

they plant this sprouted seed, and these are generally dug out before the end of June. They have the seed prepared in the same way by sprouting, for the second crop, which is planted when the first crop is removed, and they raise a good second crop. Sometimes they grow Swedish turnips, instead of potatoes, for the second crop. In this case they raise the plants in a seed bed and have them ready to plant out when the potatoes are removed, and they produce a good crop, if the season is not too dry. This year, a farmer in England raised a crop of early potatoes, which he had sold the 11th of June. He then sowed the same land with barley and harvested the crop the 11th October, which he estimated would produce between 30 and 40 bushels to the acre. We have grown in Canada an excellent crop of potatoes, which were sold from the 15th to the 31st of July, and we sowed the land with turnips as the potatoes were dug out up to the 1st of August, and realized a good crop of turnips. This may be done successfully, any season that is not too dry, and turnips of rapid growth are best for the table.

#### WHAT INFLUENCE HAS THE MOON.

We have always doubted the influence attributed to the Moon over the weather of this Earth, or on the growth of vegetation. We have heard and read many statements on the subject, but we have never seen any satisfactory proof of the correctness of these statements which attributed such influences to the Moon. We have for many years endeavored to ascertain for our own satisfaction, whether the changes of the Moon had any influence upon the weather or the growth of plants, and we never could discover that it had the slightest influence upon either. Bare assertion on such matters would have very little weight with us without the clearest demonstration of the facts. It has pleased the Creator that the Moon should show us light, and her changes

mark periods for a large portion of the inhabitants of this Earth, but we cannot understand what other influence she could possibly exercise over us or our atmosphere. It is very easy to assign influences to the Moon, but it would be a difficult matter to prove these influences satisfactorily. We think it the greatest possible absurdity to abstain from committing our seeds to the soil at certain periods of the Moon, and perhaps by this means lose the chance of sowing until too late. We are rejoiced to see lately that some Astronomers of great eminence have given their opinion that the Moon had not any controlling influence over the weather or the growth of vegetation. Dr. Olbers, a distinguished German Astronomer, who discovered the Planets Pallas and Vesta, after an examination founded on *careful meteorological observations for fifty years* in different countries, says:—"I believe that I have *demonstrated* that the influence of the Moon upon the weather is so small that it is *totally lost* amid the great variety of other forces and causes, which change the state of our atmosphere, and that its pretended influence on man, animals, or plants, is, all of it, due to illusion or prejudice." We had not so good an opportunity of being confirmed in our ideas on this subject as Dr. Olbers, but we have taken some trouble to ascertain to our own perfect satisfaction that the Moon has no influence upon weather or vegetation, that has ever come under our notice. Illusion or prejudice on these matters may have a very bad influence upon parties who entertain them, and we do not believe that any farmer, from the time of Noah to the present has gained one shilling by allowing the changes of the Moon to have any influence upon his ploughing, sowing, or harvesting, unless so far as he has made use of the light of the Moon, in the absence of the light of the Sun. We may further state that we had no experience of any influence of the Moon on domestic animals in castrating them or