

in the following order: clover, grass, oats, peas, other grains and corn. Clover and alfalfa sods form an excellent preparation for potatoes.

The wise man gives proper attention to the rotation of crops for his farm. The kind of farming, character of soil, proximity to market, amount of labor available, and many other features need to be considered in planning a rotation for the best results. As far as practicable it is a good plan to have each crop in the rotation a helpful preparation for the crop which is to follow. A rotation embodying a cleaning crop, a nurse crop, and a leguminous or fertilizing crop contains features of much importance. Potatoes form one of the best cleaning crops which



Machines for Cutting Potatoes for Planting.
(1) Small machine; (2) Large machine.

can be used in a rotation. The thorough cultivation of the potatoes leaves the land in an excellent condition for the crop which is to follow.

CULTIVATION OF SOIL, AND CUTTING AND PLANTING POTATOES.

Many of the questions regarding the cultivation of the soil, the preparation of the seed and the planting of the potatoes will be answered through the results of the experiments which are discussed in this bulletin. It seems necessary, however, to make a few additional notes under the foregoing heading.

Preparation of Soil.—Potatoes do exceptionally well after sod, and especially after clover sod. If fresh stable manure is to be used it is a good plan to plow the land deeply in the early part of the autumn, and at a later date to cultivate the soil and give it a dressing of manure, after which it can be put into ridges about thirty inches wide with a double mould-board plow. This protects the manure and the mellow soil in the ridges and enables the air and the frost to come into direct contact with the subsoil in the furrows. It is the practice of some potato growers to place the manure on the sod in the summer, autumn, winter or spring and to plow the sod with its top dressing of manure before planting time. If potatoes follow corn or roots the fresh manure is often used to advantage with the latter instead of the former. When potatoes come after a grain crop the stubble land is frequently worked on the surface as soon as possible after harvest in