

The Agricultural matter published in the WEEKLY GLOBE is entirely different from that which appears in THE CANADA FARMER.

New subscribers who send in their subscriptions previous to the issue of our next month's number will receive that number as well as the volume for next year.

CANASSING AGENTS WANTED.—First-class men, of good address, steady, and pushing, to canvass for the CANADA FARMER. Address, stating employment, previous engagements, age and references, Publishers of the CANADA FARMER, Toronto.

The Canada Farmer

TORONTO, CANADA, OCTOBER 15, 1875.

Work for November—December.

The season of hurry and hard work is over. One job is not now crowding another. The farmer has leisure to think over the successes and mistakes of the past season, and to make notes of what to repeat and what to avoid. There is still plenty of work to do. There is never any need, as far as farmers are concerned, that Satan should be troubled looking up his proverbial remedy for illness.

The past season has been emphatically a good one for Canadian farmers. Taken all round it is questionable if it will not excel all former years. The outlook for prices is also good. The English wheat crop is turning out much worse in quality than has been anticipated, while the United States Department of Agriculture puts the wheat crop on the other side at only eighty per cent. of last year's crop, and at fourteen per cent. below it in quality. The fall wheat has suffered from the continued low temperature of the last month, both in Canada and the States. It will not go into the winter in nearly such good condition as it was in at this time last year.

Barns and cellars should be well banked before frost shuts down on us. Cracks and crevices in the walls should be chinked or otherwise stopped. Loose boards should be nailed up and open cracks boarded over, windows and doors fixed properly. Every hole represents so much heat wasted—so many cords of wood extra to haul and cut—or so much fat gone from the cattle. Be satisfied that the cellar and root-house are frost-proof. A good coat of whitewash before they are filled will be found profitable.

The roots and potatoes will be all stored and protected from frost by this time.

Opportunity should be taken of all open days to push through the underdraining. See that surface drains are made among the fall grains in all places where water stands or is likely to gather in the spring.

Stacks should be inspected and, if not in the best order, should be rebuilt, so that the wind and rain can be resisted.

Outdoor painting can be done cheaply and with comfort at this time of the year when there are no dust and insects going, and the cold is not so severe as to make all one's fingers seem like thumbs.

House all the implements and protect them from the weather. Reapers, mowers, grain drills, ploughs, etc., do not grow on gooseberry bushes. Many farmers lose in ten years by neglecting their implements as much money as they earn in a whole season's work. Give all bright surfaces a coat of kerosene. Paint all woodwork. Plenty of indoor work can be found for stormy days at this kind of work and at repairing harness, grain bags, etc. Hay-forks, spades, shovels, rakes, hoes and small tools should be looked up before snow comes. Taking proper care of his tools is as good an indication of a thrifty farmer as neat and efficient fences.

It is well to have the tools stored in a separate building from the barn. The barns are the buildings which are most frequently burnt down, both by accidental fires and fires kindled in malice. The loss of a barn and its store of crops will be less crushing if the tools have been saved, and an immediate outlay to replenish them is thus avoided.

Some are inclined to believe that fall ploughing is not good. Don't believe them. Plough up all the stiff land that you will want to seed next spring and let it have the full benefit of the pulverizing frosts.

This is the best time of the year to put up spouting build cisterns, clean out old cisterns and wells, etc. If you have not got a never-failing stream at hand, it will pay to spout all the barns and sheds and conduct the water into underground cisterns.

The fattening animals should be finished off as quickly as possible. The colder the weather, the more food is lost in keeping up the animal heat which remains at the same point all the year round, and has to be supplied as fast as the surrounding air removes it. The animals that are going to be kept over the winter should go into the winter in good heart, or spring will find them in sorry plight. The magnificent root crops this year will convert many a farmer from the notion that "roots will not pay." Many farmers will have roots to sell this year that before have never had enough for their stock.

Horses and cattle frequently suffer in the winter from the ammonia given off by their manure in the stable. Their eyes become inflamed and sometimes they go quite blind. It is easy to prevent this. By sprinkling plaster around, the ammonia is fixed, the trouble prevented, and the manure made more valuable. The manure should not be allowed to be under the horses' feet, as it brings on cracked hoofs.

Give constant attention to the milch cows during winter. No animals feel neglect and show the effect of it so quickly. If exposed to cold, the milk decreases, and condition falls off. Hay or chopped cornstalks, mixed with meal or bran and steamed and served up warm, will make them feel good. Give them as much variety in food as is practicable. Let them have exercise on all bright, comfortable days. Give them good beds, comfortable quarters, regular feeding, watering and salting, and their looks will thank you.

Sheep want good care and warm quarters, being animals of very low vitality. Roots and grain, as well as hay, should be fed to them. The period of gestation being about five months, those ewes which are to lamb in April should be served now.

Swine should be finished off and killed before cold weather comes, or they will waste in fat. Those that are kept will want warmth. Feed to them now the class of food that will not keep much longer, such as damaged apples, potatoes, etc. Swine should have a deep bed that they can burrow under. Breeding sows and young will want extra care. Don't try to keep more than you are sure you can carry through. If pigs are wanted in early spring, the sow should be put to the boar now. In no stock is the use of a pure male so profitable as with swine. The increased value of the first litter will often pay for the boar. To get the best value from them, they must be well-fed.

If you have any doubt about the sufficiency of your food for the stock you have, sell part of your stock now, while it is in good condition. This will save giving it away when it is half dead of starvation three months hence, and will save the food that it will take to half-starve it.

Provide plenty of blanketing for the horses, and repair that which is holey. If the horses get wet, rub them dry before leaving them. Use the brush and curry-comb regularly. Their use stimulates the skin, and promotes healthy secretions.

Evergreens and hardy shrubs may be planted till the ground freezes up, but do not plant when the soil is partially frozen. All plants in the ground, not thoroughly hardy, should be covered with straw, leaves, boxes, matting, or some such thing. If they will stand bending, bend down roses and cover them with about three inches of earth. If too rigid, wrap them with hay or straw.

Lay down grape-vines, and cover them with about three inches of earth. The hardiest vines are better for being so served.

Protecting orchard and other trees from rabbits and mice cannot be delayed longer. Practical directions were given in last month's CANADA FARMER.

Collect all the dead leaves possible. They are valuable for making manure, mulching, and other purposes.

The woodpile should be covered in and it will add much to the comfort of those who have to fetch in the wood, if the way to the pile from the house is also covered.

Provide yourself and family with entertaining and instructive reading for the winter nights. If you have a

neighbor to whom you wish to do a service, and who is not already a reader of the CANADA FARMER, oblige us by telling him your opinion of this journal.

Reform Needed in the Sale of Live Stock.

A feeling seems to be springing up among Canadian farmers, in several sections, in favor of instituting periodical sales of stock at local centres. In England, local auction sales of stock are now the means by which nearly all the fat animals pass into the butchers' hands. The sales are held by auctioneers of local repute, weekly, fortnightly, or monthly, according to the extent of the district tributary to the local centre, and its capacities for furnishing stock enough to make the attendance of buyers from a distance profitable. The places of sale are mainly those having good railroad facilities, so that stock can be readily movable by the purchaser, either by rail or road.

The present system of selling fat-stock is open to many objections—the principal one, perhaps, being the loss of time in haggling over the price. This is a business which is distasteful to many farmers, and they would be glad to be quit of it. Then, again, it is no disparagement to farmers to say that, as judges of live stock, they are inferior to the dealers. The latter have frequently devoted their whole lives to studying the points of animals. They are constantly handling stock, and can frequently guess nearer the correct weight of an animal than can be told by inferior scales. The young farmer, especially, is now at a disadvantage, for a keen dealer knows as much of human nature as he does of the weight of "critters." Then, again, the farmer not only loses his own time, but has to pay for the time spent by the dealer in beating him down. The dealer's time is his money just the same as the farmer's time is his money. If the two parties haggle and split hairs for half a day about the price of a fat cow, or four or five sheep or hogs, so much the more profit has to be got by the dealer. If a sale is effected, at least one party is mad because he had to yield. Probably both had to yield, and both are correspondingly mad. If a sale is not made, each is worried because he could not beat the other. In fact, the whole thing is unsatisfactory.

At an auction sale of stock, now, things are on a different basis. There are the animals, and, if the dealers want to buy, they buy. And other dealers are competing against them. Their skill in drawing the wool over the farmer's eyes avails them nothing; for bidding against them are other dealers just as wide-awake as they. Purchasers at a sale can give more for a beast than they could if they had to go miles into the country on an uncertainty. The younger buyers, too, are more on an equality with the experienced dealers. It will pay a new hand to go on bidding after the old one has retired from the battle. The expense to the farmer need be but trifling. About one and a half cents on the dollar should pay the auctioneer for all his advertising and other expenses, and leave him a good sum for his trouble.

For these and other reasons, we think that the system of periodical stock sales at central points will soon become universal in the Dominion. It should also be kept in sight that a live-stock trade with England is one of the near probabilities. The cattle for this trade will be necessarily bought in lots. If the trade should develop to the extent it promises, stock auction sales will become indispensable.

Any person that is known to the farmers of a district to be a trustworthy man, and who has some knowledge of stock, can set this reform on foot. It may not be any great shakes at first, but success is sure to attend him, if he will persist for awhile. When the auction sale system is once started, its convenience will be found so great that both farmers and dealers will wonder why they have put up with the present system so long.

CANADIAN FARMERS who have a hankering after sunnier climes, Kansas for instance, should ponder over the fact that, among other blessings too numerous to mention, fever and ague is so common in that earthly paradise as to be the staple subject for jokes. Paragraph from a Kansas paper:—"If to-morrow is not your chill day, we want you for judge in the ring," is a very common expression of the officers of some of the fairs.