

Crop and Market Reports.

Since our last report on the crops, they have greatly improved. The late-cut hay increased in bulk more than is usual at that stage of growth. The fall wheat, which is now nearly all safe in the barns, is a much better crop than we have had in this part of Canada for many years past. The barley has greatly improved, and some pieces which looked like a failure will now turn out a light, and sometimes even a fair crop. Peas, oats, corn and root crops all promise well. Pastures are good, and dairymen are making lots of cheese this year. Fruit in most sections is plentiful, especially peaches and grapes. Apples will only be a partial crop, although in some localities the trees are well laden. We quote the following from the *Country Gentleman*:

WHEAT.—The New York Produce Exchange Reporter says:—

"In wheat, since our last weekly review, we have had a fair degree of activity and variability. The liberal arrivals, much firmer in freights since Tuesday, unfavorable advices from Liverpool, and reduced limits to orders thence, have disappointed holders, as a better market was anticipated at Liverpool this month, and large orders thence were confidently looked for; but this may be realized at an early day, as our late advices allude to their moderate importations and material reductions in their stocks on the seaboard. Many holders have declined to yield to sell freely, preferring to place it in store, anticipating a better market ere the close of the month. We have added to our stock daily, and find it about 360,000 bushels. It consists chiefly of good spring; this has been purchased quite freely to hold. The unfavorable reports from the northwest, in regard to the spring crop and prospects of the English harvest being at least three weeks later than last year, induce a speculative feeling, and we have had to note a very general demand. Our reports this week are very variable; in some counties in Ohio and Indiana the results, as thrashing progresses, are not as satisfactory as they looked ten days since, while in others the yield is fully equal to expectations. From the spring wheat-growing States the reports are far from being satisfactory."

Other reports say winter wheat does not yield, when thrashed, as well as expected; it is not unlikely that rust on the leaves has cut short the crop to some extent after all. The American Rural Home says the crop is not as heavy in Western New York as was promised some weeks since. The late rains have improved the prospects of spring wheat in some sections; but in others the chinch bugs are doing great damage, and in some it is said they have destroyed the crop. There are also many complaints of rust in spring wheat; so the crop must be a very moderate one at the best. In Calif. the latest reports say "the unusual cool weather that has prevailed thus far during the season has been exceedingly propitious to the growing grain, and will help out the yield materially." But it is possible that this should be taken with some grains of allowance.

The Mark Lane Express, June 26, reports no material change in the prospects for wheat. There had been considerable rain—more than was needed—and there was danger that wheat would grow too much to straw, and might be seriously lodged. "The change to wet in Spain is considered injurious, and also in France, neither of which countries can expect good crops, and the chief benefits have been experienced in Germany, where everything was late." Prices are slowly receding in most European markets.

GRASS.—Nearly all reports and accounts indicate a light crop of hay. It also appears that there will be a light crop of most kinds of forage, except corn fodder; in most sections wheat straw is too rusty to use for fodder, while, as a rule, the yield of barley and oat straw will not be large. The summer rains, which came too late to save the hay crop, have materially improved the pastures, and feed is generally good.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—The Journal of Commerce, at the end of a long article on "Butter and Cheese," thus sums up "the prospects this season:"

The dairy yield in the United States this season has been very rich, exceeding in quantity that of several years past, and the farmers are alternately overstocking the butter market and then the cheese market. Modes of manufacture are steadily improving; the consumption more than keeps pace with the increase of population, and the future of the American dairy interest is as promising as its best friends could desire."

Other reports are less promising; the supplies of both butter and cheese appear to be large, and prices rather lower.

HOPS.—The Mark Lane Express, June 26, says:—"During the past week there has been no material alteration in our market; to-day, however, the unfavorable character of the reports from the plantations has caused a considerable increase of business at enhanced rates. The blight has progressed considerably during the past few days, and at the present time the plantations are generally infested with vermin, and in many grounds have been entirely given up."

The cable gives a report, dated London, July 11, which says the "accounts from the British hop crop are unfavorable, and indicate that there will be but a small yield." On the other hand, the *Utica Herald's* hop report says there are so many old hops in London and this country, that a failure of the English crop alone is not likely to result in a material advance; but should the continental crop be so much injured as to furnish none for export to England, then the chances for better prices would of course be increased.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

CLARK'S CULTIVATOR.

Sir,—The Clark's Cultivator I bought from you last April has given me entire satisfaction. Having worked with it I find it to be of very light draft, easily managed in the ground, does its work thoroughly, and must be of great durability. I am convinced there is no Cultivator in this section at all equal to it, and feel certain that any one who may purchase one of the same will be satisfied he has got good value for his money, by having an implement in his possession unsurpassed for usefulness on the farm.

G. BURTON.

Fingal, July 8, 1871.

Spring Wheat Culture.

Wheat growing in Maine, for the past fifteen or twenty years, has been a precarious business. Not to the same extent, however, for the past three years as formerly. This has been owing mainly to the ravages of the midge. But there are other causes—minor ones—that have contributed to bring about this result. Culture has had something to do with it. The same culture that corn receives is not the best for wheat. Corn is a gross feeder, and the land can hardly be made too rich, while for wheat that condition is easily reached. I have found a good clay loam to be the best situation for wheat. An alluvial soil, in which considerable sand is mixed, will furnish a good crop. Potash in the soil, in some form, is a requisite for successful wheat growing. This is wanting in old fields, and should be supplied in the form of wood ashes, leached or unleached.

Another essential practice in raising a good crop of wheat is early sowing. For many years it was my practice to sow on the 20th of May for spring grain; but latterly I have endeavored to have the wheat in by the 25th of April, and I find it makes a great difference at harvest time whether wheat is sown early or late. If sown thus early it gets too far advanced when the midge makes its appearance for it to damage the wheat much; then again, it makes a better growth, and gets a firmer hold of the soil, and the dry weather that usually occurs more or less in July and August does not affect it so much as when sown late. My practice has been to sow after corn. The following rotation I have followed with, I think, fair results:—I usually break up after a good soaking rain in August, when the second crop of grass has attained a fair growth. The furrows are left as rough as possible through the winter. The following spring harrow down thoroughly, and sow to peas, peas and oats,

and perhaps, spread on some fine old manure, and plant a part of the field to potatoes. The next year manure generously, spreading it on and plowing it in with a couple of horses. Plaster is deposited with the corn in the hill, and hardwood ashes and plaster are liberally applied at the time of hoeing. In a good season this will give from 30 to 45 bushels of corn to the acre. The next year sow to wheat and seed down. This I find a very good rotation.

One requisite in raising any crop is fine culture. The wheat plant is rather a delicate feeder, and the food furnished by the roughly decomposed manure of the previous year's accumulation, with the decayed vegetable matter of the grass sod, and the roots of the corn crop, supplies a pabulum highly conducive to a good growth of the wheat plants.

As the growers of spring wheat here have had to contend with the same difficulties for many years back as those in Maine, we make the above extract from the *American Rural Home*, and have little doubt but the writer is correct in his conclusions in the main. Let some of our readers give us their experience for the benefit of other farmers.

Burlington.

Leaving the East and arriving at Chicago or Indianapolis, how shall we reach the West? The best line is acknowledged to be the C. & B. & Q., joined together with the B. & M. Railroad by the Iron Bridge at Burlington, and called the *Burlington Route*.

The main line of the Route running to Omaha, connects with the great Pacific Roads, and forms to-day the leading route to California. The Middle Branch, entering Nebraska at Plattsmouth, passes through Lincoln, the State Capital, and will this year be finished to Fort Kearney, forming the shortest route across the Continent by over 100 miles.

Another branch of the B. M., diverging at Red Oak, falls into a line running down the Missouri through St. Joe to Kansas City, and all Kansas. Passengers by this route to Kansas, see Illinois, Southern Iowa, and Missouri, and, by a slight divergence, can see Nebraska also.

Lovers of fine views should remember the Burlington Route, for its towns "high-gleaming from afar"—its tree-fringed streams—its rough bluffs and quarries—its corn-oceans stretching over the prairies further than eye can reach.

Land-layers will be sure to remember it, for they have friends among the two thousand who have already bought farms from Geo. S. Harris, the Land Commissioner of the B. & M. R. R. at Burlington, Iowa, or among the four thousand home-steaders and pre-emptors who last year filed claims in the Lincoln land office, where "Uncle Sam is rich enough to give us all a farm."

71-8-11

The Apiary.

TO STOP ROBBERS.—A correspondent of the *Agriculturist*, published at Mexico, Mo., says: "A year or two ago I found a swarm in a tree which I cut about the middle of May, and transferred them into a movable comb hive. In falling, a great many of the bees were killed and crushed in the honey, so that I lost all but about a quart. I took them home and kept them confined in a warm room for thirty-six hours, when I set them out. They marked their location and seemed to be doing well; when one day I chanced to be away from home, and upon my return I found the entrance block had been moved from some cause, and the other bees had carried off every ounce of honey. I regulated the entrance and fed them, but they seemed to have lost all courage, and the other bees took the honey as fast as fed. I remembered seeing somewhere that canphor gum would stop robbing. I procured a piece and put it in the entrance, and fed them as usual at night. The next morning the robbers came, but to my surprise, as soon as they came near the canphor, they gave a loud buzz and darted away. Presently those from the inside came to go out, and I expected to see them go back as the others had done, but instead they came out with a slight buzz, and again to my surprise as soon as a robber touched the board he was caught and hurried off in an instant. They went to work carrying in pollen and honey, and were troubled no more by robbers."

LATEST MARKET REPORTS.

London Markets.

July 24, 1871. *Grain.*—White Wheat, per bush., \$1.00 to \$1.12; Red Fall Wheat, \$.95 to \$1.05; Spring Wheat, \$1.03 to \$1.15; Barley, 50c to 55c; Peas, 65c to 70c; Oats, 47c to 49c; Corn, 80c to 90c; Buckwheat, 75c to 80c; Rye, 65c to 68c; Hay, Old, per ton, \$12 to \$14; do, New, \$3 to \$10; Clover Seed, \$1.50 to \$1.50; Timothy Seed, \$1 to \$1.75; Apples (green) per bush, 60c to 80c; Turnips, 20c to 25c.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago, July 24. —Flour dull. Wheat in demand, advanced to \$1.11; No. 2 spring closed at \$1.13; in the afternoon firmer at \$1.13; cash, seller July. Corn market to-day is firmer; No. 2 mixed at 48c cash; in the afternoon firmer, at 49c seller July. Oats quiet; declined 1c; No. 2 at 42c a 42½c. Rye steady; No. 2 at 58c a 59c. Barley firmer; No. 2 spring 70c cash. Provisions dull. Mess pork closed at \$14.00 a \$14.25 cash. Live Hogs active, but weaker at \$1.25 a \$1.80.

New York Markets, July 24.

By Telegraph.

Cotton at 20½c for middling uplands. Flour dull and unchanged to-day; receipts 18,000 barrels; sales 5,000 bbls, at \$1.85 a \$1.90 for superfine state and western; \$1.70 a \$1.75 for common to good ex state; \$1.30 a \$1.35 for choice ex state and western; \$1.00 a \$1.00 for round-hoop Ohio. Rye quiet. Wheat quiet and a shade lower; receipts 93,000 bushels; sales 23,000 bushels, at \$1.33 a \$1.38 for No. 2 spring afloat; \$1.37 a \$1.41 for wintered and amber western. Corn market firm to-day; total receipts 284,000 bushels; sales 27,000 bushels, at 66c a 66½c for common mixed western; 66c a 68c for good shipping do. Barley dull and heavy; lower. Oats firmer; receipts 56,000 bushels; sales 29,000 bushels at 60c a 60½c western; 67c a 70c for Ohio. Pork market steady; at \$14.50 a \$14.62 for new mess. Lard dull and steady, at 19½c a 11c. for steam; 11c. for kettle rendered. Butter: sales at 12c. a 28c. for new state and western. Cheese at 7c. a 11c. for common to prime. Buttes at 12c a 28c for New State and Western. Petroleum: crude 14½c a 15c; refined 25½c.

Montreal Markets.

Kirkwood and More's Report—By Special Telegraph to the Free Press.

Montreal, July 24. Receipts: Wheat 12,278 bushels; Flour 1,800 barrels. Flour market depressed, and buyers freely met; no reported sales of Extra Fancy—offered at \$5.25 a \$5.30, and lots, showing symptoms of souring, at \$3.15, without finding buyers. 500 bbls. Superfine Western Wheat sold at \$1.90, and 500 bbls. Western re-inspected brought at the same price; No. 2 offered at \$1.75, and Fine at \$1.50, with limited buyers. Grain: Wheat, no reported transactions; prime Canada Spring offered at \$1.21. Provisions unchanged. Butter: limited sale of good lots at 17c; Choice ranging to 18c in firkins, neglected at 14c to 15c. Cheese: little doing on the spot; nominal at 8½ to 9½. Ashes quiet; pots have dropped back to \$3.65; pearls unchanged.

Great Western Railway.

GOING WEST.—Steamboat Express, 2.45 a.m.; Special Express, 5.00 a.m.; Mixed (Local), 7.10 a.m.; Morning Express, 12.50 p.m.; Pacific Express, 2.35 p.m. GOING EAST.—Accommodation, 6.00 a.m.; Atlantic Express, 8.40 a.m.; Day Express, 12.35 p.m.; Detroit Express, 4.00 p.m.; Night Express, 11.25 p.m.

Grand Trunk Railway.

Mail Train for Toronto, &c., 7.30 a.m.; Day Express for Sarnia, Detroit and Toronto, 11.25 a.m.; Accommodation for St. Mary's, 3.10 p.m.

Lands and Stock for Sale on Commission.

No sale no pay; new farms added to our list: \$500; 50 acres of excellent land and all conveniences, in Zorra, \$2,400; 120 acres in Bayham, in fine order, \$22 per acre; 100 acres in Delaware, \$1,800; 50 acres in Lobo, a superior place, the house costing nearly \$2000; price, \$2000 (dirt cheap); 50 acres in London Tp. in good order, \$2,200; 100 acres in Westminster, \$3,200. Numerous other lots and wild lands for sale. State what kind of farm is required, and at what price. For particulars address W. WELD, London, Ont.