awake, although in a modified degree; and the slumberer awakes in the morning, refreshed and invigorated, and becomes fitted for the duties of the coming day. Equally so is it with nature; the sleep or quiescence of winter is only preparing her on the return of increasing light and warmth, to burst forth into renewed life and beauty at the approach of spring. Nature knows nothing of absolute death; or in other words, neither mind nor matter admit of annihilation. What seems destruction is really only change, the process being often too subtle for physical sense to trace or even detect. Results, however, prove the uniformity and permanency of the natural laws; and that under the care of a creative Providence, "While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, heat and cold, summer and winter shall not cease."

"He marks the bounds which winter may not pass,
And blunts his pointed fury; in its care,
Russet and rude folds up the tender germ
Uninjured, with inimitable art;
And, ere one flowery season fades and dies,
Designs the blooming wonders of the next."

DEPTH OF DRAINS.

It seems that general opinion has not yet settled on any particular depth as most proper for drains. In England, where the subject has attracted much attention, no rule has been agreed on. At a late meeting of the London Farmers' Club, a lecture was given on drainage, by Mr. Denton, in which a uniform depth of four feet was contended for, though the lecturer admitted that some persons, whom he regarded as "high authorities," had successfully drained stiff clays at from twenty to thirty inches deep.

Mr. R. Baker cited a case where a hard, chalky clay had been drained several years ago, by cutting ditches twenty to thirty inches deep, and filling them with wood and a little straw at top. On such compact soil the drains remained open after the materials had decayed.

Mr. B. Webster was convinced by experience, that on retentive clay subsoils not surcharged with under-water, a depth of three feet, at moderate distances, was more efficacious than a greater depth.

Mr. Thomas said, having drained at various depths, he had invariably found that where the soil was of a tenacious consistency, drains three feet deep kept the land perfectly dry, and left at harvest-time a continued and unbroken level of corn crop; so that practiced husbandmen could not tell where springs were or where they were not. In a little field of five acres, the drains were four feet deep and forty feet apart; but what was the result? In that field he had never grown more than three quarters of corn per acre, and three-fourths of the land was often under water. He had now had the land gathered up into its old form, and was about to have drains made three feet deep. It might be true that certain roots extended to a depth of eight or nine feet; but it was not on that account to be supposed that the land would repay the cost of drainage of proportionate depth.

Mr. W. Bennet, viewing the question practically, was of the opinion that the truth lay between the two extremes. The result of his own experience was, that in an open porous soil, with a good outfall, they could hardly go too deep; but this did not apply to strong tenacious soils.

Mr. Stokes said he had seen a good deal of draining done in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, and was decidedly of opinion that four-feet draining was the most effectual that could be adopted, provided the drains were not placed too far apart.

Mr. Wood quite admitted that four-feet drainage was superior in itself to drainage of less depth; but, after calculating the difference of cost as between three feet and four feet, he had arrived at the conclusion that the former answered the purpose best.

The Chairman said, having been himself for many years connected with draining, and having done a great deal on the farm which he occupied, he could not refrain from giving a faint outline of his experience. With regard to stiff, tenacious clays—he meant those clays which contained no stone, which were not at all calcareous, and which, if a dish were made of them in the shape of a bowl, would hold water in the same way that a bowl did—his experience led him to the conclusion that the best way of draining such clays was to make the drains three feet deep, and eighteen feet apart.

☞ DURHAM STOCK.—We would beg to direct the attention of our readers to Mr. Fisher's advertisement in another column, relating to young Durham Bulls, which he has for sale.