

**HARD TO SUIT ALL.**—At the American Congress of fruit growers, in 1848, a fruit committee of nine persons prepared a select list of fruit worthy of general cultivation. Although many hundred sorts of the pear have born fruit in this country, all perhaps pronounced 'excellent' by the nurserymen who sold them, yet there were only two that the fruit committee could *unanimously* agree upon to recommend, namely the **SECKEL** and **BARTLET**.

**DEEP SOIL AND DEEP ROOTS.**—A. J. Downing says: "I have seen the roots of strawberries extend five feet down into a rich soil; and those plants bore a crop of fruit five times as large, and twice as handsome and good, as the common product of the soil one foot deep."

**CROCUS.**—There are upwards of one hundred varieties of this vernal flower in cultivation, attended with universal success. They delight in rich soils, and may either be planted in beds or rows, at least two inches deep, and six inches from row to row. They seldom require removal; every three or four years will be sufficient. They can be purchased at seventy-five cents to two dollars per hundred, according to quality. When they are done blowing, the foliage should not be removed till perfectly decayed.

**PRUNING.**—It is said that the donkey first taught the art of pruning the vine; man being merely an imitator on seeing the effect of cropping the points of the young shoots. It is not always the greatest wisdom to originate, but to turn to good account whatever by thoughtful observation comes within our reach.

**LUCK WITH TREES.**—We have noticed that certain men always have much finer peaches and pears and plums than most of their neighbors, and are called *lucky*. Their luck consisted in the first place, in doing everything well—taking what their neighbors call foolish pains—leaving nothing unfinished; and in the second place, in taking good care of what they had; that is, giving their trees wide, deep and mellow cultivation, applying manure when necessary, and especially the liquid manure from the chamber and wash tub. Great pains taken, whether with fruit trees or with children, scarcely ever fail to produce good results.

#### PLANT SHADE TREES.

The subject of transplanting shade trees to ornament our yards and streets is one of general interest, and we hope the following remarks may be deemed seasonable, and serve to incite to action in the matter. In country and city, they add so much of health, beauty and convenience, that all who may, should seek to extend their benefits.

We do not now intend to say any thing of the kinds best adapted to the streets of villages, the door-yards or dwellings, or the road sides of the country, but there can be no great difficulty in getting any where those varieties which experience has proved to be the most durable, orna-

mental and useful. Judgment and taste should be exercised in this matter, as in all others. With those trees that put forth their leaves earliest should be mingled those that part with their foliage latest, so that we can see the first buddings of spring and the last verdure of autumn. The locust, maple, beech, oak, linden, willow, chestnut, and many others are all well fitted for this purpose, and may be safely used.

It is to be hoped that the residents of all our cities and villages, who have not already done so, will not allow the season to pass without at least making a commencement towards rendering more beautiful their streets and walks by setting out appropriate trees. The expense and labour attending this very desirable improvement are so trifling, and the benefits resulting from it so general, that all should engage with enthusiasm in the agreeable work. It has been truly said that there is nothing that makes home more attractive or that is more pleasing to the eye of the stranger, than the trees that decorate the door yard or the way side, and cast their cool and refreshing shade over the weary in the full tide of a midsummer sun. It is in such places that the traveller seeks rest, and at that hearth there must be peace, when beauty makes so pleasant the path that leads to it.

How much better is it to have finely shading trees along our walks to lure to their spreading branches those little warblers whose songs we all love so well to hear, than leave them without these cheap, but very useful ornaments. Let there be an abundance of shade trees—there is little danger of their being too many. No dwelling should be without them. The happy influence which a general improvement in this respect would have, will a thousand times repay all trouble it can cause or cost.

It would be well if each one would do this much for himself and village—to plant a tree and so take care of it that it shall grow and live. If the planter of it cannot always repose under its shadows, somebody else may, and who would not leave some cherished memorial behind a witness to the kindly emotions of a noble heart, showing that it was not wholly unmindful of the happiness and wants of others.—*N. Yorker.*

#### IRRIGATION OF GARDENS.

From repeated experiments we are induced to draw the conclusion, that next to manure the great prime mover in successful culture, there is nothing more important to vegetable growth in many cases, than irrigation. Practical gardeners, in countries far more moist than our own regard it as indispensable, and a large share of their success depends on copious waterings.

Some interesting instances, which have recently occurred may be worth stating. Two rows of raspberries stand on ground in every respect alike, except that one receives the drippings from a wood-house and the other does not. The watered row is fully four times as large in growth as the other. Again—the berries on the bushes of the Fastolph and Franconia raspberries were, at least twice as large when the soil was kept moistened, as afterwards when allowed to become