

that there was not even an average crop. To the casual observer, the crop of Winter wheat gave, during the Spring, all the tokens of being a remarkably heavy one. The observant farmer, however, when he examined his fields, could discover that his wheat was more than commonly thin, and that the plant did not tiller as well as usual. This was owing to the dry weather last fall, which prevented a good deal of the seed from germinating, and enabled the fly to destroy more; and also to the severity of the winter, which killed more or less in the best soils. The only hope for good crop lay in having a cool, moist season to enable the heads to fill well. Beside, the ravages of the midge in New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, and the joint-worm in Virginia, during the past two years, so discouraged the farmers in many parts of those States, that less land was laid down to winter wheat than usual, though the deficiency was more than supplied, by spring-sown wheat. Finally, when the time came for harvest, there was a fair promise for an average crop, and nothing more. But the result of the weather in New York, and much of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, was such that in quality and quantity it is deficient at least one-third. This would give at the lowest estimate full twenty millions, so that in reality there are about one hundred and four millions to supply our own population with bread, and seed for next year's crop.

There is then in reality no surplus in the Union. All that is taken away must be at such prices as will induce or compel the people to substitute other food for wheaten bread. Potatoes, corn and buckwheat are reasonably abundant and, should the price of wheat warrant, will be largely substituted. But with the present high price for beef and pork, there must be limit to their consumption. That with an increased price for wheat and flour a surplus to the amount of ten or fifteen millions may be obtained we have no doubt; but we do not believe that in addition to what is to come from Canada, the surplus can be fore-
 beyond twenty millions, unless prices rise much higher than ever before.

PRICES AND WAGES IN ENGLAND.

The following is from the *Mark Lane Express* of the 22nd Oct.—: The average price of wheat for the six weeks ending October 6th was 75s. 11d. per qr. The average for the corresponding period of last year was 56s. 7d. Wheat is therefore 19s. 4d. per qr. higher than it was this time last year. It was then little above that mystical 56s. which when we were in the lowest depths of agricultural distress, all looked up to as remunerative, while there were even some, and those not amateurs, but men whose sole dependance was upon farming, who did not hesitate to declare that they would be satisfied with 50s. per qr. No man can deny that present prices are remunerative, or that if they are not, a further rise will be powerless to make them so. The prudent farmer dreads a further advance. He knows that, sooner or later, it must be followed by a decline, and he knows that in many items of the cost of cultivation expenses must increase as prices rise. He sees that landlords are more interested in high prices than tenants, unless, which is impossible, those high prices can go on indefinitely increasing. His rent, he knows too well, must ultimately follow prices. If he holds as tenant-at-will, he may be certain that his landlord will not continue to pay 30 per cent. more than he has been accustomed to pay for bread, meat, butter,

cheese, and other articles of agricultural produce, without looking for an advance of rent. If the farmer holds under a corn rent, and we know many who do, he looks with anxiety to every rise of the markets, lest he should have to pay rent on a scale higher than that at which he has sold a large portion of his crop. And he knows that, with the experience of the past before them, landlords are unwilling to grant leases at a fixed money rent which they know will only bind them while prices are expanding, and that when the times of depression come they have to make abatements. The prudent farmer, again, is unwilling to bind himself to a fixed money-rent for a term of years based on prices which may not be permanent.

Then again, seed and horses consume as much of the produce whether wheat and oats be selling high or low. As for manual labour, too, the farmer knows that, instead of two men looking after one master two masters are now looking after one man. Those districts which depended on a periodical influx of Irish labourers for their harvest, receive them no more. They have solved the problem of a self-supporting emigration. The Highlanders who performed in the same way the periodical labour of the Scottish lowlands are emigrating to Canada, where they can obtain land of their own. The English rural population are shaking off their dread of foreign parts; they are acquiring a better knowledge of them, and of the prospects they afford the poor man of becoming a landowner, and employer of labour himself. We cannot take up a local paper, be it English, or Irish, or Scottish, but we meet with statements of the scarcity of hands and the rise of wages. Under this state of things the landlords, with a few insignificant exceptions, are quite as much disposed as the farmers to let bygones be bygones, and to accept the change as an accomplished fact. We consequently rarely hear at our agricultural meetings declarations on agricultural grievances from that class: on the contrary, they appear more disposed to devote their energies to improving the moral and social condition of the agricultural labourer. The clergy are zealously seconding their laudable exertions, if indeed they did not originate the movement,

TURNIP SWEEPSTAKES.

We give below the report of the Judges appointed to decide the Sweepstakes, amounting to £27-10,—for the best two acres of Swedish Turnips, taking quantity and quality into consideration. This competition was got up under the auspices of the Township of Etobicoke Agricultural Society, one of the most flourishing Societies in the Province, each competitor depositing \$10. Last spring eleven farmers entered the lists, but it appears that all did not compete.—Mr. Alexander Shaw, of Toronto, who is so favourably known as a successful cultivator of root-crops in general, was the winner. From the details given in the Report it will be seen that with proper care and treatment, the soil and climate of Canada are far more favorable to the culture of the Swedish Turnip than is generally imagined; and there is good reason to hope that this important department of husbandry will continue to receive increasing attention.—We shall be glad to hear that similar enterprises are commenced in other districts. A widely extended benefit must be the necessary result:—