

## HINTS FOR THE MONTH.

Generally in this country the hay harvest is gathered in the month of July, though there are some, owing to the grain coming on early, who have not yet completed their haying. We would recommend to such as have finished, now to look well to their barns, barracks, and stacks. See that the stacks are upright, not likely to be affected by the winds, that the tops are sufficiently pointed to preserve them from injury during the rainy weather. Unless you have several small windows that may be opened and closed at pleasure, be careful that your barn doors be left open to admit the warm air to escape. Warm air generates to a greater or less degree in a building filled with new hay, and unless it is permitted to escape, adds greatly to the danger of injuring the hay. Small apertures are cut in the gables of barns to effect this, but they are objectionable as they admit easy ingress to birds and vermin—these should ever be excluded from hay barns. To make a good stack, one that shall turn moisture well, and preserve the hay, is a nice work, and one that but few farmers can perform.

IN GATHERING IN YOUR WHEAT, be careful that the body of the sheaves are well cared, especially if cut green and bound large. If not well cured, they are liable to sweat in the mow, heat and mould, the straw is lost for fodder, and the grain will be greatly injured—not fit for seed.

EARLY SOWING.—Last year we noticed several persons sowing wheat in August. From the backwardness of the season it is not likely to be done this year. But we must enter our protest against the practice of too early sowing. Some are of opinion that wheat sowed as early as August is all the better for it—that then it gets a good hold and will endure the severity of the winter much better. But this principle is radically wrong. It is founded on the principle that if sowed early, say in August, that it will grow deeper, firmer, and stand the winter better. It will not “grow deeper, firmer,” nor will it stand the winter as well, for in August there is usually *too much* heat in the earth at that time for it to vegetate freely and quickly, which is requisite for the healthy growth of any plant. Besides, should a drowth immediately succeed the early sowing, a large share of the seed will never vegetate at all. And should it even sprout, the great heat of this month would wither it and retard its growth. A little observation will convince any man that *wheat* is a plant that does not require, or will not endure a high temperature. He that cultivates much and must begin early, but I think wheat put in by the 10th or middle of September stands the best chance of success—though, the weather and the soil are to be considered.

SAVE YOUR SEEDS.—Never neglect to save your own seeds. If the farmer or gardener gathers his seeds in the proper time, is careful to select the best, he is more certain of having good ones than if he purchased them, and is much more sure of a good crop. You should not wait till a particular time, then gather all, for seeds ripen at different times

and should be gathered when ripe, in rotation as they ripen. Always plant the best vegetables for seed.

Budding.—Plumbs, cherries, and pears may now be budded or enoculated with good chance of success. Any time in the month that the bark will peel will do to enoculate—the later, the more certain of a vigorous growth. Enoculation is now admitted to be the best method of propagating fruit, especially those plants too young to graft.

SELLING STOCK.—During several days past I have met with several butchers asking for “good cattle, “fine wethers,” and “fat sheep.” They will call upon you soon, and the finest, fattest, and best they will strive to take away with them. In this they do right—but don't you part with them, even if you are offered a good price, all they appear to be worth. By selling these you impoverish your stock, and sustain a loss which the extra price will not make good. Sell such as have attained maturity, make your own selection, and sell for desirable prices. In this way the farmer constantly improves his stock, and provides himself with a stock that will sell at any time at fair prices. Farmers, *don't sell your best stock.*

## TO THE FARMERS AND MECHANICS OF CANADA.

Is it not really surprising that while there are hundreds of periodicals devoted to commerce, science, politics, law and religion, that not one can be found devoted to agriculture or mechanics? All the interests in the land united would not produce as much beneficial, actual, available wealth, as the farmer and mechanic. Commerce causes wealth to *exchange hands*, but does not create it. The farmer actually creates, or is instrumental in bringing into existence annually a large amount of wealth—an amount and kind of wealth, too, without which the population of no country can long subsist. All classes in society are necessary, and a help to each other. From the present organization of society none could conveniently be dispensed with, but if there is any one on whom the whole is depending more than another, it certainly is the *farmer*.

Next to the farmer stands the mechanic and manufacturer. They mould, cut and fashion the raw material into implements and articles, ornamental and useful, and which seem really, in the present state of society, to be indispensable. To whom is it we are indebted for most of the noble inventions and valuable improvements but to the close-thinking and scientific *mechanic*? It is to the mechanic, the artificer, and farmer, that we are chiefly indebted for the luxuries of life. If this be so, we ask again, how is it that they have been so long neglected? that they have had no *paper* to exhilarate their minds, lighten their labors, and defend their rights.

The time is come when it shall no more be said that there is not an agricultural or mechanics' paper published in our land. We here offer to you a paper devoted entirely to your interests. Its columns are open to all mechanics, manufacturers and farmers; we court your correspondence, reserving to our-

selves to say what shall be admitted and what rejected. Upon you will chiefly depend the respectability and usefulness of this paper. If you, as a people, interest yourselves to extend its circulation among both mechanics and farmers, and contribute largely and freely by correspondence to its columns, you can make it the *best, most interesting and widely circulated paper in British America*. This you can do, and justice to yourselves and to your occupations requires you to do.

On our part, no effort shall be wanting to make it both respectable and valuable. It has been said that Canadians are no readers—that “farmers” and “mechanics” will not support a paper in Canada! I hope that the inventors of this slander may be put to the blush by a practical demonstration of its falsity. There are, we believe, in Kingston alone, mechanics enough who could profitably, and would willingly, spare *five shillings* for a paper like this during one year, to pay the expense of publication. The Mechanics' Institute and the mechanics of this town will see to this. We submit it to their generosity.

There is not a farmer within one hundred miles of this who could not spare five shillings in something from his farm during the year for a paper like this, and whose money would not be well laid out. The hints which will be offered for the cultivation of lands, the use of manures, the economy of labor, the management of dairies, the treatment of diseases in cattle, sheep and swine, the making of fences, cultivating gardens, &c. &c., will *ten times* pay the price of the paper. What excuse, then, will any “farmer” have for not taking this paper?

It gives us great pleasure in looking over the list of names for this paper, to see the names of many among the first literary, scientific, wealthy, independent gentlemen of this country, who have condescended to extend their patronage to our paper. Their interest on our behalf will do much for us, and more for the country.

We are equally happy to acknowledge also that the “merchants” of the country have interested themselves in our behalf, some taking ten, some twenty, and in some instances fifty copies each. Where men interest themselves in this way, can there be any doubt of success? We think not.

## THE WEATHER—HARVEST—PROSPECTS.

The weather.—Since the settlement of this country few seasons have been marked by such an extraordinary drought as the present. For seven weeks previous to the 5th of July, in this region, scarce a drop of rain fell to moisten the surface of the earth. The drought was severe and unremitting—the grass was dried up in the pastures—the springs yielded no water—the meadows looked yellow and sere, the grass was short; many of the seeds sown and planted in the spring did not appear to vegetate—potatoes were a long time in before, they appeared, and much of the corn did not sprout at all. The cattle, sheep and horses, were thin and weak from the scarcity of fodder in the spring; and the lack of grass in the summer