

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.**THE FRUIT GARDEN.**

We trust that many fruit gardens will be started this spring. Select a warm piece of ground conveniently near the house for gathering the fruits and protection from trespassers. The soil should be rich, deep, and mellow; in short, a fruit garden should have the best soil that can be found. A list of the best sorts of grapes, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries, currants, and gooseberries has been given in the Notes for last month, so that the selections might be made early, and the desired plants ordered in time to receive the best attention from the nurserymen. The planting is to be done as soon as the ground is settled. Blackberries and raspberries start very early, and it is best to set them in the fall, but very early in spring will do. The canes that grow this year will produce the fruit next season. Every farmer should grow all the grapes the family requires, and for this it is not necessary to have a large vineyard. A few vines well kept in some out-of-the-way place will bring large returns for care bestowed upon them. Grapes need a good soil and attention in pruning. If one has no grape vines, we should advise him to get a few this spring, and then take care of them. Regarding the care of the vines we intend to give full information as the season progresses.—*American Agriculturist*.

CHLORIDE OF LIME FOR TREES.

Le Cultivateur, a French journal, says that if chloride of lime be spread on the soil or near plants, insects and vermin will not be found near them, and adds:—"By its means plants will easily be protected from insect plagues by simply brushing over the stems with a solution of it. It has often been noticed that a patch of land which has been treated in this way remains religiously respected by grubs, while the unprotected beds all around it are literally devastated. Fruit-trees may be guarded from the attacks of grubs by attaching to their trunks pieces of tow smeared with a mixture of hogs' lard, and ants and grubs already in possession will rapidly vacate their position. Butterflies, again, will avoid all plants whose leaves have been sprinkled with lime-water."

CLUB-FOOT IN CABBAGE.

This is a disease which affects the root of the cabbage, causing large, white bunches to grow on the root, and turning the nourishment that should go to form a head into the roots, to the destruction of a well-formed head, and sometimes to its total loss. My experience is that hog manure will produce it. That it will appear often when cabbage is planted the second year on the same land, or when cabbage follows turnips. Newly-turned turf, heavily manured this year and harrowed in with a wheel-harrow, gave a crop free from it, while ten rods away, on land upon which beans had been grown the year previous, every head club-footed. The land was ploughed and the cabbages turned under the last of July; Stockbridge manure was applied liberally and harrowed in, and the land was sowed to yellow globe turnips; these had tops two feet high, but the roots were wormy, hard, and hardly fit for cows to eat, and they could not be sold. Several years ago I had a similar experience on the same land with cauliflowers, yet the same acre sowed to timothy will produce good crops. I once sowed a mixture of salt and plaster (gypsum) on a bed of cabbage plants, and the whole bed proved club-footed; while another, where it was not ap-

plied, was free from it. It is useless to set plants that have the least tendency to the disease, for it develops rapidly; even after the bulb is taken off another will form when the plant is placed in the ground. Liberal manuring with horse or cow manure, ploughed in early, and then re-ploughed once or twice before setting to mix the manure in the soil, seems to have a good effect, and if the land has not had cabbage on it for two years before, a crop free from club-foot may be expected.

—*Germanstown Telegraph*.

PEACH TREES FROM CUTTINGS.

It seems that Mr. L. Waters thinks it a novelty to raise thrifty peach trees from cuttings. I have known them grown this way ever since I was a boy. A gentleman who lived in what was called the "Dutch bend" in south-west Autauga County, on the Alabama River, by name Stondenmire, propagated his peaches in this new way all of thirty years ago. Out old growth or new, if the new is sufficiently matured—using the end of the limb—and the straightest—about fifteen to eighteen inches long, cut the large end pen-shape, or with a slope, split it through the slope one or two inches. Now have the ground well worked up and pressed down, make holes in the bed or row with a small stick or large wire, force the cutting down to the bottom of the hole, say eight or ten inches, then pack or press the ground firmly around the cutting. The time to put in cuttings is in this locality from January 25 to February 25; in northern New York from four to six weeks later. The cuttings will grow better, if protected from the hot sun in June and July, by some fence or hedge or something put up to shade them. To show how simple this method is, I will mention that a black man who lives near Robinson Springs has 40 or 45 young trees growing around his house. I have seen them often, and he told me he was too poor to send to the nurseries like other folks for good buds and grafts, but was glad to get the limbs cut from fine trees brought in the neighbourhood; these limbs he stuck in the ground as described above, and he has the pleasure of showing fine trees in consequence. I said to him a few days since: "Well, Dennis, some peach growers up North think it impossible to grow peach trees from cuttings;" his answer was, "Tell them, Doctor, the most ignorant negro in Elmore County grows them with ease."—*Dr. E. H. Robinson, in New York Tribune*.

EVERGREENS FROM SEED.

Our advice is, that if you do not wish half of your time taken up watching and nursing the young evergreens the first season, you had better not make the attempt. They must be set in a frame similar to a hot-bed in shape. Spade up soil well, having plenty of well-rotted manure mixed in, and on top an inch or two of sand, and on this sow the seed. Cover with glass, and keep surface watered sufficiently to not get dry. Just as the little evergreens show above ground, spread all over the beds evergreen boughs, or cover the framework with slat covers made of lath, having lath not over one-half to three-quarters of an inch apart, to prevent too much sunshine.—*Fruit Recorder*.

HOW I MAKE MY HANGING BASKETS.

I take coarse, heavy wire for foundation and handle, then interlace with old hoop wire made pliable by burning or heating to a red heat; then I take young portulacca plants with a lump of earth attached to each, and put them through the interstices, and so fill the baskets. The plants take kindly to their unnatural position,

and soon become a mass of beautiful green and brilliant flowers. My baskets hold nearly half a peck of earth, and look like a hanging garden. In each I place an empty potash box, inserted in a cavity in the earth, which I fill with water daily, and in them place fresh flowers as my fancy dictates. They hang in my piazza, which is festooned and twined with the American ivy and morning glories, and no lovelier spot can well be imagined.

POTASH FOR GRAPES.

The value of potash for the grape has been recognized by cultivators. A curious proof is reported to one of the French journals. A variety of the Black Muscat has been found defective in colour where potash is deficient in the soil, and the writer recommends that one vine of this grape be placed in every grape-house, to show whether the border for the roots has a sufficient supply of potash.

A WET SPRING AND AN EARLY ONE.

An exchange, the *Lebanon Times*, says:—

One of our prominent attorneys, who is at the same time one of the leading fishermen of the valley, claims that the weather invariably repeats itself, and gives the following as the result of his observations, viz.:

All years ending in 9, 0, or 1, are extremely dry.

Those ending in 2, 8, 4, 5 and 6 are extremely wet.

Those ending in 7 and 8 are ordinarily well balanced.

Those ending in 6 have extremely cold winters.

Those ending in 2 have an early spring.

Those ending in 1 have a late spring.

Those ending in 8 and 4 are subject to great floods.

LONDON PURPLE.

Prof. A. J. Cook, of the Michigan Agricultural College, says that he has found this poison very effective with the potato beetle, and adds:—

"I have found that one pound of the poison is sufficient for 100 gallons of water. For such insects as canker-worms, leaf-rollers, in fact, all leaf-eating insects, it is very efficacious. It is more diffusive than Paris green, and so needs less stirring to keep it well mixed with water. Prof. Riley, in his admirable report on the cotton-worm (Bulletin No. 3 of the Entomological Commission of the Interior Department), recommends one pound to forty pounds of diluents, when it is to be used in the dry form. With this cheap poison, we have no longer reason to fear such enemies as the canker-worm, etc."

A MARKER FOR GARDENS.

W. C. Latta described, at one of the farmers' institutes in Michigan, the following method for making straight rows in gardens:—The marker may be three or six feet wide, with teeth nine inches apart on one side and a foot on the other. Stretch a rope tight where you want the first row, and draw the marker with one tooth constantly touching the rope. The whole is thus marked successively by running the first tooth in the last mark. Rows both ways may be made by crossing these lines at right angles in the same way, and all is rapidly performed.