

The *Leicesters* were a better show than had been previously produced; combining a superiority of form and feeding quality, which makes a profitable sort. The *Cotswolds* were wonderfully large and splendid sheep, with fine wool, dark faces, and capital mutton. The show of *Short-wools* was very fine, the Duke of Richmond, Mr. Rigden, and Lord Walsingham being at the head; Mr. Jonas Webb not exhibiting. "Beautiful as these *Downs* really are, the art of 'trimming a sheep,' has here also, in too many instances, been closely studied."

"The important classes of Cross-bred sheep are a striking feature in the Show. Mr. Overman's prize Southdown and Leicester wethers are very perfect in form, the character of the three sheep very equal, and the handling uncommonly fine. Mr. White's, Mr. Hobbs', Mr. Howard's, Mr. Morland's, and Mr. Twitchell's are unusually good.—Why do exhibitors persist in clipping so as to present a straight flat back to the eye, and rumps, flanks, plaits, bosoms apparently full and expanded, when the hand instantly detects the falsity of the outward show, and reveals the abominable attempt to thus gloss over a defective form? And why do judges award honors to such sheep as they have done in every class? A sheep unfairly shorn, and a pig unduly old, ought alike to be disqualified by the authorities. In the next class (for wethers not exceeding 220lbs. live weight) we must make the same complaint; and we would not give a prize to a pen of sheep, no matter how good their mutton, or how handsome their "looks," if there were such gross trimming and shaping the animals with the shears. Mr. Overman's magnificent sheep are in splendid condition, are wonderfully handsome, have rare fleeces, and are also properly shorn. Mr. Morland's are extremely compact, pretty, and with plenty of wool all over; but several pens in this class, some of them carrying off honors, are evidently the result of good breeding, feeding, and trimming combined. The Extra Stock Class is very fine. Mr. Twitchell's silver medal wether has extraordinary symmetry, great breadth of loin and chine, and full plaits; very fine in bone, and beautiful, but somewhat too tucked up. Mr. Howard's Oxfordshire Down wether is a beauty, possessing very great merit. Mr. Overman's wether is extraordinary for size, width, and substance. Mr. Hine's Down-and-Leicester wether has considerable length of face, and a rare chine and plaits. The Earl of Leicester's wether, and Mr. White's handsome Cotswold-and-Sussex Down ewe, are very properly "commended."

## PIGS.

The number of entries is:

1856	1857	1858
38	59	57

The show of swine is described as being extraordinarily good, not only containing a large number of unusually fine animals, but the general merits of others being beyond what is usual on these occasions. For early maturity, and striking development of form and flesh, very fat and beautifully fine, were distinguishing qualities. The Yorkshire, Dorsets, Improved Bedfordshire, Improved Suffolks and Berkshire may be said to comprise the more valuable and prominent breeds.

## THE IMPLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

It should be borne in mind that no prizes are awarded to implements and machines at the Smithfield Show, notwithstanding manufacturers are found to embrace with avidity the opportunity of exhibiting their productions. This department has been rapidly increasing for several years, and forms a most interesting and instructive portion of the Show. The space at present allotted is not sufficient for the purpose. Most of the machines are only within reach of the eye, and many upon the floor are so cramped and wedged in amongst others as to be quite immovable. Some, again, are to be judged of only by sections and models from the sheer impossibility of finding room for them. The state of things is unsatisfactory, and especially so when the fault admits of a remedy, that must suggest itself to everybody. Surely in London, the centre of civilization, where the possible seems to have no limit, and the spirit of enterprise is perpetually urging men to the gratification of wants that are daily increasing in magnitude and grandeur—surely in London, the capital of a country that has exalted agriculture as a grand particular star amongst the sciences, we should possess a better theatre in which to display the very implements to which we are mainly indebted for our proud supremacy.

The comfort of the public and the interests of the Club would be very much consulted by the establishment of five shilling and half-crown days, as well as the one