

RIDDLE.

(For solution by our readers. Others invited for Winter evenings' amusement.)

Given seven letters, which pray re-arrange—
 L, M, S, E, P, I, G—it is strange,
 If correctly transposed, your eye will soon find
 Many times it has felt their full force so combined.
 Put not your faith in the usual system,
 Simply to torture and every way twist 'em,
 Each may straight forward be read, if you list.

M.

NORTH RIBBLESDALE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

The sixteenth annual exhibition of this association was held at Sattle, on Thursday, September 8th. The show of cattle, though rather less in number than last year, was a remarkably good one. There may have been individual specimens in former years equal, perhaps superior, to anything that was shown this year, but certainly no year in which the cattle were so uniformly good. The tenant farmers' class quite kept up the reputation which it had obtained in previous years. The show of sheep was also good, and horses were about equal to an average of former years. The pigs were only a dozen but that was a plump one. The poultry were better than usual, and evidently proved an attractive part of the exhibition.

In the forenoon the visitors did not muster so well on the field as last year. The unsettled state of the weather on the day before and its threatening aspect on the morning of the show may perhaps account for this. The day turned out as fine as could be desired, and in the afternoon there was about the usual number of visitors on the field; unhappily, for the receipts, when a shilling was no longer the indispensable key. The band of the North Craven Rifles, for whom a stage had been erected in the centre of the field, played during the day a choice selection of music in a style which gained frequent remarks of approval from the listeners.

The success of the exhibition this year was the more gratifying inasmuch as, on account of the unsettled weather which had prevailed for some days before the time fixed for the show and through the report having gone abroad that the entries were less in number than usual, a slight damper had been thrown over the expectations of many of the friends of the Association. A few of the dissatisfied individuals who are to be found in all societies and places, had even prognosticated the speedy dissolution of the Society. It was therefore a surprise to many to find the show of stock to be one of the very best as to quality which has been seen since the existence of the Association. The excellent condition of the cattle was also surprising after the extreme drought of the past summer. In our hilly district the farmers have not suffered so much from this cause as those have in many other parts of the country. An absolute scarcity of water for the cattle to drink has not been experienced in this neighbourhood, except over very limited areas. And although the pastures generally have been "bare," the cattle seem to have thriven; the warm dry weather compensating for the partial scarcity of food. The slight decrease in the number of cattle shown may be accounted for by the fact that two or three persons who had in previous years been extensive and successful exhibitors, were this year shut out through some mistakes or carelessness which prevented the forms of entry being sent in at the proper time. It is to be hoped that the effect of the temporary exclusion may be a more prompt attention to these necessary rules among intending exhibitors in future. It was