

out every time I called, but I found, from Mr. Witcombe, that the manure used was principally Tanners' refuse, composed of bits of skin and flesh, lime, and wood-ashes. What more would you have to form a perfect manure for every crop? Nitrogen, sulphur, and phosphoric acid, in the skin and flesh; lime, and potash in the ashes. No wonder the land is in such good fettle! I remember well, in 1870, using this refuse for tobacco and cabbages in alternate rows, and well it repaid me for the cartage, which was all it cost me. The best way to use it is to thoroughly mix one load of the stuff with two loads of earth, turn over the heap in three weeks, sprinkling each layer with water, and repeat the operation a month or so afterward. If there are not many ashes, the proportion of earth may be as 3 to 1. At the end of the summer the whole will be found to be in a state of

its velocity. Feeders should be from 30 ft. to 40 ft. apart according to the fall.

The chief things to be observed are: never to allow water to stagnate; to let it flow in spring as soon as frost departs; to keep it on from 10 to 15 days at once; to let the land dry before irrigating again; and to shut it off before hard frost sets in in October, say about the 20th.

Neighbour to Mr. Keep is Major Witcombe. He has lived and farmed on the same spot for 42 years, and has brought his land into a very excellent state of cultivation. Potatoes and Corn here look well, but Mr. Witcombe agrees with me, I was glad to see, that it is waste of time, labour, and manure, to grow Corn in this province, as it can be bought cheaper from the States, and he is far too sensible a man to imagine that a farmer should grow all he consumes on the land, when he can buy the same things at a more advantageous rate of the foreigner.

A slight dose of political economy coupled with a little thought would soon knock this ridiculous nonsense on the head. Take one instance: the county of Norfolk, Eng., grows first-rate maling barley; do you suppose the farmers are fools enough to sow oats for their horses? By no means: they sell their barley, and buy Russian oats.

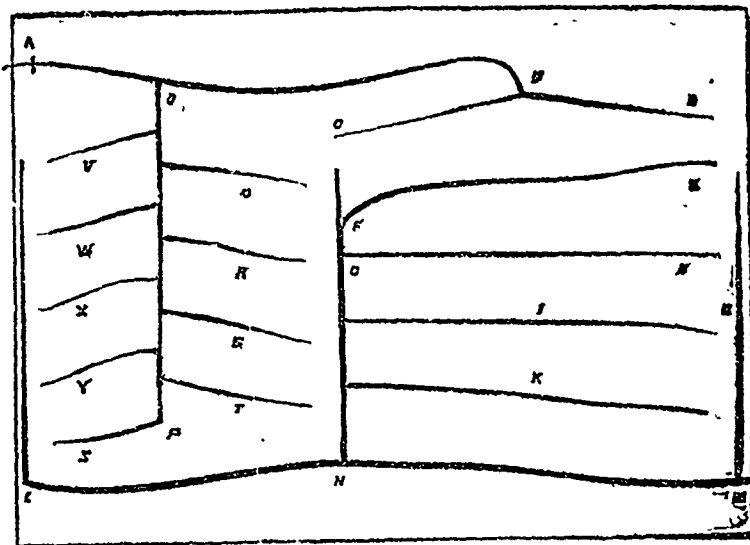
The Indian Corn is sown on shares by a neighbour, and as the land is well tilled and hoed, Mr. Witcombe does not object to the crop, but a piece of Swedes, or Mangolds, would cost no more, and as the average crop of corn is 30 bushels, and of Swedes 15 tons or 600 bushels, it is evident that the latter is the more profitable of the two, for no one will deny that 20 bushels of Swedes are worth more than one bushel of corn, and the tops of the one given with plenty of dry food are certainly worth the stalks of the other; to a dairy farmer at any rate.

Here are 33 milch-cows, principally half-bred Devons. Mr. Witcombe has a high opinion of this breed. He says they are hardy and sure breeders, whilst the milk, which from time to time he carefully weighs, produces, on an average, one lb. of butter to 20 pounds of milk! This is the greatest yield I have met with on my tour, but it must be observed that the pastures here are very sound and healthy, and the whole dairy management first-rate. The churn, an old-fashioned plunger, is worked by horse-power, and the milk is set in open pans, surrounded by iced water.

The farm consists of about 250 acres, cleared, and the hay-crop looks like $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons all over. Last year's wheat crop turned out 30 bushels an acre! A fine yield indeed, but I think it will be exceeded this year, if no accident happens.

But the great attraction on this estate is the new barn. Men who understand building much better than I do, (that is not difficult) assure me that in no instance have they ever seen so much room, easiness of work, and convenience for both men and animals, furnished at so slight a cost. To me it seems a model of constructive skill; and, though no judge of prices, I can see that no material has been wasted in its erection. Large stones have been sunk into the ground on which the enormous posts which support the frame rest. The frost has had no effect on its level, all stands firm and upright. The interior is 100 ft. long, by 32 ft. wide, and 24 feet to the eaves. As the approach is by a raised causeway of 1 in 5, the heaviest load can be carried in without trouble, and very little pitching up is necessary.

Mr. Blackwood begged me to notice this structure particularly; he conceives, and I think rightly, that it should serve as a model to the farmers of the French country whose



A catch-work water-meadow.

meal, and can be easily spread out of a cart at the rate of six loads to the acre.

After the experience of Mr. Steevens, I hope nobody will be found to deny the possibility of working miracles in agriculture. If there be any so dense, he will meet with little sympathy at Waterloo, for there the towsmen seem singularly without prejudice, and appear to rejoice in the successful issue of their energetic fellow-citizen's undertaking.

"We have now got into the heart of the Townships proper. A lovely country, full of streams, small lakes, and with numerous springs, most of which are utilised to supply the stables and yards with the purest of water. Many an irrigated meadow might be formed at a trifling expense, but the art is unknown here, and unless some Devon or Cornish men settle in the district will, I fear, remain unknown. The catch-work water meadow is easily formed with the plough, and perhaps a little spade work, as will be seen by the annexed skotch, where *a b*, is a main conductor, the curved line of which is supposed to be caused by various irregularities in the fall; the level of the land must be preserved.

At *b* the water should flow along the feeders *b c* and *b d*. Overflowing here it finds its way into *e f*, which, when full, sends its water on again to *h g*, and so on to *i* and *k*, until at last the main drain *m* carries off the whole into the parent stream at a lower level. The sub-conductor's office *o p* will be easily understood. The feeders may be three inches deep, and four wide.

If the water flow unequally, stops, stones, bits of turf, or anything of the sort, should be placed in the feeders to retard