

REPAIRING TOOLS IN WINTER.



Y good management the labor of repairing tools is much lessened. Selecting the strongest and best made, using them with reasonable caution, breakages would rarely occur. We do not mean to say that tools could be as perfectly constructed as Dr. Holmes' "One Horse Shay," which lasted a hundred years, and then fell to pieces in a moment at every part, so perfectly was its strength equalized throughout; but a careful selection from the best manufacturers will prevent many of the accidents which happen to implements and machines made by bunglers. Large farmers cannot always secure careful hands, and good implements must therefore be occasionally broken. Repairing, therefore, forms a considerable part of every farmer's business. Some of this may be done at home with little trouble; in other cases it is best to employ at once a mechanic, especially for repairing all large articles, such as thrashing machines, waggons, plows, &c. A little skill will often be quite useful, however, in winter, and on stormy days, in repairing smaller tools and implements, and for this purpose a supply of proper materials should be always at hand. One of the most useful articles is copper wire. It should be kept of different sizes. It is one of the strongest metals except iron, does not rust through, and is almost as flexible as leather, allowing it to press closely and fit the parts, and twisting in a close coil. Wherever portions of wooden tools are split, a few bands of copper wire will effect a substantial repair in a few minutes. Next to copper wire, in value, are strips of sheet copper. These are useful on larger pieces of wood, split plank or split timber. Lay the strips of copper across the fracture or pass them around in the form of bands, and then secure them to their places by

driving in small nails, and great strength will be imparted. If the wood is very hard the points of the nails should be dipped in grease, which will cause them to drive freely.

When copper wire cannot be had, very strong bands may be placed around fractured rods of wood as follows: Procure the smallest sized annealed iron wire. (not much larger than horse-hair, which, although so small, is very strong,) and use it so as to form a neat band, around the fractured rod then heat the wire in the flame of a lamp, turning it over, so as to warm every part alike, and then apply a stick of burning sealing-wax to the band afterwards heating and melting the wax thoroughly into the wire, by turning it in the flame. The iron and wax thus become thoroughly incorporated together, and form an exceedingly hard, strong and durable band. This is an excellent mode for mending canes, umbrellas, &c.

Prepared glue is a very useful substance to keep on hand, for mending all small wooden tools and vessels. It is easily made by dissolving good glue in alcohol in a large-mouthed bottle. In a few days the glue will be perfectly diffused through the alcohol, and the mixture ready for use. If too thick add more alcohol; if too thin, allow it to evaporate.

Almost every practical farmer may add some suggestions to these directions, the results of his own experience. These suggestions we should be glad to receive from any of our correspondents.

TO CLEAN BRITANNIA METAL.

Rub the article with a piece of flannel moistened with sweet oil; then apply a little pounded rotten stone or polishing paste with the finger, till the polish is produced; then wash the article with soap and hot water, and when dry, rub with soft wash-leather, and a little fine whiting.

COMMERCIAL REVIEW.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Potash, per cwt.,	\$6.10 to 6.15	Wheat, U.C. White, per 60 lbs., ..	\$0.90 to 1.02
Pearlash, "	6.85 to 6.90	" U.C. Red, " ..	0.90 to 0.91
Flour, Fine, per 196 lbs.....	4.00 to 4.10	Peas, per 66 lbs.,.....	0.70 to 0.71
No. 2 Superfine,.....	4.20 to 4.25	Indian Corn, per 56 lbs.,.....	0.55 to 0.56
No. 1 "	4.30 to 4.40	Barley, per 60 lbs.,.....	0.80 to 0.85
Fancy "	4.50 to 4.70	Oats, per 40 lbs.,.....	0.47 to 0.50
Extra "	5.20 to 5.30	Butter, per lb.,	0.15 to 0.16
S. Extra Superfine	0.00 to 0.00	Cheese, per lb.,.....	0.08 to 0.08½