

all were made of iron, with only one exception—on the principle of the Scotch swing plough, known as Gray's celebrated pattern. Several, we understand, that were used by the Scarborough men, were imported. The depth of the ploughing, we believe, was not to fall short of five inches; the average would probably be six. We think it of great importance in all endeavours to improve the ploughing of the country, that *depth* should be specially regarded; since upon many soils, particularly those that have been exhausted by over-cropping and their surface merely scratched over, a deeper amount of active soil is essential to their restoration, and to an improved husbandry.

In the afternoon, the ploughmen, judges, contributors to the purse, and others, comprising 400 or 500 persons, sat down to dinner, in a temporary building erected by Mr. Palmer for the occasion. E. W. Thomson, Esq., President of the Home District Agricultural Society, presided. The toasts usually given on such occasions called forth some useful observations from several speakers. Mr. Peter Perry, who we understand was the principal originator of this trial of skill, made some excellent and good humoured observations in reference to the result of the contest. The proceedings were conducted and terminated in a manner highly to the praise of all parties concerned. Although Whitby, as Mr. Perry observed, had come off "second best," yet the public will bear in mind that had it not been for the enterprising spirit of that township, it is more than probable that the country would not have enjoyed the means which this great contest has afforded of advancing the most fundamental department of that art on which our prosperity is mainly dependant.

It was determined by the joint committee, that as the winner would be open to a challenge from any township in the province, the distance which the ploughmen of such township should be called on to travel should not exceed what might be accomplished in one day, or 25 miles; the challengers must travel the remainder of the distance. We do not expect that Scarborough will be long allowed undisputed possession of the field. Subjoined is a list of the names of the ploughmen and judges:

The names of the Scarborough men were—Wm. Addison, English; William Hood, Scotch; Joshua Kennedy, Canadian; John Crawford, Scotch; William Weir, Scotch; James Patten, Scotch; Geo. Evans, English; Conrad Bartram, Scotch; John Torrance, Scotch; James Weir, Scotch; R. Addison, English; James McCowan, Scotch; John Wakefield, English; T. Crowe, Canadian; John Weir, Scotch; Arch. Thompson, Canadian;

— Patterson, Canadian; J. Crowe, Canadian; R. Gilchrist, Scotch; and James Muir, Scotch. The names of the Whitby men were—George Martin, English; Tobias Hodgson, English; John Thompson, Canadian; Chas. Patton, Canadian; Alexander Anderson, Canadian; James Forest, Canadian; Josh. Crawfurth, English; John Medcalf, English; Stephen Mares, English; William Parden, Canadian; William Collison, English; Jas. Ketchison, Scotch; James Hamilton, Scotch; Jas. Saunders, Scotch; Henry Rundell, English; W. Sinclair, Scotch; Wilkison Warner, English; Robert Usher, English; Robert Armiston, Scotch; and George Graham, Scotch.

The Judges for the occasion were—R. Hunter, Reach; Thomas Jonas, Darlington; W. Scott, Darlington; David Smellie, Vaughan; J. Louis, Markham; and John Gibson, Markham.

The Umpires were—Robert McNair, Walter Dalzell and Robert Beith.

#### EDITOR'S BRIEF NOTES.

After attending a meeting of the executive committee of the Provincial Association, held in Kingston, May 2, we were invited to address a meeting of farmers, to be convened on Wolf Island the following day. Accordingly about forty persons assembled in a School House in the afternoon, when we took the opportunity of stating the importance of agriculture—its true principles, the rational interest which it is calculated to excite when intelligently pursued—the desirableness of farmers forming local associations for the encouragement of reading and the discussion of agricultural subjects, theoretical and practical; together with the claims of the Provincial Association on the sympathy and support of all true friends to the improvement and well being of their country. We then intimated a desire to answer any questions touching these matters, which led to an interesting conversation of quite a practical character. Several gentlemen, among whom we may mention the Rev. J. A. Allan, and Angus Cameron, Esq., spoke somewhat in detail of their observation or experience in reference to the cultivation and products of the soil. The necessity and advantages of draining, was a matter unanimously agreed upon, and drains made three feet deep, were considered quite beyond any injurious effects from frost. We observed in a field of Mr. Cameron, on Garden Island, after a heavy night's rain, the portion which had been drained quite sound the next morning, while the undrained part was covered, in many places, with water; the soil a heavy clay resting on limestone rock. It was the prevailing opinion that next to draining, in improving the agriculture of the Island, was a liberal application of lime, which, by a number of farmers joining together, might be obtained in any quantity for 3d. a bushel; applying from 100 to 150 bushels to the acre. Although the whole of these Islands, with a considerable area of country around Kingston, repose on a limestone rock, which in some places comes to the surface, yet there are many localities in which the surface soil contains only a trace of lime. Mr. Allen was