

# The Farmer's Journal.

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 1858.

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## February.

Since about two weeks the bridges over our rivers are completed in all directions, and the farmers have been able to bring their produce to market, and sell it at very high prices, as can be seen by the Montreal Market prices published below.

The principal work of the farmer in the winter is to attend to his stock, thrashing, taking manure out to the fields, where required for use in spring, &c. This is the time for the farmer to provide wood for his fences, and fire-wood for next winter. All that can be done in winter, should be done, for in spring and summer farmers have a great deal to do.

Animals of all descriptions that are exposed to very great cold, will, undoubtedly, require more food to support them in good condition than they would in moderate weather. Farmers must attend to this, or their cattle will fall off in their condition. A small quantity of oats given to them daily would maintain their strength and condition, for this grain, besides producing a great degree of warmth to the animals, is very fattening in its nature. It is preferable to feed it boiled. Cut straw has a tendency to confine the bowels, we are told; then boiled linseed should be sprinkled over it. Warm stables, good and sufficient food, and plenty of pure water, are the most essential requisites for stock during winter. It is certainly with pleasure that the farmer sees his cattle in good con-

dition in the spring; why then does he take no care of them during the winter? He has every thing at hand to feed them well, and plenty of time to see that they are kept clean, in warm and well ventilated stables. Straw is abundant, let them have good litters; it will not be lost—you will have good manure in the spring to fertilize your fields, and an abundant harvest will be the reward of your labours.—Ed.

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## Improvement in the Breed of Horses.

A correspondant, in submitting to us an inquiry connected with the topic on which we have recently published a series of papers, has in fact pointed out an omission which we had made in that series, so that we are not only happy to reply to his question, but are glad that by preferring his request he has given us an opportunity of rendering the papers in question more complete and satisfactory. The point to which he has called our attention, and on which he desires our opinion, is the propriety of breeding from the Arab horse, several of which he suggests have been recently imported into the United-States, and are now before the public.

It is an indisputable fact that all the excellence of the English and American thorough-bred horse is derived from Oriental blood of the desert; and originates, it is believed in the admixture of the various breeds of the several countries to which the horse, in its purest and highest form, has from remote ages been indigenous. These countries are Arabia, Syria, Persia, Turkistan, the Barbary States, Nubia, and Abyssinia, all of which have races nearly connected with each other, but all