

thaw, which lessened the snow considerably, but it changed to frost again on the night of the 26th. We would not consider it favorable to have the snow disappear until the winter was fairly over, or until the latter end of March. It is only reasonable that we should wish for an early spring, but it would not be for the advantage of farmers that the snow should disappear long before we had fine spring weather. About the 1st of April is the best time for the land to be in working order, as it gives a fair chance to have the spring work done in proper time. If we have much fine weather before this, we generally have to endure cold and unfavorable weather at a later period. However the remainder of the winter may turn out the part that is passed has been very severe.

Notwithstanding the very cold winter, hay is very low priced in the market, indeed so low, as not to afford any remuneration to the farmer for his land, and yet he must pay as high a charge for weighing as if he got as many dollars as he does shillings for his load of hay. The price of wheat also, is not remunerative, unless where the produce per acre was large, which it certainly was not generally the last year. Barley, peas, and oats continue to bring fair prices, and it is much to be regretted that we had not more of the former grain last year. Potatoes are at moderate rates, considering how much the crop suffered by disease previous to, and subsequent to their being stored. We do not hear many complaints of rotting lately, and we suppose that potatoes that did not rot immediately after they were stored, have kept better than for some years past. These casualties to which some crops are subject will produce one good effect, that it will cause farmers to study their business and endeavour to understand it more perfectly. We feel persuaded that there is no evil without a remedy, provided we use sufficient diligence to discover what the remedy is. It might also be well to endeavour, if possible,

to discover what has produced the evil. Already farmers have been enabled to mitigate in some degree the potatoe disease, by experiments, by careful management, and planting such varieties as are found best to resist the disease. We are glad to be able to report that many agriculturalists are now saving clover and other agricultural seeds, a branch of farming that was altogether neglected heretofore in Lower Canada. All that is required is to have the land clean, so that the seeds of whatever kind shall not be mixed with seeds of weeds. We have no doubt but farmers who do not raise their own Timothy seed have introduced pernicious weeds upon their farms, that otherwise would not be there, particular by the ox-eye daisy, one of the worst weeds we know in the country.

In this way, and by the use of fresh manure taken from towns, without fermenting to a proper degree, weeds are brought to farms that had not them previously, or at least new varieties are brought. We have trouble enough to keep down weeds that grow naturally, without sowing the seeds of them in our lands. A farmer cannot be too cautious in having the seed that he sows, of whatever description, perfectly clean.

This month of January may be said to be one of the most inactive months of the year for agriculture, and we are at a loss for matter to make out an Agricultural Report. Stall feeding cattle is not carried on to any great extent, but we hope this branch of farming will increase every year. We have seen a report of a very interesting discussion on this subject, before the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, as to the best mode of feeding, and the breed of cattle that will pay best for feeding. We shall give extracts from it in a future number. Professor Anderson stated that this particular branch of husbandry owed much to scientific men, for their discoveries and suggestions. We say that agriculture in every branch, is indebted to scientific men for most of the recent improvements that have been