

This frost appears to have extended over a large area of this continent—from the States of New York, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, &c., we get similar intelligence. The market gardeners, whose profits mainly depend upon early vegetables, will be the greatest sufferers; and it will not be possible by any subsequent measures they can adopt, to repair fully the loss. The injury done to fruit will prove, we fear, extensive, and also to Indian corn. Wheat and other kinds of grain have of course suffered much less—and there is still good reasons for hoping that these will prove abundant. In some sections of the Province symptoms of the wheat midge have shown themselves, and every day people will be anxiously waiting for intelligence on this important, and we might say exciting topic. The hay crop, there is reason to fear, will fall below an average, but there is yet time for farmers to mitigate the effects by sowing a larger breadth of turnips. With favorable weather for the future, an abundance may yet be in store for us.

HAYMAKING.

In consequence of the late ungenial weather, the grass crop will neither be so early nor abundant, as was at one time anticipated. The clover plant in some situations is weak and thin; having been winter killed for want of a sufficient covering of snow. Where the latter was present during the severe frosts in February, the ground in good heart, and sufficient seed had been sown, the grass will generally be found a fair crop. It is of importance therefore, to the stock farmer in particular, that the grasses should as far as possible, be converted in the surest and readiest manner into sound and nutritious hay.

With the appliances which the modern agricultural mechanician affords the farmer in the way of improved mowing machines, horse rakes, &c., the task of making grass into hay has of late years become more easy, certain and expeditious. The old system was both troublesome and expensive, and the results not unfrequently problematical. Now, by putting into requisition the modern improved implements, when the barometer and other indications denote a settled state of the weather, a large breadth of grass may, in a few days, be safely housed as hay, affording healthy sustenance to live stock during our long and commonly inclement winters.

A very frequent error is committed in allowing the grasses to become too old before cutting. The reason assigned for this practice is that the largest weight of hay is thereby obtained. Even as to mere weight the practice is very questionable; while the quality has been deteriorated to an extent which few can understand. The true rule for cutting the grasses, whether it be timothy, clover, or any other kind, is when they are in full bloom. It is when they possess the largest amount of those nourishing ingredients which sustain the health and promote the growth of stock. To allow the seed to form and ripen before cutting, and which is often shaken out in the field and lost in the process of curing, a large portion of the starch and sugar becomes changed into woody fibre in the thick cuticle of the stem, a substance containing but very little nourishing power.

In our extremely hot weather, hay, during the process of making, is often exposed too much. Much shaking is injurious, particularly to clover, the leaves of which are so liable to fall off. No more shaking and exposure should be permitted than are absolutely required to effect the necessary evaporation, to prevent the hay fermenting too much when put into the rick or barn. Hay is always more or less injured by being allowed to be spread abroad during the night.