

shall hereafter notice what may be done with the produce of four arpents of potatoes when we come to speak of the application of these drill crops; at present it may be observed, that such is the estimation in which this root is held, for feeding both man and beast; that the farmer who should neglect to cultivate potatoes would be looked upon as little better than a mad-man. It is not however from their intrinsic value alone that potatoes are pitched upon as the best crop for drill husbandry. They are chosen from the fact of their not requiring stable manure; an article which is always scarce with the farmer, when he commences to renovate old land; as he cannot procure it before he has raised crops to feed a stock upon. Potatoes contain a large portion of vegetable saline matter. This fact indicates that saline matter is the best description of manure for them; and experience has warranted this conclusion. Ashes from the stove or fire-place have been found equally good for potatoes as stable manure, and should the farmer choose to be at the expence, a top dressing of sea salt will be found preferable to either. When this last is used as a manure; after the sets are deposited and the ridge formed over them, it ought to be strewed over the surface in the proportion of about eighteen bushels to the arpent, and the succeeding year, the crop most suitable is barley, as the saline substance forms a larger constituent part of that grain than of any other.

Having in this way laid down one third of his field in potatoes, the farmer ought to plant another third with indian corn; a valuable crop which can also be raised without stable manure; for plaster of Paris (gypsum) or (if it cannot be had) ashes will form an excellent substitute as a manure for this grain.

For the remaining four arpents of his field the farmer will require his stable manure; and which is indispensibly necessary for raising the crop he ought to plant in them; that is for mangle-wurtzel; a species of root highly valued among farmers for every description of stock, and peculiarly well adapted for this climate. The cultivation of this root among the most intelligent farmers in the old country is fast taking the place of the turnip, as it is found to be fully more productive, and equally good for feeding stock; but what ought still more to recommend it to Canadian farmers, is its being exempt from the destruction of the fly, to which turnips are always subject in this climate on old land; and also from the fact of mangle-wurtzel standing the frost of winter better than turnips. To produce a good crop of this root there ought to be fifty loads of stable manure, each load containing eighteen bushels, laid upon every arpent of ground; when if the soil has been properly prepared by an autumn ploughing, the farmer may fairly calculate on a good return.

By pursuing the foregoing plan the farmer will find he will lay down his twelve arpents of ground to the greatest possible advantage for the present crops, and when these are harvested his soil will be, in such a state of clearness from weeds, that he may lay down his white crop along with his grasses the following year with a prospect of a plentiful return for after years, by simply pursuing a regular rotation of cropping. Although in some degree a degression from my original plan it may not here be improper to offer a few remarks as to the way in which the