



"Agriculture not only gives Riches to a Nation, but the only Riches she can call her own."

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The present prospect of Agriculture in Canada.

THE present number completes the sixth annual volume of the *British American Cultivator*, and it therefore might not be objectionable to the majority of our readers, that we should give a few practical suggestions, touching upon a variety of matters that have a direct bearing upon the present condition and prospects of our agriculturists. Wheat, the great staple crop of Canada, is in a most perilous condition, owing to the depredations of the two natural enemies of that plant,—the Hessian and Wheat Flies. The habits of the Hessian Fly are pretty well understood by the readers of this magazine. They pass through two distinct generations in a year, by which it will be understood that they are full grown active flies in the months of May and September, and in June and October are active grubs. If the farmers would come to the determination to sow no fall wheat before the 10th of October, then the Hessian Fly would soon disappear—and the same argument would hold good with those who resolve to sow only spring wheat, but to effectually evade those flies, the whole community must adopt the proper means of doing so. Many farmers have been induced to sow late the present

season, from having become acquainted with the habits of the Hessian Fly; but owing to the very heavy and frequent falls of rain that have occurred, they have been prevented from getting on their land, and consequently have not sown as much fall wheat as they otherwise would have done. The severe frosts that occurred about the 25th of November, must have had a tendency in destroying much of the late sown wheat, but the damages done in this respect have been less than were brought about by the ravages of the Hessian Fly. Late sowing is to be commenced only in those neighborhoods where the Hessian Fly have made their appearance in great abundance; and where it has been practiced, means should be taken to protect the young plants from the severe action of the winter's frosts. The best course to secure that end, would be to scatter a complete top-dressing of long barnyard manure over the land as soon as possible. This would prevent the snow from blowing off the land, and would secure in a great measure the plants from being destroyed by the severe frosts, and it would also have a very salutary influence in preventing the injury done the plants by the Hessian Fly in the spring. If the young