



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

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Hints in Season.

As this is one of the most busy and delightful seasons in the year, a few hints applicable to the practical operations on the farm, may not be deemed uninteresting to a large portion of our readers. By the middle of this month most of the grain crops will be sown, with the exception of barley and Indian corn, and the cultivation of the land for the root crops will then form the most important branch of labour.

Indian Corn.—If this valuable crop is not already planted, the sooner it can be done the better. The earliest varieties should be selected, and we recommend the eight rowed yellow as one of the best out of ten, which we ourselves have tried. The seed should be soaked in a strong solution of saltpetre, at least twenty-four hours before planting. A treatment of this kind which is both simple and cheap, will add to the produce of an acre of land, at least ten bushels of corn. There are many other steeps that are equally as efficient, but they are more or less liable to destroy the vitality of the seed, or are expensive. There are many methods of planting corn, but the easiest and most practicable is, to plant in hills three and a half feet apart, so that such hills will form

perfect squares, and the rows run parallel and at equal width both ways. It will be a very easy matter to cultivate and keep the corn crop clean when care is observed in planting, as the operation may nearly if not entirely be performed by the repeated application of the horse cultivator, which should be done transversely, or both up and down and crossways. One man and a horse will very properly attend to twenty-five acres of corn, and if an early kind be selected for planting, this valuable grain even in the northern districts of Canada, will come to full maturity, and in favorable seasons may be removed off the land sufficiently early for sowing fall wheat, and where this arrangement cannot be effected by ploughing the land late in autumn, it will be in an excellent state of culture to produce spring wheat. There is scarcely a possibility of manuring the land too liberally for Indian corn—after selecting a good article of seed, the almost only thing necessary to be done, to obtain a large product, are to manure liberally, and frequently cultivate with hand or horse hoe between the rows. Horse stable manure is decidedly the best for this crop, and where fifty tons of this manure are put on an acre of corn land, and the soil is of a