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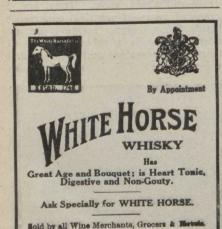
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fact and almost incredible in a place where there is everything to promote healthy growth — air, sunshine, and abundance of fresh manure. The vegetables may be preserved for winter use, and this is no Utopian picture, but possible and executive.

sible and essential.

As I have mentioned, the presence of As I have mentioned, the presence of live stock is one reason urged for not making the cultivation of vegetables and flowers a serious part of the farmer's work. Timber for fencing is difficult to obtain and so forth, but live hedges may be planted, for instance, of the Honey Locust, which is very cheap and a strong, thorny barrier against marauders. A few hundreds may be planted in a very short space of time and act not only as a protection, but shelter from storms of wind and rain. And whilst in the midst of the planting season think of the advantage of firs, flowering shrubs, and fruit trees in the enrichment of the immediate surroundings of the home. The firs mentioned in the "Courier" of March 29 are exactly the type of shrub for softening the hard outlines of the house, and one can picture the desolation of the homestead shown there without the spruce hedge and orchard.

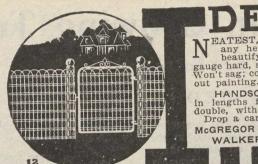
A small orchard on all sides of the house, or partly surrounding it brings

ture the desolation of the homestead shown there without the spruce hedge and orchard.

A small orchard on all sides of the house, or partly surrounding it, brings not only beauty of flowers, sometimes of leaf colourings in the fall, but profit, and for this purpose few fruits excel the Crab apples and hybrids of recent years, which are not planted so plentifully as one would suppose from their excellent qualities. I intend to use them largely, and the following remarks from Stone and Wellington's catalogue emphasize my belief in this group of fruits: "Within the past few years much attention has been given to improving this class of fruit, because of their adaptability to cold sections, where only a few varieties of apples can be successfully grown. These efforts have been attended with marked success. Crab apples succeed equally well in all sections, and are valuable for cider, preserving, jelly, ornament, and some of the improved sorts are excellent for eating. Sent to the Eastern markets they command a very high price." There is a good choice in Excelsior, Montreal Beauty, Orange, Red Siberian, and Transcendent, and of the hybrids specially recommended for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are Alberta, Jewel, and Pioneer, this race resulting from crossing the Siberian Crab apple (Pyrus baccata), in itself a beautiful tree with the hardiest Canadian apples, such as Haas and Yellow Transparent. The Crab apples are graceful and attractive in all ways, wreathed over with pinky bloom in early summer and dashed with crimson and gold in the fall from a rich harvest of prettily-shaped fruits. A beautiful farm is not impossible.

Horticulture at the Canadian National

SEVERAL letters have appeared lately in the daily press in reference to a more liberal encouragement for horticulture, and by this is intended flowers, fruits, and vegetables. There is no doubt that a radical reform will bring about much satisfaction, and the hall in which the exhibits are placed prove a fairy scene of floral beauty. Flowers have a decided attraction for all classes, for both old and young, but there must be exquisite arrangements, due regard for colour contrast, and harmonious surroundings in sympathetic shades—a cool green tint proving as agreeable as any for all sorts of flowers. A large building filled with rare and common flowers grown to high perfection would prove universally popular and impress many with the alluring beauty of the exhibition. Machinery, cattle, dogs, baby shows, and even farming have, perhaps, little interest to thousands of city dwellers who flock to this great national exhibition, but banks, vistas and bowers of blossom will be remembered long after other features have been forgotten. Of course, fruits—apples in particular—make prodigious display of colour, but of course, fruits—apples in particular—make prodigious display of colour, but flowers and a greater variety of vegetables such as one welcomes in all gardens would show that the exhibition is a place to learn something we are not already acquainted with.



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