

wheat excepted) has not been better in this section of country within the last ten years.

**AFKAROVILLE.**—Spring wheat looking well, fall wheat very little raised here; coarse grains good, hay a little backward on account of weather being somewhat cold. There has been an early spring, and all crops have been got in well and in good season, and a good share of rain since, making all look as well as they ever did.

**FRANKFORT.**—Spring wheat prospects good, and large quantities sown, fall not much sown, rye—go quantities sown and crop looks well, hay good crop, bottom close and rank, potatoes plenty planted, excess of consumption. The crops in this section have been placed in the ground much earlier than usual. More have been growing than usual, and they give better prospects to the farmer at this date than for many years past. If nothing occurs to blight the crop hereafter, the harvest will be most abundant and the yield large.

**BREHITT'S RAPIDS.**—Spring wheat has a fine healthy appearance, fall wheat looks exceedingly well, not much sown unfortunately, peas and oats promise well, barley fine, healthy looking; fall rye looks well, is now in ear, hay well formed and heavy. The farmers prospects for the season are good, and I hear no grumbling for a wonder, but it is too early yet to judge what the harvest will be.

#### RENFREW.

**RENFREW.**—From all accounts the prospects of the crops are good, the potatoes are a little damaged by frost but not to any great extent. The late rain is beneficial to all the crops.

**RENFREW.**—Spring wheat looks well and promises a good crop; fall wheat promises better than for many years previous, peas first-class, oats fair, barley, very little raised in this section of the country.

**STANVILLE.**—With regard to the crops no complaints are made. All accounts received up to date being of very encouraging description with one exception. A farmer in the township of Wilberforce, North Riding of Renfrew, told a few days ago, that a field of oats of his had been attacked by the grub, but not seriously damaged.

#### PERTH.

**SENNINGVILLE.**—Spring and fall wheat look well, oats good, barley and rye are good, hay is good; beets look prosperous; parsnips are good.

**SHAKESPEARE.**—Spring and fall wheat, peas, oats and barley look remarkably well, of rye there is none sown, of hay there is an extra crop. From all accounts crops of every description never looked better.

**STONVILLE.**—The prospects for an abundant harvest were never so encouraging as at this season of the year. Farmers are, therefore, exulting over an anticipated heavy yield of wheat, especially spring wheat, hay, coarser grains and roots.

**FAVORITE.**—Spring wheat, prospects very good, not damaged as yet; fall wheat also very good; the same remarks applies to coarse grains and hay. The prospects were never more encouraging.

**ST. MARTA.**—Spring wheat very good, large quantities sown; fall wheat looks well, generally heavy, peas good; oats, a good crop, barley promising, rye, none, hay, a good crop, potatoes look well; carrots, not much sown. Much flax sown, a good promise.

**WOODMAN.**—Spring wheat, fall wheat, peas, oats and barley, prospects good; of rye none is sown; for hay there are good prospects; potatoes are coming up, look very good, turnips are not sown yet, beets are good, parsnips are not very good, carrots, &c., are fair. The grain crops look very good. The root crops, such of them as are sown, look very well.

**TRACASTLE.**—Spring wheat, indication of an abundant crop, fall wheat, not much sown, but has splendid appearance, peas look splendid, growing rapidly; oats, the early sown has a splendid appearance; barley, very little sown, not far enough advanced to judge, rye none, hay remarkably fine growth particularly clover. A better appearance than that which the crops generally present could not be desired. Root crops, with the exception of potatoes and turnips, are not cultivated to a great extent.

**ST. MARTA.**—Spring wheat, a large breadth sown, and never looking better at this season, fall wheat the same, in some places so heavy that "lodging" is feared; peas very young, crop looks well, oats, in many places but just springing up, barley, very little in this locality, hay, prospects of a splendid crop, potatoes just appearing above ground, large breadth sown; turnips not sown. Crops of everything were never looking better at this season of the year than they do at present.

#### OXFORD.

**WILSON.**—Spring wheat generally good, some damaged by grub and ringworm, fall wheat a good deal lodged, peas, oats, barley and rye, good; hay very good. Milk is abundant, there will be a large supply of cheese.

**BRIDGEFORD.**—Fall wheat, there was quite a large breadth sown, and if there will not be too much wet weather, it is likely to be a heavy crop, but some pieces have commenced to fall down. Spring wheat looks remarkably well. As for roots it is too early to judge.

**BRIDGEFORD.**—Spring wheat looks very well generally; fall wheat remarkably fine. The fear is that it will be too heavy, not damaged by winter frost; peas, oats and barley, very good, rye good, not much sown; potatoes got in well and in large quantities. Everything looks exceedingly fine; the prospects are better now for good crops than for several years past.

**BRIDGEFORD.**—Fall wheat but little sown hereabout, what there is very promising, spring wheat generally very fine, oats very good generally, peas, too much rain to suit them, barley very good, hay very heavy for this season of the year. In some places where these grains were sown upon land turned up in sod, the ringworm has done slight damage.

**BRIGHT.**—Spring wheat, not very large quantities sown this season, fall wheat never looked more promising; peas look well, there has been a large quantity sown; oats, a large quantity sown, hay is to be an abundant crop. Farmers are beginning to complain now that wheat and other grains are growing too fast from the recent rains.

**WASHINGTON.**—Spring wheat looks very promising; fall wheat excellent; peas promises well, large breadth sown; barley doing well; rye not grown in this neighborhood much; hay will be a good crop, potatoes about an average planted. Crops of every kind are looking very promising, and should the wheat escape the pest insects, we shall have in this neighborhood a good harvest.

**PLATTVILLE.**—Spring wheat looks well, fall wheat, prospect for a heavy crop; peas look excellent, oats, prospects good, barley looks well; rye none sown; hay very good. Crops of all sorts look well.

**ELIZABURGH.**—Wheat, peas and oats look first-rate, there is considerable barley sown here, and it looks very well. We have never a more favourable spring generally. The farmers all express themselves very much pleased so far, and are confident of good crops.

**BRIDGEVILLE.**—Spring wheat very fair crop, slightly damaged by wire worm, fall wheat average crop, looks very fine; peas very good crop; oats promises to be a very fair crop; barley not much sown; rye none sown; hay very good, crop more than average.

#### LAMBTON.

**SARNIA.**—Spring wheat very good, fall wheat winter killed; peas splendid; oats and barley looking well, rye none; hay looking very well.

**PETERBOLTA.**—Spring wheat looking well, fall wheat very poor, winter-killed, peas and oats looking well, barley but little sown, rye, none; hay, prospects excellent.

**FLORANCE.**—Wheat good, generally some fields winter-killed a little, peas good, oats, sod lands injured by grub, other lands good; barley good, rye good, but little sown; hay very good.

**SOANNA.**—Wheat looks well, prospect good at present; fall wheat, not a good deal grown, in some parts winter killed, and the balance looks well at present, peas, good prospects; oats never looked better; barley, good prospects; rye, none, hay prospects of a heavy crop this season. All the crops look well in this township.

**JURA.**—Spring wheat, the prospects are good, with large quantities sown; fall wheat badly winter-killed mostly ploughed up, peas looks well, largely sown, oats prospect good, barley rather neglected, prospects are good, rye, none, potatoes largely planted. This is nearly the condition of the crops in the townships of Bosanquet, Warwick and Plymton.

**WIDDER.**—Spring wheat looking well, fall wheat, a good deal of it winter-killed; peas looking well, promising to be a heavy crop; oats looking first-rate; barley not much sown in this township, but what there is very good; hay an abundant crop. In this township we had very severe frosts during the month of April, which did a very great injury to the fall wheat, a good deal of it having to be ploughed up and other crops put in its stead; since that time we have had good growing weather, until within the last few days. We have had very heavy rains.

**HAARWICK.**—Spring wheat looks well, but considerably damaged by wire worm; fall wheat prospects not promising, winter-killed and spring drought the cause; peas, oats and barley look well and promise an abundant crop, rye, none sown; hay at present promises well, owing to late rains. The weather has been so favourable a large breadth of land has been sown here, and should no unforeseen event occur, promises well at present, appearances would indicate this.

**FOREST.**—Spring wheat in the townships of Warwick, Plymton, and Bosanquet good, fall wheat, not a large breadth sown on a light soil looks well, on clay soil considerably damaged by dry weather and frosts, peas, large breadth sown, looks well; barley, a large breadth sown, promises well, rye, very little sown; hay promises well; potatoes, not many planted. Should the weather continue favourable as at present, for a few weeks, the prospect is of an abundant harvest.

**SARNIA.**—Spring wheat has a fine healthy appearance, in a few cases injured by wire worm, fall wheat in some places looking well, but generally very badly injured by frosts, in some cases sown over again with spring wheat; peas very promising, rye, scarcely any sown in the county, hay looks very well; prospect of a good crop. As yet there has not been any frosts to injure fruit blossoms on any early garden crops; the weather has been cold however, and what little corn is up has a yellow and sickly appearance.

**OLT SPRINGS.**—Spring wheat looks well, a likelihood of an abundant crop; fall wheat very little sown, peas look well, hay, the best part of Canada for hay, the whole of the uncultivated land is splendid meadow. Since the excitement has died out the people have turned themselves more toward agricultural pursuits, and as this land, when properly drained, is the richest in Canada, we expect to reap a fair return for our labor. You ought to urge upon speculators the advisability of offering their lands in this region at a price that farmers could buy at, the time for speculation has gone by, their land is being eat up with taxes, and the country is kept back.

#### HASTINGS.

**BRIDGEWATER.**—Spring wheat good; fall wheat looks well, peas and oats doing well, rye, rather light crop, hay good.

**FRANKFORD.**—Spring wheat couldn't look better; fall wheat poor, winter killed, won't be half crop; peas good, oats capital, barley splendid, rye average, hay splendid.

**BRIDGEVILLE.**—Spring wheat, prospects good, large quantity sown; fall wheat, not much sown, good; hay will be splendid. It is too early to speak

of root crops but all agree in stating that the prospects for all grain crop, were never better.

**BALLETVILLE.**—Spring wheat is good, fall wheat damaged some this spring, but recovering, peas, oats, barley, rye, and hay are good, root crops good. Prospects were never better in this county, and a great breadth sown.

**ROSLIN.**—Spring wheat prospects good; fall wheat considerably injured by frost, coarse grains, prospects are good, hay an abundant crop. An unusually large breadth of land has been sown, owing to the favorable character of the season. The prospect is fair for most crops.

**BAMMOONBUNK.**—Spring wheat good; fall wheat, very little comparatively sown, but what we have is good, peas and oats good, barley not much sown, but damaged slightly with wire worm, rye good generally, never better, some places killed out; hay good. Grain of all kinds better than before known for five years. Every prospect of a bountiful harvest.

**STANVILLE.**—Spring wheat good, fall wheat, a half crop, is expected, peas, oats, barley, rye, hay are good, prospects not far enough advanced to tell anything about them. For spring crops prospects have not been so favourable since 1820.

**THORNTON.**—Spring wheat, fall wheat, peas, oats, barley, and rye look well, and a heavy yield is expected. Of hay there will be an average crop. Of potatoes a large quantity has been planted; early ones look well. Hay in this section looks extra. It is yet too early to say anything definite in regard to root crops, but the prospects are flattering.

**BALLETVILLE.**—Spring wheat, large quantity sown and splendid; fall wheat, some winter killed; coarse grains, very fine appearance. I have been in the milling business in Belleville for twenty years, and I never heard such favourable reports from all parts of this county as this year. The oldest inhabitant never saw such a good prospect of a most abundant harvest. The fall wheat is a slight failure, but it is reported to be replaced with spring wheat.

**MADOC.**—Spring wheat good, with more than average crop; fall wheat, on the whole has not looked better for years, a few spots on low lands winter killed; peas, oats, and barley good; rye grows fair for an abundant crop, a few spots winter killed; hay extra good; potatoes, large quantity planted. There has been more seed put in the ground in Madoc this season than in any heretofore, several farmers having sowed over 200 bushels, and although the grain has enemies yet to contend with before maturing, yet at present the prospects for an abundant harvest were never more flattering. Truly, Providence has smiled on us in this section in the sunshine and showers.

Making the wide, new and solitary places glad, and the desert to bud and blossom, causing the farmer to be buoyant with hope that his barns will be filled with plenty, and that he will be blessed in basket and in store.

(To be Continued.)

## ENGLAND'S GREATEST BLUNDER.

(From the New York World.)

THE "latest great monopoly" refuses to die decently.

The way the British authorities deal with the Hudson's Bay Company is a striking evidence of the difficulty men find in understanding clearly the conditions of societies and territories unlike those to which they have been accustomed. In England, where all the land is held, and that it is as improbable that a labouring man can ever become the owner of a farm as that he should buy a prime lot on Broadway, the Duke of Buckingham, who appears to have conducted the negotiations with the "Company," has found it impossible to conceive the best method of settling an entirely new country, where the land should be free and open to the occupation of the first comer and settler.

British statesmen have made, and continue to make, many deplorable errors in dealing with the affairs of this continent. Last, and by no means least in the list of these blunders, is that of acceding to the terms proposed on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company, and giving them about seven millions (reckoned in greenbacks) of dollars, to be paid in royalty on lands and gold mines, and also reserving to them considerable quantities of land about each of their stations. It seems that the amount of land thus to be reserved is not less than five acres in each case, and the Company has about a hundred such stations. They are now the trading posts of the territory and are naturally the sites for its future towns and cities. Thus the centres of trade and population are to remain as monopolies in the hands of the Company. The royalty on the remaining land and the monopolies of the most desirable tracts will deter settlers who will be more forcibly attracted by the free homesteads on our side of the line. Thus the British territory is likely to remain unsettled, and the Company may continue to enjoy practically its present monopoly of trade and furs, while the cost of civil government would fall upon the Dominion.

Whatever may have been the blunders of British statesmen, the people of the British islands are pre-eminent among the nations of the Old World for practical success as colonists. By the aid of steam the territory of their North-Western possessions might be reached in about a fortnight from the British shores, if due facilities of travel are developed. The superabundant population of the islands and many other parts of Europe would find congenial homes in the British North American possessions, and become homogeneous there. The territory might be rapidly settled, and a vast addition made to the happiness of man and his peaceful victories over the wilderness. It seems as if the blunders of Downing street would again defer this desirable consummation.