

are much lighter than the cast iron ones, last longer, and are so perfect in form that they run through the land lightly, and with much less draught on the horses. We don't see why the Irish manufacturers should not adopt them; they are cheap, and every way superior to the common metal ones. Verily, the native manufacturers must look to their laurels; they have won them fairly in several well-contested fields, but that is no reason why the Irish farmer must still kill his horses in dragging through the soil a heavy implement, when modern art and science have supplied him with a better and as an enduring an article."

Profits on a Poorhouse Farm in Ireland.

It would appear that in most parts of Ireland the harvest of 1861 was deficient both as regards quantity and quality, the growing season having been accompanied by incessant rains and a low temperature; conditions unfavorable to root crops, and oft times absolutely destructive to cereals. Hence we hear of a large portion of the potato crop being entirely destroyed by disease, hay spoiled, turf insufficiently dried for the purpose of fuel, and the ordinary produce of grain diminished, and its quality deteriorated. This gloomy future, there is ground for believing, has been somewhat overdrawn by certain individuals for party purposes, but it undoubtedly remains a fact that in this part of the United Kingdom, and also in Scotland, the unfavorable weather during the greater portion of last year, has been attended by very serious consequences to the farming interest.

Notwithstanding the husbandman must always continue in a great degree passive under whatever may, in the order of nature, be the character of the season, it is cheering to know that the tendency of our modern improvements is to provide him with a power, which, within limits not yet ascertained, enables him in some manner to modify the bad effects of unfavorable seasons. Thorough drainage and deep culture, for instance, will now often carry crops well through either a drought or an excess of moisture on soils where, before these ameliorating agents were introduced, they would have inevitably failed. Improved husbandry therefore gives us *improved*, if not equal crops, in bad seasons as well as in good. This great and encouraging truth we should study to keep constantly in mind, as the basis of every advancing

farmer's creed; and which is happily illustrated in the following statement of facts, which I take from the December number of the *Practical Farmer's Chronicle*. The writer inspecting of the good results produced by a suitable education in connection with improved cultivation, remarks:

"In proof of this, one example out of many others we could give, may suffice for the present. That we select is from the Poor-law Union of Enniscorthy, in the county of Wexford, a Province of Leinster. It is the only union in Ireland, to whose poorhouse is attached even a small quantity of land which the law allows. All, unfortunately, must now admit that the crops of this year are deficient in quantity in England, as well as on the continent; and under circumstances favorable, compared to Ireland, where the chief grain, and even some of the most important green crops, are all but a total failure; yet here, on this poorhouse farm, because of its superior management by the labor of paupers,—boys, the old at not over 14 years of age,—the culture of the grain crops, and some of the green crops, have produced the following results:—

				Cr.	
A.	R.	P.		£	s.
6	0	6	Wheat	197	18
2	1	30	Oats	49	9
3	2	10	Mangel Wurzel ..	89	0
1	2	19	Cabbage	55	13
0	0	37	Carrots	8	0
0	0	20	Parsnips	4	6
0	1	0	Onions	19	17
6	1	0	Meadow	55	3
20	2	2		£473	13

		Dr.		£	s.
Rent				90	2
Labor; wages of Ploughman ..				20	16
Taxes, purchase of implements, repairs of same, Machine for threshing corn, artificial manure and other incidentals				79	11
				190	10
Balance to credit of Farm				283	2
				£473	2

Comment on the foregoing would now be needless beyond this; that in some wheat lands in Ireland, far superior to the Enniscorthy land, the value of the wheat crops did not amount to *one fourth* of the value as above; on better lands, the proportion is equally low; whilst the mangel wurzel and carrot crops in Ireland are all but a total failure. Even the Swedish turnip crops are exceedingly inferior, on very superior soils; whilst, on some of the best meadows