

the County, it is equally difficult to speak with certainty as of the mode of management; the returns of the Census Commissioner by no means give a perfect idea of it. A good farmer would consider 30 bushels of wheat, 30 of peas, 60 of oats, and 35 of barley, about a fair average on his own farm; but it is quite probable that his next neighbour, in consequence of slovenly management, would not in the same season realize more than half that quantity.

Spring wheat, which a few years ago was the staple commodity of the County, is now very unfashionable. Fall wheat was at that time almost certain to be much injured, if not entirely destroyed by rust, or mildew; whilst Spring wheat was considered tolerably certain of producing a crop;—but, by some unknown agency, a great change has taken place, and Fall wheat is now cultivated extensively and with very favourable results.

Peas have become a very favourite crop; they are readily harvested by a horse-rake; they have hitherto been chiefly used for the fattening of hogs, but they have now become an important article of export, and they are regarded as being an excellent preparation for Fall wheat.

Turnips are not grown to any great extent in consequence of the expense of pulling and storing them; James Wright, Esq., the President of the Agricultural Society, has however invented a machine for cutting off the tops and turning out the roots, which he confidently anticipates will effect a great saving of manual labour: it will be worked by one or two horses, and will be in operation next season.

Potatoes, which used to be somewhat extensively and profitably cultivated, have of late years been almost a general failure, and few persons at the present time risk the planting of more than to produce sufficient for their own culinary purposes. Many experiments have been tried to restore this valuable esculent to its original quality and abundant yield; the most successful and certainly the most simple of which has been to plant on a virgin soil. It is said that potatoes which have been left in the ground through the winter, produce an abundant yield and an excellent quality the following summer; if this is really the case, it obviously points to the propriety of planting in the autumn.

The cultivation of hemp and flax has been tried upon a small scale, both of which appear to grow luxuriantly.

There are some fine fields on the banks of the River Speed, which afford a rich natural herbage for cattle, and it is on them that the cows are fed which produce the Stilton Cheese for which Mr. Parsons has rendered the County of

Wellington so celebrated;—and it is also on them that the splendid Durhams were chiefly fed which were so successfully exhibited by Mr. Howitt at the Provincial Shows held at Toronto, Hamilton, and Niagara.

The artificial grasses used are almost exclusively clover and timothy, both of which, in ordinary seasons, produce abundantly.

Upland grass is usually broken up about the third year, and wheat or peas sown upon the first furrow.

Dairying is not yet carried on to any great extent, but the good wives of Eramosa have already justly obtained a great local celebrity for the quantity and quality of the butter which they produce, and cheese making is steadily on the increase.

Portable thrashing machines of almost every variety may be met with, and each variety has its advocate. Winnowing machines are in the hands of every farmer, but none of the varieties in use approach perfection. The wheel carriages and sleighs in use are well adapted to the present circumstances of the County. Cultivators have been introduced with good effect, but their construction is defective, and their price is excessive as compared with the price of grain. The same remarks may with justice be applied to straw cutters. The Scotch iron plough is in the hands of many of the best ploughmen, and a very superior description of wooden plough is manufactured in the Township of Eramosa. A very great improvement has taken place in the construction of harrows, and the great clumsy and almost useless things, to which nothing less than a yoke of bulls ought ever to have been hitched, are fast giving place to light, lively working, and effective implements.

Revolving horse rakes are manufactured in Guelph, and are fast coming into favour; it is certain that no judicious farmer will long be without one. Grain cradles of the best description are manufactured in the County. Scythes, hand hay rakes, pitch forks, dung forks, scoops, shovels and spades, which for lightness and utility perfectly astonish an old countryman, are to be found in the possession of all prudent farmers.

Orchards are being generally planted throughout the County; it having been fully demonstrated that with proper attention, every variety of apple tree will grow as luxuriantly and produce fruit in quantity and quality very little, if at all inferior, to any in the Province. An extensive Nursery has been established in Guelph, which is abundantly stocked with choice varieties of thrifty trees, and the farmers will grossly neglect their interest if they do not take proper and speedy means to have large quantities of them transplanted to their own estates.