

set wide apart, and carrying a model carcass.

THE COTSWOLDS are a good show, "the grandest of all the British broods of sheep." The prizes are taken by Walker and Gillet and by Gillet and Brade. Some were disqualified on the ground of "excessive wool." By unfair hearing the flock-masters try to pull the wool over the peoples' eyes.

THE OXFORD DOWNS, of which there are twenty entries, are a thick and massive sort, covered with a fleece of close long wool.

THE SOUTH DOWNS exhibit no sign whatever of falling off in quality or numbers, notwithstanding the demand for larger wools.

THE SHROPSHIRE are a first rate breed; more flocks of Shropshires are represented than of any other breed in the yard.

THE PIG CLASSES

Are most of them very fairly filled, and many of them have never been excelled. There are an unusual number of disqualifications by Prof. Simmonds, owing to the dentition not corresponding with the alleged age. There is no restriction as to age in the different classes, but as the age guides the judgment of merit, of course it is necessary that it be correctly stated. Perhaps as time passes we may learn that our breeds are getting more and more precocious, and our veterinary authorities may require to stretch their rules so as to admit at once, and "in spite of their teeth," the growth of the specimens, and the honesty of the exhibitors, in a greater degree than they have. The 124 entries among pigs are spread over no fewer than 17 classes.

OF BOARS OF A LARGE WHITE BREED only three are shown, the 1st and 2d prizes going to Mr. Wainman, of Carrhead, for a large specimen of the breed with plenty of hair, in which the others are deficient.

THE BOARS OF A SMALL BLACK breed are a very good class. The skin and hair of these animals is perfect.

THE BERSHIRE boars are not a good class, very mixed as regards age and size and otherwise various, so that they by no means give the impression of the first class breed they are.

THE PUBLIC DINNER.

The Public Dinner is a great institution at an English Agricultural meeting. At Plymouth, this year, a Public Dinner, presided over by Sir F. Kerrison, Bart., the President, took place in a marquee on the Hoe on Tuesday evening 18th July, when, after the usual loyal toasts, and one especially to the foreign visitors, several of the French naval officers present in the bay being among the guests, the Duke of Somerset responded to the toast of the Navy. He said:—

"I have seen your exhibition, and I see the progress that is making in machinery and in steam engines. Well, we—the Navy—sympathise with you, for we also are anxious to make progress in steam machinery. You are anxious that the breed of animals should be improved as much as you can. Well, in one respect, you must sympathise with us—for we also have, of late, taken to some steam rams, (loud laughter). I am afraid, however, that our breed is extensive. The coats are very thick. Now there is my friend Captain Debris, who has brought over two rams from France. They are very fine rams, although they are not above two years old, and it will be very interesting for you to go out and see them, for you will find there is really very great progress in them. In that way, therefore, the Agricultural Society and the Navy sympathize together, and I am sure of this, that you will rejoice if you see foreigners come here and endeavour to compete in every way with us in this country."

HIGH PRICE OF MEAT.

The following remarks of Sir Edward Kerrison will serve to explain, in some measure, the present high price of meat in England:—

"There was one point in the agricultural ground which he must allude to. They could not but say that this country had increased in prosperity, and he was glad to see that the artisan and labourer and other people were beginning, much more than they used, to consume meat. This was a difficulty which the skill of the breeders must avert, and place it at the disposal of the working man. Unfortunately, statistics in this country were not very accurately known, but he might tell them that in the Metropolitan market only two or three years ago, whilst the cattle had increased some 144 per cent., the sheep had increased just 12½ per cent., a very small amount. The importations at the present time were much larger than heretofore, there being 80,000 more cattle, and 50,000 more sheep, but even with this enormous increase it was difficult to find food for the people. It was not, as he believed, that the stock of this country had decreased. On the contrary, it had increased, but he was very glad to say that in the smaller towns the consumption of beef was becoming more general."

THE IMPERIAL STUD OF FRANCE—ENCOURAGEMENT OF HALF-BRED HORSES.

General Fleury, Director of the Imperial Breeding Studs, has addressed a letter to the prefects recommending to their notice the society recently established at Caen for the encouragement of half-bred horses, by means of competitive shows, or trotting and hurdle races, and expressing the desire to see the

Council-Generals vote credits in support of the enterprise. The General calls attention to the fact that 18,000 horses are annually imported for the service of the Army, and hopes that, through the efforts of the Society France will at no distant period be not only able to provide for her own requirements, but also become one of the great horse markets of Europe.

GRASSHOPPERS AT WORK—We have been informed by Henry Pryor, Esq., D.C.L., that immense armies of grasshoppers have, during the past month, been eating up everything in the fields and gardens at the North West Arm. They have not only attacked grass and grain, but devoured the potatoes, garden flowers, &c.

ALDERNEY COW AND CALF FOR BADDECK.—R. A. Jones, Esq., Secretary of the Baddeck Agricultural Society, informs us that the Society obtained an Alderney Cow and Calf from Truro, at a cost (including expenses) of about \$60.

BULL PURCHASED FOR THE UPPER STEWIAKKE SOCIETY.—James S. Tupper, Esq., writes to us that the Upper Stewiacke Society has purchased two Bulls this summer, one of which was Mr. Hill's thorough bred Durham, from the purest strain in England, three years old in May next.

AYRSHIRES FOR SALE.—A fine Ayrshire Bull and Heifer, yearlings, may be had for £15. The address of the present owner will be sent to any one wishing to buy, on application to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture.

DEATH OF THE CELEBRATED HORSE "FISHERMAN."—The celebrated stud horse "Fisheruan," purchased in England three or four years ago by an Australian sportsman, for the sum of £9000, has died of a disease, which is described by the Melbourne correspondent of the *Illustrated News*, as "similar to what would be called diphtheria in the human species." He died on the 14th of June, the day before the Ascot Cup, which he won in 1858-9. He was owned in West Australia. Mr. Fisher, his owner, has unfortunately lost five or six valuable blood Mares, two of them by Stockwell.

IMPORTATION OF BEEF TO ENGLAND.—It is stated that over 6000 barrels of beef and a large amount of butter and cheese have been purchased in New York for shipment to England. Beef is likewise being sent from Canada, and an extensive trade is expected to arise.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY IN IRELAND.—The Annual Show of this Society opened on the 16th August, under very favorable auspices in Clonmel. His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant was present.

THE FRENCH VINTAGE OF 1865.—Every chance of a deficient crop of wine is gradually disappearing, and although it is admitted that the produce in some vineyards will be less than was expected, the deficiency will be made good in other districts, so that a reduction in the price of wine is not only probable but almost certain.