

Oats, \$6; yield, 40 bushels, at 25 cts., \$10; net profit, \$4.

Turnips, \$18; yield, 500 bushels, at 8 cts., \$40; net profit, \$22.

Carrots, \$38; yield, 1,000 bushels at 20 cts., \$200; net profit, \$162.

The produce and prices of the year 1859 would seem to vary nearly according to the foregoing figures; from these it will be seen that root culture is the most profitable kind of husbandry; but farmers that cultivate a variety of crops and put them in in good order and in proper time, usually get from the whole a fair remuneration for labor and seed. Notwithstanding the almost entire failure in 1859 of fruit, hay, corn, fall wheat, &c., and late sown buckwheat, the abundance of other crops has made the crop of that year average in value that of 1857, and far exceed that of 1858 in West Middlesex.

The prosperity of Canada depends almost wholly upon the success of her agriculture. Her commercial and manufacturing interests are influenced by and dependent upon our agricultural success, and the essentials to agricultural prosperity are economy and uninterfered and well-directed industry.

The native born adults form the most valuable portion of the population of any country, and it should be our policy to prevent these from wandering off where good land is more plenty and cheap, or where hard labor is better rewarded. By economy and industry we may overcome temporary calamities, but when the young and vigorous, the surprising, intelligent and initiated portion of our population abandon the country in which they were reared and which they are best qualified to develop, to seek homes in the Western States, the loss is irreparable. It is too true, that too many of this class of population are annually emigrating to the west, thus depriving Canada of that labor and industry which creates capital. Our Board are of opinion that a wholesome Homestead Law, giving an exemption from liability for debt, of the team and implements of a farmer, necessary to prosecute his vocation as a husbandman, would to a good extent encourage settlement and prevent emigration. There is no valid reason why the necessary implements of a farmer should not be protected as well as the tools of the mechanic. At the commencement, and during the first settlement of any district, while land is being cleared, credit is indispensable among

farmers. Another evil affecting farmers is the expensive and unnecessary law costs they are compelled to pay when a failure of crops or other misfortune occurs.

Although a Homestead Law and law costs are political questions, yet they are so identified with the present condition of our agricultural interests, that your Board see no good reason why agricultural societies should be silent on this subject, as the remedy is in the hands of the farmers when they record their votes.

Your Board are of opinion that the collection laws might be so simplified and cheapened as to benefit all classes of the community except lawyers, while a good Homestead Law would confer a lasting benefit on the agriculturists without injury to traders or others.

Miscellaneous.

THE MICROSCOPE.—With the help of his microscope, man can enter into a world unknown to the ignorant, and altogether invisible to the unassisted eye. In every plant and flower which adorns the field, in every leaf of the forest, in the seeds, prickles, and down of all vegetables, he perceives beauties and harmonies, and exquisite contrivances, of which, without this instrument, he would have no conception. In every scale of a haddock, he perceives a beautiful piece of net-work, admirably contrived and arranged and in the scale of the sole, a still more diversified structure, which no art could imitate, terminated with pointed spikes, and formed with admirable regularity. Where nothing but a speck of moldiness appears to the naked eye, he beholds a forest of mushrooms with long stalks, and with leaves and blossoms distinctly visible. In the eyes of a common fly, where others can see only two small protuberances, he perceives several thousands of beautiful transparent globes, rounded and polished, placed with the utmost regularity in rows, crossing each other in a kind of lattice work, and forming the most admirable piece of mechanism the eye can contemplate. The small dust that covers the wings of moths and butterflies, he perceives to consist of an infinite multitude of feathers of various forms not much unlike the feathers of birds, and adorned with the most bright and vivid colors. In an animal so small that the naked eye can scarcely distinguish it as a visible point, he perceives a head, mouth, eyes, legs, joints, bristles, hair, and other animal parts and functions, as nicely formed and adjusted, and endowed with as much vivacity, agility, and intelligence as the larger animals. In the tail of a small fish or the foot of a frog, he can perceive the variegated