Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1867.

Be just and fear not;
Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's,
Thy God's and truth's.

THE HARVEST.

The country was never more interested in having a bountiful harvest, than it is this year. The exorbitant prices of breadstuffs during the past year have borne severely upon the working classes, and have caused serious complications in business, growing out of the inability of those classes to labor for lower wages and live comfortably. It is true the high prices of breadstuffs have not been owing to the scarcity, but rather to speculation, yet a bountiful harvest is necessary to render extensive speculation in flour and grain, in the immediate future, impossible.

It is therefore, highly satisfactory to learn from all sections of the Country that the crops and especially wheat and corn, are unusually heavy. In Pennsylvania they were never finer, in quantity and quality. The Bucks County Intelligencer of Tuesday last, in speaking of the harvest in that section, says:

The warm, dry weather of last week was just what was needed for making hay and repairing the wheat. Nineteen-twentieths of our hundred of our Bucks county farmers were busily engaged in the hay fields, and thousands of tons of first class hay were safely housed. There was little time to spare for celebration of Independence Day. Timothy is now in full blossom, and will be just right for cutting by the end of this week, or when the wheat is harvested. Mixed grasses were in fine order for good hay and good crops last week; clover was in its prime. The week in most neighborhoods will be devoted to wheat harvest. Reapers and cradlers will be busily pl d. The wheat, taking the county over, is far better than it was last year. Two or three weeks ago there was great apprehension of damage by the midge, but we cannot learn that the fear was at all justified. It is quite safe to say that the loss in Bucks county this crop will not be five per cent of the crop. We shall have wheat to eat and sell this year, which has not been the case for several seasons. There will be no market for California wheat in this county after the first of August. Rye has all done well, and the crop is strong and well loaded. Potatoes, Throughout all the whole country the prospect of plenty prevails, and the exceptions to the rule are unusually few and insignificant. In the South the harvest is mostly over, and new wheat has already been sold in the Richmond market. The first lot presented was sold at $2 60 per bushel—the quality being second to none. Jacob S. Loux, a subscriber living in Jersey county, Illinois, writes us that the wheat in that region is a very heavy crop. At that time (June 30th), some were done cutting, but many were just about to commence. Corn and oats are looking finely. Apples will be very abundant but peaches plums and cherries are scarce. On the 21st of June the mercury stood at 104 degrees in the shade, and on the following morning it was 36 degrees below the freezing point. This is better than we have had it in Bucks county.

There is the same welcome intelligence from the Cumberland Valley, and in fact from every section of the State, where teeming harvests of luxuriant grain are being gathered.

In connection with this subject which is one of such general interest to the people of the country, we make the following extract from the last monthly report of the Agricultural Department, showing how the people have been imposed upon by unprincipled speculators in food, assisted as has been too often the case in the West, by the money of banks, the managers of which cognizant of the manner in which it was used, lost sight of the crime, of which they were guilty, in the fat per centage received for it:

THE WHEAT SCARCITY.

Both farmers and consumers may well deprecate the unprincipled operations of speculators, and the effort of their combinations and perversions of facts. The immense aggregation of wealth in the hands of fortunate stock and produce gamblers has been accomplish what would never have been attempted years ago.

As we have repeatedly shown, there has been a gradual decline in wheat production for three years past, more than enough to wholly yield than decreased acreage, yet still leaving for the last year's consumption about five bushels per capita of population. This sample for the people's bread, is little for export, and a surplus not much reduced, in comparison with former stocks in primary or strategic positions. But speculators have led to believe that they could control it, and compel, for a time, enormous prices from unwilling hand to mouth consumers; and very near they succeeded, as $18 to $20 for a barrel of flour will attest.

California, with eleven hundred of bushels of wheat, nearly half of which was surplus, was compelled to go abroad for a market; and owing to high prices, caused quite an excitement among the people. Ultimate scarcity, was induced to make repeated shipments to New York instead of to Liverpool. Stratchtway telegrams were dispatched, to prevent the dependence of the States upon California for wheat, the replenishment of wheat from Liverpool, the transmission of these extraordinary supplies of wheat from Chicago, until timid people were taught speedily to expect a famine.

With the first intimations of moderate success in the coming wheat harvest came a collapse of prices, as a matter of course. The speculators knew that not only wheat enough for sowing an extra breadth of spring wheat for the demand could be spared for flour, but also for a larger exportation than for a similar period of last year.

A statement of British exports for the first three months of the current year, which received at the Department, shows the following result, from January 1, 1866, to April 1, 1867:

	1866.	1867.
Wheat, cwt.	592 034	680,301
Wheat flour, cwt.	1,000,000	1,825,000

This is equivalent when reduced to bushels, to 917,... 706 bushels in the first quarter of 1866, and 1,456,192 bushels in the same period of the present year, an actual increase. In this era of speculative famine of 404,486 bushels; fifty per cent. increase of wheat exports furnishes a good commentary upon the speculative which has cost consumers more than half of the increased cost of their recently purchased flour. The average price (in gold) of this wheat averaged $1 32 in the former period and $1 42 the latter; of flour, $6 41 in 1866, and $6 71 in 1867.

It is everywhere reported of late that farmers are bringing out hoarded wheat from 100 to 200 bushels each. They are realizing a handsome profit on it, for the first of June the mercury stood at 104 degrees in the shade, and on the following morning it was 36 degrees below the freezing point. This is better than we have had it in Bucks county.

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