

his brother Farmers, to hear and to communicate an interchange of knowledge and experience in Agricultural matters; and by the concentration of a general fund for particular objects, have enabled him to devote more time and attention to domestic manufactures of butter, cheese, woollen cloths, satinets, blankets, counterpanes, shawls, socks, and even carpets—being assured that he will be remunerated for such extra attention, not merely by the money premiums given, but by the very notoriety which the association of numbers does not fail to secure.

They have enabled the farmer in the same way to improve the breed of horses, and also to cultivate finer fruits and vegetables, and they can and will be made the means of enabling him to diverge into the growth and cultivation and manufacture of varieties of crops, such as flax or hemp, or sugar beet, which it may become necessary to cultivate should the wheat crop continue to prove a failure, or of so low a price as to be unremunerating—by enabling him to procure this *joint* pecuniary means, the required seed or machinery for preparing these new varieties for market.

Another advantage which they have is that they facilitate the dissemination of knowledge through the means of publications such as the *Agriculturist*, *Hind's Lectures*, and other useful works; many of which, Societies are in the habit of subscribing for, and have through their *associated* funds more extended means of disseminating than private individuals unassociated could possibly enjoy. Combinations or associations of men can always effect much more good than individuals separately. Connected with the County Society were five Branch Societies, viz.:

Name of Township Society	Amount subscribed.			Proportion of Grant.			Number of members.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Sydney,	9	10	0	14	15	0	38
Thurlow,	12	15	0	20	0	0	51
Tyendinga ..	19	5	0	30	0	0	77
Rawdon,	6	15	0	10	10	0	27
Huntingdon, ..	12	0	0	18	15	0	48
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	£60	5	0	£94	0	0	241

In addition to these 241 members there were 215 members of the County Society, and the largest amount allowed by Government to each County, viz., £250, was received therefrom and expended in premiums for every variety of farm produce, stock, implements, and domestic manufactures, and the importation of seeds, plaster, live stock, &c.

LIVE STOCK.

Durham and Devon cattle have been in the County for about eight years—the latter seem to be the most appreciated; but the Society

last autumn purchased for £55 a full bred imported Ayrshire Bull, the service of which is to be free to all members. The Society is not yet sufficiently acquainted with the advantages of this breed of cattle to be able to speak with certainty as to the value; but, from appearances and information obtained from other quarters, they are of opinion that the Ayrshires will prove the very best milkers; and butter and cheese being staple commodities, the prices of which are almost always remunerative, the Society have great hopes that the propagation of this breed will effect much for the Farmer, provided he increase the growth of green food and clover to afford the extra nourishment which all imported stock requires, and in fact all stock other than native Canadian.

SHEEP.

The Society has also imported a considerable number of Leicester and Southdown sheep, and find that by crossing them, they have both in carcase and fleece what is more serviceable to the country than any other description of sheep. The average weight of fleece of this improved breed, when well taken care of in winter, is about 4 lbs., and the carcase from 15 to 20 lbs. per quarter, the mutton of very excellent quality, the wool quite fine enough for domestic purposes, and the animal hardy and not subject to disease of any kind.

HORSES.

The County abounds in beautiful and excellent horses of every variety of breed, there being 6966 of all ages. Many are sold to the Americans at good prices, ranging from £15 to £30 each, and one or two at £35 each. The rearing of good horses, which is much encouraged by the Society by handsome premiums, is at present one of the most profitable of the farmer's pursuits, the prices given for them paying better in proportion than those for any other species of stock.

IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINES.

Having many and extensive foundries in the County, the competition has been so great that the farmers are supplied with the very best descriptions of implements and machinery of all kinds at very moderate rates. We have had a wheat drilling machine for some years, but the farmers who used it did not perceive any benefit to arise from its use, and have hitherto adopted the old broadcast system of sowing in preference. We have also ploughs of every variety. The improved Scotch (the mould for which was made by a farmer of the name of Peter Spence, resident in the County), and the Prescott ploughs appear to be highly prized and are in very general use. The matter of weight or lightness of draught is much better understood