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The Season.

The present must now be fairly considered as late spring; all kinds of vegetation being a month behind the average of years, with no immediate prospect of a decided change. We know that the late severe frosts have done considerable damage to winter wheat in exposed positions, and that many fields have been washed up for spring grain. It is to be hoped that the damage has been only partial, and that the great bulk of the extensive area sown to wheat is secure. The weather has been extraordinary, and all kinds of field work are behind. It was ushered in with a severe snow storm, and for several nights the thermometer sunk several degrees below freezing! Generally the weather has been dry, and the days comparatively cold; fruit buds and vegetation have therefore been kept back, and with a more moderate temperature to come, they may not be found to have sustained any very serious injury. The recent heavy fall of rain put a stop for several days to farming operations, and upon the lands, at this advanced period, must prove detrimental. Still, if settled and genial weather should soon set in, a boon that may fairly be anticipated, the finishing of seeding may be performed under more favorable conditions, and the crops, including fruit, prove abundant and lucrative. The prospect for grass, and particularly hay, will, under such circumstances, be more encouraging than for some time past;

and the intimate connection between a good crop of hay and the economical management of stock during our protracted winters is a matter which every Canadian farmer perfectly understands.

We must not, however, altogether depend upon the produce of hay and straw for the carrying of cattle through winter; and therefore we again remind our readers at the risk of being charged with repetition, of the necessity of attending to the raising of roots; a branch of improved culture that forms a chief characteristic of modern agriculture. It is not now too late to sow carrots and parsnips, which may turn out as well as the earlier sown in such a season as the present, and mangel wurzel, as soon as the ground gets warm and dry, may be sown on all suitable and well prepared soils, with every prospect of remunerative returns. The long red on deep rich soils will generally be found to yield the heaviest weights; but on drier, and shallower land the yellow globe is to be preferred. Both require ample room both in and between the rows, and the frequent stirring of the ground in dry weather wonderfully conduces to the growth of all these kinds of crops. Mangels, if sown too early, are apt to run to seed, particularly if the land be rich and the season moist and warm; but they should be sown in this country as soon as the ground gets dry and warm, and all danger of night frosts, of much intensity, is over. Mangels, when properly stored, will keep fresh and good till the end of May, and