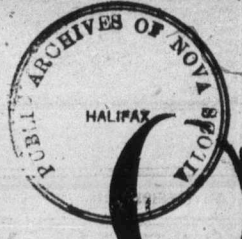


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VOL. 18.—NO. 14.

SACKVILLE, N. B., THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 1887.

WILL NO. 900.

Crops in Nova Scotia.
The Provincial Government Crop Report has been published, containing a condensed and classified statement of returns received in answer to enquiries concerning the present condition and prospect throughout the various counties of Nova Scotia. The following extracts are taken from the Report:—
THE HAY CROP.
The Grass or Hay Crop, so insignificant in some countries, is our most important crop in Nova Scotia. It was shown by the details of the last census that our hay crop occupied one-fourth part of the whole "improved" or cleared land of the Province, and more than half of the whole land under crop of every kind. The number of acres in Nova Scotia occupied by grass that is annually cut for Hay is 520,000. This gives more than an acre of Hay for each inhabitant, in the County and City, and 63 acres for every family. As we have no great land-owners, all this land is more equally divided than in many other countries. These 520,000 acres of grass land yield annually nearly 600,000 of hay, equal in value, calculating it at ten dollars a ton, on the farms, at about six millions of dollars. A shrinkage of twenty per cent. on this amount is equal to one million two hundred thousand dollars, which might not be thought a very serious loss if sustained by the banking companies of the Province, being equal to about one-fifth of their capital; but, when it has to be deducted from the annual income or means of subsistence of the farmers in the country, it assumes grave significance. Last year the hay crop was 20 per cent. below average, with a spring surplus in the barns nearly sufficient to make up the deficiency. The past spring was long and tedious, bringing late pastures, so that all the old hay was used up, and now we are met by a still shorter crop. In Annapolis County, indeed, there is "a good average crop secured in splendid condition," and some returns give from 20 to 25 per cent. above average; also in Digby, Yarmouth, Hants, Kings, and Shelburne Counties, fair averages, and in the Western Counties show so well, the following figures relating to the central and eastern ones, are significant:—

THE HAY CROP.

The Grass or Hay Crop, so insignificant in some countries, is our most important crop in Nova Scotia.

It was shown by the details of the last census that our hay crop occupied one-fourth part of the whole acreage, and that the Province has more than *half* of the whole land under crop of every kind. The number of acres in Nova Scotia occupied by grass that is annually cut for Hay is 620,000. This gives more than an acre of Hay to every inhabitant in the County and City, and 6½ acres for every family. As we have no great land-owners, all this land is more equally divided than in many other countries. These 620,000 acres of grass yield 1,240,000 tons of Hay, valued at 1000 in value, calculating it at ten dollars a ton, on the farms, at about six millions of dollars. A shrinkage of twenty per cent. on this amount is equal to one million two hundred thousand dollars, and a serious loss if sustained by the banking companies of the Province, being equal to about one-fifth of their capital; but, when it has to be deducted from the annual income or means of the country, it assumes grave significance. Last year the hay crop was 20 per cent. below average, with a spring surplus in the barns nearly sufficient to make up the deficiency. The past spring was long and cold, and the hay was cut late, so that all the old hay was used up, and now we are met by a still shorter crop. In Annapolis County, indeed, there is "a good average crop secured in splendid condition," and some reports from other parts of the Province average; also in Digby, Yarmouth, Hants, Kings, and Shelburne Counties, fair averages. But whilst these Western Counties show so well, the following figures relating to the eastern ones, are significant:

