

the wrought-iron rivets for fastening ironwork together. Here, are steam hammers which would forge a crank-shaft weighing forty tons, and there, are heavy rolling mills which will turn out plates as thin as an eighth of an inch or as thick as twenty-four inches. Nothing comes amiss to these ready iron and steel workers by the Thames, whether it be a simple tank for oil or an armour-clad turret for the Government—a wrought roof for a public building or huge spans for a bridge. Indeed, it may be added that the iron superstructure for the famous Britannia Tubular Bridge was built at these works in 1846-7, as also was the ironwork for the new London, Chatham, and Dover Bridge at Blackfriars. But various as are the constructions, the principles pursued are much the same. Iron is melted and cast into moulds; or it is forged under hammers heavy or light; or it is twisted red-hot on the bending blocks; or rolled in ponderous mills to any thickness or

shape required, so stupendous and so well directed are the powers employed.

And what of the workmen? Mr. A. F. Hills, the Chairman of the Directors, has said that a scheme is in operation by which the authority of the Company is determined and the legitimate functions of the Trade Unions recognised. Every workman is paid a standard trade rate; but, in addition, a premium is also paid to specially skilled operators, thus obviating a general dead level of only average work. Further, a system of profit-sharing has been adopted, by which all profits, after 10 per cent. has been paid to shareholders, are divided equally between them and the workmen. As for the much-talked-of eight hours' movement, the Company have adopted it definitely, with a proviso, however, as to overtime when necessary. By such a scheme, which provides also for sickness and accidents, the proprietors and workmen are practically made to feel that their interests are identical.

GARDEN WORK FOR JANUARY.

Kitchen Garden.

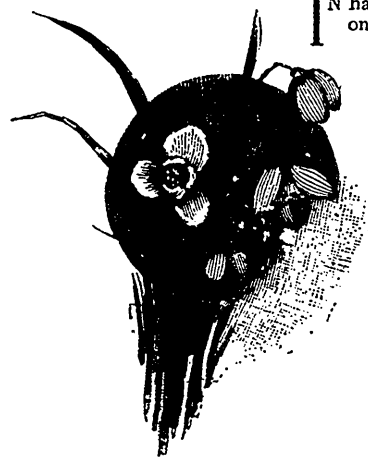
IN hard frosty weather manure should be placed in heaps on the vacant ground, so as to be ready for spreading and digging in during mild weather. This should be done whenever the opportunity occurs. Peas may be sown thickly for an early crop when the weather is mild in a sheltered position. The rows should be about six feet apart. Early potatoes or dwarf kidney beans may be planted between the rows. Sow broad beans also for an early crop in a warm border. Lettuces may be sown in pans, and placed in the greenhouse, and pricked out into other pans when ready. Keep them as near the glass as possible. Water should be given sparingly.

Fruit Garden.

Plant fruit trees of all kinds, and protect from the frost by putting loose litter on the ground round the stems, and where the soil has been disturbed in planting. Prune all kinds of fruit trees which require it.

Flower Garden.

Bulbs may be planted in open weather. Rose trees may be planted, but they thrive better when planted in November or December.



STOOP! STOOP!—Benjamin Franklin, when a young man, visited Cotton Mather. At the close of the interview he showed him by a back way out of the house. As they proceeded along a narrow passage he said to the lad, "*Stoop! stoop!*" Not immediately comprehending the meaning of the advice, Franklin took another step, and brought his head rather violently against a beam that projected over the passage. "My lad," said Mather, "you are young, and the world is before you; learn to stoop as you go through it, and you will save yourself many a hard thump."

THE MAKINGS OF A HERO.—When Hawke left his father for the first time, for shipboard, the latter expressed a hope that he should live to see him a captain. "A captain!" exclaimed the boy. "If I did not think I should come to be an admiral, I would not go to sea at all!"

BAD TEMPER.—When Robert Hall was a boy he had a very passionate temper. He knew that he ought to try and conquer it: so he resolved that whenever he felt his temper rising he would run away to another room, and, kneeling down, would use this short prayer: "O Lamb of God, calm my mind." So completely was he enabled by the help of God to overcome this sin that he grew up to be a man of remarkably gentle temper.