The following observations with regard to ploughing, is from a late work on Agriculture:—

"In ploughing these different points require particular attention. 1st. The depth of the slice to be cut: 2nd. Its breadth; and 3rd, the degree in which it is to be turned over. The last operation depends much upon the construction of the plough, particularly the mould-board, and the care of the plough-man. The breadth and depth of the furrow-slice are regulated by judiciously placing the draught on the muzzle or bridle of the plough, setting it so as to be the depth and breadth required. The plough should be so regulated that if left to itself, and merely prevented from falling over, it would cut a little broader and deeper than is required. The coalter is placed with some inclination towards the left or land side, and the point of the sock or shear is slightly bent downwards. The degree to which the furrow-slice turns over is regulated by the breadth and depth; the proportion being usually nine inches broad and six inches deep—or perhaps an inch less each way would be better. When the slice is cut in either of these proportions, it will be nearly half turned over, or inclined at an angle of from 41° to 45°; and a field so ploughed will have its ridges longitudinally ribbed into angular drills or ridgelets. If the slice is considerably greater in width than in depth, it will be almost completely turned over, and each successive slice will overtop that which was turned over immediately before it.

When the depth materially exceeds the width, each slice will fall over on its side, and will be somewhat over-lapped by the next, having all the original surface bare and only laid obliquely to the horizon. The first of these modes of ploughing on the square slice is best adapted for stubble land after harvest, when it is to remain, during the winter, exposed to the influence of the frost, preparitory to fallow or green crop. The second, or shallow slice of considerable width, as five inches deep by eight wide, answers best for old ley or grass land, because it covers up the grass turf, and does not bury the manured soil. The third is a most unprofitable and slow operation, which ought seldom or never be adopted. The general breadth of a slice is from eight to ten inches, and the depth must depend on circumstances, such as the nature of the soil and the object in view. It ought seldom to be less than four, or more than six inches, except on soils of uncommon depth and fertility, or for particular crops such as carrots. Shallow ploughing, as four inches deep or less, ought always to be used when covering lime, which has a natural tendency to sink in the soil; but when covering dung a substantial furrow ought to be given.

To form the ridges straight and of an uniform breadth, a good ploughman is required—with a pole, which should be shod with iron, he first marks off the head or end ridges on which the horses turn when ploughing, and they should be about eighteen feet wide, being little enough space to allow two horses abreast to turn on. The forming of the head ridges first is necessary to let the ploughman know where to step out his plough when working the other ridges of the field. If this is not attended to, the head ridges will be gashed, and by the turning and cleaning of the plough, earth will be accumulated more in one part than another. This will render them not only unsightly, but in retentive soils water will be apt to lodge in the hollows thus formed, which several ploughings will scarcely fill up to the proper level.

Having determined the breadth of the head ridge, the ploughman will measure off the half of the first ridge of the field, if it is to be gathered, or one ridge and a half if it is to be ploughed flat. At this point he sets up a pole, and in a straight line at some distance, a second, and a third or more, as the irregularity of the surface may render necessary—the last pole being at the end of the intended ridge. He enters the plough at the first pole, and ploughs them all down successively, stepping at each, then setting the poles at the right distance for the next ridge. When he reaches the end, he returns along his former track, correcting any deviations, and throwing a shallow furrow on the side opposite to his former one, which, when reserved, forms the crown of the ridge. By skilful ploughmen, these lines are drawn with great accuracy.

In ploughing land, there are a variety of ways of forming the ridges. On dry soils, the slices of a ridge may be all laid in one direction, and those of the adjoining ridge turned the contrary way; this is termed casting. On soils medium between light and strong, the ridges are split out, so that the crown of the old ridge becomes the furrow of the new; this, in Scotland is called crown and feer. On strong soils, it is necessary to form the ridges by twice gathering all the furrow slices in the direction of the crown. In this case the ridges are preserved in their original situations, and the inner furrows in the same places. It is customary, when breaking up these ridges to be worked as summer fallow, to split or cleave them, reversing the former operation by turning the furrow slice outwards, beginning at the furrows, and ending at the crowns. In this operation the ridges are cut in two, the old water furrows carefully opened up to serve as surface drains, and an additional series of water furrows formed at the crowns. On the sides of hills, where the land is very steep, the best plan is to form the ridges in a slanting direction, for this renders the up-hill work easier for the horses, and in the event of heavy rains, the ridges prevent the manure from being washed away. One acre per day, throughout the ploughing season, and considering the difference of soils, is a fair average work for two horses to plough."

As the proper depth of ploughing, has become a subject of dispute, we give the following remarks of Sir John Sinclair:—

"Deep ploughing, by bringing up new mould, is peculiarly favourable to clover, beans, potatoes, and turnips; and without occasional dress-ploughing, these crops would diminish in quantity, quality, and consequently in value. It is of the utmost consequence, not only by supplying more pasture to the roots of plants, but, above all, by preventing the injurious effects of either too wet or too dry a season. This a most important consideration, as, if the season is wet, there is a greater depth of soil for absorbing the moisture, so that the plants are not likely to have their roots immerced in water; and in a dry season it is still more useful, for, in the lower part of the cultivated soil, there is a reservoir of moisture which is brought up to the roots of the plants by the evaporation which the heat of the sun occasions."

These remarks are well worthy of attention.

TO RENDER WHITE WASH DURABLE.

White Wash of Lime is rendered fixed and durable without cracks if made with water, in which common salt is dissolved.

A POEM ON AGRICULTURE.

Of all the employments of life,
To me there is nothing like farming:
It creates no unneighbourly strife,
Or anything else that's alarming.
Let the sailor go ploughing the ocean,
Let the lawyer read over his brief;
Of sea-ploughing I've not any notion,
And in lawyers I've little belief.

Manufacturers hold their heads high,
And so do our mercantile men;
But this truth they cannot deny,
So we'll say it again and again:—
The first want of nature is food,
Who denies this must be a great ninny;
The plough does a good deal more good
Than the shuttle or famed spinning-jenny.

So here is success to the plough,
The drill, and the harrow, and flail;
May good farming produce corn enow,
And good dairying milk in the pail;
May good grazing produce enough meat,
May good farmers lead happy lives;
Without females they can't have this treat,
So here's to their sweethearts and wives.

Of the farmers it ne'er can be said
That their labourers they have forgot;
May they daily have plenty of bread,
And a good piece of meat in the pot.
May good labourers have masters kind,
Who at all times will fair wages give
To dependants—thus bearing in mind
The good system of live and let live.

How greatly soever are prized
Manufactures, and commerce, and trade,
To these must be not sacrificed
Agriculture, by law to be made.
Manufacturers must soon bear a share,
When farmers distressed shall complain;
For both should the laws be quite fair,
For both are as links of one chain.

Filliard.

Happy the man whose wish and care,
A few paternal acres bound,
Content to breathe his native air
In his own ground.

Whose herds with milk, whose fields with bread,
Whose flocks supply him with attire,
Whose trees, in summer, yield him shade,
In winter, *fire.*

Blest, who can unconcern'dly find
Hours, days, and years slide soft away,
In health of body, peace of mind;
Quiet by day,
Sound sleep by night; study and ease
Together mix'd; sweet recreation!
And innocence, which much does plead,
With meditation.

Thus let me live unseen, unknown,
Thus unlamented let me die;
Steal from the world, and not a stone
Tell where I lie.

Pope.

RECIPE FOR MAKING WATER AND FIRE PROOF ROOFS OF HOUSES, SIDINGS, AND ALL KINDS OF OUTSIDE ROUGH WORK.—To five gallons of water, add five quarts of rock (or common) salt, boil and skim, then take six quarts of unslacked lime, slack and, soft it, put it into the hot brine, also 1 lb. allum, ½ lb. copperas, ¾ lb. Pearl ash, the last to be added gradually, then add four quarts of fine sand or wood ashes, mix well and apply the composition hot with a painter's brush, having previously well cleaned the roof or siding to which it is to be applied—any colouring matter may be used to give it the shade required; two coats are sufficient. It is lasting as slate, and proof against fire or water.