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rally light, and the chances of the next year's crop are considerably injured. When not cropped the first year, the sun kills the roots of grass much better and the sod rots much more effectually; thus preparing it to raise a better crop next year. It is doubtful whether any thing is gained by the "sod" crop; that is the crop grown the first year after the land is broken up.

ILLINOIS AS A WHEAT GROWING STATE.

At least two-thirds of all the wheat grown in the northern section of the State, is Spring wheat. Winter wheat is grown in Canada with success as far north-east as Belleville, and even Kingston; and it is a curious question how it comes to pass that the northern part of this State, so much farther south-west, is not better adapted for the production of winter wheat than the neighbourhood of Belleville, in Canada. The reason generally given, and I have no doubt it is the correct one, is that *the frequent thaws cause the grain to be exposed, and it suffers accordingly*, from the absence of shelter. A farmer, who lives fifteen miles east of the Mississippi, on the line of railroad on which I came to day, estimated the yield in that neighbourhood at 15 bushels an acre—some spring wheat descending as low as 10, and some fall rising as high as 25. A farmer, who lives fifteen miles west of Rock Island, told me, in the railroad cars to-day, that from 10 acres of Spring wheat he had obtained 110 bushels, and that all he had been offered for it was 50 cents a bushel. Another farmer, who lives in the neighbourhood of La Salle, and with whom I conversed a few days before, estimated the entire yield of wheat throughout the State of Illinois, at 10 bushels an acre. This low average he set down to the ravages of the chinch bug. I have since learned that this insect frequently covers the stalks of both wheat and corn—paying its respects to the wheat first, and afterwards going over to the corn for a dessert. Oats are rusted in some places, and it is thought that 25 bushels per acre will be a high average.

At Springfield I found a large number of farmers in the city, their waggons being ranged on every street that forms the boundary of the square in which the State-house is situated. They did not appear to have brought much into the city. Some few of them had about a half-cord of bad wood each—oak—for which they uniformly asked \$1 50. Some of them had brought it seven miles. Hardly any of them—I could not find one—had brought in wheat. I conversed freely with numbers of them on the subject of the harvest, and they had all pretty nearly one story to tell: there is a light wheat crop. I met two farmers whose wheat had not been worth reaping; and one who, during the last three years, had lost from \$1,000 to \$1,500 in the attempt to grow wheat. In 1857, he put \$100 worth of seed wheat into 80 acres, and reaped nothing. Last year his crop failed again; and this year it is so bad that, after reaping a few acres, he found it would not pay for the labour, and abandoned the crop in the field. Winter wheat is sown almost exclusively in this part of the State, but year after year it has suffered from winter killing. This year it has, according to the evidence of all the practical persons with whom I spoke on the subject, suffered from three causes: winter