

seed, time of sowing and harvesting, and the produce per arpent of grain and straw—together with any other information that may be useful to Agriculturists. Mr. Shepherd has also on hands the very best steel spades, shovels, digging-forks and hoes, with many garden implements.

#### AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER.

The month of November was very fine, with scarcely any frost up to the 17th, when considerable rain and sleet fell, but on the 18th the weather again cleared up, and continued fine to the 21st, when we again had a light fall of snow that disappeared in the course of the day. Up to this time there was no interruption to ploughing, and we have seldom seen a more favorable Fall for completing the work of the farm. This cannot fail to be beneficial to farmers to have an opportunity to have their ploughing and drains in good order before the Winter commences. The working season is so short in Spring that it is a great advantage to have the soil ready for the seed the moment it can be sown. When the ploughing and draining is well executed in the Fall, the soil soon becomes in working order after the snow disappears in Spring. We were glad to hear from several parties that they had carted away the banks of open drains, and sloped them down, as we have so often recommended. This would be a most useful improvement in open drains, and make it quite an easy matter to keep them constantly in good order. We do not know an expenditure that would pay the farmer better than the carting away the sloping or all his drains. The drains will act much better when properly sloped than when cut perpendicularly, and will never require much labour to keep them clean. We had an opportunity this Fall to see a field thoroughly drained with tiles, by James Logan, Esq. The drains were over 3 feet deep, at 24 feet apart, and the work well executed, with the exception, that the bottom of the drains was wider than we thought necessary. We conceive it would be

better to have the bottom of the drains exactly the size of the tile, and that the tiles would be less subject to get out of their places; this would also save some excavation of the earth. Regular draining tools are necessary for this work, and we believe they are not to be had here unless when imported by those who want them. Mr. Logan has thoroughly drained another field some time ago, and has found it a great improvement. He told us the soil of this field immediately after rain is dry, and in a condition to be worked. This would be a great advantage in Canada. The expense of tiles may deter many from thorough draining, but we think wood or small stones might very well be substituted for tiles. We have, in former numbers of this Journal, described how stone drains are made, and also how they could be made with small poles. For a foot deep of the bottom of the drain it need not be more than 10 or 12 inches wide at height of the foot, and 5 inches wide at the bottom, and it is only necessary to fill this part with small stones, covering the stones with a sod of earth, with the grass side next the stone, and then filling in the upper part of the drain with the earth taken out. There is no doubt that the improvement of Agriculture in Lower Canada is progressing. When a few have commenced to improve their success will induce others to follow their example. The Agriculture of Eastern Canada may be in a backward state generally, but so is the Agriculture of every part of North America that we have ever seen. The result of this year's crop has been generally satisfactory in proportion to the cultivation of the soil. The season throughout, has been beautiful as we could have wished for. Wheat or potatoes have not suffered much by insects, or disease. The crop of wheat is not very heavy certainly, but the fly has not injured it much. It is extraordinary that the wheat-fly, *Cecidomyia Tritici*, is not accurately described by writers in this country, nor indeed in England. It is called by some the *Hessian fly*, quite a distinct insect, that cuts the stalk of wheat near