

March; for winter celery, the seed may be sown in the open ground, any time before the middle of May. Sow on a small bed of fine, rich earth; beat the bed down with the back of the spade; sift a little fine earth over the seed; shade the bed with a mat or board until the plants begin to appear. Celery plants ought to be pricked out into a nursery-bed as soon as they are two or three inches high. Cut their roots and tops a little, before planting; water them well, and shade them from the sun until they begin to grow. Let them remain in the nursery-bed about one month, after which they will be fit to transplant into the trenches. The best sort of soil to grow celery in is a deep, rich loam, and in an open part of the garden. Mark out the trenches a foot wide, and three feet between each trench. Dig the trenches one foot deep, laying the earth equally on each side. Put three or four inches deep of well rotted manure into the bottom of each trench; put a little of the surface-soil over the manure; dig it well up, incorporating the soil well with the manure; dress the plants, by cutting off the long leaves and the ends of the roots. Plant in single rows, along the centre of each trench, allowing six inches between each plant. Water them well, and shade them from the sun until the plants begin to grow. In earthing up celery, great care should be taken not to cover the heart of the plants.

*Lettuce* is easily raised from seed, which may be sown from the 1st of April to the end of June. If good headed lettuce is wanted, the plants should be transplanted out on a rich piece of ground, in drills, 12 inches apart, and six inches in the drill. The Malta, Green Coss, and Victoria Cabbage are the most suitable kinds to sow, as they head without tying up.

*Onions*.—The yellow and large red are the best for a general crop. The ground for onions should be well prepared, by digging in plenty of well-rotted manure. The seed may be sown from the middle of April to the middle of May. Sow in drills, one inch deep and 12 inches apart. When the young onions are up, thin them out to the distance of three inches apart.

*Parsnips* require a deep, rich soil. Sow in drills, one inch deep, and the drills 15 inches apart. Cultivate the same as directed for carrots.

*Radishes* should not be sown in the open air sooner than the middle of May. They require a deep, sandy soil, that has been well cultivated and manured the previous year.

*Rhubarb* is a perennial plant, and may be raised from seed. Sow about the middle of May. When the plants are one year old, they should be transplanted into a very deep, rich soil, in rows three feet apart. The foot-stalks of the leaves should not be cut until the plants are two years old.

*Salisbury* is an excellent vegetable. The roots, when properly cooked, resemble oysters in flavour. The seed may be sown from the 1st of April to the middle of May. They require the same kind of soil and cultivation as directed for carrots.

*Spinach* is an useful vegetable, and very hardy. Seed sown in the month of September will stand over the winter, and come in for early greens in the

spring. For summer use, seed of round spinach may be sown from May to July. It requires a rich soil. Sow in drills, one foot apart.

*Tomatos* are much cultivated for their fruit. To have them early, the seed should be sown in a hot-bed, early in March. When the plants are a good size, and the spring frosts are over, plant them out in the garden; let the plants be four feet apart. Plant on a south border, near a fence and they will produce abundance of fruit.

*Turnips*.—The best sort for the garden is the Early White Stone, which may be sown from the middle of May to the end of August. Sow in drills, fifteen inches apart, and thin out the plants to eight inches asunder. Field Turnips, such as Swadish, Aberdeen, Yellow, &c., may be sown in drills, two feet apart, about the middle of May. White Globe, Flat Norfolk, and Red Round will do to sow about the middle of July. Turnips are very subject to be eaten by the black flea. A good remedy is to steep the seed one night in train oil. This will greatly promote germination, and the growth of the young plants.

JAMES FLEMING.

Yonge Street Nursery, April 24, 1849.

## HORTICULTURE.

BY MRS. LYDIA H. SIGOURNEY.

If the admiration of the beautiful things of nature has a tendency to soften and refine the character, the culture of them has a still more powerful and abiding influence. It takes the form of an affection. The seed which we have nursed, the tree of our planting, under whose shade we sit with delight, are to us as living, loving friends. In proportion to the care we have bestowed on them is the warmth of our regard. They are also gentle and persuasive teachers of His goodness who causeth the sun to shine and the dew to distil; who forgets not the tender buried vine amid the snows and ice of winter, but bringeth forth the root, long hidden from the eye of man, into vernal splendor or autumnal fruitage.

The lessons learned among the works of nature are of peculiar value in the present age. The restlessness and din of the railroad principles, which pervade its operations, and the spirit of accumulation which threatens to corrode every generous sensibility, are modified by the sweet friendship of the quiet plants. The toil, the hurry, the speculation, the sudden reverse which marks our own times, beyond any that have preceded them, render it particularly salutary for us to heed the admonition of our Saviour, and take instruction from the lilies of the field, those peaceful denizens of the bounty of heaven.

Horticulture has been pronounced, by medical men, as salutary to heal, and to cheerfulness of spirits; and it would seem that this theory might be sustained, by the placid and happy countenances of those who use it as a relaxation from the excitement of business, or the exhaustion of study. And if he who devotes his leisure to the culture of the works of nature benefits himself, he who beautifies a garden for the eye of the community is surely a public benefactor. He instils into the bosom of the man of the world, panting with the gold fever, gentle thoughts,