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## SPRING WORK.

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The advent of the busiest season of the agricultural year is near at hand, and present appearances clearly indicate an early spring. Frost in warm and dry situations is nearly or quite out, and in a few days, as the ground gets consolidated, the plough may be put into requisition. Such has been the peculiarity of the past winter, that, in some parts of the Province, ploughing need not have been suspended more than a few weeks.

The farmer will now be busy in preparing his seed-bed for spring sowing, and where land is naturally dry, or rendered so by artificial means, his labors this season promise to be more than ordinarily light and pleasant. The final result of the crops will very much depend upon starting well. The mechanical, as well as the chemical, condition of the soil, is of vital importance; hence, the necessity of draining where the land is wet, of deep and clean cultivation, and of a sufficiently fine tilth, in which the seed can freely germinate, and the young plant rapidly grow and mature.

Farmers will do well at this season of the year to examine closely their wheat fields. Where land has not a pretty even surface, and is more or less wet,—conditions necessarily common in new countries,—much may often be done by a little extra attention and labor at this season of the year. A man with a spade may sometimes, in a few hours, very much relieve hollow, wet places, of the water they contain, by making a shallow open drain to connect with the nearest furrow; and the furrows themselves may often be made more perfect as drains, by deepening them here and there a few inches, thereby greatly relieving low and wet places of the stagnant water which often injures the young wheat for many rods around. Much might be done to protect the wheat from rust and other casualties, by paying more attention to the efficient ridging and farming of land in the fall, and scouring out, where needed, these water-courses in the spring.

With regard to the time of sowing, it may be safely assumed as a good general rule, to perform this operation as soon as the soil is sufficiently warm and