

Very considerable prejudice formerly existed as to the capabilities of the Ottawa Section of Country for production, &c., yet your Directors feel confident in stating that, there are several farms in the County that with regard to drainage, fencing, culture, productions and buildings, will compare favorably with any other farms in the Province. As an instance of production, they would mention that this season one of their number, Mr. Davidson, of Nepean, raised a large field of Fall Wheat, fifty-five bushels to the acre, weighing 64 lbs., to the bushel.

They also beg reference to the following particulars prepared by John Robertson, Esq., one of their Vice-Presidents,—submitted, &c.

[Signed]

WM. STEWART,
President.

Remarks upon the state of Agriculture, &c., in the County of Carlton, by John Robertson, Esq., one of the Directors :

The farms in this County are in size from 50 to 600 acres, the average being about 150 acres. It is only a few years since anything like system has been attempted, partly from the newness of the settlement with want of skill and capital. Our best Farmers follow what is called the convertible system of husbandry, and as the staple of the County is Wheat and Pork, the energies of the farmer are directed to raising them. On breaking up Clover Lea, Oats are sown, then Peas, afterwards Fall Wheat with manure, next hood crops, well manured, and wrought, then spring wheat with grass seeds, say 4 or 5 lbs. red clover, 2 lbs. white clover, and 9 or 10 quarts of timothy seed per acre, getting one course of harrowing with a light or bush harrow and rolled. Sowing half a barrel of plaster with the grass seeds brings on the grass seeds rapidly, but equal quantities of salt and plaster would have a better effect. Both Red and White Wheat are used for Fall sowing. Many farmers think the white wheat is most subject to injury by the fly. The fly has been very destructive the past season, doing most injury where the ground was wet and not underdrained. Many say that this County will not sell half as much wheat this year as was sold last year. Steeping seed wheat 24 hours in a solution of sulphate of copper, (blue vitrol) then drying with quick lime effectually prevents smut.

The variety of wheat called Black Sea, has been used for spring sowing for a number of years, but the Millers affecting not to like it and making a great difference in price, farmers were induced to try other kinds. Scotch or Fife Wheat seemed to please best, but various accounts are given of it. The writer of this sowed part of a field with it and the remainder with Black Sea wheat, the land having been limed with 70 bushels to the acre three years before; it had been well manured the year before the

wheat was sown and underdrained, and potatoes or turnips taken off it. The Black Sea wheat gave 33 bushels per acre, the Scotch wheat about half that quantity, and it took 16 days longer to mature. Both weighed 64 lbs. per bushel. The fly was the cause of the failure.

The appointment by the Legislature of a Minister of Agriculture leads to the hope that much greater facilities will be afforded our farmers for procuring seeds of the best and most suitable qualities of all descriptions, than could possibly be done by Societies or individuals.

In agricultural machinery and implements much progress has been made; Threshing Mills are common. There are many Iron Ploughs, some improved Harrows, subsoil Ploughs, Hay Cutters, and a few seed Sowers. There is, however, a great scarcity with many of our farmers of the more common and necessary implements of husbandry, which, together with want of skill and the unfortunate system pursued of over-cropping, makes our average crop so much lower than it ought to be. There is no doubt, but that with better management our crops might be increased at least one-third. Great improvements have been made in draining, manuring, and in fencing; as also in farm dwellings and out-houses. Many good dwellings, some of stone, covered with tin, others of wood, with good barns from 100 feet downwards, have been erected within a few years. In the wintering of stock also, a great change has taken place, Cows are warmly housed, and some yards are divided into Pens where cattle of the same age and strength can be fed and kept safely together.—A few yards have spouts to all the surrounding buildings by which the water is conveyed into a tank, in which the drainings of the Cow-house, &c., are collected, and from thence carted to wherever it may be required, in barrels or boxes, either of which ought to be supplied with a Valve and Hose, similar to those in use for watering streets.

In horned cattle some improvement has taken place, but not to the extent to be wished for. There are few of pure breed, but some good grade cattle of mixed breed. The prices for dairy produce or beef, being low, deters farmers from paying high prices for cattle, but as rail and macadamized roads are in progress around Bytown, and other movements likely to increase the demand for farming produce of all kinds in that market, farmers look forward for a corresponding increase in prices. There is a decided improvement in Hogs; a better breed has been introduced, but the better feeding and housing has caused the greatest change. There is no difficulty in feeding to 400 or 500 lbs. at 18 months old, although packers prefer Pigs of 300 lbs. as most suitable for barreling, there being little demand for hams. As there is no doubt but that 20 barrels of Pork is sold here at pre-