

stronger for it, and been far more able to face evils than before reading them, and these or similar sentences would recur to me again and again, long after the paper from which they were read was laid away.

To those who are thriving and well doing, there may still be a word to say. Do not allow your prosperity to harden your heart to the wants of others less favourably circumstanced than yourself. Rest assured, a kindly consideration for others less fortunate will add to your own happiness and comfort. Do not allow sloth and idleness—often the result of prosperity—to come creeping slowly but surely on you; for, depend upon it, the energy and activity that caused your advance will be required continually to enable you to hold your better position. C.

### Canadian Fruit, Flower and Kitchen Gardener.

To the Editor

SIR,—Would you inform me whether it is the intention of the Fruit Growers' Association to furnish any scions of fruit trees to graft, and a copy to each member of the work by Mr. Beadle, soon to be published, on Canadian Horticulture, as hints have from time to time been given of such intention?

By answering the above you will oblige a member of said Association T.

REPLY.—We understand that the publishers have sold the book, that Mr. Geo. Crawford, 43 Richmond Street East, will sell it through the medium of canvassers, and that it will not be distributed to the members of the Association. You had better address a note to Mr. Crawford, who will give you full particulars as to prices according to the different styles of binding. The Association will furnish scions of supposed hardy sorts of the different fruits to those living in the colder sections who may apply for them to the Secretary, on condition of their giving a report of success or failure.

### Fish Manure.

Mr. George Makinson, from Newfoundland, writes:—

"In your columns I would be glad to be informed how to keep fish manure from being destroyed by maggots. In this county we get it too late to reap any benefit from it until next season; and when made into compost, much of its valuable manuring qualities are destroyed by maggots. Can you suggest any way to remedy this?"

NOTE BY ED.—There are a number of different insects whose larvæ (grubs or maggots) live upon putrid animal matter, especially blow-flies and some tribes of beetles. Almost the only way to prevent their discharging their duty of removing carrion, &c., from the face of the earth, is to keep the material out of their reach by enclosing it in tight vessels. This, we should think, would not be practicable in the case of fish manure—or if practicable, would be too expensive. Various chemicals might be employed to render the

manure distasteful to the maggots, but there is great danger in employing them of destroying the valuable properties of the manure. We should not like to suggest any remedy for the maggots, lest such a result should follow from its application. Can any of our readers recommend from actual experience any reliable remedy?

### The Coming Weather.

To the Editor.

SIR.—Now that the topic of the weather is before the public, it will perhaps add a little interest to the subject to allow me a word. You will perhaps remember that I called on you last spring with a number of diagrams, and that I explained to you my theory. Subsequently I called on a gentleman of high professional authority, who advised me, as being the shortest way to establish the theory—to predict; "For," said he, "if you can tell us beforehand what weather is coming, your theory will be established beyond a doubt."

It would be wasting time to tell you what I have done in this way in my own neighbourhood, or to recount the hits and the errors I have made. I shall not either say one word in this place as to what my theory is, but content myself with stating the probable kind of weather for the months of January and February, 1872.

January, I undertake to foretell, will be very stormy and cold; the probabilities are the month will be as cold as that of 1857. February will be as high above the average temperature as January will be below it, and our rivers will be all breaking up in this month. W. B.

Pinkerton, Co. Bruce, Dec. 16, 1871.

## The Canada Farmer.

TORONTO, CANADA, JAN 15, 1872.

### Our New Volume.

In entering on the labours of another year, and issuing the first number of the ninth volume of this periodical, it is unnecessary to make any fresh statement of our objects and aims, or to urge the claims of the CANADA FARMER on the support of the agricultural community of the country. We very cordially tender our thanks to the many friends who have aided and encouraged the enterprise from the outset, as well as to those who have more recently been enrolled on the list of our subscribers. We hope their numbers will increase; and for ourselves, can only promise that the will and the effort to make the journal worthy of their support shall not be wanting.

We would once more solicit communications from any who are engaged or interested in farming; especially would we invite the records of actual experience. Enquiries from correspondents shall always receive due attention, though we may sometimes, from unavoidable circumstances, be compelled to de-

fer replies longer than we could wish. We desire that every subscriber shall take a personal interest in the paper.

To Agricultural Societies we look for a hearty co-operation. It is through their efforts, more than any other agency, that enlightened views on the most important industry of the country may be spread, and a worthy spirit of enterprise stimulated and directed. To the members of such societies, therefore, the CANADA FARMER is offered, as heretofore, on the most favourable and liberal terms.

The present number, the first of a new volume, is sent, according to custom, to all our subscribers for the past year, though their subscription expired in December. But no other number—and we particularly request attention to this intimation—will be sent to anyone who has not paid the subscription for the current year. We would also again remind intending subscribers of the importance of sending in their names early, in order to secure full sets, and complete their annual volumes.

The rates of subscription, and terms to clubs and Agricultural Societies, as will be seen by reference to the prospectus on another page, are on the same liberal scale as heretofore.

### An Agricultural Retrospect of 1871.

Though the past year has not been marked by any very extraordinary events affecting agriculture, it may not be unprofitable to take a brief review of the leading circumstances of the period as they bear on this most important national interest.

The character of the season has perhaps presented more exceptional features than anything else connected with the subject. Nothing special marked the early winter months. On the whole, the season was comparatively mild. The mean temperature of January was slightly below the average, but that of February and March was above the average, though each month had a brief season of intense cold, the lowest reading of the thermometer at Toronto occurring on the 24th of March, when it fell as low as 17° below zero. April was again on the whole warm, and spring opened early. It is many years since farmers have been so forward with their sowing as they were able to be last spring. In May the country was visited with the first signs of that drought which, during nearly all the subsequent months, has been so persistent and widespread. June was fortunately favoured with an average rainfall—a circumstance which no doubt saved the crops. Each subsequent month has been characterized by excessive dryness, affording, however, notwithstanding its disadvantages, splendid weather for harvest. The temperature throughout the year has been no way extraordinary, if we except the un-