

Prospect of the Harvest in France.

(From the Paris Galvani, June 14.)

The Paris *Siecle*, which is ordinarily pessimist in its views as to agricultural matters, has received a communication from one of its contributors, who, it says, is peculiarly well qualified to form an opinion on the subject. We subjoin the principal part:—The autumn wheats, generally cultivated on strong or heavy lands, have certainly suffered from the drought; but I believe that the evil has been exaggerated, and that the deficiency will not be so great as was feared. In many places I have seen some satisfactory crops—fine ears, stalk short; the loss will fall rather on the straw than on the grain. The spring wheats have been injured everywhere. The ryes are thin; barley greatly compromised, except the winter kinds. The oats which have not been protected from the severity of the heat by rolling, cut a very sorry figure; the others would still afford some hopes if rain should fall speedily. However, I am rather uneasy as to this cereal. The turnip fly has made frightful ravages among the colzas, turnips and swedes. The growth of the beet root has been difficult and incomplete and their progress was hindered when no possibility existed of filling up the voids by thinning out. Complaints are made as to the flax, but the hemp is good. The clover is feeble and the young lucernes could not stand the want of water. Some anxiety is felt as to the plots of artificial forage. As for the natural meadows, with a few exceptions the crop is wretched, and on the pasture grounds the spectacle is grievous—not a blade of grass shows above the ground. The only remaining resources are the after-math, the second crops, &c., but to count upon what does not exist is to run the risk of being seriously disappointed. On the other hand, the vines which have not been frozen, and the fruit trees promise well. In fine, the situation is not good for the cereals and is positively bad for the forage. The proof of the fact is furnished by the rise in wheat and oats on the market, and the fabulous price of hay. The consequences are easily to be foreseen. Cheap bread will not be seen, but no disquietude as to the deficiency of the harvest need be felt; commerce will readily provide what is wanting. As to green food, that is another affair. In spite of themselves the graziers will be obliged to reduce their herds towards the end of autumn and sell the cattle at a low price. But the fewer the beasts in the stall the less manure, and the more so that people will be chary of their litter, on account of the scarcity of straw, which will be mixed as much as possible with the ordinary food. Thus, on the one hand, but little manure for want of animals to produce it, and straw to receive it; and, on the other, of inferior quality, since it will arise from scanty nourishment. Therefore, next year the land will suffer.

The City of Ottawa Agricultural Society have issued their prize list for the Fall Exhibition, to be held in the Society's grounds, at Ottawa, on September the 21st to 23rd inclusive. The premiums are on a liberal scale, amounting in the aggregate to \$2,500. Excellent arrangements have been made for the convenience of exhibitors, for whose accommodation the building and grounds will be open three days before the admission of the public, to allow time for the proper disposal and display of their goods.

The third annual Exposition, under the auspices of the Woollen Manufacturers' Association of the West and South, is to be held at Indianapolis, Indiana, beginning the first Tuesday in August, and will continue four days.

THE OHIO STATE FAIR. The fair of this society will be held at Springfield, September 12 to 16. Competition is open, and the premiums have been so increased that the aggregate will amount to more than \$25,000—the largest sum ever offered by any State Society in the Union.

Cincinnati is preparing for an Industrial Exhibition of Arts and Manufactures, under the joint auspices of the City Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade and the Ohio Mechanics' Institute. The Exhibition is to be opened on September 21st, and to continue until October 15th.

The Scaforth cattle fair on the 21st June, was well attended, and sales were good. The transactions were estimated at about \$1,700. About thirty milch cows brought from \$30 to \$46 50. In fat cattle, one cow sold at \$56; a heifer, \$52; two steers, \$67 50; and four other fat cattle at \$117 50.

BARON LIEBIG.—A testimonial in money has been subscribed for presentation to Baron Liebig. At the Baron's request, however, it is to be devoted to the foundation of a prize, to be called the Liebig medal, and to be from time to time awarded to the scientific investigator in agricultural chemistry.

THE FIRST WHEAT!—Mr. Isaac Poole, of the Township of Oxford, County of Kent, writes us that on Monday, 27th ult., he commenced cutting his Fall wheat, and that it appears, so far, to be a fair average crop. It is difficult to keep extraordinary occurrences in recollection—but we fail to recall to mind any season in which wheat was cut in Canada on so early a day in the season.

WHEAT AND GRASS PROSPECTS IN ENGLAND.—The last *Mark Lane Express* brings us advices from all parts of the island, respecting the condition and prospects of various crops up to the beginning of June. Vegetation is said to be nearly a month later than in ordinary seasons. An early harvest is considered impossible, but the warm and moist weather of the last week or two of May has forced every thing to a rapid growth, and the spring crops are doing well. Grass suffered much by the drought and frosts of early spring, and although late rains started pastures afresh, meadows were too far advanced to receive very decided benefit, and the hay crop will in most sections be quite short. The wheat crop, too, it is thought will fall below that of average years. In fenny lands it is not at all promising, and in many localities the fields have been ploughed up and re-sown with spring grain. That which remains stands thin, even in the most favourable sections, and can not be expected to recover.

The East Middlesex and City of London Agricultural and Horticultural Societies have fixed upon the 27th, 28th, and 29th of September for a united Exhibition. The prize list has been issued, the total amount of premiums offered reaching the handsome sum of \$6,000. The novel feature of a market on the Exhibition grounds, for the sale of all kinds of stock, manufactures, &c., is to be introduced on the third day of the "Fair."

The movement for the abolition of tollgates is making great progress in England. At the end of July, says an English paper, 51 turnpike trusts, maintaining about 500 tollgates, extending over twenty-one counties, will be abolished, and the repeal of thirty-two Acts on the 1st November, and of two others on the 31st of December, will effect a further abolition of 350 gates. A total of \$50 will thus be cleared away during the year.

THE LONDON HORSE SHOW.—The seventh annual show of horses, in the Agricultural Hall, Islington, commenced on the 6th of June, continuing open till the 10th. It was, judging by the reports of such journals as the *Mark Lane Express* and *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, equal in merit to its predecessors. The show of hunters was especially good. The number of entries and also of exhibitors exceeded those of 1869, though the names of some of the most famous studmasters were absent from the list of competitors. The first prize in weight-carrying hunters was won by Sir Watkin Wynn for Expectation; the second by Captain T. Anstruther Thompson for Iris; Mr. H. Saunders' horse, Iron-master, taking the lead in the same class. There was also a fine show in other classes, including thoroughbreds, road and carriage horses, &c.

BATH AND WEST OF ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.—The annual show of one of the oldest agricultural associations in Great Britain—that of the Bath and West of England Society opened on the 6th of June, at Taunton, in Somersetshire. The society is now in the 75th year of its existence, and has been a zealous organization in promoting the improvement of British agriculture, which during the present century has made such rapid strides. The recent exhibitions appear, from all accounts, to have been worthy of the society's reputation. The show of Devon cattle, especially, was remarkably fine, while that of Herefords closely rivalled it in numbers, and exhibited a marked improvement on former years. The number of Durhams in competition was below either of the above classes. The chief feature of the show was the splendid display of Somerset and Dorset horned sheep, which were of such excellence as almost to warrant, says the *Mark Lane Express*, the distinct recognition of these breeds, for which flockmasters are moving. Other live stock, including poultry, were all represented, and there was an extensive and interesting display of implements.