

which the *Times* considers one of the best evidences of our improved circumstances; and the pigs were not so numerous as they might have been. But there were some choice ones among them, particularly a very nice lot of thick, symmetrical, tempting little pictures of the small Berkshire breed."

There were also some fine specimens of the Great Yorkshire breed, as also Berkshire, Middlesex, &c. In Poultry the show was very good, particularly the Dorkings, Cochin China, and Turkeys and Geese. "The Geese had immense birds to represent the class, among them a pair of *Canada Geese*, which were greatly admired, and no doubt, can be easily domesticated, and, as they weigh as much as twenty pounds, deserve attention."

In vegetables the show appears on the whole very extraordinary. The soil and climate of the land, it is well known, are admirably adapted to the growth of root crops. The following extract contains some matter worthy of more attention on this side the Atlantic:—

"It is conceded that the prize mangels particularly were somewhat coarse, and some would say that the prizes in roots should have been awarded to some specimens more cleanly grown; the fault of coarseness was more or less apparent in all those exhibited, and it was calculated that if all had been trimmed so as to remove every portion over and above the solid parts, that the largest specimens would still carry the weight. However this may be, it could be a great improvement in the list of prizes for forthcoming shows that a prize would be given to the cleanest grown specimens, irrespective of, but up to or beyond a certain average weight. We must again in this general notice, refer to Lord Claremont's magnificent collection of farm produce, which amounted in the aggregate to several tons weight, and so numerous were the groups as to leave no doubt on the spectator's mind that the general crop could not be surpassed behind the specimens exhibited, and it would be impossible for any single exhibitor in Great Britain or Ireland to exhibit such a collection, or to exhibit by J. J. Radcliffe, LL.D. Both Mr. Radcliffe, Lord Claremont's steward, and Mr. Linahan, Mr. Radcliffe's steward, acknowledge that the superiority of their crops is owing chiefly to the liberal dressings of Phospho-Peruvian Guano they received. The following very concise and graphic description of Mr. Brady's mode of improving the land at Marino and cultivating the crops as appended to Lord Claremont's collection, which must be of considerable use and interest to some of our amateurs and less practised agriculturists:

"The original depth of *active or surface soil* of the land which produced the greater portion

of the items in this collection was scarcely seven inches; the subsoil a yellow clay, recumbent on a gravelly bottom. The annual produce of it in its reclaimed state, either in grass or in tillage, was scarcely worth £8 per Irish acre.

"It was thorough drained at a cost of £4 10s. per acre, and subsoiled with the spade at £8 per acre.

"In subsoiling it, the *subsoil was not turned up*, and the *active soil all turned down*, but the subsoil was broken and loosened to the full depth of the pick and spade, and left lying on its own bed, and the active soil turned over it, *upside down*.

"The work commenced in December, and was finished by the beginning of February.

"In the last week of April the ground was thoroughly pulverized with Graham's deep grubber, and a portion of the broken subsoil well incorporated with surface soil. It was harrowed and rolled, and the mangel seed all sown by the 1st of May.

"The turnip ground was similarly treated, and the seed sown by the first week in June.

"The manure for the mangels was 35 tons of well-prepared compost and 4 cwt. of phospho-Peruvian guano per acre, and the produce not less than 90 tons per Irish acre.

"For the turnips, 30 tons of compost and 4 cwt. of phospho-Peruvian guano, and the produce 70 tons per acre.

"P. S. — Whoever doubts this statement, I shall be happy to meet him here. He can see the ground and the produce, and judge for himself.

"JAMES BRADY.

"Marino, 13th December, 1861."

The show of agricultural implements and machinery is described as of a superior character, deserving of the highest commendation and support. Many of the principal English makers were well represented, but, from some cause which does not appear, the Irish manufacturers, who now produce some first rate articles with all the appliances suggested by modern mechanical ingenuity, appear to have been but few. The report thus concludes:

"The whole central hall was crowded with the machines and implements exhibited. The frieze was exhibited on the galleries; but we have to remark that though our English friends have come forward as usual, and in great strength and power, at vast expense and loss of time—for which we hope they may be fully remunerated—we regret to find none of our Irish agricultural implement makers have done the show or the *Public* the honor of exhibiting their implements, with the single exception of Ritchie, of Ardee. Polished steel breasts or mould-boards for ploughs are now common in England; they