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 Editorial, &c.
 

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 HINTS FOR THE MONTH.
 

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The sowing of fall wheat should, as a general thing, be completed in all parts of Upper Canada before the close of September. This important operation, therefore, cannot be safely deferred, except on very rich soils and in dry and warm situations, till the present number reaches the hands of our subscribers. In consequence of the heavy showers that have fallen for the last two or three weeks, wheat-sowing has been effected under favorable circumstances, and the grain in many places already indicates a strong and healthy germination. Where the soil has not been too hard to work, and proper attention has been paid to the draining and pulverising of it, its condition for the reception of the seed, after so long and intense a drought as this continent has generally experienced, must be regarded as highly favorable to the promotion of next year's crop.

It is of importance to bear in mind, when dealing practically with the wheat plant, that one of its principal and most common enemies is stagnant water, so frequently seen in low parts of fields during spring and autumn. Of course in a country recently recovered from the forest it is unreasonable to expect such a surface and drainage as characterise countries which have been subjected to cultivation for centuries. Still, many of our farmers might do much more towards securing and increasing their crops by a little timely attention to inexpensive draining, than is commonly practised. Presuming that the soil sown with wheat has been properly cleaned and laid up into ridges in a workmanlike style, leaving the furrows sufficiently deep and open to carry off most of the superfluous water, under ordinary circumstances, yet how often does it occur in practice that certain low portions of the field are partially inundated for many days together after heavy and continued rains. Much of this evil may readily be mitigated, if not wholly removed, by ordinary attention to the making of cross-furrows of sufficient depth to

meet the exigencies of each particular case. It is a practice to be recommended after the field has been sown, even in the best style of management, to walk over it after the first heavy rain, and with a spade give vent to all pent up water.

A few inches deepening of an ordinary furrow, or a slight cross cut for a few feet will often be found sufficient to relieve a considerable area, in which the seed must otherwise have perished.

This is the season too, when the farmer, after having got through the hurry and fatigues of summer work, and consigned to the bosom of Mother Earth the germs of a future harvest, can look around him, and plan and execute work of general and permanent improvement. At the basis of all such improvement in wet lands, is *efficient draining*—an operation that may be advantageously carried on through this and the succeeding month; and in some seasons and situations, even later. By efficient draining is meant the entire removal of all stagnant and therefore injurious water from the farm by improving the natural outfall, where necessary, and the making of open ditches and covered drains of sufficient depth, communicating therewith.—If only the natural drainage of farms was improved and a few deep ditches cut so as to intersect the lowest and wettest places, the benefit that would result would appear to those inexperienced in such matters truly astonishing. We say then to our readers, drain as well and as fast as you can, and lose not a day in making a commencement in right earnest. Of course as practical and judicious men, the style and extent of the work will depend on your means and local requirements.

The harvesting of root crops will now require attention. Many kinds of potatoes, Swede turnips and mangel wurzel are yet, owing to the late rains, in a very growing state. Early sorts of potatoes should now be lifted, and well exposed to the air and sun before being put into pits or otherwise stowed away. In pitting turnips, mangrels, carrots, &c., in the open air, care is necessary not to cover them too thickly with earth, and to allow room through the top of the heap for the escape of the products of evaporation. From inattention to this precaution, many