

long as the state of the weather will permit.

Various other farm operations are in order this month. Not the least important is the care of fattening animals. It is a great mistake to defer feeding them for the butcher too late in the season. They improve in condition, if well fed, much more quickly in early fall than when winter sets in. This applies especially to hogs. They should be penned early, their sties kept scrupulously clean, and their food given regularly and abundantly. "Never," say the *Illustrated Register*, "keep them waiting for food, never let them squeal off their flesh." When we have the usual downpour of fall rain, September is a good month for butter-making. The winter supply should now be laid down, if it has not been already done. Corn must be harvested this month, and properly cured, the stalks will make excellent winter feed. This is a source of fodder supply which is too little thought of by the generality of Canadian farmers. Many odd jobs lie in wait to occupy spare days and hours at this time of year. Meadows may be top-dressed, if there be well-rotted manure to do it with. Happy is the farmer who, notwithstanding the demands of the turnip field and fall wheat patch, has choice dung to spare for the meadow. It protects the grass crowns, and affords a cherishing mulch, while it stimulates an early and vigorous growth, when spring comes. Grubbing up bushes and briars, exterminating thistles to be found here and there in pastures, rooting out mulleins and other weeds that disfigure the fence corners and road sides, draining swamps if the weather be sufficiently dry, clearing stones off pasture lots and fallows, preparing root cellars for being stored, picking out weeds from among turnips, to prevent their going to seed, fixing up cattle-sheds, repairing fences, are not these "chores" enough to show that there need not be an idle minute on the farm, betwixt this and the setting in of winter?

September is the month during which most Agricultural Exhibitions are held. It should never be deemed lost time, wasted money, or mere holiday-keeping to attend these. Much useful information may be obtained at such places, that is, provided those who go keep their eyes and ears open. "Eyes and no eyes," might be the title of a descriptive account of the manner in which two classes of persons,

the observant and unobservant, demean themselves at shows. An enquiring mind will find enough to engage its best attention and waken its fullest energies on such occasions, while a dull, sleepy mind will go and come like a door on its hinges. These exhibitions do much to keep the spirit of improvement alive, and are well worthy of encouragement and patronage from all.

Beyond the pleasant work of in-gathering, and the ceaseless fight with weeds, there is not much to do in the garden this month. Strawberry plants may be set out, and with careful tillage, weeding and watering, will yield moderately next spring. Land for new gardens or orchards may be got ready for spring operations by thorough ploughing, manureing, and mellowing. We prefer to plant both fruit and shade trees in the spring, though fall planting has its advocates.

The apiary will need some attention in September. By the middle of the month the honey harvest will be quite over, even where there is luckwheat, and all surplus boxes not yet removed should now be taken off. Late or small swarms should be put together. One strong stock is better than two or three weak ones. Generally speaking, it is poor policy to feed bees, but if it must be done, now is the time, instead of disturbing them in winter. Watch against robbing, and if there are signs of it, contract the entrance to the hive, so that only a bee or two can pass at a time. Queenless stocks should either be joined to others, or supplied with queens. Look out sharply for the moth-miller.

DRILL IN BROADCAST SEEDING.

The sowing of the seed is manifestly one of the most important operations of husbandry. Much of the previous labor of the farmer goes for nothing, if the seed be not properly sown at its appropriate time. It is true that even after he has done his best, and committed his seed to the soil in the most approved way, and under the most favorable conditions, many accidents and unforeseen circumstances may diminish the farmer's harvest returns. The weather and the seasons are altogether beyond his control; while the prevention of insect depredations is partially so. Still at the same