

that draining was costly, as drained land was much easier wrought afterwards than undrained; we need make no costly experiments in draining, as we had all the experiments of others to go by.

Mr. HAYWARD said, that his family had been very extensively connected with British farmers, and he was never happier than when amongst them. He had come here to-day to enrol his name, and would be always glad to meet and learn from them. His farming was on a small scale, and as he had no experience in draining he could take no part in their discussion this time.

Mr. MASSON said, the first thing he would do would be to carry away the surface water, as he did not think that under draining would pay at all; he had drained some land since he came to this country, but it did not turn out what he expected; it did him no good and was labor lost; he would make open drains and water furrows, but would let stone and tile drains alone, as he did not think they would pay at all; he had had the best crops on the part of his farm that was wettest in the spring—possibly on spongy ground an under drain might pay, but not on such land as he farmed.

Mr. P. R. WRIGHT said, he was surprised to hear so many of them advocate underdraining, as for his part he did not think that subsoil draining was profitable here; there was a vast difference between this climate and the climate of Britain, where most of them took their experience from. Though he believed that more rain fell here than in Britain, yet it fell, or a great part of it, on the land when it was in a frozen state, and another part fell on the ground when it was so dry that it required all the rain that did fall; he thought that land ought to be properly surface drained; though his farm was very level he never allowed water to stand on it either in spring or fall; he thought that dry land was as much the better of draining as wet was, as dry land was made more moist by under draining, as it allowed the rain to pass freely through to the drains while the land retained some of the gases; he approved of making leading open drains to carry off surface water. He farmed for the purpose of making money, and so far he had been pretty successful, and he thought they would find their profits much more increased by surface than by underdraining; it would take a great deal of persuasion to make him undertake to drain land as they do at home. He did not wish to be misunderstood, he was no enemy to underdraining, only he did not think that it would pay; he would like to see a field taken and one half of it thoroughly drained and the other half left undrained, and then put the field through a rotation of crops and see if draining would pay, for his part he was satisfied it would not.

Mr. PHILIPS said, that in this country there was such a difference in the nature of the soil, that the system that might pay well on one farm might not answer for the next one, so that scarce any two could be carried on alike; he believed that Mr. Wright's farm though level, was a very peculiar one, and did not need underdraining; he thought that our highest rolling land was most subject to springs, and that underdraining was

most beneficial on them; he approved of making deep open leading drains through a farm, as the lay of the land might require, which not only dried the land along side of it, but it allowed you to put in under-drains where they might be required, which you could not do unless you had a deep leading drain; he approved of Mr. Black's method of filling drains with stones, as about ten years ago he had put above a hundred rods of drain in a field and filled them with stones, and they were as good as ever yet, not a hole had broke in, before he put the drains in that field it was impossible to get it sown in proper season, in the spring now it was the first dry ground on his farm, any person going on to that field when the crop was growing, could tell where the drains were, as for forty feet on each side of the drains was always a better crop than the rest of the field, he would prefer drains put in deep, he advocated deep underdraining according to a farmer's means, he would make open drains through swells.

Mr. BOURN said, that he had no experience in draining, but he would mention that he thought that a good deal of the rough cedar in our swamps that would not split for rails, might be sawn up for material for filling drains with after the method described by Mr. Wade, but he would prefer the side pieces to be of two inch thick; he thought that drains filled with stones were apt to wash and fill up.

Mr. TAYLOR said, that he thought that drains ought to be made in the spring of the year, so that the filling in had time to become solid before the fall rains, and then they would not be so apt to wash in holes to the drain; he had put in about thirty rods of drain, six feet deep at the bottom of a side hill, and he always found water at the mouth of this drain, it served him for a watering-place for his cattle in winter, and had enabled him to break up several acres that he never could plough before he had made that drain.

Mr. D. BLACK said, the most of his farm was dry land that did not require draining, but where he had made drains he just put three rails in the bottom of the drain, and on clay subsoil he found this plan answer very well but where there was quicksand they soon sanded up and became useless.

Mr. J. UNDERWOOD said, he was in favor of draining, if he had a farm of his own he would certainly drain it; he thought that open ditches ought to be made to prevent the water from running off one field on to another, and such a ditch would enable you to drain water furrows where necessary; he thought that underdraining was best though it would cost more at first, but when once well done it did not need to be done again, whereas open drains need making and cleaning out every season; he had seen drains made here in a strong clay subsoil—first dig about two feet deep and about fifteen inches wide, and then with a narrow spade made on purpose, dig about six inches wide and six or eight inches deep right along the middle of the drain, and then lay on a slate in the bottom of the drain, covering the smaller drain, and it seemed to answer very well.