

jecting the proprietor to any expence for repairs. *Wooden fences* are of different kinds and of course built at various prices. What has given them so great a preference in many parts of the Canadas is the plenty and cheapness of wood. But they are liable to many objections—what is termed the *Virginia worm fence*, formed by split rails laid in a zig zag position with the ends of the rails crossing each other occupies too much ground, and requires an immense number of rails, besides being liable to the other objections which attend every description of wood fences.—*Post-and-rail fences* have a neat light appearance, and occupy but little space. They are however very expensive to make at first.—In rocky land it is difficult to sink the posts to a sufficient depth; and unless put deep in the ground they are apt to be thrown out by the frost in winter. In wet lands the posts soon rot, and fall to pieces. What are termed *Log-fences* are very frequent on newly cleared lands and are the first description of fences new settlers build in every part of Canada; these are formed of the trunks of trees placed longitudinally with the ends overlapping each other and laid upon cross pieces termed *bunks*. This description of fence has the advantage of being easily made, and if composed of some lasting wood is more durable than the former; but it is not so secure. The logs having nothing to retain them in their places but a notch in the bunk, are easily rolled off, and some cattle will do this with great dexterity. This description of fence may be put up where the timber is handy, for about 1s. or 1s. 6d. per rood 16½ feet—but seldom lasts above 10 or 12 years, and not even that without frequent repairs.

Such are the three descriptions of wooden fences most frequently used in Canada—each possesses its advantages and disadvantages, when compared with each other—but all stand very low in comparison with stone fences, and for the following reasons. Every species of wooden fence is less secure than those built with stone. The former may be thrown down by accident, or fall by decay; or perhaps they may be taken down by an encroaching neighbour for the purpose of letting his cattle into better pasture than his own fields produce.—In situations where fire-wood is scarce, these fences are often carried away by poor people to be burnt; and every season the owner from these causes will be subjected to a heavy expence in keeping them in repair, an expence not much less than the first cost. To the new settler in Canada, Hogs, are a particularly valuable stock—and in many places, these at a certain season of the year are turned out to run at large.—The injury they do in every cultivated field not appropriated for a hog-pasture renders it indispensibly necessary to have fences which will exclude them effectually, but this is hardly possible with fences built of wood, without constant attention to keep them in the best order and this incurs an expence attending this sort of fences to which stone are not subjected. In selecting the description of fences, he uses, a farmer must not only have regard to its permanency, but also its security.—For a gap in his fences during one night may render abortive his whole year's labour; and when it is considered that wooden fences are liable to so many accidents from the above causes, and are moreover a continual expence to keep in repair. Stone fences although they at first cost a little higher, will from their addi-