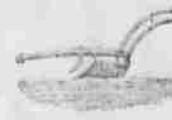


AGRICULTURE.



BENEFITS OF DRAINING.

In traveling over various portions of the country, it is gratifying to observe the progress that is making in draining lands. It is hardly ten years since more than three or four farms in the United States had a drain tile on them; now we seldom visit a well managed farm of heavy soil, in any of the older states, that is not drained; and the manufacturers of tiles in all the places where the business has been started are now unable to supply the demand for them.

In an article on draining, the County Gentleman, in speaking of some of its benefits, says:

"The beneficial results claimed for thorough drainage is that 'it lengthens the season of labor and vegetation'—'an extension' which the crops and the farmer need as often as the customer of banks and brokers. That the time required for the setting of the soil, after the winter frosts pass from it, depends to a great extent upon its porous or its retentive character, is everywhere known conceded."

The deep gravelly loam is soon to be very soon waste, while the heavy clay requires a long time to become fit for cultivation. In one case the soil is fully drained, and in the other the water mostly passes off by the slow process of evaporation. Thorough drainage of the heavy soil renders both alike in this respect, and thus adds from ten to fifteen days to the time of preparation for sowing—giving the same increased time for the growth of the crop to which the land is devoted."