

of means, the good effects of which become yearly more observable, and undoubtedly have a salutary influence upon the community.—*N. E. Farmer.*

Pasture for Swine.—A lot well seeded to clover has been recommended as highly useful for pasturing swine. The quantity of land should be so proportioned to the number of swine that they may keep the grass from going to seed. This will prevent waste, and short fine grass will be eaten with more eagerness by the animals than that which is long and coarse. It was the opinion of Dr. Deane that one acre of rich land in clover, would support twenty or more swine large and small through the summer, and bring them well forward in their growth. The hogs should be well ringed, or it is said by English writers, that shaving off the gristle of the noses of young pigs with a sharp knife, will answer the purpose of preventing them from rooting, and be better for the animals than ringing.

To obtain early Vegetables.—It has been recommended to scoop out as many turnips as you wish to obtain hills of vegetables, say of cucumbers, melons, summer squashes, &c. fill these with good garden mould, sow in each three or four seeds and plunge them into a hot bed. The advantage of the scooped turnip as a seed bed over pots or vases is that there is no difficulty in separating the mass of earth and the plants from the pots which contained them, but without injury you may transplant the vegetables together with the turnips and find in the decay of the latter nutriment for the plant within it. It is said to be best in making use of hollow turnips as aforesaid to make a hole quite through the bottom of the root, so that the radicles of the young plant may penetrate their inclosure with facility.

Asparagus.—It has formerly been thought necessary to make a very laborious and expensive process of the cultivation of asparagus, but it has more recently been ascertained that the old modes of growing that valuable esculent may be dispensed with, and asparagus raised with about as much facility as potatoes. The Hon John Welles thus describes his method, which we believe might be adopted, generally, to great advantage.

“A piece of ground was taken of a deep rich soil, after a common corn crop was taken off, the land was ploughed and manured in the usual course. Holes were then dug twelve to fourteen inches in depth and about the same distance apart, and two or three shovels full of compost manure were mixed with a part of the earth. The roots of a year's growth were inserted at about six inches in depth. This bed has flourished, and has been thought as productive as any whatever. I at the same

time, with a view to a more full and fair course of experiments, took a piece of land in another place of opposite character being of thin light soil, and adopted a like course and the result has been equally favourable. The only difference to be noted, was that the latter was more early in coming forward from the nature of the soil.

“However rare it may be that there is any over cultivation or preparation of the soil for any vegetable production, it would seem here to be the case. The old forms appear to have been kept up, and to have discouraged a more general diffusion of this valuable plant.”

“Dr. Deane, in his husbandry, has somewhat simplified the matter, but not sufficiently. His proposed method of placing the roots at six, eight, and nine inches apart is quite too near. The duration of ten or twelve years is quite a mistaken one: it lasts with us double that period.”

Mr. Armstrong in his second volume of the “*Memoirs of the New York Board of Agriculture*,” says, “It has been asserted, and with sufficient confidence, that a pickle of salt and water of the ordinary strength for preserving meat may be very usefully applied to asparagus beds in the spring. The effects ascribed to it are its stimulating power over the crop, and its tendency to destroy the seeds of weeds and insects lying near the surface. Experiments on this subject should be multiplied, and with pickles differing in strength and quality. In the last edition of Deane's *New England Farmer*, it is observed that “to a bed fifty feet by six, a bushel of salt may be applied with good effect before they start in the spring.”

Asparagus is reputed to be a very healthy vegetable. Loudon says, in Paris it is much resorted to by the sedentary operative classes when, they are troubled with symptoms of gravel or stone. *Willich's Domestic Encyclopedia* observes, “Asparagus is allowed to promote appetite; and affords a delicious article of nourishment to the invalid and valetudinarian, who is not troubled with flatulency.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. WHITE,—I am one of those who look with pleasure on the gradual improvement of society throughout the civilized world; and nothing can be a surer indication of it, than the exploding of *old*, and *useless*, nay, *pernicious systems*, though graced with the hoary sanctity of ages, nor can shew with greater force, the *ignorance* and *sloth* of a people, than the superstitious reverence shewn to these systems: they may have been good and salutary in the infant state of society, but surely they should give way to better, as a people advance in knowledge:—the boys clothes

can never fit the man. It forcibly reminds me of the peasant who, to preserve the equilibrium of his bag of grain, on his horses back, put a stone of equal weight with the grain in one end, and so maintained his balance! nor could *new-fashioned* refinement induce him to discontinue the custom of his *forefathers!*

I have been led to make these remarks by considering the manner in which Public Offices are dealt out in this Colony: it is not unusual to see the situations of *Member of Parliament, Justice of the Peace, Collector of Excise, Road Commissioner*, and what not, filled by *one person!!!* It is actually now the case. This must proceed from some one of the following causes:—Want of persons of sufficient intelligence to fill the separate departments mentioned, or if intelligent, not sufficiently trustworthy, or if wanting neither of these requisites, they want sufficient venality to become the tools of certain influential individuals, they are of course *unqualified!* The time was, when the honest COBLE officiated as a *Magistrate, Chaplain, &c.*, and occasionally the *Miller, or Sailor as Legislator!* without the *cumbersome appendage of learning*, could perform their several parts very well to suit those happy times of *artless simplicity!* but in our days it is monstrous; I would as soon have a Merry Andrew prescribe nostrums for me, as have a sailor, a pedlar, a boat-builder, or any other mechanic, frame laws for me; more especially when authorised to administer those laws to me afterwards.

If the mischievous tendency of mixing up heterogeneous Offices together need proof, the following I think is sufficient: A John McIntosh, let by contract the Cow River and Naufrage bridges for Mr. Cooper, without any authority from Government:—Angus McCormick and five others performed the contract for Dr. Jardine:—Mr. Cooper gives Mr. McIntosh a certificate for the whole sum which was *paid*; Dr. Jardine also gave Mr. McCormick a certificate for 18, which was paid likewise.—I would like to know from the parties concerned, has the Public chest paid the debt twice, or has Mr. Cooper refunded the extra sum?

A KING'S COUNTY QUERIST.
Black-bush, April 22.

CLUB ROOM, April 30.

The Club met pursuant to Adjournment. The Presid^r said, if it is the intention of honorable Members to submit any motions or resolutions for the consideration of this Club, he trusted they would now bring them forward; he would beg to remind them, they were now working by the *job* as the amount of their pay was finally fixed.

Mr. Pinder moved seconded by Mr. Peppery, that the Clerk be directed to order the late