

more than all the immigration agents in Christendom to attract new settlers to come and occupy our vacant lands. The settlers who are here now, and all, speak in glowing terms of the condition of things, and will be, including their friends from all over the world. We have had many farmers and have heard one complaint against the land, which is the fact, which is the indication possible that the district surpasses even the most sanguine anticipations of the newcomers. The old-timers are also quite satisfied to remain where they are.

Barren Asinibolus has been greatly assisted by a beneficent Providence. It has been sufficient to bring the soil well on; there has been no frost, nor severe frosts; and the crops have not been in field shape. The average yield of wheat will be from 20 to 30 bushels to the acre; oats, 15 to 20 bushels; barley, 25 to 40 bushels; and flax, 12 to 25 bushels.

St. Jean, August 7.—Wheat cutting is the general next work. A few places have already commenced. By appearances the crops will average fairly well, in fact much better than was expected.

Grainthorpe, Alta., Aug. 8.—All grains are in excellent condition, but are late in ripening on account of the late heavy rains. Farmers expect to be cutting wheat in about two weeks. Oats and barley are a very desirable crop here. All the grains are high and are well headed. There is no damage or blight whatever to the grain and the yield promises to be good.

Grainthorpe, Aug. 9.—The merry click of the self-binder is heard again, and the stacks are replacing the standing grain. The first threshing was done yesterday when Mr. J. B. Cochrane threshed some barley. The wheat have been cut and although much below the large yield of a year, promises a fair crop of good quality. Most of the barley cutting has been finished next week, and wheat is in full swing. Considering that the rainfall in this district has exceeded one-tenth of an inch during the combined months of June and July, there is a crop which it is in good conditions in any part of the province.

Grainthorpe, Aug. 8.—Crops in this vicinity have improved considerably under the stimulus of the recent rains and the weather, and a conservative estimate would show an average of 15 to 18 bushels. Mr. J. B. Gibson cut a good field of barley

from 20 to 30 bushels per acre. The oats and barley are short and Grenfell, Alta., Aug. 10.—Crops in this district are doing well and a very good average crop expected. Fine, warm, sunny weather is needed now to ripen. The farmers are busy cutting

range from 35 to 45 bushels per acre. Harvest is in full swing and everybody is in the best of spirits. Barley crops are all cut and threshing will commence in about ten days. Better prices are expected this year, which will more than offset any shortage in the yield.

has been rather less than was earlier anticipated.

The season for seeding flax was quite favorable as growers got their regular ground in early. They planted a little more than was originally intended. The most marked decrease is in acreage in states of importance, oc-



Field of Indian Corn, Experimental Farm, Brandon, Manitoba.

#### CANADA'S EXPORT TRADE.

Ottawa, Aug. 10.—Canada's foreign trade for the month of July is considerably larger than for the same last year. The imports increased by over five millions and a half and the exports by about two millions. The figures are as follows:

Imports—	1902	1903
Durable goods	\$ 8,987,088	\$11,117,192
Free goods	4,728,808	7,207,372
Coin and bullion	340,000	761,007
Total	\$14,055,896	\$19,085,571
Duty collected.	\$ 2,290,003	\$ 2,337,492
Exports	16,004,149	18,754,212

The principal increase in the exports is under the heads of agriculture and animals and their products. There is also a good increase in manufactures.

#### A DECREASED FLAX ACREAGE.

Early in the season it was pointed out by Orange Judd Farmer that the acreage devoted to flax this year would probably be materially less than that of 1902. The price of seed during the

curved in Minnesota, which reports nearly 90,000 acres less than a year ago, and North Dakota with 200,000 less.

Earlier in the season there were claims that the North Dakota acreage would be reduced from 25 to 40 per cent, but present returns indicate that the decrease amounts to only about 12½ per cent. The tide of settlement in the newer lands of the western and northwestern farming districts of North Dakota results in larger areas of flax in those sections, the increase tending to offset the decrease in the older farming districts.

Flax, being seeded later than wheat, was affected less by the drought of the latter part of June which prevailed in the Red River valley. The moisture relief received early in July was sufficient to keep the crop in good growth and the result is that the flax promise at this time is decidedly better than the small grains in the same territory.

The present condition of the crop, as tabulated from our country reports, is normal, a condition fully equal to the normal promise, indicating, if maintained until harvest, a fair normal rate of yield. The following statement presents a tentative estimate of the acreage for the present year by states, together with reported condition at this date:

Province.	Acreage.	Condition.
Wisconsin	43,000	85
Minnesota	60,000	85
Iowa	90,000	85
Missouri	120,000	85
Kansas	120,000	85
Nebraska	120,000	85
North Dakota	1,500,000	85
South Dakota	425,000	85
Idaho and Montana	14,000	85
Total	2,997,000	85.2

#### MONTREAL'S OCEAN TRAFFIC.

Montreal, Que., Aug. 10.—Traffic of the port of Montreal so far this season is the largest in the history of the port. Compared with the previous three years the record of the present season for ocean traffic to Aug. 1 stands as follows:

Year.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1900	336	644,312
1901	375	718,082
1902	367	720,808
1903	388	922,911

In and navigation:

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Manager—I want you to appear in just one piece, holding a stick of dynamite. Yes, and how many pieces will I appear in if the dynamite should explode?—Life.

Sunday school teachers (to small child)—Yes, Faith and Hope are correct. But what else is necessary to our happiness?

Small Pupil (promptly)—Urbans, Miss—Modern Society.

Grazing on Bromo Grass Aftermath, Experimental Farm, Brandon, Man.

week. Quite a number will cut next week. The Do-1000 bushel elevator here to the one burnt last April. August 8.—Crops are doing rapidly and will be an average yield. The wheat is well on and will be a good crop, yield-

els to the acre. The largest last year was 48 bushels, on the farm of Mr. Sutherland.

Emerson, Aug. 10.—It is estimated that the average yield in this locality will not exceed 25 bushels per acre, which is on a level with the gratifying results secured last season. Some of the fallow is exceptionally good and will

past year has been unsatisfactory for northern producers, and there was a tendency, especially in the Red River valley, to seed less flax and more wheat and barley. The present returns from correspondents, presenting definite estimates of acreage this year, confirm this original impression, but indicate that the decrease in acreage