

peas, beans or corn, always yielding a heavy crop. As for the fruit crop it was spoken of far and wide, and all admit that Mr Stover always has a heavy crop of apples. But Mr. Stover has a valuable receipt which he supplies to both land and trees. Every fall all the manure made during the year is put in the orchard to be ploughed under. In the the Spring every tree is looked to, and all unnecessary wood, young shoots and sprouts from the roots removed. The trees are then washed with lime and wood ashes, the mixture applied with a splint broom, which effectually removes bark-lice and moss from the trees. And I doubt very much if your correspondents ever saw much thrifter trees, old and young, or that bore better crops of finer fruit.

I could mention other orchards, set out 13 years ago, and treated pretty much the same way with the same results.—*Cor. Canada Farmer.*

### THE WILSON STRAWBERRY.

A. F. F., agricultural editor of the N. Y. Sun, and one of the liveliest speakers at the N. Y. Farmers' Club, vindicates the character of the Wilson strawberry from the very humorous aspersions which Henry Ward Beecher was pleased to cast on it in a letter to the N. Y. Ledger. Mr. Fuller says:—"The Wilson contains as large an amount of sugar as any variety that we are acquainted with, but it also contains a great deal more acid, possibly a little too much to suit the palate of every one, still we are inclined to believe that its acidity has been and continues to be, one of its greatest merits. For nine-tenths of our people crave acid fruits and vegetables in the Spring and Summer; early greens, lettuce, cabbage, cucumbers with vinegar are eagerly sought for by the masses at the first appearance of warm weather. Lemonade containing an abundance of both sugar and acid is a common drink among our people; but leave out the lemon and how many would partake of this beverage? We have sweet strawberries in abundance, but not one of them was ever popular, nor will be until the great American palate has been recreated on the saccharine principal. We have to recommend the Wilson strawberry, because ten years' experience has shown us that ninety-nine persons in a hundred are satisfied with it, and we do not know of any other variety that will give similar results. It is an undecided question whether an individual whose palate compels him to choose sweet fruits displays a more refined taste, than the one who selects the acid."

### TO GROW POT ROSES.

The English *Gardeners' Magazine* says:—"Many elaborate directions for the preparation of Roses for pot-culture are given by various authorities, but they all resolve themselves into two principles—to get strong plants, and to place them properly in the strongest mass of soil in a given bulk. It has been already intimated that the rose upon its own roots is the only legitimate form for growing in pots. Let such, then, be obtained, healthy and well developed, with three or four leading shoots and abundance of fibrous roots; we have next only to procure the pots and compost."

Proper rose-pots are differently shaped to the ordinary kinds; they are widish at the bottom, so as to hold the greatest possible quantity of earth. Choose them large and clean, and then make ready

our favorites' food. The best method of draining the pots is to place an oyster shell over the hole in the bottom, and to fill up for two or three inches with knobs of charcoal and broken bones. These are much better than potsherds, inasmuch as they afford a certain amount of nutriment, as well as serving for filtering purposes. Over these should be arranged some lumps of half-rotted turf from a fat, loamy pasture, well saturated with liquid manure, the remaining compost being a mixture of hearty loam, somewhat rough, and well decomposed manure. Pot firmly, but not adhesively.

"It is surprising how the roots will multiply and spread in such a mixture, supplying abundant foliage above, and in due season a copious produce of well-developed blooms. The operation being completed, the plants may be consigned to a pit or the greenhouse, or if such accessories be not at command, they may be set on the bottom of coal ashes, and plunged in cocoa-nut refuse, with hoops placed over so as to allow of mats being used as a protection, when necessary, from the frost; this latter operation, however, is only necessary in case of tender kinds.

### KEEPING GRAPES UNDER GROUND.

A correspondent of the Grape Culturist says:—"Many years ago, while in the nursery business, a customer wanted some vines of me, and while they were being dug up he asked me if I kept any grapes over winter. This was March. Of course he got a negative reply. Well, said he, when I come next week for trees I will bring you some along. The thing seemed but a joke to me at the time, but of course I thanked him for the kind offer. True to his promise, when he came a week or ten days thereafter, he brought me some. Not a few berries as might have been expected, but at least five pounds. They were Isabellas and Catawbas, perfectly plump, sweet and fresh, although most of the berries had dropped from the stems. With the exception of a very slight earthy taste, they were certainly excellent.

The question, of course, was asked, how do you keep them thus? The reply was, that in the fall as the cold will admit, they were gathered in a clear day when perfectly dry; a box about eight inches deep was taken; a layer of green leaves was taken from the vines and laid on the bottom; on these a layer of grapes, then a layer of leaves. Put the lid on tight and bury deep enough to escape the frosts of winter. Of course it must be where water cannot settle into the box.

The stems of those grapes were quite fresh when given to me. The man told me his father-in-law had kept them thus for years. Why I never tried it is now a mystery to me, but if spared until fall, will do so, I think.

To this, the editor of that journal adds:—"We have often dug up bunches of grapes on layers, late in the fall, when all the grapes on the vines had been frozen long ago, and found them plump, sweet and fresh. We do not doubt the method is a good one and worth a trial."

### WEEDS IN WALKS.

Those who have made walks in lawns and pleasure grounds, have had no little trouble in keeping them