

and that such an event is most likely to take place — (Cheering, which continued for some minutes.) And when this little cloud is blown over, my wish is that the two nations may engage in discussing those great objects which improve the condition and enable the character of man, and that England and America once united they could put, I believe the whole world to defiance, were necessary. (Cheers.) I will add nothing more, but simply tender to you my heartfelt thanks for this unexpected, kind, and hearty reception. (Cheers.)

Mr. Everett again rose. It is scarcely necessary for me to say, having so recently occupied your time, I would not again have been had it not been by command. I have been honored to propose a toast, which I am sure you will receive with the greatest enthusiasm; "The prosperity of the great society under whose auspices we are now assembled." This is a duty which I can assure you I discharge with the highest satisfaction. I owe you a debt of gratitude since you were kind enough to elect me an honorary member—a distinction I can assure which I shall always appreciate.— But it is for other reasons than personal ones that I propose this toast. I am persuaded that there is no institution of the kind doing more for the world greater good than the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and let me add that the good it accomplishes is of the highest value.—(Cheers.) It has been said that the man who sows two blades of grass where there was only one before, is a benefactor to his race; but what must be said of the labors of this society, and of the able, sagacious, and learned men whom it brings together; the man of science united with the man of practice; which is of the highest station in the realm uniting with the cultivator in the same pursuit—not only making two blades grow where only one grew before, but even doing this good in a quadruple ratio? (Cheers.) I have been told, nay, the statistics have actually been introduced into my hand, whereby it was made plain that, by the improvements introduced within the last fifteen years, not two plants only, but four, and even six have been grown where only one grew before. (Cheers.) To do this is not merely to be a benefactor but a creator. You can double the quantity of the food of beasts and man, have not doubled the extent of your territory? (Cheers.) Is it as if you had stretched out your coasts into the bosom of your island, in order to make another England rise up. (Great cheering.) Yes, make another island like this rise up with all its deep waving hills, its green and gentle slopes—All this you have done, and all us who have been subjected to the sway of your youthful and beloved Sovereign. (Great cheering.) All this without the cost of a single drop of blood. (Cheers.) What is there in all the achievements of Alexander and Caesar, which can be compared to a victory like this? (Cheers.) These are the peaceable triumphs of your society—triumphs not confined to yourselves, or your own dominions, but which all nations share in the benefit, and to which all nations are indebted. (Great cheering.)

### SUCCESSFUL FARMING.

A correspondent of the *Farmer's Register*, gives the following account of the farming of Mr. William Weaver, of Rockbridge county, Virginia:

"About ten or twelve years ago, Mr. Weaver purchased this tract, (now embracing upwards of 800 acres,) in several distinct lots, at an average price of \$2 per acre, principally for the purpose of procuring the wood (with which it was then covered, with the exception of about 100 acres of cleared and exhausted land,) to supply his iron establishment with coal. The native growth consisted of oak, hickory and dogwood, with large pines interspersed. The soil is a red gravel, strongly dashed with slate, reposing on a sandstone foundation. So unpromising an appearance did this land present for agricultural purposes, that when Mr. Weaver told his neighbors he intended to make a corn farm of these poor and steep hills, a laugh of derision was the only encouragement he received. As the clearing progressed, Mr. Weaver divided the cleared land into four fields, one of 100 acres for standing pasture, and three of 120 acres each for cultivation. The first field of new ground was broken up early in the spring, and cultivated in corn. The yield did not exceed an average of twenty bushels to the acre. In the fall the field was seeded in wheat, upon which, late in the winter, the usual quantity of clover seed, and half a bushel of plaster was sown to the acre. After the wheat was removed at harvest, stubble was gleaned by the stock of hogs. Very early next

spring, an additional half bushel of plaster was sown to the acre over the whole field. During the spring, summer and fall, not a single animal of any kind whatever was permitted to invade the clover field, nor was any clover cut, except a very small quantity on the most luxuriant spots, for the use of the mules while at work on the farm. The next winter, however, the stock of hogs was kept in the field, which was plowed up early in the spring, and again planted in corn. In the fall it was seeded with wheat, and in the winter sown with clover and plaster. The other fields as they came successively in cultivation, were treated precisely in the same manner, with the exception of the standing pasture, which has never been plowed up since the first course of crops, and of the hundred acres of exhausted land above spoken of, which, being too poor to produce corn, was sown first with oats, and then with rye, clover and plaster, when it took its course in the regular rotation.

Now mark the result of this system of cultivation. The crops of corn on these poor hills, have for several years past, averaged about 40 bushels to the acre, while this year's crop, on a field of 120 acres, is pronounced by competent judges to be the best in the country, on either bottom or upland. The entire field, it is supposed, will average upwards of 40 bushels to the acre, while many contiguous acres can be found which will yield at least 60 bushels. I have heard some of the most intelligent neighbors express the opinion, that it was the best field of corn they ever saw. The crops of wheat succeeding corn, though improving every year with the progressive improvement of the land, have never been heavy. The average may be set down at from 8 to 15 bushels, the crops having been of late years very materially injured by rust. Mr. Weaver's object is corn, of which immense quantities are consumed by his iron establishment. Were wheat his staple crop, he would sow it upon a clover ley.

Mr. Weaver informs me that clover did not succeed well on his new ground until it had been well cleaned by his second course of crops. It is now generally very heavy. His fields were at first much infested with sorrel, which has at length been almost entirely exterminated. Mr. Weaver regards it as all-important to the success of his clover, that it should be plastered at the rate of half a bushel to the acre, about the time of sowing the seed. He attributes the rapid improvement of his soil to the shelter afforded to his land by the thick growth of standing clover, as well as to the heavy coat of vegetable matter which it enables him to plow under.

No lime has ever been applied to this land, nor any manure, except a few loads annually from the mule stable to the poorest spots. The improvement has been effected exclusively by the use of clover and plaster. The land, as steep as it is, does not wash—a result which Mr. Weaver attributes to his deep plowing, and to the large quantity of long vegetable matter the soil contains, which binds it together, and at the same time keeps it loose and porous, enabling it to absorb and retain a large quantity of water.

Mr. Weaver lays great stress on applying plaster to his clover fields, either in the winter or very early in the spring, that it may be thoroughly dissolved by the early rains. He attributes much of the benefit he has derived from the use of plaster to his practice in this respect, in which he says he is sustained by Prof. Liebig. Plaster, it is well known, absorbs a large quantity of water, and does not operate on growing plants until it is dissolved.

Mr. Weaver's mode of cultivating corn is as follows: In the month of December he sows one bushel of plaster per acre upon his clover field designed the next year for corn. He prefers this mode to plastering his corn in the hill as more beneficial to the corn and to the land. About the 1st of March, and not earlier, (for Mr. Weaver prefers spring to winter plowing, being more recent, it leaves his land looser and in better order for a crop,) he commences breaking up his corn ground as deeply as possible. About the 1st of April, he lays off his ground in rows,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet apart, and drills his corn very thick, as he never replants. His usual allowance is a bushel of seed to five acres. With this quantity of seed he has never failed, notwithstanding the depredations of the grub worm, &c., in obtaining an abundant stand of plants. He plows and hoes twice, thinking at the first hoeing to the distance of about 2½ feet in the row. This is all the work his corn ever gets. He endeavors to finish working his corn as early as practicable, in order to injure the roots as little as possible. With this cultivation, his corn field, under his system of improvement, is kept throughout the season both clean and loose—the great points in the management of the corn crop.

This year Mr. Weaver has 200 acres in corn. Mr. Weaver con-