

654. Considerable attention has been directed in recent years to the cultivation of the sugar beet, and for the purpose of encouraging the industry, the Government by statute is required to pay a bounty on all beet sugar produced, the statute limiting the time to the 30th June, 1895,* but though there is no doubt that many parts of Canada are well adapted for the cultivation of the beet, the art of producing sugar therefrom, with profit to the producer, does not appear, as yet, to be understood in this country. The bounty paid is \$1 per 100 pounds, with an additional 3½ cents for every pound testing over 70 degrees, and the payments made so far have been :—

Year ended June 30th, 1892.....	\$23,767
do do 1893.....	20,568
do do 1894....	7,766

During the year ended 30th June, 1895, the bounty paid amounted to \$29,449.

655. Mr. Licht's monthly circular gives the following as the actual output of beet-root sugar, in the years and for the countries named :—

	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.
Germany.....	1,198,159	1,225,331	1,393,374
Austria-Hungary.....	786,566	802,577	841,809
France.....	650,377	588,838	579,111
Russia.....	550,994	455,000	660,000
Belgium.....	180,377	196,699	325,000
Holland.....	46,815	68,070	75,015
Other countries.....	88,635	92,000	111,000
Total beet sugar.....	3,501,923	3,428,515	3,985,309
Cane sugar.....	2,795,500	2,760,000	3,195,437
Grand total.....	6,297,423	6,188,515	7,180,746

In the last forty years the production of cane sugar increased $1\frac{6}{10}$ times. The increase in the production of beet sugar has been twenty-two times.

656. Viticulture in Canada has made considerable progress. There are at least 6,000 acres of land planted in vines capable of producing one million and a half gallons of wine.

Ontario has an area suitable for grape culture at least equal to half the present area of vineyards in France.

There are about 2,000 persons directly and indirectly interested in grape-growing and wine-making.

657. In 1892 there were, in Ontario, 2,174,133 vines of bearing age, and 950,659 of non-bearing age. In 1893, there were 2,223,282 vines of bearing age, and 883,430 of non-bearing age.

* In the session of 1895 the bounty system was extended to 1st July, 1897, the amount authorized to be paid being 75 cents per one hundred pounds, and an additional 1 cent per one hundred for each degree or fraction of a degree over 70 degrees.