

may account for the deteriorated quality of the potatoe in the spring, after the sprouting of the eyes, and, therefore, we should either keep the vegetable for use, in a reduced temperature if possible, or remove the seed eyes before they germinate.

We may further remark, that if potatoe are grown when they are not supplied with earth, in cellars for example, a true alkali, called *solanin*, of a very poisonous nature, is formed in the sprouts, which extend towards the light, while not the smallest trace of such a substance can be discovered in the roots, herbs, blossoms, or fruit of potatoe grown in fields.

Various manures have been used in the culture of potatoe, but it is found that stable dung is preferable. This, however, may be mixed with other substances, and be occasionally improved. It has been said, that although an abundant quantity of manure increases the quantity of the crop, yet that it injures the quality of the potatoe for table consumption. Some farmers spread slacked lime, viz. 60 bushels to the acre, over the field when the young plants appear; they plough the earth from the rows, spread the lime evenly over the surface, and after a few days return the earth and mould up. The application of lime will be governed by the nature of the soil. Experiments have proved, however, the superiority of dung, especially when urine was added to it. There have been various opinions respecting the mode of dunging the land. Some lay the dung over; others, again, lay it under the sets, or seed; others, again, scatter it over the field, and plough it in. An experiment, made under the direction of the Board of Agriculture in England, proved that the produce of an equal weight of sets and manure was, when the sets were laid over the dung, 105lbs. 4 oz.; under the dung, 84lbs. 3 oz.

The ground for potatoe should be well worked, for the more thoroughly

it is pulverized, the more abundant will be the crop.

The following are the varieties most commonly cultivated as field crops in Great Britain, viz.: the kidney, the Cumberland and Lancashire white, the purple streaked, the Scotch dun, the pink eyes, the golden dun, or copper nose, which is highly esteemed for the table, the Perthshire red, which is a good keeper, fine flavoured, and prolific, the Wellington, the cluster, the champion, the ox-noble, the white and red Surinam, the Munster, the Connaught cups, the red and white apple, the red-nosed and white kidney; a large species has been lately introduced from the continent, which is described as yellow, mealy, and good—it is called the "*La divergente*." Mr. Howden, of East Lothian, has published a list containing experiments upon 130 different kinds of potatoe. In 1835 an account was published of the Rohan Potatoe, an extraordinary species, which lately appeared in Switzerland, and is thus described by Prince Charles de Rohan, from whom it takes its name. "Three tubers (or potatoe) chosen at random, weighed each 13 lbs. 7 oz., and a small tuber, having only 4 eyes, weighing when planted a few grains less than half an ounce, produced 48½ lbs. It is, however, not the largest tubers which succeed the best as seed. The mode of planting is described as by the spade; the earth being dug to the depth of 20 inches, and the distance between the holes 4 feet; two or three eyes being dibbled into each. The plants should be earthed up frequently, for the stems reach to six or seven feet in height. It is a late species, but very farinaceous, and of excellent flavour, and it should not be taken up until after the stalks have withered."

Mr. Knight, the intelligent president of the Horticultural Society in England, has recently adopted a method of planting potatoe, different from the common furrow and lazy bed