

Garnet Chili for yielding, hardiness, and for the West Indian market seems to be the favourite. The Rose is quite extensively cultivated this year; and some others, such as Excelsior, Breece's Prolific, Climax, and the Goodrich, Calico, are being tested. The main crop will be the Prince Albert. It is a pity that more attention is not paid to the growing of potatoes specially for the table, the market, and for feeding purposes, instead of simply seeking the sort that yields the greatest number of bushels. I never saw the potato crop promise much better at this season of the year.

The Hay Crop promises well, the recent rain is thickening it up very much.

I can scarcely say anything about the prospect of the Fruit Crop. It is certain there was never a better show of blossoms, but I am suspicious that the crop will not be very large. Much yet depends upon the various insects, drought, &c., which often make a great difference.

On the whole I think that the farmer's prospects as regards the crops generally are good.

C. C. HAMILTON.

To the Editor Journal of Agriculture :

Sir,—Having just made a hurried trip through a portion of the counties of Colchester and Cumberland, I forward you a few remarks of my impressions about the crops, &c. Grain is very backward. I should say that less than usual is sown. It has a very healthy look and colour in spite of the great amount of rain. Wheat has been sown to a greater extent than usual, and looks very well. Potatoes are also very backward; they are fairly above ground, but not forward enough for hoeing. I heard some complaints that the wet prevented their being hoed, but I have hardly seen any sufficiently advanced to require it.

The potato fields are very free from weeds, which I attribute to the ground having been in good order when it was worked, and to its consequently getting a thorough stirring with the harrow.

The general cry is that owing to the heavy rain-fall the hay crop will be very heavy. I thought so too until I made my trip. I now think that where the land is in really good heart the crop will be very good, as the bottom is thick and the grass tall; but in average lands, although the bottom is good, there is no length of grass. This is probably owing to the backward season, and if the weather continues moist and cool, the haying season will most likely be late, and the grass may attain a fair height.

The most pleasing feature was perhaps the richness of the pastures into which the farmers of the Amherst district turn their cattle, and the consequent capital condition of the animals grazing in them, a marked commentary on the prevailing

fashion of pasturing land only when it is too poor to cut hay.

It struck me that an unusually large number of calves were being saved and raised this year. Their colour and shape told strongly of the pure blood importations of "The Board."

The lambs are, of course, still with the ewes. There is much room for improvement among the sheep, and I trust that the increased value given for wool—thanks to the enterprize of the promoters of the Oxford and Maccan Woollen Mills—will induce our farmers to preserve their lambs, that the annual "massacre of the innocents" may cease, and that instead thereof both lambs and calves may be permitted to attain their full growth. A trip through this noble farming district at this season is a great treat, and I cannot conceive any person taking such and then holding the opinion that Nova Scotia is no place for a man to live in or make a living in.

Yours obediently,

J. WINBURN LAURIE.

Oakfield, July 3.

YARMOUTH, June 6, 1871.

Dear Sir,—It is too early in the season to predicate as to crops; the winter was severe, disastrous to trees and fruit not entirely hardy. Strawberry plots in especial suffered extremely. The spring opened early enough to get seed in—as it afterwards seemed a month too soon, as several weeks followed of quite dry, cold weather, with hard frosts at night, and until the last week absence of rain threatened a diminished hay crop. Recent timely showers have removed this danger.

A very abundant bloom on all kinds of fruit trees promises a favourable season for fruit, if the still more abundant pests of insects prove not utterly destructive. In every blossom may be seen from two to ten jointed beetles devouring and laying eggs. Hand-picking is a tolerably sure cure. Yours very truly.

CHAS. E. BROWN,

Sec. Yar. Co. Agl. Soc.

NEW ANNAN, June 27, 1871.

Dear Sir,—I received your note of the 21st last evening, in regard to the state of the crops in our district, and in reply would beg leave to state that the first part of the season set in cold and dry, but upon the whole the weather was favourable for agricultural purposes; the hay crop looked very backward until about the 12th of June, when we had a very heavy rain storm, and since that frequent showers, and as far as I can learn the hay crop will be very good. Grain crops look well, and potatoes look healthy. It is generally allowed that in our section of the county there is a greater breadth of land under crop than usual,

and to present appearance, with a good harvest and the blessing of the Giver of all good, there will be plenty for man and beast. Excuse my brief note.

I am, dear sir, yours,

Wm. CREIGHTON.

LOCKPORT, June 29, 1871.

Dear Sir,—Yours of date of 21st inst. is to hand. As I was absent from home I did not receive it in time to answer by the time you wanted it. The hay crop will hardly be an average one, owing to the want of rain in May and early part of June. Potatoes, grain, and everything else, look well, and promise to be a fair crop. I do not know that there is anything more that I can inform you on from this county.

Yours, &c.,

THOS. JOHNSON.

DIGBY, June 28, 1871.

Dear Sir,—Yours of the 21st inst. only came to hand last evening, therefore my reply will be too late for the next issue of the *Journal*.

As regards the appearance of the crops in my district, I would say that owing to the cold, dry weather of last month, the grass made but little progress, but the frequent rains during this month have brought it on very rapidly, and the appearance at present is that the yield will be greater than last year.

Wheat is looking well, but little sown. Barley has a very healthy appearance, and is generally a sure crop. Oats—More sown than usual, and at present a good prospect for a large yield. The Norway oats, where sown, look very fine. No doubt the yield will be good. Potatoes—The Early Blues look well, and promise to be good. The Early Rose has a very healthy appearance;—considerable quantity planted. Beets, carrots, cabbages, cucumbers and squash have been much injured by grubs; in some places the plants have been wholly destroyed. The currant and gooseberry bushes have been well trimmed of their foliage by a kind of green worm about an inch long, which will nearly destroy the crop.

Hoping this will be of service to you I remain your obedient servant,

WILLIAM AYMAR,

Sec. Digby Co. Agl. Soc.

MIDDLE RIVER, June 29, 1871.

Dear Sir,—Yours of the 21st ult. only reached here on Tuesday, 27th, otherwise I would have replied earlier.

As regards the state of the crops in this district, it is hard for me to form a definite opinion at this early stage of the season owing to the backwardness of the spring. During the months of April and May we had an unusual length of cold, wet and foggy weather, which