

free from unsightly weeds. Many devices have been employed to overcome the difficulty, with varying success. The following, from the *Canada Farmer*, can be easily applied, and is well worth a trial:

—“A most efficient agent for the destruction of weeds, and one not expensive, can be made by boiling four pounds of arsenic and eight pounds of soda in twelve gallons of water. To every gallon of this mixture three gallons of cold water should be added, and the liquid carefully sprinkled over the walks while it is yet warm. It is desirable to do this in fine weather, and when the walks are dry, so that the weeds and weed seeds may have full benefit of the application. Care must be taken not to let any of the liquid fall on the leaves or reach the roots of any plants it is not desired to kill. In twenty-four hours after the poison is put on the walks every weed will be killed; and if it be once thoroughly done, it will keep the walks clean through the whole season.”

BUDDING THE ROSE.

From the *Villa Gardener*, a new Publication just issued in London, England, we copy the following paragraphs:

But two things are necessary to bud roses successfully. The stocks must be in the right state and so must the bud. Unless the bark of the rose will separate freely from its woody foundation, budding cannot be successfully performed. The answer, then, to the question is in general terms, at any time when the bark of the stock, and of the cion or bud, will rise; that is, separate freely from their respective wood. For it is essential that the bark of the stem should open freely to receive the bud, and that the bud with its accompanying bark should be deposited in its new home with the least possible bruise or injury. Some may take exception to this general principle as far as the bud is concerned. As long as the stock is right in regard to the free circulation of its bark from its wood, it is in a condition for budding.

If the bud and its bark will not leave the wood freely, some simply cut it off with a thin slice of wood, and insert it without the conditions recommended. Now there is no doubt that such buds will often grow; but the plan is not to be recommended, especially as the bud and bark budding is so much more simple, expeditious and successful. Again, the question when to bud may be answered pretty correctly by specifying the time from the middle of June to the middle of August inclusive, as the best budding season, though the operation may be performed at any time when stocks and buds are in the state already described.

COMPARATIVE VALUE OF STANDARD AND DWARF PEAR TREES.

Mr. Martin has had the best success with dwarf pears, and values them highly. While the standard pear will eventually become the more valuable, yet the dwarf produces fruit so soon that he advocates the planting of them. His dwarfs have produced four or five large crops, and promise to be fruitful for four or five years to come. High trained standards do not produce as good fruit as dwarfs, but as between low trained standards and dwarfs, he sees but little difference in the quality of the fruit. His to-

tal loss by blight for ten years, of both standard and dwarf, has been but two per cent., and the account stands in favor of the dwarfs. Root pruning of those on pear roots is resorted to, should they not be fruitfully inclined.

He plants ten feet by ten feet when dwarfs and standards are planted together, and ten feet by 15 feet when standards alone, and on thin soil, sometimes ten feet by ten feet and then trains low. He does not believe in the uncalled for practice of converting dwarfs into standards.—*T. T. Southwick, in Tilton's Journal of Horticulture.*

RUSTIC PICTURE FRAMES.

Rustic wood for this and other purposes is in great favor now-a-days. With a little care in selection of material, and skill in handling tools, we may frame our engravings and paintings at slight cost. Oak wood, denuded of the bark, presents a beautiful corrugated surface, out of which the knife easily removes the few fibers which adhere, and it is ready for varnishing as soon as it is seasoned. The “season cracks,” should they occur, may be filled with dark-brown putty, and will even lighten the general effect.

Take a thin board, of the right size and shape, for the foundation or “mat,” saw out the inner oval or rectangular form to suit the picture. Nail on the edge a rustic frame made of the branches of hard, seasoned wood, and garnish the corners with some pretty device, such, for instance, as a cluster of acorns. Ivy may be trained to grow around these frames with beautiful effect.—*Scientific American.*

HOW SAGE GROWS BEST.

As every farmer's garden should have this useful herb, we give the following paragraph:

Sage grows best in a light, warm, rich soil. It may be grown from slips or cuttings, but in this country it is most commonly propagated from seed. Sow thinly in seed eighteen in an inch apart, and from a half to three-fourths of an inch deep. Fresh rows may be formed by the plants so taken up. Sage should be gathered for drying before the flowers shoot out and if cultivated for the leaves, the flower stalks should be cut as soon as they appear. This increases the product, as the leaves start out more vigorously and grow larger.—*Mass. Ploverman.*

GARDEN GLEANINGS.

MICHAEL thinks the two hours he spent in watering his garden just before it was soaked by a thunder shower was a work of super-irrigation.

If you would avoid future pests among your fruit trees, collect, with a fine toothed rake, the wormy apples that fall, and feed them to the pigs.

A HORTICULTURIST thinks that he has found that charcoal, finely powdered, wonderfully improves the blooms on his plants, when he scatters it thickly in his flower pots. It is especially effective in giving richness to red colors.

TEAR a bit of coarse lace over a tumbler or fruit can full of soft water, press the cloth into the fluid and cover it with peas. The thread like roots will go down and the vines may be trained about a frame, making a pretty indoor ornament.