

The hay crop will not be equal to last year, because last year we had an extraordinary yield, never beaten. This year, the first of the season was very promising, but the dry weather stopped the growth. The dry hills failed very much—some places not half a crop.—In moist land it will be a good yield, therefore we may call it a common or fair yield. The barley and potatoes are very promising. The wheat, there is very little sown, but what I have seen is very good. The winter rye stands thin but good. The winter was too open for a good yield. The rain we had last Saturday and to-day will improve the grass very much in some places. I think there will be a fair crop of Apples and Plums. B. ZWICKER.

MAHONE BAY, *July 13th, 1870.*

ANNAPOLIS, *July 12, 1870.*

The farmers in Western Annapolis have now fairly commenced haying, which promises to be on the whole an average crop and of excellent quality. The dry weather in the month of June has stunted the growth of grass on much of the uplands, but on most of the marshes there is an abundant crop. More grain was sown than formerly with every prospect of a good crop, especially the winter wheat and rye. Turnips were injured very much by insects of different kinds, but since the late rains have grown rapidly, and hopes are entertained of an average.

Potatoes never looked better since the tops were blighted in 1844. Many new varieties have been planted this year, but many of our farmers think some of the old kinds equal, if not superior, to any of the new. Garden vegetables are looking well, except some that were injured by the late frost, and others where the ground was dry. Gooseberries and some of the currants were very much injured, and in some places totally destroyed, by the grub, I presume the same as described in the late *Journal of Agriculture*. The apple trees, which usually make the greatest show of blossoms about the 11th or 12th of June, were this year two or three days earlier, and one visiting the scenery at that season can realize the truth of the language of one of Nova Scotia's ablest men who, in describing his visit to the County, said the scenery was delightful as he passed through "the beautiful valley of the Annapolis, when the apple trees were in blossom," but notwithstanding there was a fair show of blossoms, the crop of apples will be below the average, it is thought by many, in consequence of the dry weather at the time and for two or three weeks after they were in blossom.

Squashes, pumpkins, melons and cucumbers have all suffered by what is known here as the squash bug. Will

some of your readers in the columns of the *Journal* show the best means of destroying them? Much has been done within a few years to improve the farm implements and labour-saving machines, yet much remains to be done, especially in the improvement of stock, rotation of crops, drainage of lands, &c.

If there is any business that requires a knowledge of to carry it on successfully, that business is the farmer's.

ROUND HILL, ) G. W.  
*July 12th, 1870. }*

WINDSOR, *July 9th, 1870.*

I received yours of the 9th inst., and beg to reply as follows:—I believe the upland grass to be almost a failure in this district. The grass on dyke covered with salt water last fall, is also reported light,—other dyke crops very good. Grain crops promise well as yet; potatoes and turnips also promise well. I have one bushel of Hallett's pedigree oats, sown on nearly an acre of land, which I should be glad to compare with the Norway oats, if a fair comparison can be made under the circumstances.

ALFRED C. THOMAS.

ONSLow, *July 15th, 1870.*

In answer to yours of 5th inst., I beg to state that the hay is much below last year in quantity. All kinds of grain look very promising. Potatoes are doing well, unless on wet, undrained lands, which suffered by the dry weather in the first of the season, as wet land will not stand the drought as well as dry. The roots were injured in some localities by the fly and grub, but taking the crops generally, they look promising.

I am, &c.,

WILLIAM BLAIR.

CORNWALLIS, *July 19th, 1870.*

In reply to your request, I beg to make the following statements in reference to the crops in this section of our county.

In consequence of the increasing interest manifested by the farmers in Stock raising and feeding, the Hay Crop is a matter of much consequence, and is almost the first thing which interests the farmer. Anything calculated to lessen this staple production is looked upon with much interest. As a considerable portion of the hay in this county is cut from the dyked marshes, anything affecting their productiveness not only lessens the price of hay, but of Stock also. The very general breaking of the dykes by the unprecedented high tide of October last has materially lessened their productiveness for the present.

Canard Dyke is about the only one in the county not injured. On this the

crop of hay will be quite an average, and is of superior quality.

The "Grand Pre," of Horton, the largest body of dyked marsh in the county, will not cut half a crop. The dykes on the Cornwallis, Habitant, and Pero Rivers, will yield about the same. The Wickwire dyke in Horton (about 600 acres) and Stan's Point Dyke (about 200) are complete failures.

You will see from these statements that the quantity of grass to be cut for hay will be largely decreased. The uplands, especially old sward, will yield but a small crop; and the intervals have been seriously damaged by their overflowing with the recent heavy rains. Fortunately there is a large quantity of old hay on hand.

I think here is more Spring Wheat sown this year than usual, and, as far as I can learn, promises well. The small quantity of Winter Wheat looks finely, and was not the least injured by the winter.

There is a very large breadth of oats sown, and I never saw them look more promising. I find the Surprise Oats imported by the Board are several days earlier than the "Norway" or our common black oats. Rye is not much sown in this section of the country, but I believe is promising well where cultivated.

Corn is getting to be a more favorite crop with our farmers, and I must say looks as well as I ever saw it, both in growth and forwardness.

Potatoes, heretofore the staple product of the farmers, still hold a prominent place in almost all sections of the country. Stock breeders and feeders find them very profitable when fed to growing and fattening Stock and milch cows; and it is a question whether more permanent benefit will not result to the general farming interest by feeding them to the Stock instead of shipping them to a foreign market.

Some gentlemen who have fed their potatoes to their Stock have decided that they yielded them at least thirty cents per bushel.

There are some of the Early Rose planted; and while the top and formation of balls do not indicate as early maturity as the old Early Rose or Russian Blues, yet the tubers are much larger, which will make them valuable for early marketing. The best eating potatoes are the white Peach Blows, but they require a long season and good land to make them profitable for cultivation. Peas, beans, onions, carrots, mangolds, and turnips are much more largely cultivated than in former years; and there is also a greater interest shown in the cultivation of garden vegetable, as the people find that a mixed diet of vegetable and animal food is more wholesome and less expensive when used in the family.