

method of pulling the crop than is generally practised is an important desideratum, which modern mechanical ingenuity, it is hoped, will long supply. When the flax in the field matted into shocks is sufficiently harvested, it is taken into the barn or sheds, or made to a rick sufficiently protected against the weather, till it is required for steeping and scutching.

(Concluded in next number.)

Elgin Flax Association.

St. Thomas, C. W., March 10, 1862.

The Secretary of the Board of Agriculture.

Sir,—The growing importance of Flax culture has induced the farmers and the land owners in my neighborhood to form an Association for promoting the culture of it, and I beg to enclose newspaper report of the first meeting.

You will observe that it is not intended to encroach directly in the practical culture of Flax, the Association will devote its energies in buying seed, machines and instruction to those desiring to engage in the cultivation, and in bringing the improved machines for scutching furnishing models or patterns to persons who would become purchasers from the grower. It is the object of the Association to call into existence a class of Flaxmen the same as the "Order" of France, who will purchase the stalk raw from the grower, and will then prepare proper state to be sold to the spinner.

This district has long been known for its fertility as regards soil in producing flax of the quality and in good yield per acre, and is far fortunate for the cause that an association of this nature shall have been here organ-

ized. Experienced hands in flax farming were the settlers in this county, but beyond small patches for domestic use; no extent has been engaged in, but if the farmer find a market for the stalk or straw, it is believed that they will willingly give it a place in their rotation as a crop.

The Association in its present state of infancy every assistance to carry out its purposes is in the power of your Board to lend any grant or contribution of money or any other valuable influence which your existence commands, it will render no valuable service to an agricultural enterprise of great importance to this locality.

I have, &c.,

B. WALKER,
Secretary.

is the Report of the meeting above

FLAX CULTURE.

and influential meeting of the Farmers and Agriculturists of the County of Elgin, was

held at Hutchinson's Hotel, in this town, on Saturday the 1st instant, to take into consideration measures for forming an Association for promoting and encouraging the culture of Flax in this county.

Samuel Eccles, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair, and Mr. Walker was appointed Secretary.

Amongst the gentlemen present were George Claris, James Armstrong, Stephen Wade, Thomas Williams, Dr. Geo. Southwick, Hugh McIntyre, E. M. Yarwood, William Lipsey, John Marlatt, Richard Nicol, William Parker, James Mitchell, John Black, John Lanning, P. Bobier, John Rae, James Vansickle, Jacob Miller, John McCully, and many others.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said: That the importance of Flax culture was attracting great attention throughout the Province, and he thought that it was very desirable to bring the matter more closely to the notice of the farmers and land owners, by organizing an Association such as the one at present contemplated. He saw present a great number of gentlemen who had been flax growers in the old country, and should be glad to hear their opinion on the subject. He had derived a great deal of information from the *Canadian Agriculturist*, and also from the letters of Mr. Donaldson. He then read some very interesting extracts, showing the value and importance of flax culture. He also called the attention of the meeting to an improved machine for scutching flax, invented by Messrs. Rowan, of Belfast; and concluded by calling on the gentlemen present to express their views on the object of the meeting.

Mr. Stephen Wade next addressed the meeting, and stated that there could be no greater proof of the importance that was felt in the flax culture than by the large and influential assembly of gentlemen then met. He then moved the first resolution, seconded by Mr. Rae, of South Yarmouth, which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, that the persons now present be the first members of an Association for the purpose of encouraging and promoting the culture of flax, to be called the "Elgin Flax Association," and do hereby constitute themselves an Association accordingly. And that all persons who shall hereafter subscribe and contribute towards the objects of the Association, be members thereof.

Mr. Rae, a practical and experienced flax farmer, produced some very fine samples of his own growing and preparing, and in a lengthened address, urged the value and importance of flax culture. He showed the greater profit to the farmer, than in the present crops of wheat and other grain: He also stated his intention of extending its culture in his rotation of crops.

The second resolution was moved by James Armstrong, Esq., seconded by John Lanning, Esq.:

Resolved, That the intentions and objects of the Association are: to promote the culture of