

CHIGNECTO POST AND BORDERER.

SACKVILLE, N. B., OCTOBER 18, 1888.

—Edison has invented a meter whereby the flow of electricity can be measured.

—The Bay de Chaleur Railway is still making good progress, and the company intend putting on a regular train to Carleton 1st November.

—A petition has been filed against the return of John Wadsworth, M. P. for Halifax. The petitioner is Thomas Lush, and the usual charges of bribery and corruption are made.

—The Nova Scotia Government has purchased 100 acres of choice land on Bible Hill, Truro, to be used and occupied as an experimental farm in connection with the Provincial Agricultural College.

—The Maritime Bank liquidators advertise a dividend of 50 cents on the dollar on the notes of the bank. Many noteholders have lodged their notes with the liquidators, and it would assist to forward a settlement if all others would do so promptly.

—The convention of tobacco farmers of western Kentucky at Princeton has adopted unanimously a resolution declaring that it would be to the interest of tobacco growers that they should plant no tobacco at all in 1889, and that they should not place the present crop on the market until July or August, 1889.

—All the physicians of the medical bureau at Jacksonville resigned on Sunday on account of a communication in a paper showing the expense of maintaining this corps to be \$7,000 and advising the discharge of these volunteers from further service. The sentiment of the community strongly condemns this action. Sunday night the doctors all agreed to attend patients as usual, the board of health to investigate and report.

—A year ago or thereabouts the city of Vancouver, B. C., consisted of a dozen straggling huts. To-day the population is about 8,000. The expenditure on buildings alone during the year has been \$1,023,250. Most of the buildings are modest residences and shops, costing from \$500 to \$4,000. Yet there are several blocks on which \$8,000 to \$15,000 have been spent. The finest building is the Vancouver hotel, which cost \$250,000.

—The Fall Mail Gazette states that Dr. Bergmann, one of the physicians who was in attendance upon the late Emperor, will bring an action for libel in the English courts against Mr. Mackenzie for the statements made by the latter in his book on the case of Emperor Frederick reflecting on Dr. Bergmann's ability as a physician. The Gazette also states that Dr. Goltz will probably institute proceedings against Dr. Mackenzie.

—Immense floods, doing a vast amount of damage, have occurred in China. From 800 to 1,000 laborers employed upon an embankment were drowned. The embankment itself, intended to control the Yellow River, at Chong Ching, which cost \$90,000,000, has been completely swept away. At another place, 350 miles from Peking, hundreds of lives were lost. From Japan, at the same time, come accounts of a violent storm, which destroyed over 3,000 houses and wrecked eighty-five vessels. The number of persons injured and thrown upon public charity is put at 52,000.

—The Countess Julia de Bruges de Gernipines was in New Glasgow last week, the object of her visit being to see for herself the condition of the Belgian miners who were sent to this country about a year ago, mainly through her instrumentality. The Countess employs her time and ample means in endeavoring to better the condition of the Belgian miners, who are unable to obtain a comfortable living at home, and she has assisted about seventy families to emigrate to Nova Scotia. These people obtained employment at the Vale Collieries, and the Countess has found by personal enquiry and inspection that they are all in a prosperous and contented condition, and she expressed herself as being highly pleased with the state of things in and about the mine. The Countess has a colony of Belgian miners at St. Paul, Minn., which place she will visit before returning to her own country.

—The great September corner in wheat at Chicago has ended, though the grain remains 30 per cent. higher than in July last (No. 2 red), with good spring wheat relatively higher, thus explaining the legitimacy of the advance in price of \$2 and \$3 per barrel for flour, its basis being the relatively short supplies here and abroad. The artificial or corner pieces have practically disappeared. Exports of wheat alone were greatly checked owing to higher prices and the reluctance of foreigners to follow promptly, amounting to 680,000 bushels, two-thirds as much as last week, of which 546,600 bushels were from San Francisco. But the exports of such flour this week were relatively higher, which brought the total of wheat and flour shipments (as wheat) up to 1,818,172 bushels against 1,757,619 bushels in the previous week. The total exports of wheat and flour as wheat, both coasts, July 1 to date is 35,019,195, against 51,937,227 bushels in the period last year, or one-half our surplus available for export to July 1 if we are to carry over 50,000,000 bushels visible and invisible on that date. No. 2 red wheat advanced from \$1.14 to \$1.20 during the week, but reacted sharply to \$1.12 on Tuesday, closing at \$1.12 last night. Flour has been firm at an advance of 25c and 50c, on some grades. Wheat may be quoted at about 90c. per bushel at San Francisco, \$1.08 at St. Louis, \$1.09 at Toledo, \$1.12 at New York and \$1.20 at Liverpool.—Bradstreet.

The Price of Wheat.

The recent sudden advance in the price of flour is directly due to a Chicago speculator named Hutchinson, familiarly known as "Old Hutch," who crowded a corner in wheat by bargaining for large quantities of that grain to be delivered on a certain day, and then buying up all that was available. The natural consequence was that the dealers who had sold wheat for their own use were forced to buy from Hutchinson before they could fulfill their contract with him, and were obliged to pay him about fifty per cent. more than he had agreed to pay them. It is estimated that Hutchinson made from one to two millions on wheat contracted to be delivered in September, at the same time forcing the price up thirty or forty cents per bushel, and he is repeating the process with regard to contracts for delivering in October, November and December, and other months through the winter. It is but a few days since that he had made \$1,000,000, and he stands to add much more to his gains before spring, if he has capital enough to control the market. The advance in the price of wheat has of course been followed by an increase in the price of flour, and bread has become a proportionate item of advance. "Old Hutch" gets the blame for all this, and he is freely denounced as being worse than a highway robber, but he is probably neither better nor worse than the men he has fleeced and in some cases ruined. He has certainly proved himself shrewdly than his victims, who were chiefly speculators like himself, who were selling goods they did not own and got squeezed in the process. One result of all this gambling in grain is that the poor man has to pay higher for his flour or loaf than he did a month ago, but it is generally believed by those who have carefully studied the subject that Hutchinson has only precipitated an event that was inevitable, and that a large advance in the price of breadstuffs would have surely taken place without any assistance from him. The price of wheat is regulated in Liverpool, and if there be an abundance of wheat in the world it will be impossible for Hutchinson or any one else to keep up a corner in Chicago. If the American crop is not needed in England, the American speculators of the Hutchinson stamp will ultimately have to sell their hoard at reduced prices to meet their payments, and the millions that have been made on the wheat deal may quickly melt away. But the latest reports indicate that the real reason of the sudden rise is not so much in the shrewd manipulation of the market as in the fact that there is a shortage in the world's wheat crop. No speculator could have forced up the price and kept it up in the wheat as there has been during the past two or three years. It is extremely difficult to arrive at the actual facts, for many of the leading newspapers cook their reports in the interest of the grain gamblers, but the most reliable information that can be gained leaves no doubt that Hutchinson has anticipated an inevitable advance, and that the limit has not yet been reached.

No body of men, not even the speculators, can watch the crop prospects carefully than the great railroad corporations in the west. A short crop is a serious matter to them, for it vitally affects their traffic. Among the railroads that are deeply interested in the state of the crops is the Chicago & Northwestern, which runs through a very large proportion of the spring wheat area. The officers of the road make the following statement with regard to the prospect of a movement of wheat during the fall and winter. West of the Mississippi river, where they expected magnificent crops, the harvest brought the poorest results. Reports have been sent in from the threshing machines giving yields of from three to ten bushels per acre, where they were led to expect twenty-five, and taking the line as a whole there will not be half a crop, and very little of that will go to Chicago. The owners of the Minneapolis mills are buying all the good wheat they can find. They must have it and will pay as much for it as farmers can get in Chicago. Another very important grain road is the northwest in the Rock Island road; it runs through Illinois, Iowa, and on through Kansas. At harvest Kansas reported an immense wheat crop, but up to this date it has failed to materialize, and the freight agent of this railroad now makes the statement over his own name that the wheat crop of Kansas is a failure, and all the wheat will be used for home consumption, leaving none for shipment.

The Chicago & Alton railroad runs through the very heart of the great wheat area of Illinois, through Missouri and into Kansas, a distance northwest and southwest of nearly a thousand miles. The report from this road is that the local mills will use all the grain near the railway and will be glad to get wheat from other points, as the surrounding country will not furnish them with wheat they need.

The Illinois Central is both a spring and winter wheat road. As far as spring wheat is concerned, the investigations of the company show that the crop in Northern Dakota is very poor, and they have it on the most reliable authority that many of the elevators in Dakota will be closed during the coming winter, because it will not pay to run them. On the southern end of this road, which is tributary to Kentucky, Tennessee and Southern Illinois, the winter wheat crop is reported excellent. To epitomize the reports from the railroads through the great wheat districts, the failure of the spring wheat has been very widespread, and the outcome of the winter wheat has been remarkably uneven in its character.

The outlook in our own Northwest is more encouraging. Some damage was undoubtedly done by frost, but taking the whole acreage of wheat, not more than ten per

The Crops.

The condition of the crops continues to be an absorbing topic, but it is a subject upon which it is difficult to get accurate information. The remarkably unfavorable season has produced different results in different localities, so that it is almost impossible to generalize with any degree of certainty. Even the reports of the farmers cannot be depended upon implicitly, for they differ widely in matters of detail, and each seems to consider his own experience as indicative of the general result. Whether right or wrong, an impression appears to have gone abroad that agriculturists are somewhat addicted to grumbling, even under favorable conditions, and it is possible that in a season like the present they are not able to do justice to the situation. Some farmers have been much more fortunate than others in getting in their hay without rain, but there is a prevailing belief that much of the hay that apparently was in good order has been injured in the mow. Very little broadcast has been got up without rain and in some localities the crops of small grains are in some fields very little disease, and in others nearly half the crop is rotten. Oats have rusted badly in some cases, and a considerable portion of the crop has been cut green for fodder. In some parts of the Province, while it is evident that in the United States there will be a tremendous falling off. This latter fact, taken in conjunction with the great deficiency in the wheat consuming countries of Europe, is sufficient proof that the advance in the price of breadstuffs will be probably with a probability of a still further increase.

The outlook is not encouraging for consumers, but it must be remembered that during the past few years the prices have been exceptionally high, and the producers have had very small returns for their labor. As the present advance has taken place while the greater part of this year's crop is in the hands of the farmers, it is evident that those who are fortunate enough to have good crops will be able to secure a high price, and make up in a measure for being forced to sell at less than the cost of production.

About one o'clock on Saturday morning a fire originated in Irving and Sherard's, one and a half story building at Point du Chene, N. B., and before it could be subdued the flames spread to four buildings near by, completely destroying the whole of them. But for the services of a small hand engine, belonging to the vessel in port, the whole block would have been swept out of existence. Messrs. Irving & Sherard had \$500 insurance on their stock and \$600 on their building. The loss is heavy as little insurance was on the other buildings.

—Mr. G. W. Mitchell, of Yarmouth, shipped two and a half tons of live eels by the steamer Yarmouth on Saturday. This is the second shipment this fall; several barrels have been shipped on the previous boats by Mr. Mitchell. The fishermen are very well satisfied with the prices paid them, which are higher than what they receive for alewives, and they express a determination to pay more attention to the eel fishery. Mr. Mitchell has fitted out several fishermen with his new traps.

—Rev. J. Milne Robinson, lately of Spring Hill, N. S., was on Monday evening, indicated to the pastorate of the Methodist Presbyterian church. Rev. Mr. Stewart, of Sackville, presided. Rev. Mr. Watson, of Riverside, preached. Rev. McGregor McKinnon addressed the pastor, and Rev. Mr. Bruce, of St. John, the congregation.

—An Ottawa lumber agent estimates that over 2,000 men have been already hired in the city and sent up to the woods, and that many more will yet be sent up before the snow falls. Wages are slightly in advance of last year. Good log-makers get a dollar a day, but the ruling wages are \$22 a month.

—Truro claims to be the best lighted town in Nova Scotia, and it certainly is a pushing place. It is running night and day filling orders, the felt hat factory is running 15 hours a day, and there are 24 dozen hats per diem, and its other industries are going full blast.

—Hon. John Lewis, father of Dr. Lewis, ex M. P. E. died at Hillboro, Alberta Co., last Saturday, aged 88 years. He was for many years a member of the New Brunswick Legislature and was universally respected.

—It is intended by the Fishwick Express Company to place a new steamer on the route between Halifax and Charlottetown this autumn. She will replace the M. A. Starr, which carries passengers, and make the trip in about twenty-four hours.

—H. A. Locke, fish merchants, of Lockeport, N. S., have assigned, with liabilities \$90,000. The Halifax and People's bank of Halifax are preferred for \$70,000.

—The new steamer Halifax, the first of Canada Atlantic line, arrived at Halifax on Saturday night. She is to be put on the route to Boston.

—Hob. Edward Blake has retired from public life and resumed the practice of his profession.

—Counterfeit \$10 bills on the Canadian Bank of Commerce are in circulation. They are clever imitations but the shades of letters comprising the word "Ten" on the face of the note is unlike that on the genuine one.

The A. A. A. Fair.

The Fair of the Amherst Athletic Association opened on Tuesday afternoon under very favorable auspices. The weather was as fine as could be desired, the brilliancy of the sunlight being intensified by comparison with the rain and clouds of the preceding week. The grounds of the Association, which have recently been enclosed by a high board fence, were not as dry as might be wished, but were in a better state than might have been expected. The opening event of the Fair was a Pigeon Shoot, commencing at 2:30 o'clock. The entrance fee was two dollars, and there were thirteen entries. There were three prizes, of fifteen, ten and five dollars each; conditions, clay pigeons, eighteen yards rise, each competitor to shoot at ten birds. After an exciting contest, P. A. Wilson won first money with a score of eight. Robert Mitchell, Jr., and Thomas Treubelmeid tied for second place, with a score of seven each, but on shooting off, Mr. Mitchell won second money, the third prize going of course to Mr. Treubelmeid. The temporary building, which had been erected on one side of the grounds, was tastefully decorated with evergreens and bunting, and the walls of the various booths were adorned with fans and other articles that had been sent in for sale. During the afternoon the ladies of the several committees had been busy arranging the tables and giving the finishing touches to the decorations, and shortly after 5 o'clock they formed a semicircle on the platform. Senator Dickey then advanced to the front and delivered the opening address. He congratulated the ladies of the committee on the success that had attended their arduous efforts. When he was asked to deliver the opening address he thought it was the least he could do, when they had done so much, and he regretted that the task had not devolved upon a younger man. The work the ladies had undertaken was very important to the welfare of the town, for it was imperatively necessary that a place should be provided for athletic sports and other recreative amusement. He referred to the village grounds in England, and spoke in warm praise of Lawn Tennis as admirably adapted for exercise and recreation. After congratulating the Association on obtaining such fine grounds in such a suitable locality he concluded by formally pronouncing the Fair open. Five o'clock tea was next in order, and after that the visitors had an opportunity of inspecting the booths by lamplight. All were worthy of inspection but the most elaborate and picturesque was the gypsy encampment, behind a stone wall, where fortunes were told and a variety of bric a brac found ready purchasers. The costumes of the ladies in charge of the various departments were very brilliant and pretty and contributed largely to the gypsy encampment, behind a stone wall, where fortunes were told and a variety of bric a brac found ready purchasers. The costumes of the ladies in charge of the various departments were very brilliant and pretty and contributed largely to the gypsy encampment, behind a stone wall, where fortunes were told and a variety of bric a brac found ready purchasers.

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