

political economy to foster any branch of industry. This giving of bonuses, it is argued, is a gross fallacy, taking its place with protective or fostering tariffs with the other delusions of old times. "If an industrial pursuit cannot prosper by itself from the first, without adventitious aid, let it sink." A different opinion, however, is entertained by some people at Cobourg. The manufacturing company will give employment. They intend to employ one hundred hands constantly, and, when the works are in full running order, one hundred and fifty. The people—they who are to pay the bonus—say the employment of so many hands, implies the purchasing of food and fuel and clothing by so many families, and the paying by them of house-rent and taxes, and they say the price paid for the necessities of life will find the way to their pockets. And this is but one instance of many. The opinion is general, and is becoming epidemic, that it is the true policy to encourage and foster industrial pursuits throughout the country; that the prosperous state of each branch of business, implies the prosperity of the community at large, and that a depression of manufacturing, mercantile or agricultural interest cannot exist without affecting more than that one interest; that we must give our shoulders to the bearing of one another's burdens.

The fibre of the cocoanut is imported from Hindostan to Canada—from India, the Empire of the Queen of Great Britain, to the remote semi-continent, that also rejoices in being part of the dominions of Britain's Queen. On every continent—in every sea—the Union Cross is borne by the hands of Britons, and its presence assures the protection of British industry and commerce, and her mission for the welfare of the world.

May on the Farm.

A right busy month, as well as a pleasant one, is this on the farm; in English country life there is no season more pleasant. Vegetable and animal life are all full of promise. The bursting buds, the springing verdure, and the early flowers of the fields and lanes of Old England, make every scene bright and cheerful. The old English songster of Robin Hood said truly, "There is no month in all the year like the sweet month of May." But we must pass over the primroses and cowslips, the buttercups and daisies, for the cultivator and harrow. Business first!

First in order and importance is the closing of our seeding operations. Already, as the weather permits, the last of the spring grain is to be committed to the well-prepared soil. Whether sown broadcast or in drills, we have found great benefit from completing the work by the use of the roller. While it pulverizes every particle of the surface, and makes it more available for the nutriment of the tender germ, it places them so close together that the drought, now to be guarded against, has less power to retard the vegetation. An old farmer has said, The difference to the crops, of using and not using the roller, is, in a good year, having a good crop or a half one; in a bad year, having half a crop or none. There can be no doubt that a considerable portion of the seed sown perishes from want of care in the preparation of the seed bed, and in not protecting it in its germination. Moisture is necessary for vegetation.

Grass and clover seeds may still be sown, though the experience of many farmers is in favor of earlier sowing in consequence of our generally dry summers. We ourselves never had clover and grass do better than when sown, with the barley crop, in the first week of May. The soil was then in the best tilth, such as is most suited as a seed bed for such seeds, and, being fresh from the last cultivation, the

germination took place in a very short time. The seeding may still be done, but let the seed bed be well prepared and the ground rolled after the seed is sown and harrowed lightly with a seed harrow, or, if that be not at hand, with a brush harrow. Let oats and peas mixed be sown for June soiling—such varieties as produce the most hanlon and stalk are best for the purpose. This crop will be found very beneficial, even where cows are fed on the pastures. It will come in as a good additional food, when needed. This is the month for potato planting. The last week of the month is preferred by many, but we agree with those who think it better to plant earlier in the month, even at the risk of the June frost. Planted late, the quality is seldom so good. The low price received for the crop of 1875, should not be a means of preventing our planting this usually profitable crop. Such low prices are of rare occurrence, and even if the market price be low, potatoes are very valuable as food for cattle. We always found that raising potatoes for stock feeding was a very profitable branch of farming. The low prices will make us bring smaller quantities to market, and feed more to our cattle.

Mangolds, carrots, and parsnips should now be sown with as little delay as possible. We pay too little attention to the growing of these valuable roots. In the reports of agriculture from almost every part of the country, we meet the remark—Little or none of those crops grown in this section. Where turnips are sown, it is thought that sufficient provision has been made for the winter. But something more is needed. Turnips have their value for stock-feeding, but, owing to turnip fly, drought, and other causes, the growth of turnips has been found so uncertain, that we should not rely on them altogether. Mangolds and beets may succeed when turnips miss, and they are excellent feed for cattle, especially for milch cows. The yield, too, is very large. Every farmer should sow carrots. There is no more valuable addition to the ordinary food of horses. The white Belgian carrot is the variety most sown for cattle; but the long Orange and other varieties are more nutritive, though their yield may not be quite so heavy. Above all other roots parsnips are rich in nutritive properties. In the Channel Islands, where every foot of land is of high value, and turned to the best account, the parsnip crop is the great reliance for feeding their very valuable cattle. Let every preparation be continued for the turnip crop to be sown next month.

Keep your cattle off the pastures as much as possible till the middle of the month. If the crown of the young grass be eaten close in its early growth, it will not be nearly so productive as if allowed to gain strength before being cut down. And the poaching of pastures and meadows is of the greatest injury to them. The provident farmer will have roots and dry fodder to last for the first fortnight in May. Beans should be planted this month, and peas sown. In our very short spring, much of our seeding must be done in May.

Trees may still be planted. The ground is indeed seldom in a fit state to plant them earlier, but fruit trees, and trees planted for shade, and to make amends for the thoughtless destruction of all our native trees, will do well if planted carefully in this month, the earlier the better. May is said by some to be the best month for planting evergreen trees, though we have found them to succeed fully as well when planted in Autumn. From the woods we can easily obtain, besides, hemlocks, pines and balsams, and they bear transplanting well, if taken up carefully, though those bought from a reliable nursery are more profitable.

What Shall be our Root Crop for 1876.

"Turnips, carrots and mangolds but little cultivated; labor scarce and wages high, a great obstacle to the cultivation of food crops."—Analysis of Crop Report for 1875.

The report copied above led us to enquire if the farmers in the other Divisions of Ontario were deterred, by the labor being scarce and wages dear, from the cultivation of root crops, and we are pleased to see by the reports this dread of high wages has not had that effect. The culture of root crops, on the contrary, is becoming more general, though not to such an extent as we hope to see it; and, though in some places the yield has been light, it has, in other places, and not a few, been heavy. In one report the yield is given:—Turnips, 700 bushels; carrots, 600; Mangolds, 750 to 1,400. In another report: carrots, 600 bushels; mangolds, 700; turnips, 700; and in one there is a return of 600 bushels of parsnips, and in another of one thousand.

The largest yield in the majority of the returns we find to be of mangolds; but in reply to the query, What Shall be our Root Crop, we would say, sow that one which has given the heaviest yield, nor any one to the exclusion of others; but let there be a variety in our root crops, and then, if one be light or a partial failure from any cause, we may expect, by its well doing, it will at least make good the loss, after defraying all expenses. Are the "scarcity of labor and the high wages" such obstacles as to prevent the cultivation of root crops? We think not. It has been proved repeatedly that the cost of raising roots is, under favorable circumstances, but a few cents per bushel. Let us take, for instance, an acre of mangolds. The expenses we will set down as follows:—Plowing and drilling one acre, \$4.00; drawing out and spreading manure, \$5.00; seed, \$2.00; sowing seed, \$1.00; cultivating by horses, \$4.00; by manual labor, \$6.00; pulling, topping and saving, \$6.00. Total expenses of one acre of mangolds, \$28.00. For this outlay the farmer has a crop of from 600 to 1,000 bushels of roots, or even a yet larger yield, as seen by the reports given above.

The yield of sugar beets is often equal to that of mangolds, and both have a very beneficial effect upon the live stock of the farm. Mangolds and sugar beets, being especially rich in saccharine juice, are excellent winter food for stock. If fed entirely on a dry food, as straw or hay, they will fall away in condition in the winter; but feeding them on roots in addition to the dry food they will, when the spring has come, be better in condition than when housed, and the healthy state they are in when the early grass is ready for them will show itself during the summer, whether they be intended for the dairy or for beef.

The Culture of Beans.

To every farmer the same system of farming will not ensure an equally profitable result. Some are very successful in devoting their entire energy to some specialty in field culture or in stock raising and feeding; and others derive more pleasure and greater pecuniary gains from a system of farming that is greatly diversified.

Diversity of farming, of tillage, of grasses, of manures, of crops—such is the system we would pursue as far as circumstances would warrant us. As the crop of one course in a rotation, or instead of a scouring crop, the bean is not sufficiently appreciated in Canada. The bean and pea are much alike in their effects upon the soil; if they do not add to its fertility, as is said, it is at least certain that they do not take from its productiveness of succeeding crops. And they will succeed better on poor soil than any other variety of crop.

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