

damage always results to the crops from these weeds, and if these expenses are added to the first one, the whole will easily sum up to 20 per cent., or a tax of one-fifth of the value of the farm. To remedy this we would have fewer fences, or we would clean and sow down the fence rows to grass or clover, and mow them twice a year. Ten acres of clover or timothy would at least supply a farm with seed and a few tons of hay every year. We would, in short, consider the fence rows as a valuable part of the farm and use them as such.—*Dixie Farmer.*

#### CARE OF PLANTS IN WINTER.

All roots of ornamental and flowering plants that are kept dry over the winter should be thoroughly ripened during the autumn. If frost overtakes them they should be dug up with earth adhering to them and placed in a light cellar, or other place secure from frost to thoroughly ripen up and dry. Then keep in a cool, dry place until they are wanted for starting in the spring. This will apply to cannas, caladiums, dahlias, gladiolus, and all other plants of that class.

Tuberose, begónias, and that class requiring to be kept simply dormant for a time, should have the water gradually withheld, in the autumn, and be gradually allowed to get dry, after the close of the flowering season. About February they may be again started by shaking the soil from the roots and re-potting.

Tender shrubs, like fuschia, oleander, orange, tender roses, and all that class may be successfully wintered in a light cellar that does not absolutely freeze. They should have but little water, only sufficient to compensate for the actual loss by evaporation. In fact the soil should always be kept dry rather than moist, the moisture never approaching

the state of wetness during the winter rest.

#### SEEDLING POTATOES

For years past nothing in the way of novelties has met with readier sale than new potatoes. The usual price when first introduced is one dollar the pound, and in one case at least as high as four dollars per pound were paid last season. Farmers might just as well raise their own potatoes from seeds, and thus at very much less expense provide new and valuable kinds for themselves.

March 15th, planted seeds of the English Magnum Bonum in a flower pot 10 inches in diameter. The seeds germinated as readily as tomato seeds would, so that by April 9th, they were ready to be transplanted to little pots three inches in diameter. On May 20th, a small plot of soil was prepared and enriched with concentrated potato fertilizer at the rate of 500 pounds to the acre. The plants were thumped out of the little pots, being very careful to preserve the ball of earth and roots intact, and set a foot apart in rows—the rows three feet apart. No check to the growth was sustained, and, if we would secure tubers of the largest size the first season from seed, this is all important. If from becoming pot-bound or too dry, the little tubers cease to grow, that is the end of their enlargement. New tubers have to form, while those first formed become knobby or sprout again and decay. Potato seeds may be sown out of doors in the Spring when settled weather has arrived. But they make comparatively little growth of vine, and the average of tubers will be no larger than small marbles. Besides, potato beetles have to be watched very closely or the tender little plants will soon be destroyed. Even a few hours of neglect may destroy every one.—*Rural New Yorker.*