

Farms are here in general small; from 30 *l.* to 100 *l.* a year is the common run of the country; and land about *Cowbridge* lets, the grass at 20 *s.* and the arable at 10 *s.* but about *Bridgend*, where the soil is much more sandy, there is a great deal lett for 5 *s.* They employ oxen for most of the purposes of draught and tillage: to a farm of 50 *l.* a year, you will generally find eight, and two horses; they yoke four to a plough, and sometimes six, and plough an acre a day in common: but when they break up their fallows, not above half as much. Farmers who do not rent above 30 *l.* a year, keep only four oxen: in general I found their farms to contain more ploughed land than grass.

LABOUR.

Prices all the year round:

Those men who have constant work, 1 *s.* a day.

An ox-boy to drive, 3 *d.* and 4 *d.* a day.

If labourers are taken at various prices, then they run as follow: In winter, 1 *s.*

In hay-time, 1 *s.* In harvest, 1 *s.* 6 *d.*

Reaping wheat, 4 *s.* and 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

Mowing corn, 1 *s.* 3 *d.* and 1 *s.* 6 *d.* and drink.

Mowing grass, 1 *s.* 8 *d.* and drink.

PROVISIONS.

Bread, not quite 2 *d.* per lb.

Butter, - 5

Skim

Skim cheefe,	-	2 and 2½ d. per lb.
Mutton,	-	3½
Beef,	-	4
Veal,	-	3
Candles,	-	7

I forgot to tell you, that burnbeaking is known here and practised by some farmers, but not enough to have a settled price *per acre* for it; they do it therefore by the day. Most of their draughts are performed by one horse, in such a sledge as this. See Fig. I,

a. a. the shafts, like those of a waggon or cart which slide on the ground on the ends
b. b. c. is a semicircular hoop from shaft to shaft, to keep in the sacks or bundle of hay or wood, &c. which is laid on the cross-bars, *d. d.* The machine is light, and much preferable to carrying the weight on the back.

It is a very great pity the *Glamorganshire* gentlemen do not on a large scale practise a better husbandry, that the force of numerous examples might influence the farmers to change their bad methods. Their soil is capable of as great improvements as any I ever saw, especially in the light parts. The great points they want to be well instructed in are these: *Firſt*, The general management of their farms, in respect of draught cattle, to keep no more than necessary for their work; but if they will

keep a larger number, to give a better idea of employing them proportionably to the improvement of their lands. *Secondly*, Folding of sheep, many of them having good flocks, but never fold them. *Thirdly*, The turnip and carrot husbandry: great quantities of their land being admirably adapted to both, but unknown, and when a few turnips are sown, they are never hoed. *Fourthly*, The sowing of sainfoine, which grass would thrive finely upon their lime-stone lands; but they are unacquainted with it. *Fifthly*, Cropping their fields in a better course, and not continue in the vile custom of sowing a crop of barley, and two crops of oats after one of wheat, on the credit of a fallow and liming, which many of them do. No soil can be better adapted to such courses as these: 1. Turnips. 2. Barley. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. 5. Carrots. 6. Oats. Or only 1. Turnips. 2. Barley. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat, But the former laying down with sainfoine, among the oats, is preferable.

The situation of *Glamorganshire* is very advantageous; few counties more so. For it lies along the *Bristol* channel, and has many little ports in it, by which means they have a ready market at *Bristol* for every thing; and on the western side lies their vast copper, lead, and tin-works, about *Neath* and *Swansea*, in which above

500 hands are employed, which necessarily occasion a great consumption. These works were established on account of the cheapness of coals and labour, for the copper and tin are brought over from *Cornwall*.

I should not omit to inform you, that *Cowbridge* is a very neat, clean, well paved, well built town; much prettier than either *Chepstow*, *Newport*, *Cardiff*, or *Bridgend*; the latter of which places, and its environs, form the westernmost point of my tour: I purpose on my return to *Chepstow*, to view Mr. *Morris's* famous place at *Persfield*, and will aim at some description of it*.

* If your purpose is seeing *Persfield*, you go from *Chepstow* up the *Monmouth* road, (unless you go by water, which is a pleasant scheme enough) and pass directly to the house: we were shewn to an adjoining part of the garden, which consisted of slopes and waving lawns, having shrubby trees scattered about them with great taste, and striking down a short walk to the left, came at once to a little sequestered spot, shaded by a fine beach tree, which commands a landscape, too beautiful for pencil to paint;— This little spot, over which the beach-tree spreads, is levelled in the vast rock, which forms the shore of the river *Wby*, through Mr. *Morris's* ground; this rock, which is totally covered with a shrubby underwood, is almost perpendicular from the water to the rail that encloses the point of view. — One of the sweetest vallies
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