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PREPARATION FOR SPRING
WORK.

The advent of the agricultural year is close at hand. March has come again with its usual characteristics, storm and sunshine, with alternations of genial warmth and biting cold. And although in this northern zone of this mighty continent little can yet be done in the way of cultivating the soil, there are sufficient indications in the air, woods, and fields, that the active and delightful season of spring, with its warmth, bursting buds, and flowers, is, in obedience to the beneficent laws of nature, again making a commencement. With early spring begin the laborious duties and constant watchfulness of the husbandman.

Now is the time for the farmer to look anxiously about him, and to determine finally upon the adoption of such plans of operation as the more leisure season of winter has enabled him to consider and mature, in reference to the future. Not a moment should now be lost in deciding on the course to be pursued in regard to the cultivation, cropping, and management of every field. It is true that one may see good reasons for modifying the carrying out of a previously arranged system, as

the season advances; some changes of conditions not anticipated will be sure to occur; but the farmer will labor under very serious disadvantages, and will probably incur heavy losses, if he allows this active season to find him without a well considered, and practical scheme of farm operations.

Firewood sufficient for domestic wants through the summer till the beginning of winter, ought by this to be laid in, and sufficient rails prepared and drawn to such fences as require repairing. All farm fences, especially the boundaries, ought to be annually examined immediately after the frost is out of the ground, and where needed, strengthened and repaired. If the farmers of a district would attend strictly to this principle, much damage to crops, sour temper, and ill neighborly feeling, would be obviated. As the season in Canada for preparing the soil and sowing the seed is short, nothing that can be devised and prepared during the winter ought to be left till the approach of the busy and all-absorbing period of spring.

Such farmers as have provided themselves with an ample store of turnips, mangels, carrots, &c., will now find them to minister to their own profit, as they unques-