



"Agriculture not only gives Riches to a Nation, but the only Riches she can call her own."

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#### Manufacture of Maple Sugar.

It has been repeatedly stated that the Farmers in this Province might, with a very trifling effort, manufacture all the sugar that is required for home consumption, from the sugar maple, and from the cultivation of the sugar beet. In favourable seasons this result might be attained from the former source, but in the event of a failure, the sugar beet could be cultivated for this purpose with much profit. It is not generally known how much the purchase of sugar costs the Canadian people annually, and for the sake of placing this question before our readers in a light that cannot be misunderstood, we have been some little trouble in investigating the matter. The imports of sugar cost the country in the year 1846, no less a sum than \$80,000, one-fifth of which was imported from the Home District. As it is quite certain that this vast amount of sugar can be manufactured in the Province, and be made productive of large remunerating profits, we are disposed to give a few practical hints on the management of a sugar bush, in the hope that it will be the means of encouraging some of our Farmers to improve in this, as well as in the other branches of Canadian farm management.

**TAPPING TREES.**—The ordinary method of performing this part of the operation, is to take out a chip with a common chopping axe, about four inches long, three wide, and one deep, on an angle of about 45 degrees, and directly under the incision to apply a wooden spile, to convey the sap to the trough or other vessel for preserving the sap. This plan above all others should be avoided. The least injurious plan to the tree is to use a three-quarters of an inch auger, and by boring the hole only three parts of an inch deep, it will in the course of eight years grow over, so that the tree may be tapped again in the same place. The spile should be made to snugly fit the hole at the outer edge, or next to the bark of the tree, but the point should be one-third less in diameter than at the edge of the bark. A gimblet hole must be made in the end of the spile, and to convey the sap down the spile a small groove must be made with an half-inch gouge. The hole made with a gimblet should be burned out smoothly with an hot iron rod. By being careful in tapping trees with an auger, and by using spiles of this description, the whole of the sap may be collected in the vessels; but by the ordinary method by far the larger share is lost by running down the sides of the trees. Two-spiles may be put to