

importance to ascertain whether, by a change of seed, or other means, we can successfully grow wheat in Lower Canada.

Barley has been greatly injured by the wheat-fly, much more so than is suspected. Many ears that appears to have the full number of grains, it will be found on close inspection, that several of these grains are only empty husks, and that the inside or kernel, is destroyed by the larvæ of the fly. We have seen in some fields, many ears entirely destroyed, particularly where the field was sheltered, and had not a free circulation of air. Indeed, we regret to state, that from the injury that barley has sustained this year in many places, we very much fear that it will be as precarious to cultivate as wheat, unless sown at such a time that it will come into ear too early, or too late for the fly, that is, before the 21st of June, or after the 15th of July. After the latter day the danger is past. The fly appears only for the purpose of depositing its eggs; it is only for that it comes into existence, and when it has accomplished that, it is no longer to be found. There is not one to be seen in a field, after the crop gets into that forward state that the grain is not fit to feed its larvæ. While it is in existence, its only employment is to steal up late in the evening from its place of repose or concealment during the day, and deposit its eggs in the ear of wheat or barley, and when this is done, without any further apparent enjoyment of its existence, the insect dies.

We have observed, that the stronger ears of barley are not so much injured by the fly, as the ordinary or smaller ears. Perhaps if there was as much wheat sown this year as usual, the barley would have suffered less. There is no doubt they would have deposited their eggs in the former rather than in the latter, if growing in the same field or neigh-

bourhood. We had satisfactory proof of this in other years.

Rye is not much sown in this neighbourhood. We have been told, that where it is cultivated, it has suffered great injury from the wheat fly this year. We would suppose our information was correct, as the grain is more suitable to receive the eggs or larvæ of the fly, than the grain of barley.

Oats look well where sown on thin lands that are even moderately fertile. They are a useful and certain crop when properly cultivated, and they do not require such careful cultivation as other grain. To drain the land sufficiently, plough it well, and sow in proper time, will insure a good crop, on any soil that is not completely exhausted. There is no crop that is more slovenly cultivated, or done less justice to generally in Lower Canada, than oats. Probably it will be more carefully cultivated, if the farmers find they will have to make use of oat-meal as their food, instead of the flour of wheat. There is a vast difference in the quality and quantity of oat-meal made from early sown oats that ripens perfectly, and that made from late oats, that does not ripen properly or come to maturity.

Peas are generally excellent on suitable soils, so far as we had an opportunity of seeing them. Buckwheat is sown extensively this year, and looks well. If the fall is favourable it will prove to be a good crop.

Indian corn is not much cultivated in this neighbourhood. We would suppose this a favourable year for it.

By the reports we have from the District of Quebec, and from Upper Canada, it does not appear that the crops, in either places, have suffered by the wheat-fly. We may hope, therefore, that the plague is confined chiefly to the District of Montreal and Three Rivers.

There is a report from Hamilton, Upper Canada, that "the wheat is