

and if we have a continuation of such weather it will be enough to gladden the heart of the husbandman. I do not think a larger extent has been tilled this Spring than formerly, as the month of May has been rather unfavorable on account of being wet.

J. ROSS.

P. S.—I have travelled through a large portion of the County of Victoria, and the prospects are equally encouraging.

J. R.

Newport, July 31st, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—Yours of 31st inst. received. Hay an average crop,—quality good, and secured in fine order. Grain looking well. Potatoes good. Apples and Plums poor.

Yours truly,

EDW. ALLISON.

ANTIGONISH, AUGUST 7th, 1876.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your letter asking me to acquaint you with the prospects of our farm crops in the county of Antigonish, I beg to reply that our hay crop this year is below an average crop. In some sections of the county it is very light, but in other sections of it, it is a good crop. Our hay crop this year not yielding proportionately to other years is a matter of surprise to us all, as the prospects of an abundant hay crop when I before troubled you with a few observations anent this very important and interesting subject were unprecedented. The cereal crops look very promising, and we flatter ourselves that if weevil and rust will keep away, and the weather will prove favorable to the ripening and maturing of our grain crops, that our farmer's toil, labor and industry will be rewarded by an abundant harvest. Our potato crops never, at this season of the year, looked more promising, so that although our hay crop is short of an average crop, yet I assure you that the prospects of our county, at all events as far as its crops are concerned, are encouraging and assuring to our farmers. Our farmers are now busily engaged at hay-making, and Providence has hitherto favoured them with most seasonable weather.

Yours truly,

ARCHIBALD A. MACGILLIVRAY.

MAHONE BAY, Aug. 4th, 1876.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your note I beg to say that I cannot write so favourably of the crops now as when I last wrote you, the dry weather has injured them. The hay crop in this vicinity is near about equal to last year, but in parts of the back country it is short. Most of the farmers are getting through with the hay, and the grain will not yield as expected, in consequence of the drought as it was coming into ears, it could not come to its full growth. The potatoes, I am sorry to say, have been struck with the blight. The Early Rose that were planted early in May, yield well and excellent quality. I planted some the 12th of May and they are very fine in every respect. The apples will not yield as anticipated.

—Yours truly,

B. ZWICKER.

Drummondville, Quebec,

August 3rd, 1876.

(Extract from a private letter):—Our haying is just over; it occupied exactly two weeks and two days, the shortest time I have known: crop an average one, about 140 loads, but much below last year's.

MR. EDWIN CHASE, Cornwallis, has a thorough bred Cow calf (pure white) from Rose by Lord York.

WHERE there is much heavy grain we are sure to find a scale of chaff now and again. A late number of the *Gardeners' Chronicle* recorded the astounding announcement by Prof. Thistleton Dyer, before the Scientific Committee of the London Horticultural Society, that plants grow only during the night! And now we have the *London Agricultural Gazette* furnishing an elaborate report of the Maidstone Farmer's Club, at which it was apparently settled that the lupuline of the female hop is as effective in fertilizing as the pollen of the male! And that hence the latter is unnecessary.

THE Aylesbury Dairy Company's Dairy Factory at Swindon receives 2000 gallons of milk daily from the neighboring farms. They can set 1500 gallons in 800 square feet of milk pans for cream, yielding 400 quarts of cream. After the cream is removed for sale in London, the skimmed or partially skimmed milk is made into cheese. There are presses for dealing with two tons of cheese at a time, and a storing room with shelves for 40 tons while ripening. The Company are erecting styes to feed the whey to swine. The rules for farmers supplying milk are very stringent. No milk from any cow out of health, or just calved, or just deprived of her calf, or just bought, is to be sent. All milk to be cooled in Lawrence's refrigerator down to 60° before despatch, and none to be sent that has been bought. If the sender gives a regular daily supply he gets up to 11d. per gallon; if he only uses the factory as a market for his surplusage, he will not get more than 6d. The London office of the Company is at St. Petersburg Place, Bayswater. Every morning and every afternoon thirty light carts start, each with its locked churns and various milk vessels, on their several beats, to supply 5000 families with 1000 gallons daily. Nearly as much more is supplied to the trade on arrival of the trains at the Paddington station. Samples are taken from the churns before starting, the percentage of cream and specific gravity estimated, then a street Inspector waylays the milkmen on their beats and takes samples before they complete the work of distri-

bution, and finally the milk left in the churns on returning is likewise analyzed. Thus every guarantee is taken by the Company against dilution or adulteration. The test analyses throughout the year have shown an average proportion of 12.58 solids in 100 cubic centimetres. The milk has never fallen below 11.5 solids. Thus, it will be seen, that the Parliamentary standard of 10 p. c. solids permits skimming and watering to the extent of 20 per cent. From experiments directed by the Medical Board of this Institution, it appears that some kinds of food diminish or wholly abolish the cream. The "solids not fat" however, remain constant.

Our readers will now understand how it is that good cream is so easily got in London, whilst no "skimmed milk" is sold there.

Pedigrees of the short Horn Herd of J. W. Margeson, Esq., Cornwallis, reached us too late for the present number, but will appear next month, along with some others.

We have now received the second and third volumes of the Canada Herd Book.

The *Colonial Farmer* of Fredericton, N. B., writes thus:

NOVA SCOTIA.—This Province is making arrangement for another importation of stock, as appears from the article hereunder, copied from the *Journal of Agriculture*. Nova Scotians go to the right source for good Stock, as their former importations have abundantly proved.

ANOTHER new locality has been found for the native Fern *Struthiopteris Pennsylvanica*, and nearer to Halifax than those previously known,—in fact in the County and within little more than an hour's drive from the city, viz: at Bellahill, in the Parish of Sackville. It occurs there in some profusion.

We have still another interesting discovery in Ferns to announce;—a form not previously found in America, so far as can be ascertained at present, has been found near the city. But the story will occupy a column or two of our space, and must be reserved for next number.

THE weights of the Sunnyside Ducklings, given in another place, are deserving of notice. The pets seem to have increased more than an ounce for every day of their lives. A two months' duckling weighing upwards of five pounds is a *rara avis*, worthy of the attention of the great showman.

THERE is a depression in the wool trade in England. It is expected that the prices of other kinds of farm produce will speedily suffer reduction. The price of mutton is still very high.