

appearance of the country very much indeed; and the farmer can now look forward to the coming autumn with a fair prospect of being rewarded for his labour. I am &c.,
E. C. BANKS.

LOWER HORTON, June 26th, 1871.

My Dear Sir,—Yours of the 21st inst. came to hand. In reply would say, that the spring was cold and backward, but a very large breadth of land has been sown and planted; the grain is short as yet, but has a very healthy appearance; potatoes came up well and never looked better; corn, although late planted, is looking well; the fruit trees showed but very few blossoms, probably owing to the frosts in May, and there is a prospect of a light crop of fruit; the grass in good uplands is good, on dry uplands and old meadows the crop will be light; the grass on the Grand Pré, which was flooded in 1869, will be a light crop. The country seems very prosperous here at present. All kinds of farm produce have found a ready market at good paying prices during the last year. Beef cattle have been in good demand throughout the county at high prices. A large quantity of hay has been pressed and sent from here to Halifax and Boston, at good paying prices. The county here is looking beautifully at present. I am &c.,
OBSERVER.

WALLACE, 27th June, 1871.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your notice of the 21st inst., I beg to state, that the appearance of the crops in this district is very good, I may say better than usual. The hay crop promises to be heavy, and the grain crops have a healthy appearance, and the favourable season enabled farmers to sow a much larger breadth than in any previous years; potatoes look healthy, but the breadth under that crop is not so large as in former years; turnips and buckwheat are about being secured and the season so far was all that could be desired for farming operations. I am &c.,
DONALD MACKAY.

SYDNEY, June 17, 1871.

My dear Sir,—I need hardly report the fact, because it is noticed in the last *Journal*. After many conversations on the matter, some visits and letters addressed to different gentlemen interested in farming, the "North Sydney" is once more on its feet. I am heartily glad of it, because in no part of Cape Breton county is there such a body of intelligent well-to-do farmers, so placed that they can without inconvenience meet and act together. Mutual co-operation is the very life-blood of a Society.

As far as the season has gone, I can only say what is already known: it has been the most backward I have seen. Within the last few days there has been

a marked change for the better, and everything looks well. Grass, most likely, will be a heavy crop. Cereals are healthy, good in colour, and strong in shoot. The same may be said of all kinds of roots; although somewhat backward, vigorous-looking. Turnips generally are just going in. Of fruit there seems a prospect of abundance; the trees are blooming well. Currants and gooseberries very heavy, although the grub has shown. Strawberries are very full of bloom, and altogether the prospects are good.

But labour. This is now the drawback. Wages running up; farmers and their sons by hundreds, nay, thousands, leaving their farms to the women, and seeking employment at the collieries and railways springing up in every direction, and the cry-out here is for more hands. Can nothing be done? If it go on, we must have Chinese or Coolies. I am, &c.,
H. DAVENPORT.

CLARE, Jan. 26, 1871.

Dear Sir,—Yours of the 21st inst. is at hand, and I am sorry to state that the crops in this district look all but promising—everything looks backwards. Hay in general will be light; I believe on account of the drought in the spring. April and May were very dry, but now we have abundance of rain, but the ground was so parched and the roots dried up that it cannot grow. Potatoes and grain are only in infancy, and it is hard to tell what they will do. I am, &c.,
ANSELM M. COMEAU.

MUSQUODOBOIT, June 1871.

Dear Sir,—I beg leave to forward you the following respecting the crops prospects in our community:—

Wheat—Though not sown extensively, where sown, looks vigorous and healthy. In consequence of the lateness of the Spring season but little was sown in April, the proper time for sowing wheat in order to avoid weevil, but even the late-sown looks promising.

Oats—Although sown much later this year than on the preceding one, yet give great promise of an abundant yield.

Barley—(The value of which for feeding purposes is just beginning to be understood here), looks, for the season, fully equal to former years. Its stoutness of blade and deep-green colour as it waves in the breeze give a favourable indication of a good return.

Buckwheat—the seed-time for which is just closing, looks, where it has made its appearance above ground, well for the season of the year, and will compare favourably with the past.

Potatoes—As a crop, cultivated pretty extensively. Owing to the uncertainty in the culture of turnips, farmers are obliged to embark more largely in the

potato crop, it being the only root that they can raise profitably for stock-feeding purposes. The potato this year has been planted much later than formerly, yet the appearance of crop at the present time is quite up to the season of the year, they having made their appearance above ground, after planting, in so much shorter time than in years gone by, showing a stout robust stalk with a rich green foliage with scarcely an instance of failure in cuttings.

Hay or Grass—This crop, the great stand-by of the farmers, was much retarded in its growth, and in many cases the lowlands damaged, in consequence of the prevalence of frosts through the month of May, yet the late rains have done much in the recovery of this crop, and should they continue for two or three weeks more will make the crop an average one.

The hay and oat crops are most important to our farmers, a ready market for which is obtained at home, caused by the extensive lumbering business carried on in the eastern part of the county. These crops, including the potato, are an almost certain source of wealth to the industrious farmer; the increasing prosperity of our country, as felt by all who take a lively interest in it, make for these crops a quick sale and ready market;—the increasing and healthy tone of our markets generally throughout our Province for all kinds of agricultural produce speak well for our country's prospects and future welfare. And, dear sir, in conclusion allow me to say that we believe that one of the grand incentives to our agricultural prosperity is the lively and determined interest taken in it by our Board of Agriculture. Much thanks are due to you and the gentlemen with whom you are associated for the great interest you have manifested in the agricultural welfare of this country. The importations you have made in improved breeds of cattle, sheep and swine, as well as grain, have tended very much to our present prosperity, and your arduous endeavours for our welfare have contributed largely to the present tone of agricultural prosperity in the Province. I am, &c.

DAVID ARCHIBALD.

LOWER BARNEY'S RIVER,
June 22, 1871.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your note of June 15 respecting the state of the crops in our district, I would beg leave to state that wheat sown last of April and first weeks of May presents a fine appearance. Early-sown oats and peas also look well. Potatoes are also coming well, and no complaints of rotting like last season. Hay crop promises well. On the whole there has not been better prospects for the past two or three years. I am, &c.

JAS. W. PATTEN.