

spring. Barley, oats and peas look well, with fully as many sown as usual. No wheat sown in this district, and less than usual in other parts of the county. Fodder-corn looking fine with this hot weather.

FROM SAMUEL KELLY, ESQ.

Lower Stewiacke, July 13th, 1885.

All field crops about here will be abundant. In the grass, which is itself somewhat short, there is a good amount of clover. Grain, full and strong, though not with the heavy straw of last year. Potatoes, growing well, and a very good season for cultivating. This foregoing applies, I believe, to the whole of South Colchester. Fruit hereabout is short. Pasturage has kept up well all the season. Good growth of strawberries, etc., and of garden stuff.

FROM HON. HIRAM BLACK, M. L. C.

Amherst, July 11th, 1885.

In respect to the crops, I have to say that new laid upland is very heavy; old laid and English marsh less than an average, though growing rapidly now. Broadleaf and later grasses will be heavy. The timothy seems to have been killed out of considerable low lying English grass lands by last summer's extreme wet. Owing to the very fine spring, both grain and roots were got in in good time, have grown fast, and are looking extremely well; an occasional field of grain is weedy. All crops, excepting English marsh grass and old laid, growing rapidly and promise abundant returns. Cherries promise better than last year, but our fruit does not amount to much.

FROM STEPHEN PUTNAM, ESQ.

Maitland, July 15th, 1885.

The grass started earlier than usual this spring and has come along very well. A dry spell during the last half of June was against it, but late rains have been favorable so that it will be fully an average crop. Owing to wet weather the oats were a little late in being sown but are looking well, also barley; of wheat but little is sown, the rust and weevil having nearly destroyed it in the past seasons. Some early fields of potatoes are looking splendid, the larger part are late but are coming along very fast. Bugs are plentiful; gardens are fair, and small fruits goods; the general appearance is fully average.

FROM R. W. STARR, ESQ.

Starb Point, July 11th, 1885.

Yours of the 8th duly received and noted as follows: General prospects of crops are good, the country looking splendidly since the rains.

Grass.—Pastures are very good, especially on improved, well-seeded lands, where White and Alsike clover have been sown. Good uplands newly seeded are looking well, but old meadows are light. Dyked marsh will give an average crop in quantity, but will be hard to cure unless we have fine weather, as it is very largely white clover and other fine succulent grasses; salt marshes looking very promising.

Grain.—Wheat not largely sown but looking well. Barley, greater breadth sown than usual and looking very promising. Oats looking well, more than usual sown. Potatoes came strong and are growing finely. Turnips have generally come well, with but little damage from the fly. Other vegetables looking fairly well when sown early; but there is a great deal of complaint that late sown carrots, &c., have failed to grow.

Fruit—which is fast becoming our great staple, and usurping the place long held by potatoes, will, I think, prove a full average crop.—Strawberries are turning out well, the seasonable showers having saved the crop at the last moment. Cherries plentiful. Currants, goosberries, raspberries, promising full crops. Plums not quite so good, but, if the curculio will leave them alone, there is enough to make a fair crop. Pears hardly up to the average.

Apples will give a fair crop for most sorts. Baldwins will be short, as it is not their year; but most other sorts are looking as well as we could expect them after the heavy crops of last year.

Taking it altogether the outlook is hopeful, and, if the demand for our surplus will give us a fair market, we may feel confident that we shall be enabled to make up for some of the losses of the past season.

FROM CHAS. F. EATON, ESQ.

Lower Canard, July 14th, 1885.

I am in receipt of your favor of the 10th inst., making enquiry about the state of the crops in this district. The month of June was unusually dry, but the seasonable rains during this month have greatly revived the growing crops, and at present the country is looking well, with appearance of an abundant harvest. The hay crop, which is now being harvested, is a good average yield.

Oats, the principal grain crop, is looking well. Other cereals, though but little sown, are promising fairly. Potatoes as usual form the principal crop grown in this district, and look as well as for many years.

Apples I do not think will be an average crop, although some orchards look well. Pears and plums only medium, perhaps below an average in quantity.

Cherries plentiful, strawberries abundant and very fine. Other small fruits look well. A number of our farmers are engaging in this department of horticulture quite extensively. Five years ago I mentioned that the potato bug had made its appearance among us. Last year we heard but little about it, and we felt strongly in hope that it had left the country not to return again very soon, but the last few days reports from different parts are to the effect that they have again appeared in large numbers. From the fact, however, that they did not trouble last year so much as the previous one, I think we may reasonably hope that our climate is not so well adapted to this unwelcome visitor as that of the far west.

FROM DAVID ARCHIBALD, ESQ.

*Upper Musquodoboit,
July 15th, 1885.*

In answer to your request I would be leave to state that in consequence of the extreme drought during the month of June, the hay crop on uplands will be poor. The beautiful showers that have fallen since the present month came in will largely contribute in bringing up the crop on lowlands to an average.

In consequence of losses sustained by farmers in former years in consequence of weevils, but little wheat is sown, yet where it has been sown appearances indicate a good yield. Barley looks only middling fair, and is behind as a crop for this season of the year. Oats very good, and, with favourable weather up to and through the harvest season, fully an average crop may be expected. Buckwheat.—The crop looks very promising and largely ahead of last year. Potatoes good, the indications respecting the crop never better, and, if the fell blight don't interfere, the farmer's hope will be fully realized. Turnips.—The appearance for crop only middling fair. Mangels good, promising a large yield, but, unfortunately with us, the crop is not extensively cultivated, farmers don't seem to be alive to the great importance of this as a root crop, its production lays at the very foundation of butter and beef-making; the successful production of this crop may with care generally be made certain, phosphate is an important helper in the early stages of this crop. If the farmer would be certain of a good hay crop every year he has only to drain manure and lime his lands.

FROM C. N. SPROTT, ESQ.

*Middle Musquodoboit,
July 14th, 1885.*

The month of May was very favorable both grain and potatoes were put in the ground in the best condition. The