

YARMOUTH, June 26, 1871.

Dear Sir,—Your circular respecting crops received. Within the last month abundant rains have improved the prospect for an average crop of hay. Cutting, where light, has begun. Potatoes look well. A few Early Rose have been exhibited for the table. Grain promising. Fruit trees of all kinds show a very abundant bloom, and with a favourable season will bear large crops. Root crops, with cabbage, cauliflower, etc., suffer from insects even more than usual, repeated sowings and transplantings being necessary to replace blanks. The small fruits show the unusual severity of last winter. Many plantations of strawberries and raspberries are so much hurt that the crops of fruit will be small. Covering and protection from cold winds are indispensable to successful fruit-growing.

CHAS. E. BROWN.

Sir,—It is the business of this letter to point out the growth of crops, the season, and the general prosperity of the country, but especially Colchester and Northern Hants. The Spring came in rather slow, owing to the cold winds and rains. Many farmers had commenced to grumble and complain of the season, which, I regret to say, is too much the case, as if they were the whole people or the world, but after the wet weather had passed away nothing was more suitable for farming operations, being quite cool enough for work, which enabled many farmers to do more in the same time; and, as crops have been more productive for the last two or three years, and prices average much higher than usual, gave great encouragement to the farmer to cultivate more ground this year than he has for many years past; and it has been done in a better manner than heretofore. There has been one-half more wheat sown, and on and near the Shubenacadie there has been sown four-fifths more than there has been for any one year in the last ten years. The general talk and enquiry was for seed and quality, and still there was plenty, owing to a good crop last year.

APPEARANCE OF CROPS.

By all appearance hay will be a good crop, for the frequent rains have just done what the farmer might expect, and all grains look admirably well, being, as I said before, better managed in the putting in by manuring and otherwise; and as to Roots, nothing in the season can be better adapted than the present and latter rains, being what roots required to distribute the gases of the manure through the earth to feed the plants, and therefore you will see the potato, the turnip, the carrot, and the mangold all coming up and looking well, even if not forward. I might say that there is quite a quantity

of the Early Rose planted, so that after this year they will be one of our common potatoes. There has been a much larger quantity of land sown in wheat, oats and barley, more potatoes, turnips and other roots than heretofore. As a whole, the crops promise at the present, if not above the average, at least to be quite equal to the best of years, and this quite gladdens the farmer's heart and makes him rejoice in his country, while some are leaving, for what reason they do not know. Therefore the farmer has everything to encourage him and to make him feel thankful for a good season, good crops and good prices. Every article that he has to sell, from the fat ox to the lamb, butter, etc., will be plenty, and prices rule higher than they did four or five years ago. And while the farmer prospers all others must do likewise, let them be mechanics, labourers or having machinery of any kind, who has more work than he is able to do, with very remunerative prices. On the whole the country looks very well, and never more prosperous.

I remain, &c.,

COLCHESTER FARMER.

WINDSOR, June 21, 1871.

My dear Sir,—I received your letter, and would have answered immediately, but knowing that the way in which my own farm is worked would prevent my taking my own crops as a fair standard, I concluded to wait until I could take a roam over the country with some experienced farmer, but the wet weather prevented it, and I see that I can no longer delay my report, but I have taken every advantage offered during the limited time allowed to get the opinions of farmers from different sections of the county, and I have come to the following conclusion, after combining their opinions with my own observations:—That the upland hay—when the ox-eye daisy and yellow buttercup are deducted—can be put into the barns with very little physical labour; that poor dyke (this I know nothing about, but take the opinion of others) will be almost a failure. Good dyke an average crop. I wished to explore the dyke to ascertain as nearly as possible from personal observation to what extent the failure of the grass can be attributed to overflowing (Saxby's tide), but the time allowed me is not sufficient; but I hope to make future observations. The first piece of oat land that I came across this year attracted my attention in a peculiar way. Walking across the dyke I noticed some red land fairly black with crows (rooks, I believe, properly.) On examination I found the seeds washed out by the rains and fairly exposed to their depredations. I don't know who owned that dyke, but am inclined to think that they were about the most expensive poultry he ever fed, unless the wonderful fertility

of this class of land will cause the grain to stool out. From farmers to the north of Windsor—that is, in Wentworth direction—I hear the same complaint of early sown oats not being half covered; in the other direction I think the general opinion is that the early-sown will do well. Barley is not extensively sown, which I believe to be a great mistake, for if farmers would only be a little more careful in the quality of their seeds, a ready market would soon be found. While on this subject, I cannot help remarking that a vessel could be loaded at Windsor and first-class malting delivered in Liverpool, G. B., for about what it costs to take it to Halifax.

Wheat.—Very little sown. I have not seen a single field, although it may be sown to a greater extent than I imagine.

Potatoes, I think, had a fair chance, as the dry weather in May enabled them to be got in early.

Turnips on light land ought to stand a fair chance, as the weather has been favourable; but of course this is only anticipation.

Mangolds are a crop in little favour in Nova Scotia, and I believe in a great measure from a want of knowledge on the part of both the farmer and the seed-sellers. Ten pounds of seed, at least, should be sown to the acre, and new varieties come out every year which can be cultivated with so much more profit.

Fruit.—I think small kinds of fruit, such as cherries, plums, etc., promise well. Apples, I think, will be about an average crop.

A. C. THOMAS.

PORT HOOD, June 26, 1871.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your enquiries I beg to say that owing to the cold winds and large quantities of rain falling during the month of May the crops were late in being put into the ground, but the fine weather, with occasional showers during the present month, is making up for lost time, and the crops throughout the county are looking well. Potatoes are coming up, and look healthy and strong. Hay promises a good crop should the present weather continue another week or two. Turnips are only sown in small quantities, and farmers are only now putting them in, although in my experience I have found that they should be sown by the 15th of June.

I am, &c.,

GEO. C. LAWRENCE.

NOEL, June 26, 1871.

Dear Sir,—Yours of the 21st came duly to hand, requesting me to furnish you with a few remarks on the state of the crops in our district, which I will endeavour to do as briefly as possible. In the first place I may say that we have had a very cool and dry season for putting the seed in the ground; that vegeta-