

## APRIL.

April looks as if it might enter *white* in northern sections, and very *black* with frost in some western and south-western localities.

There are indications of periods of unusual heat, which will cause rapid and premature advance of vegetation.

Late and severe frosts are probable in the south and south-western sections of the United States, and in portions of Canada.

April will likely be more of a Spring or early Summer month than May.

**FLOWER GARDEN.**—Window plants require more water and ventilation. Due attention must be paid to shifting well-rooted plants into larger pots, and if space is desired many kinds of hardier plants can be safely put out in cold frames. All herbaceous plants and hardy shrubs may be planted in the garden. The covering of leaves or litter should be taken off bulbs and tender plants that were covered up for Winter, so that the beds can be lightly forked and raked. Sow tender annual flower-seeds in boxes inside.

**FRUIT GARDEN.**—Strawberries that have been covered up with straw or leaves should be relieved around the plants, leaving the covering between them. Raspberries, grape vines, etc., that have been laid down, may now be uncovered and tied up to stakes or trellises, and all new plantations of these and other fruits may now be made.

**VEGETABLE GARDEN.**—Asparagus, rhubarb, spinach, etc., should be uncovered, and the beds hoed or dug lightly. Hardier sorts of vegetable seeds and plants, such as beets, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, lettuce, onions, parsley, parsnip, peas, potatoes, radishes, spinach, turnips, etc., should all be sown or planted by the middle of the month if the soil is dry and warm, and in all cases, when practicable, before the end of the month. It is essential in sowing seeds now, that they be well firmed in the soil. Any who expect to get early cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce or radishes, while planting or sowing is delayed until the time of sowing tomato and egg-plant in May, are sure to be disappointed of a full crop.

## An Early Spring and a Wet Year.

One of our prominent lawyers, who is at the same time one of the leading fishermen of the valley, claims that the weather invariably repeats itself, and gives the following as the result of his observations, viz:—

All years ending in 9, 0, or 1, are extremely dry.

Those ending in 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, are extremely wet.

Those ending in 7 and 8 are ordinarily well balanced.

Those ending in 6 have extremely cold winters.

Those ending in 2 have an early spring.

Those ending in 1 have a late spring.

Those ending in 3 and 4 are subject to great floods.

—*Lebanon Times.*

**RUSHING THE SEASON.**—A piece of unmistakable spring poetry from the pen of \_\_\_\_\_ has reached this office. A gentle, but firm, protest must be entered against this rushing of the season. It is not spring. The weather is deceptive and the chances are that a considerable slice of winter may yet be served up. Poets should guard against heing "too previous."

## The Spring.

We wish it to be clearly understood that our impressions relative to the approaching Spring are all in favor of

## UNUSUAL EARLINESS.

Yes! unfortunately of unusual earliness. It will set in suddenly and almost with, if not quite, almost summer heat. We do not like to see such premature springs. Give us rather the old-fashioned, steady winter and the gradual gradation with the Spring weather. Why? *Because otherwise we have relapses, just as we are going to experience this year.* In the March issue of the *Bulletin* and under the heading "The Spring of 1882," we drew attention to this fact, predicting unusual and premature heat and then cold, frosty and rainy weather when we should expect summer heat. The readers of the *Bulletin* may expect, then, to notice the newspapers everywhere make mention of the *extraordinary advancement* of the season; the *exceptionally early* opening of the navigation, and the wonderful progress of crops and vegetation generally, weeks earlier than we are accustomed to notice such features during the Spring months.

Then, "while the sun shines make your hay," but prepare for *cold* and *wet* in May. This early and premature weather, so full of smiles and so productive of bright visions respecting the approaching summer will terminate; suddenly and abruptly terminate, and give place to a condition of the very opposite character.

The year 1882, with its MONDAY Christmas has already commenced badly. Its long list of life and property destruction nearly everywhere, is anything but cheering. The outlook for a healthy season—after such a winter—is but a forlorn one, whilst, as we regard it, the agricultural outlook is of a still more formidable character.

A premature Spring has never done a good turn yet, but many a bad one. Rapidly growing vegetation under the invigorating heat of the Spring sun is a joyous picture when seasonable, but when this is in progress in a period which experience teaches us has to be followed by frosty and generally unfavorable weather, the picture, on the contrary, becomes a sad one.

It is not our purpose, nor is it in our power to furnish dates or locate periods in which such changes are to occur. The season is altogether too exceptional for this, and our back records do not furnish us with sufficient data for such an attempt. All we can say is that in April and May there will be terms of unusual advancement, and again terms of the contrary character. We would prefer to see April rather wintry-like than otherwise, for a cold April never yet did much harm, and seldom has been followed by a bad year. But a hot and muggy month and then a wet and cold May, casts a shadow over both the midsummer and harvest time. As we look at the whole matter we think that we have but little to expect in a friendly way from the approaching summer of 1882, but much the reverse. May it prove that we have been mistaken.

—1878 had an early Spring, the following items relative to it we print here for the purpose of future comparisons:—

March 29—First steamboat arrived at Montreal; river clear of ice.

April 10—Swallows arrived.

April 18—Ottawa boats commenced running.

April 30—The steamship *Sarmatian* arrived at port of Montreal.

*The month of MAY was cold and wet.*

## April Items.

—April *showers*, May *flowers*.

—Showery April, the *KEY* of the season.

—April's entry in *white* is the farmer's delight.

—April must melt the ice or May will preserve it.

Easter came in about the same time in 1880 and 1875.

April may *show*, but May and June will *power*—with rain.

April entered warm and spring-like at Montreal in 1880.

—April is very often frosty again about the 13th and 14th days, generally.

—Shocks of earthquake were felt at Quebec and Cumberland on April 3rd, 1880.

—For every fog in February there is almost sure to be a frost in May, or "so they say."

—Halifax had a snow-storm as late as April 7th, 1880; and at Ottawa a few days later.

—An old Portuguese proverb relating to April is—"A cold and moist April fills the cellar and fattens the cow."

—There are indications given already of a very stormy ending of the present year, and of a great amount of both snow and cold.

It is probable that April will borrow largely from the Summer as touching the weather, and that May will repay this with good interest.

—April has harvest-seasons in Syria, Cyprus, coast of Egypt, Mexico, Cuba, Persia and Asia Minor.

"April showers, May flowers," is an old and fairly trite adage. We here add another as faithful—"April *mugginess* and heat, May *sled*."

—Halifax had almost a snow-blockade on the last day of March and entry of April in the spring of 1880. Thermometer at zero.

A mass meeting of Hens was held recently at Montreal, and they decided not to lay eggs for Easter until the prices were definitely fixed upon.

"The people" are now saying, "It looks as if 1882 was going to be a wet year." So we proclaimed in October, 1881, and still further back, viz., in September, 1880. Our predictions should always be cut out and pinned to the hat.

—An English proverb in the same month runs:—"If the first three days of April be foggy, there will be a flood in June," which means a wet midsummer, or harvest.

—This is better:

"Betwixt April and May

If there be rain

It is worth more than oxen or grain."

But we have yet to find the farmer who would be willing to part with these last for the first.

—Lord Bacon wrote:—"A severe Autumn denotes a windy winter; a windy winter, a rainy spring; a rainy spring, a severe summer and windy autumn, so that the air on a balance is seldom debtor to itself." We cannot see the matter in this light, and most decidedly the couplets as given do not agree with our weather.