

fine. Mr. Foljambe obtained the gold medal and two first prizes, with the silver medal, as the breeder for Leicester Sheep, which for wool, carcase, and purposes of breeding, were considered highly excellent. In short-wooled sheep the Duke of Richmond carried off the gold medal and the three first prizes in these classes! The Duke labored hard for several years after commencing as a breeder of South Downs unsuccessfully, and we well remember hearing his Grace observe after several years, of unsuccessful competition, "that he would not, in consequence, relax in perseverance and diligence, but strive with greater energy till he triumphed,"—a consummation which his Grace now appears to have fully realised.

Pigs had a large exhibition in every class except in the large breeds, which are declining. Only one large animal was shown, but the small and middle breeds were both numerous and superior. Prince Albert was the chief winner of prizes in young and aged pigs, and also of the gold medal.

The *Express* has the following common-sense observations, "The success of His Highness, Prince Albert in the breeding of pigs, and his complete failure this year of the four oxen exhibited in Devons and Herefords, suggests the expediency or necessity of *breeding*, as well as feeding the cattle, when the same success might attend the performance. There is much more merit in breeding cattle than in feeding them, the latter being altogether mechanical, and the former a very high exertion of intellectual judgment and calculation. There is little merit, comparatively, in refining the organization of swine, as the Hog is very susceptible of variations, and an almost universal cosmopolite. The frequent bearing of young, shows the effects of sexual intercourse much sooner than the yearly productions of cattle and sheep. Prizes for any animals might be continued to the breeders only."

There was no Poultry show held in connection with the Smithfield Club; but one was got up in a distant part of London during the same week, which was considered, taking all disadvantages into the estimate, a very creditable display. It numbered 585 pens, exclusive of

pigeons, comprising most of the common and improved varieties, to which liberal premiums were awarded.

Although the Smithfield Club was established for the sole purpose of encouraging the fattening of animals, and has never awarded premiums to the mechanical department of Agriculture yet, for several years past the number of improved implements and machines has gone on rapidly increasing, insomuch that the Directors of the Show have experienced great difficulty in making room for them;—the only encouragement the Society gives. Manufacturers are eager to avail themselves of the opportunity for showing off their productions, and a large amount of orders are taken. Although the space allotted to this department has been more than doubled of late, it is still found altogether insufficient, and must be yet further increased. Among the new machines we have only space to mention Lawson & Company's Flax-Scutching Machine, which is spoken of as being one of the most elegant specimens of inventive skill that has ever been witnessed. By this machine flax is both broke and scutched in the most perfect manner by one operation, and in an incredibly short space of time. The American Threshing Machine attracted much attention, and it was thought, with some modifications, that it might be adapted to English wants and use. Clayton's Brick-making and Drain Tile machines were to be seen in operation; they have received some important improvements, and commanded general attention. The one-horse machine will make a thousand bricks per hour of the best description.

The business of the Exhibition was wound up as usual by a public Dinner at which several interesting speeches, containing either fresh information or suggestions of improved modes of operation, were delivered by a number of influential landowners and practical farmers.

IMMENSE LOSSES ON THE IMPORTATION OF STOCK.

The year 1853 has proved very unfortunate to a number of individuals on this side of the Atlantic, who have been led by a laudable and enterprising spirit to import the improved breeds of farm stock from Great Britain. A number