would gain the ascendancy. We should be glad to hear our friend's opinion on the subject.

The plan we intend adopting in the present year, and in which we have heretofore succeeded, (for we are a sworn enemy to naked fallows, except on foul and stiff clays,) is as follows: We have an old ley (the clover nearly run out,) which we shall turn down as early as convenient and sow with oats very thickly, say four bushels per acre; these will cause a thick smother on the surface, which always promotes fertility, and will keep down and prevent the growth of most, if not all annual weeds; and should there be any perennials, such as thistles &c., they will not come into flower before the crop is ready to mow, which will be done as soon as the oats show any sign of putting forth the head. A crop of green oats is thus gained for fodder, to the amount *when dried* of a ton or more per acre,* salted when stacked, or in the barn. The land then is subjected (with the stubble,) to either a heavy drag or cultivator *across the furrows*, and may afterwards be gathered into ridges for wheat in the usual way. Another piece of five acres which is infested with wild mustard, so prevalent in this part, I intend treating in like manner, and mow as soon as the weed begins to come into flower. This will in the ensuing season receive a hoe crop,—and should not this bring the weed into subjection, shall repeat the process; as the land, from being manured for the hoe crop and the oats not suffered to come to perfection, will be kept in good heart.—We should be glad of the opinion of "A Cavan Farmer" of this plan.

* A much larger amount will frequently be obtained, but the loss in drying is very great.

The advantages of intercourse, one with another, cannot be too highly estimated in any department of life, and in all scientific researches such intercommunication is invaluable, for in every department of science or art, errors, quite unintentional, are liable to creep in, and be disseminated, and for want of correction by experience or enquiry, are calculated to produce most evil results.

The more any man, in any department of science knows, the more he feels a necessity for information to support and confirm him in his just views, or to correct any errors into which he may have unconsciously strayed; and with reference to agriculture this more particularly applies, as, what may be an undisputed fact in some circumstances, may be a positive untruth in others.

Our best and most practical sources of information (generally speaking) are derived, doubtless, from the Agricultural proceedings in Great Britain, because her agriculturists hold so prominent a situation, but in many instances our practice must vary very considerably from theirs, although they may be the best farmers on the globe. Our difference of climate and of seasons, and the adaptation of our crops to soil and climate, will differ materially: The application of the various crops we raise, the demand they may meet in a market, together with the question of remuneration, have all to be taken into account. In England it is common to sow wheat in January,—to plant early potatoes early in February,—sow turnips after stubble in August,—grow beans for horse-feed as a preparation for wheat,—winter vetches for soiling (or house-feeding cattle), which are ready to cut early in April,—to leave turnips on the ground to be consumed by sheep during the winter months. All these practices, and many more, we are precluded the benefit of. The various climes, their varied produce raise sufficient for the wants of man,—their advantages in some respects, counterbalanced by disadvantages in others.

We are apt, when judging by comparison, to envy some, which we are inclined to think more favoured nations, favoured by climate, soil, produce, demand, and consequent remuneration,—losing sight of the disadvantages ever attendant on every locality. True, our winters are long and severe, our summers fervid, our soils and plants subject to great extremes of heat and cold, and we raise with difficulty, amidst these vicissitudes, a crop of each or any sort in a year. But turn over the leaf,—look at Sweden and Norway; here is the epitome of their year. A Norway or Lapland summer, including what, in other countries, is called spring and autumn, consists of fifty-six days, as follows:—

June 23,—Snow melts.
July 1,—Snow gone.
" 9,—Fields quite green.
" 17,—Plants at full growth.
" 25,—Plants in full blow.
August 2,—Fruits ripe.
" 10,—Plants shed their seeds.
" 18,—Snow! again.

From this time to June 23d, the ground is everywhere covered with snow, and the waters with ice. In such a climate agriculture cannot flourish,—in fact it can never be an agricultural country, for, added to the uncertainty of getting a crop at all, is the still greater uncertainty of securing and harvesting it safely. The grain is found exposed in the fields in October, laid on racks to dry, on land deeply covered with snow and ice. From such vicissitudes Canada is free, and sufficient may be raised by industry, for both man and beast. A supply is obtained of a more nutritious kind than can possibly be grown in less favoured countries, advantageous to the agriculturist himself, as well as to all the creatures dependent on him, and on whom he reciprocally depends, as a source of supply and profit; and the better any description of Stock is kept, the greater the return yielded to the farmer, by the prevention of casualties, the additional ability for labour, the intrinsic value of the animal, the decided improvement in the progeny, and also by the additional richness of the manure, to be again conveyed to the land, to renovate and cause it to yield an increased supply for an extended demand; and for this purpose, we think it will be admitted by all, that "root crops" will be held in more estimation than ever, for it must be remembered that land, once really prepared and fitted for such crops, and these properly tended and successfully raised, is, by the very process adopted, and mode of culture employed, in the highest degree fitted for any succeeding grain crop.

Of course every farmer is aware, that while the country is but thinly populated and large towns rare, that no market can be found of much extent for this description of produce, but it must be converted into butter, beef, pork, and mutton, and, in that form, yield a return (not always very remunerative,) for the labour bestowed; but the farmer must remember that the expense of raising such a crop is little more than what is incurred by the labour on an unprofitable, naked fallow.

In our next number we propose to advert to the question of other root crops as a substitute for the potato,—not having room for it in the present number.

To the Editor of the Newcastle Farmer.

BREAKING UP OLD MEADOW & PASTURE AND NEW CLOVER LAYS.

Sir,—Unless you are as *thin skinned* as a *genuoyne* Yankee, you will not feel offended at the observations which I am about to make relative to the manner in which, according to my opinion, an agricultural paper should, in this country, be conducted. To be extensively useful, it ought to be adapted to the understanding and instruction of the *many*, and not, chiefly, to the comprehension and taste