all been much improved, the two latter particularly in the delivery; and the race, according to the best judges, is supposed to be between them—Dray, from his past successes, being rather the favourite.

Few even of the most sanguine ever expected to see the two hundred pound prize for a steam plough awarded at the Carlisle meeting. In simple truth we are yet a long way from any such a realization. Of all those entered and tried, or attempted to be tried, none did much to advance us in this direction. It is doubtful whether, after all, Boydell's implement will ever be of much use in cultivating the land; while Usher's, much longer known and much more talked of, proved little less than a lamentable failure. Cumbrous and curious in the extreme, it was long before it could be got to move at all; and when it did, it commanded but few admirers. By far the most satisfactory of all the steam implements to be used in the field was Fowler's draining plough, which was exhibited at work outside the yard. It was much appreciated, and, as now amended, promises to be a serviceable and economical invention for landowners and occupiers. Surely, though, this should come directly under the proceedings of the Society, which would no doubt provide for its being put to work. It is just one of those cases where the authority of such a recommendation would be doubly useful.

Amongst other more modern discoveries was Chandler's liquid manure drill, which would now appear to have no competitor. Mr. Spooner's was entered, but not exhibited. The Messrs. Garrett, however, had Chambers' clever manure distributor in their standing, and which, as with Chandler's, again obtained a premium.

SHOW OF STOCK AT CARLISLE.

In addition to the foregoing general description of the Show, we subjoin a few particulars from the same journal's Special Correspondent:—

A more splendid show of Shorthorns we believe we never saw—so uniformly good, (with one or two exceptions,) and denoting all that beauty of form and color and feature which all so much admire and love to see, but those better and more substantial qualities—a large, rotund proportionate frame, evidencing a tendency or capacity to produce plenty of good lean flesh, and of the primeest quality, as well as to lay on, as they do, such enormous quantities of fat. This is as it should be; who can dine from off fat meat? We are glad to notice such a feature at this meeting. We think more attention is given to the breeding of animals of heavier frame, and denoting a tendency or propensity to produce good lean flesh, than heretofore. For the public good, we beg most earnestly still closer attention to this principle in breeding in every class.

The first prize of £30, for bulls over two and not exceeding four years of age was awarded to R. Booth's "Windor." He is 3 years and 9 months old and described by the *Express* as a splendid animal, having all his proportions in good outline; his color white; he is very cylindrical in form, but if anything of better than cylindrical form, being deeper in frame than circumference. His head is rather plain, and horns wide, but his eye is fine; back is admirably formed, level and broad throughout; his chest is full, and breasts prominent; his shoulder and ribs well out, full plait, peep flank, long rump, and thigh deep, twist very good.

Lord Feverham's bull "Gloucester" took the second prize of £15. He is only 2 years and 2 months old, but possesses all the full outline of maturity.

Mr. Townsley's bull "Master Butterfly" which took the first prize as a bull calf at Lincoln last year, now takes the first prize of £25 as a yearling. He has a beautiful well-formed head and muzzle, and fine eye and horns; his form that of an oblong cylinder of considerable length, and well proportioned; his back, broad, level, and fat, loin unusually broad and full.

The first prize of £20 for cows in milk or in calf was awarded to R. Booth's "Bridesmaid" a roan 4 years and 4 months old. Her frame is beautifully symmetrical, "an animated cylinder of deep and surpassing proportions."

The Herefords, 32 in number, were of average quality. The *Express* says: "we have never seen a much better Hereford bull than Lord Beswick's and many other animals possessed extraordinary merit. If they do not equal the Shorthorns as a breed of cattle, they are at least next in public favour to them." Lord Beswick's bull "Altringham" red, with white face, 2 years and nine months old, took the £30 prize in the first class. The *Express* says:

"This is a superb animal. He is high enough, is well-formed and cylindrically shaped, deep, and good throughout. Good girth and chest, level back, and broad, but ribs, thighs, and twist, not quite corresponding. Extraordinary flank, long and good; frame long, full, and noble; head and neck commanding. We incline to class him as the best bull in the yard—such uniform depth and substance, and of all very fine."

Lord Radnor's bull "Carlisle," same age and co-