

William Wilson, Mimico, Township of Etobicoke.—Soil black vegetable matter, lying low and wet; the turnips, consequently, after such a season as the last, were generally unsound and rotting. Drills 22 inches apart, with no manure, after turnips last year with manure. Produce 720 pounds, or 515 bushels per acre.

In comparing the above mentioned facts, we award the first prize to Mr. Robert C. n-way; the second to Mr. William Lea; and the third to Mr. E. W. Thomson. Although the weight of Captain Shaw's was somewhat more than that of Mr. Thomson's, we are of opinion that the decidedly superior quality of the latter renders the crop more valuable either for the market, or for ordinary feeding purposes.

It was impossible to make this tour of inspection without being deeply impressed with the great benefits that draining produces on wet lands. The general culture of the crops we investigated, appeared in all cases far more uniform and thorough than results would seem to indicate—the difference being largely attributable to the different conditions of the soil in regard to heat and moisture. Even in dry seasons, land naturally or artificially drained, is found to pass the trying ordeal of a drought much better than wet; the large amount of moisture contained in atmospheric air in the driest weather, gets access to the roots of plants by means of the drains and the interstices of the soil.

Although the late season has not proved favourable to the healthy growth of root crops, we cannot conclude this brief sketch without expressing a conviction, after an experience of three successive years in a duty of this nature, that this important department of husbandry is surely progressing in these Townships, and we trust and believe, through the country generally. For it is in a high degree we must look to a more extensive and perfect culture of root crops for the sustentation of improved breeds of stock, which are essential to the advancement and profit of Canadian agriculture.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE BUCKLAND.
JAMES FLEMING.

TELEGRAPHIC IMPROVEMENTS.—Edward Highton, C.E., of England, has just obtained a patent for, firstly, sending telegraphic messages *both* ways through one and the same wire, at the same instant, without interfering in any way with each other; secondly, for preventing the destruction of a wire in the sea or under ground; and, thirdly, for mending a decayed telegraphic wire in the ocean without raising it out of the mud.

IRON CARS.—Sheet-iron cars, cushioned inside, have been in use on the Baltimore Railroad for about five years, for freighting purposes, and in one instance one of these cars loaded with 80 barrels of flour, was precipitated down a steep embankment without doing it material damage.

ELK BREEDING IN NEW YORK.—A Cattaraugus paper says:—"We paid a flying visit to the Elk Park of L. D. Stratton, in Little Valley, last week. We perambulated the park, containing a hundred acres, with a strip of some four or six rods of clearing round the entire park, the centre being in the original forest state, in pursuit of the elk, in company with several gentlemen, and came up with a drove of nine which was really an interesting sight. They were quite tame, so much so that Mr. Stratton could call them up to him, and they eat salt from his hand. These nine are from the original pair of elk brought to Little Valley from the South-west. Mr. Stratton took his original pair of elk to the recent State Fair at Buffalo, procured a canvas, and exhibited them. He cleared \$700 over and above the expenses, having actually taken a little over \$1,000; and, at the close of the State Fair, Mr. Stratton sold his pair of elk for \$1,000, to some Canadian gentlemen, who made the purchase for the purpose of exhibiting, and are to take them to England."

Charles Holman, youngest son of Orin Holman of Lancaster, Mass, died a few days ago from a bite of a spider. On Wednesday morning he complained of a pain in his mouth, which made it quite difficult for him to eat. Soon a considerable swelling was observed upon one side of his face, and this extending to the brain, ere long produced aberration, and at last mortification set in, and finally death followed.