

generally filled with heavy clouds. The sun can only rarely be seen. This extraordinary state of the weather exercises a most baneful influence upon vegetation. Not only are the cereal crops three or four weeks backward, compared with ordinary years, but the plants look so sickly and the ground is so saturated with moisture, that great apprehensions are entertained respecting the final result of the next harvest. The grass is now ready for mowing, but the rains are interfering and threaten to spoil the crop." At the Corn Exchange the reports from many of the best wheat growing countries were of a like nature. Up to the 2st instant there had scarcely been 24 consecutive hours of seasonable weather, and the unusual inclemency of the season in Ireland had a very depressing influence on trade. More than double the quantity of rain had fallen in June about Cork this year than last, and the month is said to have been the wettest and coldest since 1852. "It is plain," says the *London Gardener's Chronicle*, that a very late harvest must be looked for. The wheat is not yet generally in ear over the southern counties, and is everywhere declared to be three weeks or a fortnight later than it generally has been. And it is equally certain that whatever the weather of July may be, the harvest, when it comes, will not be nearly so good as that of last year, much as that fell below the average of the previous crop. No wonder then that, with unusually short stocks in the hands of the growers, prices in the corn market should everywhere be rising."

And the *Mark Lane Express*, the leading agricultural journal of Europe, confirms the same views relative to the home harvest, while of continental crop prospects it remarks.

"Eor has the supply of foreign wheat been such this year as to afford much relief. The importations up to the present time have fallen below those of last year upwards of 1,000,000 qrs., the whole importations for the five months up to the 31st of May being not more than 1,000,000 qrts.; and as the sales have been fully equal to the receipts, the stock has not increased. We are assured that the stock on hand in London does not exceed 100,000 qrs., which is less than half that of any year at the same period since the harvest of 1854. We may except further supplies from the Baltic and Black Sea, but these will be at high rates. With deference to the latter, a report has just been received from St. Petersburg that Southern Russia has been visited by an army of locusts and that in the provinces adjoining Odessa, a hundred square miles of country have been devastated by them. If this report prove correct, it is impossible to say how far the mischief may still extend, but it will infallibly cause an advance in prices at Odessa, as well as lessen the exports thence another year.

"The accounts France, like those of the United Kingdom, are conflicting. In the eastern and southern departments and in Brittany, the wheat has sustained little injury from the weather, except as far as retarding its growth. But in the central and northern departments the effects have been severely felt. Fine weather, however, would now, as with us, materially improve the crops, by favouring the blooming, and filling the ear. Prices had, nevertheless, risen in France, partly in consequence of the weather, but mainly, we believe, through the operation of the sliding-scale, which at present prohibits the importation. On the other hand, the advance has raised the rates too high for exportation to this country. The price of wheat in Paris last week ranged from 58s. to 68s. per quarter, and of flour from 43s. to 45s. par 280 lbs; and on such terms it could not be exported to any port in England at a profit, or even without a loss. It is not, therefore, likely, that we shall obtain any great quantity of wheat or flour thence, unless the prices here should rise, or those in France fall, so as to allow the exporter a profit."

THE MIDGE IN THE NIAGARA DISTRICT.—The midge has destroyed any expectation entertained that the June frosts of last year had finished its career. Throughout the Niagara District it is as thick as ever, and the fall wheat, with