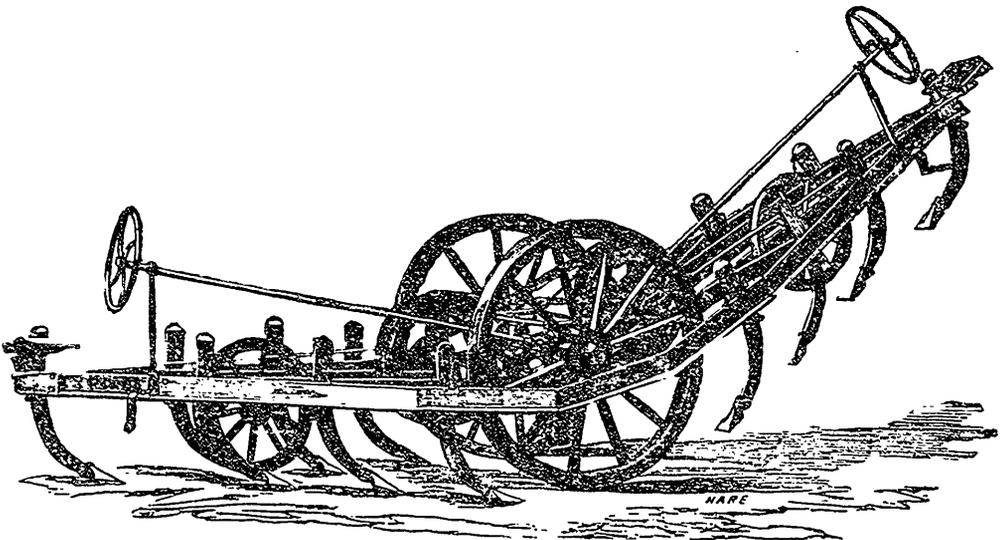


be ploughed by a team of horses for less money. If we look far enough, too, it requires no great gift of prophecy to foresee the time when these headlands will be permanent roads, hedges being done away with. Where will the present objection then be? The support of the rope has been more an object of attention than ever, since it is in the wear of this member of the apparatus that the chief expense lies. Howard and Fowler now sustain it thoroughly. Their competitors were somewhat careless in this respect, and their expenditure of power compared with work done was consequently much greater. Mr. Smith and those who worked on his plan were upon heavy land at a considerable distance from the station. They experienced however no lack of attention. Their work was useful but it lacked that superiority which belonged to the ploughing, cultivating, and digging already

noticed. By way of summary we may say the Farningham exhibition indicates a very considerable advance, tending to further the practice of steam culture amongst the ordinary tenant farmers of this country. This conclusion is confirmed by the numbers of orders taken, especially by Mr. Fowler and Messrs. Howard. We believe between forty and fifty sets have been purchased, many to go abroad, and some to lend their efficient aid for the pulverisation of our tenacious clays.

Not a little were we amused on reaching the summit of one of the neighbouring hills, to which we had been directed, to find an arrangement of ploughs drawn by steam, which acted as a most powerful relief for the apparatuses which occupied the foreground of the picture. There was an 8-horse power single cylinder engine, with steam indicator at 78 lb.



Fowler's Patent Balance Scarifier or Cultivator.

hauling along on Smith's plan two lumbering Kentish ploughs, taking one furrow 10 inches by 6. Eight men and one boy were engaged, the course of the implements was slow, and from a minute to a minute and a half was lost at each end in lifting out and altering the mould board, and starting again. Kent, never very famous for cheap ploughing, perhaps never experienced such a dear piece of work as that must have been. If steam is worth anything, it is certainly to reduce cost, not to increase it.

Amongst the horses the Suffolks and Clydesdales were immeasurably superior to anything we have ever seen before. The classes of shorthorns were more distinguished for their extent than for the remarkable character of the animals exhibited. The Herefords were in decided advance of the former position; and though the Devons showed largely, they do not seem to be making much headway in this meat producing age. The Scotch cattle well repaid close inspection. The milch kine of Ayr, numbering sixty entries, were at the head of their

department, and will help, together with the Swiss, French channel Islands, Welsh, Irish, and Suffolk polled cows, to turn the attention to the importance of a better kind of dairy stock than either of the pedigreed classes. These pedigreed classes, by way, are to be increased, for I hear of a *Polled Herd Book* just coming out from about the dusky forms of the north. The pigs were fine—and very large and good show, all the main varieties being well represented.

The Merino Sheep, cultivated exclusively for their wool, were in great force, particularly the Saxon and French varieties. It seems probable, however that although these sheep may be bred with advantage in England, as they are by Mr. Sturgeon, with a strength of constitution which fits them for the Australian colonies, where fresh supplies of vigorous blood are rendered periodically necessary by the character of that climate, they will cease ere long to be cultivated in Europe because the Australian merino wool is fast superseding the