

there are stumps in it, or where a subsoil plough is not at hand, I have never found any better way than taking a common plough, and going as close as possible to the row of carrots, so as not to damage them, and then pull them over to the ploughed furrow, throwing them in heaps, and leaving room to pass again with the plough. In this way they have to be pulled out of the heap on the next row. It is best to plough two furrows for each row of carrots, one pretty broad, so that the furrow next to the row of carrots may be as deep and as close as possible. These have been the methods pursued on my farm; if there are better or quicker ways of taking them up, I shall be glad to hear of them.

Carrots, as long as they are growing in the ground, will stand a great deal of frost; but they should be secured as soon as possible after they are pulled, as they are then easier damaged by frost than the turnips are.

The principal advantages of carrots are, that they stand our summer droughts well, are very seldom injured by insects, make excellent feed for horses, cattle, sheep, and even pigs, and do not impart any unpleasant flavour to the milk of cows, as turnips do—but if the red or orange varieties are used, they give a rich colour even to winter butter.

The disadvantages attending their culture are—their slow growth at first, so that if the ground is weedy, there is danger of their being choked as they come up; then they are slow and tedious to hoe and weed, especially the first time over; moreover, they seem to be rather an exhausting crop on land; at least we never see the following crop as good after carrots as after turnips, mangolds or potatoes in the same field. I have generally found carrots, when grown alongside of turnips and mangolds, yield a greater quantity from the same amount of ground, but they have required more time and work in hoeing and cleaning.

I have occasionally, as an experiment, tried sowing carrots late in the fall, but with no decided advantage. They grew well enough, but were harder to hoe, grew very little, if any, larger than when sown in spring, and were very apt to run to seed.

Potato Planting.

To the Editor.

SIR,—As it is getting time for planting potatoes, I will give you my method and experience with regard to them. I planted mine in rows last season, some of which I manured heavily with stable manure, and the others with a mixture of lime (slacked) and unleached wood ashes in equal parts. This I put in the drills two inches deep, laying the sets about a foot apart immediately on top of the composition. When my potatoes began to grow—they were the kind known as Garnet Chili—I noticed that those which were manured with barnyard manure came up strong and rank, and perfected a much larger growth above ground than the others; but on digging I found the

result underground quite reversed. Those grown with lime and ashes had decidedly the advantage in the size of the tubers, and I would earnestly recommend the lime and ashes mixture to intending planters. My ground is sandy, and I feel sure it should have a much better effect on clay soil. Whilst on this subject, I may state that the Garnet Chili is esteemed in my neighbourhood as the best variety of potato grown, being early, of good size, without being hollow, and free from rot. The Early Rose here did prodigiously well, both in earliness and productiveness, but was by no means free from disease. I attribute this to the means used in forcing, that has been resorted to in order to supply the demand at the recent highly remunerative rates; but I do not think it will ever take the place of the Garnet Chili as a good keeper, free from rot, and so, and until the new crop comes in. The potato admits of being produced much earlier in the season than it generally is by a very little trouble.

For an early crop I put half a peck of some early variety, say Chilis or the Old English Ashleaf Kidney, into the corner of my hotbed at the end of March or the beginning of April; they will soon sprout, then as early as the frost is out of the ground, take them up and plant in a sheltered part of the garden, taking care to break the shoots as little as possible; have some straw at hand to cover the rows after they come up, should the weather look frosty—the object in covering them is that the growth may not be checked by the frost; the freezing of the tops does not by any means kill the plants. Potatoes are one of the easiest vegetables we have to transplant, and any scarce variety may be propagated very easily by cuttings from the tops, which may be stuck in flower pots in hotbeds, from six to twelve in a pot, according to its size, and afterwards transplanted into open air beds, and from thence re-transplanted into hills or drills, according to the approved mode of the cultivator. As a rule, however, I may remark that potato sets are planted very much too closely together, both in hills and drills. They ought to be at least eighteen inches apart, and in hills not more than two sets in each; the sets should be cut to two eyes, and if the potatoes are like the Chili, with few eyes in them, one is sufficient.

Potatoes started in a hotbed, or in a light warm room, and planted out in the early part or middle of April, according to the season, may be dug in the beginning of June for new potatoes, and a second crop of celery, white turnips, late cabbage, or any other late vegetable may be grown on the same piece of ground.

P. E. B.

Ottawa.

The cultivation of cinchona is greatly extending in British India, the Government plantation at Darjeeling being especially prosperous, where three distinct species of the Peruvian bark are cultivated with success, and nearly one thousand acres are under cultivation.

How Draining May be Done for Nothing.

I am satisfied that there are a great many farmers who would do some good jobs at draining if they knew how and where to begin, and if they could find the time. Many farmers do most of their work themselves, only hiring a little by the day at the busy seasons, and of course pay a round price for it. If they would hire by the month they would, of course, get the men much cheaper, as the day labourer has to get pay for the idle days by charging extra prices for the days he works. My advice and practice has been to hire help and give constant employment for the time agreed upon. Then, when there is no regular farm work pressing, I commence a drain. I begin at the lower end and work up hill, keeping the bottom nearly level till I get a depth of four feet, then keep it not less than that depth, letting the water run off behind me. This ditch digging I keep as knitting work, as it can be taken up at any time when there is nothing else to do, and can be left as readily. If I have any haying to do, and do not wish to start a machine till the dew is off, I say to my man, "You may go to your knitting work till I call you." If a shower stops work on the hay, or if it is too wet to hoe, or I have just finished some job, and do not want to begin another to-day, I say, "We will dig in that drain till chore time."

If I am going away with the team I let my man work in the ditch. Indeed, I have found a great many days when I should have had nothing for a man to do had I not a piece of draining on hand. Then again, had I not had a steady hired man, my regular farm work would have suffered severely at times. So the plan seems to work well all around. The man is sure of constant employment, and gets as much in a month as it he worked by the day, and I get more work for the same pay, and the man is just as well satisfied. He makes more time, but runs no risk of being unemployed.

I have done some jobs of draining that perhaps would have cost more than the land is now worth if I had had it all done at common day wages. But as it has been at odd times, when I should perhaps have thought it was not just the right kind of weather to hoe, but just the kind to go fishing, I really think I may reckon it as having cost almost nothing.

This kind of draining I recommend for small swales that are now worthless, and are giving no income except a little bedding hay. When the fall is sufficient, and small stones are plenty that may need to be put out of the way somewhere, they may be used for drains with advantage. I have done all my draining with stones. If I were on a clay farm, and wanted to drain it all at once and had the capital to do it with, I should probably use tiles and do it in a more business-like way.—Cor. in *Germantown Telegraph*.