

to finish the work as you proceed, and will be able to make your junctions properly with the main drains. There is another consideration which requires much calculation, that is reference to the various sizes of tiles you require in draining a field, according to the amount of water which requires to be removed by the various drains, and it is wisdom never to put in tiles too large than too small. When you commence to lay the tiles, use a flat stone or a piece of brick against the upper end so as to prevent the soil from entering the bore. And in order to facilitate the operation of laying the tiles have them placed in a row, end to end, on the side of the ditch on which there is the least earth, making use of none but sound ones, prevent them from shifting about, and keep the joints straight, a narrow spading, the width of the sole of the tile, is frequently run out, of the centre of the bottom of the drain, about the depth of the tile, and in places the sides and top of the tile are covered with gravel, sods, straw, and in some cases small brush. I do not consider this wholly necessary, because, if the tiles are properly laid, nothing can get in at the joints but water, and it percolates so slowly that nothing can be carried in with it. As the drains are filled in and completed be sure not to allow water to run in a straight furrow on top of them, but rather if possible have the drain top the highest land in the vicinity, so that the water will find its way from each side rather than straight down, which has a bad effect upon the drains. It would be found very useful if a plan were kept of the position or situation of all the drains on the fields, as a reference in after years, when by the appearance of the surface one has lost track of their position, and referred to find them in order to remedy any defect which might occur, and the cause of which it would be difficult to find out were it not done.

I cannot close my remarks on this subject without adverting to the universal interest and confidence of the people of great Britain, in the operation of land drainage. This is testified by the Acts of Parliament which have been passed, having for their object the encouragement and encouragement of drainage, and which means at a low rate of interest, for a term of years, so that landlords or tenants may take advantage of it, to bring the lands into a proper state of cultivation.

The outly in many instances has paid both both principal and interest twice over, during the period for which the money was borrowed at first. And I have no doubt that were our government in this country to take similar action and provide a fund, at low interest, taking security on the property to be drained, it would be a great boon to the Canadian farmer, which many would take advantage of, and profit by, because every cleared acre would then be a producing acre; whereas under the present circumstances, a very large amount of cleared land is producing nothing.

Miscellaneous.

The Farmers' Best Friends.

BY A. HOLLOWAY, MOUNT BRIDGES, CANADA WEST.

Destroy not the birds;
They're the farmers' best friends;
For the little they spoil
They make ample amends.

Some fruit they will eat:
But grudge it them not;
For the good that they do
Should not be forgot.

They keep down the insects,
Whose rapid increase
Would injure our harvests,
Till harvests would cease.

With their songs they amuse
Our wearisome hours,
And their presence enlivens
The shadiest bowers.

Then forgive their slight faults;
They make ample amends;
And do not forget
They're the farmers' best friends.

LOOKING FOR COAL IN EGYPT.—After a ride of two hours we arrived at our destination, about thirteen miles from Cairo. On descending the pit, I found it had been sunk in a very recent calcareous formation, intersected with beds of blue marl, to a depth of 266 yards, which had been ascertained to be about 100 feet below the bed of the Nile; and that there was just as much probability of finding coal on the top of the Pyramids as there. Hastening my return, I found the Viceroy at Shubra, in the evening, playing cards with three comfortable-looking grey-bearded Turks, all of whom, with the exception of his Highness, wore large diamond decorations. When I entered, the playing ceased; and the Viceroy eagerly inquired if I had been down the pit. Answering in the affirmative, and that I