

pious admixture of weeds and rubbish. The experience of centuries and of all countries, has fully established the advantages of a frequent change of seed, both as to variety and soil. The farmers of this country very much need increased facilities for securing this object; which can be best effected, perhaps, through the agency of societies. The Board of Agriculture, when got into operation, will we trust, make this important subject one of special consideration. By exercising a reasonable care in the choice and preparation of seed, in connection with adequate culture and judicious manuring, the grain crops of Canada may be improved in quantity and quality to an extent of which it would be difficult to form an adequate conception.

As to the precise time for sowing, no absolute rule can be laid down; since much must depend upon the character of the particular season, and other causes producing climatic differences, such as the state of the soil, elevation, aspect, &c. This much, however, may be safely said, the earlier *spring* crops are got into the ground the better, provided vegetation suffer no serious check by any severe, subsequent changes of temperature. It is always proper to sow, when the ground is in good working condition and the skies propitious. In this country, owing to the ill-drained state of the land and neglect of fall ploughing, much of the spring grain is frequently sown too late. Draining, therefore, is the only certain remedy.

Barley requires dry, sound land, previously ploughed in the fall, and worked thoroughly in the spring. In most situations it should be sown by the middle or latter end of the present month. Last year this grain was very inferior in Upper Canada; with proper precautions however, a much more satisfactory result may be reasonably anticipated the present year. This is a crop that will usually repay all reasonable pains bestowed upon it.

Peas require good land and should be sown in rows 10 or 12 inches apart, particularly if the land be infested with weeds. Row culture has the double advantage of admitting a free access of light and air, while it allows of the working

of the ground during the important period of early growth.

Grass seeds should be sown this month; clover can scarcely be sown too early, and a liberal amount of seed is by far the most remunerative. Grass seeds require but a slight covering of fine earth, and it is a good practice to consolidate the ground with a roller.

We would strongly urge upon our readers the importance of paying greater attention to the raising of roots, for the feeding of cattle. It is impossible to sustain improved breeds without a liberal supply of nutritious food; even the ordinary breed of the country may be made much finer animals and far more profitable by adopting such a course. A few acres of turnips, carrots, mangel-wurzel, &c., properly managed, will, in ordinary seasons, yield a large and remunerating return. The great thing to be attended to in such crops as these, is to manure liberally and cultivate thoroughly; in this manner one acre may be made to produce as much as two or three, under slovenly treatment. Frequently stirring the ground between the rows during the period of growth is found highly beneficial to the crop. The greatest care should be taken to select fresh and genuine seed, and to test its vitality before sowing. Much loss and disappointment might thus be obviated.



#### NIAGARA DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the members of this Society was held at St. Catharines, April 5th, 1851;—when John Lemon, Esq., and William McMicking, Esq., were re-elected; the former as President, the latter as Secretary. Edward Jones, Sam'l Parker, and Jas. Williams, Esqrs., Vice-Presidents. It is a rule of this Society that every member is a director; the annual subscription being one pound.—The following resolution was *unanimously adopted*.

“That this Society tender to the Senate of the University of Toronto, their most hearty thanks, for the liberal grant of a portion of the University grounds, recently made by that body, to the Board of Agriculture, for the purpose of an Experimental Farm. And this Society hail