

tionably will to the thrift and comfort of their domestic animals. A daily supply of roots to milch cows and breeding ewes at this season of the year, will tend both to increase their milk and improve their condition. Cows yielding milk should be liberally fed, and not turned out to pasture till there is a good bite of grass. But it is to be feared, owing to the scarcity of hay, that farmers will be seriously inconvenienced, especially should the spring, contrary to present appearances, prove late. Old musty hay can be rendered more wholesome and palatable by being steamed and salted, previous to its being fed to the stock; which require strict systematic feeding, both as to time and quantity, to be kept dry and warm, with the strictest attention to cleanliness. They should be kept in good lodges or stables, with a well littered yard to run out in during the day. Sheep will require special attention for a few weeks. Ewes about to lamb should be comfortably housed, but not too closely shut in, as no animal, perhaps, suffers so much as the sheep from want of ventilation and crowding together. Ewes after lambing may be allowed to run out into the yard or field in the middle of fine days, and a few roots, with a little ground grain or bran mixed with linseed, will greatly tend to keep them in a healthy and thriving state, and to increase their milk for their young. Lambs should not be exposed to either damp or cold at this season, and they are better kept under cover until they are several weeks old, or they will be likely to contract some disease, and die. Breeding sows require also special attention, and should receive liberal treatment, that they may afford their young an amply supply of milk.

All kinds of roots that have been kept in covered clumps in the open air, should be examined as soon as the weather will safely admit, and all rotten ones, or such as show symptoms of decay, removed. Swedish turnips especially ought now to be uncovered and examined, and a very

slight protection will be sufficient for them hereafter. It is a general fact that with regard to Swedes in winter, more injury is done from too much covering than too little. Turnips by heating soon run into fermentation, and become totally unfit for stock. The only preventive is to cover the heap more lightly, and in building it to leave perpendicular holes, filled with straw, to allow the heat to escape, and for ventilation. Potatoes should be carefully examined and culled; selecting good sound tubers for seed. Parsnips that have been left in the ground all winter should be taken up as soon as the frost is out, when they will be found fresh and in general sound. Such parsnips will be of the greatest service to milch cows and breeding ewes, at this time of year.

The mouths of covered drains, ditches, and furrows, should now be examined, and any obstruction found to exist should at once be removed. Wheat fields should be particularly looked at with this object, and much of the stagnant water may frequently be removed at a small cost. The farmer should see that his ploughs, harrows, and other implements of cultivation, are in efficient, workable order; ready to be put into operation whenever the opportunity arrives. He should be careful, however, not to commence ploughing before the ground has become tolerably sound and dry; for nothing is so injurious to the seed bed as working the land when it is in a wet condition. Our object in this article is to call the attention of farmers to the imperative necessity of being duly prepared for spring operations, leaving details to our following numbers.

REPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

We beg to remind the Officers of County Agricultural Societies that their Reports for the past year, with those of the Township Societies in their respective Counties,