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QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY
AT KINGSTON

KINGSTON ONTARIO CANADA

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

SOWING OF SPRING WHEAT,

AND ON THE

CULTIVATION

OF

THE GLOBE TURNIP.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF

THE DUBLIN SOCIETY.



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REPORT of SPRING WHEAT, sown in 1805, as returned to THE DUBLIN SOCIETY, in February, 1805.

COUNTIES.	NAMES.	NATURE OF THE SOIL.	TIME OF SOWING.	SPECIES OF WHEAT.	NO. OF ACRES sown.			PRODUCE PER ACRE.
					A.	R.	P.	
CARLOW.	Denis Haulon, William Cheevers.	Potatoe,	March,	Red,	6	3	10	Not 3 barrels; bad grain. Near 7 barrels.
		Limestone; potatoe,	March and April,	Red,	5	2	17	
CAVAN.	Thoma Wilson, Esq. M. D.	Potatoe,	April,	Part red lammas, and part French bearded,	2	0	0	2½ barrels good; and 1½ inferior
CORK.	Reverend Martin Armstrong.	Part potatoe land; light dry soil,	April,	Part red lammas; and part blue-coned wheat, in England called <i>River</i> ,	3	1	16	Proved bad.
DERRY.	Richard Ross.	Part potatoe; loam and light gravel,	March,	Red,	5	0	29	In all 12 barrels and a half.
DONEGAL.	Robert Barr, Esq. John Nicholson, Esq.	Partly potatoe,	February and March,		4	1	12	About 7 barrels.
		Potatoe; clay soil.	March,	Red,	3	1	5	40 cwt. in all.
DOWN.	Reverend Charles W. Moore, William Poole, Esq.	Gravelly loam,	February and March,	White,	9	0	6	7 barrels.
		Not specified,	Not specified,	Not specified,	3	1	28	Near 10 barrels.
DUBLIN.	James Smith, Richard Evans, Esq.	Potatoe,	March,	Red,	1	0	0	9 barrels, 15 stone.
		Potatoe,	April,	Red lammas,	2	4	3	About 10 barrels.
KILDARE.	Edward Barragough, Esq. Countess Dowager of Ormonde,	Ley ground prepared for potatoes,	March,	Red,	3	0	0	Not 4 barrels.
		Turnip ground,	April,	Not specified,	3	2	14	Not specified.
LONGFORD.	William Newcoman, Esq. Gerald B'low, Esq.	Potatoe,	February and April,	Drum,	2	0	13	February sowing, about 8 barrels; April do. 3½ do.
		Fallow ground; dry gravelly loam,	February and March,	Red lammas,	16	2	26	35 lamms in all.
LOUTH.	Manoqs of Sligo, George Hustan, Esq.	Not specified,	February,	Not specified,	8	1	0	A good crop.
		Potatoe and fallow,	April,	Drum,	3	0	6	Near 4 barrels.
MAYO.	Patrick Killy, Roger Goomy,	Potatoe,	January and February,	Red,	3	0	37	3 ton, 6 cwt. 21 lbs. in all.
		Fallow,	January and February,	Not specified,	3	0	0	1 ton, 12 cwt. in all.
MAYO.	William Knight, Esq. John Tummy,	Potatoe,	February,	Red English,	1	0	0	1 ton, 6 cwt.
		Fallow,	January and February,	Not specified,	2	0	0	13 cwt. and a half.
MEATH.	Patrick Paden, Henry Warner, Esq.	Potatoe,	January and February,	Red English,	2	0	10	2 ton, 8 cwt. in all.
		Deep loam,	March,	Red,	10	0	5	Estimated at 4 barrels.
MEATH.	John Reade, Esq. Laurence Flood,	Strong clay,	February and March,	Not specified,	15	2	24	About 4 barrels.
		Dry limestone; poor land,	March,	Red,	3	3	10	About 5 barrels.
MONAGHAN.	George Killin, James Wilkinson, Esq.	Potatoe,	April,	Drum,	3	2	18	25 cwt. 3 qrs. and 12 lb. in all.
		Prepared for oats,	March,	Red lammas,	3	1	0	About 3 barrels and a half.
QUENS.	Isaac Thomas, Esq. Ralph Scabin,	Rich deep peat; potatoe,	April,	Drum,	1	0	30	A bad crop.
		Potatoe,	April,	Drum,	2	3	0	A bad crop.
HAPPERRY.	Richard Wright, Charles Magan,	Limestone; potatoe,	March,	Drum,	2	1	4	115 stone, in all.
		Wheat stubble,	April,	Drum,	1	2	10	Not specified.
WESTMATH.	Charles Kelly, Esq. Charles Doone, Esq.	Fallow; light clay soil,	April,	Drum,	5	0	8	6 barrels.
		Potatoe,	March and April,	Not specified,	16	2	21	7 barrels.
WESTMATH.	Thomas Murphy, Jenneth Stephens,	Potatoe,	February,	Red,	2	0	0	Not specified.
		Potatoe, highly manured,	March,	White,	2	0	0	6 barrels, 14 stone, 5 lb. in all.
WESTMATH.	John Warren, J. Byrne,	Half potatoe and half fallow,	April,	Not specified,	3	2	0	Potatoe, 6 barrels, 5 stone; fallow, 1 barrel, in all.
		Potatoe,	March,	Red,	2	0	0	5 barrels.
WESTMATH.	Patrick Keegan, James Embury,	Drum,	February,	Drum,	2	0	0	5 barrels.
		Drum,	February,	Drum,	2	0	0	5 barrels.
WESTMATH.	John Mitton, No. 10's Summers,	Drum,	February,	Drum,	2	0	0	6 barrels.
		Drum,	February,	Drum,	1	0	0	6 barrels.
WESTMATH.	William Leary, Jos. the Mason,	Drum,	February,	Drum,	1	0	0	4 barrels, 6 stone.
		Drum,	March,	Drum,	2	0	0	In all 7 barrels, good; 11 do. mildewed.
WESTMATH.	Michael Simon, Edward Curran,	Drum,	February,	Drum,	1	0	0	3 barrels, 16 stone.
		Drum,	February,	Drum,	3	0	0	9 barrels, 4 stone.
WESTMATH.	John Collier, Esq. John Talbot, Esq.	Drum,	February,	Drum,	2	0	0	5 barrels and a half.
		Heavy deeps; the second crop after mauling, P. of mauling,	March and April,	Red and white,	20	0	0	8 barrels of red, and 9 barrels of white, to the acre.
WICKLOW.	Thomas Talbot, Thomas Tadd,	Part of red under potatoes, part under turnips, and part fallow,	March,	Red,	2	2	0	Near 14 barrels.
		2 acres potatoe, crop the second,	March and April,	White,	3	1	13	From potatoes and turnips best; on an average 12 barrels per acre.
WICKLOW.	Thomas Tadd,	2 acres potatoe, crop the second,	March and April,	White,	8	0	0	Produce, on potatoe ground, 12 barrels; remains, on an average, 8 barrels.

A LETTER

FROM THE

RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE MARQUIS OF SLIGO.

*Westport House, October
9th, 1805.*

SIR,

THE Dublin Society having expressed a wish, (with their offer of a premium for the cultivation of spring wheat in Ireland,) for any information, that could be obtained on that important subject, of so much public interest, I beg leave to transmit to them, through you, the result of some experiments, which I have made upon it in three years of successive practice.

I believe I was one of the first persons in Ireland, that ventured on the experiment of sowing wheat in spring. The practice is still new with us, and I am very much mistaken if it be well understood in Great Britain, though I know it has been followed

there for years, especially on the borders of Leicestershire, Derbyshire, and Nottinghamshire. The universally received opinion of there being more husk and bran in spring wheat than in that, which is sown in autumn, I am inclined to think is untrue altogether. It is positively contradicted by every experiment that I have made of it; and if it has any foundation, 'tis that the kind of wheat, usually called spring wheat, is of an inferior quality, and may have given rise to an opinion, for which I can trace no other grounds.

Having so disposed of one of the most weighty objections, that I have heard offered to the sowing of wheat in spring, I proceed to state the further result of my own experience on this subject, and I shall take the liberty of forwarding with my report samples of the grain, on which I have formed my opinion, with the best explanation I can give of the quantity and quality of the produce, and of every circumstance connected with it.

By some accident, (I believe the extent of my other works,) I was prevented in the year 1802 from an early preparation of my wheat fallow. The ground was not ploughed to my liking, when the frost set in, and I ordered it in consequence to be ploughed again
and

and again, and to be sown in the earliest part of the spring with the seed, which I had procured for sowing in November, and which was the common red Lammas of a good quality. The seed was sown in March, and produced a fine crop of wheat, perhaps a week later ripe than it might have been, had it been sown in autumn, but certainly not more. In the exposed situation, in which I live, the crops of wheat on our high lands, being open to the storms from the Atlantic, often fail, as the people here say, from the shoots being broken by the violence of the winds. It became therefore an object with me to follow up the experiment of sowing wheat, after those storms were over. I therefore directed another spring sowing in the spring of 1804 from the produce of this last crop, and I never saw a finer field of wheat. For a further investigation of the subject, in November 1804, I limed a hill, which was considered a fair soil for wheat, and I sowed about ten acres of it, in the month of November, with seed from the wheat, which had been sown in the preceding spring; and about one acre of the same soil, in the same field, I sowed also in November, with seed sold to me as spring wheat. The produce of both was very good, any difference fully to be accounted for by

a difference in the situation and the soil. The best of this spring wheat, sowed in winter, being threshed, produced twenty-nine pounds of wheat, which being ground produced twenty-three pounds of flour and six of bran. See samples marked 1 and 1.

Following up the same line of trials, some choice ground of mine was well ploughed. During the last winter it contained ten acres, and it was sown partly with my own former seed, and in part with one sack of the same spring wheat that had been sown in November; the grain put in the ground between the twentieth of February and the first of March. The crop was by far the most abundant I ever saw, and differed little in its quality; it was reaped between the sixth and the thirteenth of September as it became ripe, and was about one week later cut than that, which had been sown in the preceding November. One bart of it threshed produced twenty-nine pounds of wheat, which, when ground, produced twenty-seven pounds and a half of flour, and two pounds and a half of bran; not half the quantity of bran, which another bart of the same weight of wheat had produced, when sown in winter.

Having procured some seed of the wheat, called Jerusalem wheat, about one acre of the same field was at the same time, about the end of February, sown with it. The
crop

crop exceeded any thing ever seen in these parts; the straw longer; the grain far heavier and more abundant; and, what is particularly worthy of observation, not *one* ear of it, though the whole was scorched through; could be found that had received blight, though the other wheat, sown in ridges on *both sides* of the Jerusalem wheat, had been blighted most materially, and part of every ridge, save the Jerusalem wheat, was smutty. The bart of Jerusalem wheat, when threshed, weighed forty-one pounds, of which thirty-eight was flour, and three pounds only of bran. Samples marked 3, 3.—Having procured from Mr. Crips, who travelled through Egypt with Dr. Clarke, some grains of the wheat grown in Upper and in Lower Egypt, I sowed them in my garden, one kind of which was bearded, and appeared to me to be the same kind of grain as that called Jerusalem wheat, and the other not bearded; I had not enough for a sufficient experiment, but both were free from smut, and very fine grain. See samples marked 4 and 5.—They were sown in the last spring, and I have just now sown an acre of it, to see whether it may be still better by cultivating as a winter grain.

To conclude, I am of opinion that the sowing of wheat in spring is less subject
to

to casualties, than when it is sown in autumn; that it produces as large a crop, as full and as clean a grain, and, at least, as great a proportion of flour, as it would do if sown in autumn; and that what is called winter wheat is just as fit for spring sowing as any other wheat; and that the best crop will be produced from the best grain, whether it be a winter wheat sown in spring, or a spring wheat sown in winter; and I am inclined to think, though I cannot yet speak *positively*, that the Jerusalem bearded wheat is the best wheat, that has ever been introduced into Ireland. A comparison of No. 5 with No. 3, will shew, that that grain has not deteriorated in this climate, the former being the growth of seed immediately brought from Egypt.

I am, Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

SLIGO.

Rev. Dr. Lyster,

Secretary to the Dublin Society.

P. S. I send also one stock of the bearded wheat in ears, and also one stalk of the unbearded, which last is from Lower Egypt, and appears to me to be a fine grain.

The

The Jerusalem wheat had lodged, which has shriveled the grain of it a little; both were sown here last spring, and I have some of the seed of both in ground now, to make a trial of them as a winter crop.

A LETTER

FROM THE

REV. CHARLES WM. MOORE.

SIR,

INCLOSED you will receive my claim for one of the premiums offered by your Hon. Society, for the culture of spring wheat; and, for the information of your Hon. Society, I beg leave to communicate my experiments and observations on it, during the year 1805.

There were four pieces of ground under that crop.

No. 1. Two acres of good fertile gravelly loam, which was sown with winter tares, in October 1803; the produce mowed in June, for soiling, not very luxuriant. It was then left for seed, and gave a middling crop in September. Early in December, 1804, the ground was ploughed deep, and having some quick

quick grass in it, was left rough for the winter. In the beginning of February 1805 it was harrowed with the brake, cross harrowed in a few days, and the quick grass partially extirpated by a rake for that purpose. About the 10th of the month sown with four bushels per acre of white wheat, the produce of a species which was brought to me from South Devon, and much recommended. The crop was thin, producing on an average not more than seven barrels per acre; the grain full and good.

No. 2. Immediately adjoining, were three acres of similar land, sown with spring tares (broadcast, as were the tares on No. 1.) in 1804; the crop very good, and all saved for seed. The ground was ploughed soon after and found clean: sown with same wheat, three bushels per acre, about the 18th of February 1805; the crop rather thin, but well headed; averaged eleven barrels per acre. It is believed that the immense flights of wood pigeons, which frequent my grounds, were the cause of these two crops being thin, as a grove joins the field.

No. 3. One acre and an half on the side of a steep hill, facing the east; the soil somewhat moist, inclining to clay. This had been in a very rough state, and so many rocks in it, that it had been necessarily worked

worked with the pick-axe; it was well manured and planted with potatoes by hand, in April 1804. When the potatoes were dug out, it was ridged up with the plough for winter; about the 1st of March harrowed, lightly stirred with the plough, and sown with the same wheat, three bushels per acre. The crop proved uncommonly fine, and the size of the ear remarkable, as Mr. Hamilton, Secretary to the Farming Society, can testify, he having got a sample; produce about twelve and an half barrels per acre.

Note, This calculation is made from counting the stooks and threshing one. The remainder is yet on the hovel, and reserved by me for my seed this year.

No. 4. Two and an half acres of land, similar to No. 3, and immediately adjoining; in 1804, had produced a large crop of drill potatoes, well manured. This ground was sown with Dantzic white wheat, and finished the 18th of March. (This seed proved to be mixed, producing both red and bearded ears). It looked poorly in May. In the beginning of June, Nos. 3 and 4 were sown with rye-grass and clover, bush harrowed and heavily rolled. From the time of this rolling, both crops improved daily. Seeing the good effect, I rolled Nos. 1 and 2, though then up to the horses knees;

knees; this improved their appearance very much; but No. 4 continued growing, till it acquired a greater length than any crop I ever saw, not a stalk in it being less than six feet, and some much taller. The ears, however, were not so long as in the adjoining lot, nor were they quite so well filled.—Produce between ten and eleven barrels per acre.



REMARKS.

About the 15th of September, when we were busy with harvest, I saw Nos. 3 and 4. They looked extremely well, and were ripening fast; three successive days of rain and of very high wind (which did great injury to this country) followed. During this period, being much of an invalid, I did not stir out, but, on the weather taking up about the 21st, as well as I remember, was greatly surprised to see my wheat still quite black, and, on examining, found it completely mildewed, all except a little skirt at the bottom. I obeyed Mr. Young's directions, and reaped the week following, though, had it not been for the above accident, it should have stood ten days longer. Nos. 1 and 2 escaped,

2 escaped, being fully ripe. If a person, who has no great skill in Natural history, dare to differ in opinion from Sir Joseph Banks, I would do so. He supposes "mildew" to be a vegetable fungus, carried by the "air, which becomes a parasitical plant." I am at present of a quite different opinion, and think, that it arises from the vegetable juices being arrested in their circulation by cold, at which time they burst their vessels, and ooze through the outer skin. The fluid part of the sap, in this state, is soon evaporated, and leaves a black powder behind. This may be called fungus; so I believe is the lump of black sometimes formed at the top of the wick of a tallow candle, but I do not imagine either are any how related to the mushroom.

My opinion is much confirmed by examining the straw with a powerful microscope. If it was dust carried by the air, why does not the powder sometimes adhere in a transverse direction? But this is never found. With the assistance of the glass, I can trace the discoloured sap, one or more inches down the stem, before the vessel containing it is actually broke. By my theory too I can account for partial mildew, an occurrence which every farmer must frequently have observed. Patches of a rood

or an acre will appear quite black and the straw become rotten, while the rest of the field is in perfect health. If the ground be examined in these places, aquatic plants and other marks of moisture will be discovered. Here the evening fogs of a hot day will always commence. Now, if we suppose a strong wind to arise, the evaporation from the earth will be greater from these places, than from any other. Evaporation, we know, produces positive cold. In these spots of humid ground, the vessels of the plants are more distended than ordinary. A sudden cold is generated, perhaps for a few minutes, even to freezing; freezing produces expansion, and expansion an immediate rupture.

I have not yet seen any satisfactory account of the cause of smut, which, when it occurs in wheat, depreciates it very much; but, during the last four years, I have never found one single ear of any of my crops affected, which I attribute to washing the seed in a solution of salt, strong enough to bear an egg. Every grain that swims is rejected, and skimmed off; the remainder, being well washed, is taken out, spread on a floor, and dusted with quick-lime, and sown as soon as possible.

Such,

Such, Gentlemen, is the substance of my observations, and, should they seem of any use, they are entirely at your service.

I have the honor to be,
Your very humble Servant,

CHARLES WM. MOORE.

Mount Panther, Clough.

*Rev. Dr. Lyster,
Secretary to the Dublin Society.*

A LETTER

FROM

RICHARD EVANS, ESQ.

Arden Wood,
14th January, 1806.

SIR,

I SEND you herewith a Surveyor's certificate of my having cultivated and sowed, on the 2d of April 1805, at Arden Wood, county of Kildare, two acres, one rood, three perch, with wheat; and, in conformity to the desire of the Dublin Society, I beg leave to report the particular circumstances.

The soil was in 1803, a lea, overrun with a thick growth of moss, and quite hidebound, to correct which I planted it with potatoes in the lazybed mode; first laying a reasonable quantity of well prepared compost, consisting chiefly of lime and bog mould, the latter of which contained

tained a portion of marle of an inferior quality; over this compost, I put a light covering of farm-yard dung. The next year, the beds being levelled, and the trenches made where the center of the bed was the year before, I planted a second crop; both crops right good; the second rather exceeding the first. After digging out the second crop, ploughed the soil, which turned up in great order, and it being tilled entirely to my mind, and wishing to lay the ground down, I, on the 2d of April 1805, sowed the whole with common red Lammas wheat, the produce of my own land, twenty-seven stone; I am persuaded seven stone too much. This was sowed broadcast, the ground being previously made quite level, and then ploughed in with a seed plough; afterwards harrowed very well, afterwards sown with hay-seeds, six barrels to the acre. The crop came up very slowly and in all appearance bad, and I feared the many broad hints I got from my neighbours were not ill-founded. Indeed (the sowing of spring wheat being totally unknown in the country) some of them were pleased to say it was on the 1st and not on the 2d of April I made my sowing; however, in taking the very dry season into consideration, I was not without

out hopes of still having a good crop, and was very anxious for a change to moist weather. This change, although it came very late in May, had a most wonderful effect in June, and in July I had as promising a crop as any in the neighbourhood, and much better than many. The second week in September I reaped, and soon after drew in and threshed about two barrels; this month threshed the remainder; total, 21 barrels, 6 stone, 4 pounds; which, at 30s. per barrel, is about £32.

I am so confident that sowing spring wheat is of great utility, that I mean this spring to sow four acres, with a proportionable less quantity of seed, on land prepared in the same manner, with this difference, that the second crop of potatoes was planted in drills, three feet distant.

I conceive it very much serves the potatoe ground, to get a winter's fallow in addition to the potatoe culture; and I am sure the quantity of seed to be sown in spring need not be half as much as when sown in autumn; that the soil is much better tilled, and the length of the days lessens the expence of labour; that it is a disadvantage to sow hay-seeds in April rather than in winter, during which they must
consequently

consequently receive much injury. My crop of grass is now the most promising I have seen.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obliged humble Servant,

RICHARD EVANS.

*Rev. Dr. Lyster,
Secretary to the Dublin Society.*

A LETTER

FROM

EDWARD BURROUGHS, ESQ.

TO THE

DUBLIN SOCIETY.

GENTLEMEN,

I DID not read your advertisement, till the beginning of March last, for the encouragement of sowing wheat in spring; however, as I wished to make an experiment on so useful a crop, I was resolved to make as fair a trial as the nature of my soil would admit of.

Having upwards of three acres broken up from the lea, in November 1804, the half of which was well manured with lime and dung for a potatoe crop, the other half sown with oats the spring following, and limed with 120 barrels per acre, shortly after the crop was taken off, and was left fallow till the middle of March following, when it was second ploughed, well harrowed,

rowed, and sown broadcast, with fourteen stone red Lammas wheat per acre, covered well with the plough and lightly harrowed, for the purpose of laying down. The potatoe ground was treated in like manner, except half an acre, which I seeded more than the rest, and one quarter sown in ridges.

The potatoe ground, or west lawn, is a clayey loam, and the fallow, or east side, is a strong clay, with a light surface of loam. The well field about the same quality with the latter.

This field had been ploughed in October 1804, after a crop of wheat, which was the first crop of corn it had given since it was broken from the sward, at which time it was well manured. I second ploughed it the latter end of March and sowed it early in April, 1 rood 24 perch, with $5\frac{1}{2}$ stone white wheat English seed, partly broadcast and partly in ridges. Immediately adjoining this, I had an acre and a half remarkable fine oats, and in the remainder of the field winter vetches, which produced very abundantly two crops. This wheat turned out much more indifferent than the red Lammas, producing only half a barrel of very bad wheat, only fit for pigs or fowls; the straw was very

very short and mildewed, and the grain shrivelled up.

The entire of the crops came up sufficiently thick and wore a promising appearance till June, when it gradually declined. Most of the young plants turned yellow, and several of them totally failed, especially in the east side of the lawn. The rains in summer again brought forward the crop, and the ear looked promising, particularly on the west side, or potatoe ground, which I was in hopes would have produced a tolerable crop. However, I was deceived; for, although the plants stood sufficiently thick on this side of the field, there were not four barrels per acre, and on the other side not two of indifferent corn; the straw very short and mildewed.

The soil was in very fine tith when sown, and had the benefit of a fortnight's rain. This field is rather subject to the red worm, which the potatoe crop had greatly destroyed, and prepared the ground better for wheat; however, this field has been known to have produced upwards of twenty barrels of barley and ten of wheat, when not in as good heart as at the present.

I did not perceive any difference in the parts sown in ridges, which were equally unproductive

unproductive with the other parts, though this ground the year before, without manure, had given a tolerable crop of oats. I beg leave here to remark, that the grass-seed grew remarkably well, where sown with this crop, being much more luxuriant than the adjoining field laid down with oats. As I was not offered within four shillings a barrel of the current price, I sent five barrels and an half to the mill, then in possession of a friend of mine, lest I should be deceived in the produce, which was as follow:— $8\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. weak seconds; two stone, indifferent thirds; nearly twenty stone of very bad bran.

Mr. Jackson, a neighbour of mine, sowed an acre with English white wheat the latter end of March, in a remarkable good field, (a deep loam) well prepared and ploughed in ridges, about sixteen stone per acre. The crop very indifferent in every respect, not three barrels of corn produce. He sowed the remainder of the field with barley the second week in May, which had the same cultivation and manure with the wheat. He cut upwards of seventeen barrels per acre of the field. His ground is not subject to the red worm, notwithstanding many of the wheat plants totally failed at the time
the

the barley shewed a most promising appearance.

I have known wheat to be sown in some counties of England in February, and even early in March, in cold wet ground, when too heavy to be tilled in autumn; but those, who have been obliged to defer sowing so long, acknowledge their preference of autumn sowing, though they had sometimes tolerable crops, owing to a very favourable season.

I certify the foregoing account is true, which I shall verify by affidavit on my return to the County of Kilkenny.

EDWARD BURROUGHS.

The above wheat sown in the County of Kilkenny, barony of Gowran, parish of Tullowhern, and townland of Bishops-lough.

Note.—The Society having offered premiums for sowing spring wheat in 1806, postpone their observations on the advantages or disadvantages of this mode of husbandry, till they have received the reports of 1806.

ON

ON THE GLOBE TURNIP.

THE Society having received several letters addressed to their worthy Member, Colonel Hardy, recommending the sowing of Globe Turnips, think proper to publish the three following for the information of the public.

N. B. The seed may be had at Simpson's, College-green.

No. I.

*Prudhoe Castle, Northumberland,
25th February, 1806.*

SIR,

IN answer to your letter respecting the superiority of the globe turnip to the Norfolk, or even to any other kind which has yet been introduced into this neighbourhood, allow me simply to state (without attempting a theoretical description of its superior qualities), that in this district, where a great proportion of the soil is peculiarly adapted to the cultivation of this
excellent

excellent root, and, I presume, some little attention has been paid to the selection and raising of seed from the most valuable kinds, that, so far as the practice and experience of this neighbourhood may tend to prove the utility of any particular species, the globe turnip, in preference to all others, may be justly said to be the only kind now cultivated in Tyne side for winter food, consequently stands highest in estimation.

The bullock turnip and *Swedish*, or *Rutabaga*, have been partially cultivated for spring use latterly, and bid fair for more general culture; as, with proper attention being paid to the preservation of the *Rutabaga* when drawn from the ground, it may be kept perfectly good until the latter end of May or beginning of June, which is of material consequence, considering the scarcity of green food which often prevails in our northern climate at that season.

I am Sir,

Very respectfully Yours,

WM. LAWS.

No. II.

No. II.

*Claston, near Gateshead,
Feb. 15, 1806.*

SIR,

I HAVE sown the globe turnip for some years, and give it the preference to any I have yet tried; being of opinion, it is the most nutritive, and from its shape stands the winter well: it is a valuable turnip to use early, being of quick growth, and gets to a very large size when sown about the last week in May, or the first week in June; those intended to be eaten late I sow two or three weeks later.

JOHN KELL.

No. III.

*Backworth, Durham,
Feb. 21, 1806.*

SIR,

I HAVE cultivated the globe turnip twelve years, and found it preferable to any other sort that has come under my inspection; in its texture it is firm and compact; its juices are nutritious and sweet to the taste, making an excellent vegetable for the table, and, from these qualities, improving cattle amazingly; it shoots a small close top, throwing off the wet and resisting
frost

frost in preference to any of the flat sorts. Since it has become generally known, no other kind is cultivated in this district.

I remain Sir,

Most respectfully yours,

THOMAS BOURN.



