

that the straw, instead of being made into manure, is nearly all eaten up, and there being no facilities for purchasing manure it becomes a difficult matter to keep the land in a productive state, and it has become a serious question amongst scientific and intelligent farmers whether, even with the very best management, the ordinary resources of an ordinary farm are capable of maintaining the fertility of every portion of it.

The horse hay rake has long been in general use; the American style upon wheels four feet high seems to be preponderant. Reaping machines have been introduced and are successfully worked.

In view of our present facilities for successfully prosecuting agriculture, and the very general indication of intelligence and improvement every where observable, we confidently anticipate that the next ten years will exhibit a progress far beyond anything that we have hitherto witnessed in this country.

OF LABOURERS.—The greater part of the labour of the farm is performed by the farmer himself, his sons and daughters, the former managing all the out-door operations, and the latter the dairy and domestic departments. Herein indeed lies all the secret of his success. Whatever qualifications the farmer should have, mental or physical, all are agreed on this one point—that a good wife is indispensable, and what it is the aim of the husband to accumulate, it becomes the province of his wife to manage, and whenever we hear of a managing wife, we are sure to find a money making farmer, and *vice versa*.

The average of our farms are 100 acres each, with from 50 to 70 acres cleared, two-thirds of which may be in pasture and meadow, the remainder in tillage. The demand for labor is therefore limited, and the supply equal to the demand. In 1852, there were in the county 1258 laborers, 53 male and 74 female servants, while at the same time there were 1570 farmers; three-fourths of the female servants are employed by other than farmers, so that not more than 18 farmers' wives required *hired help*. The usual rate of wages for laborers in the county is from \$10 to \$12 per month, for the summer, \$8 to \$10 for the year round, \$7 to \$9 for the winter. Daily laborers in summer receive from 50 cts. to \$1; in winter 50 cts., and expert cradlers earn their \$1 25 per day, all boarded. Laborers

are chiefly immigrants, Irish, German, few Scotch. They seldom continue longer than four years. If during time they are industrious and economical they have laid up enough to stock a farm, remaining as tenants a few years. They meantime look for a desirable farm that they may call their own, and soon as a suitable one turns up and the muster \$100 as a first payment, the treaty takes place, the log shanty is erected, the labours of the early settler are repeated with this difference, that the modern woodsman is surrounded with the civilization, in roads, markets, and which far more than compensate the difference between paying \$100 for and receiving it as a gift from the 75 years ago. Mechanics are well represented there are enough of them. Carpenter, smiths, masons and bricklayers receive \$1 to \$1 50 per day, with board. In 1840 we had 76 carpenters and joiners, masons; with regard to blacksmiths and bricklayers the census is silent; the immigrants from Lower Canada are in this respect correct.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The implements of the county are kept up with other improvements. The first portable thrashing machine was introduced 25 years ago. It was one of the American horse power thrashers, without any other improvement. The whole power was in turning the cylinder of 2 feet diameter at an enormous velocity of 1500 revolutions a minute, (the maximum speed of 3 feet in diameter, of the best British is 400). It literally devoured the grain, required 10 to 12 hands to attend it, and left the barn in a woeful state of confusion. If kept on full speed for 10 hours it would thrash 500 bushels of wheat in short it was quite in advance of the time, and was soon superseded by one of a higher pretensions, driven by the platform horse power, a Yankee invention. About 1840 the first treadmill, called, was here introduced.

In 1859 there were 10 reaping and 200 thrashing machines in the county, the latter chiefly of Paige's and make, Montreal. Cash price delivered £50. They are very compact, and effective mills, with separator a mill combined, and will thrash upon an average 60 and from