

*Operations of the Month.*

## MARCH.

We are reminded that a few notes each month respecting the various operations requiring attention on the part of the farmer and gardener, would be acceptable to our readers, and especially to those of them who are amateurs. We cheerfully comply with the request.

During our long winter the farmers' work is chiefly in the woods and in the barn. It is time that a supply of dry wood for the summer's fuel should be brought in, a quantity sufficient to last till sleighing time comes round again next winter. This accomplished, the next business must be to chop as many cords of wood as will serve for next winter's bringing home; by chopping now it will dry during summer, and besides being lighter to bring home and fitter for use, will be ready for carriage as soon as the snow comes. As necessary as cordwood, is a supply of fence poles and posts, which all provident farmers will have cut before this time, and if any are still lying in the woods, they had better be secured, and put along the fence lines to be ready so soon as the frost leaves the ground. We do not suggest the making of maple syrup or sugar, because it is an exceptional manufacture in this province, and those who find it profitable will not require a reminder that the sugar season is approaching. Every ambitious and industrious farmer will leave off his work in the woods as early this month as he can, and turn his attention to the farm, so as to prepare for spring work. All implements, waggons, &c., should be thoroughly repaired. The winter accumulation of manure should be carted out to the fields, or where it is to be used; this can only be done when the ground is hard or covered with snow. It is time to arrange what crops are to be sown and in what quantities, and to look about to see where the best seed is to be obtained. Farm animals require much care and attention this month. All should be well fed, regularly watered, and protected from cold winds and wet. Cows about to calve are much the better of a dose of Epsom or Glauber salts a week or so before calving. The salts may be dissolved in warm water, sweetened with molasses, and poured down the patient's throat by one man whilst another holds up her head. If all cows were treated in this way, we should hear of fewer losses; the medicine clears away all accumulations in the alimentary canal, and lessens the tendency to inflammation, &c. Weak calves are strengthened by having a few raw eggs pushed down their throats from day to day. It is too early for ewes to be lambing now, but the season is approach-

ing, and where it can be done the ewes should be kept apart from other sheep, with plenty of feed and plenty of feeding room: the latter is the more important provision, and is too often neglected. Weak animals should have grain or roots. Poultry of all kinds should be well fed, and the eggs looked for, morning and evening, to avoid destruction by frost. The eggs of geese are very liable to be lost in this way. In severe weather, foxes pay their respects to the poultry.

It is not to be expected that much work can be done in the open garden in March, except to repair fences and other erections. Hot beds require to be made up sometime this month to furnish strong early plants of cauliflowers, early cabbages, tomatoes, ground cherries, and other summer open air crops. A second sowing may be made in April, when all the above, and likewise late cabbages for a fall crop may be sown.—Should the frost leave the ground sufficiently to enable it to be dug, a small sowing of early peas may be made about the end of the month. Sweet peas should also be sown in the flower garden as early as possible, as they require a long season; but it is probable that these operations will have to be deferred till April.—Stocks, asters, marigolds and flower seeds generally may be sown in the hot bed at the end of March. The coverings over beds of Dutch bulbs, roses, &c., should not be removed till next month.

*Miscellaneous.*

## NEW PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

*Shore and Deep Sea Fisheries of Nova Scotia.* By THOMAS F. KNIGHT.—Published by direction of the Provincial Government. Halifax: A. Grant, 1867.

A few months ago we gave a brief indication of the contents of Mr. Knight's pamphlet on the *Fishes of Nova Scotia*, and now the duty falls upon us of doing the same with respect to another publication: "*Shore and Deep Sea Fisheries.*" Our fisheries give employment to a thousand vessels and ten thousand boats, and their annual returns amount to two and a half millions of dollars. Many of our farmers are fishermen as well, and many of our fishermen, besides prosecuting their vocation on our own shores, repair in their vessels at periodical seasons to Labrador, Newfoundland and the St. Lawrence Gulf. From the 1st April they continue codfishing on the various banks which extend from George's Shoal to Bank Quereau, and in parts of the Bay of Fundy, until 10th June; after making one or two codfish voyages they often proceed to the Gulf and return about end of August.

Our most valuable shore fishery lies along the coast line of Nova Scotia, where, from St. Mary's Bay in Fundy, eastward by Cape Canseau and some way along the Cape Breton coast, there is a bank or ledge, from 5 to 50 fathoms soundings, and which extends into the ocean at varying distances of from 5 to 20 miles, which is the feeding-ground of the cod, and the herring and mackerel herd in its waters; there are numerous banks farther out into the ocean, whose soundings vary from 5 to 60 fathoms. George's Bank is 80 miles S. W. of Cape Sable; LaHave Bank 60 miles from Shelburne, with Roseway Bank between it and the shore; Sable Island Bank, south and west from the island, and 100 miles long; Sambro Bank, 50 miles from the lighthouse; Canseau Bank, 20 miles from the Cape; and Bank Quereau, 70 miles S. E. of Cape Canseau, the N. E. point of which approaches nigh to Bank St. Pierre. Our "Bankers" range from 30 to 100 tons, with about 8 men each; 300 or 400 lbs. of fish is considered a good days work for a man. The shore or boat fishery is carried on along our whole coast. Halifax county, in 1861, registered as engaged in fishing, 175 vessels, 1932 boats, 12,006 nets and seines, and is the county which occupies the first place in the fishing interest of the province. In the Bay of Fundy neither cod nor herring abound, and mackerel are found only at the entrance. Very large sturgeon are taken between Cornwallis river and Cape Blomidon. Along the whole coast of Yarmouth the cod, herring, mackerel and salmon fisheries are pursued; mackerel are taken all along the coast in May, and in summer and autumn the men repair to the Gulf. In Shelburne the principal fishing settlements are at Cape Sable Island, Shag Harbour, Woods' Harbour, Port LaTour and Cape Negro; after the bank fishery is over, the fishermen, like those of Yarmouth, resort to Cape Breton and the Gulf for cod and mackerel. In Queen's the fisheries are less extensive; at Port Mouton there is an establishment for tinning lobsters. In Lunenburg increasing attention is being paid to fishing; the fishermen have superior well-equipped vessels, and are largely engaged in the Labrador and Gulf fisheries. On the south shore of the Bay of Fundy, between Black Rock and Brier island, there are three fishing banks or ledges parallel to the shore, their respective distances from the coast having obtained for them the names of the Three Mile Ledge, the Five Mile Ledge, and the Nine Mile Ledge; they consist of gravel and clay, and above the Gut the Three Mile Ledge is rocky; cod, pollock and hake are taken on these ledges during the slacks of the tide, from May or June to September. Annapolis basin affords good fishing nearly all the year round, for the fishes just named as