

apples every year without other help. The trees must be properly fertilized and moderately trimmed every year. If the orchard is so thick as to interlock, cut out every other row diagonally, which will give the tree sun and air. Then if the rains and cold storms don't wash out the pollen of the flowers at the time of fertilization, there will be no reason why we should not raise as good fruit as in olden times.—ALBERT WOOD, in *American Agriculturist*.

A HANDY FIELD MARKER.

Regularity is one of the chief features that make a garden attractive. It is not enough that the rows of vegetables be straight, but such plants as lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, etc., should also have a uniform distance in the row, and with the wider planted ones, if possible, also be in line crosswise.

A convenient little device to mark not only the rows but also the exact places for each plant in the row, we find illustrated in Rawson's Market Gardener's and Vegetable Grower's Manual. Our illustration makes construction

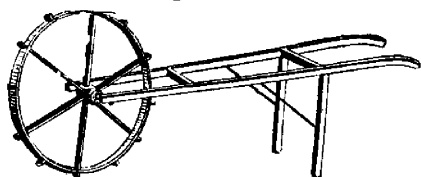


FIG. 773.

much plainer than a wordy description could do. The pins which serve to mark the places for plants in the row are put in with a nut, and may be changed to mark intervals of ten, twelve, twenty and twenty-four inches, if the wheel is made plump 38 inches

in diameter. A field can be marked with this implement in a short time, and with little effort. For the purposes of marking the rows for sowing seeds of radishes, carrots, table beets, lettuce, etc., in the house garden, any of the simple home-made garden markers, consisting of a piece of scantling with the necessary number of teeth, and a convenient handle, will answer well enough.

Pruning when Transplanting. — The stem should now be put in condition for the formation of the top, by removing all the limbs to the point where it is desired to have the top; then cut back each remaining limb, leaving from four to six buds of last season's growth. In the absence of any limbs suitable to form a top, cut the tree down to the requisite height, leaving the dormant buds to make the top. The business of pruning vigorously at time of setting is generally an ungrateful one to the planter, as it injures for a time the appearance of the tree to an unpracticed eye. It should, however, be unhesitatingly performed, all the branches to the extent of at least one half the length of the previous year's growth being removed. Care should also be used to give the proper form to the tree. The head may be left high or low, as the taste of the planter may prefer, or as the nature of the tree in some cases may require. No stock planted in the fall should be pruned till the hard frost has left in the spring, but before the sap starts.—W. E. Wellington.