

will ask what will you do with all this stuff you propose raising? you can't sell roots or vegetables to any amount in this country. Granted, but you can fatten beef, pork, geese, turkeys, ducks, and fowls. You can send them to any of the provincial markets, and after a little while you can send them to England, where they fatten all the beef on turnips and oil cake. If every farmer in Canada was to turn his attention to soil feeding, and flax and hemp growing, our railroads and ocean steamers would pay the best of any in the world, after a little time they would take freight, dead and alive, with no more trouble to the producer than taking it to the railway depot, and directing it to where he wishes to have it sold, just the same as if he were living in Ireland or Scotland.

There is another feature in this kind of cultivation. Any one enjoying average health from seven years old to seventy, can be of use. The inmates of all the poor houses in the United Kingdom could be sent out with advantage to all parties. The second year after this system became generally practised, one acre of flax and hemp to every hundred occupied in Upper Canada, would produce the quantity required by Great Britain: and this much would in no wise interfere with the growing of wheat. The only opposition set up against flax growing is the want of machinery to clear it. This, I think, could be very easily supplied. The breaking and scutching apparatus, I am told, are very simple, and both could be driven by the horse power of a threshing machine. Motion is all that is wanted; power is only a secondary consideration.

If the Government, or Crown Lands Department, would furnish seed to the settlers on unpaid lands, and in a manner compel them to sow an acre of flax or hemp to every hundred they held, and protect it from seizure for any debt, past, present, or future, excepting arrears on the land, there would not be an unoccupied lot but would be paid for inside of five years.

The land in this county is admirably adapted to the growth of flax. The townships of Huron, Kincardine, Bruce, Saugeen, are composed of the following kinds of soil. Along the lake shore it is principally white sand from the water's edge to the high ground, which is erroneously called the clay banks, and which rises from 50 to 100 feet above the level of the lake. These flats extend the

full length of the county, sometimes running as far as two miles in from the lake. This land is but seldom tilled. One crop is the most ever taken off it. The practice of burning in the drought of summer is very injurious, as it destroys all the vegetable matter that has accumulated for years. Yet any of it that it is possible to remove the stones off of, would give good crops of flax, hemp, beans, peas, onions, &c., when manured with the marl to be found on the banks above it. Where these flats are composed of the finer sands, they grow roots of extraordinary size, with very little indulgence in the way of other manure and weeding. It is a lamentable fact that the finest manure that ever was applied to land, is only known in this part of Canada by the contemptuous name of "clay," manures that is provided at an expense of \$60 per acre in the Old Country, and land possessing it would rent for \$15 an acre, when land not near it would not rent for \$5. For sand or mucky land there is no manure equal to it. Limestone can likewise be had in any quantity on these shores. This too is sadly neglected as a manure. When you mention it to any one, he will tell you that there is too much lime in the soil already. Now although this may be the case, which I very much doubt, it will not do the crops much good. All raw materials must be prepared before it can be of any perceptible use. On top of this bank the soil varies between a stiff clay and sandy loam in different localities; the marl is within a foot to eighteen inches of the surface, so that it may be said that it cannot be worn out with proper cultivation. But drained it must be, for the marl is so impervious that if the water cannot run off it, it lies there until the sun and wind dry it up. Between six and eight miles from the lake there is a strip of sandy land from about two miles in breadth. East of that it is a rich clay loam in some parts, and warm limestone gravel in others. All the back townships are of the latter description. On the whole it may be said that marl and lime can be had in abundance in any part of the county. And if every farmer were to underbrush his wild land, clean the surface so that he could rake the leaves every year just before the snow falls, he would have abundance of manure for the clay land. Old rotten logs broken fine, or even sound timber piled so as to rot, would benefit land that can only be ploughed at certain seasons, and there is a great deal of that kind in Canada.