

take hold himself. The man that cannot do this had better try some other occupation. I think this class of settlers would do better by purchasing improved farms, than by settling on new ones.

This brings me to that part of the subject,—“The clearing of land, or the best and most profitable mode of clearing land.” When the woods are cut down in winter, to be cleared off in the spring, as is the case with new settlers, particularly the first and second class, the best way that I know of is, when the tree is cut down, to cut off the whole of the limbs or branches, and pile the brush or tops of the tree well together; for if any of the branches are left on the tree, they will generally bud in the spring, and consequently there will be more difficulty in burning them; and if the brush is not closely piled together, it is hardly possible to burn it early in the spring. And I would also recommend cutting the logs short, say 15 or 16 feet, but at most not more than 18, as the short logs are more easily drawn and put together, when the timber is green, and they will perhaps burn much better than if they were longer. But this mode of chopping in the winter and logging in the spring should be abandoned as soon as the parties have land enough cleared to keep their families, for it is a laborious work, and I think not so good for the land; then, after the first difficulties are over and the parties can do without logging it off in the Spring, (I mean the first and second class settlers, that take a hand in clearing their own land, and can let the logging remain over to the summer, I find the best and cheapest way to clear land is to slash it. What I mean by slashing is, when the trees are cut down to fall them into large heaps, the larger the better,—and I would have all the limbs cut off, and would prefer round heaps to wind-rows. In the first you can put solid timber on the top of each other, as the trees can be felled all round into it, so that the tops will all come into the centre; and there will be nothing but the butts of the trees lying out, so that if there is a good urn of the brush, the whole of the middle of the heap, both small and great will be burnt up; whereas, if timber is felled into long wind-rows, there will be some thin, and not much timber piled together; so that there will not be so much fit burnt up with the brush. If slashing is done in the winter, to be burned next summer, it should be done early in the fall; otherwise it would be better to let it lie over a year before the brush is burned. In all cases it would be better to let it lie over a year, both for the land and on account of its being so much easier logging, for there would be great deal more of timber burnt up with the brush; but here I would not be misunderstood: to be successful in slashing, requires a man that has had some practice at falling trees. I have seen slashing done with the trees felled obliquely back and forward across each other; they were felled wherever the trees were angled to, and the brush not half piled; I would rather have the trees standing in the woods than have them cut down as those were. On the other hand, I have seen slashing done that I could as soon have it as most of the chopping as is done in the country. I had at one time

20 acres slashed, for which I paid 15s. per acre, with board. I got a good burn of brush, and it took 21 day's work of a man to cut it up, and leave it ready for logging; so that it was but a little more than one day to the acre to chop it up. It is true the logs were not cut short, but it was speedy logging. But, a great deal of this depends on a good burn of the brush.

As to chopping up of the trees into logging lengths, little can be said about it, as much depends on the nature of the timber, the weather, and the length of time it is chopped. If the weather be favourable, and hard wood timber, and it has been chopped over a year, very little cutting up will do it: and here, I would observe, it requires a man that has some practice in logging to do it. If you get a man that is unacquainted with chopping and logging, you will likely find that one-half of the cutting he has done is useless altogether, for he very often cuts where there is no need for it; and it is most difficult to convince them that they are wrong, if they are from the old countries, and well up in years. I think the best way to teach them is to let them chop and log a piece themselves, and then put them into a piece of good chopping to log: they will then see the difference.

Then, as to fencing, I would say to all new settlers, what fencing you do, do it well, whether with logs or rails, and you will find you will be great gainers by it in the end. As to brush fences, I think they are a curse to any settlement, as well as to the owner of them. They are a great means of making breachy cattle, and of getting the crops destroyed that are on the inside of them.

We come now to what more immediately concerns the third class of settlers: to inquire is it profitable to invest money in clearing land?—I think, the following statement will prove that it is. We shall take a field of ten acres, for four years, by way of experiment, and give a statement of the probable expense of clearing and fencing the land: the expense of putting in the crops, and taking them off, and of sending them to market: the last item of taking to market, I shall assume, as is the case with new settlements, that they have some thirty or forty miles to drive to market:—

Clearing and fencing ten acres, £4 per acre, £40	0	0
The first year in wheat, seed 13 bushels, 5s		
per bushel.....	3	5
For sowing and harrowing.....	1	15
Harvesting and drawing into the barn....	4	0
Threshing and cleaning.....	4	0
One year's interest on £40.....	2	8

Total expense.....£55 8 0

YIELD OF THE ABOVE CROP.

20 bushels per acre, 200 bushels,		
at 3s 9d per bushel.....	£37	10
Deduct 7½d per bushel for taking		
to market.....	6	5
	£31	5
Remaining due on the land the 2nd year..	24	3
Two ploughings this year, one in the fall		
and one in the spring.....	7	10

Carried forward.....£31 13 0