

strongest and best trained horse-teams would be wholly incapable. I am inclined to think that the Sussex breed of cattle, at least for working purposes, would be admirably suited to the wants of many farmers in Canada and the States; they are unquestionably strong and hardy—reach a large size within a moderate time, and fatten tolerably fast. In the two last qualifications, they are, of course, much inferior to the Shorthorns and Herefords, but little, perhaps, to the Devons, while in the power of endurance and labor they are unquestionably their superiors. I am told, however, by experienced agriculturists, that the employment of oxen in farm work, is rather a sign of a stationary or slowly advancing husbandry, and that upon dry, light turnip lands and rich pastures, naturally suited to the Durhams and Herefords, cattle are now seldom if ever seen attached to the plough. In this part of England, however, the practice of working oxen, although not now so extensive as formerly, since draining and enlarging the fields have been carried out, has yet a strong and wide hold, and must therefore be considered as locally suited and advantageous. The ox, unlike the horse, increases in value as he grows older,—within certain limits,—and can at last be fattened and turned into money. In speaking of the Sussex cattle, I am told that much greater attention has been paid of late years to their improved breeding, particularly in reference to symmetry, and early growth, and ripeness. And there are now several distinguished breeders of these animals, among whom may be mentioned Messrs. Selmes and Trolley, in this immediate neighborhood, whose herds will favorably compare, making due allowance for differences in pasture and other local conditions, with some of those of the more popular breeds. There are but a few other varieties bred in this district, and as yet much has to be done in effecting needful changes and improvements in this most important department of agricultural management. As yet, I feel at times somewhat confused with the great diversity of farm practice that I have already observed in different parts of England, and I am mainly guided by the advice and opinions of practical men of good standing. There is here much to learn, and a wide and most interesting field for investigation; and, after all, as far as I can judge, there are some parts of this country, in which the horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs are but little, if at all, superior to some of the best and oldest farming districts of Canada. But I am told that railroads and free trade in corn, by stimulating farmers and allowing of cheap and expeditious intercourse, are rapidly bringing up the more backward districts towards a higher standard of improvement, both as respects the growth of grain, and the breeding and management of live stock, and there can be no doubt that the general agriculture of England is still rapidly improving, with no prospect in view of reaching an ultimate limit.

From Fairlight Down, on the southern slope of which lies the fashionable and flourishing town of Hastings, to which thousands resort at all seasons of the year in quest of pleasure and health, the view on all sides is truly magnificent. The prospects are equally pleasing, whether contemplated agriculturally, geologically, or artistically.—This elevation forms a sort of centre to an extensive district of country which geologists denominate the Wealdon, and is supposed to have formerly been a vast estuary into which large quantities of fresh water were delivered from the higher grounds, ages before the present crust of the globe was consolidated. From this point, on a clear day, the coasts of France, to the south, are distinctly visible, while the north Chalk Downs of Kent, with the bold escarpment of Shakespeare's Cliff at Dover, and the Sussex Downs, with their termination of the bold promontory of Beechy Head, all consisting of white chalk, can readily be seen at a distance, I should suppose, of some sixty or seventy miles. This country is extremely diversified, both in its scenery and soil, and in summer time it has the appearance of a rich garden, with natural woods, and abundance of beautiful trees and green hedge rows appearing in all directions.—In some places the soil is exceedingly rich, particularly the alluvial pastures; in others, the stiff, weald clay approaches within a few inches of the surface, forming a wet, heavy, and poor soil, very expensive to work.

ON SOWING PLASTER.

MR. EDITOR,—As the time is near at hand when the unpleasant and laborious task of sowing plaster must be performed, if we mean to have anything for the grasshoppers to munch this summer, and as few people seem to know how to do it as easily as they might do, I will describe a mode of which I read and have practised for some years, with much comfort and expedition. When your land is tolerably free from obstruc-