

**PROFITABLE CLAY
FARMING UNDER A JUST
SYSTEM OF TENANT RIGHT**

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Profitable Clay Farming Under a Just System of Tenant Right by John Prout

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THIRD EDITION.

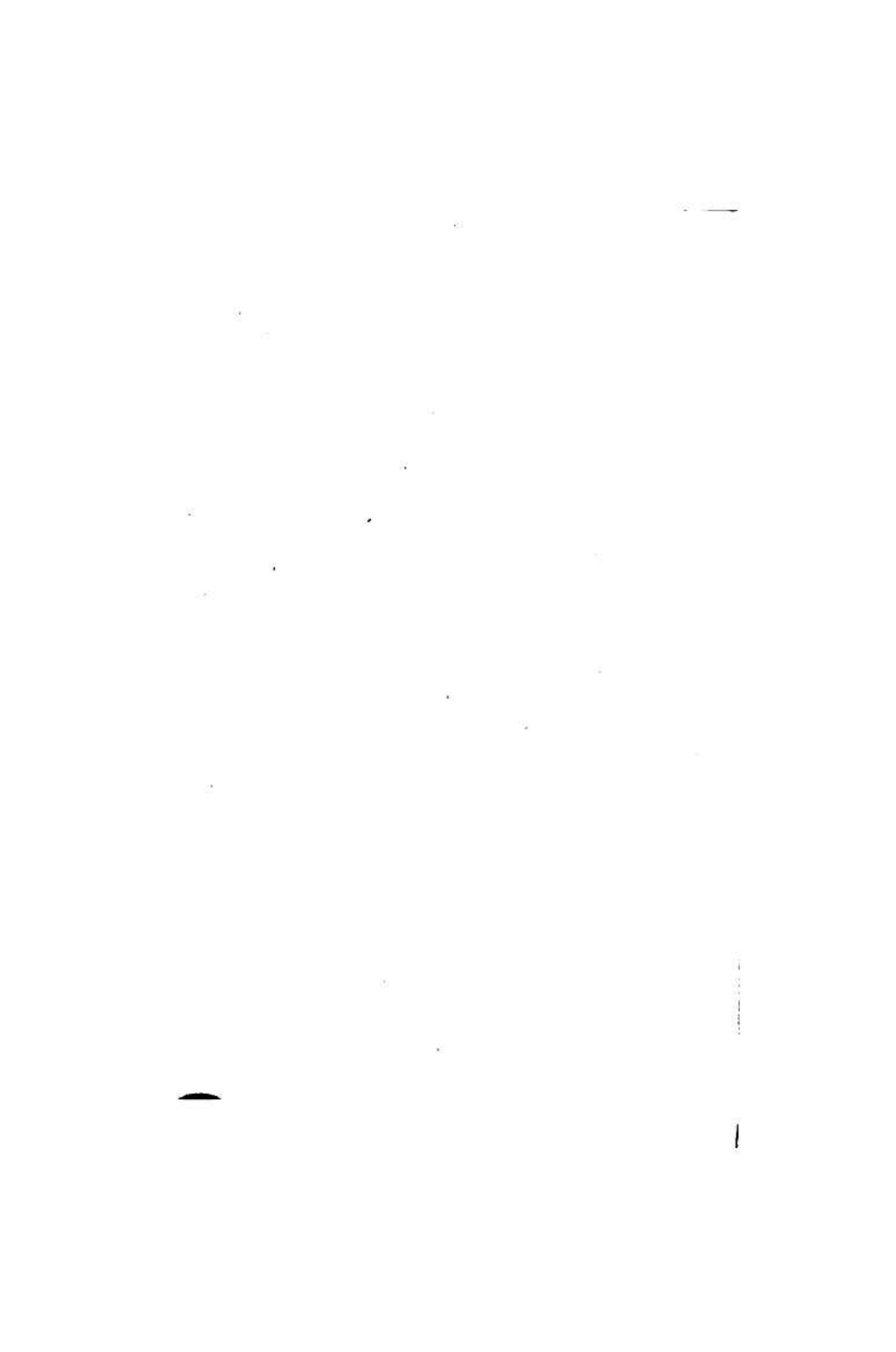


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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	7
INDISPENSABLE REQUISITES TO CLAY FARMING	9
PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS	12
PROFITABLENESS OF THE ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS	18
HISTORY OF THE TILLAGE	21
DETAILS OF MANAGEMENT	30
APPLICATION OF MANURES	34
THE CHEMISTRY AND PERMANENCY OF THE SYSTEM	37
TENANT'S OUTLAY AND RETURN	58
CROPS AND PRICES	71
IS THE SYSTEM GENERALLY APPLICABLE TO HEAVY-LAND HUSBANDRY?	79
IMPEDIMENTS IN THE WAY	85
CONCLUSION	96

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38



PROFITABLE CLAY FARMING.



INTRODUCTION.

WHEN it is stated that I farm 450 acres of heavy land, all under the plough, and almost entirely devoted to corn, some persons may consider me an object for commiseration or a victim to bad seasons, foreign competition, and other elements of the agricultural distress. On the contrary, however, I affirm that my farming pays. I am satisfied with my cultivation of clay, and I do not wish that it were grass. The bulk of the cropping is grain, and I have no intention of replacing any portion of it by forage or root crops for live stock, or by vegetables for the market. I grow and sell both the corn and straw of my wheat, barley, and oats, and also sell off all the artificial grasses made into hay; and, after nineteen years' experience, I see no reason for abandoning my practice. While a large proportion of the farmers of England despair of recovering capital which they have sunk during the last four years, my case is by no means one

for despondency. I am not afraid of overwhelming imports of wheat and flour from countries where land is cheap and skies are sunny; of immense arrivals of live animals, dead meat, cheese, vegetables, fruit, or wool; and I am confident that, in the present and prospective low state of the markets, my system can still earn an adequate return for tenant's capital, and at the same time afford a satisfactory rent to the owner.

The deduction is, that the same husbandry on similar soil would yield a like profit to other occupiers. The object of this publication is to show by example, how hundreds of farms in perhaps a majority of the English counties may be tilled as successfully as mine.

SAWERIDGEWORTH, HERTS, *May* 1881.