

of the County Society as now organized. Although still very far from the position we should like to see it attain, each successive annual exhibition marks improvement in some agricultural feature or other. At the last show held in October, 1859, the improvement in horned cattle was very decided, some fine specimens were exhibited of well bred Durhams. In sheep there was also an improvement, and a ready market for all that could be spared was found upon the spot. Horses, however, were inferior in quality to former exhibitions. There was an excellent display of butter, while the grain and vegetables were very creditable. The number of spectators was beyond former years, giving symptoms of increasing interest.

[We here omit a large portion of the report relating to the denominational religious institutions of the County.]

**PUBLIC BURDENS—ASSESSED AND VOLUNTARY.**—The Municipal assessed taxes come to 2c. in the \$4; additional school tax, 1½c. in \$4; voluntary religious tax, 1½c. in \$4; total tax for School, Church, and State, 5c. in \$4; or at the rate of 1¼ per cent. on the value of property. *E. g.*—A farmer who owns 100 acres of land, which with his personal property is valued at \$2,000, would pay municipal taxes, \$10; school tax, \$7.50; for religion (if he paid his share) \$7.50; in all \$25 per annum. The *storekeepers'* tax amounts to 64 cts. in \$4, or at the rate of 16 per cent, annually on the value of property.

**CONCLUSION.**—We believe there is no such thing as sublunary perfection, and even though there were, we should be very far from claiming it for the County of Dundas.

We have endeavored to give an outline of its features in different lights, not as they ought to be, but as they really are, and we are fully assured that in every light in which it can be viewed, there is abundant room for improvement.

We should like to compare statistics with any other county of similar population, in order that from them we might learn wherein we are most deficient. In prosecuting our enquiries, various improvements and amendments have come under notice, and we conclude this Report by here submitting a few of them.

As farmers we have much yet to do and to learn before we reap the full benefit of the healthy climate, moderately fertile soil, and

other physical advantages which a bountiful Providence has conferred upon the County of Dundas.

Were less attention manifested to increasing the extent of our farms and the number of our stock, and more to thoroughly cultivating the former and taking good care of the latter, we should not only secure an increased revenue from our farms, but should do this a great deal more economically, and at a much less expenditure of labor, &c.

We have yet to learn the fundamental principle the most important of all improvements needed with farming; thorough underdraining. The naturally level nature of our soil particularly calls for it. Did it pay by any other way it certainly would lengthen the time for performing agricultural operations at least two weeks later in fall, and three or four weeks earlier in spring; and where our seasons are so short, even a few days become of great importance. Many of our richest lands cannot be touched (because damp) until the middle of May; if drained, we should have them disposed of by the first of May.

We would strongly recommend the farmers of Dundas to improve their breed of cattle. This might be done according to the means within their reach; our opinion is that the cross between Durham and Jersey is peculiarly suitable for our purposes.

The sooner we improve our breed of sheep the better it will be for us. The best of the best are annually sold, and we shall soon have nothing left but the

inferior. As a community, too much attention should not be given to the improvement of our sheep. Much of the statute labor of the County is lost, from want of proper management.

Agricultural societies should hold regular meetings, especially in winter, for the purpose of mutually receiving and parting useful information. The *Journal of the "Agriculturalist"* should be in every farmer's hand.

Each County Agricultural Society should devote yearly a portion of its funds to supporting improved breeds of horses, sheep, and thus place these within the reach of every member of the society.

We believe that the source of our agricultural languencies and deficiencies is to be found in one of two prominent traits: first, the love of money, and secondly the love of the thing. The inordinate love of money will, in the natural course of events, work its