

97s. 6d extra receipt for each acre of wheat a sum more than sufficient to pay the rent, and the tithes too, for the whole of the five years of the rotation!

Weather in Britain.—An early spring in Britain, as it has been here. Crops looking better than they have done for many years in that season. Fortunately for both farmer and consumer, a larger area of wheat was sown than usual, and never in the memory of the oldest farmer has the prospect of a good yield been more promising. Owing to the splendid tilth which the favourable weather assisted in producing, barleys came up very *evenly*, and of a beautiful colour. This even “brairding” of barley, is of immense importance to the grower of barley for malting purposes; for, if barley “brairds” equally, it will probably ripen equally, and if it ripens equally, it will certainly germinate equally, when taken out of the “steep” into the “couch” in the malt-house. And herein lies one of the secrets of the unpopularity of Canadian barley. It is treated by the majority of farmers, in this province especially, as if it required no more pains to grow good malting barley than to grow good oats: but this is an error. Any man can grow grinding or distilling barley; but to grow good malting-barley requires that the greatest care should be taken in fitting the land for it. Retention of moisture is one great point, and to ensure this, use the grubber in spring rather than the plough. Too much ploughing is a bad thing. Not only does it take up the time of the men and the horses, but it necessarily causes the evaporation of moisture. It is equally bad on heavy and light soils, in the former case it brings up clods to the surface; in the latter case it dries it. One fall-ploughing, and plenty of dragging, scuffling, grubbing, or whatever else you like to call the work, in spring, are sufficient to make a fine surface tilth with plenty of moisture below. Then, after harrowing till the land is as nearly equal to the tread all over as possible, commit the barley to the earth with a drill, the only implement by means of which all the grains can be buried at the same regular depth; harrow sufficiently, and roll when the plant is fairly up, and if the barley is allowed to stand till fully ripe before being cut, and gets a couple of *dews*, or one gentle shower of rain, upon it before carrying; if that barley does not satisfy the maltster who deal with it, the fault must lie with the soil on which it grew and not with the farmer who cultivated it.

Grass.—The long continued Easterly wind, accompanied by cold nights and mornings, caused grass-farmers round Montreal to get pretty nervous about the prospect of the hay-crop; but the lovely showery three days of the 11th, 12th and 14th of May, followed by moderate sunny weather and a westerly breeze, soothed their minds. There is now (May 15th) every probability of plenty of grass in the pastures and a good hay-crop. We hear that in the districts of St-John's, Sabrevois, etc., crops never looked better; grain was all in by May 8th, and both pastures and meadows are full of herbage.

The Dairy.

FEEDING COWS FOR MILK

It is impossible to make any general applicable remarks on the influences of food on the yield and quality of milk, since this must always vary with the particular circumstances, breed etc. of the cows. Professor Fleischman, a well known German authority on the subject, points out that the best milch-cows are those that are most affected by an increase in the digestible constituents of food and which respond to that increase in the most profitable manner from the dairy point of view. How far the treatment with food in order to increase the yield and profit can be developed has up to the present been but little investigated.

Professor Fleischmann, however, insists that good milch-cows, whose full capacity for giving milk it is desired to develop, require above all things food which is not only absolutely but also relatively rich in the digestible protein, by means of which the quantity of circulatory protein in the blood may be increased. There can be no doubt that in the