

and in each the result so far is the same.

The Hay Crop wants bottom in some places, and has been a good deal scalded where not top-dressed, from the excessive moisture, acted on by the winter's frost, but is now recovering and will prove an average crop.

Oats and Barley look well and will prove about an average.

Peas are not sown to any extent; those sent by the Board are looking well.

The very heavy frosts in May and June have seriously damaged the fruits of all kinds.

Farmers tempted by the high rate of wages at the new mines are neglecting agricultural matters, and in many instances farms are deserted altogether; produce of all kinds is in demand and prices run high.

II. DAVENPORT.

*St. Ann's, Co. Victoria,
July 17, 1865.*

As I have been travelling through this and our neighboring county of Cape Breton lately, to some extent, I found throughout all my travels, that the crops in general looked well, particularly potatoes and oats, which promise to yield an abundant harvest. Potatoes are in full bloom in some places, and early planting in general looks very well, and I think a full average crop will be gathered. Turnips promise to yield an abundant crop, so far as my observation goes, but I am sorry to say that the planting of turnips, as a general rule throughout this county, is very limited indeed, although I believe no country yields a better crop of that most useful root than our own. I have raised on this farm as high as 750 bushels to the acre, of turnips, and my average yield during the past fifteen years, was from 400 to 500 bushels per acre. This season the undersigned has put down the following small crop:—65 bush. early August oats, 9 bush. spring wheat, 3 bush. barley, 35 bush. split potatoes, and 2 acres of turnips,—all of which look promising, so far, and the weather has been, during the past month, all the farmer could desire.

J. ROBERTSON.
Pres. St. Ann's Agri. Socy.

PRESENT CROP PROSPECTS AND PRICES IN BRITAIN.

It appears from the English Agricultural papers that the season has been, so far, an unfavorable one for the farmer. There was great drought during spring time, which threatened to destroy the Root Crops completely; but during the first week of July there were acceptable rains in many parts of the country, which thoroughly soaked the soil, and the TURNIPS and SWEDES, which were at a

stand still, suddenly began to move. The grain crops seem, however, to have suffered permanently. Mr. Twynam, of Winchester, says, that on full half the Hampshire soils the straw of WHEAT is very short, the head uneven, the ears small, but apparently well filled; on the light sands and gravels it is decidedly bad, with much poppy and other rubbish; it will not be an average crop. Barley is very indifferent, short, thin on the ground, of uneven growth, and fully one-third under the average. OATS are the worst crop remembered in Hampshire for 40 years, and many farmers are feeding off large fields with sheep. BEANS are looking well; PEAS an average; POTATOES very well, promising an abundant yield; HAY of excellent quality, but light, except Saintfoin. In Sussex, Mr. Hallett characterises the WHEAT CROP as very thin, so also other grains; MANGELS healthy, but want rain; TURNIPS destroyed by the fly; HAY a short crop, but well got. Mr. James Lynch, Midhurst, says, on the whole the crops will be deficient; WHEAT fair, bad on light grounds; BARLEY good; OATS bad, nearly a failure; BEANS under average; PEAS the same; HAY under average, well saved; ROOTS promising; POTATOES much healthier than they have been for many years. In Gloucestershire the drought had operated so seriously as to be alarming. We hope the timely rains have, ere now, brought the standing crops into better order.

Young fat lambs are selling in England at 40s. sterling each, or, 1s. sterling per lb. and mutton and beef in proportion. Hay, in towns, at £6 sterling per ton.

PRESENT STATE OF AGRICULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Through the kindness of P. Monaghan, Esq., editor of the *Abolitionist*, we have recently received the publications of the Agricultural Department at Washington, which are replete with valuable information on the condition of agriculture in the United States. There are some points touched upon in the monthly report for May, 1865, that cannot fail to interest our readers.

DECREASE OF COWS AND CATTLE.

Passing over the politico-patriotic remarks as to "the accursed political heresy of the right of State secession," we come to matters that may be discussed in a milder spirit. The loss of cattle in California, and in some parts of Oregon, last winter, for want of sufficient food, is deplored.

Prominent notice is taken of the decrease of cattle and cows in the states. It is said that from the "immense slaughter and waste" consequent upon the supply

of animal food for the army and navy, whilst importing and home-breeding were at a stand still, the most strenuous efforts will be necessary on the part of the American farmers to prevent an absolute scarcity, particularly in the product of beef-cattle, and that beef must soon be sold at rates that but few will be able to afford. The high prices offered by butchers have tempted farmers to part with their *largest and best formed* cows, which, under different circumstances, would have been retained for breeding, and the most healthy heifer calves have been sold to them. From this cause most farms exhibit a poor ungainly stock of cattle compared to what it formerly was. Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, and West Virginia, on which much reliance used to be placed for supplies, present limited resources. Some of these by derangements caused by the war, have almost ceased to breed; others do not import owing to the condition of the currency; while others have nearly exhausted the splendid herds which formerly roamed their pastures. The importance of raising more of the heifer calves, and of ceasing to kill young cows for beef is strongly urged.

DECREASE OF EXPORTS OF BREAD STUFFS FROM THE STATES.

One of the most note-worthy results shown in the statistical tables is the remarkable decrease in the exports of bread stuffs and provisions, especially wheat and flour, from the United States to Great Britain. This is shown by a table of the imports into Britain from the United States for the period from 1st January to 1st April of the present year, as compared with the corresponding period of last year. In 1864, the United States supplied Britain with 4,199,177 bushels of wheat; this year with only 232,262 bushels! Flour, last year, barrels 371,126; this year 40,823 barrels. But the most remarkable fact, as regards Britain, remains to be noticed. The deficiency of import from the United States is not accounted for by any increase in imports from other countries. Britain imported from all parts in 1864, ten millions and a half of bushels of wheat, and in 1865, only three and a half millions; of flour, upwards of one million barrels in 1864, and scarcely 400,000 in 1865. There is an increase, however, of a million and a half bushels of Indian corn.

INCREASE OF SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

A great impulse was given, by the war and cotton famine, to sheep husbandry in the states. The increase of sheep between January 1864 and 1865, has been upwards of four millions, and the present estimated number is not much short of thirty millions. The fleeces are expected to average four pounds weight, and the wool clip of the Union to be 114,589,076 pounds.