

BRUCE COUNTY, —[Continued.]

Greenock.....1st, \$35; 2nd, \$25; 3rd, \$15 per acre.
 Huron.....1st, 40; 2nd, 30; 3rd, 15 per acre.
 Kincardine.....1st, 40; 2nd, 30; 3rd, 20 per acre.
 Kinloss.....1st, 40; 2nd, 30; 3rd, 16 to \$20 per acre.
 Saugeen.....1st, 45; 2nd, 30; 3rd, 10 per acre.

This is comparatively a new county, settlement having commenced in 1848. Some of the townships still have unoccupied land, but generally settlement may be said to be completed, the process having occupied from 4 to 15 years. This rapidity of settlement may be taken to prove the superior excellence of the land for agricultural purposes.

The soil is variable, and generally of first-rate quality, clay, gravelly, sandy and black loam predominating, with a subsoil of hard, fine sand, clay and limestone. There is a considerable quantity of rocky and stony land in the townships of Bruce, Amabel and Arran. A large proportion of the land in the county is rolling and cultivable, but a considerable acreage is described as bottom, swampy and springy land. About 35 per cent. of the area under cultivation is reported as first-class for agricultural purposes; another 35 per cent. is second-class, and the remaining 30 per cent. third-class.

The county is generally well watered by springs, creeks and wells. The latter are sunk to a depth of from 5 to 70 feet, according to locality.

Owing to the county having been so recently settled, a large area of land retains stumps of trees, cut down by the first occupants; but few are pine stumps, and hardwood stumps rot out in from 5 to 15 years, according to the nature of the timber and size of stump.

The fences throughout the county are generally of cedar rails, which make a very lasting and substantial fence.

The farm buildings, while neither so costly nor extensive as in some of the older and wealthier counties, are generally of a comfortable and substantial character.

Some drainage has been effected, but much is required, and preparations are being made to enter upon what promises to be an extensive system of tile drainage in the low-lying lands of the county. These low-lying lands are of inestimable value in a dry summer, affording as they do a very large amount of rich pasture.

In some townships seeding and harvesting are carried on in the primitive fashion, but in the majority labor-saving machines have come into use, in some cases to the extent of 75 per cent.

Salt has been used as a fertilizer for grain, meadows and turnips, and plaster is being used, by way of experiment, for wheat and root crops. No phosphates or other fertilizers than those named have yet been introduced, which is probably owing to the circumstance that the land, having been so lately settled, retains a good deal of its virgin richness.

Considerably over one-half of the uncleared lands in the county would be suitable for cultivation if cleared and a proper system of drainage were instituted.

The acreage of the county is given as 760,836 $\frac{3}{4}$, and the number of acres cleared as 331,896 $\frac{1}{4}$. The proportion of acreage devoted to fall wheat may be estimated at about 12 per cent. of the land under cultivation; to spring wheat about 15 per cent.; to barley about 4 per cent.; to oats about 12 per cent.; to peas about 10 per cent.; to corn, rye, and buckwheat, hardly any grown; to potatoes about 1 per cent.; to turnips about 3 per cent.; to root crops—few grown—not to be estimated; to hay about 10 per cent.; to pasture about 15 per cent.; to orchard about 1 per cent.

The population, according to the last census (1881) amounted to 64,774.

The township returns give 37,663 head of horned cattle, 19,074 horses, 35,388 sheep, 13,653 hogs. A good many farmers are making preparations to convert their farms, now devoted to mixed husbandry, into exclusively stock farms. The combination of stock farming with dairying, will, it is to be hoped, largely prevent the possibility of a deterioration of the soil of this splendid new county, a result which has proved disastrous in too many sections of the Province. Three hundred acres are devoted to flax culture in the Township of Carrick.

The chief products of the county are grain and hay. Thoroughbred stock has been introduced in some of the townships; in others common animals prevail.

About 25 per cent. of the land is timbered; maple, hardwood, elm, hemlock, cedar, ash, beech, and birch predominating. There is also some pine. Hemlock is used for fuel and lumber, and the bark for tanning. About 50 per cent. of the timber comes within the designation of "hardwood." Oak, white ash, cherry, maple, elm, basswood, and pine are used for the manufacture of vehicles, agricultural implements, and furniture. Hemlock, cedar and tamarack are in request for railway ties.

There are several markets easily reached, both within and outside the county. The farmers on the borders of Grey frequent that of Owen Sound, where a good deal of shipping is done. Port Elgin, Kincardine, Southampton and Inverhuron are also excellent markets and shipping ports. At Walkerton, Wingham, Teeswater and Paisley are also good markets.

According to the returns, there are 8 cheese factories and 3 creameries in the county, also a number of flouring mills. In Paisley, Port Elgin and Teeswater are several tanneries, woollen mills and foundries dependent on the farming community.

There are extensive salt wells at Kincardine which give employment to a large number of persons. There are a number of other manufactories of various kinds in Kincardine, Walkerton and elsewhere through the county.

BRUCE COUNTY, —[Continued.]

Hardly any fruit is grown in the county over and above what is required to supply the local demand. $\frac{1}{3}$ of the orchards are young, and fall and winter apples form nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of the crop. Almost every kind of fruit is successfully grown. Pears have been grown successfully in some parts of the county, and plums of different varieties form nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ of the crop.

The southern division of Bruce is well provided with railroad facilities—2 lines, the Wellington, Grey and Bruce running north to the ports of Kincardine and Southampton, and the Toronto, Grey and Bruce to the terminus of Teeswater.

Township of Albemarle.

132—Lot 15, Con. 2, W. Bury Road, 100 acres. Soil sandy loam, almost free from stone, mixed timber—comprising beech, maple, cedar, hemlock, and some small pines; land level and good. Price \$500.

89—S. part of W. 25 acres of Lot 16, Con. 2, W. B. R., 18 acres. Soil good sandy loam, with mixed timber. Price \$125.

90—Lot 30, Con. 2, W. B. R. (except one square acre off N.W. cor.) 34 acres. South corner stony; the balance good farming land, well timbered with birch, maple, basswood and cedar. Price \$150.

217—Lot 6, Con. 3, W. B. R., 100 acres—Unpatented—with balance of about \$170 due Crown. Rocky in front, but the rear three-fourths good farming land; soil sandy loam; mixed timber, very heavy. Price \$100.

250—Lot 11, Con. 3, W. B. R., 100 acres—Unpatented—with balance of about \$200 due Crown. A good farm lot; soil sandy loam; timbered with cedar and hardwood. Price \$100.

255—N. part of Lot 19, Con. 4, W. B. R., 45 acres. Owner has not yet seen this parcel but believes that the land is free from rock, the soil being a sandy loam and timber mixed. Price \$300.

235—Lot 14, Con. 1, E. Bury Road, 100 acres. Soil a rich clay loam. Part of east end of lot is rough and stony; west end good; heavily timbered with hardwood. Price \$400.

251—Lot 18, Con. 4, E. B. R. 100 acres—Unpatented—with balance of about \$145 due the Crown. Soil clay loam. Part of the land is rocky; partly free from rock; some cedar, but chiefly timbered with hardwood. Price \$100.

91—Lot 22, Con. 4, E. B. R., 50 acres adjoining Lake Berford: land heavily timbered with various kinds of wood. Price \$200.

92—Lot 23, Con. 4, E. B. R., 10 acres, adjoining Lake Berford; land heavily timbered. Price \$40.

1—W. part Lot 18, Con. 5, E. B. R., 80 acres. Soil clay loam; a considerable part of the land rocky, but all heavily timbered, mainly with hardwood. Price \$350.

218—Lot 20, Con. 5, E. B. R., 145 acres—Unpatented—with balance of about \$200 due Crown. A splendid farm lot. Soil a rich clay loam. The front or west end almost entirely free from rock or stone; the east end has a number of rocky knolls. About 100 acres of first-class land in lot; the balance is more or less stony. The whole heavily timbered with fine hardwood bush, except along the margin of Lake Berford, where there is a large quantity of cedar. Price \$600.

236—E. part, Lot 20, Con. 8, 100 acres. The front 45 acres of west end of this lot, fronting on road leading from Colpoys Bay to Lion's Head, is very rocky; but the rear part comprising this 100 acres is said to be nearly all good land with clay loam, heavily timbered, and not far from Colpoys Bay. The whole lot contains 145 acres. Price \$400.

237—Lot 5, Con. 11, 100 acres, near town plot of Adair. Land rolling, heavily timbered, mostly with hardwood; soil clay loam; some stony knolls. Price \$400.

238—Lot 22, Con. 11, 100 acres, mostly good land with a rich clay loam; some rocky knolls—chiefly along south side; the centre good timber, mainly hardwood. Price \$400.

256—N. part of W. 50 acres, Lot 23, Con. 11, 29 acres. Soil clay loam; some rocky knolls. Timbered mostly with hardwood. Price \$175.

93—S. part Lot 24, Con. 11, 90 acres. Soil good clay loam with some rocky knolls; heavily timbered, mostly hardwood. Price \$600.

215—Lot 25, Con. 11, 100 acres. One of the best farm lots in that part of the township, with good road along the side of it, leading from Warton to Cape Crocker. Soil a rich clay loam, and heavily timbered; chiefly with hardwood. Price \$1000.

239—S. part of Lot 10, Con. 12, 20 acres, heavily timbered with hardwood. Price \$800.

2—Lot 30, Con. 13, 50 acres. Rough land on the shore of Colpoys Bay near Warton; heavily timbered with cedar and hemlock. Price \$300.

Township of Amabel.

257—E. part Lot 28, Con. D., 78 acres. Soil sandy loam and believed to be entirely free from rock. Timber mixed. Price \$400.

136—Lot 41, Con. D., 140 acres. On the shore of Lake Huron; very heavily timbered; on the west end near the lake with cedar, and on the east end with hemlock. The land is free from rock or stones, and the soil is a sandy loam. This is a very valuable lot. Price \$1000.

134—N. E. cor. Lot 17, Con. 5, 9 acres. Having a frontage of 5 chains by a depth of 18 chains. Soil a rich clay loam and heavily timbered. Price \$60.