

amount to 235,553 acres, with a rental of £411,564. There are only three counties of England in which there are no University lands. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners hold 149,882 acres, and the Duchies of Lancaster and Cornwall 80,931.

Now, what do these returns show? Apparently that nearly a million of persons own parts of the soil of England. But what really? That 12,100 heads of families own 29,850,000 acres out of an aggregate of 34,000,000; and that out of a total rental of \$500,000,000 these 12,100 absorb \$447,750,000. These two facts more than make out the case of the land reformers, who insist, not upon land confiscation or interference with ordinary trade laws, but upon all barriers to the easy and cheap transfer of land being done away with, so that that species of property may be treated like any other,

be subject to the same laws of accumulation and disintegration, and be in every case disposed of as freely as any other article of merchandise. In other words, that all laws of entail and primogeniture should be abolished, and that in every case a man that deals in land should, if he cannot pay his debts, have his property sold without reserve, exactly as if he dealt in sugar and tea.

Thus the English land question, as it now stands, is as we have often asserted in these columns. No entail, no primogeniture, and cheap conveyancing, so that the title-deed of an acre may not cost as much as that of an earldom. Everything points to this very speedily becoming one of the "burning" questions in Britain.

TRADE IN CEREALS.

THE TOTAL PRODUCTION OF EUROPE—THE CROPS AND IMPORTS OF 1876—THE PROBABLE DEMAND FOR AMERICAN PRODUCTS.

Imports *19 May*
alone (Boston Herald) *1877*

According to very careful statistical exhibits recently made by the French Government, the total cereal production of Europe amounts at present to an average of 4,994,000,000 bushels per annum. Of this Russia alone furnishes 1,606,000,000 bushels, or nearly one-third of the whole; Germany, 742,500,000 bushels; France, 687,500,000 bushels; and Austria, 550,000,000 bushels. The production of this country is set down at 1,537,250,000 bushels, or thirty-nine and a half bushels to each inhabitant, while Europe, with a population of 297,000,000, produces only about sixteen and a half bushels

per acre. The following table gives the amount of cereals per inhabitant produced by the various States of Europe:—

| Bushels. | | Bushels. | |
|---------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| Roumania..... | 30.00 | Ireland..... | 12.65 |
| Denmark..... | 32.45 | Turkey..... | 12.65 |
| Russia..... | 22.27 | Finland..... | 12.10 |
| Prussia..... | 22.00 | Great Britain..... | 11.55 |
| France..... | 18.96 | Saxony..... | 10.40 |
| Hungary..... | 18.70 | Servia..... | 10.40 |
| Bavaria..... | 17.86 | Holland..... | 8.80 |
| Sweden..... | 15.11 | Norway..... | 8.51 |
| German Duchies..... | 14.00 | Greece..... | 8.51 |
| Belgium..... | 13.47 | Italy..... | 7.70 |
| Spain..... | 13.47 | Portugal..... | 7.70 |
| Austria..... | 12.91 | Switzerland..... | 6.76 |
| Wurtemberg..... | 12.91 | | |

According to the most moderate estimate, the average quantity of cereals necessary for the consumption of each inhabitant is 14 9-10 bushels per annum, and therefore all the States that come after Sweden upon the list have to obtain grain supplies from other countries. In this country three-fifths of the cereal production consists of corn. In Europe oats predominate, and next in quantity comes wheat, rye, barley, and corn. Russia, Prussia, and France produce large wheat crops, and the two first are our largest competitors in the English market. In Roumania and Servia corn takes the first rank. Prior to 1860 Russia and Prussia led the United States in the supply of wheat. From 1859 to 1861 the exports of wheat from this country to England sprang suddenly up from 340,504 cwt. to 15,610,472 cwt., while in the same period Russia advanced only from 3,837,454 to 4,567,483 cwt., and Prussia from 3,345,301 cwt. to 4,462,573 cwt. The lead taken so suddenly by this country has ever since been maintained. Tables covering the years from 1860 to 1872 show that the United States supplied England during that period with 28.5 per cent. of her total imports of wheat, including flour, against 24.7 per cent. from Russia and 17.2 per cent. from Germany. In the same period England imported 43 per cent. of her total importations of corn from this country. In 1852 the exports of corn from this country to Great Britain only amounted to 1,341,304 bushels, against 1,795,632 bushels from Turkey and Roumania, and 1,870,528 bushels from Russia. At present Roumania and Southern Russia, to a lesser degree, are our principal competitors in the supply of corn. The year 1876 was a good harvest year in England; prices were low, and the total imports of wheat were only 44,394,152 cwt. against 51,886,393 cwt. in 1875. The following table gives the sources of supply:—

| | Cwt. | Per cent of all. |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| United States and Canada..... | 21,716,956 | 48.9 |
| Russia..... | 8,769,960 | 19.7 |
| British India..... | 3,279,887 | 7.4 |
| Germany..... | 2,324,148 | 5.2 |
| Egypt..... | 2,218,227 | 4.9 |
| Turkey and Roumania..... | 1,238,851 | 2.9 |
| Chili..... | 982,619 | 2.2 |
| France..... | 958,350 | 0.7 |
| Denmark..... | 262,580 | 0.6 |
| Other countries..... | 3,306,356 | 7.4 |
| Total..... | 44,374,152 | 100 |

The importations of corn were 39,958,226 cwt., of which upward of 50 per cent. came from this country. Canadian exports of grain are included in those of this country. It will be seen that Russia and Turkey have furnished 22.6 per cent. of the supplies to England. In India a dearth prevails this year. Egypt being subject to the suzerainty of the Porte, will be affected by the war an