

the roots, and the tops for fodder may be equal in value to the produce of the same quantity of English meadow.

The great value of Swedish turnips to the New Brunswick farmer, is not generally understood. It consists in the privilege of planting them after the season of planting potatoes is passed. The small quantity of seed required, and their capability of enduring the frosts of autumn without sustaining damage. After the potatoes are all secured, the turnips may be pulled and carried in cart loads to the barn floor, where the tops may be cut off in stormy weather, or they may lay in bulk until they are wanted for the stock or market.

The best method of planting is in drills about twenty inches apart, they may then be tended with the plough and hoe.

The greatest yield I have known in this country was three hundred and fifty bushels from half an acre, (for which a premium was awarded by our Agricultural Society.) These were sown in broadcast upon a piece of intervale land that had been made very rich by long pasturing. The green sward was ploughed the previous autumn, and then thoroughly cross ploughed and harrowed the next spring, and the turnips were properly thinned out with a hoe—a practice which should never be lost sight of in raising any kind of turnips. Turnips are frequently raised on new ground with great ease and profit, and they are generally much the best for the table.

Of Mangel Wurtzel.—The mangel wurtzel or cow beet is also a most valuable root, and being excellent food for swine, is on that account preferable to the turnip. Every farmer should have a yard of them near his residence. The root frequently grows three or four inches above the top of the ground, and very deep into it. The first leaves, if not plucked, are constantly decaying, and succeeded by others rising from the centre of the root. The proper method of plucking the leaves for cows or swine, which are all very fond of them, is to begin at one side of the yard and continue picking the out side leaves of two rows at a time, as the stock may require them, and the same rows will do to pluck again in ten days. This plucking the leaves is done without injury to the root. The swine prefer the tops of the beets to clover, and I have been astonished at the abundance of provender taken from a small yard during the months of August and September. The roots should be boiled for swine to fatten them, but they will eat them raw as well as potatoes. If the soil is made rich, mellow and deep, the mangel wurtzel is a sure and abundant crop; but to effect this, it is necessary to apply manure well composted, and there is probably no other manure equal to bone ashes, or ground bones.

How often we see the decayed skeleton of animals laying about the field, to the annoyance of the farmer, who might turn them to profit by burning them in his kitchen fire; but where they can be conveniently carried to the mill and ground, they turn to better account.

Carrots.—An Agricultural writer recommends the sowing carrots with flax. After pulling the flax, the carrots take possession of the soil, and do well; but of this practice I have had no ocular demonstration, and it is my intention not to recommend anything beyond my own experience, except that the experiment should be made. Carrots are a valuable kind of food for horses and sheep, and being generally approved at the table, sell well in the market.

I have generally reared them in the garden only for table use, but they do not prove as wholesome food as oat meal for
A FARMER.

LETTER VII.

Of Stock.—Much has been said and written on the subject of importing stock, and some very respectable farmers have withdrawn from our Agricultural Society, because a large majority of its members are oppose to the expence of importing stock from Europe. That the breed of our own country have been improved by former importations, I am ready to admit. But I now consider that careful feeding and judicious selections of the young animals is of far greater importance than further importation. Having in a former letter observed that we have a superabundance of horses, and I may add of the imported breeds, and of a description little inferior to those of any other country, I will confine my remarks to the black cattle.

Black Cattle.—I well remember when there was a species of cows in this country that were sometimes called French cows, or the first neat stock of the Province, and no doubt were first introduced here by the Acadian French.

They were generally brown or dark coloured, with long horns and a long slim neck, and I doubt their having been a more profitable breed of milch cattle in the Province since. They were hardy, good feeders, and would continue active until they were fifteen years of age; but they were of too small size for beef cattle generally. They answer the description given by some writers, of the Alderney cow.

The next kind introduced, was a large breed generally called the Cumberland breed, but they were considered poor milkers, and the oxen inactive. Next the English mulley, without horns, and the Ayrshire with small horns. The Ayrshire, I can confidently recommend to be good milkers, hardy and active cattle, and well adapted to the country.

Then the short horned Durham, of such superior size and symmetry, and the beautiful Devonshire cattle, but little, if any inferior, to them.

Now, of all these breeds, the country abounds, but many farmers think so little of them that they would hardly go five miles to obtain one of them, but continue breeding in and in, until every animal of their large stock has become nearly related.

Others, indeed, have taken great pains, and improved their stock to great advantage. Some also have thought much of a good breed, and purchased a fine animal for the purpose of improving theirs, but by taking it on a poor farm, without duly considering that good feed is as essential as a good breed, have soon found that their fine animal did not do as well as their old stock. This last case is very common, and frequently leads to discouragement rather than a careful investigation of the cause; but as I intend hereafter to treat of feeding generally, I shall forbear saying more of it now.

We have seen bulls exhibited in this County of the growth of our own country, superior to any imported, and it was allowed by good judges that the fine oxen exhibited at the cattle show in the County of York last autumn, would have been a credit to any County in England, and they were certainly superior in size and symmetry to any animals I have ever seen imported from there.

But one great reason why there is so much stock of an indifferent description in this country, is the little value put on it both by the farmer and pur-