

## Young People's Department.



AT REST IN THE FIELD.

### THE YOKE.

**Q**UIETLY the oxen graze in the fields or rest under the shady trees, and glad they are to be freed from the heavy yoke which they have carried all day. The yoke that is put upon oxen is made of wood and rests upon their necks, and is fastened to their shoulders by a wooden bow which goes round them, and is secured at the top by iron or wooden pins. A large ring hangs from the centre of the yoke between the two oxen, and to this a heavy chain is attached for the purpose of being fastened to the loads which the patient brutes have to draw. When they are drawing this load the whole pressure comes

against their shoulders, so that they are able to throw the weight of their whole bodies against it; but there is another plan for yoking oxen which is adopted in some places and is generally seen in Nova Scotia. The yoke, instead of being placed upon the thick part of the neck, close to the shoulder, is fastened to the heads of the oxen immediately behind their horns, and is secured there by leather straps around their foreheads. The animals then are obliged to push the load along by their heads and sometimes they get very tired, because they are obliged to keep their heads in one position all the time that the yoke is on them, whether they are pushing their load or not. With the other yoke they can rest their heads and necks when