

THE SOIL AND ITS PREPARATION.—Early cabbage is usually much more profitable to grow than late cabbage, but as the former requires much greater skill and labour in its production some prefer to grow late cabbage only. In growing early cabbage the main consideration is to have it early, hence a soil which will be warm in the early part of the season should be chosen, such as sandy loam retentive of moisture, but well drained, for although an abundance of moisture is desirable, cabbage will not thrive where there is poor drainage. The soil must be heavily manured with barnyard manure for best results, and worked up so that the manure will be thoroughly incorporated with the soil. We have never heard of any one using too much manure for cabbage. Some use as high as seventy-five tons per acre, or even more; others put enough on the ground so that when it is spread there is from two to three inches on the surface. A desirable crop to precede cabbage is clover. In the autumn a liberal dressing of green manure may be put on and turned under with the clover sod, and in the spring a liberal quantity of rotted manure is applied, or if all the manure is put on in the spring it should be thoroughly rotted so that it will work down fine and mix well with the soil. For late cabbage, which has a longer growing season, the heavier and cooler soils are desirable. In the cooler soil the late cabbage will not suffer so much in the hottest part of the summer, and these heavy soils will not require as heavy applications of manure as for the early crop, though a good dressing is desirable.

VARIETIES.—There are many varieties of cabbage, but few need be mentioned here. The most popular and most widely-grown early cabbage, both in Canada and the United States, is the Early Jersey Wakefield, introduced many years ago and grown under a number of names. The various strains of this cabbage differ from one another considerably, and it is important to know what strain one is getting. Some strains have been poorly selected or not selected at all; the heads either form unevenly or are much later in forming than other and better strains, and there is much financial loss. The typical Early Jersey Wakefield has a pointed head, or what might be termed a pyramidal or cone-shaped head, and is solid for an early variety. A strain which is grown largely in some parts of the United States under the name of Charleston Wakefield is not so pointed and is usually not so early. A variety which has done well at Ottawa for a number of years and which has been from two to five days earlier than the Early Jersey Wakefield, is the Paris Market Very Early. This variety is a little smaller than the Early Jersey Wakefield and not so compact, but should prove profitable on account of its extreme earliness. The Copenhagen Market, a new early, round-headed variety of about the same season as Early Jersey Wakefield, is becoming very popular, and may soon largely take the place of the latter on account of its shape and firmness. Early Spring is a small, flat-headed, early variety. There are a number of other early sorts but they are not so good, having smaller heads, or are not so early.

There are a number of varieties of medium season, but the most satisfactory of the many tested at Ottawa is the Succession, which has a solid head of drumhead shape. Glory of Enkhuizen is a popular variety with a round head.

Among late cabbages, the Danish Ballhead, a solid, round-headed variety, has superseded all others in recent years. Before it became so popular the numerous strains of the Late Flat Dutch were generally grown for late cabbages, but the Flat Dutch type is now usually grown for sauerkraut or for feed for sheep or cattle. The Housar is a rather coarse, late variety, requiring a longer season than most, which has proved a very reliable header at Ottawa, and has been practically resistant to black rot when that disease has been troublesome.

A late cabbage requiring a rather long season is the Drumhead Savoy. The Savoy cabbages have wrinkled leaves. The quality of this type is usually better than the late smooth-leaved types. Among red cabbages the Red Dutch has been found as satisfactory as any.

It is important with all of these varieties as with Early Jersey Wakefield, to get the best strains that can be procured.

SOWING THE SEED AND RAISING THE PLANTS.—To have early cabbage, the seed must be sown early, and to sow the seed as early as it should be sown in order to compete