

**Ingersoll.**

This town is situated in the County of Oxford, Ontario. A branch of the river Thames, and the main line of the Great Western and Credit Valley Railroads pass through the town. Perhaps no town in Canada deserves more attention from the agricultural historian of this Dominion than this, as in and around this town the great interest of cheese production has been fostered and spread from this centre to all parts of this Dominion, and the instructions that have been given here have done much to improve the prosperity of farmers and the wealth of this Dominion.

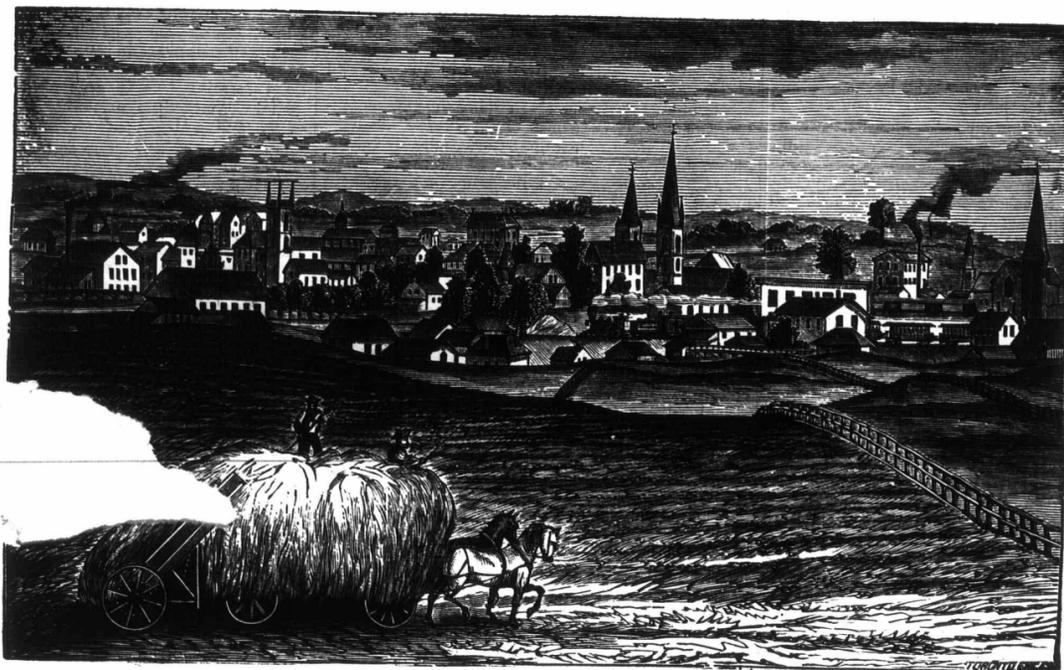
Mr. Raney was the first to make a specialty of cheese making. He succeeded, and left a very fine estate to his only child, a daughter, who married Mr. Jas. Harris. Mr. Harris made the celebrated mammoth cheese that weighed 6,500 lbs., and was exhibited in the States and in England.

Our dairymen have now established a reputation for cheese making that is unequalled on this continent. The land in this locality is well adapted for dairying purposes, being of excellent quality, producing a luxuriant growth of grass of fine qual-

**The Advantages of Changing Seed.**

Farmers, like doctors, differ in opinion on many practical subjects, but there is one subject upon which they are all united in opinion—viz., in the advantage of change of seed for every kind of crop. Now, the benefits of change of seed, which I have proved again and again, are these: First of all, earlier maturity. But, of course, to obtain this, the seed must be brought from an earlier district than where it is to be grown. Second, change of seed imparts greater vigour to the plants; and the third advantage is in the probability of getting grain of an improved description. I have heard it argued that the finest quality of grain may be grown from light or very inferior soil. Now, this is quite possible, but not very probable. "Like begets like" applies as much in cereals as in animals. We do not observe it in cereals so very distinctly as in roots. There are a great number of very superficial observers of specialties in cereals, and so long as the absurd system of awarding prizes for seed grain merely from its appearance in the sack, instead of being also judged by its appearance in the field, and yield per acre, so long will a great hindrance exist with regard to the benefits to be

addressed the club concerning the most profitable varieties of wheat to grow, and in which they coincided in the following, viz.:—If fall wheat can be grown they recommended the old Genesee, formerly grown in Ontario, and which made the best flour that ever left Canada. Clawson yields a weak flour; the Treadwell is better; the Soules is worth 10c. more per bushel than the Clawson, but on the whole the fall wheats are good. Among the spring wheats the Old Fife was unequalled as a producer of good flour, and they advocated the importing of fresh seed from Scotland. The Golden Drop, Odessa and Redfern rank next. The Poorland wheat makes a weak flour. The Arnecta they would scarcely class as wheat; its flour is midway between cornmeal and flour, and they regretted to see the farmers growing this variety so extensively. Shippers would buy it now, but they did not think it would find a market after its quality became generally known. Farmers should grow a wheat that would produce a good flour. Canadian spring wheat once commanded a high price in England, but latterly it has been declining, and growing poor wheat will doubtless reduce the standard. The farmers then took up the discussion and drew the following conclusions:—Wheat, to make a strong flour, must be abundant in gluten nitrogen, so that land lacking nitrogenous elements would not grow strong wheat. Thin



TOWN OF INGERSOLL, COUNTY OF OXFORD, ONTARIO—THE CENTRE OF THE DAIRY INTEREST.

ity, the farms being well watered with pure spring water or running streams. The air being free of malaria and the land rolling, man and beast are always as healthy in this locality as in any part of this continent.

The extent of prime dairying land on this continent is very small in proportion to the extent of country. But fortunately Ontario possesses a fair share.

The wheat farms, buckwheat farms, and oat farms, and even beef farms, may be thrown into the market at low rates, from a desire to raise larger crops in the Nor'-West, but the real prime dairy land will always maintain its value.

We would strongly advise English emigrants, with capital, to spend a few days in the country around Ingersoll. Here they can see farming in all its branches conducted, and they will have a better opportunity of judging and knowing what would suit them, much better than by going direct to the prairies.

There are two implement manufactories, one carried on by Noxon Bros., and one by T. Brown & Co.; the latter manufacture the only Hay Loader made in Canada; these implements were formerly imported from the States. Many large farmers have saved the price of the implement in one year by saving their hay in better order and at less expense, as the loader is quickly hitched to a wagon, and a load is put on in a very short time.

derived from seed grain competitions. For example, purity is the great desideratum in awarding a seed prize. Who can accurately judge of this from merely looking into a sack? I have known farmers of much experience who were puzzled to name even the variety, when shown samples of difficult varieties of wheats. In the field wheats have a totally different appearance. In these times, when a rigid economy is required in every department of farm management, a farmer may supply himself with good seed for the following year by sowing only a part of a field with pedigree grain, and use the produce next year. It is quite possible the change may be found more beneficial in regard to quantity the second year.

In regard to cereals, especially wheat and barley, the advantage of change of seed from the very best soils and climate to a poorer and later, has been proved over and over again. Now, with potatoes it is quite the reverse. Seed potatoes should always be changed from a later district to an earlier, and also from inferior soil to a better.

**Meeting of the South Ontario Farmers' Club.**

Since our last issue the Hon. T. N. Gibbs and J. B. Bickell, Esq., both eminent millers, have

sowing was advocated; it gave plenty of air and light to the grain, which grew stronger and did not crumple down as much as thick-sown grain; also that early sowing should be practiced in all grain; better crops had been secured by the majority when sown early; did not think frost was the cause of barley turning yellow, but on account of the poverty of the land. Many considered it better to sow Club wheat among fall wheat when the latter was partially killed out, thoroughly harrowing and rolling after sowing. Care should be taken to sow it very early, so that they may both ripen together. Some of the members had found it very profitable to soak their seed wheat in strong brine and skim the light and foul grain from the top; they used lime to dry the grain with. Other members contended that oats did not take as much from the land as wheat, rye, corn, roots or hay, and all considered ashes an excellent fertilizer. They also concluded it essential to top dress the land sown to grass seeds; catches could be obtained in this way, when every other plan has failed; land should be in good heart when seeded down, and a variety of grasses sown. Sowing grasses alone, that is without a grain crop, is decidedly the better plan. Summer fallowing was urged by some, but others deemed it better to give a partial summer fallow and plow under a green crop. Clover, buckwheat or pea vines are good as green manures.