

The Mount Bellew Agricultural Show Society's Sports were brought off on Thursday the 10th inst. on the show grounds, which provided a admirable accommodation. The weather, not being by any means very warm, was favourable, and the attendance of visitors was a record one. The ground is beautifully situated on the borders of Sir Henry Grattan Bellew's demesne, and was in excellent condition. The grass track which was continually rolled for the past month, was in perfect form on Thursday, and gave a course of five laps to the mile. The sports were organised under the G.A.A. Rules, which were closely observed throughout the various competitions by the competitors. Mr. J. Lardiner, Athenry, acted as handicapper and succeeded in getting through the long programme in admirable time and without any of the unnecessary delays which so often spoil the pleasure of such gatherings. The meeting presented many novel attractions apart from the excellent programme provided. While affording a most enjoyable day's amusement in the midst of the most beautiful and scenic country the object of the event was in itself sufficient to command for it the hearty support of the people, not alone of the parish, but of the country side for many miles around, namely: to liquidate the debt incurred by the society in improving and renovating their new show grounds. The sports committee had indeed been very successful in securing the attendance of many prominent athletes and cyclists. The running in the cycling events was very exciting with a very close finish in all cases, and the number of competitors in the various competitions was on the whole, entirely satisfactory. An important feature of the occasion was beautiful silver cup presented by Sir Henry Grattan Bellew, Bart., which was competed for in the five mile cycle race, and this enviable trophy, no doubt, served to induce many crack cyclists to compete. In this race a number of local competitors started with several from Ahascragh, Tuam, Athenry and Ballyglumin directions. In the fifth lap from the finish an unfortunate accident occurred which caused many of the competitors to retire from the running. Perhaps the most exciting and interesting event of the occasion was the tug-of-war between Springlawn and Mount Bellew, when the laurels were won by James Haverty's selected set. The former team consisted of a sturdy dozen of hereulean giants, and the latter, some of the employees on Sir Henry Bellew's farm. After the teams were counted and recounted Mr. Haverty suddenly discovered that a thirteenth man had mysteriously and unwittingly enlisted in the Mount Bellew team, but the recruit just got sufficient time to take himself away with, however, a little of Mr. Haverty's mind. However, after much tight tugging the Springlawn team won.

Tug of War