

Isles, particularly in England and Scotland, where agricultural improvement has lately made such wonderful advances. Men who are in situations that give them great influence here, will be ready enough to find fault with the backward state of our agriculture, but they never adopt any measure that would make it better than it is. The cultivated lands of Canada might be made to produce three times the value they do at present, by the employment of more capital, under skillful management, in their cultivation; but not the slightest move is made towards the accomplishment of this desirable object, that would augment the disposable means of the Province several millions of pounds currency annually. What are all the political questions that have so long agitated our people, in importance to them, compared with the advantage it would be to double their annual income, or means of comfort? We have a long time endeavoured to draw attention to this plain proposition, but we regret to say, with very little success. We hope, however, that the period is not distant when this subject will engage more attention.

It must be gratifying to the friends of Agriculture all over the world, to hear of the proceedings of the Royal English Agricultural Society, at their late meeting. It should be particularly so to us as setting us a noble example to follow. At that meeting men of all parties united most cordially in promoting the objects of the society. The Earl of Carnarvon made a most excellent speech at the dinner. We are sorry we cannot copy it entire. We, however, select the following:—

The exhibitions to which you have all been witness show as magnificent a display of power and perseverance, combined with sagacious thought, as, perhaps, the world ever saw; indeed, I doubt much whether such an exhibition, practically tested as it has been, has ever yet been witnessed in the history of the world (*great cheering*). You all know that the experience of any single neighbourhood is extremely limited, and all parties have imagined that their own local knowledge has been the best. It has frequently happened that the man who has returned to his home a disappointed competitor, has, eventually, been improved by defeat. He felt, for the first time, that other means had been successfully tried which he had not previously thought of resorting to. He then looked more narrowly into the subject; and perhaps, in the hour of defeat, speculated on the adoption of improved future plans. He thus gradually rises in the acquirement of that knowledge must calculated to improve his position, and place him in that estimation which a British farmer is entitled to hold amongst his countrymen (*cheers*). The British agriculturists, as a body, only require a greater share of that diversified knowledge which this Society is pouring down like a flood of light, and the interchange of opinion between practical and scientific men, as a tendency to the improvement of all. Every improvement introduced in agriculture is diminishing the cost of cultivation to the farmer, and thus adds not only to the wealth of the agriculturist, but also to the resources of the state. Who is the labourers' best friend? The English farmer. He who knows that labour skillfully directed,

leads to the prosperity of both, for the prosperity of the farmer must improve the condition of the labourer, upon whose faithful services the agriculturists and all other classes of society are dependent. All are bound together by one magic charm. (*Cheers*). When I now look upon the effects of thorough-draining, the value of studying the different soils, and by a good adaptation of the peculiarities of each, I feel that I am saying that which will be brought to bear. While dwelling upon the agricultural wonders which have been worked in different parts of England, with which, by the way, I am not particularly acquainted—when to go no further than the Hampshire hills, I perceive the produce of wheat has been prodigiously increased by chalking—when I see the effects of draining in raising the value of land, and when I take into consideration the gallant spirit of enterprise which has ransacked the whole foreign world for further aids to British agriculture—when that enterprise has sent our vessels to the shores of Africa and the islands of the Pacific for the hoarded manure of ages, I feel that we possess the means of a greatly increased production. There is, however, much to be done in different parts of the country: there are even now places where the practice of hoeing turnips has not yet been followed. (*Hear*.) There is still a conflict going on between the old modes of husbandry and better principles; but the Directors of this Society have adopted the best method to dissipate the clouds which have so long overhung national agriculture, by successfully visiting every part of the country, and by attracting within their influence the whole length and breadth of the land. (*Applause*.) It is, however, essential to the complete success of their scheme, that they should put out the whole of their mental and physical energies in the pursuit of agriculture, without which the agricultural body will not be one to give birth to those great results to which I have referred, and which I confidently anticipate. I will only further add, that my hopes are much strengthened, when I consider the high moral character of those in the country who have formed this institution—(*cheers*)—of those who are at its head, and who are leading you on to conquest far more durable and valuable than the conquests of war. I need not name those gentlemen, many of whom are now around me—I need not name the noble President and the noble Duke in their vice chair, as instances of that high moral character. (*Great cheering*.) Though this Society may not be exempt from all the errors of human institutions, I think there is less wrong in it than most other societies. In this Institution we are unvexed by political or personal differences; its energies are directed solely, continuously, and peaceably to the one great object—the improvement of the soil, and the consequently ameliorated condition of man; hence I sincerely trust and believe, that every year which adds to the existence of this Society will add to its strength, usefulness, and popularity.

We must also give a selection from the speech of the Prussian Minister who was at the dinner—who made the following observations:—

Allow me to say that, during all the years I have resided here, I have taken the deepest interest in the rising progress of this society (*hear hear*). It is needless, then, to explain all the reasons why I have taken that deep interest; for it is evident that the prosperity of English agriculture will stimulate the progress of that science in my own and in other country (*hear, hear*). I will now say a few words on the general interest which attaches to the prosperity and operations of your society. There are many things more striking to foreigners who for the first time have visited this coun-