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DRAINING.

As there is no improvement more required in Canadian agriculture than sufficient draining, we think it necessary to refer to the subject constantly. Draining is known to raise the temperature of the soil several degrees, and crops come to maturity much sooner on drained than undrained land. This circumstance alone should recommend draining in Lower Canada, where the spring often commences late, and the growing seasons are very short. In the District of Quebec draining is even more necessary than in the District of Montreal, as the summers are shorter there than with us. We have seen fields of wheat lately, and in some instances, where the field might be about an arpent wide, the ridge next the drains on each side, had more wheat upon it, than was upon the whole of the rest of the field. The difference of crop on the drained and undrained land was six or eight to one, in favor of the former. In many

places drains had been cut, but were not cleaned out, and in consequence the water did not run in them, and was nearly on a level with the surface of the lands on each side. The high banks of earth accumulated on the edges of the drains are also a great defect, and should be carted away to compost heaps, or to top-dress land at once with it. If drains were properly sloped and the earth carted away, they would answer a much better purpose, and require subsequently very little labor to keep them in good order. When drains are sloped properly there is space sufficient to allow a large quantity of water to run off at once, and after the water has run off, the sloped sides may produce grass, as twelve inches wide of the bottom of the drain may be sufficient to carry off the water, when floods would subside. When the drains are cut perpendicularly, the sides are constantly falling in, particularly in the spring when the drains are most required. We have frequently seen drain