

the hands of their present proprietor, are fast being restored to their original fertility, and unfavourable as the present season has been, the crops produced are truly bountiful. Spite of the drouth, the wheat, peas, and oats are heavy both in straw and grain. Not only is manure liberally applied, but it is of superior quality, from the fact that large quantities of grain, meal, and cake are fed to the stock during the winter. About 120 head of cattle are kept, between 400 and 500 sheep, horses enough to do the work, and a pretty large stock of pigs and poultry. From all these sources a large amount of dung of the richest description is obtained, and when arrangements are completed for protecting it from the weather, and preparing it for use without loss or waste, its effects upon the land will be still more apparent.

Most of the stock on this farm is of the very best description. Mr. Stone's high reputation as a breeder is fully sustained by the appearance of his flocks and herds. His stately Short-horns, and solemn-looking Herefords, are well worth going far to see. Though the pasture has been short in consequence of the drouth, these fine cattle are in excellent condition, thanks to certain fields of green rye and tares into which the scythe has evidently been making daily inroad. A number of Mr. Stone's cattle are wholly kept on the soiling principle; the bulls for example, and some of the young growing stock. About six acres of rye and 20 of tares have gone very far in keeping up a good supply of succulent food. Not only have the cattle been thus provided for, but the sheep have been hurdled upon vetches, rape, &c. Is it not strange that in this wooden country hurdles should be so scarce? Mr. Stone uses a kind that any farmer could readily make at leisure times, while no great amount of lumber is required for them. Each hurdle is 8 feet long and 4 feet high. The end posts are 1½ by 2½ inches in size, and there are five horizontal bars 2 by 1 inch, crossed by a perpendicular bar in the middle, on each side of which is a brace. The bars are morticed into the post, an operation soon performed with a boring machine, but where that cannot be had, and the process is too slow, notches instead of mortices can be made in the posts. The hurdles when in use are supported by stakes, to which they are tied. An iron crow-bar is used to make the stake-holes. The advantage of penning sheep on a green crop is two-fold. They are economically fed, and the land they go over is left by their droppings in excellent condition for the next crop. Hurdles and sheep ought to be inseparable. Mr. Stone expresses himself satisfied that he can keep double the amount of stock by soiling and hurdle-feeding that he can in the ordinary way. In seeding down for pasture, he is accustomed to sow such a mixture of grasses as will keep up a succession of feed. When one kind fails another takes its place. In addition to the well-known timothy, white and red clover, &c., he sows largely of yellow trefoil, rye grass, and rib grass, all of which furnish feed of which cattle and sheep are very fond.

Having a large lot of stock to provide for, and being anxious to keep them in good order, Mr. Stone goes largely into root culture. This season he has 50 acres of turnips which promise to yield a heavy crop. One field of 27 acres is remarkably fine. Land thoroughly prepared for turnips is in prime order, after the roots come off, for a crop of wheat.

The farm-yard at Moreton Lodge is enclosed with a stone wall, and the accommodations for the stock are of the most spacious and comfortable description. The buildings already erected are chiefly of stone, and the steading, when complete, will be of a character seldom equalled. A large and handsome villa residence is in course of erection. Only one deficiency is visible, and that is ornamental fruit and shade-tree planting. This will probably in due time be supplied.

To return for a moment to the stock. While a detailed account of this would occupy too much space,

we cannot forbear adding a few particulars and remarks. The herd of Short-horns is in a most flourishing state. It consists of about 80 animals, and almost faultless specimens of this world-renowned breed may be seen at various ages. A three-year-old bull promises to eclipse his ancestors and contemporaries, and be an animal of rare size and beauty. Some very perfect heifers also are coming on and will, if they do well, figure honourably on future prize-lists. The Herefords, of which there are about 30, are evincing, equally with the Short-horns, their adaptation to this climate. Their grave white faces give them a particularly sage and sedate look. Mr. Stone represents them as being quite as early in their development as the Short-horns, and like them, of varied quality as milkers. He considers the chief excellence of the Herefords to consist in their aptitude to take on flesh and fatten. In this respect he thinks they surpass all other breeds. Among the sheep are fine specimens of South Downs, Leicesters, and Cotswolds. The latter, as is well known, are Mr. Stone's favourites, and they are certainly a noble breed. Two of his Cotswold rams are of gigantic size, and make common sheep look like Lilliputians. Mr. Stone keeps the Yorkshire and Berkshire varieties of pigs, of both which he has excellent samples. His Dorking fowls and Aylesbury ducks are exceedingly good also. At the approaching Provincial Exhibition our readers will have another opportunity of seeing for themselves a selection from all these choice animals, which no doubt will as usual make considerable havoc among the prizes. It is certainly matter of no little gratification that we have so much superior stock in the country, and we hope many of our farmers, catching Mr. Stone's spirit, will take pride in owning and raising the best animals to ornament and improve their farms.

Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Newcastle.

Eighteen years have elapsed since the former meeting of the Royal Society at the ancient town of Newcastle, and during this interval British agriculture, more particularly as regards its mechanical appliances, may be said to have undergone a complete revolution. Ten acres formed a space sufficient to accommodate the Society in 1846, while an enclosure of forty acres was required for the recent exhibition. "These great annual gatherings," remarks the *Agricultural Gazette*, "can no longer now be marshalled for anything like organized Agricultural discussions, and Mr. PARKES or Prof. JOHNSON, whose addresses upon land drainage and manures were 18 years ago among the leading features of the meeting, would hardly now obtain a hearing. The strong and general excitement are too great, and all the Society can do is to give the multitude sufficient opportunity for the self-directed examination of the agricultural results which are displayed."

In the number of visitors and the amount received for admission tickets, the late show at Newcastle has been rarely exceeded by any of its predecessors. The total number of visitors that entered the yard was 114,281, and the amount received £8,002, a sum, we believe, that has only been exceeded by one or two thousand pounds, in a few of the most populous centres of the Society's operations. The number of entries both of live stock and implements has been much exceeded at some previous shows, but the quality of the material constituting the Newcastle exhibition would stand the test of the most rigorous examination.

Agriculture may be said to begin with the tillage of the soil, and end with the manufacture of meat; and Mr. FOWLER's steam plough standing at the one end of the manufacture, and Mr. CRICKSHANK's Short-horn "Forth" standing at the other, may be thus considered to include between them its whole scope, extent and range. Every line upon the scale which separates these extremes has been well represented at this meeting, but the best and most numerous illustrations of the whole are those of tillage imple-

ments on the one hand, and of Short-horn stock upon the other. Never before has so good a collection or so thorough an examination of tillage implements been made, and never before have better classes of Short-horn cattle been exhibited. The excellent quality and easy management of the steam tillage accomplished by many of the rival manufacturers must convince the farmer of plough land how thoroughly practical and efficient a thing steam cultivation has at length become. Mr. FOWLER's apparatus, having an engine at each end of the furrow, co-operating in their pull upon the tillage-tool going to and fro between them, is a great step in advance of all previous experience, and received the prize of £100 offered for the best application of steam power to the tillage of the land. Ploughs, cultivators, and grubbers, propelled by steam, made by Howard, and others, were severely tested, both as to the quantity and quality of the work done, and the force expended in its performance. Several of these machines worked admirably, the improvements effected in them within the last three or four years are truly astonishing. The Howards, of Bedford, occupy a first position in this important department of agricultural mechanics. The writer of this abstract purchased one of the first batch of their improved iron ploughs, now upwards of a quarter of a century ago. The improvements subsequently effected by the same makers in their implements may to some extent be comprehended by an inspection of their recently-imported specimens in Toronto and elsewhere. Yet the improvements made of late years in the ordinary ploughs bear no comparison whatever with those which mechanical skill has achieved in steam implements.

In the implement department there appears not to have been many decided novelties. Among them may be noticed a potato-planter, which is said to perform quick and regular work. By means of a grooved wheel, into which holes adapted to various sizes are pierced, the potatoes can be dropped into the ground at regular intervals with the greatest certainty and precision. The potatoes fall into the wheel from an ordinary hopper above.

With the exception of Durhams, which in point of number and excellence could not be excelled, the cattle classes were not so numerous as on some former occasions. The show was too far north to have a large number of Herefords, Devons, and other Southern breeds, and not far enough north to attract in large quantities the various kinds of Scottish cattle, although several excellent specimens of the latter carried off prizes. The show of the different breeds of English horses was, as is usual at these exhibitions, nothing remarkable. The Yorkshire Society in this respect often exceeds the Royal. The Clydes imported over the border seemed to have formed the most prominent feature in this department.

The various breeds of sheep dispersed over the British Islands appear to have been well represented, and they form an interesting and instructive study, both to the farmer and the naturalist. It is only on such great national occasions that an opportunity is offered for the study and comparison of these different groups. The same remarks will apply to pigs and poultry. We know of no lessons in farming so suggestive and informing as those which may be learned by any mind endowed with ordinary power of observation and analysis, at the great national exhibitions.

The Show of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland.

The exhibition of this venerable Society was held in the King's Park, immediately adjoining the old picturesque town of Stirling, the beginning of August. A space of about sixteen acres was enclosed, and the internal fittings and arrangements seem to have given entire satisfaction. Hitherto the Society provided no cover for implements and machines, a desideratum long felt in so uncertain a climate as Scotland. This year sheds were erected for that purpose for such as wished to occupy and pay for them. It is the practice of the English Society to charge a rent for stalls and sheds, whether occupied by stock or implements. In this respect, we in Canada are a little more liberal toward exhibitors.

From the accounts that have reached us, the Highland Society Show appears to have been highly successful, whether as regarding the number and quality of the articles exhibited, or the visitors who came to inspect them. Thirty-one years have elapsed since the Society's Show was held in Stirling, and the improvements in Scottish cattle and husbandry during that period have been truly astonishing. Thorough draining was at the beginning of this period in its