When we look at the timber trade aloud and consider that the demand is from year to year greatly on the increase, that an increasing number of trees is being annually felled to meet the increased demand, when we know our Forests are rapidly being cultivated farms and prosperous villages, who can fail to be grieved by the reflection that no provision is being made for a removal of the supply. In addition to reserves of Forest Lands Government measures should be established where the seeds of the pine and valuable kinds of hardwood could be sown and properly cared for. The Government have any amount of suitable land at their command and the sooner it is set about the better for it takes many years of undisturbed growth for the timber to reach the necessary size and perfection and the benefits to the surrounding country, properly appreciated.

The whole cost of these salutary measures would not be burdensome to the country and the benefits to be derived ere many years elapse would be beyond calculation.

Improvement of Meadows.

(Written for the CANADA FARMER.)

It is very frequently the case, that some other means must be provided for the maintenance of the fertility of meadows, than the cultivation of other crops. The reason of this is that some fields are so situated that it is extremely difficult to put them under the plough, much more to cultivate a general crop. And yet, when once sodded down, they make excellent meadows, hence the necessity of occasional renewal by some system of fertilizing. Much can be done in this direction, when the conditions are all right, by means of irrigation by permanent streams of water. Very many of the elements necessary to plant growth, are held in solution in creek water and hence are taken up by the roots of the plants, there is also very much sedimentary matter that is carried along and deposited about the roots of the plant in the best possible condition for use. But in the first place, in order to derive benefit by this means, the meadow must be so situated, that the water may be spread evenly over its entire surface, which makes it necessary that the stream should have sufficient elevation to admit of its being tapped, and so drawn down upon the meadow. Again, the soil must naturally be loose and porous, capable of absorbing a good proportion of the water, still allowing it to pass off without injury to the growing crop from stagnation; or, if this is not the case, the field must be thoroughly underdrained to carry off the surface water, otherwise great injury will result. Irrigation seems to be an effectual means afforded by nature for increasing the fertility of our fields. It is to be regretted, however, that while the means are so effectual, they are not always available, and therefore mankind are compelled to employ other expedients. Top dressing, or a surface application of fertilizers, is one of these. In order to obtain the best results this should be done as evenly as possible. Sometimes artificial irrigation may be practised with much success, especially where conveniences are at hand for solving and applying the liquid portions of manure. It is sufficiently established, that the manurial value of the urine of animals is very large in the course of the year, and that it is in just the state to be assimilated by the plant, hence, any application of that, will be immediately productive of important results. This is perfectly illustrated in the application of liquid to house plants in window gardening. But liquid manure is not always at hand, and then other kinds must be brought into requisition. Commercial manures are very effectual, for the reason that considerable portions are in a condition to be immediately used. One thing is certain in regard to grass as in regard to crop, the more finely pulverized and consequently more soluble the materials used, the more immediate the results; and although the effects may not prove as lasting, as in some other cases, they are fully equal. On some kinds of soil, that are inclined to cold and moisture, coarse horse manure is spread with very great advantage; so, too, other applications must be made to suit the peculiar conditions of the soil upon which the application is to be made. This is a matter that must be determined by each farmer for himself; and to judge correctly, he should be well acquainted with the character and wants of his farm. As to the time of making the application of fertilizers, there is considerable diversity of opinion. It may be done in the spring or in the fall, in either case, it will depend upon circumstances, but it should be so made as to retain all the value of the fertilizing material, allowing none to be lost; hence if an application is to be made after one crop is removed, as recommended by some, it should, if possible, be made previous to a shower of rain, so as to be carried directly into the soil, but upon all these points the judgment of the intelligent farmer will be a sufficient guide.—WILLIAM H. YEOMANS, COLUMBIA, CONN., MAY, 1873.

The Japan Quince.

This blossoming shrub has been glorious with its bright scarlet blossoms all through the early spring, and has well established a claim to the attention of those who care for their home surroundings enough to bestow a little thought upon the selection and planting of those trees and shrubs which will give them a cheerful and attractive appearance. In all the range of flowering shrubs, as yet introduced, which are suitable to our climate, there is none to equal it in splendor when in bloom. Grown as a single shrub upon the lawn it is most attractive, and such is the brightness of its flowers, which open in clusters along the branches and shine out from among the young leaves scarce yet unfolded, that it has received the common name of the Burning Bush.

But it is when grown as a hedge or screen that its beauty is fully brought out. Fortunately the plants bloom when they are quite small, so that in a year or two after planting one has the pleasure of enjoying in some degree the fruit of his labor. But as soon as the screen has attained the height of three and four feet, it becomes a most brilliant object. Like a wall of fire, blazing brightest in the mid-day sun, it shines out in the early spring-time, giving a glow of warmth and beauty to the grounds, even before the chill winds have wholly disappeared.

This shrub is a native of Japan, from whence we have received already a number of most interesting and beautiful additions to our hardy plants. There are several varieties now in cultivation besides the scarlet flowered, to which we have referred. One of these produces flowers having a delicate pink blush, another has dark crimson blossoms. The variety known as Princess Emile Soutega, has dark blood-red flowers, and Umbelicata has brilliant rosy-red flowers, and large showy fruit.

All of these several kinds have bright glossy-green leaves, so that they are pleasing objects even when out of bloom. They are also of easy culture, growing readily in any good garden soil, yet preferring a well drained clay, in which they grow with surprising vigor, and bloom with great profusion. Nor are these plants scarce and high priced. Any of our nurserymen will supply single plants of one or all of these varieties for fifty cents a piece, and small plants for hedges or screens, can be purchased by the hundred or thousand at very low rates. So showy and hardy a shrub, of such easy culture, and so readily and cheaply procured should be found in many gardens and grounds, that would be made much more bright and gay than they now are, by a judicious planting of some of its varieties.

Early Oats.

Our experience on the farm is that the early sowed crops are, as a general rule, the best. We found that the sooner the oats were put in the ground the better crop we harvested in the fall. This was not only the case in regard to ourselves, but with all of our neighbors. Early sowed oats will not only yield better, but weigh more to the bushel than those sowed late.—*Cor. Farmers' Union.*

Treatment of Hams.

To preserve hams through the summer make a number of cotton bags, a little larger than your hams. After the hams are well smoked, place them in the bags, and get the best kind of sweet, well made hay; cut it with a knife, and with your hands press it well around the hams in the bags; tie the bags with strings, put on a card of the year, to show their age, and hang them up in a garret or some dry room, and they will last five years, and will be better for boiling than the day you hung them up. This method costs but little, and the bags will last forty years. No flies or bugs will trouble the hams if the hay is well pressed around them; the sweating of hams will be taken up by the hay, and it will impart a fine flavor to the hams. The hams should be treated in this way before the hot weather sets in.—*Ex.*

The Healthfulness of Lemons.

When people feel the need of an acid, if they would let vinegar alone, and use lemons or apples, they would feel just as well satisfied and receive no injury. A suggestion may not come amiss as to a good plan, when lemons are cheap in the market. A person should then purchase several dozen at once, and prepare them for use in the warm, weak days of the spring and summer, when acids, especially citric and malic, or the acid of lemons, are so grateful and useful. Press your hand on the lemon and roll it back and forth briskly on the table to make it squeeze more easily; then press the juice into a bowl or tumbler—never into a tin; strain out all the seeds, as they give a bad taste. Remove all the pulp from the peels, and boil in water—a pint for a dozen pulps, to extract the acid. A few minutes boiling is enough; then strain the water with the juice of the lemons; put a pound of white sugar to a pint of the juice, boil ten minutes, bottle it, and your lemonade is ready. Put a tablespoonful or two of this lemon syrup in a glass of water and have a cooling, healthful drink.—*Farmer's Union.*

A Flower Sermon.

On Tuesday evening the church of St. Catherine Cree was one of the sights of London, as, indeed, it always is on Whitsun Tuesday, that being the day upon which the anniversary Floral Sermon is preached there for the edification of young children. The congregation, principally children and women, wore either a posy pinned in the breast, or held a nosegay in their hands, as a befitting decoration for a floral sermon. The appearance of the inside of the church was very beautiful. On the pulpit was a bouquet exhibiting great taste in construction, at which many stolen glances were cast by the fairer portion of the congregation. This triumph of floral grouping was, as the preacher informed us, the present of a young lady, who had presented a similar one to him every year since he first preached a sermon upon flowers. For the happy idea of having an annual Flower Sermon preached at Whitsuntide we are indebted to the Rev. Dr. Whittemore, who preached an eloquent sermon, couched in plain language, and well adapted to the comprehension of his juvenile auditors.—*The Garden.*

Grind Your Corn.

Corn is one of the most useful grains that is raised. Everything, from the duck up to the sturdy ox, will eat, thrive and do well on corn. In the south it is used largely for bread; in the east, it is used as manure for tobacco; in the west it burned for fuel. The object of this line is not to teach men how to raise corn but how to feed it out to advantage. If corn be fed to stock in the ear, one third of it is lost and some claim more. Corn to fatten any animal needs to be ground. No doubt many farmers would grind their corn if they knew how to get at it. And now I will tell you how. Let enough men club together to buy a steam engine and mill.

Cost of engine will be	$300
Cost of 5 inch iron mill	35
Cost of Sheller	30

This engine will run mill and sheller all the time'