

of inferior flavour. Much skill and care are requisite in raising good fruit, and these requisites are likewise required in preserving it. Much of the fruit of this country is injured, and sometimes destroyed, by the bruising to which it is subjected in gathering, and afterwards in being stowed away in cellars that are either too warm or too cold. Apples should be thinly spread on shelves in a well ventilated room that will just exclude the frost, in an atmosphere a little moist to prevent their withering, and in a great measure excluded from light. Extra care in the gathering and preserving of fruit, especially of the choicer descriptions, will be found in the results amply to repay.

In the Flower Garden little now remains to be done but the clearing away of leaves and other unsightly matters, so as to leave the walks and borders clean; thereby giving, what is of so much importance in gardens, a tidy and agreeable appearance. Such flowering roots as require moving should ere this be taken out and carefully stowed away. Dahlias, Gladioluses, Tuberoses, &c., ought to be removed before their leaves and stems became affected by the action of frost, and gradually dried before they are finally stored up. Hyacinths, tulips, crocuses, and other bulbs intended for early spring flowering, should be carefully planted and protected in dry, warm borders, liberally treated with well decomposed surface soil, such as is found in woods, intermixed with manure from the cow-house. It is difficult to over estimate the influence of soil, manure, and treatment, on the size, color, and artistic appearance of flowers. The results brought out by some skilful and persevering cultivators are truly astonishing.

It is a practice much to be recommended, more particularly on heavy soils, to give the garden before winter sets in, a deep digging; exposing as much surface as possible, in a rough state, to the action of frost, snow, and rain. By such treatment the soil not only becomes more pulverised, and brought into a much better mechanical condition for working in spring, but it is actually sweetened and cleansed, and also impregnated with several fertilising matters, which, under other conditions, would be accessible only in a very small degree. In gardens that are wet, *thorough underdraining is an absolute necessity*; and not a day should be lost in commencing this essential operation. By this means an earlier and better seed bed will be obtained

in spring, and the general temperature of the soil raised several degrees; so much so, indeed, as to allow of the successful cultivation of crops, which under other circumstances, would end in failure. The mulching of every kind of newly planted trees and shrubs, is a practice highly commendable, as it tends to prevent the upheaving of the roots by frost, and gradually imparts to them nourishment and support. It is too common practice to leave the clearing up of gardens till spring, when there is commonly too little time to do the necessary work in good season. Nothing should be left till then, that can be done, and generally better done, now. Borders where necessary should be altered, walks repaired, and in short every thing accomplished to give a neat finish to the horticultural year, now so near its close.

Vines in City Yards.

Vines on trellises in city yards and small large gardens, may be most conveniently and profitably managed upon the single stem renewal system of training herein recommended. The borders for such vines in the city should, if possible, be formed of brick-work, detach from the adjacent cold, compact, and useless soil of the yard, and underdrained by tiles conducted into a cess-pool or culvert, in order to render them warmer and dryer, spring and fall, and a mulching of litter in summer will greatly assist in retaining moisture. Twice the number of vines will, of course, be grown as under the ordinary system, and only half of them fruit each year. Vines so managed will make astonishing growth in a single season, often running to the height of the tallest trellis, if supplied with appropriate fertilizers; while the foliage of the fruiting and the growing canes will afford quite as much shade as vines grown with long branches in the ordinary way; they can be much more easily and systematically trained, and produce more and better fruit. Vines on city trellises, allowed to run at will for the sake of shade, and supplied with proper nutriment, seldom fruit many years, and even when they do bear, fruit is of little value. But when grown upon our system, with a good exposure, they will only make ample shade, and present a pleasing object to the eye, but they can be made to produce large crops of the most delicious grapes every year.

The only variation that should be made in training for the high trellis, is this: the cane should not be stopped at the height of four or five feet, but should be allowed to run to the full height of the trellis, and if the wood to the full height should not happen to be strong