

horses and pigs, consume it with avidity. No farmer ought to be without a small portion, at least, of this useful root, which is invaluable to newly-calved cows in early Spring.

The Swedish turnip is a root whose valuable qualities are too well known to need particular description. It has long constituted the sheet anchor of the British farmer. In this country its culture is more uncertain; but by the exercise of judgment and liberal culture, we have seen large and remunerating crops raised in Canada. Turnips in this country succeed best on new land, rich in organic materials. They should be sown in drills from 24 to 30 inches asunder, and well thinned out in the rows. The precise distance at which the plants should stand, is an important and somewhat difficult point to ascertain in practice, and depends on the nature and strength of the soil, the variety of the turnip, character of the season, and other circumstances. As a general rule, people are too apt to crowd their plants, thereby materially injuring the quality and amount of the crop. If sown too early, Swedish turnips are peculiarly liable to mildew. The latter end of May and beginning of June will, in general, answer best; and it is particularly important that the state of the ground and weather should be such as to hasten germination, and push the young plants into what is termed the rough leaf, when they are beyond the attacks of their fatal enemy the fly. The purple top variety may be considered as yielding generally the largest weight per acre; but Laing's improved—a finer and somewhat smaller kind—is better adapted to the market and domestic use. The Swedish turnip is hardy, and may be preserved through the winter in the field, in heaps, taking care not to cover too thickly, and to allow of ventilation by means of openings through the mass, otherwise the heat generated by the mass will set up fermentation and speedily effect decomposition. The Swedish turnip is an excellent fattener of stock, and in this respect is considered for practical purposes unrivalled.

Carrots and parsnips have of late years been introduced to field culture, but to a much less extent than turnips, even in the most agriculturally advanced countries of Europe. The Belgian variety of the carrot yields a large return when not sown too thickly; and it is much recommended for horses, especially in the Spring of the year, before there is a sufficient growth of grass for feeding. It is said that horses fed with small quantities of carrots through the Winter and Spring seldom, if ever, become broken-winded. Any kind of succulent food given in conjunction with dry fodder would, no doubt, be beneficial in that respect. Both carrots and parsnips are excellent for milch cows; as the flavor of the milk and butter is not thereby affected. These crops require to be sown early in drills eighteen inches apart, upon good, well and deeply prepared soil, and should be thoroughly hoed once or twice during the period of early growth, so as to keep the surface friable and entirely free from weeds. We would advise farmers to commence their culture of these crops on a small scale. Nothing short of thorough management will pay.

In this month the great bulk of field potatoes is planted, and the season so far has been quite favorable to the operation. The seed is generally sound, and the soil, except where naturally wet, is in a good state for the reception of the tubers. Of late years the potatoe crop has been too uncertain to be generally profitable, but with proper attention in preparing the land and selecting seed, and subsequent treatment, we may reasonably hope for a liberal return next fall. If the cases of failures, which of late have been so prevalent both in our root and cereal crops, were rigidly investigated, the principal cause, we suspect, would be found to consist in the imperfect preparation of the soil and the want of drainage.—These, with the too frequent repetition of wheat, are the occasion of nine-tenths of the failures and losses experienced by farmers.