

is preferable to hills. Plant once in two weeks for a succession.

Cucumber.—Where there are cold-frames or hot-beds from which the plants have been removed, they can be profitably devoted to cucumbers. Plants started in pots or beds early, may be set out when the weather becomes warm.

Egg-plants.—Set out as soon as all danger of frost is over, in a warm, rich spot.

Lettuce.—Set out the early-sown sorts; give plenty of manure. Sow seed for a succession.

Melons need the same treatment as cucumbers. Give liquid manure when convenient; it aids the growth of the plants very much.

Onions.—Weed as soon as up, and keep the ground constantly stirred. A dressing of ashes, worked into the soil between the rows with a hoe, is very beneficial.

Parsley.—Sow in open ground this month after soaking the seed in warm water.

Peas should be bushed before they fall over. Earth up in hoeing. Late sorts may be sown.

Potatoes.—Hoe as soon as up; finish planting.

Radishes.—If a constant supply is wanted, sow every week, and keep clear of weeds; when insects appear, dust with air-slaked lime.

Parsnips ought to be sown early; they require the same treatment as carrots.

Rhubarb.—Do not remove the stalks from plants set last fall. Never cut the leaves, but pull with a slight sidewise twist; remove flower-stalks.

Squashes for late use may be planted the latter part of this month in well enriched soil. The early sorts are managed the same as cucumbers.

Tomatoes. Transplant from hot-bed as soon as danger of frost is over; set four feet apart.

Turnips.—If the black fly attacks the plants, give a sifting of fine air-slaked lime.

FLOWER-GARDEN AND LAWN.

Evergreens, if set early this month, usually do the best; the great secret is to transplant them just as they begin their annual growth. As soon as they are taken from the nursery, see that the roots are protected from the air, as a tree of this kind, the roots of which have become dry, seldom recovers and does well. Among the best for specimen trees, or screens, are the Hemlock, Norway Spruce, Arbor Vitæ, etc. In planting select, if possible, a moist, cloudy day; the soil around the roots should be fine and rich; fresh manure ought never to be used, but, when well established, give an annual dressing of good compost, with plenty of vegetable matter in it.

Margins around beds, or along walks, must be kept cut smooth by the use of the edging-knife. The outlines of the beds may be preserved by driving down stakes even with the surface.

Annuals.—The hardy ones must be sown immediately, while the tenderer sorts should be left until the ground becomes warm and dry, or they may be sown in boxes in the house now.

Perennials may be sown in beds apart from the annuals; keep free from all weeds. Sow seed of those coming into flower as soon as ripe.

Bulbs.—Plant out *Gladioluses*, *Lilies*, etc., as soon as the ground is dry. Tuberoses ought to be started in pots in the house or greenhouse.

Climbers.—Sow seeds of the Sweet-pea, Cypressvine, Morning Glory, etc., to hide old fences and other unsightly objects, or to cover trellises, etc.

Dahlias, which have been started, may be planted out this month.

Lawns.—In order to have a fine close turf, it is necessary that the ground should be rich, the seed sown thickly, and the grass mowed often. Weeds generally flourish best in a poor soil, where the grass does not make a growth strong enough to crowd them out. Lawns must be mowed often to keep the turf thick, and to destroy all annual weeds; the grass ought to be allowed to remain on the ground, where it acts as a mulch and fertilizer.

GREENHOUSE AND WINDOW PLANTS.

It has usually been the custom to put house-plants, and most of those in the greenhouse, out of doors during the summer; many plants are injured in this way, and when in the fall it is found necessary to return them to the greenhouse, they often present a very unsightly appearance. By ventilation, and shading of the glass, plants may be kept in excellent condition during the summer.

Shelter.—Plants out of doors need shelter from the sun and winds, especially *Camellias*; the pots ought to be placed upon a layer of coal-ashes, to prevent the worms from getting into them.

Plunging, or setting the pot in soil up to its rim, is often advisable, to avoid the necessity of frequent watering during very warm weather.

Bedding Plants may be set out in the open border as soon as the ground is warm and dry.

SHORTHORNS IN AMERICA.

BY AN ENGLISHMAN.

Before the present century dawned, some of our best Shorthorn cattle were imported into America; since that early period, both the States and Canada have bestowed great attention on their breeding, and no countries have made so many importations or paid

such large sums for good animals of the most fashionable blood. A history of American Shorthorns is now being compiled by Mr. Lewis F. Allan, the editor of the American Herd Book; therefore my purpose in the following paper is to give merely a sketch of those herds that I saw in a short trip of nine weeks, during which time only several of the leading herds in the States and Canada could be seen, and many good and well-known stocks were passed by, with regret, unseen. Shorthorn breeders, ere this, have been able to form their own judgment upon the cattle that have, since 1861, been sent back into this country, and their offspring have, by their own merit, shown that the blood has suffered little if any degeneracy, even under a change of climate and on different soil and food. Many difficulties present themselves in writing a short narrative of a winter journey. I shall, consequently, endeavour to set down only such things as came before an impartial eyewitness, for, if I mistake not, the public, hitherto, has never received any account of American Shorthorns in their native homesteads and pastures. Winter is not the season for cattle to show to the greatest advantage, but if animals look well at such a time, due allowance can be made for their appearance under more favorable circumstances. It has been generally considered that the American climate is against the growth of hair. The majority of those animals I saw, especially the younger ones, showed as much hair as may be seen in many herds in this country. Nature and fashion, however, adjust themselves to circumstances. The summers in many parts of America are exceedingly hot, hence Nature throws off that coat which is a protection against the cold in winter, and at the shows those animals attract the most notice that are sleek and as well groomed as a horse; consequently, in summer the cattle are well brushed, sheeted against the heat and flies, and not exhibited with that coat of hair so much admired here.

Few strains of blood have created of past years more attention than that of the "Duchess" tribe; the scarcity and demand for it in this country led to its re-importation from America, where, consequently, it has drawn forth as much or even more notice. Although *Duchess 34th*, generally admitted to be one of the finest of the tribe, was offered by Mr. Bates, in 1835 (whilst in calf with DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND (1940), by BELVEDERE), to the Ohio Company for 150 gs., she was not purchased, and the first exportation of Duchesses was made by Mr. Thorne from Earl Ducie's sale in 1853. A period of depression in America ensued afterwards, and it is considered that Thorndale, Dutchess County, New York, situated in a cold hilly district, near the Hudson River, in its deficiency of limestone, was unfitted to the growth and development of Shorthorns. Mr. Thorne sold most of his herd to Mr. Sheldon, whose estate at White Spring Farms, Geneva, is in a good grass region, has a fine Wheat soil, and is thoroughly adapted for cattle. Here the tribe increased, but domestic circumstances led to the sale of Mr. Sheldon's herd to Messrs. Walcott & Campbell, of New York Mills, Utica, where this branch of the tribe is at present located. There are (December, 1870) ten cows and heifers, varying from two to ten years old, two heifer calves, one 3-year old bull, and four bull calves; but all these cows and heifers are not in a breeding state. There is at the present time