

lake region is almost if not quite free from all the drawbacks of blight and frost, and the other evil which occasionally try the patience of the vintners in Southern Ohio, has had it influence here;—but there is yet another influence to which due credit should be given. Settled in and around the city is quite a large population of Germans; and hardly one of them who possesses a rod of ground, but has a grape vine, well trimmed and trained, and annually filled with the laughing fruit. The success of these children of the “Fatherland” has taught a lesson to the Yankee element—an element quick to grasp at any idea that has success marked or indicated upon its features;—and the consequences bids fair to be, a continuous vineyard in city, suburbs and country, to the outermost skirts of the warm sand soils of the Cuyahoga.

This grape fever—a very healthful disease, we hold—is not confined to the Cuyahoga region. We have already alluded to the extension of the culture on the Islands above us; and our cotemporary of the Sandusky *Register* notes that tens of thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of cuttings are going into the ground about that city; and the epidemic, it says, “is sweeping all over this region and involving land holders and cultivators alike. Large quantities of land are being divided up into small parcels and sold out for vineyards. The whole peninsula over the Bay, is becoming involved, and the Islands and main land alike feel the impulse of the epidemic. With a good crop of fruit this season, another year will witness a great increase of the fever. We know no reason why there should not be a good crop, but there will doubtless be failures in the future. With the impulse that the grape culture now has, there will neither be that care in selecting land for grapes, in preparing it and in cultivating and tending the vines, necessary to insure uniform success—even if general success should remain the rule. The reckless, the careless, the slovenly and the negligent will be pretty sure eventually to fail—as they would fail in almost everything else.”—*Onio Cultivator*.

SCOTCH FARMING IN THE OLDEN TIMES.

The first of the “Fordyce Agricultural Lectures,” delivered at Aberdeen in Scotland last month, was devoted to a review of the history of Agriculture in that country. Parts of this history are instructive here: for there are some features in the Scotch farming of last century to which our own farming now bears so great a degree of resemblance. The internal confusion and wars that raged so long, left the country in a wretched condition, and it was not until about the year 1782 that many signs of improvement began to be visible.

“Up to that period it was the practice to divide the arable land of each farm into what was called *infield* and *outfield*. The infield, or

intoon as it was sometimes called, was that part of the ground which lay nearest to the *toon* or farm-steading, and usually consisted of about one-fifth of the arable land of the farm. As draining was little known or practiced in those days, the farm offices were pitched in the drier spots of land, often upon the top of some eminence or little hill. This infield land received most of the manure, all, in fact, that was made at the stead, and was likewise further replenished from time to time with earthy stuff, brought from the mosses and places. It is generally said to have been kept under a continual course of crops, although this, I think, can hardly be true, and was generally manured every third year; the dung being applied to the bear, after which came two crops of oats. A good deal of bear, or barley, was cultivated in those days for making malt, and much smuggling of whiskey and illicit distillation was practiced in some of the more secluded districts. The perpetual cultivation and frequent manuring which the infield land received, had the effect of giving the soil a dark colour and friable loamy texture, but it was quite overrun with weeds, which sprang up freely under such a system of management, little attention being paid to cleaning the ground in those days. *Spurrey*, or *Yarr* as it is here called, used to be so great a pest that in some seasons the corn was completely choked by it. The *outfield* land, which formed by far the greater portion of the farms, was managed upon a different plan. A good deal of it consisted of what was called *rig and baulk*. The baulks were wide spaces between the rigs or ridges, from which the soil had been gradually carried off by continual gathering up the ridges. So that the ridges had not only their own soil, but also that of the baulks or intervening spaces which were thus left bare, and grew no crops whatever. Any large stones or boulders that infested the ground were usually rolled into these baulks to be out of the way. Successive crops of oats were taken off this outfield land as long as they could grow. After three or four, they scarcely returned more than the seed, and they were then allowed to rest. That is to say, they were abandoned and left to cover themselves with such weeds and grasses as their exhausted nature were capable of producing. Thus they lay for perhaps five or six years, and they were again ploughed up and subjected to another series of crops.

“The outfield land usually consisted of two divisions, called *faulds* and the *faughs*. The faulds or folds were about half the extent of the other, and generally were divided into ten parts, one of which was ploughed up every year. Before this was done, it was enclosed with a turf wall and the cattle folded up during the night and for a few hours at noon. In this way a good deal of dung was left upon it, which served to recruit its exhausted powers