

I think that the usual aration or rotation of crops should be observed with the potato as with the cereals; for too many plant potatoes upon the same land for years consecutively, and this cannot possibly fail to be detrimental. I have this last week had exhibited to me samples of potatoes grown by the allottees of Feargus O'Connor, M.P., on fresh-broke land at Lowbands, Redmarley; and this confirms my opinion, for finer or more healthy tubers I never saw, exempt from blemish or the aspect of disease.

I have to-day seen a quantity of potatoes cooked and prepared for the dinner of a family; and strange to assert, they were afflicted with the "putrid spots" observable in 1846-7, the precursors of decay. I have no object in making statements I have the power to substantiate, save that of imparting information; and remain, Sir, your humble servant,
H. T.

Gloucester.

COTTON SEED.—We have been favoured by a correspondent with a specimen of the cotton seed, which is advertised for sale as food for cattle; and a person who has recently returned from the Mediterranean, where it is generally used, thus writes:—"It has the effect of preserving the bowels in a healthy state, and renders the fat white and the meat tender; and the beef supplied by the contractor to Her Majesty's ships at some of our establishments in the Mediterranean is all fed upon cotton seed. The cotton seed contains a large quantity of oil, and is doubtless highly nutritive; it has a sweetish and agreeable flavour. To give one an idea of the quantity of oil which the cotton seed contains, a seed may be opened and the internal part placed on the point of a penknife, which if ignited will be found to give a clear and brilliant light for the space of about half a minute." From the cotton which adheres to the outer part of the seed a person would be disposed to think that it would be injurious to the animals. However, upon inquiry, we are told that it is given to them in that state without any ill effects.

ENORMOUS POTATO.—Mr. R. T. MacIntosh, seedsman, Edinburgh, has just shown us a very large specimen of this year's potato crop, grown at Corstorphine, on the grounds of Mr. John Cook. This tuber weighs two and a half pounds avoirdupois, and measures twenty-five inches and a half in circumference; it seems to be of the Don species.—*North British Mail.*

GREAT CROPS OF WHEAT.—Mr. Whiting, Monmouth, grew a crop of wheat on a field near Wyebridge, Monmouth, which produced 61 imperial bushels per acre: the field contained 6½ acres. The seed (Golden Drop, or Kentish High-back) was planted in January last, 5 pecks to the acre. It was an off-growing crop, Mr. W. having given up the land.

WIREWORM.—The *Essex Herald* publishes a letter from the Rev. G. Wilkins, to a farmer, who wrote to him, inquiring how the wireworm had been exterminated on the Rev. gentleman's land:—

"Some ten years since, when I came to my living, and commenced cultivating the little land I hold, it was, I may say, full of wireworms. Nothing could have been worse, for my crops were in some places ruined by them entirely. What then, did I do? I adopted a plan which I recommended and published in periodicals many years since, namely, of encouraging moles and partridges on my lands. Instead of permitting a mole to be caught, I bought all I could, and turned them down alive; and soon my fields, one after another, were full of mole-hills, to the amusement of all my neighbours, who at first set me down for half a lunatic; but now several adopt my plan, and are strenuous advocates of it. My fields became exactly like a honey-comb; and this continued even among my standing and growing and ripening crops; not a mole was molested, but I still bought more. This summer I had 14 bought, which I turned down, but they were not wanted; I have nothing for them to eat—all that moles live upon is destroyed—and so, poor things, they must starve or emigrate to some distant lands, and thus get bowstrung by savage men, whom they aim to serve. Adopt my plan, and it will be sure to answer. If you have a nest of partridges, also encourage them; all the summer they live on insects, on wireworms, &c.; and consider how many millions a couvey will destroy in a single summer. Again: always remember that moles feed upon insects, and of which the wireworm is the chief; if you doubt this, open a mole and peep into his stomach. Again: do not fear that moles injure your crops either in field or garden; it is a low and vulgar error to suppose that they root up young corn; they never go anywhere until the wireworms have first destroyed the plants, and then, innocent things, they are punished for others' faults! If you do not like to see their hills, knock them about with a hoe, as I did; it is a healthy amusement, and they will do your lands good. Do not despise my plan because the farmers will not adopt it in your neighbourhood: farmers adopt nothing till driven to it, and nothing that is new and good. Again: have you the aphid, or white bug, on your apple-trees? If so, do not kill ants; my trees were full of aphides, but I found the ants came to my help, and I welcomed them, and now I have not an aphid on my trees."

A series of experiments on sheep-feeding and woolgrowing have just been made in Germany. The following are the results which have been deduced:—1st. The feeding property of the Swede turnip, as compared with the potato, is as 7 to 2; and for the growth of wool, the relative value of these two substances, 20 to 17. 2nd.