

any of our readers in British Columbia or Manitoba would give us a further and fuller explanation than we, at a distance, are possessed of.

The following additional information respecting the Free Grant Lands is from the Government Agent in the *Montreal Witness*, and has, therefore, the stamp of authority:

GOVERNMENT FREE GRANT LANDS.

(*Editor Witness.*)—The settler in the free grant district has no control over the pine timber on his lots, until the patent is issued. He may, however, cut what he needs for his own use, or what may be in the way of his clearing operations; but he cannot sell any. If the pine in the township in which his lots are situated is not yet under license, he may cut and sell on condition of paying Government dues, about 75 cents per M. No license to cut timber can be obtained, except at the regular auction sales of timber limits. The lumbermen pay a nominal sum for the licenses, and afterwards pay the Government, at a certain rate per M., for what they actually cut. They therefore take only what can be conveniently thrown into the lakes and rivers for rafting; and the settler generally finds a considerable proportion of his pine left, when he obtains his patent, five years after location. There is abundance of pine, spruce and cedar, on every lot for fencing. Oak, ash, and chesnut are entirely absent or very scarce. There is very little swamp, the cedar very frequently growing on high land. Good water is very plentifully distributed over the country in streams, and the small lakes with which the whole district is thickly studded. The large streams are generally nothing but strings of these lakes connected by swift rapids or cascades. Very few large springs issue from the ground spontaneously, on account of the nearness of the subjacent rock, which renders very long and deep subterraneous water courses impossible. Plenty of water can be obtained anywhere at a moderate depth. All the water has a dark tint from holding in solution a minute portion of iron oxide and perhaps some other mineral ingredients. This may be the cause of the gradual improvement in health that many invalids experience. Most settlers use no team during the first three or four years, but clear and till the ground by hand. If a team is used it is generally a single horse, which answers every purpose of logging, harrowing, &c. Cattle and sheep can be bought in or near the free grant region. I conversed with many settlers in reference to their prospects, and, unlike your Kimmount correspondent, I found them in every instance contented and hopeful. When I referred to the rugged and rocky appearance of some of the farms, they met my objection by pointing to the vigorous growth of the crops. I endeavored to buy some lots partially improved; but found that I would have to pay about double the cost of the improvements. —J. RYERSON, Waterford, Ontario.

Hon. D. Christie's Short-Horn Sale.

This sale took place last month as we were going to press. We now give the prices received:

FEMALES.	
Oxford's Princess of Athelstane, J. R. Page, Sennett, N. Y.	8525
Mary of Athelstane, E. T. Noel, Nashville, Tenn.	475
Knight's Princess of Athelstane, F. W. Stone, Guelph.	175
Placida 8th, Hon. Geo. Brown, Bow Park.	500
Lady Queen, Gen. S. Merideth, Cambridge City, Ind.	500
April Morn, do.	625
Louan of Brant 4th, E. T. Noel.	850
Louan of Brant 5th, Hon. A. McKellar.	1350
Louan of Brant 6th, Messrs. Holton, Ellison, Ill.	1150
Louan of Brant 7th, do.	500
Louan of Brant 8th, J. R. Page.	350
Louan of Brant 9th, Hon. Geo. Brown.	800
Louan of Brant 10th, Messrs. Holton.	290
Isabella 25th, Gen. S. Merideth.	725
Hattie Napier, Osler & Chegwin, Dundas, Ont.	150
Angus Napier, Wm. Harris, Mt. Elgin.	140
Grace, Hon. Geo. Brown.	600
Faith, Osler & Chegwin.	135
Jura, do.	140
Vandar, B. Sumner, Woodstock, Conn.	235
Rosalie, Osler & Chegwin.	250
Young Rosalie, J. R. Craig, Burnhamthorpe.	75
Mabel, Osler and Chegwin.	150
Miss Goldsmith, A. Elliott, North Dumfries.	135
Ella, R. Renselton, North Dumfries.	105
BULLS.	
Knight of Athelstane, Gen. Merideth.	200
Louis Philippe, do.	200
Prince Athelstane, H. Christie.	150
Sirius, J. Bawtinheimer, Oakland.	100

CHEESE FAIR.—The Ontario Dairymen's Association will hold their Cheese Fair in Ingersoll, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 6th and 7th of October; \$700 will be awarded in prizes.

Fairs.

The Central Exhibition will be held in Guelph, Ont., on the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of Sept.

The Western Fair will be held in London, Ont., on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Sept. 28th, 29th and 30th, and Oct. 1st.

The Provincial Exhibition, at Ottawa, from the 20th to the 24th of September.

Ohio State Fair, at Columbus, from September 6th to 10th.

St. Louis State Fair, from October 4th to 9th.

Michigan State Fair, at East Saginaw, from September 13th to 17th.

Maine State Fair, at Portland, from September 21st to 24th.

Massachusetts Horticultural Fair, at Boston, from September 21st to 24th.

New York State Fair, at Elmira, from September 27th to October 1st.

Winter Wheat.

We should be pleased if some of our readers in different parts of the country would send us reports of the best kinds of winter wheat in their localities; the probable yield per acre of each kind sown, which variety will yield the most, and what varieties have been most injured by the winter and spring frosts. We want the reports to be in this office by the 15th of August. We wish to publish early reports for September, in time for parties to select their seed.

Seed Drills or Hand Sowing.

Many farmers have not yet inquired into the advantages of the seed drill, or, at least, they still lose seed and also run a greater risk of having their wheat winter killed by hand sowing. This season has told more in favor of using the seed drill than many former seasons, as many farmers who sowed by hand have no wheat to sell, while those who used a drill have wheat to market.

A New Enterprise.

Near this city are five acres of milkweed, sown and cultivated as any other crop. This is for the purpose of making rubber gum; for some purposes it is superior to the India rubber. A company is formed, a large amount of money is paid in, and one thousand tons of milkweed are to be ordered at once.

Perhaps some of our slovenly farmers who have not destroyed the weed on their land, which, by the way, is not easily accomplished, may yet be able to turn a penny from it, for the gum is made out of the common wild milkweed.

Look Out.

Look out for Gypsies and all kinds of tramps; they will be plentiful this season. Five valuable race horses have been stolen, said to be worth thirty-five thousand dollars. These animals were stolen from Coombs' Dam, New York State. If in that State such depredations can be committed, what may we expect, with so many sharpers on the look out? Our advice would be—look closer after your loose property.

The Provincial Exhibition Plowing Match of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd districts of the Association will take place on the 13th of October, on the farm of Messrs. Johns, of Elizabeth Township, near Fairfield East Station, on the Brockville and Ottawa Railway. Messrs. Ira Morgan, Archibald McNab, Andrew Wilson, and Presidents of county societies are the Committee of Management. Secretaries of other societies might forward notices of meetings and of other matches in time for publication.

D. M. Dewey, of Rochester, will accept our thanks for specimens of paintings of fruit, very neatly executed; also for "Agent's Guide." Parties desirous of dealing in fruit trees should send for his circulars.

Reply to J. S.—Hungarian grass should be cut soon after it is in blossom, before the seed is half its proper size.

Cut corn for feed as soon as it has shed its blossom, every day it stands after that it loses in quality.

Illustrations intended for this paper have not been forwarded in time, through the tardiness of the Merchants' Express, which has taken 10 days to deliver a package here from New York. We hope to please you better when you receive the next paper.

Commercial.

Crop and Market Report.

Seldom have we had a more striking illustration of the uncertainty of crop and market prospects than the last few days. The European crops gave good promise of an abundant prospect. From the time of the preparation for fall sowing there was in England, especially, the most favorable prospect of an abundant harvest, and prices during the whole season ruled low; when there came at once an advance in prices of breadstuffs of which there was no anticipation, and for which none were prepared. The telegraph flashed throughout the Western Continent the unexpected news of advanced prices, but no cause for the rise. We know the uncertainty of the weather everywhere, but in the British Isles it is much more uncertain than here. The weather just now—when sunshine is needed for the maturing crops—there is wet, and this and the heavy rains throughout Europe are said to have caused the advance in prices. This advance may, however, be of short duration. The weather in England shows signs of improving. Flour in New York has a downward tendency. Advances from all parts of the Dominion give on the whole favorable reports of the crops, and from the United States the reports promise, at least, a fair yield, if not an abundant harvest. The increased demand, with rise in prices, is evidently based on foreign speculation, but what that speculation may rest on is not very apparent.

European Breadstuffs—A General Advance in Prices.

LONDON, July 20.—The *Mark Lane Express* of this week says:—In France, wheat has advanced in the Provinces to three shillings, and in Paris one shilling and sixpence. Flour has advanced two shillings per sack. Here we have yet to learn the full extent of the advances. Before the heaviest rains there was an occasional rise of one to two shillings. Last week the sales were only 3,214 quarters above those of the same week in 1874. Every market is so scantily supplied that we seem to be on the borders of exhaustion, though from the lowest point our average shows a rise of only three shillings and five pence.

In Belgium and Holland there has been a moderate rise; even in Germany, with good prospects, prices are somewhat higher, while in Hungary, where the crop is enormous, they are also dearer.

Markets.

LONDON, July 23.—Floating cargoes of wheat firmly held; as also are floating cargoes of corn. For cargoes of wheat on passage, the enhanced pretensions on the part of sellers prevent business; cargoes of corn on passage, demand fair, and prices a shade higher.

Mark Lane—Wheat is 1s 6d dearer; corn 6d to 1s dearer. London—Quotations of good shipping California wheat, per 500 lbs., at Queenstown—for orders just shipped, 53s; nearly due, 54s. Quotations of good cargoes mixed American corn, off the coast, per 480 lbs, *late quate*, less usual 2½ per cent, commission, 36s 6d. to 37s. Arrivals of cut moderate; corn, nil. English country markets generally dearer. French country markets also higher. The weather in England shows signs of improving.

Liverpool—Wheat, on the spot, at opening, steady; corn, on the spot, at opening, improving; California white wheat, range of fair to choice shipping club, per cental, 10s 2d to 10s 10d; Red American spring wheat, per cental, 9s 8d to 10s; Canadian peas, per quarter of 504 lbs, 43s.

New York, July 23.—Flour less active and scarcely so firm to-day. Sales, 14,000 barrels at 85 50 to 86 for superfine state; 86 10 to 87 for common to choice extra and Western. Wheat, 3c to 4c lower; sales 70,000 bush, at 81 36 to 81 52. Corn, steady; sales, 45,000 bush at 90c to 91c.

Chicago.—Prices declined still more than in New York. Toronto, July 23.—The market firm but not active. Flour firm and probably 5c to 10c better; extra, 85 60; fancy, quiet, but would probably have brought 85 40 to 85 45; spring, extra, quiet, but good brands would have brought 85 25. Wheat was firm and holders excited; fall was held at 81 30, and 81 23 is said to have been paid; for spring 81 22 was paid, and for one lot 81 24. Oats were quiet and unchanged. Barley and peas nominally unchanged.

Toronto, July 24.—The tone of the market is rather easier, and more disposition to sell. No sales reported on change.

Chicago, July 24.—Flour easier, but not notably lower. Wheat active, lower, panicky, and difficult to give accurate quotations. Corn quiet and weak. Oats in fair demand and lower. Barley dull and lower.

New York, July 24.—Flour less active; prices again declined 10c to 15c. Wheat dull and nominally 1c to 2c lower; sales at 81 34 to 81 50. Corn dull at 87c to 90c. Barley nominal. Oats dull and heavy.

Montreal, July 24.—Flour market quiet and easier; holders anxious to realize at a decline of 5c per bbl on yesterday's prices, buyers holding off awaiting English advices; transactions small. Grain more active.

LONDON, Ont., July 24.—White wheat, per cental, 81 85 to 82 05; red winter, 81 90 to 82 00; spring, 81 80 to 82 00. Barley, 81 20 to 81 25. Peas, 81 15 to 81 25. Oats, 81 25 to 81 27. Corn, 81 25. Beans, 30c to 31 25. Rye, 81 10 to 81 20. Buckwheat, 81 15 to 81 25. Spring wheat flour, per 100 lbs., 82 25 to 82 50; fall wheat flour, 82 50 to 82 75; patent process, XXX, 83 25 to 83 50. Reg butter, 15c to 16c. Roll butter, 17c to 18c. Cheese, dairy, 10c to 10½. Cheese, factory, 9c to 10c. Hay, 81 to 81 6 per ton. Eggs, per doz, 14c to 15c. Wool, 35c to 36c. Potatoes, 81 to 81 50. Cordwood, 84 00.

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