

“Sun,” a few weeks since, for this will not materially make up for the deficit in our wheat crops, as corn is mostly converted into pork and beef, or fed to horses, mules, &c., and with a large part of our population it is but very little used as a breadstuff.

I furnish you, Mr. Editor, with the above conclusions, which, after mature deliberation, I have arrived at. When I wrote before, as to the wheat crop, I was threatened by anonymous letters for meddling “in what did not concern me,” and likely I shall give offence to some by the above. This, to me, is a matter of the least consequence. The consciousness of an honest discharge of my duty is all the reward that I seek, and as to threats for doing that duty, I hold them in no sort of valuation. There has been, and is now, an associated, persistent effort to lessen the price of wheat, by exaggerated statements as to its quantity, and I feel fully justified in placing what I conceive to be the real facts in relation to it, before the agricultural community. I have carefully sought out all means of reliable information, and the conclusions founded on it are at your disposal.

Very truly, &c.,

JAMES HIGGINS,  
*State Agricultural Chemist.*

This was at once sneered at, ridiculed and condemned by many of the papers in our own and other cities, as devoid even of possibility. I insisted upon the correctness of my conclusions and showed the reasons. The result has fully proven the correctness of my statements, and the statement as to the crops made at the time that they were made, induced thousands of farmers to hold back their grain and realize thousands of dollars by its increased price. This increased price, otherwise, would have gone from the producers' pockets into those of the speculators.

The purchasing interest is sustained by a united intelligent and sometimes unscrupulous body of advocates, that of the farmers by comparatively none. In this condition of things, it is not difficult to know who will be the sufferer. The producers require some one who has the means of correct information at his command to impart it to them. This I did, and the result is well known. *At the very time that foreign agents were buying up our wheat for exportation to France and England, our papers contained almost daily statements of the great surplus of grain raised there.* I have deemed it but due to myself to make the above statements, only as regards the office which I hold. Propositions have been made for its abolition. Is it sound public policy to condemn a public officer who, regardless of his personal and private interest, has sought only to promote the public interest? Is it a good example for public officers to be thus dealt with? Will they not at once be taught to act so as entirely to promote their own and disregard