

something scientific ; is now-a-days something more than to reap harvest year after year from a soil whose virginity will give ample crops for a decade and even longer, but at last, by indiscriminate exhaustion of its most valuable ingredients without re-placing them systematically by fertilizers, becomes unable to produce any more remunerative crops.

If exhaustion takes place, the owners sell out and emigrate to some place further west, where new soil is treated on the same principle, till again exhausted nature puts a stop to it. Only the large scope for emigration and the richness of the soil are the cause that the country at large has not felt the effects of this self-abuse more directly. But sooner or later our injudicious, empirical way of farming must impair our grain exportations, upon which we have accustomed ourselves to look as our strength, and by the scale of which we measure the prosperity of the country.

Should, however, these grain exportations give out, what then ? Or what would be our resources if the supply of excellent wheat from India should materially reduce our exportations, and if the returns from lumbering, which we carry out on the same short-sighted, suicidal principles, should fail ?

A country like ours, where large tracts of soil of unparalleled richness still exist, tempts, of course, to such one-sided, as the least troublesome policy. But such country, even with due regard to the great many excellent labor-saving machines and