

specimens carefully pulled up with the roots will be always acceptable. Also wild or cultivated grasses, uncommon weeds taken when in flower, slowly dried in the shade or folded between sheets of soft paper. New varieties, or extraordinary vegetable productions are also requested, whether of the field or the garden. Fruits, nuts, &c., will also be acceptable. Insects not generally well-known, injuriously affecting the cultivated crops, fruits or forest trees are solicited. Specimens of remarkable soils with the underlying rocks, and in short, any natural or cultivated production illustrative of the climate and productive power of the country, will be welcome. We may also mention the fur of wild animals, the wool of different breeds of sheep, stuffed specimens of remarkable domestic poultry, eggs, &c. Each specimen should be correctly named, where, and by whom produced, with a statement of the particular facts of interest connected with it.

Manufacturers of Agricultural Implements, tools, &c., are requested to send specimens, or in case of the larger machines, models, of what they consider not ordinary productions. The price of each article, and a statement of what are estimated its particular advantages, should accompany it. These productions will be kept on exhibition free of expense to the makers, and in this way it is believed a benefit will be conferred upon them. In case of farm or garden productions, sent by express, the Board will be at the expense of transit, addressed to H. C. Thomson, Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, who will be happy to furnish any additional information relative to this object that may be desired.

EARLY AND LATE SOWING OF WINTER WHEAT.

The following letter, published in the *Country Gentleman*, from John Johnston, of Geneva, N. Y., widely known as the "Great Tile Drainer," will be found highly interesting to farmers, and from the reputation and long experience of the writer is deserving of attentive consideration. We should not go so far as to endorse Mr. Johnston's views in all respects, including exact dates, as applicable to this country. Some allowance must be made for climate, soil, seasons, &c., but the general principle is worth noticing that it may be possible to sow too early; and

where the Hessian fly is prevalent there can be little doubt that very early sown wheat suffer the most from its attacks. On the other hand forwardness in spring and early maturity is one of the great safeguards against the attacks of the wheat *Midge*. The problem then is, to sow late enough to avoid the fall attacks of the Hessian fly, and yet early enough to get the plant well rooted before winter, and thus secure as far as possible forwardness and early ripening the following season, as a protection against the *Midge*. By a thorough tillage of the land, adequate drainage, and sowing early ripening varieties of seed, this result may in average seasons to a great extent be attained. For Upper Canada generally the period of sowing we should recommend is from the 10th to 20th September or even as late as the 25th in some localities where the soil and situation are specially favorable to early maturity. And it happens that within these dates is about the period of sowing found most conducive to the vigorous & healthy growth of the wheat plant, independently of considerations connected with the predations of insects.

It is true that many farmers have been in the habit of beginning and ending their sowing between about the 27th August and the 11th September, and as a general rule with not unfavorable results. But in this case, if the land is in condition to promote immediate growth of the seed, and a warm autumn ensues, there is danger of the plant attaining too great a luxuriance before winter, and it is besides exposed to the attacks of the fall brood of the Hessian fly, where that insect exists. When wheat is sown as late as the 20th September, and onwards, it is important that the land should be in a condition favorable to quick and uniform germination of the seed, and that an early ripening variety of seed should be selected. On whole, it is doubtless safer to sow a little early than too late.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I notice there is a poor wheat around here. True, there are a few fields that are good, but I fear there are a great many bad. I wrote you last autumn that I thought my mine was ruined by the so-called Hessian fly, it is a total failure, and all owing to too late sowing. I sowed the 5th and 6th of September and many sowed earlier. I knew better than to sow so early, as I had had failures before by early sowing. For a few years after I had here, I began sowing when my neighbors