

necessary outlay in the way of accommodation, fencing, draining, &c. But the fault is not always with the land or the landlord. We believe it is easier to find good farms, and good landlords, than good tenants. Many a man who would gladly keep his land, and let it at a moderate rent, could he secure proper attention and fair dealing, is constrained to get rid of the farm altogether, rather than allow it to deteriorate in the hands of a negligent tenant. One great cause of the unsatisfactory relations between the proprietor and the occupier of land in this country, is the custom of letting farms by the year, instead of on a lease of several years. With only a yearly tenure, the man who works the land is not careful to provide for its future productiveness. He must make, as he thinks, the most of the one season. He is tempted to give a higher rent, for the single year, than the condition and capabilities of the land would justify. He gets all he can out of the land, and returns as little in the state of manure as possible. This state of things operates unfavourably in regard to both parties. With a longer lease, the tenant would feel more interest in the place, bestow more care, and look further ahead in all his operations, while the landlord could afford to take a lower rent, and would be more ready to lay out money in improvements, if he saw that a good use was to be made of them, and that the system of management adopted enriched, instead of impoverishing, the soil. Landlord and tenant will both be induced to invest more in the land, and as a consequence, reap a larger return. The spare capital which a tenant uses for his farm, is put out to interest, and will greatly add to his profits. By patient industry and a wise economy, the farmer will secure a yearly surplus, and in time be able to purchase a farm without the drawback of a heavy mortgage and insufficient capital to carry on his business to advantage. There will be seasons, under the very best management, when from unpropitious weather or other unavoidable causes, it will be a hard matter to raise the rent. In such cases, we think, the landlord should be willing to share the loss, and with a faithful tenant he is much more likely to do so, than with one whose negligence or mismanagement have helped to make the land unproductive.

### Keep Beforehand.

SOME men are always behindhand; in a few instances from sheer indolence, but in a much larger number of cases from mismanagement and want of forethought; and such men seem ever the most worried, driven, and hard-pressed in the ineffectual struggle to overtake their work. Rest and leisure they have none; the retrospect of the past shows a long arrears of tasks unperformed, and the future is crowded with a hopeless accumulation of work to be done, with time too short and means inadequate to the performance. Other men, in precisely similar circumstances, get through a vast amount of work with apparently the greatest ease, never seeming hurried or overtasked, and while every operation in their business is duly completed in season, finding occasional leisure for enjoyment, and even recreation. With the latter class, life and labour are a pleasure; with the former, both are an unmitigated worry. The difference in the two lies, often, not in ability or industry, but in forethought and management. This is frequently very strikingly exemplified among farmers. One man, with no greater amount of means or help at his disposal, will all along be before his neighbour. One will be almost reaping while the other is still sowing.

To the veteran farmer, who is thoroughly up to all the requirements of his calling, any suggestions we can offer on this head will be quite superfluous; but there are young and inexperienced adventurers in the business, to whom a few hints may be useful. One of the most important matters to attend to is having everything in readiness beforehand. Fences, for example, should be in complete repair and in a

thoroughly efficient state before the spring work begins. The delay of a day or two during seed time, occasioned by the necessity of putting up or repairing fences, may make just the difference between a good and a poor crop, to say nothing of the hindrance and the damage that is frequently caused in a very short time by breachy stock, and which a proper attention to the fences would have prevented. The prudent farmer will also see that all his implements are in an efficient state before they are wanted. It is only the careless and improvident who have to lose precious time when every hour is of consequence, in taking ploughs, harrows, drills, and other implements to the blacksmith for putting in order and repair, just when there is pressing need for diligently using them.

The timely selection and preparation of seed is another matter that should be looked to in good season, and not deferred until the period for sowing has arrived. It not unfrequently happens, that while one farmer is committing his well cleaned and carefully selected seed to the thoroughly prepared soil, another is scouring the country in search of grain to sow; and in consequence of his improvidence, is perhaps obliged to make shift with a very inferior quality of seed, which he is in too great a hurry even to run through the fanning mill.

There is another item of forethought which saves many a precious hour during the busy season, and that is, to have the wood pile and other household wants provided for beforehand, during the period of comparative leisure. Those who neglect this precaution will often have to allow a man to spend time in cutting wood when he ought either to be busy in the field or taking his needed rest after a hard day's toil; or perhaps a woman is obliged, after all, to engage in the unaccustomed and unsuitable task of plying the axe and the saw to furnish the indispensable fuel. Forethought in the same direction will provide a kitchen garden, and see that it is conveniently arranged and adequately supplied. The same considerate spirit will make such arrangements as shall prevent the necessity of women having to trudge through wet grass, and it may be in pouring rain, to hunt up the cows and milk them daily in some distant pasture. Cows, like other animals, are creatures of habit, and can with a very little trouble be trained to come home at stated times, and suitable conveniences and shelter can easily be provided for them and for the milkers.

Besides these miscellaneous details, and many others that might be mentioned, there is a general forethought which every prudent farmer will take, so as to have a plan in his mind beforehand as to the course to be adopted for each season. He will then be able to calculate and provide himself in good time with the needful help. The neighbour's reaper or mowing machine, if he have not one of his own, will be early bespoken; the thrashing machine will be on hand when it is wanted, and many a vexatious delay and disappointment avoided which those are constantly incurring who drive things off to the last. In this general plan, the farmer who has been taught by experience will arrange the sowing and planting of the various crops so that they shall ripen consecutively, and not crowd upon him all at once, to his great perplexity and inevitable loss. His root crops will have been duly cultivated and cleaned before the haying comes on; this will be completed before the earlier grain fields are ready for the reaper; and these will succeed each other with intervals sufficient to allow of the harvesting of each in its right season. No field of precious grain will be left standing so long as to be dead ripe before cutting, when every operation of harvesting and hauling off the field will scatter and waste a large proportion of the crop.

This habit of forethought and previous planning will thus take in the whole season, as well as arrange in due course the work of each week and each day. It is, however, quite possible to plan too much, and to be thrown into as much confusion by this error as by not planning at all. Some men will not be

taught by experience, and are constantly over-estimating their own abilities and the amount of work to be expected from other men. In their plans no allowance is made for wet days and other unavoidable hindrances, and such men are always hurrying and pushing work through, and taxing the endurance and the patience of everyone in their employ. There is a Latin proverb which these men would do well to learn and apply—hurry slowly—make speed deliberately—and by not planning or attempting too much they would accomplish much more, to their own immeasurable relief, and the comfort of all about them. The farmer's life is a laborious one, though not without a host of pleasures and mitigations which alleviate and reward his toil; and there are few qualities of mind which will contribute so much to lessen his labour, increase his profits, and secure him needful leisure and rest, as the exercise of forethought and the practice of being beforehand and prepared for all his work.

### Whitchurch Agricultural Society Root Competition.

THE Secretary of the Whitchurch Agricultural Society has sent us a report, from which we make a brief extract, of root crop field culture in connection with the association. The competition included Swede and white turnips, mangolds, and carrots. For the first named three prizes were awarded, the first to Charles Brodie, the second to Frank Smith, and the third to Philip Macklem. The quantity raised were, by Mr. Brodie, 960 bushels per acre on five acres, by Mr. Smith, 681 bushels per acre on two acres, and 672 bushels per acre on two acres by Mr. Macklem. One prize was given for white turnips to F. Smith, who raised 701 bushels per acre on a quarter acre. One prize was also given for mangolds to Joel Baker, who had the splendid yield of 1,113 bushels per acre on half an acre. Three prizes were awarded for carrots, the first to Joel Baker, for 1,018 bushels per acre on half an acre, the second to John Jameson, for 1,015 bushels per acre on half an acre, and the third to Jonathan Baker, for 893 bushels per acre on a quarter of an acre. The yield was calculated by weight, sixty pounds to the bushel. The manure used in all cases was barnyard manure. The larger crops were all sown early, had the largest amount of labour bestowed on them, and in most cases received the heaviest manuring. The premium crop of carrots was in this last respect an exception, having received, according to the report, the least manure of any. From the results of the various experiments the judges expressed the opinion that no roots should be nearer than eighteen inches between the rows, a distance sufficient to allow a horse-hoe to till the crop. Turnips should not be less than twenty-four inches between the rows, nor less than twelve inches apart in the drill. The Judges found, also, that much depends on the quality of the seed sown. As an illustration, Mr. Brodie had two kinds of turnips, one producing a third more than the other with the same cultivation.

HENRY'S DOUBLE-WALLED BEE HIVE.—We expected to have had an opportunity of inspecting this hive by this time when we penned the brief notice of it which appeared in our last issue, but not having done so as yet, must defer a further account of it for the present.

CANADIAN BEE-KEEPERS' GUIDE.—We are glad to find that this excellent little handbook of apiculture has reached a third edition. It is just the thing for practical bee-keepers, especially such as are just beginning. It may be obtained from the author, Mr. J. H. Thomas, Brooklin, C. W., or at THE CANADA FARMER office. Price twenty-five cents. Parties ordering by mail will add three cents to pre-pay postage on the book.

FLOWER SEEDS.—We have to acknowledge the receipt of a package of flower seeds from Mr. A. W. Goldsmith, whose advertisements often appear in our columns, and whose floral productions have carried off many of the prizes at our Provincial Exhibitions for some years past. Intending competitors at shows would do well to send for a catalogue, as the reputation of Mr. Goldsmith as an exhibitor is well known. See advertisement in our present issue.