

that account than when it depends on so many contingencies, often beyond control. The expense of burning in heaps has been stated at 1s. to 1s. 6d. per load, and of clod burning at 12s. to 15s. an acre, but little dependence can be placed on such statements, or on the loads that are used, or on the quantity of ashes got from burning an acre of land, as they all vary according to circumstances. The quantity of ashes should be such as will cover the surface when they are spread; if the quantity be less, the application may be worth little, and a large quantity can be got at less proportional expense than a smaller. This mode of burning by lime is a very simple, an effectual, and a process at all times available, and the ultimate products are a mixture of finely reduced and pulverised substances to be blended and incorporated with the soil, on which acquisition so very much of the fertility of the earth depends.

**FRENCH AND ENGLISH LABOURERS.**—Few things have struck me more forcibly than the difference in the condition of the agricultural population of France and that of Great Britain—a subject to which I have already referred. I have never seen a more healthy, a better-clad, or a happier population than the French peasantry. Something may be ascribed to their naturally cheerful temperament, and something to that extraordinary sobriety, which everywhere in a remarkable degree characterizes the French people; but much more, I think, to the favourable condition in which this law, which renders attainable the possession of a freehold in the soil, places them. I am extremely averse to making any unfavorable comparisons; and I am quite aware that my judgement may be at fault; but I shall offend no candid mind by the calm expression of my honest opinion. The very poor condition of a large portion of the English agricultural labouring population must be acknowledged. The acquisition of property is, in most cases, all but impossible. The great difficulty, where there is a family, is to subsist; in sickness they have no resource but private charity or parish assistance; and they have in most cases nothing to which they can look forward when the power to labour fails them, but the almshouse.

**WOMAN SELF-DEGRADED.**—The *Morning Post* quotes, for the astonishment of its readers, the following advertisement, in the *Turin Concordia* of the 7th inst. :—“Wanted, a Nurse. The Signora Siffanti di San Bartolomeo is in want of a young, healthy wet nurse; and in order to avoid the possibility of any future loss of milk, she must be unmarried. Her services will be required for the nourishment of a small litter of five thorough-bred English spaniels; the maternal bitch having died in giving them birth. The Marchioness would stipulate, as an essential condition, that the nurse should reside in her Excellency's house. Her salary will be a hundred francs per month. She will be allowed chocolate in the morning, she will take her breakfast with the Marchioness, her dinner with the servants, and will be required to sleep with the dogs.”

**BLISSFUL IGNORANCE.**—At a late agricultural meeting the Rev. Mr. Sidney related the following anecdote;—“Some years since, a kind-hearted nobleman presided at a meeting of his tenants and friends, and amongst other toasts gave “Success to Agriculture.” One of his tenants rose and said, “I don't like that toast; I have been 60 or 70 years on the estate farming for myself—I am thankful to say we have never had nothing to do with agriculture, and we never will.”

**LEAVING OFF GRADUALLY.**—The *S. C. Advocate* relates an amusing anecdote which occurred between a couple of Dutchmen, one of whom was much devoted to schnaps. His friend was eloquently persuading him to ‘jine de dempranche,’ and to obviate the terrors of coming to pure water ‘of a sudden,’ suggested the following expedient:—“Vell den Hannes, I dell you how you do. You go, and buy un parrel viskey, and take it home, and put a foshet in it; and vonefer you vant un schnap, go and traw it, and shust so much viskey ash you traw off of der foshet, shust so much vater you poir into der parrel; den, you see you haf always a full parrel viskey, only d'rectly afther a vifo, it come weaker and weaker, and at lasht you haf nothing put un parrel of vater; den you vant no more use vor viskey; and you jine der dempranche.”

## AN AMBITIOUS PIG.

A curious circumstance happened here a few days since. John Bull, a thatcher, and ale-house keeper, had purchased a pig of farmer Larcumb, of Nunsford, and had driven the animal to snug quarters in a comfortable sty in the yard behind his premises. Now as the adage which says “a pig may fly, but it is a very unlikely bird,” does not deny the possibility, but only discountenances the probability of the pig family becoming aeronauts (except a “pig” of lead manufactured into shot) the animal was perhaps desirous of testing the possibility of the exploit, or, it may be that as his master was a thatcher, he deemed it the duty of all his master's dependants to be as familiar with house-tops as the thatcher himself, either for the purpose of helping his owner to a job or *in a* job, as the case might be. At any rate the aspiring porker escaped from his den and commenced “getting up in the world,” by clamouring from a soil heap to a wall, and from the wall to the roof of Bull's dwelling house, and, “mox-sese attollit in auras” appeared on the apex of the ridge, tottering on to a merry grunt with as much confidence as a tight-rope dancer. From roof to roof proceeded the grunter to the unspeakable amusement of the passengers in the street, until he arrived at the end of the row of houses, of which Bull's was one; and when “the end was attained” piggy came down at a single leap, and at the expense of a dislocated shoulder; but despite this “casualty,” as the modern phrase goes, he seemed determined to have have his fling when he was at liberty, and so he mended his pace to make up for a lessened number of available limbs, and bounced forward at a mad gallop, goaded onward in his headlong career by the wondering boys who set up a shout in character with the occasion. A chase was the result, and albeit it is somewhat infra dig for a Bull to trouble himself about so inferior a quadruped as a pig, yet interest is a spur not to be resisted, and thus prompted it was proved that the pace of a biped may be successfully put in competition with the “wings of a pig,” for poor porcus was soon overtaken in the race, and consigned to his former habitation. As all our names, both of persons and places, were originally derived from remarkable occurrences, we should advise Bull to alter the present name of his ale-house, and set up the sign of the “Flying Pig,” for certain it is he “keeps” the flying pig.

**PRESERVATION OF SHINGLES.**—In your paper for July, the question is asked, “how can spruce shingles be rendered durable for roofs?”

Immerse them for 48 hours in a weak solution of corrosive sublimate, (Bi-chloride of mercury);—and they will last longer than any shingles not so prepared, of even the best kinds of wood.

This process is called *Kyanising* after the inventor, John Kyan. Most of the timbers used at the Woolwich Dock Yard, were so prepared 25 years ago, and do not as yet show the slightest decay.

The sleepers used in the Amboy railroad, were *Kyanised* with a similar result. Its operation is to coagulate the sap, and thus render it insoluble, and consequently imperishable.

The cistern in which the process is conducted, should be guarded from the approach of cattle, as the solution is very poisonous.—JAS. J. MAPES. *Newark, N. J., July 6, 1848. Albany Cultivator.*

**COMPOST SHEDS.**—Among the objects most worthy of our agriculturists' attention, are compost sheds; a cemented pit, roofed in, with walls on three sides. In this kind of shed manure may be economically manufactured, with as much industry and care as on a Flemish farm. These kinds of sheds are kept constantly filled with vegetable and animal refuse of all kinds, amongst which is mixed from time to time a bag of guano, to promote the decomposing fermentation; with the aid of liquid manure the mass is very soon converted into a highly exciting compost, and conveyed away either for immediate application, or to be preserved in a casing of soil, if no crop or ground be ready to receive it. Thus the manufacture is constantly going on, and guano, the most costly of imported fertilizers, is made to multiply its own peculiar properties to an incalculable amount.—*Farmers Herald.*