

specimens of the best breeds will be irreparably injured. A sufficiency of nutritious food to the dam, is the chief means of promoting the growth and strength of the progeny. The milk of the mother, when properly fed, contains all the essential ingredients for building up the healthy structure of her young; it is in fact a chemical compound, nicely arranged, and wisely adapted to that object. *Milk*, therefore, constitutes the natural food of all our young domesticated animals; and the humane and profitable farmer will make such provision as will ensure them a *sufficiency* of it. But this cannot be done without providing an adequate amount of nutritious fodder, previous to the setting in of our severe and protracted winters.

We are here reminded, and could wish to impress the idea on the mind of the reader, of the intimately natural relation that subsists between the profitable rearing and fattening of stock, and improved tillage. Slovenly cultivation is quite inimical to the rearing of thrifty cattle, even of native breeds; much more of such as are denominated improved, or pure. The field and the cattle yard, act and react upon each other. We have known experienced agriculturists in England, who, in order to judge of the character of a man's farming, that is cultivation, would be content to look into his folds and cattle pens; for if the live stock be all right in amount and condition, the chance is very small indeed, that the rotation and culture can be very wrong. This principle, it should be remembered, is not confined to the British Islands, but is of universal application.

The advantage to a farm of a large number of good and well fed animals, with reference to *manure only*, is understood and appreciated by intelligent and improving cultivators, upon all soils, which a course of cropping has reduced from their pristine fertility. However valuable and indispensable may be the mineral manures, most farmers, especially in a country like Canada, must mainly look to their compost heaps, formed chiefly of animal and vegetable substances, for sustaining the general fertility of their fields.

Entertaining these views, we strongly recommend an extended culture of root and forage crops. The object of the farmer should be to obtain the greatest amount of produce from the smallest space; hence the necessity of a liberal dressing

of manure and thorough cultivation. Not a day should now be lost in giving to the land intended for such crops, the last preparatory finish. Most failures are traceable to sowing too late, or insufficient attention to the preparation of the ground and the subsequent management of the crop.

Potato planting should be brought to a close as speedily as possible; the experience derived from extensive observations, in various parts of the world, during several years past, clearly shews the advantage of early sowing, in order to secure a healthy condition of this valuable esculent. The greatest care should be taken in selecting suitable varieties, and sound and ripe seed. The application of large quantities of strong putrescent manures, has been found favorable to the development of the potatoe-disease; whereas quicklime, wood ashes, &c., may be regarded as favorable to the healthy growth of the plant.

In conclusion we strongly recommend to our readers, in all sections of the Province, an extended culture of that invaluable plant—Indian Corn. Several varieties suited to our climate have been already introduced, and where proper attention has been paid to the cultivation and management, a remunerating return has, in ordinary seasons, been made. In situations where early frosts in autumn render the ripening of this crop uncertain, it might be advantageously grown for the purposes of fodder; indeed we think that there is no part of Canada, where Indian Corn might not be profitably raised for the purpose of summer or winter feeding of cattle. We would like to be favored with the experience or opinions of any of our readers on this subject.

#### WORK FOR THE MONTH.

The season has been in some respects an early one in Canada. Ploughing has been extensively prosecuted, while the operations that follow it are in arrears. In this neighborhood vegetation has advanced slowly in consequence of the cold, raw weather, and in this respect we do not regard the Spring as an early one. The following remarks which we copy from that well conducted journal the *Working Farmer* will suit in Canada for the early part of May.

The dates mentioned may all be regarded as three or four weeks later for this region,