

Very little of wheat was sown in April, but generally the late wheat was sown earlier than in former years, owing to the favourable condition of the ground and the beautiful weather with which June set in. The potato and oat crops were put in the ground in good time, say between the 15th and end of May. Owing to the abundance of rain and the unusual heat of the weather at this early season, the crops never looked more promising. The meadows look splendid, and promise, if this weather is to continue, to give an abundant crop. All nature seems smiling with this unprecedentedly beautiful weather. I am, &c.,

JOHN MCKINNON.

TRURO.

The farmers in this vicinity have the most cheering prospects. Spring was tardy in making advances, and the warm days during the season have been fewer than usual; but through the abundance of rain which has fallen during the past three weeks, vegetation has been most rapid and luxuriant. The fields are now clothed with beauty, and are smiling with promise.

It is rather early in the season to predict definitely the character of the harvest. The hay crop, however, is sufficiently advanced to warrant the fullest assurance of great abundance. The haying season will probably be earlier than usual. In determining the time to cut their grass, farmers will do well to remember that an increase in the bulk and weight of the crop may not secure an increase in the nutriment. At a certain stage the stalk is full of saccharine and nutritious juices; at a later stage these are converted into woody fibre, which as food for cattle, is little better than a basket of chips.

Grains of all kinds look well. The extent of ground in wheat is considerably greater than usual. Small fields of winter wheat in the neighborhood of the village of Truro present a most promising appearance. Although uncovered during the greater part of a severe winter, it sustained no injury. It is beginning to ear, and will need to be harvested early in August. It is proper to remark that these fields are upon green-sward, ploughed and sown the first week in September.

On favored soils potatoes are very fine for the season; yet generally they are rather late and less promising. It is said that there is considerably less ground in turnips than in former years. This is said to be mainly owing to the continued wet weather during the sowing season. Ants are very numerous, doing great damage in some gardens to the strawberry plants. If any correspondents of the *Journal* can recommend an exterminator, they will confer a favor. The cheese factory in Onslow—about two miles from the village of Truro—is making a good be-

ginning. During the few weeks that it has been in operation, it has produced about a ton of fine looking cheese.—*Com.*

AMHERST, June 26, 1871.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your note respecting the crops, I beg to state that the upland grass promises considerably over an average crop of hay; warm weather following the late timely rains will secure the same results from the English marsh; while the Broad leaf exhibits the unmistakable benefits of the "Saxby flood," and is almost insured against a middling crop. Oats, though the backward spring caused their late sowing, are coming on finely, large area sown. The same may be said in reference to buckwheat, barley and wheat, though not a great deal of the latter sown. Though too soon to speculate upon the product of the root crop, still there is nothing to prevent a heavy yield but an unpropitious season. Our small orchards will not probably return an average yield, this will particularly apply to plums and cherries. Altogether the prospects of the crops are highly encouraging to the country, and already offer assurance of gratifying rewards to the efforts of the agriculturists. I am, &c.

HIRAM BLACK.

PARRSBOROUGH, June 26, 1871.

Sir,—From such accounts as I have been able to gather, there is a prospect of good crops throughout this district this spring. The hay-fields are more especially noticed as much better than at this time last year. Early in the season grass came on well, but in the upper part of Parrsborough and in Upper Maccan encountered a drought which continued for a fortnight, and vegetation seemed almost to cease. Fears were entertained by all persons in those sections of the country that the crops would be a failure. On the 12th inst., however, we were favoured with a heavy rain, dispelling our fear of the failure of crops. Since then the weather has been showery, and in consequence the improvement in the hay crop is most wonderful. The county now everywhere, with the apple trees in full bloom, wears a most smiling appearance. While the drought prevailed in the upper part of Parrsborough and in Upper Maccan, copious showers fell twice at Advocate Harbor, but extended East up the shore only about fifteen miles. Most of the fields of potatoes were planted early, as the ground was dry and the weather favorable, and they have come up well except in a few instances, where they were affected by the drought; but these fields have been re-planted and there is now every prospect of a good crop of this staple article. It is still a good time for planting potatoes, especially on burnt grounds, and some persons will only finish this week. Potatoes planted on

the last of June come up in a week; those planted on the first of May or sooner take three or four weeks to get through the ground; those grown from very late planting are allowed to be good for the next years seed if not for eating.

This is, I think, the best time for putting in the buckwheat crops along the shore in Parrsborough, where the frost does not strike so early in the fall as it does inland. There it is generally sown earlier to avoid the early fall frosts in ripening. Grain of all kinds looks well; for a while, like the other crops, it suffered from the drought, but the late showers have had the same magic effect upon it as upon the grass; and the farmer's heart is cheered by its rapid growth and healthy and fine appearance.

For the last three weeks the ground and weather have been favorable for putting in turnips, and they have every where come up well, and have not been attacked by the fly. We have still a fortnight that we may put in the Swedish turnip,—the growth may not be so great as of those planted earlier, but they are allowed to be sweeter and better for the table. The early planted ones become strong and stringy. White turnips do very well for feeding out in the fall, and they may be sown any time in the month of July.

We had a very heavy frost on the night of the 5th inst., but do not apprehend that it has done much, if any damage. Apple trees here were not then in bloom, and the strawberry blossoms only partly out. Potatoes, corn, beans and other vegetables liable to injury from frost were not then up. To these several crops, if experienced as heavily inland as we had it on the Bay-shore, it may have done more or less damage.

T. D. DICKSON.

CORNWALLIS, June 28th, 1871.

In reply to your note of 21st, requesting a "brief report upon the state of the Crops," I beg to say that on the whole they are very promising. The season has been cool, with sufficient rain-fall to bring up the seed and keep the ground moist.

From all I can learn the breadth of spring wheat sown is fully above the average; so far it looks well. There is scarcely sufficient winter wheat sown to remark upon. What I have seen looks very promising. Oats are largely sown this year, also look well. The Norway does not seem to be a very great favourite with the farmers. I think the Suprise will take the lead, as they are much earlier and yield well. Corn does not look well; the weather has been rather cold, but a few warm days at this time will naturally alter its appearance.

Potatoes as usual are pretty extensively cultivated; the high price (60 c.) last spring, induced the farmers to plant a greater breadth than last year. The