

partment is one of the most attractive. The manner in which their Agricultural products are displayed is highly creditable to them, and exceedingly interesting. Australia is displaying most splendid samples of wheat, wool, and fancy woods. There is in that department a very novel article in the way of a machine for reaping, or rather gathering the wheat, and delivering it perfectly clean in a box, from which it may be bagged or deposited on a grain cloth. The straw, chaff and dust are left in the field and burned. The machine is not cumbersome; and, I am told by Australians, is found to be most efficient. It certainly is a valuable labor-saving machine, but would not answer where it is an object to save the straw. But in that country they do not require the straw, and therefore find it the best way to burn it, the ashes adding something to the fertility of the soil. The whole collection from Australia is very fine; and it is not to be wondered at that it attracts the attention of parties desirous of emigrating. The French department is still incomplete; but it is already very attractive, and will be much more so. The Austrian department is still behind, but will be good. Norway has a very fine display, particularly in woollen manufactured goods, in which it is amongst the best. Turkey will be well and creditably represented. I have no doubt it will be three weeks yet before all is arranged. There are still goods to arrive; and, although the time for receiving them has expired, they are receiving them notwithstanding, and every day unpacking and fitting up.

May 13th.

The Jurors are at work, but their progress is slow; and it will take a long time to get through all the classes. I am in Class 3, Sec A, Agricultural Produce. The most of the Jurors are foreigners; but as they are able to make themselves understood in English, we get on very well. They are intelligent, and thoroughly understand what they are about. We were to-day in Tasmania and New Zealand; both of which colonies exhibit fine specimens of agricultural produce. The specimens of Indian Corn from New Zealand are very good, and in all the varieties I have seen of that grain, from the very small white to the largest horse-tooth variety. But I think the variety known with us as 12 Rowed Yellow is the best amongst them.

There is a good deal of novelty in the stuffed skins of animals and birds from all those southern colonies. The animals are also very attractive. Ornamental woods are also very well represented; but for the useful woods, for general and commercial purposes, it is generally admitted that Canada excels all other countries. Our collection in that department is exceedingly good. The wools

from the Australian Colonies attracted much attention, and deservedly so, for they are very fine. There are also many samples of cotton from the Southern Colonies, of various degrees of goodness; but I am not qualified to judge of their merits. We shall, doubtless, have the recorded opinion of the jurors, and by, as well as the result of their decision upon all the fibrous substances, which are very numerous and from various countries, and amongst these Jamaica and some of the other West India Islands hold conspicuous places. Russia, Norway, Sweden, and some of the other portions of Europe will excel in fibrous productions.

A person visiting this grand display of the productive resources of the various countries of the earth, though returning daily, is impressed each day with wonder and admiration at the wonderful displays of the Divine goodness of the Great Ruler of the Universe who has so amply provided for the wants and the gratification of the desires of the whole human race.

Your's, &c.,

E. W. THOMSON

### On the Cultivation of Flax.

We have of late devoted considerable space in this journal to the culture and preparation of Flax, and as the subject is exciting more extensive and general attention than heretofore we have before our readers the following remarks from the *Irish Farmer's Gazette* of May 3rd, which were drawn up by Mr. Thos. Berry, farm steward to Lord Gormanstown, at the request of several parties in the County of Wilts, who are desirous of carrying on its cultivation. Mr. Berry grew last year in that part of England 10 acres of flax, a sample of which gained the prize of £15, at the Royal Agricultural Society Show at Leeds. Steam cultivation was employed in the preparation of the land, and the results were in every way most satisfactory. The following remarks embrace the details of the cultivation of Mr. Berry's prize crop, and will afford our readers some useful suggestions:

Being solicited by parties feeling desirous of growing flax (as an extra and remunerative crop) to state to them my method of preparing the soil, sowing the seed, and after management preparing it for delivery to the flax mill, I willingly comply with their request.

In the first place, the soil must be stirred to 9 inches deep either with the plough or sort of cultivator or grubber; many varieties of which last mentioned implements are now in use amongst agriculturists generally, and