

Every farmer should make calculations to raise some of the common or ENGLISH TURNIP. For the table they are unequalled, are cultivated with great ease, and while they remain in good condition, are excellent food for sheep, cattle, &c. The soil best adapted to the turnip, is one abounding in vegetable mould, and hence newly cleared lands are found to produce the best roots. Such soils too are exempt from worms, which are apt to infest long tilled or highly manured land. When we have not had such a piece of land at command, we have generally succeeded in getting good turnips, by turning over in July, a piece of green rich turf, rolling it smooth, and then harrowing until sufficient loose earth for a seed bed was provided. There is so much danger of over-seeding in sowing turnips, that an old sower recommends to the farmer when going to sow turnips, to leave his seed at home. If too thick there can be no crop, and thinning, a work of considerable labour, must be adopted. Where such a small quantity of seed only can be used, it can rarely be distributed equally; and hence it has been found a good practice to mix the seed with sand or ashes for sowing, as that permits a more equal deposit of the seed. A very fine light barrow should be used for covering the seeds; and where such a one cannot be had, brushing them in may be practised. One thing must not be forgotten, and that is, unless your lands are *clean*, it is idle to expect a crop of turnips. Much benefit has been derived to the young turnip plant, particularly if attacked by the fly, by spreading or rather sowing ashes, pretty liberally over the field.

Some have strongly recommended the cutting of the Canada thistle in the last of the July moon, as an effectual cure for this weed. Now though we have no faith whatever, in the influence of the moon in the matter, yet as the plant must have reached that period of its growth approaching to maturity, it is evident the roots must be more exhausted than at any other period of their growth, and hence when cut at this time will be less likely to recover from the injury cutting produces. In any event cutting can do no harm; and the farmer who at any time allows the thistle to ripen its seed on his farm, is doing not only himself, but others, a serious injury. We have known many farmers allow their thistles to stand as long as they could without shedding their seeds, and then cut them. In this way little or no benefit, so far as the seed is concerned, is derived from the cutting, as the juices of the plant will mature the seed, and they will be scattered by the down almost as widely as ever. When allowed to stand so long, they should, when cut and dried, be raked into piles and burned; and we may add, that another kindred pest of the farmer, Johnswort, should be cut and treated in the same way.

We wish that some of our farmers would try the experiment of sowing some corn broadcast for fodder. Some experiments that have been made, seem to show that this would be one of the easiest methods of making winter fodder known; and it would certainly be a kind of food highly relished, and very nutritious to all animals. The trials made, indicated that from eight to ten tons of food could be grown on an acre. From two and a half to three bushels of corn may be sown per acre; but there can be little hope of success, unless the soil is clean and rich.

HARVESTING GRAIN.—Millers have long been aware, and farmers have generally admitted that wheat or other grain cut a few days before it is perfectly ripened, will make more and better flour than if suffered to stand too long before harvesting. There seems to be enough of the developed juices in the stem and ear to perfect the filling of the kernel, while the envelope or bran does not become as thick, dark, and hard, as when the cutting is too long delayed. Grain that is lodged or struck by the rust or mildew, should always be cut with the least possible delay, as in the first case the straw becomes worthless while the kernel will not improve; and in the last instance, the longer it stands the more rapid and extensive will be the deterioration of both the straw and the grain. Cutting prevents the accumulation of more of the juices in the straw, where the already ruptured vessels and cuticle prove they are not wanted, and the appropriation of those that remain will be carried on by the kernel, until the stem is dried. Grain cut before it is fully ripe, threshes with more difficulty than that which stands till fully matured, but since the general introduction of machines, this objection has not the weight that formerly belonged to it. There are various ways of putting up the sheaves of wheat in the field to cure, before they go to the stack

or barn. Some put six together, pressing their heads into as small a space as can be, and then capping them with a seventh; some put a dozen sheaves together by two's, and cover the tops with two sheaves placed butts together in the centre, but unless it is necessary the grain should stand a long time before carting, as good a way as any, perhaps, is to set up the sheaves by two's, merely leaning them gently against each other, and without any capping at all. This system is practised by our most extensive wheat growers, and while it requires less labor than any other mode of setting up, is found to occasion as little loss, and give full as much security to the grain, as any that can be used.—When, however, it is necessary that grain should stand several weeks in the field, it should as soon as dry be put up in small stacks of six or eight shocks each, and well capped and secured against rain.

THE TRUE DOCTRINE.—Men may preach, or write, or talk about the respectability of this or that profession, but it will avail little or nothing, unless that profession is taught to respect itself, to understand its true position and its claims, and true means of enforcing them. No man of sense can deny that the profession of agriculture is one of the most honorable, useful, and indispensable: that it is the oldest of the arts, and should—other things being equal—entitle those who practice it to the front rank in society. To what then is it to be attributed that the farmer has been kept in the back ground, and what by courtesy have been called the learned professions, allowed to take the precedence in all public matters, even to the legislation on topics which interest the farmer almost exclusively, and which he does, and should understand better than any one else? This question we have never seen more satisfactorily answered than in an address delivered at Grenada, Miss., by A. C. Banc, Esq., before a meeting convened to devise the ways and means of building and endowing a college at that place, and for a copy of which we are indebted to the author. From this address we shall make a few extracts, confident the truths they contain will commend them to the readers of the *Cultivator*:—

“I confess it is one of the most lamentable marks of the present and preceding ages, that it is deemed unnecessary to educate a man's son for a farmer. If one of a family is to be educated, he is not designed to till the soil; but it is to be placed in a learned profession. Why is not tilling the earth a profession as *learned*, and as useful, and as honourable, as any on the globe? Because you degrade it. Every boy whom you educate, you instil into him the belief that he is above the calling of his father. You teach him that the cultivation of the earth is servile. But educate him for this great employment; talk to them of its usefulness and nobility while they are boys; and my word for it, the next generation will not have passed away until the profession of a planter will be a *learned profession*. And you will see the young, the generous, the talented, age and ambition, pressing into it with the same eagerness that they crowd to what is at this day called the learned professions. * * *

It is one of the most astonishing, but tolerated errors, in the history of mankind, that it should be unnecessary to educate a farmer.—Why the cultivation of the soil was the first employment of man! It is a condition of his existence, and requires a high order of mind to manage it successfully. And it is a fatal mistake that has degraded the minds of intellect for centuries, to suppose that a farmer need not be educated. It is essential; no man can fill that high station and dignity—that first office within the gift of his Maker—with honor to himself, benefit to his race, and glory to his God, without an education;—without some proficiency in the science of human happiness. He ought to be instructed in the physical sciences, and he ought to be able to analyze his soil, and tell you its composition; and the effect upon a given production, of the excess or absence of given constituents. He should be a good political economist. He should understand the law of production, consumption, of distribution, of supply and demand. Every man should deem his son *actually disqualified* for this noble employment, until he has at least learned this much.”

Let such sentiments as are inculcated in this address, become prevalent at the south, and they will offer a sure guarantee against opinions which are most ruinous and destructive; against the idea that all labor is of necessity servile and degrading. Teach mankind that there is such a thing as honest industry, honorable and