

that the vine will thrive here, and to the right and left of us many bearing vines now may be found from Westwell Farm. This next spring we would say to every farmer, that has not a grape vine, procure one. Follow the instructions of the *Farmer's Advocate* about the management of it, and you will never regret the price of a vine, or the price of this paper. We procured our first vine from G. Leslie of Toronto, and we have not found a more honorable person to deal with. If you cannot procure one or two in a better way, send to him and get them at any rate. Plant one or two.

#### DRAINING.

As this is a highly important part of our agricultural labor, too much neglected by us for the simple reason; that many have not the time or means to spare, to attend to it. We hail with pleasure the invention of the Ditching Machine by Mr. H. Carter of Aylmer, County of Elgin. We have previously alluded to it, having seen it at work, and of its having taken the Diploma at the New-York State Fair. We understand Mr G. Leslie of the Toronto Nurseries has offered Mr. Carter four miles of draining, and will pay him the full value for the work done, and will give an invitation to some of the leading agriculturists of the country to see the Machine work. We presume Mr. Carter will accept the kind offer, it will be a fair way of giving the machine a trial. It works admirable on the sod, but it is necessary to have the work complete and we think he will be able to do it, but until we hear of its being done in a cheap and efficient manner we cannot recommend it to our readers. When the trial takes place we will endeavor to attend and judge for ourselves.

Mr. Abell of the Woodbridge Agricultural Works has taken in hand to manufacture these Ditching Machines, under Mr. Carter's supervision.

#### EXHIBITIONS.

*In one of our cities the Mechanics and others have held a meeting for the purpose of establishing an Exhibition of machinery and testing the speed of horses. We hope they may do nothing injurious to the agriculturist, as agriculture is the main stay of the Dominion. It should stand pre-eminent. Considerable complaint was made at the meeting of the County Delegates held in Toronto about the power the Art Department*

*was gaining over the Agricultural Department, so much so that it deemed inexpedient to admit a single member of the Horticulturist Association to the Board for fear of further encroachment. We hope and trust that the mechanics will see that it is to the advantage of both to act honorably and to place agriculture in its proper position. We feel satisfied it is the wish of every honest farmer to act fairly toward them.*

*The Board would be happy to assist them in any honorable way to establish a good Exhibition in any part of the Dominion where such would and could be advantageously carried out. The movement on the part of the mechanics shows a desire and determination to make a good exhibition.*

#### NOVEMBER.

The month just passed has added another to the six most favorable, pleasant and healthy months that we remember in the country. More rain might have been beneficial to pastures and root crops, and some of the grain crops—still, we have no reason to complain.

The fall wheat as a general thing looks well, it is not quite so rank as usual. We notice some pieces on clay soils that have not come up evenly, the drouth preventing it.

The prices of grain and stock have receded considerably since issuing our last number. Those that acted on our suggestions by selling early have no doubt realized a great profit by so doing, and many will now wish they had done so. Those that have wheat now to sell we think need not be in much apprehension about the fall in price, as there will be a demand on account of the scarcity of the crop in several countries. It is not well however, to expect too high prices, and when a good figure is offered for any article for disposal it is not well to reject it.

#### FARM.

The comparative leisure of winter affords valuable time for learning the science of Agriculture. Mere book knowledge will never make a good farmer, neither will mere working on a farm; knowledge and practice must go together to secure the best results. The study of agricultural works not only add to the stock of practical ideas, but will develop and cultivate the man himself. We urge that all the animals upon the farm be well cared for during this inclement season, but are

yet more solicitous that the cultivator does not neglect himself. Mind-power is superior to horse power, or steam-power on the farm or elsewhere.

#### OPERATIONS FOR DECEMBER.

A glance over a table like the following will generally call to mind some piece of work that would otherwise be forgotten or neglected.

**Building.**—Save food and fuel by excluding wind and storms, but provide for ample ventilation for animals.

**Cattle.**—Keep under shelter, feed liberally, with frequent change of diet, and allow free access to water, give plenty of bedding.

**Cellars.**—Keep out frost and rats; sort every vegetable that may be decaying.

**Fencing Materials.**—Collect from woods and from swamps when they freeze and prepare rails and posts.

**Fodder Racks or Boxes.**—Provide them for all stock.

**Grain.**—Complete treshing, and market as soon as prices are satisfactory.

**Hogs.**—Complete fattening and kill as early as possible. Give warm food to store hogs, and allow plenty of litter.

**Ice House.**—the first formed ice is usually best.

**Lumber and Timber.**—Draw from the forest to the mill while sleighing is good.

**Manures.**—Keep all the factories employed. Save liquid manures with absorbents of muck, leaves, or straw. Keep under cover, and compost with muck or waste litter. Much of next year's profit will depend upon the care and skill now bestowed upon laying in a good stock of good manure.

**Poultry.**—Keep in warm quarters, feed liberally, supply with fresh meat, lime, and gravel, and warm food.

**Sheep.**—Keep separate from other stock. Shelter from storms, in well ventilated sheds. Give roots cut fine with hay, and a little oats or corn. Salt regularly, and allow plenty of water.

**Roots.**—Examine those stored; keep well ventilated and protected from frost.

**Winter Grain.**—Keep surface drains open, and allow no stock to graze or trample the fields.

**Wood.**—Cut and pile ready to draw when snow falls. Select dying and unthrifty trees, and thin out undergrowth.

**Give Mr. H. Coombs a call. He is the Cabinet Maker that presented us with our editorial Chair. His shop is near the Cattle Market in this city.**