

ation, the crops being far better than this very peculiar summer left room for expecting to see. Indeed, except the oats, all the crops are very good.

*The root-crop* consists of 8 acres of swedes, 5 of mangle's, and 4, or so, of white carrots. Mr. Boden does not grow the "White Belgians," because, as he says, it grows so much out of the ground that it is liable to be broken in the pulling. We have always grown this sort ourselves, as it is an immense cropper, and if the workers will only pull the carrots *straipht* out of the ground there is not much danger of loss.

*The swedes* are a superb crop, though, in our opinion the drills are unnecessarily wide apart: not less than 30 inches, as are the mangels. Two feet intervals are quite enough in this climate for all sorts of roots and for potatoes too, except such as run to great length of haulm. We should like to have seen the drills pulled down more in the case of the swedes and mangels. In Scotland, owing to the superabundance of the rainfall—particularly on the West side of that country, (1)—we know that it is the custom to leave the drills intact, and even to earth them up, after the hoeing, by hand and horse, is finished; but, here, it is quite unnecessary. Pulling down the drills, in our opinion, increases the size of the roots, and, by exposing fresh surfaces to the air, helps the preparation of the, as yet, raw plant-food to serve the purpose for which it is intended.

*The stock* consists of a herd of 75 Ayrshires and 1 half-bred Jersey, and about 80 hogs; Yorkshires and Berkshires. The cows are a regular good practical sort, looking like abundant milkers, though, perhaps, the *pelvic arch* of some of them might not please our American friends! The list of prizes won by the herd, last year, is a very long one. (2) The pigs are a nice lot, evidently intended to serve for the bacon market. They get plenty of exercise and are now (August 9th) feeding off the *second-growth of rape*.

*Fodder-crops*.—A large extent of fodder-crops are grown on this farm. The lucerne (alfalfa) was being mown for the third time, and several

(1) Mr. Boden is from Ayrshire. Ed.

(2) Last year, 34 prizes, 17 of which were first prizes.

Ed.

acres are sown, at intervals of a fortnight, of a mixture of vetches, pease, and oats, at the rate of 12 pecks to the acre *10.2 pecks to the arpent*. We confess that, for the purpose of cutting for green-meat, when the vetches and pease are just in blossom, we should prefer a little heavier seeding.

*The buildings* are as nearly perfection as possible. Ventilation and light have been carefully studied, and the cowhouse must be a bright and lively place for cattle to pass the dull months of our long winter in. A 12-horse power steam-engine does all the work of food-preparation, including the *chaffing*, so to speak, of the maize to fill the 3 large siloes. All the milk goes to Montreal.

The roads and divisions are perfect, as far as they are finished; only a little bit of road-work remains undone: near the Ste-Marie road.

The general management of the estate is excellent, and it would be a good lesson for some of our farmer-friends in the more backward parts of the country to look carefully over this well cultivated estate, and to compare its appearance and crops with the appearance and crops of its neighbours on each side.

We forgot to say that Mr. Boden, like ourselves, thinks that it would pay very well to give a good dose of nitrate of soda to the mangel-crop, but that, at present prices here, it is out of the question. He uses a small dose of superphosphate to start the swedes. The rest of the manuring is done with farmyard dung.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent at Mr. Reford's farm, on August 23rd, when there were present Mr. Grisdale, agriculturist at the Ottawa Experiment-farm, Mr. A. G. Gilbert, poultry manager of the same establishment, and several other well known leaders of the agricultural class.

After dinner, a very agreeable *causerie* took place, in which a good deal of valuable information about practical farming was exchanged. The cattle, poultry, etc., were then inspected, and the party visited the root-crops, lucerne and maize fields, at all of which great satisfaction was manifested by the visitors.

We must congratulate Mr. Boden on the perfect success that attended this very pleasant meeting. (1)

(1) More in our next. Ed.