

another was sown; but they did not always remove the straw—they do not trouble themselves with any manure. The second year they sow it again and harrow it, and generally took three crops in succession. When they can take no more out of it, they either sow grass seeds or, as frequently, let it seed itself. They will then sometimes cut hay for 12, 14, 16, 18, or 20 years in succession, in fact so long as they can even get half-a-ton an acre from it. The land was then broken up, and a crop of wheat—and then hay for 12 years again, and so the same course was repeated. Now this was the way in which this land was treated; this was the way in which the exhaustion is brought about. This exhaustion existed in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Lower Canada, in Upper Canada to a considerable extent, over the whole of New England, and extended even to the State of New York. Well, were they doing anything to bring back the land to a productive condition? On this point he could speak very favourably.

All the new States—all the virgin land where wheat was cultivated yielded a crop for little or nothing, but it could not yield by any means a large crop. In the State of Michigan, between Lakes Superior and Erie, the average produce was not twelve bushels an acre; but it was got for nothing. In New Brunswick, which was very thinly populated, he was told that 10 bushels per acre paid well—but the produce was not large. In the Western States they were enabled to produce it very cheaply. As regards its value, the time he was there the prices varied from 60 to 80 cents a bushel, *i. e.*, 100 cents being 4s. 4d. In the extensive Western States, and part of New York where it was shipped to England, the price varied according to the distance. The condition of the farmers in Maine is exceedingly bad. The land was all mortgaged which hung like a mill stone round their necks, and was worse even than the state of the farmers in this country. They were thus unable to compete with the western parts of New York or Lake Ontario.—They had all heard of the famous wheat of Genesee, where the land was more fertile than any part of Great Britain, and he learned there, that they were laying the land down to grass, because they could not afford to grow wheat. As a remedy for this state of things, they were establishing agricultural societies in the different States, and the Legislature was providing funds to support these societies and for the diffusion of knowledge. In New Brunswick, New England, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and New York, the growth of wheat has almost ceased; and it is now gradually receding farther and farther westward. He believed it would not be very long before America would be unable—in fact the United States were unable now—to supply Britain with wheat in any large quantity.—If we could bring Indian corn into general use, we might get plenty of it; but he did not think that the United States need be made any bugbear to them. He believed the great source of competition they would have to contend with was

the Baltic and the countries on the borders of the Black Sea.”

CULTIVATE A VARIETY OF CROPS.

This principle is inculcated by several considerations; variety of soils and situations; use of the products for various purposes, feeding to stock, selling in market, &c.; time of planting cultivating and harvesting; variability of climate; the necessity for rotation of crops or change on the same fields; the eradication of weeds, &c.

Some fields may bear remunerative crops of one plant, yet leave deficiency from the cultivation of another; and not only are particular soils adapted to one species of vegetation, but also, are particular manures, some of which are much more convenient or economical for one locality than another.

So, too, of planting and cultivating. When one species of seeds are put in the ground, and the farmer is waiting to till them, it may be just time to sow others. When they have sprouted and require to be looked after one may need attention at one moment, and one at another; while a third, as of the small grains, grasses and clover, require no subsequent attention except harvesting.

A season that is very cold and wet may be beneficial to one crop, as of grass, and some of the grains, while such as are hot and comparatively dry, are better for others, as Indian and broom corn, and various other products and fruits. The multiplicity of crops in the ground at the same time, is thus equivalent to an insurance on the weather; in which the proprietor gives up a very large possible yield for one crop, while he secures a fair return for his general labor.

Again, various species of animals require different food, and each requires a variety—sometimes hay and straw, at others, grain, meal, or roots. Occasionally, too, the market may be high for particular products, of which the farmer may have good store, and which he may sell to much better advantage than to feed to his stock, a purpose for which, perhaps, it was originally designed.

The necessity for rotation with all its advantages, has been elsewhere specified, and we have not time now to enumerate them.

Various crops may require different kinds of labor. The old and young, and females, too, may frequently be as advantageously employed by one occupation, as in the dairy or garden, or poultry yard, as the hardy and strong, by others in the field. Some may require more or less assistance from the horse or ox, while others are adapted solely to manual labor; and certain articles, as flax and wool, may be raised to eke out employment for the inmates of the house during our long winter evenings.

Thus a thousand economical considerations may justly induce us to give variety to our occupations and the various objects of our agricultural pursuits.—*Am. Ag.*