

unfavourably with that of last year; but still the County of Middlesex alone should have been able to make a better display.

So far as the interest taken by the public in the exhibition may be judged of by their attendance thereat there was certainly no reason to complain, especially when we consider the numbers that were brought together last year at Hamilton by the unusual credit given to the occasion by the presence of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales. And yet there can be no doubt that this year the number of visitors would have been even much larger than it was had a more liberal scale of fare, been adopted by the railway companies. The reduction should have been at least one-half instead of one-fourth; and, considering how largely the companies are indebted to Provincial aid, on an occasion of this kind a little more liberality might have been expected as a matter of policy if not of self-interest.

But while thus pointing out the particulars in which, in an agricultural point of view, the only one in which it is our province to regard the last exhibition was deficient as compared with that of the previous year, it is but fair to mention those in which it equalled, if it did not surpass it. Of the large display of Berkshire oxen we have already spoken. Of Dorhams, the display, as before remarked, was not so large as we should have expected; but, as to quality, it was excellent. Hereford, owing to Mr. Stone's late importations, were placed upon an entirely new footing. Westshire were better than we have ever seen before, both as regards number and quality. Suffolk Downs did not show any great improvement. But of Devons the show surpassed anything we have ever seen. This again was good deal due to the locality, Mr. Locke, the principal exhibitor of this breed, residing near London. Mr. Locke and Mr. Pincombe, another breeder living in the same neighbourhood, brought seventy head upon the ground between them. The show of sheep was fully equal to any we have previously had, and in the short-woolled class perhaps better. The show of pigs was also unquestionably the best that we have ever had, every variety being fully represented than on any previous occasion.

The show of implements was also very good, evincing a steady improvement in that useful branch of mechanism.

Upon the whole, therefore, it may be con-

cluded that, with the exceptions alluded to above, the agricultural portion of the show was superior to any which have preceded it, and that as those exceptions are owing in a great measure to circumstances beyond the control of the farmer, the Association have no reason to be dissatisfied with the result. That it should have compared favourably at all with last year is indeed almost more than we ventured to anticipate, considering the unusual efforts that were then made in consequence of the expected presence of the Prince of Wales, combined as those efforts fortunately were with the most bountiful season that we had known for years. One remark may here be appropriately made, viz: that in almost every class there was this year a very remarkable disproportion between the number of entries made, and the number of articles actually exhibited. Thus in grain the number of entries was nearly as great as that of last year, while the number of specimens chosen was less by one-half, and the same thing, though to a less extent, was observable all through. It is evident, therefore, that a mere enumeration of the number of entries gives but a very uncertain criterion of the nature of the exhibition. It appears indeed to have become a custom with a certain class of people to make trifling entries of articles which they have no intention of showing, merely for the convenience of having an exhibitor's ticket.

The exhibition grounds, though not so picturesque as those at Hamilton, were equally commodious, and within a reasonable distance of the railway stations. A sheet of water, occupying the northern extremity, was found very convenient for the use of the stock, and the sheds for the cattle were as good as any that have yet been provided. On this subject, however, we shall have something to say hereafter. The main building is in all respects creditable to the people of London. It is of an octagonal shape, the area on the ground floor being upwards of 24,000 feet, the galleries giving an additional space of 4,000 feet. The external wall is of white brick, 21 feet in height. The second tier of wall is of wood, and rises to the height of 32 feet above the ground, including the pitch of the roof of the exterior part; within this second tier are the galleries. The third tier within this again, which is a continuation of the inside gallery wall, and also of wood, rises ten feet higher, and above this again is a cupola, which