

a good digging machine is valuable. Such a one was working lately on the field of Mr. John McClish at Ste Foye, near Quebec, and as it seemed to be doing good work, I had the curiosity to take note of the time occupied to secure the roots on two drills. In seven minutes the tubers were all brought to the surface and in 20 minutes more, 18 bushels were picked up by two men and placed in sacks. The crop (Chilis) was not an average one or no doubt the result would have been better. The tops and weeds were all shaken free of earth and left on the surface. On light potato soils there is no doubt that the potato digger is a very useful labor saving and as I have remarked is employed at a time when expedition is as important as economy especially to large cultivators.

THE PLANTING OF FRUIT TREES AND BUSHES

BY THE REV. FATHER-TRAPPISTS.

(From the French)

(Concluded.)

The Strawberry

The strawberry is an excellent fruit, very wholesome, and, with a little care, a crop may be had all the season.

Strawberries may be divided into two classes: the large fruited, producing only in the spring, and the "four seasons," giving small fruit, highly scented, during the whole summer.

Among the large fruited, the most to be recommended are:

Jumbo.—Large, red and white, of exquisite flavor and remarkably early.

Wilson's Albany.—Not quite so large as the preceding, brighter red and more productive, flesh, more highly scented, and more delicate in flavor.

Duc de Montmorency.—A new variety, which produces abundantly and is of the greatest hardness.

Strawberries of the class preserve the generic name of "Four seasons"; the fruit varies but very little.

The strawberry requires a mellow soil of medium consistency manured the preceding year; it dislikes fresh dung and needs constant moisture; consequently, care should be taken to plant strawberries, on beds so arranged that the rain will not

easily run off. The runners are the plague of the strawberry; they exhaust the mother plant, and injure the quantity and quality of the fruit. They should be cut off on all strawberry plants, as soon as their appear, whether small or large fruited.

After bearing for three years, the plants produce very little, and it is better to make a new plantation, renewing a third part each year.

Preparation of the soil.—We have seen that the strawberry plant does not like fresh manure; consequently, the soil intended for strawberry culture should received 45 bushels of wood ashes to the acre mixed with pigeon or poultry yard dung; trench the land two spits deep (1) and harrow so as to level the land and mix the manure thoroughly with the soil.

Planting.—Trace lines the length of the ridge, 1 to 1½ foot apart if a garden, and 3 feet if in a field, so that a horse hoe can pass between the rows. Plant strawberries as you would vegetables, the space between each plant in the row should be 18 inches. Immediately after planting, give a good watering if it seems necessary. The subsequent work required is hoeing and the destruction of the runners.

Planting in the month of August always succeeds well. The advantage of planting at that time is that a year is gained in the production of fruit.

At the beginning of winter (2) cover the plantation of strawberries with straw or dead leaves. It is well also to scatter green branches over the beds to assist in the accumulation of snow.

The Raspberry

The Raspberry likes light and gravelly land, wet, cold soils do not suit it. The soil should be deep and rich; left to itself, the raspberry yields but little fruit; small and without flavor. The care and culture consist in frequent working of the soil, and taking away the branches that have borne fruit. The stem (or cane) grows one year, produces fruit the next, and then dies. Taking off these old canes is done immediately after the crop is gathered. The suckers that start from the root must be considerably reduced in number; otherwise, they would cause confusion and exhaustion of the plants.

(1) Or subsoil it 18 inches deep.

(2) Not till the ground is frozen.