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Prepare for Spring Work.

When the stormy MARCH is come at last,
With wind, and cloud, and changing skies;
With the gushing of the blast
That through the snowy valleys flies.

When passing few are they who speak,
And stormy mouth in praise of thee;
Though thy winds are loud and bleak,
Yet thou art a welcome month to me.

[Bryant.]

When March, stormy and changeful as it often is, comes as a welcome to the farmer, and indeed to the lovers of nature in this northern sphere, as indicating the termination of the cold and gloomy winter, with its frosts and snows; though, in truth, some portions of our Canadian winters are the reverse of gloomy,—the approach of green and joyous spring; the season of hope and beauty, and full of anticipation of all that is lovely and attractive in the surroundings of daily rural life. What an advantage do the inhabitants of the country have over those of crowded cities in inhaling the fresh atmosphere, and in opportunities of observing the wonderful works of the Creator, as they are manifested in the varied phenomena of the circling year! If there be one occupation in this fallen world of ours better calculated than another, to lift men's minds and hearts to the contemplation and enjoyment of the power, wisdom, and goodness displayed in the works of our Creator, as indicating the perfections of an all-wise and beneficent Creator, we shall not run the risk in pronouncing that occupation

to be the farmer's, or the gardener's, whose daily avocations bring him into contact with the ever varying changes of the seasons, and the natural government of God. A thousand pities that so many of our fellow creatures, for want of the necessary mental and moral culture, should live almost wholly insensible to the beauties and blessings by which they are constantly surrounded! With the necessary preparation of mind, the cultivation of a field or garden will naturally induce correct habits of observation, and lay the foundation of knowledge, scientific and moral, which will enlarge the sympathies, refine the taste, and elevate the aspirations of its possessor. It is important that these truths should not be lost sight of by the agricultural press; since there appears to be no means of permanently raising the status of the rural population, as, indeed of all others—but such as are of a moral and intellectual nature.

Our object, however, in the few remarks we intend to make is not so much to moralise,—and the above digression it is hoped will not be deemed out of place,—as to remind our readers of some necessary things which the season at which we have now arrived naturally suggests. It is true that much snow yet remains on the ground, and that cultivation cannot be commenced for, perhaps, some weeks. But that period may arrive earlier than we expect; the snow is now fast wasting,—going off in a most satisfactory manner, and the ground not having in general been deeply frozen before