

CLINTON---HURON DISTRICT.

Our most pressing season having passed, we took a trip to this thriving village, which appears destined to become the county seat of Huron. It is situated on the Buffalo and Lake Huron line of rail, ten miles from Goderich. Improvements are rapidly going forward at this place. Manufacturers are doing well. The farmers are in as prosperous a condition as in any part of the world we have ever visited, that is as regards home comforts. The land is of even superior quality to what is in the vicinity of London, or what is termed the Forest city. The roads are quite as good and we saw farms that we would prefer to any we have seen in the vicinity of this city. The crops are looking quite as well, and many are decidedly better than they are even to the south and east of this city. The apple trees are far better laden, and the wheat crop looks better than it has for the past four years. They have had a much larger yield of wheat and more stock than we can boast of, and we must admit that in some classes they surpass even the boasted county of Middlesex. They have a larger and more prosperous Agl. Society than we have. Their exhibitions appear to be giving even more satisfaction, for we heard none complain; it is not so with us. The managers with them, are practical farmers, which is undoubtedly better than office-seekers or party supporters. A very important interest is now being developed in this place, in the Clinton salt works. They are said, now, to surpass any others in Canada; they are turning out 100bbs. per day of first quality of salt, said to be superior to any imported salt, and, according to our judgment, we must confess it is the best we have seen in Canada. But the manufacturers justly and loudly complain, that for their first quality of salt they are compelled to pay *seventy cents in gold* as duty or war tax, on every barrel they ship to the States, and the American salt of any quality is allowed to be sent into our country, free of any duty. There is something wrong in this. Our own manufacturers have as much right to every encouragement as is afforded to foreigners. To discover and establish a salt factory is no small expense; 1000 feet below the surface of the soil is not reached without an outlay, neither are buildings and appurtenances applied. We should like to see all our Canadian enterprises prosper, and can see no just reason why they should not. We paid a visit to Mr. Snell, who is one of the most enterprising farmers of this section of the country. He has a few Durham cattle and some good Cotswold and Leicester sheep. Some of his stock will command attention at our Provincial Exhibition.

There has been an attempt made to move the Agricultural Exhibition from Clinton; but the farmers rallied to the rescue, and retained it. They boast of having the largest Agricultural Society in Canada, excepting the Provincial Association.

HORSE HAY FORKS.

The present appears to be the great Horse Hay Fork mania season. We know not how many patents there are. There are the Grab Forks, Screw Forks, Tine Forks, and Harpoon Forks; the competition appears to lay principally between two last mentioned varieties. Of the Harpoon class we have now three kinds in our ware-room, and one more is to be sent. Each of these forks are well liked by those that have them; but which is the best fork, is a point we do not yet know. There are several other kinds that we have seen, and more that we have heard of, that are not so much approved of as these we have in our ware-room. The best do not fear public inspection. Some have to be sold from door to door, or remain on the manufacturer's hands. We advertise each kind in our list, and consider each to be good forks; and where a person has a large quantity of hay, peas, and barley, they will be found great labor-saving implements. We hear it suggested, that patents have been very easily obtained on the Harpoon forks, as many are but imitations of the principle brought forth by the first patentee, only some slight alterations being made in the working.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

The County Council of Middlesex were asked to grant \$4,000 towards the Provincial Exhibition. They would not grant one cent. They granted \$500 to repair their own buildings. County Councils may now be sometimes too parsimonious. A change of spirit, or of management, is necessary somewhere. We might explain, but it is said "fools rush in where others fear to tread." We have tread on rough ground previously, and for the present would prefer older and more powerful persons to make explanations. Our paper is free for their communications, and all matters of import to us as farmers, is respectfully solicited.

No reports have been furnished us of receipts and expenditures of the Board for the past two months, therefore we cannot manufacture them. If they are not known to us, we cannot give them to you.

THRESHING MACHINES.

We again call the attention of our readers to the Little Giant Thresher. We have no doubt but thousands of farmers in Canada will rejoice that there is now constructed a small, cheap, and efficient Thresher and Separator that will do work cheaply and well, and can be under the control of the farmer himself. There are but few farmers whose farms and circumstances will allow them to place one of the large 10 horse-power machines among their dead stock. The ex-

pense of from \$350 to \$600 are heavy items; then ten horses to be kept and 16 men engaged, are also things that must tell heavily on the pocket, and what is worse, is to have our grain often thrown away, and to be entirely under the control of those owning these traveling machines. No doubt they have done us good service, and must in many instances continue in use; but for those that wish to keep their farms free from foul weeds and thresh when they wish, either once a week or once a month or oftener, it is necessary they should have a machine of their own. The inspection of Mr. Sharman's Little Giant at the last Provincial Exhibition, gave us greater pleasure than all the other machinery seen there, as we felt it was just such a machine as we most needed. We would call your attention to the advertisement in another column, and to the names of persons who used them last season; to anyone of which you can refer. We also suggest that if you wish to procure one for the fall's threshing, that you send your orders in early, as many persons delay until the last moment, and thus are disappointed. You can send your orders direct to us. We give every guarantee necessary, and will not be undersold by any manufacturers for whom we sell, and give as favorable terms of payment as any that can be had from any other source.

GRANTON CATTLE FAIR. The quarterly Cattle Fair was held at Granton, on the 9th inst. There was a good show of fat and lean cattle. Quite a number of buyers from Lucan and elsewhere were present, and a good deal of stock was disposed of, but at moderate rates, owing to the fall in the city markets.

OVERSTOCKING PASTURES.—The effect of overstocking pastures was very forcibly set forth, some time since, by Mr. Jameson, in the *Country Gentleman*. Many pastures, he says, are so overstocked that the roots of the grass and the whole plant are kept so small that its growth is feeble, and not half the feed is afforded that the land would produce if stocked lightly a year or two, and the grass allowed to get a good thrifty start. He refers to pastures in his vicinity where double the stock are sustained than on adjoining lands that have been habitually overstocked. Lands that are overstocked not only yield less food, but the animals pastured upon them make a less yield in beef or milk than when the stock is in proportion to the capacity of the lands for producing food.

Reports from various parts of Hastings County, represent fall grain to be in an excellent condition. Grass never looked better at this season of the year. The spring grain is nearly all in the ground.—Fruit, from the present indications, promises to be an abundant crop.

LABELLING FERTILIZERS.—The Maine Legislature has enacted a law, requiring the seller of commercial fertilizers to affix to every pound solk, a printed label, giving the manufacturer's name and place of business, and the percentage of the different ingredients composing the manure.