

saw-mill, that still continues to do good work, in the centre of the township; so that small sums through the Society, have, with the industry and economy of the members, enabled them not only to live in this new settlement, but to extend their improvements farther than many have done in more favourable situations.

There is not, perhaps, a better soil in the province than in this township, being of deep yellow clay, except a few creek-banks of white clay or red sand: and there is not an acre in the whole township we know of that cannot be made dry by making a ditch around it, except the marsh on the front along the Thames and the St. Clair.

The natural state of the bush-land in this township is wet, covered with a variety of flowering plants on the dry land, and a close crop of winter grass on the low land. When these grasses are closely pastured they give way, and are supplanted by, and closely covered by white clover and other grasses similar to what may be seen on the natural sward of Britain. The timber is much varied: large oaks and hickory, bass wood, black and white ash, hard and soft maple, elm, and a few trees of button wood, almost on every lot; some birch and cherry in small trees, and white wood in some parts, with a similar variety of under wood.

There have been many orchards planted out, but only about twenty in the interior of the township producing apples. It is much to be regretted by many that they did not fence and drain a small spot sufficiently when first clearing up, to save the trees from being browsed by breachy cattle. Our garden is only a spot prepared for early potatoes, cabbages, beets, beans, onions, carrots, &c., as used for the kitchen garden, without the ornaments of flowers, unless a few of the most common kind.—Our houses are being renewed by exchanging the log for a frame or brick.

The wheat-fly began its ravages here in the harvest of 1856, destroyed one half of the wheat in 1857, and in 1858 about three quarters of it, so that we were discouraged from sowing; but the little that was reaped the past year was nearly free from injury. And the pea crop, that had scarcely been tried on account of the bug for nearly five years, came off almost entirely free from damage, and averaged 20 bushels to the acre. In 1859 corn was planted to a great extent, partly owing to the want of seed oats, &c., and came off a good crop, averaging 60 bushels in the ear to

the acre. Hay was a light crop; the clover was thrown out last winter by the frost more than ever we have seen it before in this township. There is a great breadth of fall wheat sown, chiefly on the pea ground, as had been done here for several years previous to the disease in the pea, and it looks promising so far.

The want of good water is certainly a drawback here, but like all new settlements, there has been but little done in the way of digging wells and building them up with stone or brick, as in older settlements. However, there have been several springs found here, the water of which tastes a little salt, but is improved by cleaning out the soft muck in which they have been found: cattle like the water exceedingly well.

There is another great loss to the settlement, by the neglect of clearing the fallen timber out of the creeks in this flat country, in the flooding of the land in the spring, and sometimes in the fall. The water spreads over the flats of all the creeks, and prevents the small ditches, that at best only partially drain our roads and fields at the depth of eighteen inches from emptying until the water subsides, which is often not till after the space of eight days; whereas, if our creeks were cleared of the fallen timber and a few beaver dams, the water would be at least two feet lower at the flood than at present, and give ample fall to admit of the thorough drainage of our fields; which we hope soon to begin in this settlement. The first thing is the clearing out of the natural rivulets or creeks, and in some parts the opening of large ditches, which should be at least four feet deep, and the enlargement of almost all our open ditches between fields. In this flat country the great length of large ditches in order to get an outfall, is a work in many instances too expensive for the owners of farms in newly cleared townships; and, as remarked by others, it cannot be given to the individual farmer directly from Government, but might be to the Township Municipalities that are not already in arrears. It would be a constant source of trouble to lay out a sum that could be got for the purpose for the benefit of the individual asking it for thorough drainage; but it might be used for general drainage in procuring the outfalls, even in new places, if borrowed and expended by the Municipalities.

When the wheat crops began to fail in 1857, many that had not enough cleared commenced to chop for potash, at first it was said