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Agricultural Hints and Prospects.

The present season must be regarded as a late one; nevertheless the prospects of the farmer are anything but discouraging. The large quantity of snow which fell during the winter, means both of protection and manuring, as the ground was left, after the breaking up of the frost, in a favorable condition for the usual purposes of cultivation. The weather has been remarkably dry and somewhat cold throughout Upper Canada, but of late considerable showers have fallen, which, with a moderate temperature, will bring forward vegetation with great rapidity. We are glad to learn that winter wheat generally is strong and thriving. In some localities,—as is always the case,—the plant appears sickly, especially in exposed situations, such as the knolls and high land, it has been winter-killed. But generally, we are led to hope and conclude, is saved within comparatively small areas.

Farmers have been busy for the past two or three weeks, in the earlier parts of the Province, preparing land for spring cropping; and in various sections a considerable amount of peas, &c., have been sown, under favorable conditions.

Wet, clay lands, however, are yet too hard and tender to do much with; but a few of the present fine weather will bring them to a workable condition. Every year the benefits of draining wherever properly carried out, are becoming more apparent. We have seen a healthy, which without this import-

ant, and in many localities indispensable means of improvement, would have assumed the discouraging appearance of an adjoining but undrained field, in which two-thirds of the plants had been thoroughly lifted out by the frost, and the remainder looked sickly and most unpromising. Draining also renders land much warmer and earlier for spring working, and consequently admits of an earlier and better seed-bed. On the farm above alluded to, we observed in a well-drained field, peas already above ground, sown in excellent condition, while the adjoining and undrained fields were too soft and damp to admit of the trampling of horses. Just in proportion as people practise draining on cold, wet soils, will they perceive its important advantages not in one only, but in many points of view. In these latitudes, whether in America or Europe, it is the one great, indispensable means of agricultural advancement!

We may be again permitted to remind our readers of the close connection between the care of growing roots and improved stock. The present late season and scantiness of hay must plainly demonstrate this important truth. Happy that farmer who in winter, and particularly in early spring, has the means of giving a daily supply, however small, of turnips, mangels, carrots, &c., to his live stock; the health and condition of which, whether they be horses, sheep, or horned cattle, will be greatly improved thereby. Stock may, indeed, be kept in sound, growing condition upon good hay alone, but few farmers produce sufficient of that article to