

may be placed on top of the good. Manure should not be put in the hole with the soil as it may burn the roots and make the soil so loose that it will dry out easily. Better apply the manure to the surface of the ground in the autumn and dig in the shortest of it the following spring into the surface soil. After planting, the tree or shrub should be headed in well, the amount of heading in depending upon the amount of roots. If a large proportion of the roots are cut off a large proportion of the top should be removed, otherwise the large leaf surface will transpire so much moisture that the tree will dry up before the roots begin to take in more. This is why shade trees are cut back so severely when planted, but it is not necessary to reduce the trees to mere poles as is too frequently done, causing a bad crotch in the tree later on where the stub dies back and where rot sets in.

Evergreens are not headed back like deciduous trees as it would disfigure them too much and they have usually a fair supply of roots.

Before leaving the tree the surface soil should be loosened again so as to leave a thin mulch of loose soil on top which will prevent the moisture evaporating from the soil as rapidly as it would do if it were left hard. The surface soil should be kept loose throughout the summer and the best growth will be obtained by keeping a circle of from two to three feet or more in diameter around the tree free of grass, where the soil will be kept loose and the rain and air find a ready entrance. If trees and shrubs are transplanted with care they should usually live. Early in the spring is the best time to transplant most kinds of trees and shrubs, evergreens included. Evergreens may be transplanted in summer, but greater precaution must be taken to do it successfully, and we do not recommend it. Both evergreens and deciduous trees may also be planted in the autumn successfully, but on the whole they do not do so well as if planted in the spring.

*The Flower Garden.*—One frequently sees, both in city and country, crude flower beds, made by raising mounds of soil a few feet from the house and filled with any odds and ends of plants which may have happened to be in the house all winter, with the addition, perhaps, of a few others bought on the market in spring. Sometimes such beds produce quite a little bloom during the summer months, but situated, as they often are, in a dooryard with little or no attempt at improving the appearance of it, they lack attractiveness when compared with flower beds in or beside a well-kept lawn, where with the trees and shrubs they form part of the home-like picture which we should like every farmer to feel he can make about his own home.

There is no class of flowers more suited to country gardens than the hardy herbaceous perennials, for once these are established they will remain for many years, and are truly a perennial source of pleasure to even those who are not enthusiastic about flowers. If a farmer were to depend upon annuals for his flowers every year he might some years neglect sowing the seed and thus be without a good supply, whereas if there is a border well stocked with perennials he is certain to have flowers. Bulbs, also, especially tulips and narcissus, should be planted, as these likewise will remain for a long time. It is a border such as previously mentioned which should furnish bloom from early in the spring to late in the autumn. As many perennials do not need to be moved for a long time, it is important in preparing a border to have soil which will furnish abundant plant food to them, as sometimes when plants increase in size and the border is filled with them it is difficult to dig in manure. There should be good, rich loamy soil, which will not bake, to a depth of twelve inches or more in the border, and a heavy dressing of well rotted manure turned under to add still more fertility to it. The surface soil should be thoroughly broken up and levelled with the rake, but the soil should not be raised much above the level of the lawn. A great mistake is often made in raising beds high, as they dry out much easier in summer than if left but little above the surrounding level. As the whole border should be occupied with flowers, and as it may take several years to get enough perennials to fill it, some plan must be adopted to get bloom in the meantime. We know of no other flower which