last half-century, and is certainly worthy of special study, and even of the attention of the Government. When a province which once was a large exporter of wheat becomes incapable, under her present system of husbandry, of raising oue-half of he quantity of a staple product of human food resessary for home consumption, questions of much moment arise. Does it result from a change in the climate from insects destructive to wheat crops, exhaustion of the soil, or bad farming practice? No doubt, more or less, from all of these causes united; but we must chiefly look to the manner in which the soil is cultivated, and the practice prevailing in Lower Canada, for the solution of this problem.

Turning now to Upper Canada, we find the following encouraging statistics:

Year.	Wheat produced in bush
1842	3,221,991
	7,558,773
	12,674,503
	24,620,425

In some counties in Upper Canada the cultivation of wheat is progressing with extraordinary rapidity (too rapidly, we fear, for good husbandry), as the following comparative table, showing the produce of the United Counties of York, Ontario and Peel for the years 1848, 1850, 1851 and 1860, will tend to show:

Produce. 1848. 1850. 1851. 1860. Wheat 1,451,384 2,038,676 2,362,932 3,469.002

The United Counties of York, Ontario and Peel produced in 1860, as much wheat as Lower Cauada in 1831, and nearly one million more bushels than Lower Canada in 1860.

We would remind those among our readers who are inclined to the view that the Wheat Midge and the Hessian fly are pre-eminently destructive in Lower Canada, that by the use of early-ripening seed, draining, and improvement in farming practice, the "fly" has been overcome in many parts of Upper Canada, and there is no fear that with the adoption of well-known artifices the ravages of these destructive insects will be held in check. And why we ask, might not the same artifices have been employed in Lower Canada, which have proved so successful Probably an answer will suggest itself when we compare the number and circulation of the newspapers published in the French language, with the number and circulation of the same means of diffusing information in the English tongue in Upper Canada. It is a question, we submit, which might reasonably engage the attention of the Minister of Agriculture, whether an enquiry should not be set on foot to obtain information respecting the cultivation of wheat in Lower Canada, and the best means of circulating a knowledge of the most successful remedies against the ravages of the Midge and Hessian fly, which are so generally instanced, and, we think, most erroneously, as the ineffac- 110th

able destroyers of the wheat crops in I Canada, whose wide-spread devastations it be vain to attempt to arrest.

The present year has been remarkable in infinite number of insect-pests which have red the wheat crops, but fortunately withofar as we can learn, occasioning any wides:

damage.

The insect which created the greatest. at one time was an Aphis, a very cor and most prolific creature, whose powers of tiplying itself almost surpass belief, and for us with one of the most astonishing mary insect life, out of the vast number by we are daily surrounded. If the reader be iced the extremities of the shoots of or bushes during the latter part of August a beginning of September of the present p will have observed, no doubt, a vast num! green and brown insects feeding on the causing them to curl up, and often assume or a bright colour according to the stage sect growth. The green and brown insec Aphids, similar to those which were for such infinite numbers upon the succulent of the wheat and many other plants when are not commonly observed during the part of the summer.

The Aphis, or Plant Louse, is a rame gi a very extensive genus of insects, who structive habits and wonderful producti make the study of their history especially esting to farmers and gardeners. species of Aphids affect different plant Fitch describes twenty eight species, which upon the jnices of Indian corn, the pear, cherry, and a number of other trees. lection of the British Museum no less th species of this insect are described, at worthy of notice that almost every spe plant has its own peculiar Aphis. and Bean-dolphin have occasioned imme struction in Britain. In 1802 the hop d from £100,0000 to £14,000 on accour. great increase of the Aphis. When the has been absent the duty has risen to £5. This insect is well named the APHIS or . They are so prolific that one inc may become the projenitor of one quinti the 10th generation. As many of our may not be quite familiar with the vast represented by the word 'quintillion,' & tails may be useful. Professor Owen & his lectures on 'Comparative Anatomy, Aphis lanigera produces each year ten ous broods, and one which is ovipan each generation averages 100 individual

1st Generation—1 Aphis produces
2nd "—100 One hundred
3rd "—10,000. Ten thousand
4th "—1,000,000. One million
5th "—1000,000,000. One hun.
10th "—1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000