

generous foliage. While in some of the northern counties apple blossoms were only just beginning to show, the more southern sections reported the bloom as well advanced, and with but few exceptions the accounts regarding this staple of our orchards were most favorable. It was stated, however, that notwithstanding the abundance of blossom, the heavy rains prevailing at the time of bloom may have washed off much of the pollen, and that imperfect fertilisation may result. Pears where grown promise well. Peaches along the Lake Erie and Lake Ontario counties were more or less injured by the winter. Plums and cherries are still assailed by their enemy the black-knot. A few localities report a profusion of plum blossoms, but in some of the recognised plum sections the yield is not expected to reach that of last year. In eastern Ontario the interest in orcharding appears to be developing. From various points some reports regarding winter injury to grapes, but in the main the remarks of correspondents are hopeful. Strawberries were hurt by frost and "heaving" on a few exposed fields, but the general condition is far from unsatisfactory. Raspberries appear to have sustained more injury than any other fruit. The Cuthbert suffered greatly in many quarters. Other small fruits came through the winter well. The fruit prospect is on the whole encouraging.

LABOR AND WAGES.—Regarding the quality and supply of labor opinions differ. While the greater number of those reporting consider that the right class of hands are available, a strong minority state that good farm laborers are scarce. This is said to be caused by the large emigration of our farmers' sons to Manitoba and the west, their places being taken by "farm pupils" and others from the old country, some of whom are of doubtful quality so far as our agricultural methods are concerned. In some western counties boys from the Barnardo home are being tried in the place of men, but the moiety paid them is not included in the rate of wages herewith summarised: The amount paid for the working season of say seven months runs from \$14 to \$20 with board, the average being \$16.79, an increase of 28 cents over that of the previous year. The amount paid without board ranges from \$20 to \$28, the average being \$24.60, or 59 cents more than in 1891. The wages per day of temporary help averages 36 cents with board and \$1.15 without board, both these rates slightly exceeding their respective figures of the previous year.

Indian Wheat Movement.

The imports of Indian wheat during May into the United Kingdom were large, owing to the exceptionally heavy shipments of old crop wheat. The new crop is not coming forward with any extraordinary freedom. May shipments were slightly under 700,000 qrs. against 900,000 qrs last year. This is, of course, a deduction of more than 20 per cent. The rupee, however, remains so greatly the dominant feature in all branches of Indian trade, that now this silver coin of the nominal value of two shilling is down to 1 shilling and 4 pence. Wheat can be sold at 31 shillings, which at a full rupee value would cost us thirty-nine shillings per qr. The fall of a penny in the rupee, cheapens Indian wheat for English buyers by 1 shilling on the quarter. If the rupee recovers to one shilling and seven pence, as there is some hope of it doing, the wheat now on sale off our coasts for 31s will cost us 34s per qr, which is a material difference to the English farmer.—*Mark Lane Express.*

Those who contemplate a trip during the present season, should secure a copy of a recent publication by the Canadian Pacific railway, entitled "Summer Tours." Copies can be had free on application to any of the agents of the company. It describes a number of the pleasant trips which may be taken, or which have been planned by this company for the travelling public, for 1892.

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