

the prizes for collection of native birds, stuffed, and collection of native insects have been increased from \$12 and \$8 to \$15 and \$10. Now prizes are offered for collection of Canadian fossils, \$10 and \$6, and collection of Canadian wild flowers and forest leaves dried, \$6 and \$4. The above comprise all the changes worth noting made in the prize list.—*Globe*.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS

Another month of somewhat exceptional character has passed with almost a repetition of the early draught of the summer, and alternate hot and cold weather, the latter occurring to a degree unusual for the season. Nevertheless, the report of the harvest and crops are on the whole very favorable throughout the Province. The yield of hay, though short, has turned out better than was expected. Fall wheat is nearly everywhere above the average, and in common with other grain, has been secured in excellent condition. Barley is somewhat light, and short in the straw, but is of excellent quality and colour. Peas and oats are both above the average. Root crops appear to want rain, but there is time enough yet for a good growth in all of them. There is every indication of the harvest being secured very early. Pastures are suffering from the continuance of dry weather.

A similar favourable report comes from most of the United States. Timely showers have followed the early draught, and brought all crops wonderfully forward after the trying ordeal. Grain has been secured very much earlier than usual, of good quality, and in quite an average quantity. Corn in most places is looking well. Considerable amount of damage, however, appears to have been done by insects of various kinds.

The weather report for the past month, from the Toronto observatory, is as follows:

Mean temperature 66° 0, being 1° 3 below the average, and 2° 8 colder than July, 1870. The warmest day was the 13th, 75° 3, and the coldest the 19th, 57° 6. The highest temperature occurred on the 9th, when the reading was 89° 4; the lowest temperature occurred on the 24th, 47° 8.

The amount of cloud has been slightly below the usual quantity, and may be divided as 4 clear days, 2 entirely clouded, and 25 more or less so.

The amount of rain is the smallest recorded in the month of July, with the exception of 1856 and 1858, which were respectively 1.12 and 0.51. The amount of rain for the past month is 1.25 inches, being fully two inches less than the average. The absence of the copious dews so generally experienced at this season has tended to enhance the evil in this section.

The wind has been generally westerly, and accompanied by a velocity exceeding the average.

Thunder or lightning occurred on eleven occasions, in some districts causing much damage to property and growing crops.—*Globe*.

PRICES OF DAIRY PRODUCTS.

The Western Rural reports.—

The Eastern markets for dairy products show a fair trade. Our latest advices from the dairy regions

of New York indicate a good feeling, and the quotations are well sustained. At Utica the prices realized range from 11½c to 12c; the ruling figures 11½ to 11¾c. At Little Falls the ruling figures are about the same as at Utica, though some fancy brands of prime sell at 12¼c. The market is fairly active.

The New York Western Dairymen's Association hold weekly sales at Buffalo now, having recently started. At the first sale the *Utica Herald* says that fourteen factories represented, offering about 3,000 boxes in lots of 75 to 350. The Secretary of the Association, Mr. Geo. W. Hayward, says that the opening promises success to the enterprise. The prices realized were 10½ to 11¼c.

The prices of cheese at Chicago are a little lower than they have been during the spring, and it is altogether probable that last year's rates will not be obtained this year. There are more factories in operation at the West, and the season has been very favourable. There are fully as many cheese factories in other sections of the country this year as last, while their product will hardly be decreased. It is safe to predict that the cheese product of 1871 in this country will considerably exceed that of 1870; but while there may be a slight decline, the prices will, doubtless, still be remunerative to the dairyman. It is safe to presume that the consumption of cheese will increase, nearly in the ratio that it has for the past two years, and therefore there is little probability that any drawback will overtake the cheese interest. On the part of the Western Dairymen the object should be to put the best possible article on the market, which will not only have a tendency to keep up the price, but add to the reputation they have already achieved for the excellence of Western cheese.

SEWAGE.—The British Association Committee 'On the Treatment and Utilisation of Sewage,' which was reappointed at the Exeter meeting in 1869, have just published their report, in which is embodied information obtained from two hundred towns. This report may be consulted with confidence by all who wish to know which methods of drainage and sewage are most likely to answer in any particular locality, and to learn something about the results of sewage irrigation on farms. The report contains tabular statements in which all the details are given, as well as analyses of the air in drains and sewers. From the latter, it appears that the air of those places is less foul than is commonly supposed, and that bad smells are more disagreeable than harmful. And further, with a view to ascertain whether (as had been suggested) the crops of sewage-irrigated farms occasioned peculiar diseases in the animals which were fed thereon, the committee have instituted a series of experiments which will at least throw light on the question. A beginning has been made with three families of guinea-pigs, and, after a course of feeding, one member of each family was killed, and examined, and "no sign of entozoic disease of any description was found, even with the help of a powerful pocket lens, either in the viscera or muscles of any one of the specimens." In continuing the experiments, one family will be fed on sewage produce only, another on the unsewaged produce, and others are to have now and then a meal of vegetables which