

that never fail have received a quickening impulse. And although the farmer has seen much to discourage, yet an abundant harvest may reward him for his labours, and onward is the watchword that leads to agricultural weal.

In the June number of your valuable *Journal*, amongst other important matters, are some valuable remarks on waste manures from the pen of J. H. Hodson. These hints strike at the root of the matter, and we hope to hear again and again from your correspondent. How important to the farmer the saving of waste manures. What a fearful tax upon his income, the allowing of his manure heaps to be drenched by almost incessant rains. One load of manure from a cellar and beneath the cattle-stand which has been properly cared for, is worth three loads from exposed situations. It is easy for the farmer, though his means may not be large, to raise his barn a few feet from the ground (particularly at this season of the year when barns are light), forming a cellar beneath the cattle-stands. And in the month of July, when loam is dry and light, put plenty of it in the bottom of the cellar, and immediately beneath the cattle placing plenty of the same, for the purpose of composting during the winter season, banking well around the barn to prevent frost from interfering with the winter labour; and in this way a farmer who is not able to arrange his buildings upon the improved principle with tanks and pumps, &c., may cheaply save much of his waste manure with profit to himself and all concerned.

Yours, &c., DAVID ARCHIBALD.

BADDECK, June 17th, 1872.

DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt this morning of your favour of the 12th inst, regarding the prospects of the crops in this section of the Province. Owing to the continuous wet weather, very little farming has been done in this county thus far. This spring, particularly where there were clayey soils, up to the middle of last week, the season was rainy, so that the ground could not be harrowed, and, on the whole, the prospects are very bad, as the season is now far advanced; and I believe the potato seed has rotted where it was planted early. The grass looks well, however, and promises a heavy crop. I measured a blade of grass last week twenty-five inches.

Yours truly, C. J. CAMPBELL.

DIGBY, June 18th, 1872.

Dear Sir,—I send you a few remarks on the state of the crops as planted and sown in this place. From the best information I can obtain and observations made in this district, I learn that fully one-fourth less potatoes are planted—as compared with last year—and about the

same of grain. Probably there will be more turnips sown this year on potato land not planted, and the hay crop promises to be a heavy one.

If blossoms are any indication, we may expect an abundant crop of fruit this season.

Yours, &c.

JOHN DAKIN.

CORNWALLIS, June 17, 1872.

Dear Sir.—Agreeably to your request I beg to furnish a short statement of "the probable extent of the crops planted and sown this spring as compared with former years," together with a remark or two upon, I may say, the past extraordinary winter and spring.

I may say that for a period of nearly forty years I never recollect of experiencing such a long, tedious and severe winter, with such a backward, cold and late spring.

The amount of cold weather was not greater than during some previous shorter winters; the snow-fall, however, was more than any previous season since the "deep snow," some seventy five or more years ago.

The severity of the winter has not had any apparently bad effects on the fruit trees, as far as I can observe—as the apple trees as well as the plums, cherries and pears are all blossoming fully, and are just now presenting a beautiful appearance, the buds maturing gradually. In consequence of the cold, damp weather, the blossoms are later appearing than usual, and will therefore, in all probability, escape the frosts of June. The grass is thickly set, looks well, and promises to be abundant. It now wants both the light and heat of the sun to mature it for harvesting.

As regards the "extent of planted and sown crops," I cannot form other than an approximate estimate. On the sandy loams of Canard and vicinity, Billtown, portions of Aylesford, Wolfville and the upper part of Horton, the amount planted and sown, up to this date, as compared with former years, might be estimated at about two-thirds. Even if the weather be favourable from this date, the usual quantity of land will not be cultivated to crops. On loams and stiff clay soils, and all low lands, which comprise Lower Horton, Reid, Medford, the mountain ranges—north and south—and the lands immediately under the mountain, not more than one-eighth of the crop is yet planted, and in many of these portions of the county last named, nothing short of four or five days of fine drying weather will enable the farmers to proceed with their work. The probability is, that on the whole there will be one-third less of planted and sown crops as compared with former years. The early planted and sown crops are looking very well. One consequence

will follow from this uncommon wet spring—intelligent and observing farmers will see the necessity of under-draining their back lands, and already I hear them talking about putting down tile drains. Had this been done in years past, many of the fields which are showing a luxuriant crop of weeds, would have now been planted and exhibiting a vigorous and healthy crop of grain or potatoes. I have a small lot of winter wheat which is looking remarkably well, and will show heads in a few days.

Yours, &c.,

C. C. H.

CAPE GEORGE, June 20th, 1872.

Dear Sir,—I received yours of the 12th on the 17th June, and you wished an answer before the 20th, but that is the day on which the mail leaves here for Antigonish.

You wished to know the amount of crops sown and planted this year as compared with last year. I think the wheat will be about one-third short of former years, oats an average, barley about the same, buckwheat rather in advance of last year, and potatoes about the same.

Our farmers are in the height of their sowing now, on account of the past wet weather. You must excuse this, as I am very busy at present owing to a cargo of materials for our breakwater having just arrived.

Your, &c.

DAVID MCNAIR.

COLCHESTER, June 21st, 1872.

Dear Sir,—So far as can be judged from reports from various parts of this County, I am inclined to think that no more than from half to three quarters of the crop of last year is now in the ground. In Truro, Lower Village, Old Barnes, and some parts of Onslow, farm work is pretty much done up; but in certain parts of these places, where the land is low and not well drained, and at Tatamagouch, Brookfield, the Stewiack and the banks of the Shubenacadie, many farmers are now busily engaged planting potatoes, taking advantage of this beautiful day, and two or three other fine drying days that preceded it, to finish up the work of the season, the greater portion of which was completed in May last year. Those who were fortunate enough to get their manure ploughed in last fall, found their land in a better state to cultivate than their less enterprising neighbours found theirs, and when fine weather did come, were ready to take advantage of it: and on this account, got through with their work about the same time they did last year. It is quite evident that, wherever done, fall ploughing has proved a great protection against this wet spring.

The early part of the season here was cold and backward, and the continuous