

## THE DARWINIAN ERA OF FARMING.

AIR—*Derry Down.*

O! FARMING'S not merely an art of some skill;  
It's a Science, or something more excellent still:  
For the Farmer has such a command over nature,  
You almost might call him a kind of Creator:

*Singing down, down, down, derry down.*

'Twas long ago found that a Horse and an Ass  
Breed a good kind of beast for a mountainous pass;  
But since Mules were invented, it never till now  
Was supposed you could breed from a Horse and a Cow:

*Singing down, down, down, derry down.*

But all nowadays to their lessons must look:  
So the Farmer must read Mr Darwin's great book,  
Who proves or asserts, and has credit from some,  
That from all sorts of creatures all others may come:

*Singing down, down, down, derry down.*

If this theory holds, and we find the right way,  
There's no end of the freaks that the Farmer may play :  
Getting all sorts of products from all sorts of stocks,  
He may ride on his Ram and clip wool from his Ox :

*Singing down, down, down, derry down.*

He may breed you a beast mingled just half and half,  
From a fortunate cross of a Pig and a Calf ;  
When you'll cut without trouble, so neat and so nice,  
Both your ham and your veal in the very same slice :

*Singing down, down, down, derry down.*

As now well established beyond any question,  
Variety's good both for taste and digestion ;  
And a Hybrid would prove a prodigious relief,  
With the fore-quarter *mutton*, the hind-quarter *beef* :

*Singing down, down, down, derry down.*

You must never lose heart if your mules seldom breed,  
Or if some of your mixtures at first don't succeed ;  
Mr Darwin himself would exhort you to wait,  
As he draws his own bills at a very long date :

*Singing down, down, down, derry down.*

So, perhaps, when their practical worth you explore,  
There's not much in these notions we hadn't before ;  
For they'll scarcely come true (what a subject for  
    laughter!)

Till the great day of Judgment,—or say the day After :

*Singing down, down, down, derry down.*