

for in the latter case, a large majority of the roots, during the summer and autumn, do not derive advantage from it.

Early planting is, under almost all circumstances best; and the period, except for some very peculiar varieties, should never be later than the middle of the month of April.

I possess, though at present in small quantities necessarily, many new varieties, which promise to prove valuable both on account of the quantity and quality of their produce, and I shall be happy as soon as I have the power, to make them useful to the public. I obtained, in the last year, from some of these under culture with the plough, (the soil being shallow, and naturally poor, and manure not having been given, in more than ordinary quantity) a produce equivalent to more than 650 bushels of potatoes, of first rate excellence, per acre, and a good deal larger produce from others of inferior quality, but I have not any reason to believe that I possess any variety which, either in quality for immediate human food, or in quantity for affording food to the inferior animals, has reached, or ever approximated the greatest state of excellence which the potatoes is capable of acquiring.—*British Farmer's Magazine*.

A correspondent of the "Gardener's Magazine," writing upon the above question, recommends that potatoes should be planted whole; and adds,—“As a testimony, I will state an experiment of mine in 1828. I planted four plants, containing two eyes to each; four crowns, containing, perhaps, five or six eyes each; four small whole potatoes (what are here termed chats;) four large whole ones, or what are termed ware potatoes. Now, for the weight of the produce of each kind: the produce of the first four roots weighed 8lbs; that of the second four, 11lbs; that of the third four, 15lbs; that of the fourth four, 16lbs. I think this will make clear to any one, that the reverse of what is generally followed ought to be practised, namely, to plant crowns, or whole potatoes, in lieu of a plant with two eyes. This is even the second trial I have made, and found it the same; but I was not so particular in the first experiment as in the second, having determined by my eye, the difference was so obvious. I think this of the greatest importance to the agriculturalist. If it hold good for an acre, what a difference in the produce! The object of a little extra seed bears no comparison to the extra produce; and besides, the labour of cutting is saved.

To preserve Seed-corn from Worms and Birds.—Steep your corn in copperas water for 48 hours before planting. A pound and a half of copperas, dissolved in warm water, will be sufficient for three pecks of corn. This preparation is said to be a sure guard against the wire worm, and also against birds which will not eat it after they have pulled it up.

Hay-making.—In good weather, most crops of grasses can be secured without being shaken from the swath. My uniform practice for many years, says Colonel Powell, has been to allow my grass to remain nearly two days untouched, to gather it by a horse-rake, cock it in the hot part of the day, salt it, and place it in a hay-house which admits a free circulation of the air. My clover retains much of the colour of its blossoms and leaves.

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