

liberal proceeding we consider the cause of Agriculture will be more materially advanced than by double the amount expended in premiums.—*A Subscriber.*

THE FARMERS' PROSPECTS.

We have delayed making any remarks in relation to the present year's harvest up to this late period, because the accounts that reached us at the early part of the season, as well as up to the completion of the harvest, differed so materially, that it has been extremely difficult to come to a correct conclusion upon the subject. From the most authentic information received, we should judge that the wheat crop in the United States and Great Britain will equal a full average, and, therefore, the prices of breadstuffs in those countries will range something lower this season than the past, unless there should happen to be some extraordinary demand for the article, which we have at present no right to anticipate. Every intelligent person must be aware, by this time, that the markets of the above-mentioned countries rival the markets of this country, so far as the principal export articles are concerned, and this being the case, the Canadian farmers will necessarily have to submit to any reduction in prices that may take place, through an abundant harvest abroad.

As the products of this country are now admitted into the British markets upon the most liberal terms, it is only rational to conclude that the price of wheat will seldom fall much below four shillings per bushel, and that other articles will bear a proportionate value. Prices may fall a trifle lower than this at the close of the navigation, in consequence of the rash speculations of buyers last year, but those who are able to hold their export produce until the re-opening of the navigation, will be very apt to receive higher prices than if they disposed of their articles before that time.

Some suppose that the efforts that are being put forth in this country to increase the products of the soil, will have the effect of materially lessening the price both here and in Great Britain: in the opinion of every sensible man, however, these conclusions will be considered untenable, inasmuch as the whole of the export provision trade of the country would not afford sufficient for a single breakfast for the vast population of Britain. If the pro-

ducts of the country were quadrupled—which might be accomplished, if only the proper and legitimate influences were brought to bear upon the profession of Canadian agriculture—the producer in this colony would certainly get as much, within five per cent., for his produce, as though the wants of the country were barely supplied. As soon as the prices of produce fall below the point that they will not remunerate for the cost of production, the Canadian farmer will even then be in an enviable position to the British farmer. When prices are at such a low scale here as to scarcely remunerate, they must be ruinous indeed to the British grower. Such a crisis in agriculture need not be apprehended in this country, if only cultivators of the soil would adopt the improved methods of cultivation which are so successfully practised in countries that are farther advanced in the science and practice of agriculture.

It is broadly asserted that wheat can be grown in the North-Western States, and afforded for 2s. 6d. per bushel, as readily as it could be produced in the Northern States and in Canada for twice that sum per bushel: The great natural advantages of the west could be counterbalanced, or, at least equalized by the Canadian farmer, through the adoption of an increased amount of skill, industry, and rural economy in the various branches of his farm-management: The state of agriculture in the north of Europe, when contrasted with the agriculture of the southern country, will clearly exemplify this statement. It appears to us, that the farmers of this country have much to gain, and but little to lose, so long as the British markets are unrestrictedly open to their produce. There is but one thing wanted to make Canadian Agriculture a most profitable occupation, which is simply an increase of knowledge. The wisest and best farmers among us would be much the gainers were they to search more deeply into the causes and effects that influence their various farming operations. It is alone by such means that we shall be enabled to successfully and profitably compete, in the production of agricultural produce, with other countries: If wheat, or other produce, can be afforded in other countries at a less price than it can be purchased for here, the cause of this cheap production should be a matter of investigation, so that the intelligent cultivator might decide upon the adoption of other, cheaper, and

more certain methods of management than those formerly employed, so that he might safely defy competition, let it come from what quarter it may. It is common for farmers to say, that they cannot afford to grow wheat under one dollar per bushel. Admitting that this be true under the old system of farming which has been handed down from father to son, for the last half dozen generations, or more, with very slight modifications, still it does not follow but that a much less price per bushel would be equally as remunerative under an improved system of cultivation. A really clever or scientific farmer seldom fails in obtaining a good round interest for the capital and skill expended in his profession, whereas a slovenly and bad farmer can scarcely pay common interest upon the capital he employs in agriculture: the one scarcely ever has reason to complain of the times, the other is ever finding fault with the times, crops, weather, &c., and is certain to attribute all the mishaps which befall him in his affairs to other than their legitimate cause.

If the Canadian farmers have any desire to be enabled to grow grain and other produce as cheap as their neighbours, the necessary information will be afforded them in detail, in the future numbers of this paper, at a merely nominal price: It should be born in mind, that what is recommended to others, will be practised by the writer, which circumstance should give an additional weight to the suggestions.

MEDITERRANEAN WHEAT.

We sowed a small quantity of this wheat last fall, and it has stood the test of the fly, rust, and other disasters to which wheat is subject. It ripens from ten to fourteen days earlier than the White Flint, has a good berry, and we consider it a very desirable wheat for this section of country. We raised 13 bushels on about half an acre of ground, which was not in very good condition. The berry is plump and good, and the wheat weighs 60 lbs to the bushel. We cut the wheat on the 17th July, and thrashed it out on the 20th. We refer also to the annexed notice of the "German Wheat" from the American Farmer, Baltimore. This is said to be an excellent variety, and one that will withstand the fly and rust.—*Genesee Farmer.*

We have been shown a sample of red wheat which is said to possess so many excellent qualities, that we do not hesitate to direct the attention of farmers to it. It was raised by Dr. Jonah E. Mace, of Dorchester county—a gentleman whose scientific researches have been of great service to the cause of Agriculture. The wheat above alluded to is called *German Wheat*. It possesses the important quality of ripening eight or ten days earlier than even the Mediterranean wheat, is not at all affected by rust, fly, or smut, weighs 64½ pounds to the bushel, and is pronounced to be, in good soils, extremely prolific. The present parcel was harvested on the 12th of June. The qualities here ascribed to it were satisfactorily tested by Dr. Mace, who watched the experiment with great interest.