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Correspondence.

For the Colonial Farmer.

RURAL TOPICS.

The Scientific Farmer says: "No better index of what a plant requires to be furnished it to feed upon can be found than a chemical analysis of the plant itself." It then gives the amount of nitrogen, potash, and phosphoric acid removed annually by certain crops on Massachusetts farms, as follows:

	Average Yield lbs.	Nitrogen, 100 lbs.	Potash, 100 lbs.	Phosphoric acid, 100 lbs.
Wheat	35.00	9.37	11.15	4.42
Oats	29.00	7.15	7.30	3.40
Potatoes	1,950	24.19	47.39	21.00
Hay	1,000	25.28	22.31	12.08
Barley	1,900	25.15	32.83	7.87

—Goesman.

Thirty years ago, Prof. Liebig, of Germany, promulgated the theory, as a discovery that would revolutionize farming in Europe and in the United States. All a farmer had to do, in order to grow a good crop of anything, was first to look at the printed tables, and see what the ash of plants—the straw or stalks when burned, contain by analysis, and then to apply those constituents in the form of commercial fertilizers. But the system was not considered complete, till every farmer should employ an agricultural chemist to analyze his soil, to ascertain what elements of fertility were lacking in them. This theory is now being revived, but there is nothing reliable in it—at least, nothing that produces the same results in various places the same season. For instance, Mr. A. desires a fertilizer for Indian corn, having no stable manure to spare.

He buys potash, nitrogen, and phosphoric acid, as supplied in prepared commercial fertilizers, and his crop is good; but his neighbor uses the same fertilizer on the same kind of soil, and gets a very poor crop, while another farmer gets a better crop of corn than either of them, by the use of a light coat of stable dung, and applying a little plaster at the first hoeing. The uncertainty of results of applying special fertilizers to crops, in view of what their ash contains by analysis, lies in the fact, that no man can tell, even by the most careful analysis, what inorganic constituents of a soil are lacking, with any degree of certainty. Well, what are farmers to do who have not a supply of stable manure? If you can purchase fertilizers that are truly rich in potash, nitrogen, and phosphoric acid, it will be safe to make a moderate investment in them, as a trial of what they will produce, always bearing in mind that potash is the most reliable of all special fertilizers. In dry seasons these fertilizers do but little good.

NAMES OF COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS, &c.

The most valuable commercial fertilizers are:

Bone superphosphate, ammoniated, sells at about \$40 per ton.

Peruvian guano sells at about \$60 per ton.

Sulphate of potash sells at about \$4 per 100 pounds.

Nitrate of potash sells at about \$9.50 per 100 pounds.

Muriate of potash sells at about \$3 per 100 pounds.

Sulphate of ammonia sells at about \$4.50 per 100 pounds.

There are grades of these fertilizers that sell somewhat cheaper than the above rate. All that plants require are ammonia, potash and phosphoric acid; and these are abundantly contained in first-class grades of the above fertilizers. To show that the theory of special fertilizers being necessary for each crop grown is not reliable, I call the attention of the reader to the fact that a number of dealers in fertilizers have preparations that they claim are equally good for all crops. No matter what crop you desire to grow, the one compound sold by each of these dealers "is just the thing you need," while writers who deal more in theories than in facts, tell you that your fertilizers for each crop must be mixed according to a special formula, as a physician gives different medicines for different diseases. Then farmers are subject to being cheated in the article they bargain for, as the most of the commercial fertilizers are adulterated. You buy a barrel of—and you find it contains a dark, rich-looking substance, with a pungent smell, nine-tenths of its contents being dried scammony, or some other dark colored soil! Is it any wonder that tillers of the soil curse "book farmers" and vendors of commercial fertilizers? The remedy is to keep more live stock, and obtain all the stable dung that is needed; or, at least, to be able to get along without buying commercial fertilizers, if possible.

"FARMING DOESN'T PAY."

I can tell you why it doesn't pay with you; and if you'll not be offended I'll give you the reasons why old Skinfint is foreclosing the mortgage of your farm. You do not manage right. You hire two men when you

and one good hand ought to do all the work on your place, except in the haying season. Then you have too many errands to the village to be profitable. The other day I left you in Brown's tavern talking politics; and as I passed your farm I saw your men in the field lying under a tree, when they jumped up and one enquire if I had seen "the boss." I replied "yes," and that I left him at Brown's tavern. "Well" said one of them, "we'll lie down again, 'as he won't be home till night, if you left him at Brown's." So you see how important it is that you should be at home with your men. They see how things are going, and take no interest in your success as a farmer. Indeed, there is not one hired man in ten who would do as much work alone, or with other hands, as he will when his employer is working with him. But you not only leave your men to waste their time, but you also mismanage in almost any thing. Last week you threw a ton or two of hay out of your barn, which had been so damaged by leaks in the roof that it was worthless. A few shingles put on last summer would have saved you this loss. You remember, too, how your corn crop was almost destroyed last August by neighbor Smith's cattle. His half of the fence was in perfect order, and he notified you, he says, several times to repair your part of it; and you did not do it till ten acres of corn were badly damaged. And so your entire business is mismanaged. You are always behind time in putting in your crops; half of your farm implements are out of repair; your swine are of the land-shark breed that never fatten; your horses are so poorly fed that they cannot do the work on the farm; your cows are of the most unprofitable kind, and even your poultry is so poor a breed, that they run you in debt for fees over the value of the very few eggs they lay, and so you see the reason why you can't pay the interest on the mortgage that old Skinfint holds on your farm.

GRAPES.

I have often transplanted grape vines as late as the first of June, after the leaves were as large as a dollar, and they did well. The leaves will wilt and drop off, but new ones will grow speedily; and in the fall the vines are apparently as good as if set earlier; but the proper time to set them is in May before the vines have left out. Never buy old vines, thinking to obtain a crop of fruit a year or two earlier than from those two and three years old, the limit in age that vines should be re-set. Cuttings set to produce young vines should be shaded a little with hay or grass till they took root, which is not till late in June. When the thermometer is in the nineties in the shade, the heat of the sun will often kill the buds of cuttings that have not taken root. As the cause to your old vines grow, as to be in danger of being broken off by high winds, they should be tied to the trellis; and a watch kept on them till July, trying the new canes as needed. Most vines overbear, and if the smallest clusters be cut out, so as to leave about two-thirds of the fruit that set, the remainder will be better in quality, and equal to the whole quantity if none had been cut out.

HOME-MADE PHOSPHATE.

The following home-made phosphate is said to be as good as that usually sold by dealers in commercial fertilizers, and it costs only about \$18 a ton.

Mode of Preparation.—Put half the bone in a box at a time: then half the sulphate soda; then half the nitrate soda; then half the muriate of salt; then dampen with water and mix through; after which pour on half the oil vitriol; as soon as it begins to smoke, let two hands stir as fast as they can until it stops smoking; then take half the amount of earth and mix; at last put in half the plaster and mix thoroughly. The phosphate has been used on wheat principally, but no potatoes with very good results, say a half-teacupful scattered on a foot square after a little dirt has been put on them.

RENOVATING PASTURE LANDS.

A writer in the "County Gentleman" says: "I made an experiment with nitrate of soda and sulphate of lime on a couple of small pastures, using about 125 pounds per acre of the first, and 100 pounds of the second. I have repeated the operation with half the quantity this spring, and can now show a growth of blue grass on the one and timothy on the other, equal in depth of color to any wheat field I have seen, and in quantity of herbage, though not in height (of course) superior to all. The pastures last fall were fed down bare, but to-day they carry grass enough to shame the best

blue grass fields in the blue grass region, and I have seen many thousands acres there during the present month. I feel I can safely recommend the use of these fertilizers to dairymen whose pastures have become so impoverished that they must buy more land or sell off stock, and to those others who residing in thickly settled neighborhoods, and near large towns or cities, find the local acreage in pasture lands diminishing." These fertilizers can be obtained of dealers in them in all cities. The expense per acre, applied above, will be about \$6. It is a good plan to experiment with various commercial fertilizers, as there is a rapidly growing interest in them; and although there is no guide that farmers can at present follow with a certainty of success in all cases, yet much practical knowledge of the effects of these fertilizers on every man's soil can be gained by making experiments with them in small quantities.

Selections.

A Farmer's Song.

We envy not the princely man,
In the city or in the town,
Who wonders whether pumpkins vines
Run up the hill or down;
We care not for his marble halls,
Nor yet his leases of gold,
We would not own his sordid heart
For all his wealth three fold.

We are the favored ones of earth,
We breathe pure air each morn,
We sow—we reap the golden grain—
We gather in the corn;
We toil—we live on what we earn,
And more than this we do—
We hear of 'staving millions round,
And gladly feed them, too.

The lawyer lives on princely fees,
Yet drags a weary life,
He never knows a peaceful hour—
His stomach is in strife.
The merchant thumbs his yardstick o'er,
Grows giddy at his toil—
He's not the man God meant him for—
Why didn't you till the soil?

The doctor jinks through storm and cold,
Plods at his patients' will,
When dead and gone he bids again,
To get his lengthy bill.
The printer (bless his noble soul!)
He grasps the mighty ether,
And stamps it on our daily sheet,
To cheer the farmer's hearth.

We sing the honor of the plow,
And honor to the press,
Two noble instruments of toil,
With each a power to bless,
The bone—the nerve of the fast age—
True wealth of human kind—
One tills the ever-generous earth,
The other tills the mind.

Ants can be banished from the pantry by sprinkling red pepper on the shelves under the paper.

HARNESS BLACKING.—Melt two ounces mutton suet with six ounces beeswax; add four ounces rock candy, two ounces castile soap, and one ounce finely-powdered indigo. When melted and nearly cold, add one gill turpentine, mix well, apply with a sponge, and polish with a soft brush.

An amateur farmer wonders "why on all this fair earth the ground is spread bottom side up, so that it must be turned over with a plow before crops can be raised."

A young man who had just returned from a sequestered village to the city, declared that it was so still at night in the country tavern where he lodged, that he could hear a bed tick.

Owing to the peculiar arrangement of the programme, no piece can be repeated," was the answer Mr. White received from his landlady (with whom he boarded) upon asking for a second piece of pie at dinner.

SALT.—A lump of rock salt kept in a shed or under cover, where the animals can lick it at will, is the safest way to give this necessary condiment—given to excess, it is hurtful, especially to pigs.

Conductor, why didn't you wake me, as I asked you? Here I am miles beyond my station! Conductor.—"I did try, sir, but all I could get you to say was, 'All right, Maria; get the children their breakfast I'll be down in a minute!'"

INSECTS ON PLANTS.—Tobacco water is good for removing insects from window plants, though some scale and mealy bugs will only be removed by washing with a sponge, using whale-oil soap, and even then some must be picked off by hand. Attention should be given frequently to these things.

This is the way they resign in "Ole Virginia."—"What can we find a first-rate new minister?" enquired a deacon of a colored church in Virginia of a brother deacon, the other day. "Why, I thought you had one," replied the friend. "So we has," continued the inky deacon, with a wink; "but we's just sent him in his resignation."

BEYOND any sort of doubt, seeds soaked in weak camphor-water will sprout and grow vigorously, when the same seeds, not thus treated, will refuse to show any signs whatever of vitality.

TO CLEAR PAINTED THINGS.—A teaspoonful of ammonia (hartshorn) in a quart of warm soapuds will clear soiled paint. Wet a cloth in the prepared wash and wash the article; no scrubbing will be necessary; and the paint will be cleansed and brightened.

A DETROIT policeman heard that a citizen of Twelfth street had been badly injured, and he called at the house to obtain particulars. He found the man lying on the lounge, his head bound up, and his face very badly scratched, and he asked, "What's the matter? did you get run over, or fell down the stairs?" "No, not exactly," replied the wife; "but he wants to run the house his way, and I wanted to run it my way, and there he is."

VALUE OF SHEEP MANURE.—Sprengel allowed that the manure of fourteen hundred sheep, for one day, is equal to manuring highly one acre of land, which is about four sheep per year. Mechi, a still more recent authority, estimates that fifteen hundred sheep, folded on an acre of land twenty-four hours, or one hundred sheep for fifteen days, would manure the land sufficiently to carry it through four years' rotation.

The blue glass mania has been in Duluth as well as in other fashionable places. We are not sure but that it was here that an experiment was tried on a link of Bologna sausage. In five minutes it began to hump in the middle, in ten the word "Mar-ri-ar" was distinctly heard, and in fifteen the cat was himself again, and on the wooded shore, calling joyously for his old sweethearts.—Duluth Minnesotan-Herald.

Can any one tell why it is that the soul of a young and pretty woman is more dear to the average deacon than that of a squint-eyed woman with a wart on her nose? When we have seen a young and pretty woman go up to the altar, we have seen half a dozen deacons knock their heads together in their eagerness to whisper consolation to her brained spirit. But when the squint-eyed woman knelt down only one deacon went near her, and he merely touched her on the shoulder and said, "Pray fervently, sister, and all will be well."—Evolution.

PLOWING.—When setting the plow into the field, always remember to run the furrow the proper direction, the end to have in view being the drainage of the ground. It is a mistaken notion that cross-plowing is essential, that any extra good comes from it; on the contrary, it works a waste, as the dead furrow which is left will be found extending both ways through the ground, and it is practically waste land. Care should be taken to throw the soil as far as possible towards the center of the ground and not towards its borders, as the tendency in plowing is to carry the soil into the fences or ditches.

HOME-MADE BONE FERTILIZER.—In the spring of the year take a large, water-tight hoghead, and cover the bottom with six inches of dry soil. On this put a layer of bones, about the same depth, and cover them entirely with unleached ashes. On these another layer of bones, then ashes, and so on till the hoghead is full. Leave it exposed to the sun and rain all summer and winter till the next spring, when the bones will be so soft that they will crumble to powder under a very slight pressure, and they give a nice little pile of most valuable manure, ready for immediate use. Any of the bones not sufficiently saturated may be returned to the hoghead again for another twelve months.

TO CLEAN PAINT.—A correspondent of the Country Gentleman says: Use but little water at once; keep it warm and clean by changing it often. A flannel cloth takes off fly specks better than cotton. Soap will remove the paint; so use but little of it. Cold tea is the best liquid for cleaning varnished paint, window-pans, and mirrors. A sharp piece of soft wood is indispensable for cleaning out corners. A saucer of sifted ashes should always be at hand to clean unvarnished paint that has become badly smoked; it is better than soap. Never put soap upon glass, unless it can be thoroughly rinsed off, which can never be done to window glass. Wash off the specks with warm tea, and rub the panes dry; then make a paste of whiting and water, and put a little in the center of each pane. Take a dry cloth and rub it all over the glass, and then rub it off with a clamour skin or flannel, and your windows will shine like crystal.

At the kitchen, and work toward the front as we are able. Let the kitchen closet be well stocked, even though the parlor suffer a little. Surely the health of the household and the comfort of the women folks should stand above other considerations.—Ez.

CLOVER AS A FERTILIZER.—The value of clover in enriching the soil is being made known by many experiments. I have tried it thoroughly, and am convinced that it is an aid to the soil that will return good crops and pay for the extra labor. Perhaps every year is often than is required, but every two years will be found beneficial, and enrich the soil in a way that will gratify by extra yield in the crop. There are the essential elements in the clover and its roots, that make certain soils, with mineral substances, available when the two are combined, eminently calculated to largely increase a wheat crop. The land will not wear out when fed with clover at reasonable yearly intervals.—Ez.

PROS.—Dry, warm, well-ventilated, clean pens or yards are necessary for success in raising swine. Disease inevitably accompanies neglect in these things. There is no mystery about the diseases which destroy so many swine. An unhealthy sameness of food, all corn, or all whey, no roots; too much wet, damp and filth; perhaps too close in-breeding, all result in disease, which in time becomes constitutional. A beginning of a better way may be now made with the young pigs to be soon looked for. Provide the brood sows with warm, dry pens, with plenty of bedding of cut straw. Feed cornmeal, bran and mangels, turnips or potatoes, and apportion the different kinds of food with regard to the condition of the sows.

DO IT WELL.—Whatever you undertake to do it well. If to raise stock, select good kinds; if grain, choose the seed that will yield and return most for the money; if dairying has been chosen, make a reputation for the best cheese or butter that is made; in any branch of labor, do all well. The farm cannot be too well cared for, the fences will never be in too good condition; the out-houses will not keep in too good order; the tools and implements never receive too much attention; have no fear of being too particular and overdoing your work. What you assay to do, do it well, and when that is accomplished then take another. There will always be something to do, but whatever it is, let it be done well.

An ingenious plan by which a large army may be destroyed by one person without danger to himself has been devised by a French chemist, who intends proceeding to Constantinople with the object of obtaining the Sultan's permission to try the effect of his scheme in the first instance on the Russians in Roumania. He proposes to effect his purpose by a system of land torpedoes concealed beneath the ground over which the invaders must march as they advance towards Turkish territory. These torpedoes will be all connected together by wires, and will be exploded simultaneously at the proper moment by means of an underground wire carried to a convenient distance. If successful he will make no charge as regards the destruction of the Russians in Roumania, but he will require a large sum (to be paid in advance) for performing a similar service as regards the Russians in Asia Minor.

Hints to Farmers.

A bare pasture enriches not the soil, nor fattens the animals, nor increases the wealth of the owner.

One animal well fed is of more value than two poorly kept.

The better animals can be fed, and the more comfortable they can be kept, the more profitable they are—and all farmers work for profit.

Ground once well ploughed is better than three poorly.

Bountiful crops are more profitable than poor ones. Make the soil rich, pulverize it well and keep it clean, and it will generally be productive.

When you see the fence down, put it up; if it remains until to-morrow, the cattle may get over.

What ought to be done to-day, do it to-morrow it may rain.

The Kitchen.

A strong horse will work all day without food; but keep him at it, and he will not last long.

At the kitchen, and work toward the front as we are able. Let the kitchen closet be well stocked, even though the parlor suffer a little. Surely the health of the household and the comfort of the women folks should stand above other considerations.—Ez.

Sheep-Ticks.

Ticks on sheep are very annoying and prevent the animal from attaining full condition. The sheep-tick is a very hardy insect, and difficult to get rid of. The easiest method of ridding a flock of them is to wait until shearing time, when they will all leave the old sheep and gather upon the lambs. Then provide a tight box, large and deep enough to dip a lamb's body into it. Procure two or three pounds of strong plug tobacco, tear into shreds, and steep it in boiling water, at the rate of five gallons to a pound of tobacco. To this liquid add a quarter of a pound of flowers of sulphur to each five gallons. Then immerse the lamb's body in the tub for half a minute, so that the whole is covered except the head and feet in the tobacco juice. Then lift the lamb out of the tub and let it loose in a clean yard or shed. This will kill the tick. As a precaution against these troublesome pests, the lambs should be dipped in this way every season after shearing time.

Ploughing or Burning.

The time was when it was thought that everything on the top of the ground should be ploughed under, and that a crop of weeds, grass, and dilapidated cornstalks would materially benefit the soil. That they possess some value is an admitted fact, and if turned under in the fall season, so that they will rot by spring, are of some advantage to the soil; but should they remain until spring they should be burned. The insect worm is possessed with wonderful powers of multiplication, and we know of no method equal to good burning to destroy them. In the early settlement of the country, when the prairies were burned regularly every year, many insects now common and injurious were unknown. We think we can in a very great measure attribute their absence to these fires. Lands thus cleansed are more easily cultivated than those not so treated. Many noxious seeds are destroyed and farm implements do their work much more perfectly than when they are dragging through great masses of weeds and grass. These considerations induce us to advise the burning over of fields before ploughing, and we believe all doing so will be pleased with the experiment.—Journal of Agriculture.

Curing Hams.

A New York farmer gives the following as his rule, instead of the old way of salting them down: For preserving beef my recipe is six gallons of water, nine pounds of salt, three pounds of sugar, one gallon of molasses, three ounces of saltpetre and one ounce of saleratus. I mix these ingredients and heat to a boiling point, skimming off all the impurities. When cold I pour it on the meat. I do not rate the amount of materials according to the amount of meat, but mix in the proportions given and use enough of the mixture to cover the meat I wish to preserve. I find that this method cures the hams and leaves them tender and juicy. They never get hard. I leave the hams in the pickle from four to six weeks, according to their size. It takes longer to cure large hams than it does small ones. I always move the hams after they have been in the pickle three days—take them out and pack them over. This is necessary, for when they are closely packed together some parts of the hams do not have a chance to be penetrated by the pickle. I keep beef in the same way, except that I would boil over the pickle before warm weather in the spring. The finest hams we ever used were of a pig frozen with fresh meat and so kept till spring, and then put into a pickle just long enough to "corn through," say ten or twelve days, when it was smoked and eaten. It was as sweet and tender as a chicken.—Vermont Farmer.

A CONVENIENT WAY TO MEASURE LAND.

It is frequently desirable to measure a given plot of ground or a portion of a field, and a simple method, such as the following, for which we are indebted to an exchange, will be of use to many of our readers. Surveyors are not always at a convenient distance to attend to such little jobs, and even when they do reside in the immediate vicinity, one does not always care to incur the expense incident to such a small job. If the lines are already established, the plot can be measured with sufficient accuracy by the following method. Procure a stick of pine, white wood, basswood, or almost any other timber, one and a half inches square and sixteen and a half feet long. Dress each end, tapering from the middle, so that the pole will be one and a half inches square at the middle and about half an inch square at each end. Such a pole will be light and quite stiff. Now graduate one side with the marks representing feet and inches, and graduate another side to indicate a surveyor's links. A pole one rod in length must be equal to twenty-five links. To divide one side correctly, let a mechanic's compass be adjusted, so that the points will divide the distance into twenty-five equal spaces or links. A line can be measured with such a pole nearly as accurately with a surveyor's chain. Now, then, if a person does not understand how to multiply chains and links, let him compute the measurement by square feet. In one acre there are 43,560 square feet. Any intelligent school-boy can measure the length and the breadth of a square plot, multiply one by the other, and divide the product by 43,560, which will give the number of acres, and the number of square feet representing the fraction of an acre. If it is desirable to measure a triangular plot, two sides of which lay at right angles, measure these two sides, multiply the distance in feet one by the other, and divide that product by two, which will indicate the number of square feet, by 43,560, and the quotient will represent the number of acres.

Jersey Cattle.

The Jerseys are essentially butter cows, and in quantity of milk are admitted to be inferior to the Ayrshire, Dutch and Short-horns, though in richness their milk yields from twenty to twenty-five per cent. of cream, while the ordinary cow's produce averages only twelve and a half per cent. Their native pastures in the islands are of the richest kind of feed, and as the flush of spring grass comes in, the Jersey farmer tethers his cow and restricts her feeding to a circular range of about twelve feet, where she is forced to eat down the grass as clean as though it were mowed. She is usually moved forward several times during the day, but only two or three feet at a time, to prevent her trampling down the grass. By this mode of pasturing, cows are known to have produced an average of fifty-one pounds of rich yellow butter in the single month of May or June. Their winter food is ten to twenty pounds of hay daily to each cow, a faggot of straw, with ten to twenty pounds of parsnips, white carrots, turnips or mangel-wurzel are used; the two first-named roots in equal proportions, being preferred in the production of the best butter.

Caring Hams.

As fattening cattle they have but few good points, though their flesh is fine-grained, high colored and of excellent flavor. The best breeders esteem a large yield of milk as a serious drawback in the value of the cow, since the animals which produce very large quantities afford proportionally less butter and of an inferior quality. At home the Jersey cow is a family pet; the fawn color approaching to the tawny predominating in the more perfect specimens, resembling in color, shape and motion the fallow deer. The wooded scenery of their fields heightens the impression as the gentle creatures are seen grazing or standing listlessly under the shade of branching elm and leafy beech. The agriculture of these islands lacks the improved culture of the day, and had the development of the Jersey breed of cattle, now so justly celebrated in Great Britain and the United States, depended solely upon the skill and enterprise of the farmers of the Channel Islands, the world at large would still be in ignorance of their superiority in dairy qualities over other breeds.—American Cultivator.

NEEDLESS INCONVENIENCES.—W. B. writes in the Country Gentleman on such absurdities, and we wonder, as we read, whether there is much practical common sense among us, after all our boast of progress.

Any person possessed of ordinary powers of observation can not fail to discover a great deal of unnecessary work, which, by a little forethought might be dispensed with. I do not now speak of those who fail to provide themselves with proper implements for doing work, and in this way waste time enough each year to more than replace them with the best and most approved patterns. I intend to speak of inconveniences, some of which exist on almost every farm. All are to have their failures in some particular, no matter how well arranged their business may be as a whole. I have seen premises apparently well ordered otherwise which were unpro-

Canadian Crop Prospects.

The Pembroke Observer says:—The fall wheat in this section looks exceedingly well just now, and promises to give a fine yield. Unfortunately, however, there is very little sown in this country. It failed almost completely during the past couple of years, which has had the effect of preventing much being sown this season.

Sowing and planting is not very far advanced, and farmers generally unite in saying that never was there a more favorable seedtime. The want of genial showers of rain, however, is beginning to be felt, the rain which fell a night or two ago being insufficient to wet more than the surface of the ground.—Prescott Plaindealer.

Farmers from the surrounding country districts are in capital spirits regarding the present spring time, which appears to be extremely favorable to agricultural operations. A good deal of sowing and planting has already been done in the surrounding settlements, much of it being at least a fortnight earlier than it was effected last year.—Richmond Guardian.

The crops are looking finely through the country, lacking only rain to make them the best they have been for years.—Belleville Intelligencer.

Much now depends upon the harvest, and never have farmers' work and the weather been watched with so much anxiety as will be entertained this season. So far all has gone most favorably. Some are inclined to become apprehensive at the continued dry weather, but experienced farmers assure us that no harm would ensue if rain did not come for a week longer. If the ground is thoroughly warmed first, and then warm rains follow, all the better.—Lindsay Post.

The fall wheat in this neighborhood never looked better, and promises an abundant harvest. Owing to the present high prices of grain and the favorable weather for seeding, an unusual quantity of grain has been put in the ground.—Victoria County Letter.

A Hamilton correspondent writes:—The weather has been so much warmer during the last three or four days, and though the farmers from all parts of Wentworth County represent both spring and fall crops as looking remarkably well, and much more forward than usual at this season of the year, still they appear to be very anxious for rain, especially those having spring crops, especially those having some what baked and hard from the beating rain which fell some time ago. Taken altogether, however, rarely have the crops been more promising, and as a much larger area has been seeded down this spring, in view of the Russian-Turkish war, if no untoward state of the weather occur an abundant harvest may be expected. The dry spring was very favorable to seeding, and the late showers have had the effect of greatly quickening vegetation. The prospects of good crops of all kinds in this neighborhood are very favorable, and with the high prices induced by the Russo-Russian war, farmers may anticipate more prosperous times than they have recently been favored with.—Arapric Review.

So far as we can learn the prospect for the crops throughout Ontario, at present, are unusually favorable. The fall wheat is secured against almost everything, except wet weather during harvest. It has come through the winter in perfect safety, and is now sown in perfect security, and is so vigorous, that it can stand a good deal of drought, if there should be that to content with. Of spring grains, there has been a large breadth sown, especially of wheat, and so far no improvement on the position could be asked for.—Montreal Witness.