

Mr. Drury says: "Excessive moisture is not so bad for drained as undrained land, and that dry weather does not affect so bad."

Mr. Thomson, of Brooklin, who has spent some \$3,000 on under-draining, says: "Before I drained, it depended entirely on the season whether I had any crop at all or not, and now a great crop is a matter of certainty."

The Directors of the Agricultural Society of West York say: "If we drain, the action of the air and frost will deepen the soil, and fall wheat and clover will not be so apt to kill out."

Thus we might go on *ad infinitum*, and show that a great deal of the failing of our crops, which we attribute to the want of shelter, is more for the want of drainage, and not such drainage as an increase of forests would give us either.

### 3RD. FORESTRY AND CROPS.

We shall run this head on the line of showing that our crops are not as much worse now as formerly, as we are apt to think they are; and when they are worse, it is often more attributable to bad farming than for the want of forests to shelter them.

Mr. Riddell, of Cobourg, gives a tabulated statement showing the nverage of his grain crops for thirty-nine years, from 1841, and the good and poor yields are so intermixed from beginning to end, so that if we attribute the poor crops of some years to the want of shelter, it is evident that this shelter did not cause good crops other years. In 1841, spring wheat 15 bushels; 1851, 27 bushels; 1861, 18½ bushels. In 1842, fall wheat 12 bushels; 1852, 29 bushels; 1867, 24 bushels; 1877, 25 bushels; and in 1878, 12 bushels per acre.

Professor Brown says: "I have adopted a rotation of crops, which I think is applicable to the whole province; and, although I have not been very successful in raising fall wheat, by reason of our high elevation and great exposure to the atmosphere, in spring wheat, which does not require the same amount of protection, my success has been very marked."

Although he gives the average of fall wheat for five years, from 1876 to 1880 inclusive, 35 bushels per acre; spring wheat, 17 bushels. Now, is not 35 bushels, for five years in succession, more the exception than the rule in a system of rotation of crops where the root crop gets the first pull at the manure? I think it is. In 1881, I see by the report, it is 38 per acre; in 1884, 18—and the reason given, it was very rusty—while spring wheat, for the same year, has gone up to 30 bushels per acre. This seems almost a contradiction to the requirement of protection so much for fall wheat.

And here it may not be amiss to note some of the drawbacks the farmer has to contend with, viz.: Too wet or to dry seasons, rust, midge, winter-killing of fall wheat, summer frosts, and sometimes too high temperature when the grain is forming; Hessian-