

MANGOLD CULTIVATION.

HORSE AND HARD HOE.—Twenty-seven inches between the plants in the row is more diversified, some singling out only eight inches apart, while others make twice the distance; twelve inches apart is common, but not so much so perhaps, as formerly, since an equal size of medium weight has been found the most profitable crop, from its containing more sugar. Thus with twenty-seven inches between the rows and singled out to six inches apart, there would be 38,720 mangolds per acre, which at three pounds per root would yield over 50 tons per acre, generally about the average crop in England. Manuring and watering newly braided mangolds, carrots, &c., is common, and especially can be recommended in a dry climate like Canada. As soon as the young plants begin to appear above ground, or rather when they begin to break the surface, the water drill is yoked, applying the liquid to two rows at a time. If the field is not more than a mile from the tank at the homestead, a man and cart with an active horse can do two acres a day, and if only half a mile four acres a day. The application not only secures an abundance of plants in the rows, but will prevent the ravages of the turnip fly. As the Swedes and common turnips braid, they may be watered, and if a small quantity of liquid or gas ashes from the gas works is dissolved in the liquid, the application will be the more effective against the fly. Liquid manure drilling in dry weather has much to commend it in general practice. Some liquid manure drills have a seed sowing apparatus combined with them, so that the two operations of liquid manuring and seed sowing are performed together by the combined machine; they also drop the liquid manure and seed at regular intervals, corresponding to the required distances between the turnips in the rows. Other liquid manure drills are only constructed for drilling the liquid, or for applying water or liquid manure to drilled crops; they are adapted for applying a larger quantity of liquid per acre, than the combined liquid manure or seed drills. The sowing of the seed follows by a separate machine; the use of them also gives rise to a difference in the covering of the manure, and thus some cover the manure as when the combined liquid and seed drill is used, others only half cover it. By the first plough, an opening is left on the top of the drill for the liquid manure; a second plough follows the liquid manure drill, setting up the ridgelet or drill in the usual way for the seed drill. By this practice a much larger dose of liquid per acre may be applied, and the seed is got better in than with the combined machines—advantages which more than pay for the extra team required to cover the manure. Liquid manure from the common water cart, has also been applied over the newly spread manure in the bottom of the drill; but the wheels of the water cart do harm to the manure, and when applied before the manure is spread, the wheels of the manure cart and the feet of the horses step and make holes and injure the land.

STRAWBERRIES.

By an exchange we see that 400 bushels of strawberries were shipped from Oakville in one day. That "Crazy Fool" previously spoken of, has done something for that place. It now appears to be the head-centre of strawberry culture in Canada. They are shipping from there to Toronto, Montreal, and we say it with disgrace, to our county, even to London, and far surpass the strawberries raised here. The prices paid have been highly remunerative; one farmer brought one load to this city and got \$107 for it. Why cannot we as farmers enjoy our strawberries? We do not believe one farmer in five in this county have ever raised a quart of strawberries. No fruit is more nutritious. Every family should have them. They are the best food you can give the children. Try to raise some next year. Why import such when we can raise them?

DOMINION DAY.

We paid a visit to Strathroy on that day, as an annual agricultural pic-nic was held there. Various amusements were carried forward and a band of music enlivened the day. It is well to have a day for an occasional gathering of farmers, and although it was called an agricultural pic-nic and speakers of note addressed the meeting, but little was said in regard to agriculture. We, perhaps very wrongfully, regret that we are not gifted with eloquence. We have never heard an orator yet speak on agriculture when our main interest is or ought to be agriculture, the best speakers always aiming at political power in preference. Surely in a county like Middlesex some practical farmer might make an attempt. We hope at another meeting of the kind some will try.

REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE.

The weather has again been ungenial and sometimes rainy, although interspersed with days of bright sunshine. Sharp night frosts have been frequent, and blackening many pieces of potatoes, and endangering the blooming of the earliest pulse; but the backwardness of the wheat has been its safeguard, and as yet it has been unhurt, if the thickness of the plant and spindliness of the stems do not give many signs of promise. In many parts of France they have been caught with storms and hail right in the midst of blooming time, producing perfect consternation in some localities; followed by a large business with advanced rates at Marseilles, partly responded to at Paris, where both wheat and flour have risen. With these reports travelling eastward and northward, the nearer countries of Belgium and Holland have joined Germany in raising prices, and while rain and cold have been subjects of general complaint in Hungary, they have suffered from drought and excessive heat. To whatever quarter, therefore, we turn, we see an upward movement justified by events, and he must be sanguine indeed who sits by his fireside in June, and expects vegetation, more especially wheat, will prosper without a due allowance of solar heat. We were recently told by a late advocate of the system, that our weather was certainly determined by planetary influence, but as the movements of the bodies are like clock work, Nature's face ought to have answered to them as a dial. Astronomy has, however, brought to light that our planet and the whole system are ever passing through regions of stars, and the

wild vagaries of this season would seem to indicate that this more potent influence was felt in all its diversities, and kept our atmosphere by alternate heat and cold continually on the move. If so, let us hope we are near the end of these eccentricities, and that Nature may resume her normal state. Since the foregoing was written it has suddenly become sultry. The markets have fully gained 1s. over last week's rates, and in some places more; but as every gleam of sunshine seems to slacken the buyer's hand, so business has been ruled, with, however, a more decided tendency to gravitation than buoyancy, speculators well remembering its past effects. The cable advices received in New York have given some stimulus to prices there.—*Mark Lane Express.*

BLACKBERRIES.

The Editor of the Commercial Bulletin, published in Greensboro, speaks of Blackberries as follows:

Our fruit crop will be short this season, and we hope everybody will exert themselves to have every blackberry dried that can possibly be gathered. We guarantee they will bring a good price this season. They are a crop that never fails and no one has any idea in this vicinity the amount of revenue it brings into Salem. Our people must not put up with simply gathering enough to supply the families with groceries and calico; but wake up and look around. Salem is building a railroad out of the proceeds of her blackberries last year, and if Forsythe husbands her whole crop of blackberries this season, we have no doubt the county subscription may be cancelled by fall. Just think of the people of one county gathering off of the briars in the old fields \$100,000 worth of useful fruit, and we in a sister county letting just that amount of money drop to the ground. We call on all good citizens to look to this matter and encourage the idlers to employ themselves and every child—of whom we, the people, have lots.

SYNODICAL.—Where should one always expect to find a bountiful supply of the milk of human kindness? With the pale of the church.

MEASURES AND WEIGHTS.

TO MEASURE CORN IN THE EAR IN BULK.—Rule: Multiply the length, breadth and height together, in feet and tenths of feet, and multiply this product by 4; strike off the right hand figure and the result will be shelled bushels.

TO MEASURE GRAIN IN BULK.—Rule: Multiply length, breadth and height together in feet and tenths, divide by 56 and multiply by 45, and the result will be struck measure.

TO FIND THE NUMBER OF ACRES IN A FIELD WHICH HAS PARALLEL SIDES.—Rule: Multiply the length by the breadth, and divide by 160.

TO MEASURE WOOD.—Rule: Multiply the length breadth and height together, and divide by 128. The quotient will be cords, the remainder will be feet.

TO FIND THE NUMBER OF TONS OF HAY IN A MOW OR BAY.—Rule: Weigh it. Or, to guess at the number of tons of hay in a mow, multiply the length, breadth and height together, which will give you the number of solid feet, and estimate from 350 to 800 feet to the ton, according to experience. There is no way that an experienced man can buy or sell by measure correctly.

THE PRICE PER TON BEING GIVEN, TO FIND THE VALUE OF ANY NUMBER OF POUNDS.—Rule: Multiply the number of pounds by half the price in dollars, and the answer will be mills.

ILLUSTRATION.—At \$12 per ton, what are 3800 lbs worth? 3800 by 6, half the number of dollars, equal 22,800 mills, which is \$22.80.