

of power is required to drive it, and it can be connected by a pulley to any threshing machine at present erected. It will, certainly, be a boon to the farmer to be enabled to scutch his own flax on his own premises. The new machine will produce 20 lbs. of scutched flax per hour, and the yield of clean fibre will be materially increased. The straw employed in the experimental test made yesterday was brought from Armah. In the ordinary scutching mills straw of the same growth and quality had yielded but 16 lbs. of fibre to the hundred weight; in the new machine the yield was 22 lbs. to the cwt. Another advantage is the speed of working. We yesterday saw five "stricks," or handfuls of straw, thoroughly scutched in seventy seconds, to the entire satisfaction of competent judges who were present; the fibre was well cleaned from the wood, and the ends of the flax—so great a difficulty in the old mode—were particularly well done. Many persons visited the scutched mill in the course of the day to see the machine in operation—amongst others, the head of the firm of Richardson, Brothers, & Co., with his buyer; and so well pleased was he with the simplicity and effectiveness of the machine, that he gave an order for one to be forwarded to Russia. As we have already said, the Messrs. Rowan have patented the invention, and it will be at work for the inspection of farmers and others interested during the remainder of the week. It is of the utmost importance that parties who contemplate the erection of scutch mills should see the new machine at work, in order to judge for themselves of its efficiency, in comparison with others. This machine has capacity for scutching unsteeped flax as well as steeped; and is, therefore, likely to be useful in those parts of the Continent and America where flax is grown for seed and not for straw, and where the straw is, consequently lost for fibre-production.—*Belfast Whig.*

### High Farming in the West of Ireland.

Few would believe that, at the present moment, some of the best cultivated farms in this country are in Connaught. I visited the great farms of Allan Pollok, Esq., of Galway, said to contain thirty thousand statute acres, in last autumn. One of the proprietors is in county Galway, near Ballinasloe. Here all the defects of bad farming are invisible; no useless ditches, weeds, nor any want of thorough drainage; there is a proper rotation of crops, plenty of farm-yard and artificial manure applied, the best seeds used, and everything managed on the best system. The principal crops are green ones, wheat and some oats. Cattle and sheep are prepared for the Dublin and English markets. The fields are the largest that I have ever seen in England or Ireland. The population, though formerly dense, is now thin, so that Mr. Pollock's poor rates will not be very high. There is a good

flour mill on the Lannelly property, where the wheat grown on the farms is made into flour. The laborers are fairly paid and seem comfortable. The farm-houses, and farm yards are in the Scotch style, and seem very fine, but not so pleasant to the eye as the same would be in England. At Lannelly, I observed the finest field of cabbage, the best mangel wurzel, the best turnips, and the most splendid field of wheat I ever saw in Ireland, except at the Model Farm, Dublin, in 1851. I did not notice any flax. The sheep seemed good, and the same may be said of the cattle; but in neither of these departments did other large graziers and cattle breeders seem to be left behind. I have seen both sheep and cattle in England which have pleased my eye rather better. All the arts of the mechanic, the architect, the chemist, and the political economist, seem to have been called into Mr. Pollock's aid. The steam engine does everything possible for it to do. These farms have been visited by hundreds from almost every country of Europe. I omitted to state that there are some other Scotch gentlemen carrying on farming there and a Belfast gentleman has also a very fine concern near Launcetown. The agriculturist who visits Mr. Pollock's farms at Lannelly and Craig, which latter is near Roscommon, will not be disappointed.—*Cor. of Belfast Whig.*

### Yield of Root Crops to the Acre.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* analyses a statement made a few weeks ago, that root crops were over estimated, and seldom or never produced anything like the amount claimed for them, the usual yield being more often at the rate of 200 or 300 bushels than from 800 to 1,200 bushels. It will be seen that by a reasonable estimate a good case is made out, which we regret to say, however, is seldom made out of a field, well as it looks on paper:]

And first in regard to parsnips, which only gave 576 bushels per acre. If the rows were 1 inch apart, as stated, and the plants 4 inches apart in the row, then they could only have averaged one-third of a pound each, which is hardly to be considered very large for carrots or parsnips. I have never considered these roots very large unless they weighed two or three pounds each, while I have seen carrots that weighed between six and seven pounds. But suppose they weighed one pound each, and grew at the distance apart each way above mentioned, there would have been 1,742 bushels, at 50 pounds per bushel; or if reckoned at 50 pounds per bushel, which is more than they will weigh to the measured bushel, and very nearly corresponds with the difference made by the Old Hibernian, then there would be 2,091 bushels. But suppose they are sown in rows 20 inches apart and 4 inches apart in the row, which I believe is nearer the usual distance; then if the roots weighed one pound each, there would be 1,500 bushels per acre, at 50 pounds per bushel, or 784 if they only weighed half a pound each.