

again without much benefitting the crop. When the soil is sufficiently dry for working it will be open, and after the seed is put in, every shower of rain will benefit the crop, and so will heavy dew; but if the soil is wet, when cultivating, it becomes hard with the first dry weather, and remains so generally until the crop is harvested, impervious to either slight summer showers or to heavy dews. This is a great fault in Canadian farming, and is the chief cause that the strongest and best lands in the country produce only scanty crops. A summer fallowing would be necessary to open and pulverise all strong lands that never had that sort of cultivation. There is a large proportion of the soil of Canada, that has been invariably ploughed in one direction, and the same furrow slice is turned in the same way year after year, and never broken. The consequence is, that the soil is not much benefited by the process of ploughing—and it would therefore be very necessary that such soils should have a thorough breaking up, by ploughing them in all directions, and clearing them of all weeds, and couch grass. This operation, properly executed, would be a vast improvement in all strong clay lands—and would amply compensate for the labour. We wish we could persuade farmers to adopt this plan very generally, as the most easy and certain means of effecting improvement—that would be in the power of almost every one who had a farm. There is no preparation of the soil for wheat so good as that by summer fallow. It is said to be a great check to the ravages of vermin, particularly the wire-worm, and it will also check the growth of weeds, if the work be carefully executed. Farmers will find it to their advantage to forego a year's crop of the land they summer fallow, when they will obtain more than a double crop the year after the land is properly cultivated, and it will be much improved for future production. It would infinitely improve the appearance of the country to drain the land of superfluous moisture—clear it from weeds—and grow good crops, that would do credit to the farmer, and produce him profit. We are not justified in holding possession of good land, if we do not improve it to the utmost, and no man can pretend to be a friend to the prosperity of this country who, possessing wealth, power or influence, will not use them to forward the improvement of our Agriculture, by instructing and encouraging the people to adopt a better system.

We have received, through the hands of Mr. Tebbets, of this city, Simmonds' Colonial Magazine,

for which we beg to return the editor our best thanks. It is a very interesting and useful publication, well entitled to support, and a large circulation in the colonies of Britain, as well as in England. Such a publication as this is calculated to bring the British Colonies into notice, show their true respective value, and their suitableness for emigration, for the several classes of emigrants. This information is of great importance to persons desirous of emigrating from the British Isles, to know which of the colonies will be most likely to suit them; and no man can give more accurate information in this way than Mr. Simmonds, from his extensive correspondence with the colonies. We wish the work success.

We have further to acknowledge, from the same gentleman, the Gardener's Almanack, by George W. Johnston, Esq., and a Supplement to Mr. Withers' work on the Culture, Qualities and Uses of the Acacia, or Locust Tree. The Almanack is a most valuable little book, and we shall often copy from it, what we may conceive suitable information for this country gardeners. We know that much of the management adopted in English gardens will answer in Canada. The climate is as favourable here as in that country for seven months of the year, and we may grow in our gardens here almost every plant they do there, and in equal perfection; fruit we may have in greater perfection. Some time back, Mr. Withers sent us his work on the Cultivation of the Acacia, or Locust Tree, to which the Book received now is the Supplement. The Acacia, or Locust Tree, may be cultivated successfully in Canada. They are a tree of very rapid growth, and would, in a few years, arrive at a considerable size. This is of great consequence when designed for ornament, for which they are suitable, and we wish that planting trees for ornament was to become a general practice in Canada. In a few years they would be found useful as well as ornamental. Mr. Withers' book gives instructions for planting trees, which would be very interesting to persons desirous to plant. Our English friends will confer a great favour upon us by sending us any useful information on the subject of agriculture or gardening. There are publications on these subjects constantly appearing in England, and we may not even hear of them unless through the kindness of some friend. Any we get shall be made use of for the general good of our country, not for our own exclusive advantage.

We have seen a Circular of Dr. Meilleur's, Superintendent of Education in Canada East, containing Instructions to the School Commissioners, and a Précis of their Duties, which must be a great assistance to those Commissioners, if they are disposed to promote the education of the people, as it is in their power to do. The School Law may have some defects, that require to be amended; but this should not prevent the Commissioners from acting under the existing law until it is amended. Education is of too much im-