

particularly, it should also have of our attention from Englishmen, from the eulogy it received from an English visitor. I agree with the proprietor in thinking that irrigation is not the most economical way of applying manure, or *liquid manure*, but much prefer ploughing in to all methods. Dung-hills are seldom too wet not to admit of all the liquid manure being carried in carts to the fields, whence, as far as practicable, all manure, in process of fermentation or in a state speedily to become so, should be taken, as while there may be some loss by remaining in heaps, there can be less from being in the land—if it be true that the soil possesses a power to retain whatever may be applied as necessary to vegetation, which from various observations, but especially from the demonstrations of the valuable lecture of Mr. Way's, contained in your Journal some time ago, I am inclined to believe it has. While therefore, I would not be afraid of loss from *exhalation*, in irrigation, in well conditioned soil, I would be jealous of loss from over saturation in many soils, by irrigation, as like a sponge as full as it can hold, any liquid falling upon the surface finds its way to outlets without the chance of leaving its virtues in the soil at all. But in the ploughing in of manure it is safe, as let what saturation come, the soil will retain the essential and discharge the superfluous, according to Mr. Way. This is one of the many good ideas I have found in book farming, and I must not come under the charge of disingenuousness of farmers as a class by affecting the knowledge to be of my own creation. This charge, however, may be safely attributed to the pride of human depravity and applicable therefore to all classes as well as farmers, the proof of which is not hard to find. Wishing to have the inclosed article by me in some shape or other for particular reasons, for some time to come, I hope you will oblige me, if you do not publish it in your Journal, to let it lie till I call for it. If you insert it, then I have it in a better form than I send it and don't require the communication. I am pleased with the improved appearance of the Journal, but there must be a little more care exercised still other ways. Article and communications abound with Typographical errors, which I can hardly think were in the originals, and

which look ridiculous enough. Some communications may be hard to make out, and by persons unaccustomed to provincial and technical phraseology which to be not misunderstood by many readers, must be adhered to in Agricultural subjects.

Correspondents are undoubtedly culpable and so are compositors. Remarks intended to improve sometimes irritate. But assuring you, in the best spirit, of success in sustaining the Journal in usefulness, if good desires can do so. I make no apology.

Yours,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Montreal, February 17th, 1851.

#### HIGH FARMING IN AYRSHIRE.

"The annual inspection of farms by the St. Quivox Club, took place on the 7th. A few strangers joined the party, and by the time they reached Myremill there was a party of about 60 on the ground.

The muster took place at Canning Park, at half-past eight, and an hour was passed there, looking over the ground and houses of Mr. Telfers. It is entirely a dairy and green crop farm—no grain whatever being grown upon it. The early situation, and the light high conditioned soil render it suitable for the growth of potatoes for the early market; and a crop of mangel wurtzel is grown after these are removed. The remainder of the green cropping land is planted with an earlier crop of mangel. With good management, in an early situation, this description of crops not only gives a larger amount of food than turnips, but it is also more suitable for dairy cows, as it does not impart a taste to the milk or the butter; and it admits of a portion of the leaves being carried off in autumn for feeding.

The part of the farm not devoted to green crops is under Italian Rye-grass, a considerable portion of which has already been cut three times. The whole extent of the farm is 55 imperial acres, and it maintains a dairy of 36 heavy Ayrshire cows. Mr. Telfer's maxim is not to take too much in hand, and to do everything thoroughly well. Every spot of his ground is in the highest condition; every thing about his steading is a model of orderly arrangement, and shows a taste so exquisite that it approaches to the fastidious. The byre is a wide capacious building. The cows stand in two rows, with their heads to the centre, and there is a roomy passage down the middle, between the rows, for feeding them. Behind the kerb stone, the droppings fall on a perforated metal plate, and a drain below carries the liquid to the tank. This drain can be scoured with water whenever it is thought advisable to do so, as there is an unfailing supply