

## HINTS FOR MARCH.

In the opinion of some of our best orchardists, this is the month in which pruning may be done to advantage. There is more leisure than at any later period. The trunks of the trees in the orchard should be examined, and any that are mossy should be scraped; and it would be as well to give all a good scrubbing with a brush and soft soap. If the ground is thawed, all suckers that appear around the roots of the trees can be removed; and all shoots on the trunks should be carefully cut away. For standard trees, little is necessary beyond thinning out the small branches, to admit light and air freely to all parts of the tree, and removing all straggling branches and those that cross each other. In doing this, aim as far as possible to obtain a handsome, well-balanced head. Grape vines, and trees bearing stone fruits, may also be pruned in this month. *Dwarf Trees* may also be pruned now, and it should be done thoroughly. Pruning and manuring are essential to the growth of fruit from dwarf trees. If the weather be favourable, *Hot Beds* may be started, if designed for growing cucumbers or melons. If intended only to raise plants for the open ground, the first of April will be time enough.

*Fences*, as every good farmer knows, should be looked after at the earliest possible moment. When the spring fairly opens, there is always enough to engage the attention, without being obliged to repair rickety or broken-down fences. Those who intend to plant fruit trees this spring, should be looking about them. Send your orders to the nursery early, so that you may get your trees in the ground before they have begun to bud. Late spring-planted trees seldom do well.

*Marketing*, if any remains to be done, had better be got through with now. Prices are surely high enough for every kind of produce. Wheat is not likely to go up much beyond present rates. At all events, those who are holding over for better prices are just as likely to lose as to gain by the operation.

The following are the prices, at Toronto, for the leading agricultural products:—*Wheat*, from 6s. 6d. to 6s. 10d.; from one to two thousand bushels per day. *Flour* in active demand, No. 1 Superfine, 26s. 3d. to 26s. 6d.; Extra and Double Extra, from 28s. 9d. to 32s. 6d. *Spring Wheat* is worth 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d. *Barley*, 6s. *Oats*, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d. *Peas*, 3s. 9d. to 4s. *Potatoes*, \$1 per bushel. *Pork*, high and scarce; Dressed Hogs, \$10 to 10½ per 100 lbs; Mess, from \$23 to \$25 per barrel. *Hay*, \$12 to \$18 per ton.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—We have received several communications for which we could not find room in this number. One from Mr. Parsons, on a variety of subjects, and much too lengthy for our columns. Some of his remarks on Turnip Culture are interesting and we shall therefore endeavour to make room for them in the April number. We must impress on correspondents the importance of making their communications *short*—i. e. not to extend beyond a page, or at most two pages. Rarely indeed should an original communication exceed a page. In a paper like the *Agriculturist*, short articles and variety should be the rule.

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