

Chippenham Agricultural Association

The Annual Show and Dinner

This old-established Society, which has now passed its jubilee, held its annual show in the Market Yard, Chippenham, on Thursday and Friday, and the general interest evinced in the proceedings proved that it still holds its own as one of the most important local shows in the county. The quality of the exhibits, taken as a whole, was fully up to the average; indeed the opinion of some of those well qualified to judge was that, although the entries were rather short in a few of the classes, a better class of stock has not been seen here. The chief honours of the show were carried off, as usual, by competitors from a distance, with animals which in many cases have won prizes at leading shows, and against whom, therefore, the local agriculturist has little chance of competing with success. The result is that to a considerable extent we miss from the catalogue the names of those who have in years gone by figured prominently in the competitions, although there are not wanting those who still come pluckily to the front with exhibits which prove that that quality of local stock is by no means declining, even though the practical agriculturist is these depressed times is not always prepared to incur the expense of continual feeding up for show purposed. There were three entries for the President's premiums for bull, cow and offspring, and the competition lay between Mr. Brierley, of Tenbury and the Secretary. The first prize was awarded to the former, for a very useful white bull (which afterwards stood well in for the challenge cup), a roan cow and white calf. The offspring in the second trio was by far the best, but the dam, although a fine type of dairy cow, was not so good as Mr. Brierley's. There was a good class of fat steers, above three years old, but the young steers lacked quality. The class for fat cows contained only three entries - by Mrs. Butler, Poulshot, Mr. Willis, of Bapton and Mr. Ollis, of Bitton, - who have been running neck and neck through the whole season with the same animals that were exhibited here, some sets of judges giving the blue ribbon to one and some to another.

CATTLE

Class 4 - Fat cows - 1st (£4), Mr. J. D. Willis, Bapton, Codford

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 2 December 1886