

and would be the means of promoting the great interests of the country in many other ways, as yet untried or unknown. We regard a measure of this kind, come from whom it may, as entitled to the best wishes and support of all who are really anxious to see their country prosperous and advancing. To show that we have no class jealousies, we think that the Minister of Agriculture might advantageously embrace within his sphere of duty our domestic manufactures, Emigration, and all such matters relating to the domestic welfare of the country as are not strictly included by any specific department.—Whatever squabbling mere party politicians may have about this measure,—one thing is now pretty certain, and upon that we do most sincerely congratulate the farmers of Canada, that henceforth our Cabinet will have a MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE!

AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS AND REMARKS FOR THE MONTH.

Continue the same work as last month so far as your necessities require, in procuring fencing and firing for the coming summer. This sleighing is just the thing for the purpose and the snow not too deep in the woods to move about comfortably; and although there is just now every appearance of long continuance of sleighing, such may not be the case.

Redouble your attention to your stock, for this weather is fearful and trying to them, and I think nothing will contribute more to their warmth than a full belly, but not of cold water.

Thrash out and carry to market your grain, so that you may not be troubled with that work in the Spring, when you have your hands more than full;—and try to clean your grain so that you may obtain the first price in the market. Cleaning grain well pays better than is generally imagined upon first thought;—for in cleaning a load (say fifty bushels) an extra time, you may probably take out one bushel, which might be worth, if sold in the load, three shillings, and that same bushel might be the cause of your whole load bringing one penny per bushel less; and although you have this one bushel less to sell, you have it for your hogs and poultry, for they must be fed on an equal quantity of something else if you have not this; and besides being an advantage to your pocket, it will be a credit to your country. Is that worth nothing?

Another occupation, which is both pleasant and profitable, is the reading of well selected Agricultural works, amongst these stand first to the Canadian, our own Journal; for it supplies both Canadian experience and Canadian practice, and can be had cheap and readily, say at 2s. 6d. per copy for a year, containing 384 pages

or more than one full page for every day in the year. And it can be delivered, or sent to your nearest Post-office, for 6d. more, bringing it to the small price of a tenth of a penny per page; and beside the advantage and amusement to yourself, look also to that of your wife and family! In the rural districts of Canada, books are not always to be met with in every side-line and concession. And now that the Journal embraces the transactions of the Board of Agriculture (and that Board should be second to none in the British American Provinces) it will contain all prize essays and Agricultural reports of any importance, each of which conveys much valuable information to those of our calling. I can scarcely imagine any better or more profitable way of laying out part of the funds of each County and Township Agricultural Society than in the purchase and distribution of a copy of this Journal to each of its members. What farmer can read of the experiments and success of others, without feeling some desire to emulate their example? If we had not such a periodical as this to convey to others the experience of the improving and enterprising, the benefit of improved practice would be a long time in extending its influence over a new and thinly settled country like this by merely passing through the medium of personal intercourse. If any improvement takes place in machinery, in large manufacturing towns, where people are huddled together, the news of it flies from one to another without much difficulty, and they are all enabled at once to take advantage of the circumstance;—and how soon do they know when anything is oppressing them, or when they have not the cheap loaf!* On the contrary, with farmers generally they are as ignorant of most improvements as they are of the causes of the present price of wheat; but as I now feel myself approaching political ground, I will drop this subject till I cool off.

The present is a very good time to lay out your intended operations for the Spring, and seek out some good plump seed that shall be quite free from those of weeds; for when once they are introduced on the farm, it is a most difficult matter to banish them; especially the wild mustard, so called in this country, but in the old, charlock, or chadlock. In some sections of the country there are hundreds of acres almost ruined by this noxious weed; reminding one of the fields of Canadian thistles to be met with in Lower Canada, and sometimes in Upper. While on the subject of Spring-sowing, let me draw attention to the spirited list of prizes for flax and hemp offered by Mr. Widder of the Canada Company, that ever true friend and supporter of all Agricultural improvements. Therefore all who can conveniently try the experiment, should do so, in order that Canada may have a fair trial of the varied products of its soil and climate, at our next annual Agricultural, mechanical and manufacturing Exhibition, to be held in Toronto. Let all true friends of Canadian industry and advancement, in every department of labour and

* A gentleman that was at the World's Fair, told me that he saw in many windows in London the 4 lb. loaf at 4d.!