appliances for facilitating harvest operations, the whole may, in general, be completed within the desired period.

The above observations more or less apply to the other cereals of the farm.—Barley and oats, for instance, are frequently allowed to stand so long before mowing that a large quantity of the heaviest grain is knocked out in the field, often to the amount sufficient for seeding the same, and sometimes a great deal more. It is, however, not economical to cut either barley or oats before the grain has fully advanced beyond the milky state, and has become tolerably plump, especially when required for seed; but if over ripeness is allowed to take place, not only is much of the best grain lost in the field, but the straw becomes of little value as fodder for cattle.

In the present season we have observed in many fields, owing to the late severe frosts, and other causes, that the growth of the grain is very unequal, which will doubtless be the case with its ripening. The best way will be to cut the whole as soon as the earlier portions become fully ripe, and not wait till the later grain attains that state; a proceeding that would be sure to involve serious loss. To get a field of grain to grow and ripen uniformly, is one of the principal achievements of improved modern agriculture, and an essential condition to a heavy crop and superior quality.

The operations of cutting, binding, and shocking, are frequently performed in a careless and slovenly manner. Formerly, when our agriculture was in a cruder state and the price of grain very low, the manner of doing these things was not of so much consequence. But in our present altered circumstances, when our fields in the older settlements are getting clear of stumps and otherwise improved, with a constant demand for produce at enhanced rates, the operations of harvesting, as well as those of general tillage, should receive more attention to their various details, and as a whole have a higher finish. With our much improved reapers, rakes, &c., this can readily be done both expeditiously and profitably.

Farmers would frequently find it profitable to pay stricter attention to the binding and shocking of wheat, and indeed of other kinds of grain, than is commonly done. Much inconvenience and loss would by this means be obviated, and the work would have a more agreeable finish to the eye. Sheaves of course, ought to be bound so as to bear the necessary after-handling without coming undone; an effect which occasions both loss and inconvenience. When grain is cut comparatively green, and especially in showery seasons, sheaves should invariably be made small and not too tightly bound; and in such case more than ordinary attention should be paid to the shocking. The old country practice of "capping" the shock with two or three inverted sheaves might, in "catching" weather, be advantageously adopted with us, and much sprouted grain be thereby prevented. In the wet harvest of—if we mistake not—1855 we saw a number of harvest fields in the western parts of the Province, in a state of comparative security, by strict attention to good shocking and careful capping. But whatever precautionary measures may be adopted, after a succession of heavy rains, every shock should be examined the first fine day, and if need be, taken apart and thoroughly exposed to the action of wind and sun. In such seasons grain should be put loosely into the mow, and what would be better still, make it into small ricks in the open air. Much grain is absolutely spoiled by being put into barns in a damp state, whereas had it been put into ricks, the dry winds and first frosts would bring it into excellent condition for threshing. These few hints will suggest to the minds of our readers several matters of detail, which, in the aggregate are of much importance. And after using our best means, let us humbly trust that a beneficent Providence will "crown the year with His goodness," and peace and plenty dwell in the land.