

muneration to the beet grower and manufacturer. This might be a good ground for co-operation; had farmers any assurance that for the products of their labor they would have fair play in our own markets, there might be a co-operation to raise beets sufficient to keep a manufactory employed, and the result of this one stimulate others to do as they did.

April on the Farm.

While through the neighboring fields the sower stalks,
With measured step, and liberal throws the grain
Into the faithful bosom of the ground;
The harrow follows harsh, and shuts the scene.

This is a month for untiring energy. Our spring is short and we must make the most of it. Every fair hour must be put to good account. The farmer who is well prepared for the labors of April may congratulate himself that he was wise in time. He now enjoys the profit from the good care and feeding bestowed on his horses before the busy time. Continue that care. Without good treatment good work cannot be done. The ploughman has not completed his work for the spring, and the seed must soon be cast into the ground. All know the value of a well prepared seed-bed. It should be rich and mellow, and in order to have it so it should be ploughed at such a time and in such a condition as will ensure these requirements. Heavy soil ploughed in the fall has become too compact. To cure this stubbornness use the cultivator; this will make it loose and friable, without turning under the soil that has been improved by the winter storms. Do not plough while the ground is wet. Nothing is more injurious to it. Sow as early as the state of the land will permit. The yield of the crop depends much on the time it is sown; but better sow late than cast the seed into a wet, cold bed. Some seeds perish in consequence, and others, when they do grow, produce weak, hungry stems and blades, and a poor return of inferior grain.

See that the meadows have no bare spots; if there are any, re-seed them, having applied compost or other rotted manure; having re-seeded it, rake and roll. Clover may be sown even in April, either on a winter crop or alone. A dressing of plaster will greatly improve its growth. The ground bears no crop more profitable than clover. The profits are not limited to its value for feeding stock. When growing, it enriches the soil by absorbing ammonia from the atmosphere with its abundant foliage, and bringing up, from far beneath the surface soil, stores of mineral food for plants; when dead, its long taproots, decomposed in the soil, become a rich manure, and the cavities wrought out by them afford passage for the escape of the superfluous moisture that would, if it remained, be injurious to vegetation.

Look to your fences—see that no part of them is down—that none are too weak to keep out trespassers. Good fences make good neighbors. A breachy animal breaking into a cropped field may do injury much greater than the cost of repairing the fences. The injury caused by breaking into meadows or new pastures is not much less. Grass lands that are *pached* are greatly injured. The tender, shooting crown of the plant is hardened, and the root affected by permitting cattle to feed and tramp on them.

The live stock on the farm need care, especially milch cows and calves. Clean house, good bedding and nutritious food are needed; let them have them. A little linseed meal, or linseed tea, added to the milk will be of great service to the calves. It is folly to have young animals grow up *stunted*. Lambs need care and attention; all needless exposure must be guarded against; and their dams should not be stinted of good, nutritious food. In

hort, every animal on the farm needs good food and unceasing care. "The farmer's foot," it is said, "is the best manure." So is it with his eye. His presence everywhere, his constant watchfulness, will keep all the animals in his care thrifty and well-favored.

Compost heaps and all piles of manure need to be turned. Manure will be needed for the root crops, and should be well composted. See that the outlets of drains and watercourses be not choked with mud or sand. No water whatever should be allowed to lie stagnant on or in the soil.

A few early potatoes may be planted late in the month. Potatoes of a medium size, uncut, less liable to perish in the ground, should be selected for the earliest crop. Let them have a sunny aspect and dry soil. Plant but a few now; they will, you may expect, need protection from the June frosts.

For soiling, sow oats and peas. They will come in for cutting after the fall rye, and better soiling for your stock you cannot have. Even if your cattle feed on pasture, some such food cut and given in addition will be found of great use.

Vegetable Garden in April.

In our northern clime we must defer to a late season much of the garden work that is usually done in this month in a milder temperature. Spring is slow a-coming in Canada, and the cold breath of winter is sometimes felt even in April; but the rapid vegetation after a little delay will make amends. We must, however, in April take advantage of every favorable moment, and, if we can do little more, prepare the ground for seeding and planting in May.

To have tomato plants early without the expense of a hot bed, we have but to use a small box for a substitute. An old raisin box will grow more plants than will be needed for the use of any family. Fill it with good soil, rich and light, and sow the seed when the soil has acquired sufficient heat. Place it in a warm, ventilated room, and in such a position as to have the light and heat of the sun. When the plants have acquired some strength, thin them if necessary. Transplant them, when they are grown enough to bear it, into a cold frame, or into a larger box. Plants that have been transplanted from the seed bed to the nursery bed before final planting, are always more certain and thrifty. Some time in May you may risk planting a few, when they are to stand, but they will need protection from the frost.

You may sow lettuces in a dry, warm border. They are very hardy. We have had them, self-sown, bear the winter well. In sowing, see that the soil is pretty dry and has parted with its winter cold. No seed should be sown in a cold or wet soil. Young lettuces bear transplanting well, and it is best to sow or plant them in such a situation that they will be screened from the sultry sun of summer. Lettuce should have a deep, rich soil, that the heads may be large, crisp and tender.

Beets will be time enough sowed next month; but if the latter part of this month be fair and the ground in good order, it is well to sow some in this month for early use. We need not recommend this vegetable. It is well known and highly prized. It is good for the table, palatable and very nutritious, and, if any be to spare, feed them to cows and pigs. We have found the Bassano beet best for early sowing.

Carrots, for early use, are sown as soon as the ground is in good order. Soil should be rich and mellow—light soil preferable. As carrots are apt to grow forked if the growing plant come in contact with manure, the fertility of the soil should be inherent from the previous crop, or from fall

manuring. Sow in drills, and hoe between them as needed. Allow no weeds to take root. For early sowing and for table use through the summer and fall, the best variety is the Early Horn. Long Orange is a good variety, much larger than the Horn, but not so tender.

Parsnips, the best vegetable we have for winter use, are sown and cultivated as the carrot, but should have heavier and deeper soil. It is very productive and rich in nutriment. The best way to preserve them for late spring use is to allow them to remain in the ground as they grew. You may cover lightly with tops of turnips, beets, &c., but we have found no protection necessary.

Peas should also be sown as early as the state of the weather and condition of the soil will permit. The earlier the first crop is ready for use the better; and you can have a regular succession of crops through the season. Carter's First Crop and Daniel O'Rourke are among the good early varieties.

Onions.—There are few crops in the garden more profitable, if grown for sale. The produce is from 200 to 400 bushels to the acre. There is no little labor required, and from the time of preparing the ground till the receiving of the crop, they require care; but the labor is light and the remuneration ample, the price being from 75c. to \$1 per bushel. For onions, it is necessary that the soil be rich and in a good state of cultivation. Sow the seed as early as the weather will permit. If sown on a large scale, the seeding would be done more expeditiously, and the seed more evenly distributed, by the use of a good garden seeder; but it can be dropped very well by the finger and thumb. Cover lightly, and if the soil be light and naturally dry, it is well to press it down with a light, wooden, garden roller. This will be a means of retaining the moisture from evaporating, and so aid the germinating of the seed. The drills must be of such a distance as to allow hoeing between, but not so far as to have unnecessary waste. They are to be kept free from weeds. The varieties of onions generally are: The large red onion, a heavy cropper and generally esteemed; yellow onion, a heavy cropper, does not grow so large as the red, but is the best onion for long keeping; White Portugal, more delicate in flavor than the red or yellow, but not so hardy—more liable to be damaged.

Cheese Factories.

By having the woodwork of the vats made perfectly tight, there is no occasion for their being lined with tin. Besides, they will last longer than if lined, and wood is much cheaper than tin. We would use the clear steam for heating the vats, it being less noisy and much more convenient; and if the pipes are properly put in they will heat as regularly as the water. The holes should be put in the pipes in such a way that the steam will strike down and thus become scattered before coming in contact with the bottom of the pan. If allowed to strike the pan directly, it will burn the curd, which is very injurious to the curd and cheeses. The vats should be made to tip, thereby facilitating the dipping of the curd into the sink. The floor of the making-room should be perfectly tight, and made to slope towards the lower end of the vats; there should be a gutter or trough set in the floor running past the lower end of the vats, and from this gutter the water, washings, etc., should be carried in a pipe under ground to the hog yard or some other place, thereby removing the chief cause of such bad odors as we so often smell in passing along the highway in the vicinity of some factories. There is nothing to prevent a cheese factory from being kept as clean and sweet as any ordinary dwelling house, provid-