

lowed, so that Canada is powerless in the matter. A joint commission to apply tests in Canada would seem to be necessary; and if no pleuro-pneumonia was found to exist, the next question would be if it could be developed on the passage across the Atlantic. As things stand at present, the healthiness of our cattle being brought under suspicion, and the reasons of rebuttal being inadequate, the conditions are most unsatisfactory.

Contrary to public expectation, some friction between England and Germany has been renewed over the African question, just at a time when there was a disposition to believe that the return of Lord Salisbury to power would bring cordial relations between the two countries. The cause of the friction is not new. When the Rosebery Government made an international agreement which would have facilitated British colonization in that part of the world, Germany raised objections, and as a result the agreement did not go into effect. Now the *Standard*, the organ of the Salisbury Government, complains that "German diplomacy has been strained to put impediments in the way of England recovering, by an agreement with the Congo Free State, facilities which, relying on German good will, England sacrificed in the Congo convention." Germany's interest consists of the protectorate of Mamaqua Land, north of the Cape Colony, and of Damara Land, forming a line of coast in West Africa about 1,200 miles in length. In all this distance there is only one good port, Walfish Bay, and that is in the hands of the English. The British Government would have surrendered Walfish Bay to Germany but for the protests of Cape Colony. The Cape Colonists, having spent money on this bay, had a special right to be heard. Without it the country is a sort of dead horse to Germany, the good tablelands in the interior being inaccessible, and the coast line for a distance of forty miles in the interior being insalubrious. The late Lord Derby regarded the annexation of this country as an unfriendly act; but the Germans probably agreed with the French writer who described "the planting of the German flag at Angra Dequena as a protest against the Anglification of the whole world."

THE MANITOBA HARVEST.

It is a subject for thankfulness and rejoicing that the harvest in Manitoba this year promises to be a bountiful one, probably exceeding the great crop of 1887. So far as can be gathered by the Government officials, the yield of wheat in that Province this year will be 29 million bushels; of oats nearly 22 million, and of barley $5\frac{1}{2}$ million. The aggregate of grain expected exceeds 57 millions of bushels. As to wheat, about which greatest anxiety is usually felt, lest August frosts may come before it can be harvested, it is stated that the crop this season will surpass that of any previous year in both quantity and quality. The weather has been perfect, a copious rainfall in June, with ample heat, caused a luxuriant growth of grain, while the cooler weather throughout July increased the growth and allowed the grain to fill well. There has been but very trifling damage done by hail. A few wheat fields were cut by Aug. 10th, but it will be the 20th of the month before harvesting is general over the Province.

Supposing the luxuriant promise of wheat to be realized, frosts escaped for the next ten days, and the area to be all that is estimated, the question is a serious one, how to get the grain harvested? But to this an answer is being given in the despatch on Tuesday last of some 8,000 farm hands from Ontario to Manitoba by train, and the organizing by the Canadian Pacific Railway of another excursion

of 8,000 farm hands to leave for the North-West. The official crop bulletin, issued August 14th, estimates as follows:

The average yield per acre of wheat for the province will probably be 25.5 bushels, or a total estimated yield of 29,139,815 bushels.

Of oats the estimated average yield per acre is 45.8 bushels; total estimated yield 21,887,416 bushels.

Barley—Estimated average yield per acre 36.8 bushels; total estimated yield 5,507,310 bushels.

Flax—Estimated total yield for the province 1,124,000 bushels.

Rye—Estimated total yield for the province 62,810 bushels.

Peas—Estimated total yield for the province 24,250 bushels.

Reports agree that a large number of laborers will be required for harvesting. Computed from the returns, nearly 5,700 extra hands will be wanted if the crop is to be handled in time to escape frost.

Up to the 10th of the present month it was estimated that, disasters barred, the corn crop of the United States would be the largest ever known. The yield in 1889 was 2,113,000,000 bushels from an area of 78,000,000 acres. This year it is expected to be 2,300,000,000, off, say, 82,000,000 acres. The wheat yield of the States, however, is not expected to be large; it is considered certain to be below that of any year since 1885; the Government estimate of July 10th was only 410,000,000 bushels. This looked-for deficiency is having its effect in fostering a hope of good prices. In fact the possibility of "dollar wheat" was talked in St. Paul and Milwaukee last week. The yield of cereals on this continent is giving railways everywhere great hopes of good freight earnings in hauling them.

On the supposition that our prairie province will yield this year 57 million bushels of grain, and that one-half of it will be available for export, it is quite a cogent consideration how it is to be got to eastern markets. The *Norwester*, for instance, already ventures some forecasts of a grain blockade, and asks how that quantity is to be moved. A train is usually 20 cars, and 600 bushels is a full carload. "At the rate of 12,000 bushels to the train load, it will require 2,250 trains to move the wheat crop alone. . . . In a shipping season of eight months, 11 train loads every day for 200 days will be needed to carry the quantity of wheat that will require to be moved." Then, "if the stories of cattlemen are true, there will be from 75 to 100 train loads of cattle to be taken to Montreal." So the writer seems to feel quite badly because the Northern Pacific and the Canadian Pacific will be unable to handle the grain. It is needless to worry over such a matter at such a time. Manitobans will be too thankful to secure the harvest that is promised to grieve because it will get slowly to market.

THE CLEANLINESS OF TOWNS.

If we would keep pestilence from our doors, we must keep our premises clean. And this does not mean merely the scrubbing of steps, polishing of windows and dusting of rooms. It means that we must get rid of festering rubbish. Everybody ought to know, but a great many do not know, that it is dangerous to empty kitchen slops in the door yard of a house. People need to be taught that vegetable and other refuse left to rot in the sun in street or lane breeds germs of disease. So with bath-room slops or bodily excrement of any kind. The deadly typhoid fever lurks where these conditions exist. Dead animals left under sidewalks or under houses is another cause. The writer