

a ready market in Montreal and the good supplying fuel for railways and others.

There is also abundance of cedar used for fences, and also as floats to convey and wood to market. Hemlock and spruce occupy sandy knolls; and where beech and maple thrive we are sure of an excellent soil and especially adapted for wheat.

Clay of the county is not esteemed good for brick making, being slightly impure with fragments of lime stone, which is leached in the process of burning the same and subsequent exposure to the air makes them liable to crack. Most of the brick used in the county is brought from Wadsworthville in Stormont or from Wadsworth in the U. S. immediately opposite. There is abundance of good building stone in the county, though not very equally distributed. The quarries are chiefly in the north and rear. The stone is near the surface in layers of from 6 to 10 inches, is a light grey limestone and is sold at the rate of \$1 50 per cord. Common field stone, suitable for rough purposes, is delivered in any part of the county at \$2 00 per cord and well burned lime at 20cts. per cord delivered.

The soil of the county upon the whole is well adapted for pursuing the mixed system of husbandry. Wheat, corn, and clover are here successfully cultivated, and the soil is equally well adapted for the coarse grass and roots.

The climate may be fairly stated to be a mean temperature between Montreal and the extreme of heat and cold being more moderate than that of the former, while a continuance of snow in the spring interferes with agricultural operations 10 days or 2 weeks longer than in the neighborhood of the

"Oldest inhabitant" says that the climate is less severe since the country has been generally cleared up. The winter has been shortened at both ends, the clearing up of marshes and woodlands at once admitted the fresh air, diminished the number of misquitoses and other like pests, and rendered the whole more healthy and pleasant. A few facts in connection with this are not without interest and will bear us out in these remarks. At the census of 1852, the population was 10,000 and the number of deaths in one year

64, being a ratio of 1 death to 216 living, a ratio far more favourable to our County than any portion of Canada or the United States, with two exceptions, and singularly enough these two are our next door neighbors in Stormont and Russell, the ratio of the former being 1 in 240, and the latter 1 death for 220 living. The next below us being a third neighbor, Carleton, 211. Addington and Kent of similar population are respectively 1 in 98 and 1 in 84, while in Maine, U. S., the ratio is 1 death for 77 who survive. We may here state that the OLDEST INHABITANT is no imaginary personage, but a most interesting old lady, Mrs. Coons, residing in Iroquois, now in her 94th year, and in full possession of all her faculties. Peter Shaver, Esq., is one of the eldest male inhabitants, now in his 84th year; both these have a very distinct recollection of the first settlement of the County, and of the trials and difficulties which followed. We mention their names particularly, because to them we are largely indebted for information and for substantiating certain dates which will be hereafter mentioned, possessing an interest far beyond the limits of the County.

IRRIGATION.—The County of Dundas is well watered. In front is the noble St. Lawrence, here averaging a breadth of nearly a mile and a half, and of great depth. The current is swift, with an average speed of 7 miles an hour, and from its purity and softness, is generally preferred for all culinary purposes. The Rapid du Plat shoots past the centre of the County at a rate of from 10 to 12 miles an hour. In rear it is watered by the Petite Nation River, with its numerous tributaries, and in addition it is intersected by small creeks in various parts of the County; these are fed by springs and swales, and in the spring and fall, assume large dimensions, giving motive power to numerous creek mills, which, though only in operation for from 3 to 4 months in the year, are nevertheless a valuable acquisition to those living in their neighbourhood.

An abundant supply of excellent well water is found all over the country on reaching a depth of from 15 to 25 feet. Besides this, numerous springs are met with, affording the fortunate owners an inexhaustible supply of pure water without any trouble or expense on their part. There is also in Winchester, a mineral spring, similar to the celebrated Massena Spring, and held in some repute for its medicinal qualities, but as no