

From the American Farmer.  
 SUPPLEMENT TO THE REPORT ON HUSSEY'S LOCOMOTIVE STEAM PLOWING ENGINE.

In submitting their report on this machine, the committee announced their intention to ascertain the result of the attempts which had been made in Europe to invent a locomotive steam plowing engine, for the purpose of settling the important question of *priority* in an invention which is destined to make an era in the agricultural history of the world.

The most important, and also the most recent trial of this description, took place on the 22d of July, in the present year, at the Carlisle meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

The following account is taken from the Gardener's Chronicle and Agricultural Gazette, published in London, on the 28th of July, 1855:

"On Tuesday, the grand point of interest was the trial of the Steam Cultivator. A great number of spectators were assembled in the heavy-land field, but unfortunately, no engine made its appearance, except Boydell's, which amused as well as astonished the company, by running backward and forward over grass or plowed surface, along or across the lands.

\* \* \* \* \* It was then tried against a force of men pulling against it, and it was found that 30 men could stop it; so that, professing to be 12 horse power, it may be considered as efficient for nearly half that amount, fully one half being used in its own conveyance over the ground, on which it was then working.—A frame containing four plows, mounted upon carriage wheels, and fitted with levers, for lowering and raising in and out of the ground, was attached to the engine\* in one of its trials. The engine proceeded slowly, dragging the plows behind. This arrangement of plows for the purpose, is the invention of Mr. Coleman, and answered pretty well until one of the plows broke short off, and the work came to a stand still. A common iron double furrow plow was next tried, but not with very marked perfection of plowing. The trial, in fact, being merely to see whether the engine could drag plows behind it, as well as propel itself over the land. Gibbon's digger was then drawn by the engine. \* \* \* \* \*

The draught of this implement, we judged to be about that of six horses, but the engine of 14 horse power could proceed with it only at the pace of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles per hour; so that 8 horse power was absorbed in mov-

ing the engine itself. This fully shewed the usefulness of such a ponderous machine for tractive purposes.

\* \* \* \* \* Great disappointment was felt at the non-appearance of Usher's Steam Plow.

\* \* \* \* \* It has been tested to be of 19 horse power; but the weight seems much greater than  $5\frac{1}{2}$  tons, as six horses were hardly worked in drawing it into the Show Yard. Having got up steam, and attempting to propel itself to the field, the badness of the road occasioned a slight accident, and this, together with the unwillingness of the inventor to have the machine tried upon stiff lea ground in wet weather, has prevented the public from witnessing its performances.

As we were coming away from the field, impressed with the sentiment that the "steam cultivators were a failure," we received intelligence that another steam plow had started in a field half a mile off. Making the best of our way to the light land trial field, there sure enough stood a portable engine in one corner, with ropes and pulleys, and a plowing machine, all in action. The engine was that belonging to Mr. Lee, of Walsall, and the plow and tackle are the invention of Messrs. Fisher, of Stamfordham, manufactured by R. Roger, of Stockton-on-Trees. \* \* \* \* \*

We were informed by the exhibitors, that a 4 horse engine is sufficiently powerful to work two plows, and that, with 4 cwt. of coal, it will plow four acres in a day, the expense of labor being only that of two men and a boy. If this be strictly the fact, we have a complete invention, able to plow light land, with a cost of say three shillings per acre. \* \* \* \* \*

The Steam Cultivator entered for exhibition by Mr. Alexander Dusseec, has not appeared, but as far as mere plowing is concerned, we think the above contrivance contains all the elements of success."

The above is a literal copy, omitting only the descriptions of the engines and cultivators, which are gang plows. It proves conclusively, that no Locomotive Steam Plowing Engine has yet succeeded in England, where, in the language of the London paper, the "steam cultivators were a failure."

The last named machine, (the only one which seems to have been partially successful,) is a stationary engine, and not a locomotive.\* We have

\*At the World's Fair in Paris, during the present year, to which all nations sent their most wonderful inventions, no steam plow was exhibited.