

*LARGE WHITE VOSGES CARROT.*

This variety is also called Giant Short White. It has very large but short roots; smooth, cylindrical and regularly tapering to a point, a very heavy cropper and easily harvested. This fine variety is rapidly taking the place of the White Belgian.

*DEADLY SPRAY FOR ORCHARD INSECTS.*

Twenty-five to thirty years ago my orchard bore full crops every alternate year of smooth, round apples. I got money then easier and faster, picking and selling the fruit than at any other time in my life. The trees were large, and I could set a ladder in a good spot and get a barrelful without moving it. But latterly trees have not borne as well, and apples have been knotty and wormy; caterpillars and cankerworms have increased so as to ruin many orchards. The codlin moth has been worst of all, and the most difficult enemy to hold in check. But I feel sure now that it is an easy thing to destroy the whole crowd of orchard insects, by spraying the trees with London purple—which is much better than Paris green, and cheaper; it does not settle in water as the green does, and does not need one person to stir it as you drive along with the force pump. Mr. Geo. Allen bought a fruit farm near Holly, N.Y., which was in such a condition that the whole neighbourhood ridiculed the purchase. Cankerworms were in the orchard, the trees had not been trimmed, and the farm had not paid its way for some time.

He pulled out half the trees, gave the others a good pruning, sprayed with Paris green once a week for a month, and harvested 1,400 barrels of as fine apples as ever were seen; you could hardly find a wormy one. He expects to have some thousands of barrels this year, as many of the trees had been so stripped by cankerworms in '84 that they did not blossom in '85, but seem sure for this season. Mr. Allen ploughed and raised beans and some other spring crops between part of the trees, put on what barn manure there was on the farm, but what made the most surprising result was the spraying. The thinning and pruning was just as necessary. If you think you cannot spend time to spray the trees but once, the time then is when the apples are as large as full-sized peas; then the blossom end of the apple stands up, and the poison gets on the blossom end where it will "do the most good," as the codlin moth lays the egg in the blossom end, and when hatched eats its way in.

Mr. Arthur Rathbone, of Genesee County, sprayed a



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tree on one side and left the other. On the sprayed side the apples were fair and not a wormy one; on the other they were knotty, wormy and poor. And the trees appear to bear better if sprayed just before the blossoms open; leaf-rollers—little caterpillars—become very destructive, get on the blossom-buds before they open, that make them look as if singed; and buds that way set no fruit. This pest also is killed by the poison. Three linseed oil barrels and a force pump with a rubber hose to put in the bung-hole make a good rig to spray with: Be sure and not get too much purple or green. Mr. Rathbone has experimented more than any one else I know; he says that half a pound of purple to sixty gallons of water is plenty. The purple should be wet like paste before putting it in the barrel, and then it will mix easily and not float on the water. Professor A. J. Cook, who first showed the value of this remedy, urges great care upon those who use it; do not turn stock into the orchard till after a heavy rain has washed all the poison from the grass under the trees.—D. A. Barker in *N. Y. Tribune*.

*THE EARLY GARDEN.*

Much has been said about soaking seeds, but if planted dry they will sprout as well in the damp soil as in water.

Plant the first Sweet Corn rather shallow; the sun will warm and cause quicker sprouting than if deep.

Cucumbers can be planted under somelight protection, and make a gain of over two weeks over those planted later.

Summer Squash will endure cold and can be planted early.

The Early Six-weeks' Bean is more hardy and will sprout and grow in a lower temperature than the wax beans or the Lima.

Seeds of tomato planted where the plants are to stand will be nearly as early as those raised under glass.

Beets will not suffer even if the ground should freeze a little.

Onions planted as soon as the ground is dry are safe for a crop; they endure a low temperature.

Cabbage and all of that family are quite hardy.

Seeds of lettuce germinate at a low temperature.

Pepper and Egg plants must have heat to do well; they fail to sprout in a cold soil.

Parsnips, Salsify and Carrot are safe after May 1.

Radish and Turnip need to grow quick; the soil should be warm and dry.

Beans, Cucumbers and Potatoes, once seriously cut by frost, will not make a satisfactory growth.

To guard against loss by frost a succession of all crops specially liable to injury should be planted.

Born red and black raspberries are inclined to grow too many canes, and will bear better if part are removed. The side shoots of red raspberries may be used for new plantations, but with the black caps new plants are better derived from roots which form from the tips inserted in the grass ground the previous season.