

spacious and lofty, and its massive walls and roof are literally covered with ivy, which has a solemn and majestic appearance. The south aisle contains two monuments of Knights Templar. It is said that the town formerly contained fourteen or fifteen chapels, which probably belonged to as many religious houses. The gable ends of several are yet standing; the Friars has an arch of uncommon extent and beauty, but the cloisters are taken away, and the cells converted into a family house. This monastery was founded by William de Buckingham, who dedicated it to the Virgin Mary, and it long enjoyed a very high reputation. How pregnant of instructive suggestions are these decayed monuments of the ancient faith and habits of old England! Their inspection, as it were, enables one to live through the past. Winchelsea is a member of the Cinque Ports, and formerly sent two members to Parliament,—among them may be ranked Henry, now Lord Brougham, one among many proofs that the close boroughs, as they were formerly termed, did at least occasionally return distinguished men in the walks of science and literature. The Reform Bill took away the franchise, and connected, for electoral purposes, Winchelsea with Rye.

Between Winchelsea and Hastings, I passed through some rural parishes,—Icklisham, Pett, Udimore, Brede, &c. The country is beautifully undulating, with occasional sea-views,—what, in short, may be characterized as highly pleasing and picturesque. In this part of Sussex there is no waste or unproductive land, and there are rather extensive areas in primitive woods, abounding in forest trees and thick undergrowth, which is cut down every ten or a dozen years, for hop-poles, hoops, faggots, &c. In some places a large outlay of money is made in the improvement of these natural woods, the produce of which, in the hop districts, will sell for £20 to £30, and upwards, per acre, exclusive of the timber trees, many of which attain to great age and size. These natural woods of England are far prettier than those of Canada,—the undergrowth is generally thicker, and the trees more spreading and symmetrical, with denser foliage. In many of these nooks and corners in the beautiful and sunny south, you can as completely retire from the busy haunts of men and smoky chimneys, as in your backwoods, and the solitude is equally complete. In many of the farm houses and cottages of this district, wood is burned in an open fire-place; and the baking of bread is invariably done by wood in brick ovens. Firewood sells for about twenty-five shillings a cord, and faggots, consisting of large bundles of spray, for about twenty or twenty-five shillings a hundred. In the towns, however, coal is principally used; but the amount of fuel required in this climate is not large.

Among the peculiarities of the agriculture of this part of England, that attracted my attention, was the prevalent breed of cattle, denominated the *Sussex breed*. They greatly resemble the Devons, but are larger and coarser, and I should judge, harder.—Their skins are generally thicker than the Downs, from which this breed is supposed to have been derived. A change of climate and pasture, and more strictness in the breeding of late years, have brought the Sussex cattle into a position of being recognized as a distinct breed, and they are now allowed to be exhibited as a class both at the Smithfield Fat Cattle Show and that of the Royal Agricultural Society. They may be said to belong to the larger breeds of the country; their color is red, with horns somewhat longer than the Devons, with thick shoulders, strong, and moderately short legs; but their general build and symmetry, I think, are scarcely equal to the North Devons, especially as I saw at the last shows of the Smithfield Club and the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Chester. From all I can learn, the cows I should not consider as eminently distinguished for the dairy, and they appear small compared with the bulls, some of which are really splendid animals. For the purposes of working, however, I am inclined to think that the Sussex oxen stand unrivalled. They possess great power of endurance, having great weight of body combined with a sufficient degree of muscular action. They appear to be very docile in the yoke, when properly managed. On most farms in the Weald of Kent, Sussex, and Surrey, too large for three or four horses to manage, oxen are, in addition, usually employed; and it is truly surprising how steady and effective they are at work. You will frequently see two pairs drawing the heavy and clumsily looking turnwrest wheel-plough, in the unprejudicially stiff clays so common in this district, turning over a furrow eight or ten inches deep, and although apparently slow in motion, yet doing upon the whole, where heavy and continuous draft is required, as much work per day as horses, with less fatigue and expense. In the woods I saw teams of oxen, consisting of sometimes three, four, and even five pairs, attached to large and heavy vehicles, laden with immense weight of squared timber, or faggots, which they steadily drew along in a style, of which the