

bushels per acre; potatoes from 30 to 50 and 70 bushels, and clover and grass many acres from 1,200 to 1,800 weight per acre, while heavy forests of good timber in the adjoining bush, fed by their own decomposed leaves, with most of their roots on or near the surface, looked lofty and splendid, and when the ground on which they stood was well cleared and sown with wheat it produced from 12 to 28 bushels of good grain per acre. The same land might now produce 8 bushels per acre, if mildew, army worm, mildew, and weeds did not prevent it. The return for labour, seed &c., is so small that the owners of these lands have many of them left either for the States or other places. Indeed I think it better to take good wild land, than to take land that has been so badly used. The Society for promoting useful knowledge in agricultural pursuits, implements, manufactures, machinery, &c., in their published volumes state that carrying out the new theory of subsoil-ploughing has destroyed the fertility of nine counties for fifteen or twenty years, which can only be restored at an enormous expense. They are as follows, viz.:—Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Bedford, Buckinghamshire, Surry, Staffordshire, Wiltshire, and Devonshire. The Norfolk farmers say it is too expensive to fertilize *deep ploughed land*, and that deep ploughing poisons the land, and brings up a host of weeds.—The Devonshire and Wiltshire farmers say that it requires 20 years to restore the soil to its former fertility. I say that nothing but a good scarifier to pulverize the land, and plenty of lime and good rich oil cake manure can do it. Salt, broken bones, and oyster shells never did any good on my clay land, but 12 bushels of salt per acre adds 12 cwt. of clover per acre on sandy land, and horses, cattle, or sheep eat all the salted part before they will feed where there was no salt put on.

I hope, Mr. Editor, you will excuse my trespassing so long upon your time and space, but seeing the probability of so much destitution with the season, such as I never saw before, with little more than half a crop of many things, and no fruit, and many young people commencing the arduous profession of agriculture without having been brought up to it, induced me to write a little of what I have seen in so many parishes in England on different soils, from sand, gravel, loam, blue and yellow clay lands, &c., and if any of our younger brethren should profit by perusing and practising what is herein written, I should be most happy to know it.

The winters here require everything on a farm to be taken great care of, but the hay and harvest weather is generally delightful. In England I have known many wet hay and harvest seasons, raining three or four weeks, and the grain mostly spoiled. But here if it rains heavy, and even often, this clear, drying air soon makes the grain fit to haul again. It is a rare thing to see wheat stand and grow before cut, or after.

Congratulating you upon the extensive sale of your useful publication, I remain, &c., &c.,
COMMON SENSE

Cayuga, Oct. 1861.

Past and Future Exhibitions.

To the Editors of the Agriculturist.

GENTLEMEN. — Perhaps you will be kind enough to give space to the following remarks respecting the management of our Provincial Exhibitions, the result of observations carefully made at several late Exhibitions, and in truth of which, I am well aware that many of the leading agriculturists fully concur. With respect to the late Exhibition, I believe that the conduct of the local committee no fault can be found, except in the two respects in which local committees have more or less been wanting, namely, that they have been obliged to borrow from the Association a portion of necessary funds necessary to complete their undertaking, and that while providing most amply for the accommodation of the manufacturers, artists, and ladies, they neglected till the moment the accommodation for the farmers. And even till the end of the show many valuable animals were lying out without the least protection from the weather.

And this brings me to the consideration of the most important question connected with the future management of our exhibitions, and to which the attention of the farmers is yet becoming more earnestly directed. Why are their interests as exhibitors always in practice if not in theory, regarded and treated as secondary to those of the artisans or manufacturers, even of the most trivial productions; and are those artisans upon whose skill and industry he depends for the various articles which requires, placed in an inferior position to others? If any one is inclined to deny the truth of these propositions, let him for a moment place himself in the position of a farmer who goes to the exhibition with a certain amount of stock, say a stallion, a bull, a couple of cows, and a dozen sheep. He goes, as he believes, to the exhibition mainly agricultural, or, at any rate, where agriculture and mechanics stand upon an equal footing. He enters the ground with his stock, after a journey by rail attended with finite trouble, risk, expense, and fatigue. He has been obliged to pay full fare for his stock, and say half fares for himself and at least for his men, and owing to the crowded state of the railway line, he and his cattle have been shut out about from one siding to another, and detained at station after station, until they have perhaps been twenty four hours without rest, or any refreshment, but what they have carried in their pockets. Now, at any rate, he trusts that his troubles are over, and that his men and his cattle may obtain the repose they so much re-