

invested in it; (9) that the experience of sewage irrigation on the same land for fifteen years will justify the capitalist in putting capital into sewage agriculture. The farm under consideration belongs to the Croydon Local Board of Health, and is, we believe, the first of its kind established in England. It has now been in working order for about fifteen years.

The plan of irrigation adopted appears to be exceedingly simple. The crude sewage, as it comes from the town sewers, passes first through one of Latham's strainers, the extraneous matters (as rags, paper, hardened fæces, &c.) being mixed with dry straw and garden-refuse collected from the dustbins in the town, made into a compost, and partly sold to market gardeners at 2s. 6d. per yard. The sewage is at once applied to the land—*i. e.*, in a perfectly fresh state; and the testimony was undoubted as to the absence of smell on the land. The total quantity applied varies from three to eight or ten millions of gallons. The farm consists of 500 acres, 150 to 200 being under rye-grass cultivation; 50 are meadow, and are mainly used for the purpose of cleansing storm-waters; 82 are under cultivation for market-garden purposes, and the rest are sown with mangolds or other roots or cereals. A most excellent luncheon was provided by the host, all the materials for which had been grown or bred on the farm, as well as trout *en mayonnaise*, taken from the river Wandle, into which the effluent water flows. Samples of the effluent water were also shown, and were tasted by some of the company.

The weather on Saturday was most unpropitious, and was enough to damp the energy of all but such men as Dr. Carpenter, who chose a most pleasantly practical way of assisting to settle a much-vexed but very important question. We may remind our readers that, as the farm has now been in working order for fifteen years, the advocates of the system have had ample opportunities of drawing the above deductions, and the opponents of irrigation an equally good chance of disproving them. It must be remembered, too, that Beddington is a ratepayers' and not a model farm, so that money has not been spent, as Dr. Carpenter puts it, "for æsthetical purposes."—*Ibid.*