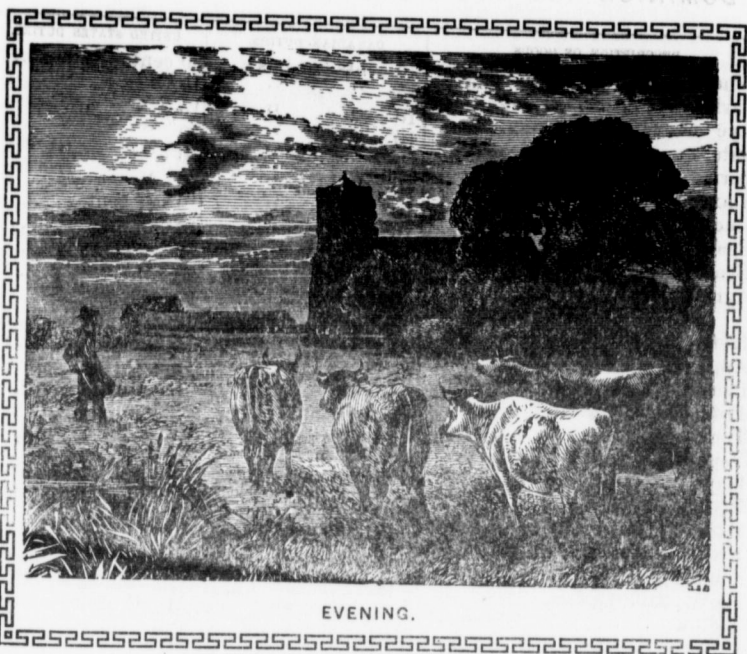




EVENING.

OCTOBER.

Like September this month derives its name in the fact that it filled a place—the eighth—in the old Alban and Latin calendars, which commenced with March. As it now forms the 10th month under the present calendar, its name is now a misnomer. It forms the second month of the British autumn and was with our Saxon forefathers a season of great rejoicing, feasting and carousing; thus its name—Weinmonat—wine month.

FESTIVALS.

ALL HALLOW'S EVE, 31st Oct. This celebrated festival no doubt comes down to us from Pagan times, for the Church observance of the ensuing All Saints Day on the day following has nothing in common which could imply an origin for the numerous ceremonies with which it is observed. This is the night that the devil is let loose, that spirits walk abroad, and on which supernatural influences generally prevail. As as offset Divination attains its highest power, and the pious and godly are generally gifted with Divine influences—yea, with the power of calling the spirits before them—a power which would not be very efficacious in Chatham, which is fortunate. The day is better known as the day of kail yard depredations (for cabbage stocks are seldom plucked now a days by blindfolded lads and lasses) as the night for “dookin for apples,” “birnin nits” and other sad practices so well described by Burns. It is said that persons born on this day possess supernatural faculties of perceiving, and holdi g converse with spirits and supernatural beings. As the spirits of men are said to leave the body corporal, and wander forth on this evening, pretty young maids so born should be careful that too many do not inconveniently walk their way