

Agricultural AND DOMESTIC.

The weather, the crops, the midge, the rust, the weevil, the fly, the drought at Kingston and vicinity, thunder storms, the quality of wool and weight of fleeces, the probable yield of growing crops, these are the characteristics of the following paragraphs, taken from papers which exchange with the Canadian Illustrated News.

In the vicinity of the city of Hamilton, along the south, the west, and northwest shores of Lake Ontario, the weather from the end of May until this, the third week of July, has been alternately rain and sunshine, the longest period without rain having been one week.

On Thursday the 9th, the atmosphere was murky, intensifying on Friday and Saturday. On Sunday it cleared, and the sun shone brightly. Monday came with a lurid gray sky, unkindly east wind and a deluge.—Tuesday was wet and sunless. Wednesday the 15th sunny and warm. The hay is abundant beyond all former growth, but is not being saved in the best condition. Wheat is said to be infested with the fly near the lake shores. And many people who travel the country tell of rust, or of fears that it will be rusty. On the wheat-growing plains west of Caledonia on the Grand River, by way of Brantford, Paris, and round by Ayr, Galt, and Guelph, and stretching westerly, travelers who know what wheat is when they see it, declare that it is tall, and strong in straw, and laden with noble ears of grain bending gracefully in token of their healthful weight.

Having enjoyed a summer so delightful, refreshing, and full of promise at the west end of Lake Ontario, it excites remark and regret that at the east end of the lake, the weather has been so different. The latest number of our contemporary, the Kingston Whig, which is to hand when writing these remarks, has the following:

NO RAIN YET.—When will it rain again? Not drizzle, a few drops, just to tantalize the thirsty earth, but rain jollily for hours, wet the growing crops and fill the water but! The moon changes to-night, and perhaps while we grumble, kind Nature is about to open her flood gates and bestow upon us what we are craving for. For eight long weeks no rain, worth mentioning, has fallen in this immediate neighborhood; though East, West, North and South, we hear of its falling in abundance. Hay was sold in Kingston market on Saturday for \$25 per ton. What will the poor people do for fodder next winter, for all the old hay in the country is eaten up? The meadows are past recovery, and of straw there will be a poor yield.—Whig, July 10.

VERY WARM.—The last week has been "piping" hot. The thermometer on Saturday stood at 90 in the shade, while on the Sabbath it was not much better. It is, however, barring the excessive heat, splendid weather for getting in the crops.—Galt reporter.

WHEAT HARVEST.—On some farms in this neighborhood, the wheat harvest will commence directly. The late rains have done immense good to the growing wheat, and it is filling out rapidly. The crop generally will be very heavy. A large number of harvest hands have made their appearance within the past week, and labour promises to be plentiful.—Ibid.

CROPS IN USBORNE.—We do not remember ever having seen more pleasing prospects for the farmer than at present. The crops in this locality never looked better at this season; and if present appearances hold out and prices rule favourably, we doubt not there is a good time coming for the farmer. The present season is a hard one. There is no money in circulation; but as liabilities generally are not pressing, one good crop will set the wheels of trade in rapid and easy motion.—Perth Reformer. Published at Mitchell on the Buffalo and Lake Huron line of Railroad.

THE CROPS.—The spring wheat throughout this township is in a remarkably forward condition; a little rain just now would do immense good; the fly which committed such sad ravages last year, has not as yet, we are happy to say, made its appearance; oats and peas are also looking well. Hay, without exception, is this year the best crop we have ever seen, and will next week be fit to cut. On the whole the farmers, as well as the whole community, have great reason to feel gratified at the cheering prospect before them.—Stratford Beacon.

NEW WHEAT.—We have before us a little bundle of ears of new wheat gathered last week from a field on the farm of Mr. James Thomas in the Township of Haldimand, full, firm, and good ears which have already begun to change color. In a day or two the field will doubtless be ready for the sickle. If the ears before us are a good specimen of the crop, Mr. Thomas will have no reason to complain. We are glad to note that every thing points to a bountiful harvest in this County.—Cobourg Star.

THE WEATHER.—This summer is the hottest experienced in Quebec for several years past. Yesterday was a melting day, the mercury rising to 95 degrees in the shade, at noon. Towards evening, clouds gathered over the city, with threatening appearance of rain.—Quebec Daily News July 9.

THE WEATHER.—One of those sudden and disagreeable changes from calm to storm, from the insupportable heat of midsummer day to the blustering weather of autumn, was experienced here yesterday. From an early hour a strong easterly gale prevailed, rendering out-door amusements anything but the most delightful, from the quantities of blinding dust that filled the air.—Quebec Mercury July 10.

The next comes from the North West corner of Canada; We of the C. I. N. thank the Owen Sound Times for a friendly notice of this paper. And heartily reciprocate the compliment.

THE CROPS.—Accounts of the most cheering character continue to reach us respecting the prospects of the crop of 1863. The only danger now apprehended is the possibility of rust. In this region everything is most promising.—Owen Sound Times.

SNOW IN JULY.—The Editor of this paper visited the cliffs west of Mr. Snider's residence on the morning of 1st July, and got without difficulty his accustomed snow-bail. With the exception of last year, when he was absent, he has got a sample of snow from these rocks every 1st July for many years.—Ibid.

WEATHER AND CROPS.—We have had excessively hot weather this week: Crops of all kinds are coming on finely. In some parts of the Province, dry weather has been complained of—as for instance the vicinity of Kingston. All along Lake Ontario the wheat midge is making its appearance; also near London. The crops however, will be heavy, though the sample may be injured.—Ibid July, 10.

THE CROP.—That some damage has been done by the insects to the wheat, is beyond a doubt; but we hear of many townships, and even counties, where they have not been seen, and we are inclined to think that their ravages are much less wide-spread and destructive than when they first made their appearance in Canada. We cannot learn that in any county is less than an average crop expected, and in the majority, it is believed that the harvest will exceed anything before seen.—Toronto Globe, July 15.

THE MIDGE.—We have this day been shown a sample of fall wheat, grown upon the farm of Mr. Elijah Buckholder, and we have great pleasure in noting that the ravages from the midge will not be near so destructive as was generally anticipated.

The sample is far advanced and will be ready for cutting in the course of another week, and is the produce of the Siberian spring grain, but by fall sowing and acclimation it promises to be one of our best and most reliable of winter wheats.—Hamilton Times, July 14.

THE CROPS.—The crops in this section of country promise exceedingly well. Owing to the cold, backward weather in the early part of the season, grass did not have a good start, and in some sections it will be light, but take the whole county, and from all that we can learn, the crops will be at least an average one. Fall grain looks well, and oats, pease, spring wheat, and barley, never presented a better appearance, while potatoes and root crops generally, promise abundantly. Should the weather continue favourable, we may expect a plentiful harvest.—Belleville Intelligencer. July 10.

In quoting the foregoing paragraph from our esteemed contemporary the Belleville Intelligencer we add a desire to have occasional contributions from the Bay of Quinte and the Trent District, with pictorial sketches to be engraved. Every thing relating to the industrial progress of Canada is welcome to the C. I. N.

WHO IS THE BREEDER.—By long established custom, the party in whose possession a short-horn calf is born is said to be the breeder of that calf, although the dam may have been the property of another person.

even up to the very day of calving. All the credit of having bred the animal is claimed by the dam's new owner; but all the merit of having bred the animal is clearly due to another. An outlay of money avails to secure the former; but the latter is the result of care, thought, sagacity, anxiety, and experience. It is conceivable that a man of wealth should purchase fifty cows of great value, each in calf to some distinguished bull (a Booth bull, for instance), obtained by hire, at a distinguished price; and all within a few weeks of bringing forth their offspring. The cows in due time calve; and their produce, and the consequence of another man's capital and judgment, are recorded in the Herd Book, not to his honour to whom, in fact, honour alone belongs, but as memorials of the breeding skill of one who may possibly possess no breeding skill at all, and whose part in the transaction was simply that of arranging a pecuniary investment. The real breeder of a calf is unquestionably the person who brings the sire and dam together; and yet, according to orthodox usage the place of calving constitutes the criterion. We suggest no alteration in the ordinary method of proceeding, it is perhaps as good as any other; but our readers will perceive that it renders the Herd Book a less faithful exponent of the history of facts than it would otherwise be, and very frequently imparts undeserved lustre to obscure names.

PROGRESS OF THE VILLAGE OF HASTINGS.—Hastings is situated on the River Trent, a few miles from Rice Lake, C. W. Three years ago there were some dozen houses in it; now there are over one thousand inhabitants, two four-story factories, one cotton, and one woollen; two large saw mills, grist mill and tannery, and ten stores; altogether, it is quite a thriving village.

The cotton factory is called the Trent Valley Mills; it has about 30 looms, and turns out about 8000 yards of grey cotton per week. The same firm have a small factory, where they knit gentlemen's underclothing, vests and pants. They turn out a very respectable article in imitation of the Shetland.—Extracts of a private letter.

A HINT FOR OUR SPARROW CLUBS.—Those valiant members of the agricultural community who spend their time in killing birds, and then meet together to celebrate their folly, may do well to read the following prices, which the Auckland Acclimatization Society offers for the introduction of birds and animals in which New Zealand is deficient: Hares, per couple, male and female, £5; red deer, ditto, £15; blackcock or grouse, cock and hen, £10; silver pheasants ditto, £5; nightingales, ditto, £5; English partridges, ditto, £4; cuckoos, ditto, £3; missel thrush, ditto, £2; common thrush, ditto, £2; blackbirds, ditto, £2; starlings, ditto, £2; skylarks, ditto, £2; rooks, ditto, £2; crows, ditto, £2; jays, ditto, £1 10s.; robins, ditto, £1 10s.; wrens ditto, £1 10s.; bullfinches, ditto, £1; green or grey linnets, ditto, 15s.; sparrows, 5s.; English quails, ditto, £1. That distinguished ornithologist, the Rev. F. O. Morris, says in his very interesting account of the sparrow. 'I have watched pairs of sparrows repeatedly feeding their young, and have found that they bring food to the nest once in ten minutes during at least six hours of the 24, and that each time from two to six caterpillars are brought—every naturalist will know this to be under the mark. Now, suppose that the 3,500 sparrows destroyed by an association for killing sparrows were to have been alive the next spring, each pair to have built a nest, and reared successive broods of young during three months, we have, at the rate of 252,000 per day, the enormous multitude of 21,168,000 larvae prevented from destroying the products of the land, and from increasing their numbers from 50 to 500 fold!

TO DESTROY RATS IN BARN AND RICK.—Melt hogs' lard in a bottle plunged in water of temperature of 150° Fahrenheit; introduce into it half an ounce of phosphorus for every pound of lard, then add a pint of proof spirit of whisky; cork the bottle firmly after its contents have been to 150°, taking it out of the water and agitating till the phosphorus becomes uniformly diffused, making a milky looking fluid. The spirit may be poured off on the liquid cooling; and you have then a fatty compound, which, after being warmed gently, may be incorporated with a mixture of wheat flour or sugar, flavored with oil of rhodium or oil of aniseed, &c.; and the dough, on being made into pellets, should be laid at the rat-holes; being lumps in the dark, and agreeable both to their palates and noses, it is readily eaten and proves certainly fatal. The rats issue from their holes and seek for water to quench their burning thirst, and they commonly die near the water.—Dr. Ure.

CRICKET.

First Battalion Rifle Brigade, vs. Hamilton Club, July 11th. This match was played at Hamilton, and after a most exciting struggle ended in favor of the Rifle Brigade by 20 runs:

Table with columns: RIFLE BRIGADE, FIRST INNINGS. Lists players and runs scored.

Table with columns: RIFLE BRIGADE, SECOND INNINGS. Lists players and runs scored.

Table with columns: HAMILTON, FIRST INNINGS. Lists players and runs scored.

Table with columns: HAMILTON, SECOND INNINGS. Lists players and runs scored.

First Battalion Rifle Brigade, vs. Toronto Club, July 13 and 14. This match was played at Toronto and ended in favor of the Rifle Brigade by seven wickets:

Table with columns: TORONTO, FIRST INNINGS. Lists players and runs scored.

Table with columns: TORONTO, SECOND INNINGS. Lists players and runs scored.

Table with columns: RIFLE BRIGADE, FIRST INNINGS. Lists players and runs scored.

Table with columns: RIFLE BRIGADE, SECOND INNINGS. Lists players and runs scored.

Publisher's Notices.

If any of our agents have Nos. 1, 2 and 15 of Vol. 1, and No. 1 of Vol. 2, on hand, they will please return them to this office. E. P. B., Seneca.—All the back Numbers have been sent, addressed to the several parties, Caledonia P. O. J. W., Mt. Healey.—Copies have been sent to the new subscribers, as requested. A. C., Port Robinson.—Copies sent as ordered. T. B., Millbrook.—We have altered the address as requested.