

forseen it, before making the plantation, a more protected location might have been chosen.

INSECT ENEMIES.

The only insect enemy of asparagus which has appeared yet in our State is the cutworm. Clean and continuous culture in early spring, following autumn plowing of the surface, has reduced this pest to a minimum with me.

That persistent enemy to the culture of this esculent, the asparagus beetle, which appeared in eastern plantations as early as 1860, has not reached us yet.

ORNAMENTAL USE OF ASPARAGUS.

If it were not a common kind of vegetable, asparagus would take a prominent place as a lawn decorative plant. Its airiness and delicacy, combined with its pleasing tint of green and its perfection as a screen, render it one of the most useful ornamental plants.

It is inexpensive, grows rapidly, and requires little care. Many an unsightly corner may be made attractive by its employment, and its usefulness in the kitchen garden ought not to reduce its popularity for ornamental purposes. Altogether, asparagus is one of our most valuable importations from across the sea, and while we may not rival our French brethren in the quality of the product we secure from the plant, perhaps our tastes are not so highly cultivated but that our own product is as satisfactory for our own people.

CHAS. W. GARFIELD, before the *Michigan State Hort. Society*.

TRANSPLANTING ONIONS.



In a bulletin of the Ohio Experiment Station for October last, we find some further points on the practice of transplanting onions. It seems that Mr. Green, the horticulturist, has also been making experiments in the same line as Mr. Greiner, and with the same results. He finds that by transplanting, the yield of the onion bed can be increased in some cases about 100 per cent, especially with such late ripening foreign varieties as the Pompeii, Prize-taker and the White Victoria. In explanation Mr. Green mentioned three causes which appear to produce the increase in yield: first, longer period of growth of transplanted onions than those sown in the field; second, the advantage of making the greater share of their growth earlier in the season during the cool weather; and, third, the greater uniformity in size. With regard to the expense incurred by the extra labor in transplanting, he says that that is offset by the saving of labor in weeding. Indeed, Mr. Green assures us that the cost of growing a crop is actually lessened, instead of being increased, by transplanting, and further that the finer appearance of the transplanted onions and their increased market value over those grown by the common method gives this plan a very decided advantage.