

early commencement of winter. This circumstance will greatly retard the spring sowing. It is most desirable that fall ploughing should be finished if possible before the winter, and the land well drained, and the furrows cleaned out. When this is done, the soil will be in much better condition for spring sowing, and for producing a good crop, and if farmers used due diligence, and had their land properly drained, the fall ploughing might be finished generally before the winter commenced, and had it been done last fall, most of the sowing and planting might be finished before the end of May, as it always should be. When the spring sowing and planting is extended into the month of June, the chance of good crops is very doubtful, unless in a most favorable season, that is neither very moist nor very dry. There has been a considerable demand this spring for Fife wheat, or what is known by that name. We have been told it succeeds well in Upper Canada. We conceive it to be a great inconvenience, and has an injurious tendency, to give new names to wheat or other grain. Farmers do not know what kind of grain they sow, when new names are applied to them. It may be very proper for a farmer, who, by great attention, raises a distinct variety of grain, not known before, to give it what new name he pleases, but it creates much confusion, when we give a new name to an old variety of grain that has been long cultivated, and is known by another name. If the cultivators of such grain wish to give it a new name, they should let farmers know what was the former name by which it was designated, or inform the public how they had raised a new variety not known or distinctly described before. We do not wish to give offence by these remarks, but several enquiries have been made of us as to the correct designation of wheat advertised for seed, and the names and description published by Lawson & Sons, of Edinburgh, is the only one that we refer to in answering these queries, as we consider it the very best authority. We know that very few farmers have raised new varie-

ties of seed in this country, because there is not sufficient attention given to such matters. In the United States it is scarcely possible to know any particular variety of grain by their old proper names, as described by Lawson. We should recommend that when it is desired to give a new name to varieties of seeds, the old name should also be retained, and let the new one be an addition to it. This would prevent confusion and uncertainty. In importing seeds from any country, it is very proper and necessary to give the name of the country that has produced them, because, by these means, we shall be able to determine what country produces the best and most suitable seeds for our cultivation in Lower Canada. It is quite necessary in a perfect system of agriculture that the greatest attention should be given to all these matters, though trifling they may appear. It is also very necessary to have clean and unmixed varieties of every description of seeds.

Whatever we may expect from merchants, who have themselves to buy the seed they sell for sowing, farmers who sell grain for sowing should have it clean, or they should not advertise it *for sale*, because when it is so advertised, we have reason to expect it to be fit for seed, which it cannot be, if mixed with different varieties, and with seeds of weeds. These matters should be well understood, as to the obligation there is upon vendors of agricultural seeds, to sell only such as are fit for seed, and profitable for farmers to purchase. If farmers sell seeds to purchasers in the market, or to persons coming to their farm to purchase, they may sell it as it is, without any warranty, and this will be perfectly fair, but no seeds should be advertised for sale that are not clean and fit to sow.

In top-dressing for grain crops with farm-yard manure, it is almost impossible to have a clean crop. If for oats or peas it is not of so much consequence, but for wheat or barley, the sample will not be clean or fit for seed. Well fermented manure should be employed when top-dressing for grain crops, or even when ploughing it in