

102.95; expenses, \$9.05; balance in hand, \$102.95.

SYDENHAM—Forty-eight members; amount of subscriptions, \$48; legislative grant, \$88; total received, \$137. Paid in premiums, \$98.00; expenses, \$26.45; balance in Treasurer's hands, \$12.80.

HALDIMAND.

COUNTY SOCIETY—Seventy-one members; amount of subscriptions, \$71; public grant, \$30.96; total receipts, exclusive of deposits of township societies, \$601.96. Paid balance to Treasurer from previous year, \$46.50; of township societies, proportion of public grant, \$318.58; premiums, \$203.50; expenses, \$37.12; balance due Treasurer, \$3.74.

Extracts from Secretary's Report.

This society, when first formed in 1843, embraced, as now, a territory of forty by five miles, called the County of Haldimand, the county town, Cayuga. About two-thirds of this county is now under cultivation, and not more than one-half, the remaining being wood or wild land. The soil consists principally of clay loam. There are some moraine bottoms along the banks of the Grand River, and shores of Lake Erie. Of the portion under cultivation about two-thirds is for grain crops, the other third grass or low land.

It is with feelings of regret I am obliged to report the depressed state of our county, and of the whole Province, in consequence of the failure of the crops, being for the last years so badly afflicted by insects of various kinds. The first that I believe I may call attention to was the fly or bug in the peas. The first year they appeared they did slight damage. The second year they were very destructive. The farmers becoming alarmed, resorted to all manner of means to destroy the insect—changed their seed from high to low land, or *vice versa*—procured seed from a distance, with not the least chance of bug—took every pains to grow peas without bug, but of no avail; the bug the third year was worse than any previous year. Finding no alternative, we were obliged to abandon raising peas for a few years, and now I am happy to say we have crops of peas. The cause of the disappearance of the bug not known.

Discovered by close observation that the fly was the blossom of the pea. You will pre-

ceive, when the pea gets nearly half grown, a small speck in it, which grows as the grain does, becomes a maggot, and then turns into the bug or fly. They remain in the grain all winter, and are still in when sowing. I have seen the sower covered with bugs whilst sowing. They remain about the land until the blossoming of the peas, then commence their ravages in the same way as before. The average yield of peas per acre, if good, is about forty bushels. The best sorts for our soils are the golden vine. I have tried the grass pea, they produce nothing.

The next evil I may mention was the disease or rot among the potato. Appearing first among the white sorts in the sandy soil, but slightly the first year. The second year all potatoes in the sand, and part in the clay or flats, were rotten. We again got alarmed, and tried means and experiments by changing seed, soil, mode of culture, but the third year was worse than any former year. It became quite visible that the only alternative was to abandon raising them as much as possible. Doing so had the desired effect, and now we have again good potatoes. The best sorts, or those least subject to rot, are the flesh colored or Merinoes. The Merinoes are very productive, but not so good for table use. The average yield, if good, is about three hundred bushels per acre, although I have known five hundred bushels per acre.

Next came the Hessian fly among the fall wheat, attacking the stalks at first joint above the ground destroying many fields altogether; making their appearance first in sandy soil. The red chaff white most prevalent, white flint and goose the least. Our county, I am happy to say, did not suffer as much as some other counties adjoining, on account of not attacking the stalk until the grain began to get a little head, consequently leaving nourishment enough in the stalk to fill and ripen. The cause of our comparative immunity from this pest is not known, it only appeared about two years. The appearance of the insect in its early stages is that of a small maggot, deposited by the fly getting inside of the blade and stinging the joint. The maggots are white at first, as they grow older they turn brown. They suck the nourishment from the stalk and destroy it.

Then last, but not least, the wheat fly or midge in the fall wheat, appearing in the ear or kernel, doing an unlimited amount of damage. Many, very many means and experi-