

## GARDENING.

The first thing to be taken into consideration, to ensure a good degree of success, is the proper construction and management of the seed beds; a failure in the first effort to obtain a crop, is almost always attended with a partial failure at least, of the second or third. A seed bed should, in the first place, be located in a door-yard pathway, or some place where the ground is trodden, and frequented during the growth of the plants. The bed should be made in shape, not to exceed two feet in width, and as long as may be required, also be raised six or eight inches by perpendicular board edging. Previous to putting in the earth, let it be thrown in a pile, and a fire made thereon, sufficiently hot to destroy all insects, or germs of weeds that may be in it: place the earth so prepared in the frame of the seed bed, and as soon as it is sufficiently cooled, sow in the seed, patting firmly with the back of the spade. For celery, and such tender plants a covering of brush, to partially protect them from the heat of the sun, may be necessary. One of the first vegetables of importance in the list of culinaries, is—

**CABBAGES.**—When the plants have attained to a size for transplanting, the ground should be prepared by thorough ploughing, and laid out in furrows three feet apart, on the side of these furrows set the plants, after pinching off the downward root: two feet apart in the rows. As cabbages are inclined to bind the soil, to their own detriment, they must be freely cultivated with the plow, until they have attained almost their full size. No sprout should be left to grow on a seed cabbage but that which shoots from the centre of the head.

**ONIONS.**—In the cultivation of onions, a spot of ground should be selected that can be used for the purpose several years in succession. After laying out the ground in drills 16 inches apart, sowing and covering the seed, sprinkle over leached ashes freely, roll or pat the ground firmly; leave no lumps or litter on the bed for destructive insects.

**TOMATOES**—are becoming so generally used on our tables, that a few remarks on the culture may not be out of place. The seed may be sown in the fall or very early in the spring, in a sheltered situation, if the plants appear too early to escape frost, they may be protected by some covering, set the plants in the poorest ground you have, four feet apart each way, in hills made for the purpose, three or four inches high, and as they grow, continue to hill up, as long as the plant remains upright. One or two plants are enough in a hill.

**LETTUCE.**—The lettuce bed should be well manured with hen dung. If transplanted 16 inches apart, in a bed well prepared, they will afford a much better salad than if left to grow in a cluster in a seed bed, as is too generally the case.

**TRANSPLANTING FROM SEED BEDS.**—If the weather should prove so dry as to endanger the plants which you may want to put out, it may be done with safety by thoroughly wetting the seed bed, then prepare a liquid of fresh cowdung and water, draw the plants, dip the roots in the liquid, and transplant in the evening, watering freely when done.

In raising seed, the following has been the result of my observation.—Cucumbers will destroy the flavour of melons, pumpkins of squashes, squashes of the melons, rutabaga, will incline cabbages to grow clubfooted, different varieties of the mel-

ons will sometimes produce a better variety, but two thirds will be good for nothing. Different varieties of the same species will always mix, and almost always loose the size and flavour. Fifteen rods is my rule of distance between plants of the same species.

**SET OUT ORNAMENTAL TREES.**—If you have already a supply of fruit trees, we would urge you to be sure and set out some ornamental trees. We recommend the maple by all means—the genuine Rock Maple. It is a vigorous, handsome, cleanly tree, and beside being ornamental, contains a whole sugar plantation in itself. We are told by those who have experience in the business, that the second growth maple contains sap much more full of saccharine matter than the first growth. This then is an additional incentive to setting them out. They will grow almost any where, except in a dry sandy soil, but where there is a strong loam a little inclined to moisture, they will grow very luxuriantly. Another noble majestic tree, which is a native of our state, is the Elm. We know of no tree that surpasses it in a combination of gracefulness and majesty, when full grown. It is a hardy and long lived tree, and should be more cultivated than it is. The bass wood is also a majestic tree, and has the advantage of bearing a profusion of flowers in the spring which are much liked by bees, so that you have an additional luxury from it.

If the young men of every village would unite and form a Tree Society, and each individual set out a tree and take care of it, our villages would soon present a more pleasing appearance than they now do.

**MENDING A TREE.**—We saw at Isaac Frost's, Newton, a tolerable large apple tree that had the bark eaten all round by the mice, some years ago, and of course would have died without some extra pains to save it. Mr. Frost set a dozen scions in the tree, one end in the green bark and wood below, and the other above the wound. They all took at both ends and grew well, excepting one which took only at the bottom, and is forming a little tree by itself. The scions are now about two inches in diameter, and are touching each other. The tree is in a fine flourishing condition. This method of mending a tree is attended with some trouble, but by this simple means, which can be done in a few hours, a valuable tree may be saved, as has occasionally been the case.—*Maine Farmer.*

**RURAL EMBELLISHMENTS.**—I have said and written a great deal to my countrymen about the cultivation of flowers, ornamental gardening, and rural embellishments; and I would read them a homily on the subject every day of every remaining year of my life, if it would induce them to make this matter one of particular attention and care. When a man asks me what is the use of shrubs and flowers, may first impulse always is to look under his hat and see the length of his ears. Heartily do I pity the man who can see no good in life but in pecuniary gain, or in the mere animal indulgences of eating and drinking.—*Colman's European Agriculture.*

**WASH FOR FRUIT TREES.**—You constantly recommend that fruit trees should be done over with lime as a wash. Nothing can look more frightful than their glaring conspicuous trunks on a hot summer's day, and to obviate this dis-