

**THE FORMATION AND MANAGEMENT OF
FLOATED MEADOWS; WITH CORRECTIONS OF
ERRORS, FOUND IN THE TREATISES OF MESSRS.
DAVIS, MARSHALL, BOSWELL, YOUNG, AND
SMITH. ON THE SUBJECT OF FLOATING, TO
WHICH IS ADDED A DISSERTATION ON THE SIZE
OF FARMS**

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The formation and management of floated meadows; with corrections of errors, found in the treatises of messrs. Davis, Marshall, Boswell, Young, and Smith. On the subject of floating, to which is added a dissertation on the size of farms by T. Wright

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T. WRIGHT

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THE SIZE OF FARMS.

BY THE REV. T. WRIGHT,
Rector of Ould, near Northampton.

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Introductory Remarks

ON

THE SUBJECT OF FLOATING.

I SHOULD not have ventured thus, a fourth time, to enter the province of other men, if I had no passport to exhibit---if I had it not in my power to say, that by my former intrusions of this kind, I have, in some degree, served my country---if I had it not in my power to assert, that I have already caused more than four
B thousand

thousand acres to be converted into Floated Meadows---and that every acre so floated, has been increased three pounds in annual value.

Standing, therefore, upon this privileged ground, I presume, in obedience to the calls which I have received through the medium of my booksellers, and from other quarters, once more to deviate a little from the right line of my professional duty, and once more to offer myself as an advocate in the cause, and as a pilot in the practice of floating: and in the attempt to support these characters, I am sorry to say, that I shall find it necessary again to defend the fair fame of my muddy favourite, from the fresh, but foul aspersions of certain dabblers in spring-water.

To

To be again solicited, however, to resume this subject, is what I did not expect---what I did not desire; for, when I last ventured to obtrude myself upon the notice of the cultivators of land, Irrigation, as it was called, appeared to be so prominent a feature in agriculture, and was so zealously recommended by almost every one, who either felt himself qualified to write, or found himself competent to talk like an agriculturist, that I was persuaded the practice would soon be reduced to a plain system or science, within the reach of every man's understanding. I had entertained a hope to have seen, ere this, a professed Floater on every stream, and watered meadows on every rivulet. I had flattered myself in the expectation of seeing, long ago, this art in every county---in the admiration

and in the hands of the common farmer, without whose co-operation and example nothing extensively valuable in agriculture can be effected, either in the introduction of new practices, or in the modification of old ones.

These my hopes and expectations, however, have not been gratified; but have experienced, of late, a strong and in a certain degree, mortifying check; for when I came to reside in the county of Northampton, about two years ago, I could not find that either my book, or the practice of Floating had ever once been heard of or dreamt of, in this part of the kingdom; in a district too, where the capabilities for the adoption of the art are abundant, and where the occupiers of land excel in almost every other
branch