

Mr. Cheekly, North Augusta, says: "With regard to clearing up the country, affecting the rainfall and drying up the streams, it is doing both. I remember distinctly, where mowers and reapers are now used, seeing water stand all summer, when the land was in a state of nature; and the stream that runs through the village where I live, shows signs of the supply being cut off, which it received in former years from the great swamps along its course that are now cleared up and under crop."

This seems a rather strange statement to make to show that the country is being ruined by being cleared up, and harvesting where water used to stand the summer through.

Mr. Woods, farm foreman at the College Farm, Guelph, says: "Field 12 will never be in a state of cultivation until well drained, as it is very low. There is an absolute necessity for having this field well drained. Nos. 17 and 18 also require draining. I hope and trust the government will place a sufficient sum to the credit of the drainage fund to enable us to drain these three gelds."

But then Mr. Wood, in the same report, speaking of the new windmill, says: "The arrangement which regulates the supply is an ingenious piece of mechanism. When an animal commences drinking at one of the troughs, the machinery is again in operation, and continues so until there is no more water required. Thus at all times there is a plentiful supply of water on this part of the farm."

Mr. Wood's cry is more drainage and more windmills. Mr. Cheekly's cry is more trees and more wet land. This is farming and forestry.

Mr. Smellie, of Vaughan, gives his experience on both sides of the question; and as his is a pretty old farm—I was at a ploughing match on it forty years past—it would be well for most of us to take a note of it. He says: "The country is getting more cleared of timber, and that is another thing to account for the diminution in the crops. The more bush and shelter, the greater the crops of wheat, etc." Then, on under-draining, he says: "Under-draining has favorably affected the produce of my wheat. The cause of wheat being winter-killed is the fact of its having a cold, damp bottom."

If this is so, remove the cause, and the shelter is not needed. Putting a dozen coats on does not cure the ague.

Mr. T. H. Monk, after stating what is pretty well understood to be the cause of rust, says: "If this be so, it shows the necessity for drainage."

Mr. Gibson, of Markham, says: "When, in 1847, I first went upon my farm, it was a rather peculiar one. It was wet but not spongy, but quite unsuitable for raising fall wheat. But, after I had drained my farm, I had almost always good crops of fall wheat during the time the midge was at the worst."