

cleared land, two brood mares are the most profitable stock he can have. Raise foals every second year; by so doing you get showier and better foals; sell them at two years old for \$60, this will afford a good profit. I am sorry to add that the Americans are purchasing and taking away some of our best horses as well as cattle and sheep.

CATTLE.—In showing good breeds of cattle there is not much competition, for the same reason as in regard to horses—that parties are buying all the best cattle for export. There is, however, some very good stock; the principal breeds in this county are grades. Very little cheese or butter is made here, as the county is new, and stock not much imported; although a cross between the Durham and Canadian are the best for climate, dairy and butcher, or for working oxen. The price of a good yoke of working oxen is about \$90. I would here remark that there is too much difference between the price of horses and oxen, for instance a horse worth \$120—a yoke of oxen only worth \$90—the one horse is no team, and, when unable to work, is useless. A yoke of oxen if good will do as much work on a farm as a pair of horses, and with less feed, and less expense of rigging, no harness; a yoke and bows are worth \$5, whilst a set of harness is worth \$30. Then again when the oxen have given over work you may beef them, thereby getting full value for them when too old for work, or disabled. Mares are more profitable to farmers than horses for this reason, if disabled in any way, they will do for breeding.

A good milch cow worth \$20 will produce 120lbs. of butter in a season, worth 12½c. per pound, amount \$15. A cow will eat two tons of hay, provided she has nothing else. Milch cows should have turnips or bran mash during winter, by which means the quantity of hay may be reduced to 1¼ ton.

SHEEP.—We have some very good sheep here; the Leicester or long wool are the most profitable stock a farmer can have. For instance sheep in the winter season should be kept in a field where there is old grass, and not penned up in a fold at night, but allowed to run in and out of a shelter as they please. By this means 300lbs. of hay or less will keep a sheep, this sheep will shear 7lbs. of wool, at 25 cents per lb.; amount, \$1 75; the carcass is worth \$5 more, saying nothing about the lambs or increase. A farm of 150 acres

can keep 60 sheep, which would yield him annually, clear of all expenses, \$60, besides the increase.

SWINE.—Of pigs the number is not great on the whole, although most every farmer keeps a few. I think there is a mistaken idea about farmers wintering over too many pigs. The cheapest and best pork for family use is made from pigs of say nine months old. Parties should be careful and have their sows served by the boar in December, so as to have pigs in March or first April. Take the pig away when three weeks old, feed well and kill in the middle of December. It does not pay to keep pigs for killing for family use over winter; one pig will eat 9 bushels peas or corn worth \$5 62½, besides the expense of fattening when you can buy pork for \$5 per 100lb. Every farmer should have a few pigs to kill through the summer. The best kinds are Grass and Berkshire crossed.

POULTRY.—Not much looked after; there are all, with a few exceptions, the common dunghill fowl, as well as geese, ducks, and turkeys.

This report is drawn up by a native born Canadian, of 42 years of age, who was reared in the county, and has witnessed all the changes in all the different departments, especially as well as agricultural, more particularly the agricultural, because he is an agriculturist himself. Farming 400 acres, 250 improved land, the remainder wood or meadow. I may state for the public information the experience of the last twenty years:

Twenty years ago the County of Hamilton was mostly a wilderness; the Great River about that time was made navigable, there were dams erected, mills built, flouring, sawing, and grinding plaster. Previous to that date the nearest flour mill was at Ancaster, a distance of 30 miles from the now county town. We could only transport wheat on account of bad roads, &c.; now we have many mills of mostly all descriptions. The saw mills are a great benefit to the farmers here in the winter season. His men are employed hauling logs to the mills, and most of us have some timber of our own, which is a great help to us, more particularly when our crops fail. Our lands have appreciated in value for the last five or six years. Land five years ago was worth in most parts of the county sixty dollars per acre, now more than thirty, a falling off of one half