

apt to crack and burst open the heads in the fall, and then they soon rot. About the middle of May I consider the best time, though I have sown as late as the beginning of June, and had a fair crop. As cabbages are bulky and would be troublesome to keep in large quantities through winter, I would not recommend any more to be grown than is required for feed before the middle of December, and some for family use through winter. They will be found excellent feed for milk cows in the fall, when the pastures are becoming bare, as all cows eat them with avidity and they impart no bad taste to either butter or milk; and I know of scarcely any kind of food that cows will give larger quantities of milk with than they do with cabbage. When grown on the above method there is less trouble attending them, and they are a larger and surer crop than when they have been transplanted. The weather, too, is often so dry that one cannot get them planted out in proper season; and even under the most favorable circumstances, it keeps the young plant a week or ten days back to transplant them.

I have often heard it asserted, that cabbages would not head well unless transplanted, but I think they actually head better when they are not transplanted; for among an equal number of transplanted and untransplanted plants I have always found the largest number of good sound heads, among the untransplanted ones.

It is likewise asserted, that cabbages are a very severe crop on land. For my part I have never observed the following crops any worse after them, than on the rest of the field, so that this objection need not hinder their more general cultivation.

Such of our farmers as live near to the towns and villages might grow them profitably for sale, but I speak of them here only as feed for cattle, in the ordinary course of farming.

A TENANT FARMER.

April 9th, 1853.

We append to our correspondent's article the following remarks on the Cabbage, from a recent number of that excellent periodical, *The North British Agriculturist*. The subject is one of no mean practical importance to Canadian Farmers:—

"The value of cabbage as a forage plant has never been fully appreciated by agriculturists. It is known to contain a large per centage of muscle-producing elements, and is therefore well adapted for young and growing stock. As an article of food for ewes, lambing in February and March, there are few plants better adapted. One of the chief difficulties in raising a large crop is the obtaining of proper seed. This dif-

culty, we believe, meets every extensive cultivator of the cabbage. The weight per acre which can be grown with some varieties, such as the Drumhead, or the Cow Cabbage, is very large; certainly double that of an ordinary crop of turnips. Last season, we saw at Cuning Park, near Ayr, and at Myremill, very large cabbages cultivated in the field. They would in all probability reach, by the end of the season, a weight something like 50 tons the imp. acre. The land, however, requires to be made rich; the plants placed wide apart, and the land frequently stirred during the summer. To those wishing to try the cultivation of this plant, for the first time for feeding stock, we request their attention to a paper read before the Royal Agricultural society of England, with the discussion which followed. The importance of saving seed from selected plants appears to have been universally admitted, and is the practice of all those who cultivate Cabbage upon an extensive scale.

"At the same meeting, a discussion followed on the cultivation of rape. We are more doubtful of the value of this plant for ordinary cultivation. Fields which we have seen growing did not impress us favorably with its adaptation for our agriculture. The suggestion made at the English Society was, however, rather to cultivate it for its oil, for which purpose it is extensively raised in some places on the Continent."

MR. RUTTAN'S SYSTEM OF VENTILATING.

DENISON TERRACE, April 26, 1852.

To the Editor of the *Agriculturist*:

DEAR SIR,—It is with pleasure I accede to your request by giving an account, such as I have at this hurried time been able to write, of the successful working of Mr. Ruttan's system of heating and ventilating my new house, which has now been in operation for the last three months under my own eye.

Before I go further, it is well to say, in these uncharitable times, that I am not writing a puff for Mr. Ruttan's benefit thoughtlessly at the expense of the public, on the contrary, I am writing at your request, and desiring to benefit the out-siders, for I am quite sure, the saving of wood alone, to say nothing of the pleasure and benefit of ventilation, would soon pay all the extra expense. So little is thought of ventilation by many, that they may say, Why not use any of the many kinds of furnaces already in use throughout the country, and save just as much in the way of wood?

I will endeavor to prove the necessity of ventilation to life by giving you the words of the Rev. John L. Blake, D.D., who says: