

experienced in the seasons in this climate, is by *steadily pursuing a system of thorough and liberal cultivation*. Root crops, as turnips, mangel wurzel, carrots and parsnips, may be said with the strictest truth to be the farmer's sheet anchor. In Spring particularly, when the temperature increases and the ordinary food of cattle usually runs short, what an advantage it is to have a supply of succulent roots. How invaluable are such kinds of food for milch cows and breeding stock of every description; premising of course that they are given judiciously, with a proper admixture of hay and straw.—Carrots are excellent for horses, particularly in spring, tending to purify the blood, and promoting a generally healthy state of the animal; and the same observation holds good as respects roots for young stock of every kind.

It is of the last importance that the soil be thoroughly prepared for the reception of the seed. Much of the failure of all kinds of crops during the dry, hot weather which characterises the summers of this climate might be obviated, by deep cultivation and judicious manuring. It is a well ascertained fact that during the drought of summer, the most deeply cultivated soils are (other circumstances being equal) precisely those which sustain the healthiest vegetation; the moisture in the earth having an opportunity of ascending within the reach of the roots of plants by the force of what is called capillary attraction. The first object, therefore, with the farmer in Spring is to obtain a deep and fine seed bed. Land ploughed in the fall—a practice generally to be recommended—will frequently require ploughing again in the Spring, as the particles of heavy soils are apt to adhere and consolidate by the action of heavy rains. A powerful Cultivator, when ground has been ploughed in the fall, might be used with advantage in Spring, and save a second ploughing.

Those who pay proper attention to the drainage of their land, either by furrowing, ditching or under-ground draining will experience the benefit of that important and necessary practice by having the soil both drier and warmer, and more readily brought into a fit state for early sowing. The advantage will also be obvious in the final result, in crops of greater quantity and of superior quality. We are not the advocates in all circumstances of *early sowing*; the state of the soil, and its elevation above the level of our great lakes must be considered, or the severe Spring frosts incident to the higher elevations will be sure to destroy the tender vegetation.—As a general rule we should seek to improve the natural climate of the country by clearing, drain-

ing and superior cultivation; under these circumstances early sowing may be resorted to with safety and profit, and the growing season prolonged, which in this climate, especially in the case of cereals, is a matter of very great importance. Between the periods of sowing and reaping the interval is frequently too short to admit the full maturity of a plump and heavy grain.

The farmer cannot be too careful in selecting the seed of the various crops he cultivates. This common sense precaution, however, is most lamentably neglected; and to this circumstance alone may be fairly attributed a large share of the scantiness and inferiority of many of our crops. We say to our readers then, sow no other but clean, well grown and thoroughly ripened seed; such seed may give you some trouble to obtain, and will cost a little more than inferior seed with a mixture of weeds, but you may depend that it will be extra care and expense well bestowed and incurred.

We may just advert in conclusion to the importance of sufficiently covering all kinds of small seeds with fine earth. Although there are no doubt large quantities of worthless seeds palmed upon the public either by dishonest or careless dealers, yet we feel bound in candor to say that the fault of failure does not always lie with the dealer, but that it is frequently committed by the farmer himself. All small seeds, particularly such as turnips, clover, &c., require both a fine tilth and sufficient covering, in order that they may vegetate. But how frequently does the farmer neglect these conditions, and then unreasonably, and often unjustly, blames the seedsman for selling him old and worthless seed! We strongly recommend our readers never to sow the smaller kinds of seeds without first testing their vitality, which is easily done by putting a small quantity in some moistened earth and exposing it to a warm temperature. Being satisfied that the seed is good, you have only to comply with those necessary conditions, which nature has imposed as essential to vegetation and healthy development. Warmth, moisture, exclusion from light, but not from air, are those principal conditions. Of all modes of depositing the seed of most of our grain crops, drilling appears to be the safest and the best; and as our farms get cleared of stumps and stones, the use of the drill will no doubt become better understood and appreciated.

A concluding word or two in reference to Clover, a plant of the greatest value as food for Stock, and for renovating the soil. That farmer, who instead of exhausting his land by a constant repetition of grain crops, seeds down alternately