

in hot-beds and afterwards transplanted to open ground, and others were grown entirely without protection. The tables show that all these suffered as badly as other varieties. The account says—"seedlings, concerning which so much obviously unfounded expectation was entertained, proved no more exempt from the disease than old and long cultivated varieties."

The wild potato fared no better. We are told—"A perfectly wild form of the root, fresh from its native mountains, exhibited the characteristic blotches in a worse degree than any other sort in the garden."—*Ib.*

The practice of ploughing-in green crops was employed by the Romans to fertilize their lands; and in Italy it is still prevalent. The crops ploughed in are usually leguminous plants such as tares, buckwheat, peas, lupines with rape and mustard. In this country, when a large amount of green vegetable matter is ploughed into the land, it seldom undergoes a proper fermentation, without which it will not act as a manure, though it may have a mechanical effect in keeping the soil loose. As air, heat, and moisture are essentially necessary for fermentation in vegetable substances, it will follow that green crops will be productive of most benefit when ploughed in during warm moist weather, and consequently the practice will answer better in a warm climate like that of Italy, than it will in England. The time at which vegetables are best turned into the soil is when first coming into bloom, as there then will be the greatest bulk with the least injury to the soil by the growth of the plant.

Among the new systems of the present day, we have that of Mr. H. Davis, of Spring Farm, Croydon, to whom credit is due for bringing into notice his method of growing two crops at once, namely, beans and turnips: he thus secures a crop of turnips for feeding off in September and October. The land is then ploughed for wheat. Mr. Davis's system is far from being a modern one, though its want of novelty does not in any way detract from its merits, for by adopting his system of management and course of cropping, we shall find that very little addition can be made to the produce of arable land with the present knowledge of the science of agriculture. As to the advantage of thin sowing, so highly spoken of by Mr. Davis, we must leave others to consider, as it is in no way connected with the present subject.

Of the other systems of double cropping, we

may mention the common practice frequently seen in cottagers' gardens, of growing beans and potatoes on the same plot of ground, which might perhaps be extended to field culture. An early crop of potatoes may be grown, and then succeeded by another crop. When the first crop is not taken up till they arrive at maturity, a good second crop may be secured in the following manner. The distance at which the crop is planted is the usual one of two feet. As soon as the earthing up the crop is completed, another crop of potatoes may be planted in the intervals. These will then have ample time to grow: and when the first crop of early and short haulmed potatoes are taken up, the second crop may have the moulds ploughed or stirred between the rows.

Our treatise—if it is worthy of such a name—is now brought to a close. It has not, I am sorry to say, thrown any new light on this very important subject; for it has rather been the view of the writer to point out the practical operations by which a green crop may be beneficially introduced between crops commonly cultivated, than it has to prove that an addition can be made to the existing produce of arable land. However, sufficient has been said to show that independent of the increased produce of beef and mutton, that green crops introduced in the intervals that occur between crops commonly cultivated will have a beneficial effect on the fertility of the soil by the application of the manure produced by their consumption.—*Farmers' Magazine.*

**HOEING PARSNIPS.**—"Much has been said lately on the culture of the parsnip, respecting which you recently gave some valuable particulars. I have put some in this year for the first time, and shall feel obliged if you can tell me if any particular mode is to be followed in hoeing.—**ONE WILLING TO LEARN.**"—The following are the directions given by Col. Le Couteur, of Jersey, on this point, and the after cultivation of the crop:—

"When the plants are an inch high they are to be weeded,—this was formerly contracted for at the high price of £2 5s. per acre,—to be repeated thrice by hand in the season, and to leave them without a weed; but this extravagant mode has given place to hoeing, which can be done at less than half the cost, and is probably more beneficial, as it stirs the land deeper. In Guernsey a still more expensive mode is adopted, that of weeding with a