

The conclusion, then, must be, that all the grasses, including corn, supplemented by the clovers and other leguminous plants, must go into the silo altogether, and these furnish complete rations for the production of meat, milk, and wool. The labour bestowed per ton in ensilaging the grasses and grains in the more succulent state will be even less than for corn, because the former can be more easily cut by the mowing machine and handled by the horse rake and hay-loader, or even with the fork.

It is also quite probable that the grasses, in the fit condition for ensilaging, may be put in the silo with less labour than they can be cured and put in the barn.

The larger digestibility of succulent grass over that of cured hay will certainly be an ample remuneration for this new method of preserving it. It is quite true, however, that by some small German experiments it appears that grass, after carefully drying, is as digestible as in the succulent condition; but when these experimenters seek to generalize from these few and exceptional cases, founding upon them a general axiom that green food loses none of its digestibility by drying, let us oppose to this the great general fact that cattle grow and fatten rapidly and profitably upon the succulent grasses, but cannot be profitably fattened upon the dried grasses or hay. Our meadows are usually stocked with nearly the same combination of grasses as our pastures, but who would assert that a full ration of the best hay would produce as much milk or lay on as much flesh as the best pasture? Such facts, open to the general observation of all intelligent feeders, are not to be upset by a German experiment upon two sheep!

AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society having invited the American Pomological Society to hold its next meeting at Philadelphia, its officers announce that the nineteenth session of this national association will be held in that city, commencing Wednesday, September 12th, 1889, at ten o'clock a.m., and continuing for three days.

This session will take place at the time of the fifty-fourth annual exhibition of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, at Horticultural Hall, Broad, near Locust street.

All horticultural, pomological, agricultural, and other kindred associations in the United States and British Provinces are invited to send delegations as large as they may deem expedient, and all persons interested in the cultivation of fruits are invited to be present and take seats in the Convention. It is expected that there will be a full attendance of delegates from all quarters, and that this will be the largest and most useful meeting ever held by the Society.

The catalogue of fruits published by the Society includes nearly all the States and Territories, and is filled with a great amount of information as to the fruits adapted for culture in the respective locations. Some of these are yet incomplete, and it is the object of the Society, from year to year, to fill the blanks and bring its catalogue nearer to perfection. To accomplish this object as fully as possible, the chairman of the General Fruit Committee, P. Barry, Esq., Rochester, N.Y., will send out the usual circulars of inquiry.

When we consider the great importance of fruit culture in North America, its rapid progress during the last thirty-five years under the beneficent action of this Society, the great value and rapidly-increasing demand for its products at home and abroad, we feel warranted in urging the attendance of all who are interested in the welfare of our country and the development of its wonderful resources in this branch of agriculture.

Arrangements have been made with hotels and some of the railroads terminating in Philadelphia for a reduction of fare. In most cases it will be best for delegations to arrange for rates with the roads in their localities.

A local Committee of Reception has been appointed, to whom are confided all matters pertaining to the reception and accommodation of the members and delegates of the Society. The chairman is Hon. J. E. Mitchell, 810 York avenue, Philadelphia.

At the last meeting of the Society it was decided in future to encourage general exhibitions of fruits, as well as new varieties or novelties. It is earnestly requested that no duplicates appear in any collection, and that none but choice specimens shall be placed on exhibition. Exhibitors should not fail to give notice as far as possible, at an early date, what room will be needed for their fruits. Six specimens of a variety will be sufficient except in fruits of unusual interest. A limited number of Wilder medals will be awarded to objects of special merit.

Packages of fruit should be addressed to Thomas A. Andrews, Horticultural Hall, Broad street, Philadelphia, for the American Pomological Society. Freight and express charges should be prepaid.

A number of essays on practical subjects relating to fruit-growing will be read by eminent horticulturists.

MANITOBA.—CROP BULLETIN.

Acton Burrows, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Manitoba, has issued the following crop report:

Sir,—I have the honour to report the result of the second series of questions addressed to the crop correspondents of the Department throughout the Province.

A circular was issued June 29th to 420 correspondents, of whom 260 have replied up to date. The value of these reports will be better judged when it is understood that each one is from a separate township. The principal portion of these replies were written during the second week of the current month, at the beginning of which the want of rain was being felt in nearly every district to a considerable degree. Commencing on the 11th in the western portion of the Province, and on the 12th in the eastern, showers, followed by heavy thunderstorms, prevailed, and supplied the much felt want. The general success of the grain harvest has now been placed beyond a doubt.

WHEAT.

The comparative acreage sown shows an average increase of 54 per cent. over 1882. The reports from points throughout the whole Province are of a very satisfactory nature, and large yields are fully expected in the great majority of cases. Though suffering from the extreme and prolonged dry weather in the early part of the season, still only in a very few cases is absolute injury reported, and these occur only where the grain was late in being sown. From very many points reports speak of wheat as "flattering," "wheat looks remarkably well," "wheat favourable," "wheat never looked better," etc., etc. In a few cases worms are reported as injurious, but no serious complaints are made. A very bountiful crop will no doubt be reaped, with the general yield over an average.

OATS.

The extent to which oats has been sown as compared with that of last year shows an average increase of 58 per cent. In a great many localities the spring was backward, and oats sown late were injured by frosts in the early part of June. Serious injury, however, is only reported in a very few places. Grubs and worms are also spoken of as working destruction in some localities. The great majority of reports speak confidently of a good average crop, and no fears are expressed of any failure or scarceness.

BARLEY.

Though not grown to nearly so great an extent as wheat or oats, barley shows an average increase in acreage of 86 per cent. over 1882. This grain seems, too, to have suffered to a considerable extent from the early June frosts and also from worms. However, very encouraging remarks are made, and a good, fair average crop will be

general. The dampness of the ground in the early part of the season, and the want of rain later on, has caused the straw to be short, but reports generally speak of barley as "looking sound" and having a "good colour."

PEAS.

Field peas do not appear to be grown to a very large extent as compared with some other grains, but they show an average increase in acreage of 46 per cent. over 1882, and appear to have been very generally sown throughout the Province, though in limited quantities. They do not appear to have suffered from frost, and are generally reported as favourable, and showing evidences of a good crop.

POTATOES.

A large increase in acreage in potatoes is reported. Reports as to condition and probable yield differ very much. Frosts are spoken of as having damaged the crop in a number of places, and grubs are also spoken of as having affected them to a certain degree. Rain was wanted to insure a really good crop.

ROOTS.

Roots have been extensively planted generally in the Province, but have suffered severely from frost and grubs. In only a few cases are they reported as having escaped damage, and showing signs of a promising crop; whilst from a great many localities come the reports, "Roots almost a failure," "Roots poor," etc., etc.

HAY.

Though having suffered considerably from drought, indications point to an abundance in all sections. Relief was felt in some quarters, where the crop promised to be small, by there being a quantity of old hay on hand. There is no doubt at there being an abundance of hay for all who are able and willing to secure it.

FARM HELP.

The great difficulty experienced by many farmers in Ontario to obtain the much-needed help for the pressing work of the season will cause them to think how the unsatisfactory state of things now existing may best be remedied. In this connection the following remarks by the *Farm Journal* will be read with interest:—

"We hear much about the demand for skilled labour, but we know of no calling where it is more urgently needed than in modern farming. Improved machinery has largely superseded hand labour, and horses supply a good share of the brute force required. But what farmers need now is intelligent men to manage the machines and the horses. In dairying and trucking also we are in a new era, and there is the same demand for men whose hands are directed by their heads. That the supply is wholly inadequate, thousands of farmers have realized during the last few months. What to do without such helpers, and where to find them, are questions that a good many people are thinking about. It is useless to seek them among the hordes of paupers and criminals that other nations are sending us. The better class of immigrants are mechanics and small farmers. The latter are bent on owning a home of their own in the western country. We cannot therefore depend on either class to supply the farmers' need.

"Our impression is, that the raw material of what we are looking for is to be found among our farmers' boys. For the present we shall have to make out as best we can, and wait. In the meanwhile, let fathers teach their sons by precept and example that there is something in farming besides the dull routine of planting, and tilling, and harvesting; that in the commonest work of the farm there is something interesting, and something that requires thought and skill; that it is necessary for a farmer to observe, to read, to think, to experiment, and that in the long run the honest, enterprising farmer does as much good and has as much real enjoyment as any man. Then perhaps the boys will stay on the farm, and the problem of skilled labour will be solved."