

keep the roots in and light out. Both plants are alive and vigorous after two months.

"Both manganese and potash, the components of permanganate of potash, are essential fixed elements in the structure of plants. Manganese occurs in small quantities; and, although its beneficial properties have not yet been definitely ascertained, it is doubtless taken up by the rootlets in solution with other matters. Of the absolute necessity of potash for plant-food there is not a shadow of doubt. In short, it is essential to the life of a plant, and there seems to be no end to its power of combining with other substances, in most cases rendering matters solvent and assimilable which without its aid would have remained useless. The liquid permanganate of potash certainly looks a very risky thing to water plants with; but it is not so, for *adiantum*s dipped overhead in it gave no unfavourable result. Poured through a pot filled with pure sand, it filters through as pure, colourless water of beautiful softness. For flowers in vases it is evidently good; the water does not require changing or become offensive, and the plants preserve an unusual freshness and vigour. I have used it for some time in a glass button-hole holder, and the flower-stalks seized and absorbed the colouring matter in about an hour. This was especially the case with yellow flowers. Overhead watering with this liquid is disastrous to our common enemy, the green fly."

APPLES IN THE LONDON MARKET.

Keeling & Hunt, at Monument Buildings, London, England, on 30th December, 1884, reported the following sales, viz:—Choice selected Greenings, 10s. 6d. sterling; Baldwins, 14s. 6d.; Roxbury Russets, 10s.; Golden Russets, 12s. 6d.; Ribston Pippins, 13s. 6d.

THE YELLOWS.

The *Gardeners' Monthly* notes the success which has attended the experiments of a Mr. Miller in staying the ravages of the "yellows," or a kindred disease, which attacks the *Rhododendron*, *Norway Spruce*, *White Pine*, and other things, by the application of sulphur to the roots. "That the fungus which causes the peach yellows," says the editor, "is the same as that which works injury in other cases has been positively proved by experiments recorded in our pages, where a spadeful of soil near a diseased peach tree permeated by the fungus spawn, placed around a *Norway Spruce* produces the disease in that tree also, and a microscopic examination of the two fungi shows them to be the same. A species of fungus ferment seems to permeate the whole tree after these attacks, and buds taken with the ferment fungus in the tissue and used for inoculating other stocks will spread the disease. Even seed taken from such diseased trees carries a portion of the ferment with it, and the disease is spread in other directions." The editor then refers to a visit to Mr. Miller, the consulting landscape gardener, of Fairmount Park, N. Y., and says:—"Every practical gardener knows that sulphur is always fatal to the lower organisms, though wholly innocuous as against the higher forms of life, and it required only the suggestion to use that on fungus below ground, which had been found so effectual on fungus above. The sulphur application was quite as effectual here, and Mr. Miller was quite enthusiastic as he pointed out his *Rhododendrons* and *Pines*, once so thoroughly disease-stricken that most gardeners would have at once committed them to the flames, now as green and healthy as the best. The only wonder is that no one has thought to try sulphur on the root fungus as a remedy for the