

From as careful collection of facts as we have been able to make, the following statements of the principal cereal crops are probably not far from the truth:—Fall wheat may be regarded as varying from 18 to 30 bushels an acre; spring wheat, 15 to 28; oats, 30 to 50; barley, 28 to 40; and peas, comprising the choice as well as common varieties, from 16 to 30 bushels per acre. Rye is but little cultivated, except on the lighter and poorer soils, and will range from about 15 to 25 or 30 bushels per acre. In this statement the minimum in a few places has been further reduced, in the case of wheat especially, by insect depredation, and mildew or rust; while in others, owing to better farming or superior soils, the maximum has been exceeded. As, for example, in some parts of the north western section of the Province, including portions of Bruce and Grey, Wellington and Simcoe, winter wheat suffered most severely by rust, in some instances almost destroyed, while even spring wheat in some cases fared but little better; both kinds being also affected by the midge. This too was the case to some extent, on much smaller areas, in a few other parts of the Province; still, as a whole, the growth of wheat will be considerably larger than that of last year. The quality of fall wheat this year will be inferior to that of last, but spring wheat of the present season will prove much superior in quality and immensely greater in quantity. Barley too is much heavier, but in consequence of the wet it is generally low in colour, but only in a few cases was it so much damaged in the harvesting as to injure materially its malting quality. Peas, early sown in rich land, ran too much to haulm, and sometimes rotted when beaten down in contact with the moist ground; but, on the whole, the crop is beyond an average, and the quality good. Oats are generally a very good crop, the grain being unusually plump and heavy. The season has been most unfavourable to Indian corn, which requires a summer and autumnal temperature several degrees higher than we have had this year to bring it to perfection. Upon dry, warm soils, however, the fine, warm weather at the end of September and beginning of October has very much improved appearances, and in such situations a tolerable crop, after all, may be gathered. Owing to the

moist character of the season grass has been abundant, and the yield of hay heavy, particularly on new meadows, ranging between 1½ and 2 tons per acre, the latter figure being exceeded in several instances. The quality is very various, badly injured by wet in some cases, in others but little affected, while a considerable amount has been saved in excellent condition. Live stock will not suffer next winter from any deficiency of this kind of provender; and straw of all kinds is most abundant. We may notice, in passing, that much of the injury done by showery weather to the hay during the process of curing might have been prevented in many cases by the exercise of more attention, incurring some little additional trouble and expense. The curing of hay, owing to our usually bright and warm sunshine, is a pretty rapid and certain process. Unless the crop be exceptionally heavy, very little is done after the grass is cut than to rake it into rows and gather it into the barn or rick as speedily as possible. A similar remark will apply to the grain harvest; in this, as in hay-making, our farmers are generally strangers to the anxiety and systematic care and patience which characterize these operations in the moist and fickle climate of the British Islands. However, our people would unquestionably promote their own and country's interest in seasons like the one just past, by copying a little closer the agricultural practice of the old country. It was a fortunate circumstance that during the grain harvest the temperature was unusually low, or serious damage must have resulted from sprouting. As it was both hay and grain were, to some extent, put into the barn in a damp or imperfectly cured condition, a circumstance that cannot otherwise than unfavourably injure the quality. We have heard, indeed, of instances of hay having fermented to such a degree as to threaten slow combustion, a catastrophe only averted by reopening the mass, and again exposing it to the action of air and solar heat.

Turning from cereals to root crops, potatoes, it may be remarked, are generally productive, in many places to an extent almost unprecedented. The rot, however, on wet land especially, is making rapid inroads, and the quantity of healthy tubers must be seriously diminished.