

Having the materials, as already recommended, at hand and in readiness for use, lose no time in repairing your fences—and there should remain at all times an ample supply for every accident and emergency and complete the preparation of wood of every description for summer use. Have your tools and implements minutely inspected and repaired when necessary. See that your fodder is doled out plentifully but yet economically—taking care shall be no waste. Be preparing and procuring your seed-corn—cleaning it thoroughly for use—as we have described in a previous number—and testing its quality where there is any necessity or reasonable doubt. Keep your potato seed from warmth and light. Be careful to increase, by every means, and accumulate your supplies of manure, — seeing that nothing runs to waste. Tap your sugar maples at the proper moment on the sunny side. The harvest comes at a season of the year when other work is not especially pressing; and where you have a good supply of rock maple an abundance of sugar and molasses for family use, and for sale may be procured at a cheap rate. But great care should be taken to spare your rock maples,—as, in spite of other novel sources, they may still prove the cheapest resort for sugar.

J. A.

---

### MAPLE SUGAR.

This month the sap begins to move, and the sugar harvest of the North is about to be gathered. The trees are tapped on the sunny side—the elder spouts are inserted, and the liquid nectar flows into the rough recipients their contents carried to the boiling house in pails, or poured into barrels, and drawn by oxen—the sap sugared off into pans of various sizes, and made into solid cakes. Work, at this season, is not pressing, and besides supplying family consumption, many prepare large quantities for sale to the confectioners, and for city consumption, scrupulous attention to cleanliness and carefulness in the process of crystallization will not go unrewarded.

In the rough rocky, mountainous soils of the north, the maple flourishes admirably, and in such lands for many a day to come, such lands will most probably pay better in forest, than under any culture. Maple furnishes the best of fuel—affords an excellent timber for cabinet work and agricultural implements. We should then be careful of our bush,—and who does not know that in most instances, at present, it meets with but little attention. Would it not be well to spare our noble forest while we have it in our power—favouring the introduction of anthracite. If we should fail to be conservative and provident when we may, the day is coming when we shall have nothing to console us but vain regrets for such wilful neglect.

The following and simple directions for sugar making are from the useful little work of Mrs. F. C. P. Traill, authoress of "The Back-Woods of Canada"; *Forest Gleanings, &c., &c., &c.*