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*Omnium rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturâ melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero: de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.*

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No. 18.

### Crop Reports.

FROM COLONEL W. E. STARRATT, PARADISE, ANNAPOLIS CO.

In compliance with your circular of the 24th inst., requesting information as to the present condition and prospects of the crops in this district, I submit a few remarks in relation thereto, which have been derived from my own personal observation and other sources. The spring opened with cold and wet, which made it backward for farmers in planting their seed, except on very dry soil or lands thoroughly underdrained.

Winter wheat, which was but little cultivated a few years ago, was generally sown last autumn, and I am pleased to state has given a large yield—producing on an average about 20 bushels from one.

Spring wheat has made a good growth of straw, but is now uncertain, being injured this year by the weevil.

Corn is very late and will be a light crop; many of the farmers grow the sweet corn for canning purposes.

Winter rye is more generally sown on new lands—this year the yield is excellent; the same may be said of oats and other grains.

Potatoes did not come well, owing to the very wet weather, and will not give as large a yield as last year. Mangels and turnips did fair for a good crop at the present writing.

*Fruit*—The apple trees gave a full blossom, but it is considered by competent judges that the crop will be under

an average one—only late varieties, such as the Nonpareil and Baldwins, giving much promise.

The Hay crop is a very heavy one, but the long continuation of dull, rainy weather through the haying season has caused much of it to be housed in bad condition. The very high tides of this month have caused much damage to the standing grass by the overflow of the dykes; the damage may be roughly estimated for this County to be at least \$2500.

Hoping these remarks given briefly will be satisfactory,

I am, &c.,

W. E. STARRATT.

Paradise, Aug. 26, 1881.

FROM CHAS. E. BROWN, ESQ., YARMOUTH.

Yarmouth, Aug. 25, 1881.

Your circular as to crops received this morning. The hay crop throughout the county is generally reported as good, and estimated at one quarter greater than the average; quality somewhat injured by the wet and overcast weather of the last month. No loss from floods. Encouraged by last season's results, a much larger width of grain sown this year; the fields show rust, but extent of damage not yet known.

Potato and other root crops good. Fruit crop small, except in small fruits, of which the supply was in excess of the home market, and considerable shipments of strawberries were made to Boston with fair returns.

CHARLES E. BROWN.

FROM DAVID ARCHIBALD, ESQ., UPPER MUSQUODOBOIT.

In answer to your letter, I would beg to state that the hay crop in this district, as regards growth, is about an average one, but at this date, in consequence of dark weather and rain storms, one-half of the crop has not yet been secured. Losses by high water in said crop have not been so great as the losses in the quality of the hay in not being secured in the proper season. The low lands are so wet that in many cases it is impossible to pass teams over them or take the crop off that still stands upon them. The wheat crop, I might say, by weevil, is an entire failure, the breadth sown this year is not so large as last, yet the amount sown is large enough to cause very serious loss. Oats and barley have grown a heavy crop of straw upon the ground, and, in consequence, the heavy rains have beaten down and lodged the crop in many instances, which will probably reduce it below an average. Potatoes gave promise of a large yield until within two weeks, since then the blight has shown itself over this crop to a fearful extent. Buckwheat gives promise of a large yield. Turnips look fair, but a little behind in growth for this season of the year.

Although the agricultural outlook with us for the present year is somewhat gloomy, yet we have no right to complain, inasmuch as our Agricultural interests for many years past, upon the whole, have been rather encouraging.

DAVID ARCHIBALD.