

the crops generally promised so well, and I think this will be the general testimony borne to you from nearly all of your correspondents.

Yours faithfully,

A. LONGLEY.

Paradise, June 20th, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—Yours is received requesting information on the condition and prospects of the Farm Crops, &c., in Annapolis County. I reply to the best of my ability.

Although the Spring has been cold and backward for putting seed into the ground as early as usual, yet the weather has suited the grass and an abundant crop of hay is predicted.

**Fruit Culture.**—Increasing attention is being paid to the culture of Fruit. Many new orchards are being set out, and the old ones are being ingrafted. The Apples grown in the Annapolis Valley, for keeping qualities are unsurpassed. We have had a ready market for them this Spring at good prices: some prime lots bringing as high as \$4.00 per barrel—average prices \$3.50 per barrel. The trees have blossomed full and being the bearing year, we anticipate a large crop. The caterpillars, however, have made their appearance but not in sufficient numbers to injure the prospects of a good crop.

**Dairy Husbandry**—for several years, has been a profitable branch of business in Annapolis County. We have seven cheese factories which have turned out annually large quantities of cheese, but the small prices obtained in our markets last year, and the difficulty in getting cash returns, have resulted in preventing several from running this season.

**Neat Cattle**—have not been so extensively raised since the formation of cheese factories. To establish a cheese factory in a locality means "death to the calves,"—this has been our experience in some sections in Annapolis County. In other parts of the County where some attention has been given to the improvement of Stock for the more special purpose of raising oxen—some very fine young Stock may be seen; therefore it will be to the interest of the *Dairymen* to give their attention in the future to rearing of milch cows of improved breeds with special reference to the dairy business.

**Root Crops**—are being more extensively cultivated as a field crop. Mangel Wurtzel and Turnips are found to be indispensable in the dairy to keep up the flow of milk.

**Potatoes**—were a large yield last year, and are receiving the attention of the farmers generally. We hear of no complaint of loss of seed in the ground. The

hoeing is now on, and farmers are busily engaged.

**Wheat**—not generally raised, and the same will apply to Indian Corn this year.

**Barley and Oats**—extensively cultivated in some parts of the County. We think them excellent to mix with peas for making provender for cattle and hogs.

**Hogs.**—I may say that our farmers are not giving that attention to the raising of pork that the market demands. Lumbering, shipbuilding and other firms doing large businesses are obliged to import their pork, instead of having it supplied by our farmers.

Yours, very truly,

W. E. STARRATT.

Bridgetown, June 20th, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—Yours of the 15th inst. was duly received, and in reply I am happy to state that the Crops in the districts which have come under my notice are all in a very satisfactory condition. It is, as yet, too early to form any opinion regarding the Cereals. A larger extent of ground than usual has been sown with Wheat, a crop which has been steadily improving for some years past. Oats and all other kinds of grain are looking very well, but no estimate can at present be made as to the returns. The crop of Potatoes promises exceedingly well. Turnips are only now planting, and of course nothing can be said as to the probable yield. The Hay crop gives promise of being better than usual. Owing to the wetness and backwardness of the Spring, the Indian Corn is somewhat late, but is at present looking very well. Until a short time since the Apple harvest bid fair to be excellent, but within the last few days the worms have been committing great devastation in the orchards, especially in the Eastern part of the County. Plum trees are likely to bear well. Cultivated Strawberries promise to be unusually abundant. The Currant worm and Squash bug are likely to give trouble this year.

Yours truly,

CHAS. B. WHITMAN.

Clements, June 23rd, 1876.

MR. EDITOR,—I have been trying from various sources to obtain something like a fair report of the state of Farming in this township; but the more enquiry the less satisfaction, and I can only give account of hopes and expectations which, as usual, are very large, and if realized we ought to be the happiest of all agriculturists.

The rainy weather during May discouraged everybody and, consequently, but little farming work could be accomplished except in very favoured localities.

We had sixteen rainy days and nights, with a prevailing North-easterly wind. But wherever a farmer had courage enough to attempt something more than grumbling the probability is he will be well repaid for his extra exertion. Potatoes planted about the 7th or 10th of that month are now in blossom; those later are stocky and vigorous. Oats are likely to do well; of Wheat we cannot as yet say much except that some small fields of Winter Wheat look very promising. The Rye was much injured by sudden thaws in February and March, but begins now to look up, and the short is already out well. Of Corn, we raise none for exportation, and only enough for green ears has been planted by our best men, who fear a very short season and the early September frosts. Of Cherries, our boasted Bear River "Summer fruit," we shall have but a scanty supply, the hungry East wind and the Cherry bird having stripped many trees of blossoms. Grass has come forward most surprisingly during the last three weeks, looks well and will afford generally a heavier burden than we have had here for a year or two. Of later sowing, such as Buckwheat and Turnips there will be a much larger breadth than usual, in order to supply the smaller produce of Potatoes. Singular to say, the farmers could not plant as many of these as usual, yet there is a very large portion of the tillage land occupied by those who are not farmers, but who, having been driven out of the shipyards and lumbering business by the hard times, have been forced to turn their attention to raising food, without which no man can live. I hope such happy exertions may be rewarded and that more of our people may learn where their truest interest lies.

Yours truly,

W. M. GODFREY,

On behalf of the Clements' Ag'l Society.

Windsor, N. S., June 22nd, 1876.

The extreme heat of the past few days, following the showery weather of May and the early part of June, has made itself apparent in the rapid growth of the Farmer's Crops. In the Western part of Hants County possibly fewer Oats have been sown this Spring than usual, owing to the difficulty of preparing the ground when it was naturally wet, but otherwise the farmers were fairly successful in getting their seeds into the ground, and, on the whole, the breadth of ground in Roots and Cereals will be above the average. Wheat is not much sown, but so far the crop is looking well. Mangolds are coming into favor as a profitable crop to raise and feed to Stock, but little can be said of them and of Turnips at present as regards the prospects of this year's crop.