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SEED TIME.

work of gathering in the products of the fields will scarcely have been concluded the farmer must again commit to the earth for, in the greater portion of Canada the most important crop of the next year, wheat. And on the manner in which done will depend mainly, subject to those cases over which we have little or no control result at next harvest. The due preparation of the land will have been attended to the past few weeks or months, according to circumstances, and on fields which are to be in a good season little will now remain to be done but to deposit the seed in the soil. Manure of course still be applied, or a final deep ploughing given before ridging up, if necessary, would be better that these operations have been attended to before the present time. It is an advantage in case of dry weather, the last ploughing, or ridging up, done before the seed is to be sown, because it means the soil becomes consolidated, in a fine pulverised state favorable to the penetration and retention of moisture from the atmosphere. And the seed on being deposited at a certain distance below the surface is at once developed in fertile, moist earth, favorable to immediate vegetation, and it is thus enabled to make a good root and establish itself before the advent of winter. For the sowing of the seed, the drill is the best means, because of economy in seed and evenness of

the proper depth, and in the soil in the best condition to receive it, and the ridges left between the rows are an advantage as a protection to the plant against winter killing. Where there are difficulties in the way of using the drill, the seed may be covered in with a light plough or gang of ploughs, and the ground left without harrowing. In dry weather, which not unfrequently happens about the last of August and beginning of September, if the ridging up is left till just before sowing, the effect of the ploughing is to dissipate what moisture the soil contained, and the seed being then harrowed in, a great deal of it lies among coarse dry lumps, instead of being buried in fine mould, closely pressing it on every side; and the consequence is that it does not vegetate till after a drenching shower of rain, if it ever vegetates at all, and half perhaps of the best growing season is thus lost, and half the seed thrown away.

The question of seed is an important one. It is established that if we can get wheat to come into ear and ripen some ten days in advance of the usual time, we have thereby a much better chance of escaping the depredations of the midge. The *Mediterranean* is proved to be an early ripening variety, and is much sown on that account in the State of New York and in some parts of this Province. The old *Mediterranean* is a red bearded wheat, and is of inferior quality to our best white wheats, its early maturing being its great recommendation. The *white Mediterranean* is a bald white wheat, lately introduced from Europe, and is as early, and of much better