

be well churned with boiling soap suds before it can be mixed with cold water.

These preparations, with the exception of hellebore, are not poisonous and do not kill the caterpillars directly, but make their food and surroundings so distasteful that they die of starvation and fall off the tree. Arsenical compositions, such as Paris green and London purple, are dangerous to live stock and are better avoided. If spraying with either of the preparations quoted above is commenced early and continued at intervals, there will be no need for the more potent poisonous preparations.

We cannot too strongly urge our readers who have fruit-trees to study these subjects. Keep a sharp look for these small but destructive foes and, adopt such means for their prevention or destruction as have been recommended by the highest and most learned authorities as the result of the most pains taking scientific experiments and data thus obtained.

(To be continued)

SPRING.

By the time this reaches our readers Spring, with all its promises and responsibilities, will be upon us. The spring-time is a season of rejoicing on the one hand, and of anxious activity on the other. Nature, after the long sleep of winter seems to be in a hurry to make up for lost time, and the cultivator of the soil, if he is to be successful, must try to keep pace with Nature. But, after all, this seeming bustle is systematic and without confusion, and this should teach us that, to get our work done promptly, system and order are most important. Early rising is imperative, but it is not only that which tells but the well spending of the day. Each day's task should be laid out beforehand, and every effort made to accomplish it in due time. There is an old saying that "time is money," but to the farmer and gardener, at this season, every minute is golden. In this rapid climate this fact has greater force than in latitudes where the changes of the seasons are more gradual. The success of many crops depends upon whether they are planted early. If we neglect planting for a single day when the right season arrives we run a great risk because we do not know what the next day may bring forth, perhaps it may be the first of a series of

showers which would make the land unfit to receive the crop but would have been the very weather which would benefited it, had it been planted only one day earlier. The most profitable crop of early pease I ever grew I planted before the frost was quite out of the ground; I was laughed at by my neighbours, but the laugh was on my side when I had the first green pease in Boston market, and realized five times as much for them as they were worth the following week. This may appear a little egotistical, but I mention the fact to show that a gardener, in the spring, should "take time by the forelock," study well his work, lay out a plan of action, be sure he is right then go ahead, and promptness and order will carry him through. It is surprising how much more the methodical man can accomplish than he who does not arrange his work, and can not make up his mind what to do next.

A farmer or gardener must always be on the alert to guard against the numerous foes which attack his growing crops; rust, blight, mildew, insects, birds and small animals, all seem to have conspired to render his efforts abortive. Happily scientific research and experiments have placed it within our power to conquer most of these enemies, and one can scarcely pity those who allow their crops to be lost because they are too lazy or too indifferent to adopt the necessary precautions to save them.

Transplantation of trees and shrubs must also be attended to at this season; many are lost by allowing the best time to pass before this is done: they are merely laid in by the roots and left until the hot sun is upon them, and then, on some unsuitable warm and dry day, they are planted. In consequence of this tardy and improper treatment, they die, and then the unfortunate nurseryman who supplied them has to take the blame of their failure.

And the cultivator's efforts must not relax after his crops are planted but he must always drive his work and not let it drive him, attend well to the aeration of the soil by the use of the hoe or the cultivator and kill the weeds almost before they have come to life; neglect is the fore runner of failure and disappointment, promptness and perseverance are the parents of success and contentment.

GEO. MOORE,

