

rich light soil, and transplanted at our leisure on wet afternoons in June or July. The best kinds are *Wheeler's Imperial* for very early; *Early Wakefield* and *Winningstadt* for summer; *Drumhead*, *Savoy*, and *Flat Dutch* for winter use.

**CAULIFLOWER.**—This most delicious vegetable is not grown so much as it ought to be, and to tell the truth it is difficult to get genuine good seed that will produce plants that head well. Sow the seed early in May, in a warm border of rich, light soil, open to the sun; transplant about the 1st week in June. For plants that are to head in the fall, the seed may be sown later in a cool, moist spot, and the plants put out in July. The soil in which cauliflower is grown must be very rich and rather moist, and the earth well drawn round the stem during the growth after transplanting. *Early Paris* is the best for summer heads; *Lenormand*, *Walcuren*, and *Stadtholder* for fall or early winter use. It is necessary to be very particular to obtain the seed or plants of cabbage and cauliflower from a perfectly honest and reliable grower; otherwise there will be nothing but disappointment when the plants mature.

**CELERY.**—It is of no use to try to raise celery unless the plants are stocky and well grown before being placed in the trenches. Sow the seed in a hot-bed, or early in a rich warm spot; when the young plants are three inches high transplant into drills in the border, setting them about 4 inches apart. After they have grown to six or seven inches high, and become strong and stocky, set them out in the trenches about the middle or last of July. *Turner's Dwarf White*, *Lion's Paw* and *Brighton Hero* are probably the best varieties, though all we know of are good.

**SWEET CORN.**—Most people like ears of corn boiled, and to get them early and considerably ahead of the field crop, plant a few hills of the *Early Sugar* or *Russell's Prolific*.

**BEANS** cannot well be planted till about the 1st of June. They like a dry, strong soil. *Early Valentine* and *Mohawk* for string beans; *White Kidney*, *White Marrowfat* and *Lima* for shell beans; the last and the *Giant Wre* are pole beans.

**CUCUMBER.**—We have never failed to have a plentiful supply of this fine vegetable in our garden, and use it both raw and cooked. Prepare hills four feet in diameter, and six feet apart, each containing a wheel-barrow full of barn-yard manure; cover with six inches of light earth, and plant a dozen seeds in each about the 1st of June. When three or four leaves have grown on each plant, and all danger from grubs is past, pull up all but 4 or 5 of the strongest. When the plants fruit pick all the cucumbers as fast as they grow large enough, as if left to ripen the plant is soon exhausted. None of the English kinds can be grown to any advantage except in a hot-bed. The kinds we grow are the *Early Russian*, *Early White Spine*, and another larger kind, the name of which we

do not know. We save our own seed, and find it best to use when 4 or 5 years old.

**MELONS** require the same treatment as cucumbers. There are but few varieties, and all are good. *Early Christiana* and *White Japanese* are new, and promise to be an acquisition.

**SQUASH.**—Same treatment as for melons, only they like a stronger soil; of the summer squashes, *Early bush Scallop*, and *Early Crookneck* are best. For winter use, the *Hubbard* is the only one worth growing.

**TOMATOES.**—This is our favourite vegetable, and we have tried nearly every kind we could get. We find nothing to ripen before the *Early Smooth Red*, and it is of good quality and productive. The *Dwarf Orange-field* we tried for the first time last year, and were well pleased with it. The flavor is sweet and rich, and the plants are so very dwarf, and yet the fruit abundant, that a large quantity can be grown on a small plot, and the plants are stocky, and do not break down with the weight of the fruit. We think this kind could be grown in pots or boxes in the house, so as to ripen much earlier. *Lester's Perfected* we also like very much for flavor and size. The tomato is so long in forming and ripening its fruit that it must be planted out as early as possible after danger of spring frosts is past, and the ground kept well stirred and the plants well watered to make them grow rapidly, and come into bloom early. They may be started in a hot-bed or a box in the house, and if transplanted two or three times before being finally placed in the garden, they will become stocky and full of roots. Except the *Dwarf Orange-field*, all kinds should have the side shoots and branches pinched off just above the last blossom as soon as they show the first ripe fruit, otherwise the plants will all run into bloom and exhaust themselves, leaving a large quantity of half-grown unripe fruit when the first autumn frost comes.

There are many more useful vegetables we might mention, but our article is already long enough, and in conclusion we beg to impress upon all those who desire to have success in growing really good vegetables, the importance of obtaining seed only from a really reliable grower or seedsman.

J. M.

### Orchard Culture.

To the Editor.

The first number of the new series of the *CANADA FARMER* is now before me, and I read with much interest some portions of Mr. J. T. Duncan's treatise on the culture of the apple. Allow me, however, to offer some remarks on the subject which will produce a most serious difference of opinion amongst farmers who may be on the eve of planting an orchard. I have planted apple trees, pruned apple trees, drained orchards, and have produced good growth, more apples and healthier trees under adverse circumstances than is usually

done. I shall with your permission treat of the subject of growth, culture and pruning of apple trees, in other articles. In this I shall confine myself to endeavouring to encourage my brother farmers to plant apple trees, even under adverse circumstances, and at a less ruinous outlay, and with prospect of more favourable returns than the writer of the essay seems to consider necessary or likely. First, as to the general remarks. He therein states that it will cost \$40 to plant 20 acres, and \$150 per annum each succeeding year as cost of cultivation; rent, \$8 an acre; the expenses the first year, \$470, for each succeeding year, \$310; costing \$1,710 at the end of 5 years. At the end of 11 years, \$3,570 outlay, with a return of only \$3,300. Now, all these amounts to pay out are heart breaking, and in all ordinary cases, to farmers, extravagantly high. Thousands of acres of good land can be had at from \$2 to \$2 50 an acre. The preparation of 20 acres may cost \$10, if planted the way Mr. Duncan does it, which in my opinion is most expensively and poorly performed; while the plan I propose will not cost half the money (exclusive of manure, which he does not recommend as necessary, whereas I have found the use of thoroughly-rotted manure very advisable,) and will be five times as efficient. If farmers are to wait for an orchard until they can afford to have charged against it \$1,710 at the end of eleven years, they will be without apples to the end of the chapter. The true state of the case, however, is not as bad as represented. The land can be made as productive as any other grass land on the farm, except the first year, and occasionally afterwards; and all land must be spared one year for a fallow; and any apple tree that will not produce more than 25 cents each year it is planted after 5 and until 7 years, has been most miserably treated; but no one can expect a tree to grow so long as the cultivator or plough is used anywhere near it. It will not do so, or if it does "vegetate," it will be a poor stunted thing in comparison with what it ought to be.

Digging a simple hole in the ground as described by Mr. Duncan, is to do what the most old fashioned, careless farmers used to do long since. Holes can be made for trees with the plough in a fallow better than any one can with a spade, and by following my plan as proposed in "Orchard Culture for the million," (See *CANADA FARMER*, for February, page 70.) his land will be moved upwards of 24 inches deep, and be well drained, and thoroughly manured, and at the same time be equally productive, with any other 20 acres of clover on the farm, if mown, which it may be at first, and for many years except a few feet round each tree; and rely on it each apple tree will save growth on it that will rather surprise any farmer who simply digs holes to plant them in, which only hold the wet like a cup, to the damage and ultimate misery of the tree. Trees well planted on moved land, well drained and well manured,