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The Farm.

THE WHEAT GROWING OUTLOOK.

Whoever would say that there was a brilliant future for wheat growers would be regarded as a bold person. But, on the other hand, he would be a pessimist who contended that there was no possibility of the decline in wheat, which has been going on now for many years, being arrested in the least. In England the fall in the acreage of wheat has been steady and continuous. It is evident that wheat growing did not pay. About one half of the land is now under wheat that was used for that crop twenty years ago, and yet at the prices of that time wheat could now be most likely grown at a profit.

The fall in price has not been remarkable within the last few years as compared with the fall in earlier parts of the last quarter of a century. Some persons seem to think that the extreme limit of cheapness has been about reached in wheat, and that it must rise in value. There can be no doubt that the wheat zone in this continent is getting further and further from the seaboard and that freights must materially affect prices. As it is, the wheat growers of the Western States find it extremely difficult to get any money out of wheat growing, and the moment they abandon the crop for something more profitable prices will go up. The advance of towns upon the wheat growing areas is very considerable. Population is increasing faster than is the wheat area or the wheat yield. This means that either new wheat-growing regions will have to be opened up, or that the old wheat-growing regions will once more be developed, and in a profitable manner. There seem to be some signs of this tendency in the new regions to give out. They may be temporary, but they are sufficient to show what would happen if any serious contraction were to take place. In all probability wheat-