BEEF AND POTATOES.

A DIETETIC DITTY.

AIR-Potatoes grow in Limerick.

"POTATOES grow in Limerick and beef in Ballimore;"

Use the two together, and of strength you'll have a store: Beef supplies the fibre, while the *taties* feed the fire; And a little glass of good poteen will merriment inspire.

Every muscle as it moves some tear and wear sustains; And thus set free, the old debris find out their several drains:

However sad the thought may seem, the fact is very clear,

That day by day we waste away, and soon should disappear.

But food is sent, with kind intent, the fabric to restore; The pot that boils our bit of beef rebuilds us as before;

- Or should we take, for England's sake, her roast beef so renowned,
- You would not wish a nobler dish, with pudding duly browned.
- A round of beef in winter time is found a joyous treat, When pickled with a mixture where both salt and sugar meet:
- But salting needs correction, and Old Custom tells the means,
- That the round should be encircled with a lively wreath of greens.
- As some relief, when tired of beef, you'll find that mutton's good;
- With turnips and with caper-sauce, it makes a pleasant food:
- Mutton old and claret good were Caledonia's forte,
- Before the Southron taxed her drink and poisoned her with port.
- If fowl or veal should be your meal, then have a slice of ham,
- Where fat and lean, together seen, may save an extra dram:

But let your ham be duly boiled, and don't eat pork that's raw,

For fear that Trichiniasis should clutch you in its claw.

Some, *veluti in speculum*, survey their loss and gain, And try by weight and measure nice a medium to maintain:

So when of all their goings-out they've found the just amount,

They eat, or starve, as best may serve to balance the account.*

But, sooth to say, a simpler way will do the job as well; Your appetite, if tight and right, will be your dinner-bell; Eat whene'er you're hungry, and when hunger ceases—stop;

And drink for love and friendship's sake a not immoderate drop.

O happy he, from doctors free, who thus adjusts his fare, As true and pat as if he sat in great Santorio's chair! He doesn't take too little, and he doesn't take too much, And a heart more sound will not be found, "from Canada to Cutch."

^{*} See 'Spectator,' No. 25.