

THE BRITISH AMERICAN



CULTIVATOR.

"AGRICULTURE NOT ONLY GIVES RICHES TO A NATION, BUT THE ONLY RICHES SHE CAN CALL HER OWN."—*Dr. Johnson.*

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THE CULTIVATOR.

"Agriculture is the great art which every government ought to protect, every proprietor of lands to practice, and every inquirer into nature improve."—*Dr. Johnson.*

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MONTHLY CALENDAR.

This is really a joyous month for the husbandman: his crops now begin in earnest to improve, and his stock are no longer confined to the farm-yard. Spring wheat, oats, peas, and cultivated grasses must first be sown; and then follows, in succession, the sowing of barley, the planting of potatoes, and the drilling of turnip and other root-crops. The whole of these departments of labour will be fully completed by the intelligent cultivator at or near the close of the present month. Carry out dung from your compost heap, if you have previously made one, and apply it to your meadow grounds: top dress also with gypsum or charcoal-dust; either of these substances have great attraction of moisture from the atmosphere, thus cooling the air in summer, and also being more efficacious to dry sandy soils than cold wet clays.

To corroborate the truth of this statement, it is worthy of remark, that the dew has been known to stand two hours later in the morning upon clover and other plants which had gypsum spread upon them, than upon others, on which there was none. If you have never made an experiment with dressing your land with marl, now is the time: try only a few square rods: any crop will be benefitted by its application, and its effects will be apparent in the soil for eight or nine years. Lucerne, vetches, and rape may be sown the latter part of this month, for soiling: the soil for these crops require to be deep, rich, and well-worked: ashes and gypsum are the best dressings for these crops: if our readers have not been in the habit of growing these crops, for soiling and for feeding sheep, it is worth the trouble to give them a trial, although it be but on a small scale.

At the close of the month, commence sowing Swede turnips, mangel wurtzel, and carrots, for the winter feeding of stock. A small farmer, who has only fifty acres under cultivation, ought to cultivate, in a proper manner, an acre of each of these roots, and four acres of potatoes, for the winter feeding of stock; and those who have larger farms in that proportion. After the root-crops

are gathered and housed, the ground should be seasonably prepared, and sown with spring wheat, and laid down with cultivated grasses. Root-crops are generally planted or sown too late in this country: the early sown produce the most certain and heaviest crops; and the larger the roots the better for seed, as regards nutriment: the ripest roots, in all cases, contain the most saccharine matter. By early sowing, the young plant has fewer insect enemies to encounter; and, in case of failure, time is given for another sowing.

WESTERN DISTRICT PHILOSOPHICAL AND AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

We have read, with considerable interest, the proceedings of the above Institution, as contained in a late number of the *Western Express*. The plan of organizing Township, District, and Provincial Societies is highly approved of; and it appears that a correspondence has been entered into with the different Councillors, and other influential individuals, on the subject, to ascertain how far it would be practicable to carry the same into effect. We understand that the President, Major R. Lachlan, J.P., intends publishing a synoptical view of the various parts of the Province, which