

A MARKET GARDENER'S GARDEN

"I GAVE up growing raspberries and strawberries," said Mr. Thos. Finucan, of Toronto, to a representative of The Horticulturist, "and am giving my attention principally to vegetables. There are so many brickyards in our neighborhood that men and boys can find employment at higher wages than we can afford to pay. I have 14 acres, three of which are orchard. When my trees were small I found it a great advantage to grow beans in the orchard.

"I grow five or six acres of early potatoes, which are sprouted first in beds under glass. They are planted the end of March and transplanted about the middle of April, when the sprouts are three or four inches long. They are covered to avoid frost. I have had them ready for market by June 20, and they come in between then and July 1. They bring \$1.50 a bushel at that time. About two acres are sprouted for very early potatoes in the way indicated, and early potatoes only are grown.

"I manure heavily and aim to secure early vegetables. Radishes are a specialty. The seed is sown broadcast, harrowed and

rolled. The grub is kept down by the use of lime or plaster. I thin out as they are ready and keep sowing every 10 or 12 days. My land is heavy and I keep growing all season. The Scarlet Turnip and the Scarlet White Tip are the two best varieties.

"I grow a good many onions—Yellow Globe and Yellow Danvers principally, with a few of the Prize Taker. They are started in the greenhouse and transplanted into drills six inches apart, 18 inches between drills. Nitrate of soda is good for onions. When they are three or four inches high I sow it along the drills and cultivate it in, using a hand cultivator.

"Stable manure is used principally for the vegetables. I can get all I want for ten cents a yard. What I get at the east end is good because of the system of draining the water off. A little artificial fertilizer, bone dust, etc., is used, and sometimes a little land plaster. My tomatoes did not do as well as usual last year. They rotted, as there was too much rain, and a hail storm cut them up. I do not trim the vines. My vegetables are sold principally to the butchers."

THE HOME VEGETABLE GARDEN *

MRS. MARGARET CLOSE.

A SURFACE that slopes gently to the south, a light sand loam, and a good fence to keep out chickens are needed for the home vegetable garden. The soil should be broken fine, as deep as the plant roots may be expected to grow. Fertilizer, as well rotted barnyard manure, is required. Lime may be used with good results. It is beneficial on both clay and sandy soil, as it corrects acidity, makes clay soil more friable and holds sand closer together. Wood ashes are a ready source from which to obtain potash. I have used them with advantage on all kinds of soil and all kinds of vegetables and fruit.

The time for planting can only be learned by experience. The blooming of the peach is a suitable time for seeds that will resist a slight frost, such as peas and spinach. When the oak leaf breaks from its bud start beets, turnips, corn and tomatoes. Seeds that thrive only in warmer soil, as beans, cucumbers, watermelon and squash, may be planted when the blackberry is in blossom. The soil should be moist when the seed is put in.

Seeds require less depth of cover in spring than in summer. If beet, carrot, parsnip or beans are soaked over night they come up a day or two earlier. The best time for

* Extract from a paper prepared for a Women's Institute meeting.