being fed—the appetite still craving, whatever the bulk of food he may have swallowed—till real nutriment enough has been given him to supply the demands of his ever wasting and renewing bodily structure.

Considering such facts and their certain influences, we cannot otherwise conclude than that it is injudicious for ordinary farmers, those with only the usual conveniences and capital, to feed roots to store or fattening stock in the fall. In England, where to-day sheep are scooping out turnips in the field, and where women can be found in sufficient numbers to pull up the bowl shaped lower halves with turnip hooks, for 12 cents per day—that all the manure of the crop may be left on the ground—and where the temperature is so equable that sheep have only the blue sky for an overcoat, and need no other shelter, except from heavy rains—sheep are profitably fed on turnips in the fall. Cattle are also fed large quantities of roots, the extra labor there required being cheap, and therefore no real offset to the profit of the practice, climatic conditions being generally favorable. But here we have another and widely different climate, and in my opinion at any rate, ordinary farmers—as the mass of the profession will ever be, relatively—may occupy their time and energies far more profitably and consistently by draining, manuring, and by every practicable means, improving the quality, and increasing the product of their grasses, which in some form are the natural and most economical fall feed for stock—rather than raising roots for that purpose—the latter being merely the copying of a practice, without the possibility of securing the conditions of climate and cost which make it consistent and economical.

In the spring season the tendency of temperature, bodily conditions, &c. are in the opposite direction, and we may then act according to the circumstances of the season, and with some degree of reason and consistency, provided we can provide roots or their equivalent for feeding at that season of the year.

J. W. Clark.

Plaster of Paris.

We have frequently recommended the liberal use of Plaster of Paris on our farms and gardens. Every farmer and gardener should have a supply on hand, to meet the many uses to which it may be put. Mr. Geo. Trowbridge of Camden, N. Y., concludes a long article on the constitution of arable soils, and the use of plaster, in the following manner:

1. That the atmosphere is a constant source of food for plants.

2. That the most available agent for securing the benefits of this food for plants, is plaster.

3. That, viewed in this light, the value of plaster in agriculture can hardly be overrated.

4. That it may be safely recommended for general use on all soils containing a portion of fermentative matters, and not so compact or wet as to prevent the process of exhalation or absorption.

5. That it should always be applied to the surface of the soil, or at least within the influence of the atmosphere.

6. That it should be sown at an early date in the season, before the period of the moist abundant dews and exhalation has commenced.

7. That it should always accompany manures used as a top dressing, or only slightly buried in the soil.

8. That it should be liberally employed about our barn-yards, stables, vaults, manure heaps, compost beds, and not however, in compost, under