

and dry, so as to secure a good conditioned and promising seed-bed; yet we would remind him of the necessity of getting matters in as forward a state as possible. Oats and peas should be got in as soon as the weather and ground will admit: with spring grain that which is the earliest sown, other conditions being the same, will always be better and heavier, and come sooner to maturity. Our late sown grain is not in the ground sufficiently long to produce a good quality; there may be abundance of straw, but the kernel is certain to be deficient in weight, and consequently in nourishing ingredients. The practice of some farmers sowing late is exceptionable. For instance, many will not sow the Fife variety of spring wheat till after the middle of May, not because that kind of wheat would not be better if sown earlier, but by sowing very late, experience has taught us that the crop will be out of danger from the midge. It is of great advantage in this country to get our spring crops to cover and shade the ground before the hot weather sets in. A deep and fine seed bed is also of great importance, inasmuch as the seed, especially the smaller kinds, such as clover and the grasses, will more certainly and uniformly vegetate and mature, and find ample room for extending their roots in search of food and moisture. Under shallow cultivation, although the surface may be tolerably fine, plants will be sure to receive an irrecoverable check immediately after dry weather has commenced.

Carrots and parsnips should now be sown as soon as possible, always of course having regard to the character of the season and the state of the land. Even in this climate, where the important operations of spring work are always crowded into a short space, a week or two of latitude must be conceded. Still we again urge upon the farmer the importance of being early in readiness for the committing of his seed to the earth; as the losses, direct and indirect, arising out of a state of backwardness, are much greater than people in general ima-

gine. Carrots and parsnips should invariably be sown in rows, as by that means they can be more readily set out at proper distances, the ground cultivated during the period of growth and kept free of weeds, and the crop very much increased. No farmer that knows the value of carrots and parsnips,—the former more particularly for horses, and the latter for milch cows,—will be without them. Parsnips being particularly rich in saccharine matter, and imparting no unpleasant taste to milk and butter, as turnips do, are of essential advantage to dairy stock. They are likewise easily grown, and a portion may be left in the ground without detriment all winter, and taken up quite fresh in early spring, when they will be found a most seasonable auxiliary.

The procuring of genuine seed, of good quality, free from the seeds of weeds, is a matter of supreme importance, the theory of which every farmer is ready at once to acknowledge, but in practice unfortunately he too often underrates it. Much, or rather most of the failures experienced of late years in our principal farm crops, have arisen from defective cultivation and impure seed; the latter being a natural consequence of the former. Genuine seed plump and heavy, is cheap at any price, but seed of a contrary description, which too many for one reason or other seem willing to put up with is dear, *very* dear as a gift. This is a matter which lies at the foundation of any improved system of agriculture; and till more attention is paid to it generally in this Province, and we might add on this continent, our grain and other crops will continue both precarious, deficient and inferior. The selection of pure seed, and carefully preparing it by steeping, &c., as practised with the greatest success in the old country, are among the chief causes of the success and profits of British husbandry. It is satisfactory to know that the remedies for deficient crops, impure and diseased grain, and a host of lamented evils, are to a much larger extent than