

EDITORS' NOTES.

On the 24th July, we set out on a tour through the Gore and Wellington Districts, on behalf of the Provincial Association; a few short observations in connection therewith may not be uninteresting to our readers.

It is stated, on another page, that one of the principal improvements now making in the Wellington district is the new macadamized road, in course of construction between Guelph and Dundas; and although the soil on a large portion of this line is not of the best quality, yet much of it appears susceptible of cultivation; and the direct communication thus opened up between Lake Ontario and Guelph, extending northwards till it ultimately reaches Owen's Sound, will be a certain means of increasing the wealth and facilitating the settlement of this large and important district. Good roads may be regarded as ranking among the great civilizers of mankind, and it is pleasing to see the improvements that are going on in this respect in different sections of this province.

We had the pleasure of inspecting a number of farms, many of them well-cultivated and abounding in good stock, particularly in the neighbourhood of Guelph. John Howitt, Esq., so well known as a successful breeder of the pure Durhams, we regret not having the opportunity of seeing, but we saw several fine specimens of his celebrated herd. His three-year-old bull is a remarkable animal, decidedly among the very best we have seen on this side the Atlantic. Mr. Jackson pointed out to us a rich and beautiful piece of land, consisting of some thirty acres, on the banks of the Speed, belonging to Mr. Howitt, which a few years since was a most forbidding cedar swamp. What a metamorphosis does man's industry produce on the roughest and apparently the least promising portions of the earth's surface! How altered will be the appearance of this country when thoroughly subjected to the dominion of man! In the case just instanced, the whole expense of reclaiming, including under-draining, did not, we understand, exceed seven pounds an acre. Although this is an outlay, in the present early history of the country, that cannot be made on a large scale, yet the time will come, in the progress of population and civilization, when many parts of this country will vie with some of the fairest portions of the old world, both in beauty and fertility. Our soil only awaits the skill and labour of man to open up her immense latent resources.

We had the gratification of spending a day with Mr. H. Parsons, near Guelph, and of inspecting his dairy, which Mrs. P. seems to take a delight in conducting on a uniform system, based on correct modern principles. Mr. Parsons' cheese, of the *Stilton* variety, is, as many of our readers well know, from the most gratifying of all tests, that of tasting, of a very superior quality, commanding a high price, and showing beyond all controversy that the soil and climate of many parts of this country are well adapted to the purposes of the dairy. Mr. Parsons keeps a considerable number of pigs, of the small *Sussex* breed, which come early to maturity, and with proper feeding and management produce bacon and hams of a fine grain and of delicious flavour, particularly suited to family use. We afterwards saw the large *Yorkshire* breed, introduced by John Harland, Esq., the intelligent and zealous Secretary of the Wellington Agricultural Society, with whom we had the pleasure of spending several hours on his farm, which would give an old countryman a correct idea of what can be done in Canada. The tall forest, where the land is rich and devoid of pine, is changed in some ten or twelve years into waving corn fields and rich pastures, without the disfigurement of a single stump! Mr. Harland possesses a very fine pure bred *Durham* bull, of large dimensions. Indeed, the stock of this district, as a whole, including both sheep and pigs, is superior to what we have seen any where besides. It is also gratifying to find so many old country farmers giving proofs that they have not forgotten the principles of the agricultural art, as it is practised with such signal success at home.

July 28. We attended a meeting of the directors of the Wellington District Agricultural Society, in Guelph, the president, Colonel Saunders, in the chair. Although the directors did not feel justified in making a grant to the Provincial Association, from the sentiments that had been expressed at a former meeting by several of the members, yet they would exert themselves to procure individual subscribers, and expressed their conviction of the importance and value of the Provincial Association to the country at large, and their best wishes for its continued usefulness and prosperity. The warden, James Wright, Esq., observed that the Provincial Association ought to be regarded in the light of a parent society, the centre, to which all the different agricultural societies in the province should tend, and the depository of all that is worth recording and communicating in relation to the great interests of agriculture and native in-