



Roman roads in Britain.

was in use for many a year after its employment was given up in the other parts of Southern England; but though heavy in the winter the roads were fairly level, and the pack-horse load was supposed to be fairly set at 5 bushels, about 315 lbs.

But in Derbyshire, the hills were very severe, and although the roads were dry in consequence, 3 bushels, or 190 pounds, were found to be as much as a pack-horse could be expected to carry on its hardly used back.

Well, the roads all over England now are very different even from what they were at the beginning of the century, and we have always held the

idea that their great improvement is primarily due to the attention called to the magnificent roads laid out all over the island by its Roman conquerors.

Look at the above engraving, and you will see what wonderful work was done by these earnest, strenuous colonisers. Their stay in England lasted only 325 years, reckoning from the subjugation of Britain in A. D. 85 to the departure of the legions in A. D. 410; yet in that comparatively short period, they covered the face of the country, from East to West, and from North to South, with roads that, even to-day, wherever they are found uninjured by man's devices, are as sound and firm as they ever were. And al