

ly, but a great deal more might be done by improving breeds congenial to the climate than by pulling up one breed against another. He was a thorough-bred shorthorn breeder, and therefore they would receive this remark as quite unprejudiced. Shorthorns were best adapted to the north of England, as they could be got up at a much earlier maturity, and the inhabitants of the north did not care so much for the London market as to the value per pound, as they got more pounds for consumption. If it was found that in Norfolk that they had a home breed which could be got up with advantage, just as in North Devon they had a breed adapted to that climate, let them keep to it by all means, and they were sure to succeed; but let them not fall into the false economy of breeding merely class against class, a course which was not to be supported upon the true principles of breeding. Let every man try in his own circle of breeding to improve those animals which had been placed in his hands by nature. If he found them not congenial, let him import others, but let the importation be from an original stock. They had in Norfolk Highlanders crossed with Norfolks; whether it was to their advantage in paying their rents he would not say; but he believed they would do more by improving that which nature had given them than by seeking by violent crossing to abrogate the principle which God had laid before them. Violent crossing might pay for a certain time; but he believed it to be decidedly wrong in principle; for one should try to improve nature, and not to alter nature. The northern sheep called the Tees-water had become obsolete; the old Lincolnshire he was glad to say were obsolete, and the large horned Norfolk were obsolete also.

The CHAIRMAN next proceeded to direct attention to the horse classes, and observed that some Suffolk cart horses were deficient in their feet, although if a horse had to pull a large weight, it was a very important consideration that its hoofs should be strong, that its feet should be fully developed, and that they should be put on exactly in the right way. He saw a great improvement in the horses which had been exhibited that day, and if he could have found the gentleman to whom they belonged, he should have tried to have bought one or two animals. He supposed, however, that nobody sold a horse which could win a prize, and he went away with his money in his pocket. Well, there were worse things than that (laughter). The judgments given were, he believed, founded upon sound and true principles, and they were much indebted to the judges for marking by their decisions what was desirable, and what was to be avoided. A horse might be made to look uncommonly handsome, but unless his lower extremities were made in the right way, and unless his feet were strong in proportion to his body, you would merely have a very large animal to stand still, and a very slow animal to go on.

What they wanted with good roads was a quick stepping animal, with good lower extremities, strong feet, and a certain amount of action. Every man thought he had got the best horse in the country, and as for the old mare, there was no mistake about her (laughter). He did not mind in the least giving, in his quiet independent sort of way, an opinion or advice; but if there was one subject upon which he would rather not give an opinion, it was riding horses. The fact was, a great deal depended upon the rider. In the case of one man's horse, the rider might be a very good one, in the other he might be a great brute, and the man who could discriminate which horse was most likely to make the most money in the horse market, was the man to decide which was the best riding horse. With some people a horse whose tail went over his back, and whose feet went over his nose, might be an uncommonly popular one.

The CHAIRMAN observed that he had acted for four years as steward of the implement yard at the meetings of the Royal Agricultural Society, and as he had paid much attention to the subject of implements, he would make a few hastily improvised remarks upon it. The topic was one of great complexity, and one which ran counter to the prejudices of many farmers. He remembered when the implements exhibited at the Royal Agricultural Society's meetings did not exceed in number those exhibited to-day, and had not one twentieth of the practical value. Very few could appreciate the difficulty, expense, disappointment, and trouble involved in bringing a good agricultural implement to that sort of perfection which rendered it fit to be put into the farmer's hands. Exhibitors of implement had to contend with two great difficulties. Every labouring man who had been in the habit of working with the two old simple implements, the plough and the harrow, looked upon every new implement with a feeling of the greatest possible contempt. When he (Mr. Hammond) had been unfortunate enough to buy a new implement, he had not half done his business, for he was compelled to devote a very considerable amount of time to its right application; and having arrived at the advertised use of the implement, he had then to set to work to discover how many more uses it might be applied to. His friend, Mr. Garrett, whom he saw present, would also tell them that nothing was so difficult as to introduce an improvement among farmers when they did not appreciate it, though it might do the work better than it had been ever done before, it was something new, and they hated accordingly. He remembered perfectly well when the thrashing machine was considered an innovation perfectly inapplicable to this country and when the labourers thought it would be the bread out of their mouths: now implements had been improved so much, that it was a most serious difficult thing in harvest time to get man into a good sweat (laughter). He con-