



# The Observer.

"We live in times that call for wisdom in contemplation and virtue in action; but in which virtue and wisdom will not do without resolution."

Ayr, Friday Morning, Oct. 17, 1856.

## The Township Show.

The North Dumfries Township Show took place in this village, on Friday last. We fully expected that the display on that day would be creditable to the farmers and others of this township, and certainly our expectations were far exceeded. The number of persons in attendance was very great, and although we cannot be positive in the matter, yet we are convinced we are very near the mark when we say that there were between three and four thousand on the ground during the day.

The show of stock, without particularizing any one class, was excellent, and the farmers of North Dumfries ought to feel proud, when we tell them that the display would have reflected credit on the oldest, and most wealthy county in this fair Province. In fact, we were told by several stock breeders who were present at the show, and we can bear testimony to the truth of the statement ourselves, that the display in some of the departments of the show—especially in the sheep pens—could bear favourable comparison to the displays made at some of our Provincial Exhibitions. This is no vain puffing but simply the plain truth, and if Dumfries does not carry off quite a number of prizes at the next Provincial Exhibition in Brantford, it

will be the fault of the farmers themselves, in not showing their stock. But we will have to particularize the different departments of stock, &c. exhibited, and beginning with

### THE HORSES;

We may remark that the display of brood mares, and foals was somewhat deficient. There were only nine entries. The yearlings and two-year-olds were excellent, and in fact beat any exhibition we have seen this season. The three-year-olds were not so good in many respects as the two-year-olds, yet they were very good. There were fifteen two-year-olds entered, and eleven three-year-olds. The Team Horses shown were splendid animals; seven entries were made. The carriage Horses were not one whit inferior to the working Horses, and among them we noticed two or three spans that it would be difficult to equal, as far as regards beauty, action, and life; nine entries were made. Fifteen Hacks next occupied the ring, and all being superior animals, the judges found some difficulty in deciding as to who was entitled to the premium.

### THE CATTLE

On the ground were of various breeds. We noticed some very good Durhams, and a few Devons. The Native Stock was excellent in this department. There were one or two yokes of powerful working oxen on the ground, and a few handsome young steers.

### THE SHEEP

Department, as we before remarked, was exceedingly creditable. The Leicesters were really splendid animals, and we saw quite a number of fine looking Southdowns. The other stock shown—not thorough-bred—was quite as creditable to our farmers as the thorough-bred, and altogether we are convinced that the farmers of Dumfries will some day or other be amply repaid for the expense and trouble they are now giving themselves in the raising of superior breeds of sheep.

### IMPLEMENTS,

In this department there seemed to be great competition. Mr. Watson, of this village, and Mr. Shupe, of St. George, had their reaping and mowing machines on the ground, and we noticed quite a number of ploughs, of various kinds.—There was one thrashing machine exhibited, and a great number of cultivators, scarrifiers, harrows, rakes, &c. The articles exhibited in this department were highly spoken of and recommended by competent judges. There were some fine carriages shown by Messrs. Kay and Todd, of Galt, and lumber waggons, by Messrs. D. Weir & Co., of this village, and Messrs. Turner & Cave, of Canning. Also, a very superior Cutter, by Messrs. D. Weir & Co.

### THE FLORAL HALL.

The Floral Hall was crowded with visitors during the whole of the day, and it was a very difficult matter for us to get a peep at many of the articles exhibited. On entering at the right, our attention was attracted to a very fine display of apples; next we noticed, a splendid display of garden vegetables, &c., such as Cauliflowers, Cabbages, Potatoes, Carrots, Beets, Turnips, Pumpkins, &c. The display of these necessaries of life was very creditable. Dr. Bell, of this village, exhibited in this department some very lengthy specimens of the snake cucumber tribe; one we measured, which was four feet in length. We next noticed some beautiful specimens of quilts, coverlids, and blankets, and likewise a lot of home-made carpets, which speak volumes in favour of the thrifty guidewives of our yeomanry.—The specimens of fancy needle-work were not very numerous. The fine arts seem to have been almost altogether forgotten, for there were but one or two specimens exhibited, and there was no competition in any one of the classes. Next, we saw a lot of fine Glengarry Caps, exhibited by Mr. Laughlan, of Jedburgh, which attracted the attention

of many of the visitors. Mr. Robert Anderson, of Nithvale, exhibited some fine specimens of staves, manufactured by his stave machine. The dairy products exhibited seemed of fine quality. There were a good many entries in this department, and if we had been allowed to taste we could have told our readers definitely whether the looks of the cheese and butter were deceiving or not. However, we think the specimens exhibited were very fine. The specimens of grain exhibited were numerous, and the grain was good. There were fifteen entries of Wheat, six of Peas, three of Oats, and a few of Barley. We noticed several bags of Shoe Pegs, manufactured by Mr. G. Colcleugh, which were recommended by the Judges.

### THE HOGS

Exhibited were not very numerous. This is to be regretted, as we consider a good breed of Hogs just as essential to the farmer as a good breed of sheep, or any other kind of animals.

### THE FOWLS.

In this department we noticed some very fine specimens of Shanghais, Cochins, Chinas, Polands, and Dorkins. Also, two beautiful turkeys.

### THE DINNER.

At six o'clock the Agricultural Dinner was served up at Anderson's Hotel, in a style which reflected great credit on mine host of the "Union." About one hundred sat down to dinner. J. Cowan, Esq., occupied the chair, and Dr. McGeorge, and Mr. John Johnstone acted as Croupiers. After ample justice had been done to the good things with which the table was laden, the chairman gave in rapid succession, the usual loyal toasts, which were drank with all the honors.

The Chairman next gave "Success to the North Dumfries Agricultural Society," and in doing so, remarked that although it was generally admitted that the life of the farmer was a laborious one, yet it was always a gala day, when the farmers of Dumfries turned out with their wives and daughters to the annual show. Mr. C. made some remarks in reference to the different departments of the show, and said, in referring to the exhibition of sheep, that he had never seen a display equal to the one made in Ayr, excepting at the last Exhibition held in London. He coupled with this toast the name of Mr. Shearson, the secretary of the society, whose indefatiga-

success of the Show.

Mr. Shearson responded, and remarked that the show throughout was one of the best he had ever attended, excepting some of the Provincial Exhibitions. He gave "The Judges."

Mr. Anderson returned thanks on behalf of the judges, and also added his testimony to that of the gentlemen preceding him, as to the superior display of Stock on the ground.

Song by Mr. T. Fulton,—The Farmers Ingle.

Mr. Anderson gave "Success to the next Show," which was drank amidst deafening applause.

The unsuccessful competitors were toasted, but no person could be found to reply—all seemed to have been alike successful.

Song by Robert Anderson, of Nithvale. *Surveyed Waverton*

Mr. Allchin proposed, "The Successful Candidates," and in doing so gave a short history of the progress of Canada, during the last 24 years. He referred to the many improvements brought into use in the shape of farming implements, &c., and complimented the farmers on the general success of the show.

Mr. Watson responded, and remarked that he thought there was not one article exhibited which need cause the exhibitor any shame. Every thing on the ground was worthy of a prize. He said he was entitled to one ribbon which had not been given to him, and that was a green one, for he had been decidedly green in not putting tickets on any of his ploughs, and consequently the judges had to pass them over without notice.

Songs by Messrs. John Wallace, Wm. Laughlan, and Alex. Cranston.

Numerous other toasts were proposed and drank, which we are obliged to omit in our report, in consequence of scarcity of room; but suffice it to say that the company heartily enjoyed themselves, in every respect, until a late hour in the evening.

In concluding our report of the first Agricultural Show we have had an opportunity of attending, in this Township, we must congratulate the farmers on the proud position which they now occupy, as the most successful Agriculturists in this part of the Province, and our wish is that they may always sustain this position with honour to themselves and the Township in which they labour.

### THE PRIZE LIST.

#### HORSES.

- Best brood Mare, John Turnbull, £1; 2nd, John Wilson, 15s.
- Best brood Mare, that has raised foal, but, not during the present season, Wm. Carrack, £1; 2nd, David Gibson, 15s.
- Best Foal, John Turnbull, 10s; 2nd, Ben. Yeo, 5s.
- Best one-year-old Gelding or Filly, Ben. Yeo, 15s; 2nd, John Turnbull, 10s; 3rd, David Gibson, 5s.
- Best two-year-old do, do, John Aitken, 15s; 2nd, J. Fraiser, 10s; 3rd, Jas. Cowan, 5s.
- Best three-year-old do, do, Jas. Brown, £1; 2nd, G. Conklin, 15s; 3rd, M. Vances, 10s.
- Best pair of working Horses, R. Marshall, 15s; 2nd, K. Kennedy, 10s.
- Best Carriage Horses, Wm. Scrimmiger, 15s; 2nd, Dr. McGeorge, 10s.
- Best Saddle Horse, Simon Smith, £1.

#### HORNED CATTLE.—DURHAMS.

- Best Bull, three years old, George Bruce, £1; 2nd, Thomas Moffatt, 15s.
- Best yearling Bull, John Wilson, 10s; 2nd, Wm. Davis, 5s.
- Best bull calf, Thomas Moffatt, 10s; 2nd, Jas. Campbell, 5s.
- Best Cow, any age, S. Moffatt, £1; 2nd, W. Davis, 10s.
- Best two-year-old Heifer, Thos. Moffatt, 15s; 2nd, Dr. McGeorge, 7s 6d.
- Best yearling Heifer, S. Moffatt, 7s 6d.
- Best Heifer Calf, S. Moffatt, 5s.

#### DEVONS.

- Best bull, any age, Henry Latschaw, £1
- Best yearling bull Calf, D Tye, 5s
- Best bull Calf, D Tye, 5s
- Best Cow, any age, D Tye, £1
- Best two-year-old Heifer, D Tye, 7s 6d
- Best yearling Heifer, D Tye, 15s
- Best Heifer Calf, D Tye, 10s

#### GRADE CATTLE.

- Best bull, any age, David Guthrie, 15s; 2nd, John Fraiser, 10s
  - Best Cow, any age, S. Moffatt, £1; 2nd, B. Yeo, 15s; 3rd, James Dickie, 10s; 4th, John Robson, 5s
  - Best Heifer, 2 years old, George Bruce, 15s; 2nd, R. P. Leo, 10s; 3rd, B. Yeo, 5s
  - Best yearling Heifer, Wm. Watson, 10s; 2nd, B. Yeo, 5s
  - Best Heifer Calf, James Dickie, 10s; 2nd, S. Moffatt, 5s
  - Best yoke Working Oxen, over 5, A. Kyle, £1; 2nd, James Cunningham, 10s
  - Best yoke Working Oxen, under 5, J. Brown, £1; 2nd, Martin Brown, 10s
  - Best fat Ox, Thomas Edgar, 10s
- Recommended by Judges, Ayrshire Bulls, owned by W. Richmond, and John McNab.