

a fair return for its liberal expenditure when correctly employed, than land; but on the other hand, there is nothing more ruinous when the capital is either insufficient or injudiciously laid out. In fact—assuming always that the expenditure be directed with judgement, it will be found that the profit upon the outlay increases more than in proportion to the amount of expenditure. It therefore behoves a man to weigh well the charges with his means, and not allow himself to be seduced by an ideal prospect of gain, into the imprudence of trying to cultivate a larger farm than his capital will enable him to manage with the spirit necessary to insure success.

Much larger capital than was formerly required has become indispensable since the general adoption of the alternate system of husbandry; for the foundation of that system, and all good farming, is the support of more live stock than possible when the land was brought round to the reproduction of wheat by means of repeated fallows, instead of green crops. The charges, being then confined to those incidental to mere tillage, were comparatively light; where as now there are arable farms without an acre of pasture in England. By soiling, more stock is kept and more manure is made. But the produce is proportionately larger and more grain is raised or meat produced. Of two farmers, each possessing the same quantity of land, and devoting the same proportion of it to grain, he who can support the most live stock, will not only realize the customary profit on that stock, but will also grow the most grain. The farmer who has the means, as well as the discernment, to make some of the various branches of grazing or the dairy, an essential part of his business, and thus nurses a proportion of his land, preserves the tillage in constant heart with the additional manure; and although the gross amount of grain may be less than if more ground were under the plough, yet the profit will be greater and the deficiency will be more than made up by the supply of cheese and butter, and of flesh. He also divides his risk; so that, in the event of an unfavorable harvest, the loss upon his crops will probably be reimbursed by the profit on his cattle. It is a common observation, that grazing and dairying are the most regular profit, to which it may be added that the bane of all necessitous farmers, and the ruin of land are being under stocked and over cropped.

By the *Old Husbandry* I mean the prevailing system of the country which is progressively deteriorating our lands, lessening their products,

and sinking our farmers to ruin; a system which neither makes the land dry, nor keeps it rich, and which tills and mows, and pastures the same fields till the plough land is worn out, grasses in the meadow land run out, and the pastures overgrown with bushes and noisome weeds and mosses. I call it an exhausting system, for it not only exhausts the soil, but the purse of the cultivator. By the new husbandry I mean the system which has enriched England, and which is now enriching every farmer of our country where it has been fully adopted; the system of draining, manuring, alternating of clover and roots with grain, &c., and of blending cattle with grain husbandry. I call this the *augmenting* system, because it augments, or at least preserves the fertility of the soil, and secures profits of agricultural labor. It is affirmed by intelligent practical men, that under this system more cattle can be fed and fattened, upon the roots and straw of the tillage land than can be fed and fattened upon a like number of acres kept permanently in meadow and pasture, leaving the grain as extra profit. The new system prevailed long in Flanders, ere it was introduced into Great Britain, and it is perhaps no where now carried to higher perfection than in Scotland. The Scotch excel in their system of draining, and perhaps are behind few in the improvement of their stock, and judicious alternation of their crops. Grass grounds are there almost invariably broken up the second or third year after seeding.

PREPARATION FOR, AND ROTATION OF CROPS.

First. If land is wet, either flat or rolling, it must be drained, either by under-ground or open drains, in order to bring it into a proper state for the rotation of crops. If land should be spouty or springy, and the soil deep it must be drained by under drains to ensure success to the agriculturist, but flat and shallow soils may be drained by open ones. First place, divide your farm into say six large fields and as many small ones as you think necessary near your house. Take No. 1, plough in the fall or autumn, in the spring sow peas and oats, potatoes and root crops; this breaks the sward. The second-year summer fallow, if the land is thistly plough deep the beginning of June; harrow when the land is dry, the weather hot, and not let a thistle show an inch above ground. Plough the beginning of July, and again the first of August and drag thoroughly, then it will be fit for the seed furrow, or ridge, which should run North to South; and should be from 8 to 12 feet wide; when ridges run East and