

when it can be so cheaply executed. The drains, we suppose, are cut as for tiles of small size, and the small tops or branches put into them, and covered, permit the water to percolate through them, better than it might do, if straight poles were made use of. If this plan of draining will answer, every farmer may drain his land. The simple hint that such drains have been constructed may induce farmers here to consider of the matter, and even improve the plan. All that is wanting in thorough draining is to make such drains as will allow the water to escape through them. We may imagine that small tops of thorns or other branches placed in a drain would allow of the passage of water, provided the branches were such as not to lie too closely together. We again repeat, the plan is entitled to a fair trial; in clay soil the effect of frost may be an objection, but at this depth, the drains would be free from frost nearly as soon as the soil would be dry enough to work. Experiment will, however, settle the matter—and it will not be expensive. What we would most apprehend is that, at this depth, the action of the frost might cause some of the clay of the sides of the drains to fall in and mix with the branches in the drains, and thus prevent the free discharge of water through them; this we believe will be the greatest objection.

We have seen a very good article in the "Gardeners and Farmers Journal," on the subject of feeding cattle in yards and sheds, and as it disapproves of the plan, we perfectly agree with it. We decidedly think, that in general, the usual plan of feeding animals upon their pastures, is the best, the most healthy, and most economical mode, and we are convinced that lands will be more improved for any purpose, by pasturing animals upon them, than they would be, by keeping these animals confined in summer, feeding them with the produce obtained from the land it would take to pasture them, and returning the manure made by them in sum-

mer, while consuming this produce, as top-dressing upon the land. If this would be the case, all the labour and trouble attending the cattle would be saved. Animals will do better kept in the natural way in summer, providing them with sufficient food, water, and shelter, than by the artificial mode of confining them, and feeding them in yards or under cover. A working man having only one cow and a small quantity of land, might do better by feeding the cow under cover, and parties having only small farms, all in good cultivation, might also find it convenient and advantageous to confine their cattle in summer; but in ordinary farming, the natural and usual mode of pasturing cattle we think much preferable, and the least expensive. It may be objected that the drought and heat of our summers dry up the manure that falls from cattle on pastures, but, however this may be, the improvement of soil pastured by cattle and sheep is unquestionable, even in this hot country. When lands are of good quality in the old countries, and growing a good variety of grasses, there is the greatest objection to break them up. We had land in our possession in Ireland, which was understood to have been kept in meadow and pasture, without being ploughed, for a term of 150 years, and for 50 years of this term, while in the hands of our family, it produced excellent meadow one year, and was pastured the next during the whole time, sheep being generally the stock fed and fattened upon it. A farm under good management, with the due proportion of stock upon it, increasing the manure in every way possible, by compost, &c., preserving the manure from waste, and applying it judiciously, may be kept in very good condition, unless a large portion of the straw or hay is sold off the farm. The grain sold off, if considerable, may in many cases, require to be compensated for to the soil by more manure than can be produced upon the farm, but by summer fallowing, any hurtful exhaustion to the land might be prevented, if there was no means of obtaining any manure