

rather than to increase the quantity and improve the quality of the seed. Buck wheat is a plant particularly suited to the lighter and poorer classes of soils. When sown broadcast, which is the usual practice, three or four pecks of seed per acre will be found ample; and if divided, considerably less will be sufficient. The crop is very various in amount; from twenty to thirty bushels of seed per acre, may be considered a liberal produce, but larger yields are sometimes obtained. Much will of course depend upon the character of the season and soil, and the mode of treatment. The time of sowing must, to some extent, be regulated by circumstances. The plant is exceedingly tender, and the seed should be fully ripened before the approach of the least frost. From the beginning to the middle of July in this latitude is a good time for sowing; the operation, however, may sometimes be deferred to a later period, particularly when the raising of seed is not an object, and the plant is to be ploughed under as green manure for fall wheat.

## SHORT RAMBLES IN KENT AND SUSSEX.

*(Continued from page 57.)*

The country around Hastings is very picturesque, and abounds in material of great historical interest. The surface is beautifully undulating, and diversified by woods, corn fields, hop gardens, and green pastures; constituting a landscape characteristically English. Brighton is a much larger place, but the surrounding country is in point of richness and beauty much inferior to that of Hastings. The former is situated on the chalk formation, belonging to the range denominated the South Downs, so distinguished for the excellent and well known breed of sheep, which go by the same name. The specimens of this breed which I have seen in Canada are inferior both in fleece and carcass to the ordinary flocks in this country. The Ellmans, near Lewes, have for generations been distinguished breeders of this variety, and the Duke of Richmond, whose princely residence and estates lie further west in this county, has of late become a successful rival of the celebrated Jonas Webb, of Cambridgeshire. The prevailing rock for many miles round Hastings is a ferruginous sandstone, in which large quantities of iron ore of excellent quality were formerly worked; the remains of some of the old furnaces are yet to be seen. As wood became scarce, the iron manufacture gradually left this part of the country, and became established in Staffordshire, and other places, where coal abounds.

Hastings is one of the principal cinque ports, and its history goes back into the mythical ages of antiquity. Vestiges of a Roman encampment are discoverable on the hill eastward of the town, which appears to have been strongly fortified in those days. The remains of a large and very ancient castle on the western hill, are still carefully preserved: portions of the walls and a tower are yet standing, and the interior is converted into a pleasure garden, the view from this eminence, some five hundred feet perpendicularly above the sea, whose waves wash its base. A few miles to the west lies the rich grazing tract of Pevensey level, agriculturally distinguished for the large numbers of sheep and cattle which are fattened there, and in civil history for having been the landing place of William the Conqueror. Pevensey Castle is a noble old ruin; the date of its erection is unknown, though from the number of Roman bricks employed in it, most antiquarians are agreed to assign it to the Roman period. Its form is circular, enclosing seven acres, and it is supposed to be one of the greatest and most entire specimens of Roman building in Great Britain. It was in this castle Bishop Bayonne and his forces sustained a six weeks' siege, but for want of provisions were obliged to surrender to William Rufus. How suggestive and full of meaning are these monumental remains of old England!

On leaving the coast and rich alluvion of Pevensey, the pedestrian reaches the higher grounds, which are much diversified, and varying considerably in the productiveness of