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LAND DRAINAGE.

We are glad to see that this important means of agricultural improvement is beginning to occupy public attention, and that our city press has taken up the subject in an earnest and patriotic spirit. Mr. H. J. Boulton, of Humberford, is doing much, both by precept and example, in enlightening the minds of our farmers in relation to this matter; and we hope to have shortly the opportunity of submitting to our readers the details and results of that gentleman's practice. In the present business depression of this Province, arising in no small degree from the scanty crops which the soil has of late years yielded to rural industry, every feasible plan that may be proposed for increasing the produce of our fields, ought to be received with a welcome earnestness by all who are really desirous of promoting the improvement and prosperity of their country. This is a movement that knows nothing of creeds and parties, and has the strongest claims upon men of all ranks in the community.

Of the importance and benefits of underdraining, in all countries of the northern temperate zone, where usually the rain-fall

is more or less considerable, we do not here intend to speak. Suffice it to say that in Canada there are good data for concluding that if draining were generally introduced, not only would our soils be rendered drier, warmer, and more easily and cheaply worked, but the seasons for sowing and reaping would be earlier, the crops of all kinds more abundant; and with a judicious course of rotation, combined with more thorough culture, those dreaded enemies—the rust and midge—whose devastations have of late years become so alarmingly great, would be comparatively eradicated. We hold, therefore, the objects contemplated by the more extended application of draining to be of primary national importance, demanding the earnest co-operation of the Legislature, and municipal bodies generally, with our more intelligent and enterprising farmers. In what shape, and to what extent, such extraneous aid could be beneficially given, we do not propose here to speak; the matter is already occupying public attention, and those who study it the most will be the first to acknowledge the difficulties with which it is beset. In the case of Government loaning money for this purpose, the most stringent regulations would be required to pre-