

much curled, and pitted; bright light green, extremely elegant. It forms a loose heart, and the outer leaves are nearly as good as those within, so that if used at all, it is nearly all fit for use. This is a dry, tough, and almost tasteless lettuce, good for the bowl, but unfit for any other purpose. Ready July 10th, and lasting fourteen days. A third-rate variety."

The lower centre figure represents a variety more remarkable than valuable.

"THE SPINAGEE OR OAK-LEAF.—A green variety, curious and distinct, the leaves being long and deeply lobed, and remotely resembling the leaves of the common oak; pale green. This variety does not form a heart, and appears to be utterly useless, though when shredded with other vegetables it may make a bearable ingredient in a salad. Previous to flowering it was almost ornamental. It was in flower July 15th, and then had the appearance of a worthless weed. It is the *Lactuca quercina* of the botanists, a plant altogether distinct from *L. sativa*."

We now come to a lettuce of more value than the two or three preceding, and forming in its appearance and habit a transition between the Cabbage and the Cos Lettuces. This is represented in the fourth illustration, and is named

"DANIAN BROWN.—A brown variety. Leaves large, oblong, curled and wrinkled; deeply pitted, so as to appear warty on the inner side; dull green, with tinge of brownish bronze at the edges. Growth large and loose; does not require tying; forms a large loose heart, which is juicy, mild, crisp, and slightly sweet. Ready July 6th, and lasting fifteen days. A good lettuce, but covers too much ground. A second-rate variety."

The last example here given, is one of the best of the Cos Lettuces. The GRAY PARIS COS. A green variety, with long rugose leaves of a light green color on the inner side, grayish green on the outside; growth peculiarly upright and compact. The leaves of this variety are shell-shaped, and they turn in round the heart and render tying quite unnecessary. The heart is large and close, crisp, tender and delicate. Ready July 12th, and lasting eight days. A peculiarity of this variety, by which the genuineness of a sample may be tested, in addition to the tests furnished by the foregoing description, will be found in the peculiar rugosity of the leaf, which, when viewed across the surface, presents an almost regular zig-zag line, thus,

There are several others of this class of lettuce, pronounced of first-rate quality; at the head of all, perhaps, may be mentioned the Brown Bath, which has many most excellent qualities, serving equally well for spring or autumn sowing, and well adapted to supply lettuce throughout the year.

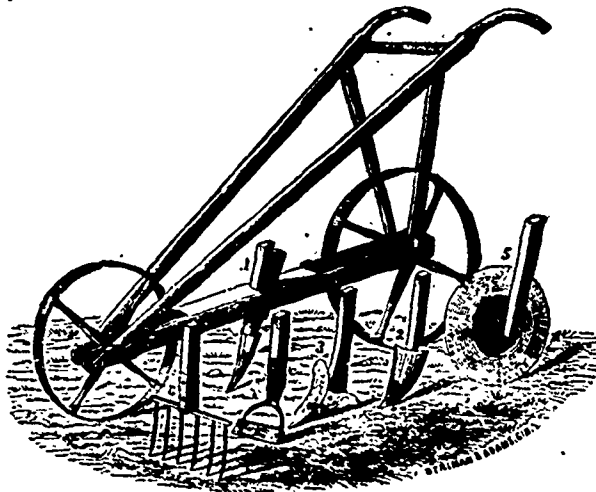
Machinery Applied to Horticulture.

We have received from Messrs. A. T. Bates & Co., of Chicago, a new implement, known as "Crawford's Garden Cultivator," which, although we have not as yet been able to test it, appears to be a most valuable labour-saving machine, and well worthy the attention of horticulturists. A garden does not pay pecuniarily unless the proprietor and his family can work it themselves. It pays as a matter of taste, refinement and beauty, and is well worth all it costs for the enjoyment it yields, when it is cultivated by hired labour. But it is desirable that every dwelling should have its garden attached, and that the occupants of the dwelling should till their plot of land themselves, and so make it a source of profit as well as pleasure. The application of labour-saving machinery to horticulture lags far behind its application to agriculture. Beyond the manufacture of nice handy spades, rakes, hoes, one-horse ploughs, and adjustable cultivators, very little has been as yet done to lighten and lighten hand labour in the garden. Any invention that will do this to any considerable extent will be

hailed by multitudes who take delight in a garden, but have not much time to spend in it themselves, and cannot afford to hire.

From an inspection of this machine, and a perusal of the testimony of parties who had it in use last season (the first it has been before the public), we are strongly tempted to cry "Eureka!" over it. This, of course, we shall not do until the frost is out of the ground and we can try its capabilities for ourselves. Meantime we may state that the manufacturers warrant it to do the work of four to six men: that several who have tested it say it will do more: and that among those who strongly recommend it, after actual use, are such names as W. A. Fitch, of the *American Agriculturist*, S. E. Todd, *Agricultural and Horticultural Editor N. Y. Times*, Dr. J. A. Warder, and Judge Taylor.

Our engraving gives a very good representation of this implement. It will be observed that it has two wheels, one following the other, and serving as bearings between which the tool for particular work is fixed. This enables the operator to regulate the depth of cultivation and keep it uniform. The engraving shows inserted in the beam (No. 1), a small tongue or shovel plough. This can be replaced by either of the other tools represented, or by any that ingenuity may devise. No. 2 is a larger shovel plough. No. 3 is a small double mould-board plough for hilling up between rows of plants. No. 4 is a



scuffle hoe for cutting up weeds. No. 5 is a circular knife for cutting off the runners of strawberry plants. No. 6 is a rake or cultivator, for smoothing the surface or stirring the soil as it is set high or low in the beam. After the ground is ploughed in the spring, all the subsequent culture may be done with this implement.

We believe we are doing a service to Canadian horticulture in introducing this garden machine to our readers, and we doubt not that many among them will be induced to give it a trial the coming season. Its price is not extravagant, sixteen dollars, American money. Parties desiring to obtain this implement will remit the amount just named to A. T. Bates & Co., 195 Washington Street, Chicago. Or if they prefer to avoid the risk of sending money by mail to the United States, they may remit twelve dollars in Canadian money to Editor CANADA FARMER, Box 498 P.O., Toronto.

Toronto Horticultural Society.

THE annual meeting of the Toronto Horticultural Society was held on Thursday evening, Feb. 15th, in the Mechanics' Institute, Toronto, the President, the Hon. G. W. Allan, in the chair. In his opening address the President congratulated the society on their improved financial condition, being able to report that all the floating liabilities had been paid. This state of affairs was mainly due to the success of the concerts which had been given in the Horticultural Gardens during the summer, and great credit was

due, he considered, to the members of the committee for their indefatigable efforts, which had placed the society in its present prosperous financial position. He hoped that the members of the society, and the citizens generally, would heartily co-operate in promoting still further the important objects of the society, and that they might, ere long, be able to carry out a project which had been long cherished by himself and others, of erecting, in place of the present temporary building, a permanent winter garden, which could not fail to be a source of delightful enjoyment to the inhabitants of the city. He regretted that the corporation had not done more towards defraying the expenses of the gardens, but trusted that, in view of the liberality of those who had handed over these grounds for the free use of the citizens, they would be stirred up to render more efficient support, and by at least defraying the current expenses of the gardens, enable the society to devote their funds to still further improvements and extension. He hoped, also, that greater interest and more general competition would be displayed in the exhibitions of the society, which had not hitherto received the encouragement which they deserved. In referring to the Gardeners' Improvement Society, he urgently recommended them to resume their monthly meetings for discussion, and pointed out the advantage and interest which amateurs would derive by co-operating with professional horticulturists, both in attending such meetings, and promoting the general objects of such associations.

The Rev. E. Baldwin then read the annual report. This official statement recorded the satisfactory financial position of the society, referred to in the President's address, giving the credit to the efforts of the committee, and the success of the concerts. The claims of the society on the corporation and citizens generally were clearly set forth. It stated that by an agreement made in 1865 the corporation engaged to grant \$300 towards the expenses of the gardens, as well as the free use of five acres of land adjoining, on the condition that the gardens should be open to the public. This amount did not more than pay the gardener's salary, leaving all other current expenses to be met by the society. For the first two years after the above agreement the city had given an extra sum of \$200 towards these

expenses, but during the past year had only paid the stipulated sum of \$300, a sum wholly inadequate to meet the ordinary expenses, and very small compared with the amount raised in various ways by the Horticultural Society, and expended for the benefit of the public. In the words of the report:—

"It is not, however, reasonable to suppose that a committee of citizens will labour year after year just to make the current expenses of the Gardens. These should, in all fairness, be met by the grant from the city corporation."

"We trust that a liberal policy will prevail in the Council towards this society, and that as it is now happily entirely free from all floating debts, the city will, by an extra grant of \$300, making \$600 in all, allow the Directors to devote all their energies to the removal of the mortgage which still burdens the land, and to that improvement of the grounds which may make them a credit, not only to the city, but to the Province at large."

"Your Directors would also draw the attention of the members of the corporation to a fact which they fear is much overlooked, and which in their judgment gives the society a good claim to generous treatment at the hands of the city."

"In the throwing open of the Botanical Gardens to the public, the citizens of Toronto generally obtained the free use without cost of the five acres of ground, of the value, when given to the society by the Hon. G. W. Allan, of \$30,000, the preparation of which for the purposes of a Garden, cost the members of the Horticultural Society less a sum than \$7,000."