

FROM HON. GEORGE WHITMAN.

*Round Hill, Annapolis,*

*Aug. 8th, 1885.*

In answer to your letter of the 3rd inst., the warm weather and seasonable rains have been favourable to the growth of crops generally. The hay on the uplands and most of marshes has been got in in good condition, the quality is better than usual, and, although light in some districts, will be a fair average crop. Corn and late sown grain was in many places broken down and injured by the storm on the 4th inst. Potatoes and root crops generally are looking better than for some years past. Apples, one of our principal paying crops, will be short—in fact not more than half a crop—the quantity grown in this country last year has been estimated at 200,000 barrels, and this seasons crop not half that amount—the trees are making good growth and look healthy, except some few attacked by the Borer. Turning hogs into the orchard is found to be of great benefit in destroying insects in the ground and eating the wormy apples that fall from the trees, and, with proper management the hogs prove to be good tillers of the soil. The trees in most of our orchards are set too close in many places—not more than twenty feet apart—so that, where the trees are large, the thick foliage prevents the sun's rays required to color and ripen the fruit and thereby enrich the flavour. Where the soil is good the old trees do best when not less than forty feet apart. The treatment recommended in Scripture for the barren fig tree is good for the apple tree and it may be so treated yearly.

FROM R. W. STARR, ESQ.

*Starr's Point, Aug. 6th, 1885.*

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your request of the 3rd for information on condition of orchard crops in my vicinity, I have still to adhere to the opinion expressed by me last month, i.e., that the crop will prove nearly up to the average in quantity, and, judging from present appearances, the quality will be much better than last year as the fruit is well grown for the season, and very little appearance of "black spot" or "mildew" which have been so prevalent for the past years. The hay crop is now about all secured and in first rate condition and has turned out full better than estimated. Early sown oats and barley are fast ripening and seem to be heavily filled, with a medium growth of straw. Potatoes never looked better and there is a prospect for a splendid crop if the rust does not strike before the tubers get fully grown. Pastures are still holding out, and after-math starting well. Altogether the country was never looking better at the time of year.

FROM C. P. BLANCHARD, ESQ.

*Truro, Aug. 6th, 1885.*

DEAR SIR,—Yours of August 3rd, asking information with regard to orchard and field crops in this district, is to hand. There is very little fruit raised in this section of the county, but the trees that I have seen appear to be bearing more largely than usual. The hay crop has been largely secured and is of excellent quality but short in quantity, the marsh lands not having produced so well as was anticipated some few weeks ago. The potato crop will be above the average per acre. Turnips not likely to be more than half a crop, some fields having been largely eaten by the grub and others by the fly. All the grain crops look well—with some slight indications of rust in the oats.

FROM ALBERT BECKWITH, ESQ.

*Nictaux, Annapolis,*

*Aug. 8th, 1885.*

DEAR SIR,—In answer to yours of the 3rd inst. respecting the crops in this district I have to report for fruit:—Nonpareils are almost an entire failure; Baldwins and other winter sorts will give a very small crop; some Gravenstein orchards are pretty well filled but there will not be more than half as many of these as last year. Of all kinds there will not be more than one quarter of a crop. Field crops of all kinds promise an unusually large yield. Hay was abundant and is now nearly all secured in fine condition. Potatoes, turnips and other roots never looked better. Grain will give a good yield.

FROM HENRY J. CHUTE, ESQ.

*Elm Bank, Somerset,*

*Aug. 10th, 1885.*

DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours of the 3rd, in regard to the state of the orchard crop in this district, I would say that our apple crop will be below the average. Baldwins will be short as it is not the bearing year; Ribstons are looking fair, and most all other sorts are looking as well as could be expected after the heavy crops of last year. Our field crops are looking grand at present; oats are a heavy yield and are ripening well; potatoes are looking very promising, and, if the rust holds off, will, without doubt, turn out large. Other field crops are fully up to the average.

FROM JAMES PATTERSON, JR., ESQ.

*Aylesford, King's County,*

*Aug. 11th, 1885.*

In answer to yours of the 3rd inst., asking for state of crops in this part of the county, would say that hay has been a considerable above the average and is now nearly all secured and in fine condi-

tion. The weather has been very favourable during the haying season, we have had frequent showers which kept the crops growing, but not heavy to flow our low lands like last year, grain of all kinds looks finely and quite a breadth of oats are now ready to harvest. Apples will fall far below an average and is thought will not exceed half of last year's crop. Plums a failure altogether. Potatoes and all root crops are looking finely and promise an abundant harvest.

FROM COLONEL W. E. STARRATT.

*Maple Grove, Paradise,*

*Aug. 11th, 1885.*

DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours of the 4th inst., relative to the present prospects of the orchard crops in this district. I can only confirm my former report that the crop of fruit will be under an average one, but the quality never showed better at this season of the year—the fruit being of good size and free from blemishes. We had a very severe wind-storm on the 4th and 5th which damaged the trees in some localities. Having had one of the best of seasons for hay-making, this crop is secured in excellent condition. Our grain crops will be fully up to our expectations.

FROM L. W. ELLIOTT, ESQ.

*Clarence, Aug. 7th, 1885.*

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your request I have to report, viz: The apple crop in this section will not reach an average. Orchards in grass not well mulched have a light crop. Those under good cultivation are either very well filled or making a good growth. Baldwins not bearing last year will give a fair crop; Bishop Pippins look well, large and smooth, free from spots; Nonpareils very light; other varieties more affected by the the circumstances above mentioned; pears and plums light; quinces were very much injured by the cold winter; haying is nearly finished—large crop well secured; grain promising a good yield; straw not as stout as last year; potatoes looking well; other roots good.

FROM W. E. SAUNDERS, ESQ.

*Tremont, Aug. 12th, 1885.*

DEAR SIR,—In answer to yours of 3rd inst. relative to fruit and other crops in the vicinity, I would submit the following:—So far as my knowledge extends, the apple crop is a partial failure; the prospects at present do not promise more than one-half an average crop. Grain and vegetables are looking well and promise a good yield. Hay above the average and gathered mostly in good condition.