

in their sturdy limbs and constitutional gravity; above all, in their Christian and surnames, which leave no room for doubt.

The old-fashioned virtues of cleanliness and industry, imported from the dear old Fatherland, still flourish among these good people unimpaired, their houses and their domestic arrangements being generally models of neatness and thrift; but they are charged—perhaps not always justly—with want of enterprise and disinclination to adopt the more modern ideas of social improvement.

In many families the German language continues to be spoken, at least by the older members; German customs are preserved at weddings, births and funerals; in every family there is an old German family Bible, and German is not unfrequently the language of the pastor at the Lutheran church on Sundays.

If you spend a night in the winter time with any of these most hospitable folk, the good wife will see that you are comfortably arranged for rest between two feather beds. If your visit should be in the summer months you will see the cows working in the fields with the oxen, both being fastened in a peculiar fashion by the horns. Their agricultural implements, particularly their ploughs, would probably excite un-mixed admiration at a county fair in Ontario.

Upon the whole, the land, which is generally good in Lunenburg County, is very fairly cultivated. Standing on the deck of a vessel anywhere in Mahone Bay, on a bright day in July or August, the spectator will be charmed with the number and extent of the beautiful farms and pretty homesteads adorning the sides of the hills for a great distance in every direction.

Flax is more cultivated in Lunenburg than in any other county of Nova Scotia. In former years it was quite the custom for farmers' wives, in this locality, to raise and manufacture sufficient flax for their own house-linen, and very excellent material it was. One cannot but regret that this species of home industry is said to be less in favor with the present generation.

A marked relic of Old World, and particularly of German, manners in this county, is the employment of women in the fields, and, in fact, for all sorts of out-door work.

It by no means shocks the sensibilities of residents in these parts to see some sturdy old fellow, the owner of a fine farm, sitting down in the shade of a tree on a summer day, or possibly extended at full length upon the grass, enjoying a nap, or the luxury of his pipe, while his better-half, his faithful *wrow*, is toiling patiently in the hot sun, driving the oxen or loading the cart.

An acquaintance of the writer upon one occasion felt it his duty to condole with an old Dutchman, who had been so unfortunate as to lose his wife.

"I am sorry for your affliction, my good friend," said the sympathizing visitor. "You have, doubtless, sustained a very great loss."

"Ah! yes," said the old man, deeply touched. "She was a great loss; she was petter to me as a yoke of oxen."

In former times considerable quantities of wheat were raised in this district; but the ravages of the weevil and other discouraging circumstances of late years have caused the farmers to give more attention to barley and oats, and to their root crops, which are almost always abundant and excellent. It is scarcely necessary to add that cabbage is a favorite vegetable hereabouts, and that the manufacture of sour-kraut is all but universal.

Mahone Bay should be the very paradise of sea-side visitors, of bathers and yachtsmen. The locality has all the conditions requisite for aquatic enjoyment, seclusion, gentle tides, fine beaches and limpid waters.

The Dutchmen, as the Lunenburgers are invariably called, by no means follow the traditional model of the Dutch craft in the construction of their vessels. On the contrary, the schooners and shallops built in this county for the purpose of coasting or of carrying on the deep-sea fishery—particularly those sailing out of the port of Lunenburg—as a general rule, will bear comparison with the best American vessels engaged in the same line of business.

There is no lack of first-rate boats here, for rowing or sailing in any part of the Bay. If not yourself competent to manage a boat, you will have no difficulty in obtaining the services of an able-bodied Dutchman, patient, good-natured and thoroughly acquainted with every island and "pint"