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THE Annual Report of the Hon. the Commissioner of Agriculture at Washington is, beyond comparison, the most valuable Agricultural publication that issues from the teeming Press of this great Continent. The Report for the past year, embracing the statistical enquiries pertaining to 1870, is now before us, a portly volume of 688 pages, with numerous engravings. Nearly a quarter of a million of "extra copies" have been distributed by direction of Congress, and already extensive extracts from its pages are being reprinted in the agricultural papers of English-speaking countries. America's farmers have some encouragement to labour, when they see their leading statesmen looking down upon them as a body of men representing one half of the country's active industry, and upon whom the other half of its industry also indirectly depends. "There is, perhaps, no occupation in life which so greatly needs the fostering care of the Government as that of farming. There is no principle of political economy, no ques-

tion of public policy, no consideration of statistical facts, no new development of scientific knowledge, which does not come home to be measured in its influence upon the results of the farm."

Some of the statistical results of this report have a direct interest to our farmers and merchants. Indian Corn is the most extensively cultivated and most valuable crop of the United States, occupying 38 millions of acres, and yielding 1094 millions of bushels, the value of which is 602 millions of dollars. Next comes Hay, 24½ millions of tons, worth 339 millions of dollars. Cotton, 4½ millions of bales, value 286 millions of dollars. Wheat, 236 millions of bushels, value, 246 millions of dollars. Oats, 247 millions of bushels, worth 107 millions of dollars. Potatoes, 115 millions of bushels, value 32½ millions of dollars. Tobacco, 250½ millions of pounds, value 27 millions of dollars. Less important crops than any of these, are Barley, Rye, and Buckwheat.

The average yield of Indian Corn is

28 bushels to the acre, of Wheat 12, Rye 13, Oats 28, Barley 24, Buckwheat 18, Potatoes 86½, Tobacco 757 lbs., Hay 1½ tons, Cotton 236 lbs.

The average value of Tobacco per acre is more than that of any other crop, viz., \$81, Potatoes \$62, Cotton \$33, Barley \$20, Hay \$17, Indian Corn \$15.50, Buckwheat \$14, Wheat \$13, Oats \$12, Rye \$11. These averages are for the whole Union, and will suggest to every farmer a comparison with his own results.

Let us now pick out a few facts indicating the effects of climate and systems of culture in the different States. The highest average yield of Indian Corn is in Vermont, Indiana and Ohio, 39 bushels per acre, and the lowest in South Carolina, 9 bushels. Our neighbours in Maine and New Hampshire produce 33 and 36½ bushels respectively, Massachusetts 33, New York State 34. In the Western States, the averages are about the same; but in the South there is a marked decrease. Florida 11 bushels, Alabama 17, Louisiana 22, Georgia 19½,