

grey sand. On the whole it is a productive soil, adapted to the growth of Wheat, Indian Corn, Oats and Buckwheat; and with proper management produces the finest and most healthy roots and vegetables. The timber is mainly white and black Oak, with chestnut and occasional clumps of hard wood and dwarf pine. The soil in the south eastern portion of the township of Windham is of a loamy nature, producing abundant crops of all grains, roots, and vegetables, generally cultivated. The soil in the north eastern portion is a gravelly loam inclining to sand—the same may be said of the south western part. These soils are not much affected by an excess of either wet or dry weather; neither do they heave with the frosts of winter, consequently they universally produce fair average crops of the very best sample. The north western portion possesses a clay soil, some seasons producing abundant crops, at others these are materially affected by the frosts of winter and the droughts of summer. The interior of this township is covered with forests of prime, with large cedar and tamarac swamps.

The Township of Charlotville has generally a light sandy soil, although there are many farms of most desirable fertility. Owing to the diversified nature of the soil, the crops are various—some farms producing the largest crops of Wheat and Clover, others producing the finest crops of Indian Corn, and Buckwheat; while all produce Oats, Barley, Peas, Potatoes and Turnips in abundance. There is almost every variety of timber indigenous to such soils.

The Township of Walsingham is noted for her lumbering capabilities. A large portion of this township was once covered with the finest quality of White Pine, which is fast being converted into timber and lumber for the American market. But few years will suffice to sweep away these mighty and beautiful forests, and leave nothing but unsightly stumps and refuse timber. That portion of this township bordering on the Long Point Bay, and Lake Erie, is possessed of a soil varying from a black vegetable mould of a loose friable nature, to clay of the most tenacious quality. The crops of Barley, Oats, Peas and Wheat are of the most luxuriant kind. The pasturage is abundant, Timothy and clover luxuriate here, and grow to the hearts content of the most avaricious of our species.

The Township of Houghton is a beautiful piece of land, the base of which lies along Lake Erie. The soil is rich and productive, much like that of Walsingham of which we have been speaking—producing the same variety of crops, in the same abundance. The timber is Maple, Beech, Ash and Elm, with a large supply of Pine and some Walnut.

Middleton is considered rather unproductive, owing to the light sandy nature of the soil; although there are some of the best farms and the best farmers in this township, of any in the county. Pine is the prevailing timber, consequently a great deal of lumbering is carried on here.

As to the average productiveness of the soils your directors are of the opinion, that aside from extraordinary seasons of sterility the average of wheat per acre is 20 bushels of Barley and Oats 30 bushels, of Indian Corn 50 bushels, of Peas 30 bushels, of Buckwheat 25 bushels, of potatoes 150 bushels, of Root crops 300 bushels, of Carrots 400 bushels, Timothy Hay $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons, Clover Hay $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons. Millet is cultivated to some little extent, and succeeds well in our warm soils, producing from 2 to 3 tons per acre of the most palatable and nutritious fodder, and from 20 to 30 bushels of seed.

The wide spread calamity of June last fell heavily upon this county. Our wheat crop, the staple production of our locality, from presenting the most promising appearance, witnessed in many years, was stricken down by the frosts; and instead of maturing and producing an abundant harvest, remained blackened and sared monument of disappointed hopes. Never within the recollection of man was the devastation so fatal, so universal.

Indian Corn was also cut down, and not recovered. Much was replanted; but owing to the coldness of the Summer and Autumn very little came to maturity. Many farmers sowed their corn ground to turnips; and the consequence was that we never had such an abundant root crop before; and which is now supplying to a great extent the falling off of other crops. Peas, Oats and barley were injured, and yielded abundantly. Timothy meadows suffered much, and did not recover. Clover meadows, however, revived after the frosts and produced an average crop. On the whole, we find ourselves in much better circumstances than our fears would allow us