The situation is not favourable to the experiment, and the result is not to be measured by a few less bushels per acre, but by no crop at all upon the thinly-seeded portion and a harvest of weeds instead of corn.

The above extracts are from the pen of Professor Wrightson, probably the leading "scientifico-practical" farmer in England, now the lamented Sir John Lawes is gone.

According to the usual habit of English farmers of the better class, the following week's "Agricultural Gazette" contained plenty of replies to Prof. Wrightson's queries :

Mr. Fidler, of the Reading farm-school, recommends 2 1-2 bushels of wheat an acre ;

Mr. Nixon, of the Hampshire County Council Farm-School, grew his heaviest crop (64 bushels an acre) with 4 bushels of wheat seed to the acre ;

Mr. Bell has found that the best yields of wheat have come from seedings of 3 bushels an acre. On very poor soils, 4 bushels an acre would probably give a heavier yield than 3 bushels. On good soils 2 bushels will probably produce as many stalks as 4 bushels, in consequence of "stooling out" or "tillering" ; while on poor soil in a low state of fertility, the chances are that only a crop of weeds would be produced.

The same gentleman very sensibly remarks that, in all cases, the size of the seeds of grain and pulse must be attended to in judging of the proper quantity of seed, a point on which we have often insisted when speaking of the sowing of garden pease :

In regards to oats, Professor Wrightson says :—

"When pedigree oats are used the quantities may be simply halved ; for 2 to 2 1-2 bushels of such seed ought to be ample." Now, all seed ought to be pedigreed in the sense that nothing but the very best should ever be sown ; but in this recommendation Professor Wrightson loses sight of a very important fact—viz., that 1 bushel of oats may easily contain 100 per cent. more grains than that of another. For instance, Newmarket oats are nearly double the size of Potato oats ; therefore, it follows that, practically, twice the quantity of the former must be sown to ensure as thick a seeding as that of the latter. During this season the writer has seen, in the counties of Durham and Berwick, Newmarket oats harvested that were sown at the rate of 6 bushels per acre, and "in both districts they were decidedly too thin" ; whilst in adjoining fields—and in one distance in the same field—Potato oats sown at the rate of 4 bushels per acre were excellent crops of sufficient thickness."

The regular correspondent of the same paper from the North-Lonsdale division of Lancashire, states that, in that damp climate, "on a light calcareous soil on the limestone, we have found that for barley, 2 1-2 to 3 imperial bushels, "regulated by the seed-time," and 4 to 5 bushels of oats, give the best return. For wheat (fall wheat, of course), a neighbour sows 4 bushels, and the seedings of the district varies from 3 1-2 to 4 bushels for wheat ; 3 to 3 1-2 for barley ; and 5 to 6 for oats.

Well, such being the quantities of seed used by some of the best farmers in England, and seeing that Britain produces on an average more than twice as much grain to the acre as is yielded, on average by any country on this side of the Atlantic, may we not reasonably suppose that if we were to increase the quantity of our seed we might get our land to yield something nearer to the yields of the English soil ?

To one who has deeply studied the question, both theoretically and practically, it seems indisputable that this would be the best, if not the only way, in which to augment the deplorably small yield of our farms.

"Breeding."—It seems pretty clear, from their annual reports, that the managers of our Agricultural Societies and Farmers' Clubs, have no very fixed ideas as to the