

When the present prices of country produce are compared to the prices of forty years ago, there appears to be a very great decrease, but many of the articles which the farmer purchases have also fallen; a sufficient quantity of printed cotton, to make a dress for a woman, can now be purchased for less than two shillings. Cotton warp yarn is now cheaper by the pound than the cotton wool was formerly. There is however such a falling off in the farmers profits, that it will be necessary for many to reduce their expenses, nor is this such an evil as some fancy it. It appears to be necessary to our general comfort, that luxury should occasionally receive such checks. We are too much in the habit of adding to our expenses by little and little, in things which add nothing to our happiness, till we find ourselves unable to live upon what we once thought a good income, but when circumstances which we cannot control, oblige all to reduce their expenses, this necessity, although like other medicines, it goes against our stomachs, yet generally turns to our advantage.

We are here affected by the poverty of other countries in some degree, so that we can honestly say we have not caused all the dullness of business and depression of markets by our own unskillful management. Our sister Province of New Brunswick engaged in lumbering, and paying little attention to agriculture, has been accustomed to purchase a large quantity of the produce of our farms, they have met one of those reverses which are not uncommon wherever this ruinous business is carried on, and having now but little to purchase with, they take but a small proportion of what they used to do, from Novascotian farmers; numbers of the inhabitants have come among us, for want of employment at home. From our mother country also, where there is much real distress, emigrants are constantly arriving. As we had tradesmen and laborers enough before, these newcomers, of whom very few are farmers, prove somewhat burdensome at first; but this burden we ought to bear cheerfully, and be thankful that we are able to bear it. When industrious men find it impossible to procure a living in their own country they have a right to remove to a better, and should always be welcomed. All men at times need the aid of others, and all should be willing to give assistance to those that need it; our turn may come another day. May we never have cause for a more serious complaint, than that we have more bread than we can eat, and cannot sell the surplus for its value.

**SEEDING ROOTS.**—Orris, Parsnips, and Parsley may be sowed at this season; the parsnips in drills 2 feet apart, and the orris and parsley 10 inches. A slight covering of straw should be given to the ground after it is sowed, otherwise the frost alternately with thaws will displace the seed.

Beets and Carrots are best preserved by packing them in sand or barren soil in the cellar. If small parsnips are spread thin in a shed where they will be exposed to frost, they will after they have become withered and half-dried, be found much sweeter than they were when first dug up.

After cellars have been carefully banked it frequently happens that the rats open themselves paths through the banking which admit the cold wind into the cellar; it is therefore prudent at the commencement of a severe spell of weather in the early part of the winter to examine the walls of the cellar by carrying a candle near to them and carefully caulking every hole through which wind is perceived to come and affect the flame of the candle, for there is more danger of frost entering the cellar with the first severe weather than with that which comes later in the season, as the damp air from the cellar will finally convey moisture enough to close all the crevices with ice.

Frozen potatoes may be preserved by pressing the water in them thoroughly, and then spreading them where they will when they will answer as good a purpose for fattening pigs as they had not been frozen. The Peruvian Indians who live on the lower part of the Andes raise a very unpalatable kind of Potato which they purposely expose to frost, press out the water, and then beat or grind them into meal.

#### TRAP DOORS.

We would advise every young farmer who is about building, be careful not to introduce this nuisance into his house. Neglect room is lost by making cellar stairs directly under the chamber stairs. The farmers wife has such frequent occasion to go into a cellar, that were nothing taken into calculation but the loss of time in passing the trap door, it would show that there was no had economy in using it, but there are so many serious accidents caused by these mischievous traps for breaking bones, that we have lately with there was a tax of three pounds a year upon each of them the money to be applied to the support of the cripples of the parish.

In a small farm-house the stairs should not have a very steep ascent, nor should they wind; it is much better to ascend a few steps, and then turn upon a landing, or broad step, as wide as it is long, if a turn should be necessary. The young Farmer's young wife has generally a flock of young children, and as she has much to do besides watching them, there should be as few traps in the house that may injure them as possible.

#### DRY ROT IN POTATOES.

This disease appears to be leaving us; it was most probably caused by a visitation of some new species of small insects, as it did not attack roots with unbroken skins. It is well remembered by many that a number of years back a family of insects entered the Province and destroyed in a few years a great part of the large Spruce timber, and then suddenly disappeared, nor has a single one for nearly twenty years met our observation, which was affected with that disease; we may therefore reasonably hope that some change of season may before long relieve the neighbouring States and Canada from the destructive wheat fly.

#### WORMY APPLES.

From the worms in the apples which fall from the trees, the bug originates which deposits the eggs in the young fruit the following season. If therefore all the windfall apples are collected and boiled with the pigs potatoes, there will be but few wormy apples, except there should be another orchard in the neighbourhood where the same precaution is not used, for these creatures can fly, although they generally creep. It is, however, asserted by some who have tried the experiment, that to dig the ground about apple trees, smooth it, and spread on it about an inch of old lime from the sweepings of a lime store late in the fall, has prevented the fruit from being wormy the following season. Should this be confirmed it would show that the bugs bred under each particular tree, cause the defects in its fruit.

Plumb trees should have the ground within four feet of the stem covered with straw or fir boughs upon the approach of winter, as they are often injured by the cold if this is neglected.

A slight covering of straw or moss should be given to Sage, Thyme, and Peppermint, when the leaves of the trees have fallen, and a thicker covering of straw or fir boughs should be added when severe weather commences.