

bounty, "The paragon of animals," whose spirit holds communion with celestial powers, formed but to perish with the wreck of his bodily frame? Are generations after generations of his race doomed to follow in endless succession, rolling darkly down the stream of time, and leaving no track in its pathless ocean? Are the operations of Almighty power to end with the present scene? May we not discern, in the spiritual constitution of man, the traces of higher powers, to which those he now possesses are but preparatory; some embryo faculties which raise us above this earthly habitation? Have we not in the imagination, a power but little in harmony with the fetters of our bodily organs; and bringing within our view purer conditions of being, exempt from the illusions of our senses and the infirmities of our nature, our elevation to which will eventually prove that all these unsatiated desires of knowledge, and all these ardent aspirations after moral good, were not implanted in us in vain? Happily, there has been vouchsafed to us, from a higher source, a pure and heavenly light to guide our faltering steps, and animate our fainting spirits, in this dark and dreary search; revealing those truths which it imports us most of all to know, giving to morality higher sanctions, elevating our hopes and our affections to nobler objects than belong to earth, and inspiring more exalted themes of thanksgiving and of praise.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT

FOR APRIL AND MAY.

The month of April was so cold and frosty throughout, that the spring work was scarcely commenced before the first of May. The consequence probably will be, that sowing and planting will be continued to a very late period of the season. The month of May was generally dry, but cold and unfavourable for vegetation up to the 22d. The frost remained so long in the ground that the soil has been kept in a wet and unsuitable state for working, except on light lands that were well

drained, and judiciously ploughed into well formed ridges last fall. Perfect drainage, and good ploughing, is the only remedy in the farmer's power against a cold and unfavourable spring. When this remedy is adopted, frost or wet cannot have so injurious an effect upon the soil as they otherwise must have, whether in tillage or in grass. When lands are left in such a state, that they can be dried only by natural evaporation; it will be found a very tedious process in such a cold, damp spring, as this has been.

Many farmers in the District of Montreal have sown much less wheat this year than usual; others have not sown any. For the last three or four years they found wheat to be a very uncertain crop, owing to the ravages of the wheat-fly. Those who have sown wheat, deferred doing so generally until the 10th or 15th of May, as the best means to save the crop from injury by these vile insects that of late years have plagued the farmers in several sections of this Province. If the season is dry and favourable, a good crop of wheat may chance to be obtained.

Barley has been sown this year to a greater extent, perhaps, than for many years past. The distilleries and breweries, already in operation, and those that are in progress of being erected and prepared for work next fall, has encouraged farmers to sow more of this grain this spring than usual. The price of barley will, very probably, continue to be a remunerating one to the farmer, and offers a fair encouragement for the cultivation of this grain that is so suitable for the climate and soil of Canada. If farmers will learn to understand their own true interests, there is not much danger of an over production of barley. There are many uses to which it may be applied, as well as to the making of beer and spirits; and by converting it to these uses, a remunerating price may always be secured.

A large quantity of oats will be sown this spring; but a considerable portion of it will be late, and hence must incur the risk of not ripening perfectly, until checked by early frosts. The rain that fell on the 23d and 24th of May, has retarded agricultural operations, particularly as the soil was not over dry previously.

Potatoe planting is not likely to be finished before the latter end of June. Unless on very dry soils, the planting is very backward now. The dry-rot has already affected the seed this year. Whether it will prevail to such an extent as in years past, it is impossible to say. That potatoes have a tendency to decay in the cellars, in a way that was not usual in former years, there can be no doubt; and potatoes that are observed to have this tendency, are not safe to be used as seed, unless planted whole. The dry-rot is a disease, that if not