

Grand Trunk Railway running through it east to west, with 5 stations within its borders; is pre-eminently adapted for agricultural, manufacturing and commercial purposes.

As the primeval forests were subdued and the lands became free from snags, new and improved implements of husbandry were gradually introduced, either imported or manufactured at home by artisans who settled in the country, until we have now implements of the most improved kinds, such as ploughs, harrows, cultivators, rollers, reapers, mowers, reeling-machines, straw-cutters, etc. etc., manufactured in our midst or brought to our doors on reasonable terms.

The rude log house has given place to the comfortable frame, brick or stone dwelling of the farmer, amply and often elegantly furnished from the cabinet and upholstery shops in the neighboring town or village. The primitive barn has also given place to the large modern barn, with ranges of stables and cattle sheds, with cellar or root house for securing root crops for winter and spring feeding. The fields have also undergone a similar change, being mostly laid out in a regular pattern with a view to a more systematic rotation of crops, and the zigzag rail fence has in many cases given way to the straight post and board fence; and the shallow and superficial cultivation so common a few years ago, has given place to a deep and thorough system of cultivation; much more care is bestowed on collecting and applying manure formerly. The all important subject of draining is also engaging the attention of many of our farmers, but not to the extent we think importance demands, as we believe thorough draining to be the great panacea for most of the evils that wheat is heir to, such as winter killing, rust, midge, etc., etc. Draining in this county has hitherto been conducted in too partial and superficial a manner, but still with good results to those who have attempted it; we are not aware of a single field in South Ontario that can be said to be thoroughly drained; There are now four or five brick-works in the county where the manufacture of tiles has been commenced and it will be the farming community to say whether it will be sustained or not; we are however convinced that on our stiff clay lands, thorough draining will add more to the profits of the farmer than a thorough system of draining, and a proper rotation of crops. The culture

of root crops has been steadily increasing for some years past, with marked results in the improved appearance of the farm stock and fields.

The breeds of neat cattle, horses, and sheep, have been greatly improved by the importation of thorough bred animals, and by better system of feeding and housing them during the winter, which is amply repaid by the improved state of the animals, and in the quantity and quality of the manure produced for enriching the fields.

On the whole we believe that the march of agricultural improvement among us is onward in the right direction, and we confidently believe that when the next census is taken it will be found that South Ontario has not lagged behind her neighbors in this respect. We would however again urge the importance of a thorough system of draining, the adoption of a proper rotation of crops, avoiding consecutive crops of grain, particularly of wheat, on the same land; more attention to dairy husbandry, and the introduction of flax culture, all of which it is believed would add to the material interests of the farmer.

We would also call the attention of the farmer to the state of his wood lands, and remind him, that while in the early settlement of the county a war of extermination was waged against the primeval forest, the small remnants that are now left require his care and attention to preserve them from utter annihilation; and that much may be added to the beauty and comfort of our rural homes, by the judicious planting and rearing of forest and other trees and shrubs around them. We think also, that the subject of horticulture deserves more attention than it has yet received in this county.

Among the manufacturing establishments of the County, may be mentioned 26 mills, with from two to six run of stones each, engaged in the manufacture of flour and oatmeal, a large portion of the wheat grown in South and North Ontario and the western townships of Victoria being purchased in South Ontario, and manufactured into flour for exportation; a number of saw-mills engaged in the manufacture of lumber for home consumption and exportation; numerous establishments for wool-carding, cloth dressing, &c., affording excellent facilities for home manufacture, at several establishments woollen manufactures are carried on to a considerable extent; the establishment of Joseph Hall,