

In the same way the average yield of the rye crop is as follows:—

	1882.	1883.
Ontario.....	18.7	16
Ohio.....	15.8	13.7
Michigan.....	17	12
Indiana.....	15.1	11.5
Illinois.....	16.6	15
Missouri.....	15.5	11
Kansas.....	22.3	16
New York.....	16.2	14
Pennsylvania.....	15.8	14
Iowa.....	14.3	15.5
Minnesota.....	18	16.5
Dakota.....	20	18.7

These figures have been a surprise to some of our own people, and they have certainly been a surprise to the Americans, especially to those Americans who are employed in the same work as myself. They had formed an opinion as to our agricultural capabilities from the census return of 1871.

Q. Can you give any information in regard to the working of Statistical Bureaus in other countries that would show any difference in working from your own?—Well, that is a pretty large question.

Q. I mean, more in the management of the Bureau, perhaps, than in its results? Perhaps then, in the first place, I may refer to the English system, upon which ours is largely based. In England the first statistics were collected in 1866. It had been a subject of discussion in Parliament for a period of thirty years. Successive bills had been introduced dealing with the subject, but one after another was defeated; however, the rinderpest broke out in that country and it was suggested by the Government that it would be necessary to take a census of the live stock of the country in order to carry out the provisions of the law enacted to deal with that disease. The law provided for compensation to farmers for animals slaughtered to prevent the spread of the disease. The farmers seeing that it was in their own interest, and having opposed the measure strongly for many years before, at once fell in with it, and they gave very full returns. In the course of the same year they were asked to give returns of the acreage of crops, and as to the areas generally. They did so, and the system has been in operation very successfully there ever since. The schedules there are sent to the farmers through the officers of the Inland Revenue Department, the mail service of the country being placed at their disposal. There are a very large number of Inland Revenue officers throughout the service in England, and they are utilized to distribute the schedules to the farmers. The returns are sent to the Board of Trade in London, where they are tabulated, and a summary of the report is prepared generally about the middle of August. The returns are collected there on the 5th of June. The same system has been in operation in Scotland, and they find that every year the number of those who refused to give information—to fill up the schedules and return them to the Government—is growing less as the prejudice against the system dies out. In Ireland they have a very complete system. There the statistics are collected by officers of the Royal Constabulary Force. Being in the employ of the Government they collect these statistics as a part of their regular duty, and they get no extra pay for doing that work. They collect, in the first place, the area of land in holdings, with the extent of each holding; the areas of the different kinds of crops, the numbers of live stock, and so on. Afterwards they obtain estimates from the farmers of the average production of grain crops, after the threshing season has commenced, and areas and produce of all crops are also embraced in their returns. In France they have a very complete system, carried on under the Department of Agriculture. Every municipality makes a return through one of its municipal officers to the Government—the returns are