

[1822.]

On June 11th so luxuriant was the crop that cows were almost half hidden in grass.

Owing to the cool summer weather, harvest was late this year. Very little warm weather was experienced until August 15th, after which hot days prevailed until the 25th. This was good harvest weather.

Then followed much rain, so that the "Red Robin," as it is called, and mildews caught the wheat. The barleys became black, and some of the crops sprouted.

Mildness and wet continued until Christmas, when there were unusually great floods, and the land became in a very bad state.

1822.

This was "The Charming Year." The title of this year was rightly bestowed.

Eleven-twelfths of the year were remarkable for continued warmth, and although it was not a very good year for the farmer, yet the peculiar beauty of the spring and summer is memorable.

January entered with floods, but after the 7th fine weather set in and spring commenced, not a frost occurring to the end of February. Mild, pleasant, dry, and even dusty weather prevailed.

On February 17th I gathered handfuls of primroses full in blossom, the white thorn being in leaf this month.

From March 1st to May 31st a regularly increasing heat continued, with fine rains; everything conspiring to force on the vegetation with the greatest rapidity.

The hawthorn blossomed in April; and about the 4th of May perfect beauty was displayed in the landscape. The grass at this time was a foot or more in height.

Great heat prevailed in the middle of May, and pear and apple trees had shed their bloom.

June being very dry, the excessive heat stopped the flourishing prospect, and the full-eared wheat became nearly ripe. The barley was burnt up by the sun, and became as white as milk, with but little grain in it; even this was shrivelled and burnt up.

1824.]

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Beans just appeared above the ground, when they blossomed, and were scarcely long enough in harvest to be cut.

July was less fine and warm, but harvest commenced early this month in some parts, and August being very fine and hot, soon closed it.

Fine weather continued until October 16th, and the common remark then was, "We have had a wonderfully long summer." This was indeed the truth.

Mildness and wet succeeded from October 16th to November 30th, although it was fine, with dusty roads, at times.

December proved seasonable in the temperature, being frosty, yet some of the cold days were bright and agreeable.

The hay harvest closed in Suffolk about Midsummer-day.

1823.

This year was a perfect contrast to the last.

A severe winter, and very cold at the commencement of the spring.

March was a bad seed-time: snowy, wet, and unsettled.

The latter part of April and most of May was warm, so that there was much grass and long straw.

Cloudy and cool weather made a very slow hay-time.

Continued coolness, with much wet, prevailed until the middle of August, harvest being later than usual, but there were fine crops. Favourable weather setting in, and lasting until near September's close, gave an opportunity to finish the harvest, barley especially being housed in a dry and good condition.

1824.

A medium winter, with a backward, cold, and rough spring; sharp drying winds at times, and at others, cold, heavy rains.

Although late, there was an abundance of grass and straw.

The summer being generally cool, until August 20th, caused a sluggish hay-time and a late harvest.

Very fine and hot weather set in after August 22nd, and lasted until a late period in September, when there was a fine harvest, and all crops were tolerably good.