

ing undulating, the scenery is often very varied and pretty. Formerly, winter wheat was extensively grown in this county, but for the last few years its culture has entirely ceased, owing chiefly to the action of insects and early spring frosts. Spring wheat appeared pretty good, though late, and we saw or heard but little of the depredations of the hedge or fly. Peas were excellent, to which crop both climate and soil are well adapted, and there is generally an absence of the maggot, which is often so destructive of this grain in other places, particularly in more southern latitudes. The greater part of this county has more or less suffered from drought, and the hay crop consequently was in many places, a failure. As one travels west the amount of the rain fall increases, and the crops look better. The central parts of Prince Edward, we were informed, are particularly liable to drought in summer. Thunder rains either divide or incline to the direction of the lake or the bay, and the middle and higher portions of the country suffer thereby for want of sufficient moisture.

Hops are cultivated to a small extent in several places in the eastern section of this county. Of late the crop has been a paying one, but some half-dozen years since, prices were so reduced that the cultivation became very unprofitable, and the plantation was consequently reduced. We saw several gardens (or as they are termed here "yards" in the township of Hallowel, that appeared to be skillfully managed, kept clean, and the soil thoroughly pulverised during the period of growth by the horse hoe, or cultivator, in a style similar to what one observes in the Kent, and Sussex plantations in England. The hops are planted in hills about seven feet apart, two poles of from 16 to 18 feet and upwards long, to a hill. To an old countryman the rapidity with which hops come into full bearing appears to border on the marvellous. As a general thing the plants from cuttings in England require at least two years and sometimes three before they arrive at their full vigor, but here a heavy crop is often raised the first year; that is to say hops planted in the spring will produce abundantly the fall but one afterwards. We observed many instances of the bine (or vine) reaching, to top of 16 or 18 feet poles, having been planted only 14 months! Indeed we saw in one garden a pole 28 feet high covered to the top and throwing out a number of lateral branches! And, from enquiry, we found that there is but little risk in Canada of injuring the young stock from the use of too long poles, as undoubtedly exists in England. It is well known there that whole gardens have been permanently injured by what is termed "over poling" at the commencement. There is no doubt a limit even here which it

must be injurious to pass, and we think that we saw some gardens illustrating this fact in the before mentioned township; and we invite the attention of our hop growers to the subject, and should feel obliged for any information respecting it. One thing appears quite certain, that if hops come to earlier maturity in Canada than in England, they are much less durable; and this remark we believe, will also apply to fruit trees and other productions. Those who have had the longest experience in raising hops in this country inform us that the plant generally requires to be renewed every six or seven years: whereas in Europe it will continue productive for periods of a dozen or twenty years, and on some soils considerably longer. The white cedar which abounds in our Canadian swamps affords a durable and beautifully formed hop pole, and would be considered of inestimable value in the old country, but its exportation would not pay.

We heard from a person who has had a long experience in hop growing, both in Europe and Canada, that taking as a basis what may be termed a moderate crop here, viz., 10 or 12 cwts. per acre, the whole expenses of an acre would amount to about \$70 or \$80. This includes rent of land, manure, wear of poles, labour during the period of growth, picking, drying, and preparing for market. Now 12 cwt. at 15 cents per pound, would amount to \$180; leaving a profit of \$100 per acre! And this sum, or even a greater, is doubtless occasionally realised, but it would be exceedingly fallacious to assume that amount as the profits of hop growing in the long run. A diminution either in price or the weight of crop would of course affect the rate of profit in a similar proportion. In some years a blight would be experienced, in others a very much reduced price; which was the case a few years since, when some people abandoned the culture altogether. Whether the raising of Hops can be made permanently to pay will depend upon quite a number of conditions; such as suitability of soil, local climate, supply and demand, and last, but by no means least,—the skill and judgment of the cultivator himself. Without these personal qualifications, however favourable may be other conditions, we advise no farmer to become hop growers; a department of husbandry which requires experience and no ordinary amount of care, observation and perseverance. The *curing* is quite if not more difficult than the growing, and from inattention or lack of skill in the former very serious losses may, or rather will arise.—In cases where the principal conditions to which we have adverted are favourable, Hop growing no doubt will afford a much larger profit per acre than ordinary farm crops, and this has been the case for the last few years.