

be said of vegetables generally. Rain is now falling in heavy showers and will, doubtless, change the appearance of things and stimulate our turnip crops. An acre of the Heligoland beans imported by the Board, which I have sown broadcast, look as well as any I have ever seen in the old Country, and, to all appearance, will answer well here. Fruit has fallen from the trees during the dry, hot weather; and, with the exception of plums, will not be as abundant as last year.

It is of interest to note that whilst rain has fallen so heavily to the westward, the general character of the season here has been drouth. Yours, &c.,

II. DAVENPORT.

[In a subsequent letter, 28th August, Mr. Davenport observes, that the hay harvest has turned out about an average, and that the potato blight is showing itself in several places.]

THE CROPS IN KING'S COUNTY.

ELIAS CALKINS, Esq., West Cornwallis, writes under date of 1st Sept., that hay has been an abundant crop, and mostly secured in good order, notwithstanding the wet weather. Grain also is a good crop, and potatoes never looked better.

JOHN FOSTER, Esq., of the same county, remarks: "As far as can be judged by present appearances of the crops in Aylesford, they never were much better; a few weeks of fine weather for harvesting and all will be secured."

CROPS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The last Monthly Report of the Agricultural Department, Washington, which embraces returns up to 30th July, shows that the various Farm Crops of the Republic are as satisfactory as those of the Dominion. The following is the official resume of the returns:—

"Never has the department been able to report so favorable a prospect for uniformly good crops since the establishment of the statistical division. While exaggerated statements have been made in influential papers, especially of the so-called failure of the wheat crop of last year, and the importation of wheat, in the face of the fact that twelve millions of dollars' worth of breadstuffs were exported in the first four months of 1867, immense numbers of immigrants were fed, a much larger amount of wheat used for seed than usual, with a surplus still remaining over sufficient to break numerous

speculators and several banks, it is gratifying to know that we shall have a surplus to more than make good the deficiency—not the "failure," for there never was a failure of the wheat crop in this country—of the last three crops of wheat. Four States—West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana—made but about half a crop. No other States were in that category, and Ohio, Missouri, and Kansas made a good crop. Instead of a deduction of fifty per cent., or ninety millions of bushels, which would at least have threatened a famine, scarcely more than a third of that deduction should be made. For three years past the product has been but about five bushels to each inhabitant. The crop of 1859, if the census returns are correct, was but five and a half bushels to each person. The promise for the present year is about six bushels.

Wheat.—The statistical returns for July shows an improvement in condition of winter wheat over last year, in every State but Texas, Nebraska, and Minnesota, the diminution in the latter case being but 4 per cent. The highest improvement is in Ohio, 160 per cent; Georgia, 96; West Virginia, 78; Tennessee, 72; Indiana, 54; Kentucky, 53; Michigan, 35; Vermont, 25; New Jersey, 25; New York, 17, &c. Spring wheat was a far less variable product last year, and there is consequently less variation in the figures used in the present comparison. All the States, however, except Vermont, New York, and Pennsylvania, show an increase on last year.

Corn.—The acreage in corn is unusually large, every State showing a material increase, except Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and South Carolina. In the southern States the increase ranges upwards to 102 per cent., as in Arkansas. The condition, as reported, is a little deficient in the northern and western States, on account of the lateness of the spring. With the continuance of the present weather there is ample opportunity to make up the entire deficiency, in which case the yield will be unprecedented.

Rye.—A glance at the tables will show the fine condition of this grain, and the remarkable uniformity of the improvement.

Barley.—The condition of this grain promises an increase of from ten to twenty per cent, in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Indiana, and 42 per cent. in Ohio. Most of the other States show some increase.

Oats.—The condition of oats points to a full average in the West, particularly in Wisconsin and Minnesota, also in

Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, and the South; slightly less than last year in Maine, Vermont, New York, and Kentucky.

Pastures and hay.—These crops are almost universally large, from an average up to 15, 20, and even 30 per cent. above.

Potatoes.—The report of acreage of potatoes indicates a larger area planted in every State, except Maine and New York. The condition is also above an average with a few exceptions, among which are New York, Ohio, and Indiana.

Fruits.—Peaches are so exceptional in their successful seasons and localities that estimates for States can scarcely be made with accuracy. New Jersey, as indicated by very general returns, shows 63 per cent. improvement over last year; Maryland 25; Delaware 150; Virginia 35; Michigan 127. In other States estimates are given upon whatever data was received, generally showing a considerable increase over last year. Apples were promising in portions of New England, the Alleghany region, and the West. Grapes are more uniform in averages of States, generally appearing unusually well. It has been a more successful year for strawberries than usual, as a study of the tables will show.

Sorghum.—The sorghum crop is generally returned in comparatively poor condition, with lower figures than any other crop. Ohio and Indiana indicate a deficiency in acreage of 14 per cent., and in condition of 10 per cent. All the principal sorghum growing States show a similar state of facts.

Tobacco is much like sorghum, manifesting a decline in acreage and generally in condition.

Cotton.—There is an increase of acreage in North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Arkansas. Texas, 10.1; Mississippi, 9.4; Louisiana, 8.1. The average is about as last year. There is a slight difference, as reported, in favor of the present crop. The department estimates made last October, of 1,835,000 bales, proved to be singularly accurate for approximate calculations of so early a date, though they were severely criticised by northern and southern speculators, some of whom publicly acknowledged their error after the crop was sold. It is too early to predict the successful avoidance of all the numerous enemies of cotton. Had the last crop been a good one it would have yielded 2,500,000 bales; a very good one would have realized 3,000,000. Such results are possible this year.

Wool.—An examination of this item of the tables will show that losses of sheep, unthrifty condition, and a wet spring have had an influence both upon numbers and weight of fleece, and will lead to the conclusion that our wool clip of the present year is not materially larger than that of last year."