

than five dollars for each offence, and shall be further liable for damage done without reference to the fence that may enclose the premises of complainant. Further, any person finding any animal at large may and a constable *shall* take up and confine the same forthwith, that it may be treated as an estray. But, nevertheless, commissioners of counties may grant general permission for any of the animals named to run at large, and in counties where there are no commissioners, township trustees may grant special permits, revokable at discretion, on three days' notice. But swine must be prevented by rings or other means from rooting, if they are permitted to run at large.

In Michigan, similar powers are vested in a Board of County Supervisors, and in any county in which those powers are exercised, any person owning or occupying land may seize and take possession of strayed animals found on the highway opposite such land, or trespassing on his premises. He is to inform a justice of the peace of such seizure, and the latter is empowered to authorize the sale by auction of the animal or animals seized. If not claimed before sale, the animal or animals shall be sold, and the following sums deducted from the proceeds:—Justice's fees: For every horse, \$1; for cattle, 50 cents each; sheep or swine, 25 cents each. To the person making the seizure: For every horse, \$1; for cattle, 50 cents each; for sheep, 10 cents each; for swine, 25 cents each; together with reasonable compensation for the care of such animal while in custody. The balance, if not claimed within a year, goes to the Township Treasurer. (The owner of any animal seized may redeem it before sale on payment of fees.) A later law, however, leaves legislation on this subject wholly in the hands of the people of each township, who may at any legal meeting make orders and by-laws determining the time and manner in which the animals named shall be restrained from going at large, and fixing the penalties incurred by the breach of such by-laws.

The Commissioners submit the information they have obtained on this subject, knowing full well the nature of the difficulties that have to be overcome in order to secure a due enforcement of such laws as already exist in this Province, and the objections that may be raised to a general Act similar to the one existing in New York. That a very general feeling prevails in favour of a more stringent law than now exists is pretty evident, and if tree planting is to become general, it must be accompanied by some legislation in this respect. Meantime, the creation of an active public sentiment may do much to make existing by-laws far more effective.

## CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Very satisfactory is the almost universal use of labour-saving machinery. If the average all over be taken, it would appear that 71 per cent. of the farmers of Ontario use machinery in their ordinary operations. But, as a matter of fact, if the area still encumbered with stumps, where machinery cannot be successfully employed, be eliminated from the calculation, the use of machinery may be said to be all but universal. The exceptions to its use in well-settled counties are very few indeed. The supply, too, of ingenious inventions keep pace with the demand. It was informally stated in the course of the inquiry that only two wants in this respect needed to be supplied: the one a machine for sowing gypsum; the other, one for distributing liquid manure to the roots of plants. It is believed that the first-mentioned desideratum has been provided; the other will not be long behind. So far as the purchase of machines is concerned, the danger is rather in the direction of a too ready yielding to the persuasiveness of the agent introducing some novelty which is not invariably an improvement, backed by the beguilements of offers of long credit. But the reasonable desire to lessen manual labour, and