

quantity would probably represent the sewage proper, and the larger the increase due to storm-water. In an agricultural district like Croydon, the amount of sewage proper would seldom vary to any appreciable extent. Under a proper system of sewerage, storm-water should have, as at Reading, separate and distinct channels provided. As it is, the sewage flows on to the farm in the varying quantities mentioned; and, after being strained through two of Baldwin Latham's patent extractors, which take out lumps of solid matter, dead animals, and other miscellaneous articles, which always find their way into a town sewer, the strained liquid flows onward to the farm. The Latham's extractors, which are in general use in all towns, resemble gigantic sieves, revolving on their own centres, and strain effectually all the coarser solid impurities from the liquid. This solid matter is mixed with ashes and other refuse, and the compost finds a ready sale at 2s. 6d. per yard or load to the neighboring gardeners and farmers.

The liquid sewage then flows on to the farm, which is about 480 acres in extent. Of these, there are from 150 to 200 acres generally laid down with rye-grass; 50 acres are meadow, and used chiefly for cleansing the storm-water; 82 are laid down as market-gardens; the remainder being used for mangolds, roots, and cereals. From the great absorbing power of rye-grass, that plant will always be the best adapted for sewage-farming. It can be cropped seven and in some cases eight times yearly. One plot of ground under this cultivation recently produced fifteen and a half tons per acre, and the amount realized by the sale of several successive crops produced £111 : 13 : 6 during the past spring. The grass finds a ready sale in the neighborhood.*

The acreage under sewer-irrigation is found to be amply sufficient to purify the liquid. Dr. Carpenter calculates that in about six hours from the time the sewage enters the receiving house, and nine hours from the time it leaves the Croydon dwellings, the effluent water flows into the Wandle in a purified state, or colorless, odorless, and almost tasteless. The very slight brackish taste which is perceptible may be partly ascribed to the knowledge of what it really is. It is not, however, recommended or intended that this water should be used for domestic purposes.

The cattle on the estate, numbering about one hundred head, consists of ordinary mixed breed, not of the best pedigree

*One field of wheat last year yielded 54 bushels per acre. A crop of potatoes yielded £19 per acre, and a plot of rhubarb £26 10s. per acre.