

years and then sold them to individuals residing in the township. This circumstance has done much towards the improvement of stock in the district.

The soil is sandy for the most part, but there is some good clay and gravel land in the northern part of the township. All seem to agree that sheep farming, embracing the growing of roots and spring grain, is best adapted to the soil.

The wheat midge has made great ravages in the wheat crops for some years, so much so that there is perhaps not more than five hundred acres at present under fall wheat in the whole township.

SOUTH DORCHESTER.—Fifty-seven members; subscription, \$58; share of public grant, \$41.70; total received, \$99.70. Paid in premiums, \$79; expenses, \$13.84; balance in hand, \$6.86.

MALAHIDE.—Forty-nine members; subscription, \$49; balance from previous year, \$53.75; grant, \$36.52; total received, \$139.27. Paid in premiums, \$60.50; expenses and sundries, \$51.73; balance in hand, \$22.04.

SOUTHWOLD AND DUNWICH.—Eighty-six members; amount of subscription, \$89; balance on hand from 1859, \$208.40; received from sale of clover seed, \$21.15; stock, \$16; public grant, \$65.60; total received, \$400.15. Paid for keeping bulls, \$165.40; paid for clover seed, \$19.20; premiums, \$42.25; expenses, \$58.84; balance in Treasurer's hands, \$114.46.

YARMOUTH.—One hundred and twenty-nine members; amount of subscriptions, \$129; balance from previous year, \$62.11; grant, \$93.19; total receipts, \$284.30. Paid in premiums, \$223.87; expenses, \$27.33; balance in Treasurer's hands, \$28.10.

ESSEX.

COUNTY SOCIETY.—Eighty-one members; amount of subscriptions, \$90; balance from late Treasurer, \$60; deposited by township societies, \$403; public grant, \$599.96; total received, \$1093.56. Paid township societies, \$761.67; premiums, \$229.26; expenses, \$65.12; balance in hands of Treasurer, \$37.51.

Extracts from Report :

The annual fair was held at Amherstburgh this year, and though not so numerously attended as on former occasions, still we think

the articles shown were of a very superior quality. The grain products, such as wheat, corn, and oats, were the best on the whole that have ever been shown in this county. The root crop was very good, particularly potatoes, not only from the variety of sample, but from the fine and generally healthy appearance. Live stock were not so numerous as on former occasions, but the cattle and horses that were on the ground presented quite a creditable appearance. The sheep in quality, we think, excelled any former exhibition of this society.

The Secretary has taken the trouble to address queries to prominent farmers in the different townships, as to the average yield of the amount of the grain and root crops of the county, but the replies thereto are so inaccurate as to preclude the possibility of arriving at anything like a correct conclusion or estimate of our crops; but we trust by another year the society may be able to arrive at a comparatively correct estimate of the various crops or products of the county. From what information we possess, we are strongly of opinion that more attention will have to be paid to manuring and general cultivation of the soil than has been heretofore the case. Some of the old soils which have been forty or fifty years under cultivation, and have produced excellent crops of wheat during that time, now scarcely yield a crop sufficient to defray the expenses of cultivation; and this decrease in the yield has not been caused by either the weevil or rust, but by the want of vegetable power in the soil of sufficient strength to produce a crop. And we feel assured that with the heavy soils of this county are deeply ploughed, better drained, and better manured they will, year by year, decrease in productiveness. To have the land deeper ploughed will require much heavier teams than are present in use by the farmers. The Canadian pony may suit very well as a carriage or saddle pony, but it is totally unfit for the thorough cultivation of our heavy soils; and our Township Societies in aiding the introduction of heavier breed of horses are doing a work which ought to command the respect and assistance of the farming community. The necessity of drainage is so apparent to every one that it needs no notice from us further than in suggesting to the Township Councils the propriety of cutting out and keeping open the leading ditches as would facilitate the drainage