THE

Canadian Agriculturist,

OR

NAL AND TRANSACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

OF UPPER CANADA.

. XIII.

TORONTO, APRIL 16, 1861.

No. 8.

Farm Operations.

work of the farm is now commencing in arnest, and the attention of the cultivator some time to come be wholly engrossed pressing and multifarious details of his The season must be considered late; • ct, however, is out of the ground; the is disappeared; recent rains have fallen olidate the surface, and there is good to hope that agricultural operations will without any serious drawbacks or inter-Winter wheat we trust has not been ÷. ely damaged,-in some places, as is he case, it is looking weakly. Where ce is loose, and the plant lifted by the e application of the roller, as soon as ind will admit, will be beneficial, and re should be taken to drain off any stagver; particularly on heavy soils.

who ploughed their clay soils in the begin to appreciate the advantages of tion; the frost having effected a state ization which could not otherwise have ined. Sandy soils are not affected in manner, or at least not to anything ame extent, and may be left to depend working. Never work land, especially r soils, while it is wet; much better days, even though the season be late. ive harvest greatly depends upon get l-prepared seed bed, and the selection .d. In nothing, perhaps, do farmers more commonly err than in the latter; although of late, there is reason to believe, more attention has been paid to this very important matter. Not only should pure, well-ripened seed be selected, but it is of importance that it should occasionally be obtained from a distance, and from different soils, as it is well known to practical men that such changes are highly beneficial. This remark applies to all kinds of grain, which are certain to deteriorate more or less, by repeatedly sowing the seed raised from the same soil. Oats in particular rapidly degenerate in this climate, and seed should every few years be got from a distance; say from the eastern sections of these Provinces, and the nearer the sea-board the better. The farmer would do well to bear in mind that the adage, "Like produces like." applies to the cultivated cereals as well as to animals.

Where land was deeply ploughed in the fail it may often be brought into e-cellent tilth for seeding without again ploughing, by using a heavy cultivator as soon as the ground gets sufficiently dry. Land for barley requires a deep and fine tilth; peas should be sown as soon as the soil will admit, also vetches, when intended for feeding green to stock, then follow oats, barley, &c. The sooner spring wheat is soon the better,—always premising, of course, in this as in all other instances that the land is in a sui'able condition. Many farmers, however, have sown spring wheat late,—the Fife variety for instance, from the beginning to near the