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The Field and Farm Yard.

WEATHER AND CROPS.

Halifax, 7th August, 1866.

The season has been a trying one for the patience of the farmer. The weather has been well suited upon the whole for the growth of most farm crops, yet both seeding and harvesting times have, so far, been unfavorable, and much disappointment, delay and waste of time have been the result.

At the opening of spring in April, the season was a few days later than last year. During May the weather continued changeable, cold, dull and wet, and there was no great improvement till the middle of June. Thus the season fell later and later, and there was but very little opportunity of putting in spring crops. The comparatively cold, wet weather, by which the whole of the spring was characterized, came to an end, as we have said, in June, and the third and fourth weeks of that month fully made up, by clear skies and high temperatures, for the previous want of warmth. The soil became completely desiccated, hot winds prevailed, and the grass fields began to shoot out premature heads and to show

a stunted growth. The closing days of June brought heavy rains, the grass fields resumed their aspect of verdure, and all our crops have been making luxuriant growth.

During July the weather continued changeable, a few days of warm, dry weather, alternating with dull foggy days, and heavy rain showers; and August, so far as it has gone, gives the same kind of weather, so unsuitable at this season of the year.

THE HAY CROP.

So far as we have heard from correspondents throughout the country, the hay crop is very fair this year,—heavy indeed in the marshes, and although it looked thin at first on dry uplands, it has been gaining by a luxuriant second growth.—But the weather has not been favorable for hay harvest. Haying commenced in Halifax county about the middle of July, later than usual, and although we have had pleasant warm weather since then, yet what with alternating fogs, showers, and gleams of sunshine, we have not had much really continuous clear hay weather. There will no doubt be some hay badly saved this season. In Pictou county losses are already reported. The marshes and meadows were in many places flooded

by the copious rains early in July, more so than they have been at that season for many years, and the wind and sand carried down by the freshet settled upon the grass; subsequent rains have washed off the dirt pretty well, but still much of the marsh hay will be dusty. The weather being so wet in the central counties of the Province, it is feared that in Cape Breton island there will be much difficulty in getting in the hay in good condition this season.

Really good well-saved hay will bring a high price.

GRAIN CROPS.

Grain crops have done well, and may be expected to give a large yield both in straw and grain. Probably smaller quantities of oats were sown than usual, and much was sown late in the season, but the copious rains have proved favorable to this crop, as well as to barley and wheat, where the latter has not been broken down.

GREEN CROPS.

Potatoes show luxuriant tops everywhere, and will give a good yield, provided we have warm weather to dry the soil and ripen the tubers; but should the season continue wet for some weeks longer the potato crop will, no doubt, prove a failure. The plants are growing