

that the shoots will be from ten to twelve inches apart. As these grow, train them to the second, third, and fourth bars of the trellis.

The best grape vine trellis is probably the wire trellis, that is, constructed by planting posts as far apart as you choose to have the length of your trellis; stretch the wires, four in number, about eighteen inches apart, letting them pass through stakes at proper distances from each other to support the wire. As the wires are contracted by cold, and likely to break or sway the posts from their places, they should be loosened as cold weather approaches.

When, however, it is not convenient to make a wire or other trellis, very good results are had with the old vineyard system of training to stakes. The vines are planted eight feet apart, in a place exposed to the sun, and are trained to an upright stake. The method is as simple as the cultivation of Indian corn. Often a large and uncomely rock may be converted to usefulness and beauty by planting a grape-vine on its sunny side, and making use of the rock as a trellis.

DWARF APPLES.

Some contemporary papers are advising the choice of dwarf apple trees for planting in gardens or other limited grounds. But the apple is only effectively dwarfed on the Paradise stock—"Jerusalem apple"—a sort which naturally grows only three or four feet high; has bright bark and deep green leaves which look very well; but it has an irregular, untidy habit of growth, and very brittle wood, apt to snap short off when a load of fruit and racking winds put a strain on it. The borer, too, affects it more than other apple stems, so that on the whole its culture is difficult. Its own fruit, ungrafted, is a mawkish, bitter-sweet, but other apples grafted upon it attain superior size, colour and quality. For those who can take adequate care of the trees, such sorts as Summer Rose, Maiden Blush, Keswick, Codlin, Summer Pippin, Jonathan, Mother, etc., are admirably fine from grafts upon this stock. The grafts should be set at least some inches above the surface, in order not to make roots themselves and convert the trees into standards. For general planting in gardens it is best to select sorts of naturally dwarf growth, such as the Rose, the Keswick, the Joe, the Hawthornden, etc., which begin to bear when only two or three years old, and go on bearing so freely as to keep themselves of dwarf size. If grafted on Doucam stock, which is sometimes called Paradise, it is not much dwarfed, but is enduring, and has very numerous fibrous roots capable of feeding freely from a limited space, and is therefore specially suitable for garden planting.—W.

GRAFTING.

I have had thirty years' experience in all the various modes of grafting and budding trees, says a writer in the *Fruit Recorder*. In preparing the limb, I first saw off the branch to be grafted, then with a sharp knife I pare the end of the stub that is to receive the graft, so that the cuticle between the wood and the bark can be distinctly seen; then with the knife I split the limb: using a small, turned wooden mallet, holding fast to the handle, and striking the point, I extricate it from the split. I then drive in the wedge to accommodate the thickness of my grafts. After setting the inner parts of the barks or cuticle exactly together, I knock out the wedge, leaving it to pinch the grafts tight. In whittling a graft I always make the inside edge a little the thinnest, so that it will pinch the hardest on the outer edge, always leaving a bud just at the crown. I then wax with grafting wax, first warming the wax,

and greasing my hands with tallow to keep the wax from sticking. I make wax as follows: Four pounds rosin, one pound tallow, three-fourths pound beeswax. Melt all together over a slow fire; have a tub ready with lukewarm water. As soon as all is well melted pour a small quantity at a time into the water, then grease hands with tallow and pull the wax until it is pliable, and of a golden yellow colour. Roll into balls, and throw into warm water to cool. By following the above directions, 95 per cent. will grow.

PEGGED ROSES.

A writer in *Gardening Illustrated* says: "Only those who have seen the glorious displays that roses are capable of producing year after year when pegged down, can rightly estimate their value." Hybrid perpetuals are pronounced the most effectual for this purpose, and especially those of vigorous habit, among which are named Alfred Colomb, Jules Margottin, Charles Lefebvre, General Jacqueminot, Madame Rivers and others. They should be on their own roots, as bending down obviously tends to induce them to throw up suckers. The writer here referred to says that the beds which he made thirteen years ago are as vigorous as ever. H. B. Ellwanger prefers for pegging down the most profuse blooming monthly roses, in preference to the hybrid perpetuals, the latter not being such continuous bloomers.

TRANSPLANTING EVERGREENS.

Take the trees up carefully, keeping the roots as nearly perfect as possible after digging; puddle the roots well; place carefully in a proper position and cover with fine rich soil (not manure) well pressed down; mulch with sawdust, coarse straw, leaves, or anything that will make a good mulch; then let them alone. This will apply to all evergreens as well as all kinds of fruit trees, excepting that the latter should be cultivated at least for a few years—most kinds, the longer the better. There may be cases where newly-planted trees might be saved by watering frequently and regularly during a long, dry season, but I am convinced by observation that scores of trees are killed by watering at planting time and occasionally afterward, where one is saved by it. I have several thousand trees and bushes on my place which I have planted with "my own two hands," including red and white cedar, white pine, Norway and native spruce, black walnut, butternut, maple and all manner of fruits. I have learned by experience that if we plant trees (any kind) properly, it is no more unreasonable to expect them to grow than if we plant so many hills of corn or potatoes.—G. W. Cone, in the *Husbandman*.

MULCHING.

A member of the Oneida community, writing on the importance of mulching fruit trees and plants of every kind, says that he mulched a row of the Franconia raspberry, and also one of the Philadelphia side by side. The effect was very marked. While the Franconias which were not mulched were literally scorched, and the leaves crumpled in the sun, the row which received the mulching carried through nearly double the crop of fruit. The material used for mulching was old, half-decayed buckwheat straw, etc.

In setting out plants, I wet the ground before taking them up, so that some dirt adheres to them; when I have a painful I sprinkle them thoroughly, so that the dirt is sticky, and I can then transplant them in the middle of the day, in a dry time, without the loss of scarcely one.—*Cor. Tribune*.

CURRENT NEWS ITEMS.

The farmers of the electoral district of Turtle Mountain have organized an agricultural society.

A PICKERING farmer says that, so far as he can judge, his yield of barley will be from sixty to sixty-five bushels to the acre.

MR. GOODFELLOW, of Medonte, a few days ago ploughed up the skeleton of a man who was supposed to have died in the bush some years ago.

ONE who is in a good position to judge estimates that 100,000 bushels of wheat will be shipped from the Manitoulin Island as the result of this year's harvest.

A RESIDENT of Paris obtained this season 8,000 quarts of strawberries, nearly ninety-four bushels, from three-quarters of an acre of ground. This is in the proportion of 125 bushels to the acre.

SOME sharpers are operating among the farmers of Durham with a "Hay Lifter." They are said to be rather too sharp at their business, and farmers should be careful to have no dealings with them.

THE *Syracuse Journal* warns its readers to look out for ten-dollar bills on the Consolidated Bank of Canada. It is believed that a large number of these have been circulated lately, and it should be borne in mind that all ten-dollar bills on this bank are worthless, as they were stolen unsigned and the signatures forged.

A MEETING was held in Minnedosa last week to discuss the liquor question. At the close, a petition asking the Local Government not to interfere with the present liquor law of the Northwest was circulated, and all in the audience, excepting three persons, willingly placed their names to the document.

THE *Hamilton Times* of the 22nd ult. says: Mr. David Burkholder, Binbrook, to-day showed at the *Times* office a stalk of common Canadian yellow corn, which measures within an inch or two of ten feet. It was grown in the open field, under ordinary circumstances. Hundreds of other stalks were as tall as this one, and some within a few inches of it.

MR. JOHN DRYDEN, M.P.P., and Mr. H. H. Spencer have arrived from England with three carloads of sheep, mostly Shropshire Downs, imported by them. During the passage they lost two valuable sheep; barring this mishap, the flock arrived in excellent condition. A splendid Clydesdale colt brought out by Mr. Dryden elicited favourable comments from the spectators.

A BRANTFORD *Expositor* reporter, who has been visiting Grimsby, reports that after a hasty glance through the orchards of that famous fruit-growing section the conclusion arrived at was that young and vigorous trees that had been well cared for will produce a fair crop, but those which have been weakened by neglect or old age will be thin. The yield, on the whole, will be about half an average crop.

THE Shakespeare correspondent of the *Stratford Herald* says: "The fall wheat in this vicinity is a good crop; it is nearly all gathered in, and not so much hurt by the wet weather as it was at one time feared it would be. Many farmers must thresh it out right off, to make room for a very large spring crop. Root crops of all kinds promised a large yield. Apples are almost a total failure. The flax crop is pretty good, where it has room to grow on Canadian thistle, but the amount of thistles some farmers are growing is something really serious, both to themselves and their neighbours, and if not looked after will make the profits of farming with some of them very small."