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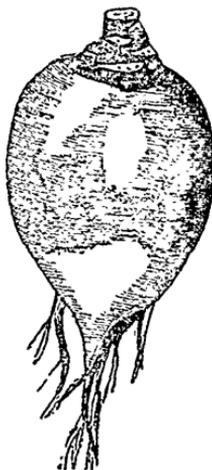
No. 10.

The Swedish Turnip.

The introduction of the Turnip as a field crop in Great Britain constituted a new and important era in her agricultural history. More corn and cattle, and those of improved quality maintained, more manure therefore produced, as a consequence, the grain crops yielded a proportionate increase. The same has been obtained in Canada, wherever turnip root culture has become established; as a general rule it will be found that in districts where the raising of root crops has yet found its way, cattle in particular, though only small in number but especially in point of quality.

The whole class of what are designated as *turnips*, are characterised by certain distinctive features and qualities, which broadly distinguish them from the white or common turnip. The colour of their leaves is invariably of a darker green, almost approaching black; the root is also more solid, and possesses a higher specific gravity. They grow more luxuriantly, require better land in higher condition, and are better able than common turnips to withstand severe frosts. They contain less water in their composition, and are proportionately more nutritious. They are also more fat-producing, and less laxative than common turnips. Twenty tons of good Swedish are considered to contain as much nutriment as twenty-five tons of the average

of yellow turnips, or as thirty tons of the average of white turnips.



The common purple top Swede, is an old variety, hardy, solid, and of good quality, and it has always been regarded as well adapted to the climate and soil of this country. This is probably the parent stock from which others have sprung. It is distinguished from the other "purple tops," by the dull red colour of the upper part of the bulb. It is very solid in texture, and not apt to run to seed,

and particularly suited to strong, deep soils. It grows deep in the ground, and the crop consequently appears to the superficial observer to be less than it really is, while the case is reversed with the improved variety. The annexed sketch (fig. 1.) presents a correct view of the shape and appearance of this old and much approved variety.

Mr. Skirving of Liverpool, (England) has distinguished himself in raising new and improved varieties of the Swede; his *Improved Purple Top* has attained to a high reputation, and is now more or less cultivated wherever Swedish turnips are grown.