

We would call the attention of our readers to the Agricultural report of that part of the province formerly known as Lower Canada, written by Mr. Wm. Evans, of Cote St. Paul.

REPORT FOR JULY.

The past month was as favorable for the farmers as they could have desired. There was sufficient rain to advance vegetation, and not too much to give any interruption to hay making, which commenced about the middle of the month, and is now well advanced to completion. The hay crop is good where justice has been done to the land, but on poor old meadows it is thin and light. In a ride of about fifty miles through the country this week I have found, that the small quantity of wheat that was sown is almost destroyed by the fly. I have not seen it more injured any former year. The color of the ears is quite changed to a red hue. The rye is also nearly destroyed. The wheat that came under my inspection was generally late sown, but that has not saved it this year. Most of the crops of wheat were miserably thin, poor and full of weeds. Some fields, I am convinced, would not produce the seed, though there should not be an insect to injure them in Canada. This I attributed chiefly to the insufficient draining on lands that were naturally of good quality, but on other lands to constant cropping and bad management. I have seen fields this week, both of wheat and oats, so thin and full of weeds that were they perfectly safe from the ravages of vermin, would not pay anything near a fair remuneration to the farmer for the cultivation and harvesting. Though this has been a most favorable season for vegetation in this neighborhood, yet in riding through the country you cannot see one-fourth of the grain (with the exception of barley and peas, that are generally good) anything like a clean, close crop, such as you would find in Britain. Indeed, three-fourths of the wheat and oats now growing would not be equal to the title of good crops in the British isles. In justice to Canada, this certainly cannot be attributed to any defect in the soil or climate, but rather to want of draining, over-cropping, and a defective system of rotation and management every way. Hearing the general report of splendid crops this year, one is surprised and disappointed, in riding through the country, at meeting so few fields that could be entitled to any such character. No doubt, in such a season as this, where justice has been done to good land, the crops cannot fail to be excellent; but it only requires to see the country to be convinced that not one field in ten has been properly treated in either cultivation, draining or weeding, and therefore the crops upon them are scanty, and full of weeds of almost every species. If all the lands under oats this year were to produce a full, close, clean crop, what would the farmers do with it all? It would, certainly, be much over what would be required for consumption here, unless it was applied to other than the ordinary uses. It is much to be regretted that farmers will not see how beneficial it would be for them to plough and cultivate only ten acres of land in a proper manner, if ten acres so managed would produce more crop than fifty or one hundred acres would do managed in the ordinary way. Land that is worn out and exhausted, if allowed to repose under grass and pasture, will soon recover its fertility.

If farmers must keep the plough going, let them summer fallow the strong lands that are exhausted and full of weeds, and they will obtain from such lands, after being properly summer fallowed, a crop five times as valuable as that which they produce under the present system of management. There cannot be a more easy and effectual mode of improving the strong clay soils of this country than by summer fallowing. It is

only by this mode they can be drained, weeded and perfectly cleaned; and I have no doubt it would be an excellent means of destroying vermin. On lands that are constantly under crop and producing the food necessary to support insects and vermin, it is no wonder they should be numerous, particularly in such a climate as this. No doubt constant cropping and high manuring has a great tendency to propagate vermin destructive to the produce of the soil. Summer fallowing would produce ample crops, check weeds, and destroy vermin; and these are results which no other management will produce in this climate. How much more delightful would a tour be through this beautiful country, if the farmers exhibited proofs of more judicious management, by more perfect drainage and cleaner and better crops. Under the present circumstances the country shows the farmer's labor wasted to no purpose, because injudiciously employed in ploughing and sowing lands that are not in a fit condition to produce remunerating returns. The cultivated crops are full of weeds because they would not pay for weeding. The land that is not in a fit condition to receive and grow the seed sown in spring will be sure to have a most abundant crop of weeds instead of grain. I have seen many proofs of this the present week. I am aware that the ravages of the wheat-fly has brought great distress upon the country farmers, whose chief reliance heretofore was upon wheat. Unable to grow it for some years past, and not introducing any substitute, they have no money to expend on labor or the improvement of their lands, and hence they are in such a bad state now. If farming, however, is to pay under any circumstances, it can only do so under a judicious system, and always prudent expenditure. The Canadian farmers must understand this perfectly, or we need not expect much improvement in our agricultural system or the appearance of the country. Until the farmers are more generally educated, it will be a matter of some difficulty to introduce the improvements that are possible, and would be advantageous. Much, however, might be accomplished in the meantime, by example and encouragement. I have, for years past, endeavored to induce our authorities, or persons possessing capital, to erect a few mills for dressing hemp and flax, without which it is useless to cultivate these plants; but though one thousand pounds expended for this purpose would, perhaps, be sufficient to make a commencement, and show the farmers the benefit of introducing hemp and flax, not a shilling, I believe, has been appropriated to encourage what is so necessary, under existing circumstances, when we cannot produce any article for exportation. I have seen, this week, flax growing on two or three farms, of excellent quality, though not cultivated in the very best manner. It was about three feet high and the crop clean and close. It was a satisfactory proof that the soil and climate is suitable for growing flax in perfection. These observations are respectfully submitted for consideration, in the hope that something may be done for the advantage of by far the most numerous class in this Province, and the most neglected up to the present time.

Barley is now sown upon the best land, and consequently the crop is generally good. It has suffered some degree of injury by the ravages of the wheat-fly. Oats are good where the land is fertile and clean. Peas are an excellent crop. There may be a considerable surplus of this grain for exportation—the English price would pay. Of buckwheat a very large quantity is sown this year, and promises to be a good crop, if uninjured by early frosts. Indian corn looks well, but is not sown to any extent in this neighborhood. Potatoes are very luxuriant in the vine, but require some rain occasionally to perfect the roots and produce a good

crop. The soil is now very dry, and in want of some showers. The pastures have more of grass and weeds upon them than usual at this season of the year. The produce of the dairy is selling at moderate prices. Butcher's meat sells at fair prices both for the farmer and consumer. The produce of orchards will be very short this year—not, perhaps, equal to a tenth of what it was last season.

The barley harvest is partly finished, but that is the only grain yet come to maturity in this district. It is impossible, therefore, to say what may be the general results of this year's crops. So far as regards wheat, we need not expect much from it. The straw of oats will not be long, and never was more mixed with weeds of ever species, except where the land was in good condition—and there the oats are very good. It is very easy to see, this year, the results of good and bad farming. In the one case the crops are excellent, generally, with the exception of wheat; in the other they are thin, weedy and short, unless on land that is naturally of good quality, and not exhausted.

WM. EVANS.

Cote St. Paul, Aug. 7, 1811.

THE FLOWER GARDEN CULTIVATED BY THE LADIES.

A neat flower garden in front of the farm house is proof that the farmer's wife and daughters are industrious and refined. It is proof that the work within doors is well performed: for it is never the case that disorder and thriftlessness reside within, while the garden—tended by female hands—is neat and flourishing. This out-door labor gives bloom to the cheeks, vigor to the whole frame, cheerfulness to the disposition, and general efficiency.

Fair and gentle woman is never in a better school than when busying her fingers and twining her affections around the fair daughters of Flora. There she mingles with beauties whose tongues never utter envy or malice, and whose ears are deaf to every ill or sinful word. There the lovely and innocent One who delineates their graceful forms and paints their rich and varied colors. Purer, richer, better, are the teachings of the shooting blade and opening flower, than come from the musings of a listless mind, the pages of romance, or the gossip of corrupted society. The seeds of health and purity are in the soil on which the pink and primrose grow, and those who labor to promote the fragrance of the latter, will taste the delicious fruit which the former bear.

Fear not, ye busy wives and daughters, that the care of a small flower garden will be a burthen, rendering more arduous the labors of the kitchen, the dairy room, and the needle. For the invigorating exhalations of the freshly turned soil, the draughts of pure oxygen which will be found among young plants when the warm sun is expanding their foliage, the variety of exercise which the garden gives to body and mind, together with the pleasure derived from the beauty and fragrance of your flowers, will furnish more strength than the labors of the garden will exhaust.—*New England Farmer.*

RECIPE FOR MAKING FRENCH HONEY.

Take six eggs, leaving out two whites, one pound of loaf sugar, a quarter pound of butter, the juice of four lemons, and the rind of two grated; the sugar to be broken into small pieces, and the whole stewed over a slow fire until it becomes of the consistency of honey. It is very nice.—*New Genesee Farmer.*

UNIVERSAL GOOD.—All skill ought to be exerted for universal good. Every man has owed much to others, and ought to pay the kindness that he has received.