

**COUNTY EXHIBITIONS.**

Chateauguay, Ste. Philomène, Sept. 22.  
 St. Jean, St. Jean, Sept. 24.  
 Deux-Montagnes, St. Eustache, Sept. 24.  
 Rouville, Rougemont, Sept. 26.  
 Argenteuil, Lachute, Sept. 29.  
 Bagot, Ste. Rosalie, October 1.  
 Montcalm, St. Jacques, October 1.  
 Soulanges, Soulanges, October 6.

L'Assomption, L'Assomption, October 7.  
 St. Maurice, Yamachiche, October 7.  
 Bonaventure, No. 2, Maria, October 7.  
 Temiscouata, St. Arsène, October 13.  
 Bonaventure, No. 2, Munn, October 14.  
 Ottawa, No. 2, Thurso, October 15.  
 Bonaventure, No. 2, Carleton, October 10.  
 Bonaventure, No. 2, Cross Point, February 17.

**FARM OPERATIONS.****SEASONABLE SUGGESTIONS.**

A little more attention to the picking and barreling of apples, we think would be of great advantage both to growers and purchasers of this fruit. A few years ago nearly all the apples were shaken from the trees. The consequence was more than one-half were bruised and rotted. Of late this has been corrected, and growers for market pick their apples by hand. Another difficulty is the packing in barrels. Apples, if put into barrels in the ordinary way and the head gently pressed on, move in shipping and rolling about, and become injured. Almost every specimen will be found bruised. To prevent this, screws have been used for pressing on the heads of barrels. This bruises and destroys about a peck on the top, but keeps those below in place, so that they come out sound, unless kept too long in barrels, until those on the top become rotten, and the decay injures those below. This is somewhat an improvement, but is a very defective plan, after all. We need some better method. If some elastic material were placed at the bottom and top of the barrel, and perhaps a layer in the centre, we think apples might be packed and shipped without injury to a single specimen.

This is the time to make preparations for fall planting. If not already done, make your selection at once, and forward it to some good nurseryman. Clean up the garden, make new walks, beds, &c., as may be needed, and leave nothing for the spring that can be done in the fall. The spring will bring its own work, and enough of it. Those who for many years have designed to make beds of bulbs, such as tulips, hyacinths, crocuses, &c., &c., should remember that is their last chance for another season. It will not do to plant bulbs in the spring. All nurserymen are annoyed by receiving orders for bulbs even when they are in flower in the ground. After the bulbs are set, cover the ground with a coating of manure or leaves from the woods, if you can obtain them. They afford good protection from the severe frosts. All herbaceous plants are better plants in the autumn, and we recommend to our readers who love flowers a small selection of perennial phloxes. Fine varieties can now be obtained at most of our nurseries. There are many herbaceous plants worthy of general culture, descriptions of which we have given in previous numbers of the RURAL, and catalogues can be obtained, by sending a stamp to pre-pay postage to any of the leading nurserymen of the country.

Celery should be well-earthed for blanching, and everything that needs to be done before

winter should be attended to at once, for we have no time to lose. In a very few weeks winter will be upon us in earnest. The long winter apples are allowed to remain on the trees the better, without being frozen, and they will endure more frost than any other fruit. Where farmers have but a few for family use they may afford to be a little venturesome, but those who pick for market should have this, like all other fall work, attended to in season, and without hurry or confusion. Clear away all grass and weeds and everything that will afford a harbor for mice from around orchard trees. A little work of this kind in the fall may save hundreds of dollars. Trees planted last spring will be benefited by having a cone of earth thrown up about the trunk. It protects the roots and furnishes a very good support to the trunk.

**BENEFITS OF AUTUMN PLOUGHING.**

The tillage and drainage of the soil are very closely related to each other. So indeed are the tillage and manuring the soil. And these, not merely as cause and effect are related—though drainage does enable tillage, and tillage does alter composition—as being operations of the same class and kind. And thus Mr. Baily Denton, though engaged in a lecture upon land drainage, could not help referring to the steam plow—as the great tillage implement of the future, and we had from him, too, the striking fact bearing on the composition of a fertile soil, that in a state of perfect till one-quarter of its bulk is air.

Mr. Smith, of Lois-Weedon, says that in all clay soils containing the mineral elements of grain, perfect till dispenses with the need of manure; and there cannot be a doubt that a deep and thorough tillage enables soil to draw immensely on the stores of vegetable food contained in air and rain. Mr. Hardy says that perfect till dispenses with the need of drainage, and there can be but little doubt that deep and thorough tillage facilitates the operation of whatever drainage may exist, whether it be natural or artificial.

In both these cases the useful lesson is well taught, that it is true economy rather to put the cheap and copious storehouse of Nature's agencies to its fullest use, than by laborious and costly artificial means to imitate expensively their operation.

Such a lesson applies, beyond the advantages of tillage to the methods by which tillage is obtained. Among the earliest suggestions of cultivation by steam power was that of reducing by its means the soil to till at once. The land was to be torn down as the deal is torn