

ROADS.

For a new country the roads are passable when you consider the nature of the soil and the scarcity of road-making material. The Government grants large sums yearly for the opening up of new roads. The settlers only are employed on the colonization roads, for which work they receive \$1 per day and board. A few more years at the rate roads are now being built will open up the entire arable belt.

CLEARING LAND.

In some localities where the land is heavily timbered, and the land low, the clearing is difficult, but in other sections, where the bush has been burned over, it is comparatively easy to clear. I stood at the southeast corner of a settler's farm in the township of Shenstone. He had located two years ago. The farm sloped gently to the south and you could see his whole location, there being neither hill nor tree to block the sight. The soil was a clay and sand loam. He had twenty acres of crop in. It was very easily cleared and there were no stumps. All he had to pay for the 160 acres was 75 cents, which is merely the fee to the land agent for making out the affidavit, the land being free grant. The timbered land will cost from \$12 to \$18 an acre to chop, log and fence. The stumps come out in from eight to ten years, but in some townships there are large areas of "brule," or burnt land, which takes very little labor to make ready for the plow. So the difficulties of clearing are largely a matter of choice with the settler when he locates, whether he chooses a timbered or a burned lot. Fencing and building material is plentiful; some of the cedar is as fine as you can find anywhere in the Province. For building, rough lumber can be bought at the mills from \$7 to \$10; dressed lumber from \$16 to \$20; pine shingles, \$2; custom sawing \$3 per thousand feet.

CROPS AND PRODUCTIVENESS.

Fall and spring wheat, barley, peas, oats, potatoes, and all kinds of vegetables grow exceedingly well. Clover crowds out the timothy. I saw fields of clover that were seeded in 1894 and 1895 that had last year yielded over three tons to the acre; this season they had the appearance of giving as heavy a crop. You could scarcely find a blade of timothy but the clover was rank, broad-leaved, healthy and green, and had all the indications of a heavy crop although seeded four and five years ago. Mr. Robert Watson has clover that has been cut twelve successive times. Mr. Phair says that clover seeded down twelve years has been cut twice every year. They don't know what it is to miss a catch of grass. Most practical farmers admit that clover is the most important plant grown on