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The Farm.

HINTS FOR THE MONTH.

November is a month of very uncertain character in this climate. It is hard to say how it will behave. Sometimes it begins with a rough cold snap that startles us into a conviction that winter does really mean to come again, and, as if to make amends for its rough behaviour at the outside, closes with that delightful reminder of a departed season which we call "Indian Summer." Or this order is reversed, in which case summer in pretence begins the month, and winter in earnest closes it. The well-known March proverb is not inapplicable to November. If it came in like a lamb it will go out like a lion, and *vice versa*.

"Preparation for winter" may be written as the motto and watchword for November. It is to be presumed that the potatoes are all dug and housed either in cellars or pits. We are liable to have frosts about the first of November, severe enough to do great damage to potatoes. If any are left in the ground at so late a date as this, by all means let them be got out of it forthwith, if Jack Frost is not playing jailer with them.

All the root crops should be taken care of at once: carrots, beets, mangolds, and turnips. Carrots are beginning to be raised extensively, chiefly as winter food for horses, and they are very valuable for this purpose. But they are equally good for other animals. Boiled and mixed with meal they are excellent for fattening hogs. Mangolds may be alternated with turnips in feeding cattle. Thus used for milch

cows, they correct the turnipy flavour which is apt to be given to the milk by the exclusive use of turnips. But mangolds are especially useful towards the close of winter, and by their peculiar qualities, are an excellent preparation for turning out to grass. In taking up turnips, the best plan is to remove the tops before lifting the roots. This can be done most expeditiously by means of a sharp hoe. Care must be had not to cut a slice off the turnip along with the top. The tops may either be fed to cattle or ploughed in. We prefer the latter course, chiefly because the tops are rather too unsubstantial and loosening diet to be a good preparation for winter, while they are an excellent green manure. Some farmers are in the habit of tearing their turnips out of the ground with harrows. We do not commend this practice. It cuts up and wounds the bulbs considerably. A light tool, somewhat like a pick, made for the purpose, does the work much more satisfactory, and the process is not so slow as might be imagined. One of the best farmers we know, who usually raises about twenty acres of turnips each year, pursues this plan in preference to all others. The most convenient way of storing them for winter, is in the root-house close to the cattle stabling, but they will keep well in pits. Care must be taken to provide ventilation, and to avoid the extremes of warmth and cold. Turnips keep best just above the freezing point.

All animals should be well housed this month. Nothing is more unprofitable than to let stock suffer inconvenience from the cold. It is a great waste of feed, for shivering animals eat voraciously, and after all