



Agricultural.

THE WORLD HARVEST.

BY EDITH OAKLEY.

They are sowing their seed in dawnlight fair,
They are sowing their seed in the noon-day's glare;
They are sowing their seed in the soft twilight,
They are sowing their seed in the solemn night.
What shall the harvest be?

They are sowing their seed of pleasant thought,
In the spring's green light they have bitterly wrought;
They have brought their fancies from wood and dell,
Where the mosses creep, and the flower buds swell.
Rare shall the harvest be.

They are sowing their seed of word and deed,
Which the cold know not, nor the careless heed;
Of the gentle word and the kindly deed,
That have blessed the heart in its sorest need.
Sweet will the harvest be.

And some are sowing the seed of pain,
Of late remorse and maddened brain;
And the stars shall fall, and the sun shall wane,
Ere they root the weeds from their soil again.
Dark will the harvest be.

And some are standing with idle hand,
Yet they scatter seed on their native land,
And some are sowing the seed of care,
Which their soil hath borne, and still must bear.
Sad will the harvest be.

They are sowing their seed of double deed,
With a sleepless watch and earnest heed;
With a careless hand o'er the earth they sow,
And the fields are whitening where'er they go.
Rich will the harvest be.

Sown in darkness or sown in light,
Sown in weakness or sown in might,
Sown in meekness or sown in wrath,
In the broad world-field or the shadowy path—
Sure will the harvest be.
—*Albany Evening Journal.*

THE BROCKVILLE SHOW.

All Farmers and lovers of the agricultural interests of our Province will remember that the Provincial Fair comes off at Brockville on the 24th, 25th, & 26th of September, inst. Great preparations are making by the good people of this town to comfortably accommodate all—and we hope that there will be a good turn out of samples of the industry and ingenuity of Canada; as well as of the human species. Anything to help the farmers we go for. Industry progress and temperance are our watchwords. The world must not stand still. Let us improve our farms, our grain, our stock, and machinery, our government, and laws, our habits and manners. Let the farms of Canada teem with beautiful milk cows—fine cattle, the best breed of sheep and noble horses. It is a glorious sight to see the farmers' yard stocked with cattle and poultry all of the best breeds. Encourage them by your presence at the Provincial fair and turn out your beautiful daughters and the smiling wives of your happy homes. A little travel will do them good. These fairs are new features in our country. We recollect the time when no such thing was heard of less than 16 years ago. We like to gaze on a beautiful farm—upon a waving field of wheat or well ploughed ground. Our farmers and their prosperity are inseparably connected with that of Canada. Railroads—plenty of wheat, good prices, and a cheap and good government are what we go for.

THE CROPS OF WHEAT, &c.

Generally, in Canada, the Fall and Spring crops are more than an average. Oats are very good in this county. Hay is also good. The crops have also been well got in, notwithstanding the wet weather.—The price of grain is, however, low. It is not generally bringing over 3s. 9d. per bushel. We are afraid that the potato crop is everywhere a failure. They sell, however, very low in Toronto. In many places the rot has not affected the fruit but the vines being killed of course the growth of the potatoes is stopped. Fruit is not abundant in Canada but is so in the United States. Peaches are very high in our markets.

ORCHARDS.

In travelling over various parts of the County of York we find that the Farmers neglect to plant orchards. Fine farms with a hundred acres cleared can be found with no fruit trees. This is a pity and shows a want of good husbandry and taste. It is very little trouble or expense for a farmer to set out a sufficient number of plum, cherry, apple, and peach trees for his use and even for sale. Nothing is more healthy than good ripe fruit and what is more comfortable in the winter than to set around a good orchard and eat the fruit of summer saved in a good cellar.

This we used often to do in our father's home in 1825. Five years will produce from small trees sufficient fruit for a family's use and in ten years an abundance. All parts of Western Canada will grow apples, cherries, and currants and many parts of it peaches. We know a gardiner who raises fine peaches in the township of York, in hundred feet above the lake. Last year we raised a bushel off two small trees. What a delightful sight it is for a farmer to gaze on an orchard of apple trees laden down with yellow and red apples!! Apples will fatten hogs better than potatoes. Two acres of ground well put in order will raise a great deal of fruit, but a large farm should have an orchard of at least five acres. Good grass will grow under the trees. The ground should, however, be broken up every two or three years.

THE VALUE OF TREES

Beside their intrinsic value, how desolate is a home on a farm or in the city, without fruit or ornamental trees. To the generality of people you might as well recommend a person without mind, as offer to sell a homestead without trees or shrubbery. One thing should be observed in planting, to select good varieties of fruit trees, as it is a disgrace to any one to plant and grow others. Be mindful of these things and a reward will follow.

We are reminded of this subject by a sale of land just made in this vicinity—one particular advantage and inducement to the purchaser being the assortment of choice trees already grown to his hands.

J. H. W.

THE USE OF FRUIT.

Instead of standing in any fear of a generous consumption of ripe fruits, we regard them as positively conducive to health. The very maladies commonly assumed to have their origin in the free use of apples, peaches, cherries, melons and wild berries, have been quite as prevalent, if not equally destructive, in seasons of scarcity. There are so many erroneous notions entertained of the bad effects of fruit, that it is quite time a counteracting impression should be promulgated, having its foundation in common sense, and based on the common observation of the intelligent. We have no patience in reading the endless rules to be observed in this particular department of physical comfort. No one, we imagine, ever lived longer or freer from the paroxysms of disease, by discarding the delicious fruits of the land in which he finds a home. On the contrary, they are necessary to the preservation of health, and are therefore caused to make their appearance at the very time when the condition of the body, operated upon by deteriorating causes not always understood, requires their grateful, renovating influences.—*Boston Med. and Surg. Journal*

MULCHING.

A "Practical Mulcher," writing from Dedham, Massachusetts, whose communication is published in the *Horticulturist* for May, says:

I regard mulching as our prime and especial necessity, the most indispensable thing in North American Agriculture. For in the first place, the operation of mulching, or covering over the surface of the ground, prevents the evaporation of the moisture that is so requisite to the rooting of new plantations, to the development of luxuriant foliage; and the production of perfect flowers, and fair, juicy, large-sized fruits.—Again: the operation of mulchman not only prevents, to a great extent, the escape of moisture, but also, and what is of greater importance, the passing away from the earth of the volatile gases, that are held in solution in the water, and which, sucked in by the minute mouths of the radicles or spongioles, give nourishment to the plant or tree.

That mulching is of great value in the case of young and newly planted trees, by preventing the process of evaporation, is universally admitted in theory, and to a certain extent carried out into practice; and yet but few seem to be aware of its value in retaining the nourishment as well as the moisture in the earth, and thus, both these means, contributing to the luxurious and healthful condition of plants and trees already rooted and well established in the soil. But observation, however, as well as actual experience, has fully convinced me that trees will not only put forth more luxuriantly, and grow more vigorously, but that the fruit will be far larger, fairer, and juicier, for mulching during the hot season. And I hazard the observation, that in the culture of pears, and certain kinds of apples, such as the Roxbury russet, that are generally small and knurly on a gravelly bottom, careful mulching is almost equal to a clay subsoil.

And here let me say, by way of parenthesis, that in the cultivation of these fruits, it is not, I think, any nutritive element in the clay soil, but only its power of retaining moisture, that gives it the advantage over a gravelly substratum. By carefully mulching, however, I do not mean a wisp of straw, hay, weeds, or small brush, nor a shovel of spent tan, hub-chips, or saw-dust, placed just round the trunk of the tree, but a covering of ground, if possible, as far as the roots extend. There are some absurd people who seem to think, if we are to judge them by their practice, that somewhere at the butt of the tree is a great mouth in which the tree takes its food and drink; and accordingly, they put all the nourishment, whether liquid or solid, "right round" the trunk. Whereas, the truth is, the numerous little mouths that drink in the moisture, and the nutritious elements that are dissolved in it, are in the little spongioles that form the very terminations of the radical branches; and our course of treatment should be based upon this fact, in watering, manuring and mulching.

Mulching, then in the first place, prevents, in light, gravelly soils—and in dry seasons, in all soils—the evaporation of the moisture necessary to that flow of sap, that shall make a luxuriant growth, fine foliage, and fair, large-juicy fruit.

And second, as the elements that nourish the tree are contained in the moisture in solution, and a dry state of the earth must thus cut off the supply of food, mulching actually nourishes the tree. In proof of this, I might, would my space permit adduce numerous facts; but experiments are so easily tried, that such evidence is hardly necessary here.

MODEL FARM—We are much gratified to see by the Quebec papers, that the gentlemen of the Seminary in that city have determined upon establishing a model-farm, on the property at the Cote Saint Paul. We trust we shall not be thought officious if we solicit the attention of our friends, the gentlemen of the Montreal Seminary, to the patriotic and enlightened conduct, in this matter, of their brethren in Quebec.—*Mont. Herald.*

Fashion makes foolish parents, invalids of children, and servants of all.

Trust him little who praises him least, who is all indifferent about all