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## Notes by the Way.

*Weeds.*—Newly cleared land, after what the French-Canadians call *les abattis*, has no weeds to speak of. And, why not? Because, we suppose, there are no weed-seeds to start into life. Whence come, then, the innumerable weeds that we see on the same land a few years after clearing? Birds, of course, bringsome; others the winds deposit; and the first ploughing doubtless brings up many seeds that had previously lain inert for want of the vivifying power of the air. Still, if land was originally clean, nothing but the neglect of fallowing or growing hoed-crops, at frequently recurring periods, can account for the terrible state of foulness in which we find so many farms in this province. Ah! yes, by the bye; there is another powerful cause for the foulness of our fields: the neglect of turning over our mixens to heat and thereby destroy the germinating force of the weed-seeds. Who ever thinks of turning up his dung to heat? One farmer in ten? No, not one in twenty!

A very marked proof of the injury done to land by the neglect of this simple process we observed, some years ago, on a farm not very far from Sorel. A small strip of land had been manured in two divisions: one division was treated with dung from the horse-stable, in which hay had been largely consumed; the other, with manure from the cow-house, in which only straw had been used as "roughage." When the crop (potatoes) was well up, the latter was comparatively free from weeds; the former; though thoroughly worked with horse and hand-hoe all through the summer; the moment the potatoes were dug and the wet weather came on, threw up a splendid crop of wild timothy (*mil sauvage*) and other