

GUYSBORO' COUNTY.

FROM JAMES CONNOLLY, ESQ., INTERVAL.

*Intervale, Guysboro',
June 26th, 1879. }*

DEAR SIR,—Yours of the 23rd inst. is just received. The hay crop promised to be an extra one in May, but about the 6th or 7th of June we had a severe frost which killed all the clover in the low lands, and this, followed by several slight frosts and cold weather, brought the hay crop below the average up to June 20th; warm weather is now set in and the hay crop is improving, and is to-day about an average one. The frost above referred to cut off all the potatoes that were over ground, but yet the potato crop is very promising. Wheat and barley is looking well; the oats have a good colour, but are very short. Buckwheat is poor; the fly has taken chiefly all the first sowing of the turnips; peas look well. The weather was unusually dry for the last seven weeks.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

FROM T. D. DICKSON, ESQ., PRESIDENT OF
THE PARRSBORO AGRICULTURAL SOCY.*Parrsboro', 28th June, 1879.*

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your circular of the 23rd inst., I have to say that the crops in this district are looking and doing well generally. The season was early for grass, and notwithstanding a great deal of cold weather in this month, and the more frequent and more severe June frosts than usual, it has continued to grow well, and now makes a good appearance for the season. There has been no rain for the last ten days, so that we now have a drought; if it should continue a week longer it may do the hay and other crops much injury.

Early planted potatoes have been hoed and those planted later have come up well, with few exceptions. Where the seed was defective or the ground too dry when planted, they missed in coming up. On low grounds near fresh water the early ones were cut off by the June frosts, but they have started up again and will make a later, but a good crop if not attacked by the blight. In many places corn and beans that were up were cut off by the June frosts and will not grow again, on high grounds they escaped the frosts. Spring wheat has been sown on several farms and now looks promising. Having filled well for the last three years there is more confidence in trying to raise it than for many years previously. Oats have been extensively sown and look well. Barley makes a fine appearance. Almost every farm has a field of buckwheat, much of it is now only coming up. Turnips have come up well and are not as yet attacked by the fly. The vege-

tables usually grown here in gardens only, viz., beets, carrots, parsnips, cabbages, onions, cucumbers, pumpkins and squash, are doing well. Apple trees and cherry trees during the last two weeks have been gorgeous with blossoms, and it is noticed that the fruit on many trees is setting thickly. Strawberry blossoms were most abundant, and, if the severe and repeated frosts in June have not killed them, there will be a large crop of the fruit, people will begin to gather the berries next week, and if plentiful they will continue to do so for three or four weeks. In two or three weeks gooseberries will be fit for picking and they promise to be a good crop. It is too soon to judge of the prospect of the crop from the other small fruits. We should be thankful that our staple crops of hay, grain and potatoes are quite as promising as they have ever been at this time of the year.

HALIFAX COUNTY.

FROM COLONEL LAURIE, PRESIDENT OF
BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, OAKFIELD.

Very much larger breadth of wheat is sown this season, and early sown spring grain generally promises well. The dry, warm weather at end of April was most favourable for early grain, both sowing and germination. The continuous cold, dry weather since the middle of May has checked the growth of late sown grain, which looks poor and spindly, except in rich land. Potatoes were planted in good season, but the growth is very slow. Mangolds and turnips are sown to a larger extent than in previous years, but the want of warm rain is badly felt by those crops which are really suffering. In strong, rich grass lands the grass started well in April and got ahead of the drought; poorer lands have but a small promise of hay for the mowing machine. Pastures are very bare, and, unless rain shall fall soon, the cattle will get a short bite of grass. Well worked farms feel the drought less than poor, starved fields, and such seasons as this teach us that farming, if done at all, must be done properly and as a business, and only in that way can be made to pay.

FROM DAVID ARCHIBALD, ESQ., UPPER
MUSQUODOBOIT.*Upper Musquodoboit,
June 27th, 1879. }*

DEAR SIR,—With regard to the field crops in this locality allow me briefly to state as follows:—Wheat, the quantity sown this year is far in advance of anything done in wheat culture for some years past, the crop looks promising and superior in growth to other grain. Oats, cold and dry weather has kept this crop in a backward condition. Barley, the late sown looks exceedingly well, the early sown, injured by late spring frosts. Buck-

wheat, just coming up and looks healthy and vigorous. The hay or grass crop, which is our main stay agriculturally, does not, as yet, give promise of a heavy crop. The weather through the Spring season and up to the present, (with the exception of a few days) has been extremely cold and dry, which, in connection with late frosts, have told severely on low grass lands, particularly on lands under a poor state of cultivation, and an average crop will depend upon moist weather and frequent showers; lands under good cultivation give promise of an average yield; it is a fact most certain, that grass lands under a proper and thorough state of cultivation, never fail to yield great crops, the rich soil retains the moisture necessary to growth, and has the power to force up the crops, and throw off the blighting effects of a June frost. Mangolds and turnips, early sown, have been injured by the fly, but in most cases turnips are only coming up. Cold has kept the potato crop a long while under ground, but the warmth of the past few days is operating with telling effect upon this important crop.

HANTS COUNTY.

FROM W. H. BLANCHARD, ESQ., WINDSOR.

Windsor, N. S., June, 28th 1879.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your favor of 23rd inst., I may state that the hay crop on good land shows a good average crop; some of our dike lands never looked better, but on cold soils the grass is not up to the average. Early sown grain is looking very fine, late sown is looking bad. Not much winter wheat was sown in this district, but a larger area was sown in spring wheat this season than for years past, and it shows well. The good crop of wheat last year encouraged our farmers to sow more this season, and the most of them will not be likely to look elsewhere for their next year's bread. Potatoes in light land are looking well, but there are complaints of the seed failing in heavy lands; little can be said of the prospects of this and other root crops so early in the season. I may say, however, that our farmers are cultivating mangolds and turnips more largely than formerly, and a few of them are trying the sugar beet this season. Notwithstanding the cold weather and the late frosts, the fruit crop bids fair to be a good average. Owing to the low price of butter our farmers are looking for a better market for their milk, and have decided to try a cheese factory; this establishment will probably be in working order next week. Our farmers are also turning their attention to breeding a heavier class of cattle than heretofore, feeling that however useful the smaller class of cows may be in producing milk, something heavier is wanted to supply the demand for beef.