

by Mr. Cotgreave, of the Rake farm, near Chester. On the 20th ult. there was a public exhibition of the operations of drainage by the plough, on a field in his own neighborhood, in the presence of several noblemen and agriculturists, who expressed themselves satisfied as to the utility of the invention, and from whom the patentee received commissions to execute work, which we hope will in some measure compensate him for his outlay in carrying out the system to its present perfection.

The field on which the operations were carried on is a large grass piece, with a retentive clay substratum. He prepared drains, in the first instance, on the average, 2 feet 6 inches in every grade, from taking off the first clod to having the drain completed by filling up. There were some practical men present who were astonished at the despatch which the implement excavated the soil, and prepared it with such uniformity for the titles, which were quickly laid down, and the whole completed with the approval of the visitors.

We are glad, however, to find that Mr. Cotgreave's services have not been confined to his own immediate locality, but that he has recently been employed in draining estates in the neighborhood of London and several other districts.

POWERFUL MANURE.—A native of "Down East" describing with characteristic exaggeration the remarkable properties of guano as a promoter of vegetation, said that a few hours after planting cucumber-seed, the dirt began to fly. The vines came up like a streak, and although he started off at the top of his speed, the vines overtook him and covered him, and taking out his knife to cut the plaguy things off, he found a large cucumber gone to seed in his pockets. That will do to laugh over.—

THE ROYAL BARON OF BEEF.—This noble old English joint was brought into the royal kitchen at Windsor Castle, on Tuesday; the process of roasting commenced at 11 o'clock on the morning of that day, and was not completed before eleven o'clock at night. The baron, cut from a handsome Devon ox, was supplied by Mr. Minton, the royal butcher at Windsor; it weighed 430lbs., and was placed cold on a side table at the Royal Banquet on Christmas Day. The fellow ox was bought by Mr. Minton, with other choice beasts to be slaughtered this Christmas; but its symmetrical points being so very perfect, it was purchased by General Wemyss for his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and sent to the Flemish farm, for the purpose of being fed for the cattle show of next year.

EASE FOR MAN.—By the year two thousand, says an American paper, it is probable that manual labor will have utterly ceased under the sun, and the occupation of the adjective "hard fisted" will have gone for ever. They have now in New Hampshire a potato-digging machine which, drawn by horses down the rows, digs the potatoes, separates them from the dirt, and loads them up into the cart, while the farmer walks alongside, whistling "Hail, Columbia!" with his hands in his pockets.—*The Builder.*

BEEF-ROOT SUGAR IN FRANCE.—The *Moniteur* publishes the returns of the produce and consumption of beet-root sugar since the beginning of the season, from which it appears that, on the 1st of December,

there were 322 manufactories in operation, or 23 more than in the corresponding period of 1850. The quantity of sugar manufactured, including the portion lying over since last year, amounted to 19,635,386 kilogrammes, and that stored in the public bonding warehouses to 10,556,847.

AN EGYPTIAN MODEL FARM.—Among the passengers who went out in the Ripon, which left Southampton on Saturday with the Indian mail was Mr. Le Mille, the English farm bailiff of the Pacha of Egypt. He took out a number of cows and pigs, a large quantity of poultry, pheasants, &c., to stock Abbas Pacha's farm. The farm, which is to be cultivated as much as possible after the English fashion, is 3,000 acres in extent. The cows taken out in the Ripon were of the Alderney breed, and the pigs and poultry were of the finest sorts that could be obtained in England. A large quantity of live farming stock is still to be sent to Egypt from this country, to complete the Pacha's arrangements. Mr. Page, the nurseryman, of Southampton, who is well known as a skilful judge of animals, selected the Pacha's farm stock, and had its superintendence while in Southampton.

He who has merited friends will seldom be without them, for attachment, is not so rare as the desert which attracts and secures it.

He that buys a house ready wrought has many a pin and nail for a oucht.

SONGS FROM AN UNPUBLISHED OPERA.

OH! PLEASANT HOURS.

Oh! pleasant hours, fly not, fly not,
Stay with me yet awhile;
I pray ye, let me for a space
Bask in your sunny smile.
Old time hath wings—his lessons grave,
His threats are all forgot;
Bright shines the sun, bright gleams the wave;
Sweet hours, fly not, fly not.
Oh! pleasant hours, stay yet, stay yet;
For coming time must bring
Full many a cloud to shade our lot,
Upon his restless wing—
Deep grief perchance for loved and lost,
And care, and vain regret,
With darkened skies and stormy seas:
Sweet hours, stay yet! stay yet!

ELLEN C.

AN OLD SAW ABOUT CHRISTMAS.

If Christmas day on Thursday be
A windy winter you shall see;
Windy weather in each week,
And hard tempests, strong and thick.
The summer shall be good and dry,
Corn and beasts shall multiply;
That year is good lands for to till;
Kings and princes shall die by skill.
If a child that day born should be,
It shall happen right well for thee—
Of deeds he shall be good and stable,
Wise of speech and reasonable.
Whoso that day goes thieving about,
He shall be punished without doubt;
And if sickness that day betide,
It shall quickly from thee glide.