

A PLEA FOR THE BETTER DRAINAGE OF OUR CLAY LAND.

MY FELLOW FARMERS: My experience in farming within the last few years has convinced me that we must have a better system of draining our clay lands, or very soon we will fail to make even a bare living out of them. Our forefathers were accustomed to plough narrow lands, and to put a good deep plough furrow between them, but the advent of mowers and binders has caused us to dread those water furrows, so the tendency of late years has been to plough the lands wider and wider, and to make the water furrows shallower and yet shallower still, until, practically, there is no drainage of the soil at all. Indeed, many of our farmers seem to think that if there is no pools of water standing on the surface, that is all the drainage required. There can hardly be a more serious mistake than this made by the occupant of any clay farm.

The mere statement of this fact ought to be sufficient to convince any farmer. It seems that every one of them ought to know that there is not a single crop we raise that will ever come to perfection with its roots standing in water. Now, my friend, if you really have any doubts on this point, let me point out to you a method by which you may convince yourself on this, to you, all important point.