

August 27, 1903.

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After all, there's nothing
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If you have any considera-
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and to do so come
to R. S. Rae, the
tailor, Markdale. A su-
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in Two Days.
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August 27, 1903.

The Advantages of Under-Draining.

I. O. F. GRAND COUNCIL.

Many reasons may easily be adduced to show that farm lands will in nearly all cases be improved by draining. Nature has herself thoroughly drained a considerable proportion of the soil, but it is probable that in course of time, as land becomes more valuable, it will be found advisable to artificially drain the greater part of our level or moderately sloping lands that are worthy of cultivation. The question whether it will pay to drain a given area depends on the value of the land before drainage, the cost of the operation, and the value of the land when drained. This is a question which every landowner must decide for himself.

At the outset it may be pointed out that drainage deepens the soil, and so affords greater room for the roots of plants. Unless its roots have an extensive pasture, as it were, no plant can make use of the resources of the soil to the best advantage. In well-drained soils the roots of most cultivated crops spread themselves widely and to a great depth, from two to four feet is quite usual, and some plants, such as lucerne, have been known to send their roots as far as thirty feet. No roots, except those of aquatic plants, will grow in stagnant water. Proper drainage lowers the surface of the ground water so that the roots are able to penetrate to their normal depth, and furnishes conditions favorable to the greatest growth and largest yield of crops.

The next place of meeting selected was Collingwood, and the date the third Tuesday in August.

OBITUARY.

Fort William Journal, Aug. 21.

Miss Cora Hammond, eldest daughter of Mrs. A. E. Rutledge, died yesterday afternoon after a lingering illness, aged 17 years.

There is probably no other death so sad to relate as that of a young girl who is apparently just ready to cross the threshold of womanhood. To those who have known Cora Hammond since childhood, it can hardly be realized that four months ago she went almost in a night, from a bright vivacious girl seemingly full of life, into a decline from which she never rallied. Every care had been taken by fond parents to gratify her ambitions, and she was given all the privileges of school and private teachers. Two years ago she stood highest in her class in the public school, and since then she had taken music besides attending high school.

She was a general favorite, not alone with her classmates and those of her years, but with everybody.

The greatest sympathy is extended to her sorrowing mother and to Mr. Rutledge, to whom Cora was a daughter, and by whom she was beloved with all the tenderness of a father.

All sloping land, unless laid down to grass, is liable to great loss by this surface washing during the heavy rains in spring and fall. If the land has not sufficient drainage, the rain cannot pass directly downward, as explained above, but runs away upon the surface carrying with it much of the soil, and washing the fertility out of much which remains.

But with proper drainage, the rain is at once absorbed, and passes downward, saturating the soil in its descent and carrying the fertilizing elements to the roots of the plants, while the surplus moisture runs through the drains.

Again, drainage is absolutely necessary for the proper pulverization of heavy soils. It is manifest that a wet soil can never be pulverized. More water is held by a pulverized and open soil than by a compact and close one.

Water is held in the soil by the minute particles of earth, and if these particles be pressed together compactly there is no space left between them for water.

This compactness exists more or less in most subsoils, certainly in all those through which water does not readily pass. Hence, all these subsoils are rendered more retentive of moisture by having the particles of which they are composed separated from one another, in a word, by pulverization. This increased capacity to contain moisture by attraction is the greatest security against drought. The plants in a dry time send their roots throughout the soil, and flourish in the moisture thus stored up for their time of need.

Soils that are always wet, so that large amounts of water evaporate from their surfaces, never become warm. The sun has great power to warm dry soils, or soils which permit of a free circulation of air, but it has little effect on a saturated soil. Warmth is essential to the germination of seeds, and the proper growth of plants. Farmers who are cultivating what is known as a "cold" soil will be first to concede the importance of this fact.

Other advantages of under-draining may be mentioned, such as the longer season of crop growth consequent on the earlier seeding of drained land; the comparative freedom of fall wheat and clover from freezing out or winter killing; the absence of open drains, which are a decided nuisance in the cultivation of the land and the harvesting of the crop; and last of all, the removal from the soil of those soluble salts formed by the decay of rock and organic matter, which cannot be used by plants and the presence of which in the soil causes the condition known as "alkali land."

Department of Agriculture.

W. A. Clemons,
Publication Clerk.

THE MARKDALE STANDARD.

BUSINESS LOCALS.

House and half-acre lot in Kimberley, west side Main-street, for sale. Apply at this office.

Marshmallow Balm sooths, heals and leaves the face in nice condition after shaving. 25c. per bottle at Turner's drug store.

For SALE.—Two heavy horses fit for farm or bush work, also one second-hand buggy. Will be sold right. Apply to J. W. Knott, Markdale.

House on Sprout Street to rent, has been undergoing renovation and improvements.

Mrs. John Hewitt, Berkeley.

For sale.—A threshing separator, the "Challenge," made by White & Sons, in first class condition ready for work.

John Ferris, Markdale.

School books, slates, scribblers, exercise books, pencil boxes, pencils, pens, penholders, inks, rubber erasers. Compasses and everything else required for school opening at Turner's drug store.

Lost.—Somewhere between Markdale and lot 9, con. 8, Glenelg, on Thursday last, August 13th, a red leather pocket book, containing a sum of money, over thirty dollars. Finder will receive a liberal reward by leaving same at STANDARD office or with owner.

Wes Stoddart, Waudby.

If your system is depilated, your complexion sallow, your temper irritable, your bowels constipated, your appetite changeable, or your nerves unstrung try Turner's Iron Blood and Tonic Pills. Hundreds who have and are using them pronounce them the best thing they have tried. 25c. per box guaranteed at Turner's Drug Store.

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