

transplanting, the earth must be caused to come in contact with the point or lower part of the root—*this is an important object*. The ground should be plowed or dug up previous to planting.

Every variety of cabbage grows best in a strong rich, substantial soil, rather inclining to clay than sand, but will at the same time, grow in any kind of soil, if it be well worked and abundantly manured with well rotted dung, and the after culture well attended to. I would recommend to hoe them while the dew is on, at least once a week.

Should your early cabbage have an inclination to burst ere you are prepared to use them, you may lift them sufficiently to start or disengage the roots, (partly,) and this will retard their growth.

It is well known that the turnip fly will destroy young cabbage plants &c., soon after they crack the ground, and often it is laid to the imperfection of the seed.

To guard, therefore, against this fly, sow your cabbage on top of your root-house, or in a box or mound which may be elevated several feet above the level of the ground, as in their flight, they attain but to a trifling elevation.

CELERY.—There are several sorts of this plant, but the propagation and cultivation are the same. The whole of that part of the year during which the frost is out of the ground, is not at all too long for getting fine celery; it should be started in a hot-bed, and *pricked out* into a bed made very fine, and this should be done with care; it should afterwards be watered gently—once will answer, and then they may be shaded for a few days. In this bed they may stand till the last of June, or about that period, and then may be transplanted in the trenches; make the latter about four feet apart, one foot wide and one foot deep; throwing out the earth equally on both sides of the trench; the ground in which you make the trenches may be in a solid state. Along the trenches put some good compost manure, consisting partly of wood ashes, not fresh dung; dig in the manure and make all very fine. Take your plants and trim them of the long roots; shorten the tops, pick off all the side shoots or off-sets, and plant them six inches apart. You may hoe them with a small hoe, and as they advance in growth earth them up, but not too much at one period, lest you smother them. In going through this process, hold up the leaves, that the earth may not get between the outer and inner ones.

LEEK.—This is a vegetable which for certain purposes is preferred to onions. The time for sowing is as early in the spring as the weather and the ground will permit. Sow in drills of fine earth eight inches asunder, and thin the plants to three inches apart in the row. Keep the ground clean till about the first day of July; then take the plants up, cut the roots off to an inch long and cut off the tops of the leaves, but not too low down; make deep drills with a hoe at two feet apart, plant the leeks in these drills with a setting-stick, fastening them well in the ground and leaving the drill open. As the plants grow, put to their sides the earth that came out of the drill; after that draw more up to them on each side from the interval, and if your ground be really good, each leek will have attained a sufficient size for use.

LETTUCE.—All kinds of lettuce will have arrived at greater perfection by being transplanted in good ground. The tennisball and other small kinds will grow within six inches

of each other, but the royal cape, grand admiral, and the large cabbage kinds should be set one foot apart each way. In transplanting, you will be careful to allow some of the original earth to adhere to the roots of your plant when you detach the same from the seed bed.

ONION.—Of the several kinds of onions, the red and yellow are the most profitable as a general crop; and of all the varieties, (potato onion excepted,) these will keep best through the winter. The New England White is a mild, pleasant onion, but not good for keeping. All the varieties propagated by seed require the same culture.

The onion will grow best in a moist and loamy soil, although they will grow in soil, partially sandy, if well rolled after sowing. Previous to sowing onion seed for a general crop, the ground should be well prepared by digging in some of the oldest and strongest manure that can be got. The earlier this be done in the spring the better, and the planting should not be delayed longer than the middle of April, if the season will permit. The seeds may be sown moderately thick in drills, from half an inch to one inch deep, and twelve inches apart.

When the plants are up strong they should be hoed. Those beds that are to stand for repening, should be thinned out while young, to the distance of two or three inches from each other. If a few should be required for use after this, those can be taken which more incline to tops than roots, and if the beds be frequently looked over, and the small and stalky taken away where they stand thickest, the remaining bulbs will grow to a large size.

The plants should be hoed at least three times in the early part of their growth; but if the season prove damp and weeds vegetate luxuriantly, they must be removed by the hand, because after the onions have begun to bulb, it would injure them to stir them with a hoe. When the greenness is gone from the top of the onions it is time to take them up, as from this time the fibrous roots decay. After they are pulled they should be laid out to dry, and when dry removed to a place of shelter. The small onions may be planted in the spring. Even an onion which is partly rotten will produce good bulbs, if the steep stems be taken off as soon as they appear.

PARSLEY.—Parsley is a hardy biennial plant, and grows wild in moist climates, but has been greatly improved by cultivation. The leaves of the common parsley are used as a pot-herb, and those of the extra curled kinds make a fine garnish.

These may be sown in the fall or spring in a cool situation, a quarter of an inch deep, with the earth pressed hard upon it; this process is indispensably necessary in dry weather. In addition to its utility as a culinary plant, it is highly ornamental in its first year's growth, as an edging for walks.

PARSNIP.—As the seed of this vegetable is so long sown ere it vegetates, it is recommended to sow as early in the spring as possible; drill culture is preferred; the seeds to be sown in the drills, fifteen inches apart, and thinned out to four inches. Soil and preparation the same as the beet. That part of your crop of parsnips that you may not want until spring, may be left in the ground, and those dug in the fall, may be packed in dry sand or sandy earth.

SEA-KALE.—This being found on the shores of Great Britain, forcing its vegetation through gravel and sand, has led a great many to be-

lieve that such a soil as the latter would be the best for its culture; but it is now found by experiment, that the soil suitable for the Asparagus, will suit this vegetable also. It is a hardy perennial of long duration, and may be raised from the seed or pieces of the root.

Its earliness makes it more valuable, and when blanched, it is highly esteemed as a culinary vegetable.

[Sea-kale is a much more useful plant than it is usually supposed to be. A little salt applied as manure greatly promotes its growth.]—Ed.

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URATE.

This fertilizer has not been very extensively used, as yet, in our country, and few are aware of its nature, or the process by which it is formed. Every one must have noticed on entering a stable, or other place where horses are confined, a very peculiar and pungent odour, often affecting the eyes, and sometimes the throat, and creating nausea. This offensive principle is ammonia, one of the most powerful, and—contemplated in an agricultural point of view—most valuable of all the gaseous products of vegetable decomposition. Now if we sprinkle common gypsum, or pulverized plaster of Paris, we shall economize this volatile substance, and bring it to a condition readily available as a substance for plants. In its fertilizing character and properties, it is similar to *urate*, but not strictly the same.

It is asserted by manufacturers that from three to four hundred weight of urate form an ample dressing for an acre of wheat; but how much better would it be for the farmer to economize the liquid voidings of his domestic animals, in the manner here described, and apply it to his crops of hay, grain and roots, as his necessities or wants may require. All urine is rich in the food of plants; the urea and salts are all highly valuable, and no one who rightly reflects upon the subject, will willingly suffer it to be lost.

Another article of much value in economizing the liquid voidings of animals is sulphuric acid. It should be first diluted, say one gallon of the acid to one and a half gallon of water, and sprinkled over the manure heaps, or floors where animals are confined, every morning. Urine, in its fresh state, does not evolve ammonia; it is only when in the putrifying or fermenting process that this gas is given out or eliminated. Pulverized charcoal, and a solution of copperas, are also valuable, used for this purpose.

By attending to this matter the farmer may easily save a large amount of his richest fertilizers in a single season. His lands will be all the richer for it, repay him liberally and for all trouble and expense involved.

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REMARKS ON BREEDING HORSES.

Mares that have been well treated while young, (that is, not allowed to get stunted in growth,) may be used at three years old; but as a general rule, four is early enough to commence breeding them. From this age, good mares may be bred every year, if due care be paid to feeding, and not over-working them, till they are twenty years old. Beyond this age, they cannot be relied upon with much degree of certainty to breed, although in many instances they do, but it is by no means a general rule.