

the Paris seeds from you till Saturday the 24th May, I planted the corn and beans on Monday 26th, the beans grew very well, they seemed very good to use green, but the pods did not fill, and first frost killed them all.

The corn grew very luxuriant, by about one hundred grains, I had two ears on every stalk, one large and one small, only some of the large ones ripened, the stalks were from eight to ten feet high, I am afraid the corn is not ripe enough for seed, but I have saved the best of it, I took you two ears as samples in the fall, one of the largest and one ordinary size, if I go to Montreal I will carry up some more of the ears to show you.

I will sow all the other seed early in spring, and let you know the result.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

WILLIAM FARIS.

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The Coming Summer.

By the time that this number reaches the fire-sides of our readers, the winter will have nearly passed away, and all nature will be putting on the aspect of approaching summer. The farmer must now nerve himself for the work of spring, and in doing so we would have him think, over the improvements he may undertake, and the lessons he has learned during the winter. We often form large resolutions in winter, which evaporate in the spring. In winter we become book-farmers and plan great things. In spring the pressure of hard work forces us to move on much in the same way as before. When we resolve in winter however, we should also prepare. The farmer who in winter has provided his summer fire-wood, and fencing, who has repaired his buildings and farm implements and gear, who has laid up the materials of composts, and carefully cleaned and arranged his seeds, is in a better position to engage in improved farming than he who has neglected such things.

It is better however to do well late than never. Now is a good time to look over everything that by present preparation can save labour in summer. To be able to commence the spring with wood-sheds, stables, barns, barn-yards, roads, fences, and farm gear, all tidy and in order, is one of the greatest possible savings in time, money and temper.

These things being looked to, we should ask a few questions of ourselves as to the efforts we mean to make and the results we hope to attain. Do we hope to take from the land heavy crops in autumn? Then we should be prepared to put in now something substantial in the way of manure. Can

we hope that year after year our carts and waggons should groan under the weight of our harvests, if we take little or nothing back to the fields from which we expect so much; nay more, if we do not take back those very kinds of things that we are taking off. How then can we best save and apply all the manure produced in the past winter, what can be added to it of muck, compost, lime, gypsum, ashes, guano, phosphates. Let us do what we can in these ways, and if possible let us make arrangements to compare the results of such applications for our guidance in future years.

What are we to do in the present spring in planting, grafting, and pruning. Preparation should be made at once. A little done every spring in these things makes permanent improvement and profit; that is, if we select good and profitable varieties, and do them justice in the selection of ground and treatment. We would here also bespeak a little attention to ornament, especially to adorning our houses and their approaches with shrubs and trees.

What are we about to do in root culture. The census of Lower Canada shows an annual yield of only 334, 250 bushels of turnips. This is very small indeed, for a country having nearly 600,000 horned cattle, and more than that number of sheep. What would British farmers say to half a bushel of turnips per annum per head of cattle.

This subject well merits attention, as the surest basis of good and profitable agriculture. We have already, in previous numbers written largely of the culture of the turnip, carrot, mangold wurtzel, and parsnip. We may now add, not of course as a root crop, but as occupying the same place in the rotation, and requiring the same sort of culture, the English or horse bean; which in the quantity of nutritious food contained in its seeds and straw, is inferior to no cultivated crop. In some counties of England it is estimated that not more than one tenth of the present stock could be supported without this plant. It will not grow however on poor land, in the manner of peas and the small kidney beans; but requires the same manuring and culture with the potatoe and turnip, and thrives best in heavy strong soils, especially when naturally rich in lime. Farmers having rich soils, would do well to try a few drills, and inform the public of their results.

Several new articles of culture have been proposed in the past year. The Japan

potatoe, Rape and other plants for oil, the Poppy, and last but not least the Chinese Sugar Cane, may serve for illustrations. Farmers should not trust too much to such things, nor venture on them on a large scale rashly, but they would do well to make such experiments as may be in their power.

Do we mean to do anything in the way of deeper ploughing, sub-soiling or under-draining. These are in most soils certain and safe improvements. Let those who doubt try on ever so small a scale, and if they will not trust to advice, trust to experience. At the least do not neglect at this season to watch where water stagnates, and to provide for letting it off in time to prevent the necessity of ploughing up mud when the rest of the ground is dry.

Another important subject now calling for attention, is the planting of hedges. Plants can be procured at a very moderate rate per thousand. They form a fence in six to eight years—and once formed it is ornamental, serviceable, cheap, and durable.

Several of the subjects above glanced at have within the past twelve months occupied considerable space in this Journal. It might be profitable to many of our friends to refer to some of these articles, and we shall now close with the general remark that rotation of crops, thorough tillage and draining—culture of green crops, economy of manures, and prudent application of mineral and portable manures, embrace many of the most important points, which should now receive the careful consideration of the farmer.

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AGRICULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

Nothing has more surprised and annoyed us since we have been connected with this Journal, than the absence of original communications from agriculturists. The deficiency of original matter in this Journal does not, we again beg to assure our friends, proceed from our suppressing communications received, but from our not receiving any. We invite contributors to our pages, and beg again to refer to the subject at this season, with the view of asking our readers to make notes of the progress of any experiments they may be about to make, and to give the public the benefit of anything that may occur in their practice, and may in their judgment be beneficial. With respect to the style of such communications, we may refer to the following extract from one of our exchanges:

Writers for the Press.—We fully en-