that the Hon. John Dryden, the Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, is about to import a herd of "Milking Shorthorns" from Scotland, for the use of the Ontario Agricultural College. These, we presume, are pedigreed stock, but we must say we should prefer going to Darlington fair, in the county of Durham, and picking up a lot of the fine Dairy-Shorthorns to be found there at most seasons of the year, and putting them to a thoroughbred Shorthorn bull of one of the milking strains. The tenants on our family's estate in Glo'stershire, some of whom milk upwards of a hundred cows, have followed this plan for more than thirty years, and have done well by it.

The root-crop.—We gave, the other day, a report of some of the roots exhibited at the Glo'ster show. We have since that time received an account of the yields of root-crops entered for competition for prizes offered by Messrs. Webb & Co., the seed growers of Stourbridge, England. It must always be borne in mind that in England we cannot sow swedes or turnips much before the 10th of June; for if sown earlier than that date, they are almost sure to mildew, in which case, not only is their growth arrested, but the quality of the root is seriously lowered, the flesh, so to speak, becoming what the French-Canadians very properly call *cordée*, or stringy. On the other hand, mangels can hardly be sown too early; though the books talk of their running to seed if sown before the middle of May, we never saw such a thing happen where the land was well manured and prepared, and the seed selected from a good stock. If the plants should happen to run to seed, that seed should never be used, as there is no doubt of its following the bad example set by its progenitors.

The following weights are given in tons of 2,000 lbs.:

Ayrshire gave the best crop of swedes: 46 tons, 1,744 lbs.; Cheshire produced the next best, 44 tons, 1,040 lbs. Both of which crops we have seen equalled, if not exceeded, on M. Séraphin Guèvremont's farm at Sorel, though in mangels, a Welsh farm, near Cardiff, Glamorganshire, with its enormous yield of 84 tons, 1,456 lbs., beat anything Sorel can do by two to one; but that was not the best showing the mangel crop could make, for at the Lucan (Ireland) dairy-farm, 103 tons were grown. At Birmingham, Professor Long said that he had measured six swedes shown there, all of good form, 37 inches in circumference; they weighed on an average, 20 lbs. a piece!

It is very curious why mangels at Sorel do not yield nearly as well as swedes or Belgian carrots; for mangels like hot summers and swedes certainly do not. In the South-Eastern counties of England, we looked for at least 25 gross tons of mangels from an acre, but were pretty well satisfied if we got 15 tons of swedes, and they not of the best quality.

Potatoes.—Manitoba is crowing pretty lustily in the *North-West Farmer* on the superiority of its potato-crops as compared with those of the "effete East"! Professor Zavitz, the experimentalist at the Guelph College, cannot, it appears, get more than from 124 bushels an acre for early potatoes, and 191 bushels for late sorts; while Manitoba shows an average all round, not of your grand college-crops, but of the general farming districts, of 205 of the best and 144 of the inferior lots! As for the exact and authenticated reports from the Manitoba experiment-stations, we have Brandon reporting ten varieties ranging from 682 bushels down to 579, and Indian Head, with 100 varieties, only one of which gave as few at 300 bushels, while 706 bushels was the yield of the best. True enough, doubtless, but did not our friend Mr. Wm. Hale, of Sherbrooke, grow something worthy of "the effete East," when, in 1891, he turned out 726 bushels of Scotch Champions from an imperial acre of Eastern Townships ordinary farm land? (v. Journal of Agriculture, June 1892, p. 89).

By the bye, it would be as well to mention that this enormous crop was grown from "sets cut *to two or more eyes;* and the drills being made 30 inches apart and the sets dropped 12 inches apart in the drills, it took 20 bushels to plant the acre." We stated, in the last number of the JOURNAL, that our English practice was to use 22 bushels of sets to the acre, so our practice agrees pretty well with Mr. Hale's, as our drills were three inches nearer together than his. Mr. Hale, it will be remembered, won the prize offered by a "chemical fertiliser company for the largest crop of any kind of marketable potato on any acre, either in the province of Quebec or Ontario, with a yield of 438½ bushels."

Now, such crops being possible, how is it that the average yield of potatoes in the States and Canada can be, as Mr. Hale says it is (see the