206

KK 850

THE CANADIAN AGRICULTURIST.

allude, must have excited great attention and would be watched with the most intense anxiety by the Hungarian proprietors.

The trial took place in a field of rye, about four miles from Pest. So great was the interest excited, that the Archduke Albert and several of the leading functionaries of State attended, to watch the proceedings and report the results. The field, it is almost unnecessary to remark, was crowded by the leading landed proprietors and farmers, who had bought largely of machinery for agricultural purposes, and who paid great attention to the respective operations of the reapers.

There were only three reapers on the ground; one by Baron Ward; a second by M. Szabo, of Pest; and the third, Burgess & Key's improved M'Cormick. Sometimes the reapers were drawn by oxen, and sometimes by horses, in order to test their working power under different circumstances. M. Szabo's machine very quickly got choked, and had to retire from the field; and we have some recollection of having seen one of similar construction, exhibited by Wray & Son, at Gainsborough, in 1852. The delivery is by endless bands, moving horizontally; but the Pest machine did its work in so clurry a manner, and required such a heavy draught, that it was at once pronounced a failure. Baron Ward's machine, which we have already described in our notice of the trial at Flinsdorf, did its work very fairly; but, independent of being heavy in draught, and frequently leaping right over the corn, and leaving large patches not cut, but trampled down, requires two men to rake off what it cuts; and such is the severity of labour, that no two men of ordinary strength could last a couple of hours at such work. The Archduke pithily remarked, that it would not be a bad machine if the Baron could only manage to do without his two men. There were four horses required to draw Baron Ward's reaper round the first cut, although the crop was by no means of a heavy kind, and four oxen the second and third ; but after every effort to make it succeed on the part of all who saw it, it came out but midlingly from the trial. The interest, therefore, was naturally concentrated upon Burgess & Key's M'Cormick, and, as it had not worked at the Vienna show, great anxiety was felt as to the results of its operations. It is also just to remark, that great regret was expressed by several gentlemen, who had a deep interest in the question, that W. Dray & Co.'s reaper was not in the field, as it worked s, much to the satisfaction of those who saw it at Flinsdorf. It appears, however, that it only arrived one day after the fair, by mistake, or by unavoidable delay. Burgess & Key's M'Cormick it is, however, but just to state, not only came up to what was expected of it, but went far beyond that point. After making one round with a couple of horses only (the horses are light in Hungary,) the approval of its working capacity was so marked, that there was not even the shadow of a doubt in any one mind in the field, as to its marked superiority over the others, and of its apparently answering the various requirements of such a machine in Hungary. This reaper did its work clean, easy, and in comparatively quick time, besides requiring much less draught, not so many men to attend it, and doing no injury to the corn. The Archduke, after seeing the reaper tried, first by horses and then by oxen, and quietly following it along the field, congratulated the representative of Burgess & Key, and emphatically remarked, that it was immeasurably the best machine there, and that it fully answered all the requirements that he could conceive of such an implement. On this declaration the whole company took off their hats and gave a hearty cheer, at being honoured by English machinery in assisting them in their field work. The success of this machine, as far as Hungary is concerned, was certainly of a very decided character.

HIGH FARMING.—Mr. F. Mechi, whose name is associated with the first triumphs of American reaping machines in England, which occurred on his farm at Tiptree, has recently written a little work called "How to Farm Profitably," in which he disposes, in a good humored manner, of all those who have taken grounds against *high farming*. He says :—

I have often been much amused by the compassionate look and manner in which my friends inquired after my doings at Tiptree. The translation of these sentiments is this: "Mr. Mechi, you are kindly losing money by your experiments to oblige the country, and we ought to feel grateful to you." But I sternly ejaculate that what does not pay in agriculture is not an improvement. The fact is, for several years I have been deriving a most gratifying return for my expenditure, and it is of a very enduring and continuous character; but the world does not believe it.