

than usual. So again the wet weather will cause a quantity of moist dirt to cling about the rootlets, which latter will soon decay, and thus decay of the crop when in mass will be likely to be commenced. Our notion is, then, that Mangels this year should be cleanly topped and tailed, and afterwards left to get as dry as possible; and any circumstance which will tend to this result will not only cause a healing or callosity to the wounded surfaces we make in trimming, but will to a great extent have a like effect upon the scalded spots of the rootsock.

Finally, with respect to the much injured roots, we cannot help thinking that the frost-biting may have facilitated such changes as to induce premature ripeness, at least the affected roots that we have examined are much sweeter to the taste than the others; we should therefore employ them, and that as speedily as possible, without any fear of evil from want of ripeness. Our plan of dealing with them would be to give them to swine in a quantity, by which they would be turned into manure; and should any tendency to purging or any symptom indicating that disagreement which is not uncommon with a new kind of food appear, we would correct this by the addition to the wash of a little powdered *Fœnugreek seeds*, *Turmeric root*, *Gentian*, or any aromatic and stimulating substance of a like kind.

Again, we might suggest that carting these Mangels to a poor upland but dry pasture and thickly stocking with sheep would greatly enhance the value of the land, and we cannot but think that the sheep would do better than dragging in peached Swede lands.

EMPLOYMENT FOR WINTER EVENINGS AND STORMY DAYS.

FARMERS' OPPORTUNITY FOR MENTAL IMPROVEMENT.

With the majority of laboring farmers there is but little time left for intellectual improvement, after weekly papers are read, during a large portion of the year, perhaps from April to October or November; but the long evenings of the remaining part of the year, and the stormy and severely cold days of winter, when out-door labor is impossible or exceedingly unpleasant, afford opportunities for mental culture to every farmer, that should not be neglected. The value of these opportunities, if well improved, can hardly be over-estimated; yet, I fear their utility is poorly appreciated by many of our farmers. They are too often whiled away listlessly, resulting in no good, if not in positive evil, from habits acquired by idleness. I wish, simply, to remind those of my brother farmers who may need it, of the importance of these golden moments of leisure, and of what may be gained by a proper use of them. To young farmers, and to farmers' sons, would I especially direct the few words I have to say.

Seneca has remarked: "As the soil, however rich it may be, cannot be productive without culture, so the mind, without cultivation, can never produce good fruit." And if the soil will not produce good returns without some sort of cultivation, upon what known principle can we expect that the mind will come