

soil where the trees are growing will be found to have a wonderful effect on their growth. This plan is popular in some of the flat lands of the West. The celebrated orchard of Mr. M. S. Dunlap, of the *Chicago Tribune*, is treated in this way.

In regard to grapes we have a great partiality to rich soil for these. Many so-called failures undoubtedly arise from exhaustion of the soil. In this connection we must refer to Mr. Riley's valuable discovery of one very great cause of failure—presence of numberless small insects—the grape louse—feeding on the roots. One can tell by an examination with a good lens whether he is favored by a visit from these notables. If he is he will not want to entertain them long. But how to get rid of them is not yet well known. In lawn culture, and in greenhouse pot culture, we have found that lime water will drive out all forms of animal life. A lawn watered with lime water will be covered soon afterwards with myriads of "worms." Before people knew the value of the earth worm, this was how they were destroyed. Perhaps it may "do for" the *Phylloxera*. At any rate something will surely be found out, which while innocuous to plants, will destroy the life of these minute pests.

#### VEGETABLE GARDEN.

There is nothing so much relished in early spring as the first vegetables—it hardly matters what they are. Many of these things can be forwarded several weeks by the use of glass, and considering how cheaply this may be had, it is a wonder that more vegetation is not indulged in. Radishes lettuce, asparagus, strawberries—these in particular can be forwarded by simple frames, without the aid of manure, although where this can be had, of course it is an advantage. An asparagus bed, made in the open ground, of such length and width that any desired frame will cover it, may have rich soil put over it inside the frame, several inches—even six or more, and on this radishes and lettuce be sown. The radishes will be in use before the lettuce is much interred with, and the asparagus will not find much in the road when it pushes through. For this kind of cold frame it is best to have the glass slope very much to the south. If the frame be made, say two feet above the ground at the back, and six or nine inches in the front, it will be all the better. The cold frames may be much aided by having an ever-green hedge on the cold side. This will make a shelter from the wind, and very much help the earliness. A strawberry bed in the open ground yields fruit nearly two weeks earlier if a low glass frame be put over the plants. A very little heat tickles the strawberry, and will make it laugh in delicious berryiness. Even the planting on a warm rich bank,

sloping to the sun will give us fruit considerably in advance of level flat ground.

In getting ready for spring vegetables do not fear to pile on the manure. It is the rank rich growth which gives the agreeable tenderness to them, and without an abundance of manure this cannot be done. Deep soil is also a great element of success. Though we do not favor sub-soiling and underdraining for fruit trees, we regard it as very profitable in vegetable growing.

In arranging new vegetable gardens, it is always best to have it in a parallelogram, as whether it is to be worked by a plough or the spade, this form saves much time and labor. Those who have not much money to spare, or who are to grow vegetables on a large scale, will want to use the plough, and for this of course a long narrow strip is preferable to a square. For this, one walk through the centre may be enough, and box edgings, or even a narrow grass border may do to line the walk. This is a very good arrangement for a farm garden. Along each side of this central walk may be the currants and gooseberries, and even flowers, a row or so of dwarf pears and dwarf apples or strawberries, or other low growing things that would not do to grow in the land which we want to keep under the plough. At each end of the long narrow strip, space could be left for the plough to turn. The walk perhaps may be all of grass, made level, and kept neatly mown. During the year, as the successive crops are to be put in, the digging fork will easily prepare the ground once ploughed in spring. Even in those neater kept gardens where the plough does not enter, the digging fork will be found to do *fourfold* the work of the spade in the same time. But whether the plough or spade be used, and in whatever way the garden be laid out, we should recommend the greatest care to have everything neat and in order. It annoys us considerably when asked to look at some friend's garden, to see things slovenly and untidy. When we hint as much—for we never hesitate to say in as kindly a way as possible, just what we think of such neglect, we are often reminded that it may be all very well for fine people to have fine gardens, and things kept nice, but they have a living to get, and such work "don't pay." We get out of patience with such people. As a general rule it will be found that it takes no more time to do things neatly than untidily. There never was a truer saying than that lazy people take the most trouble. There is no more excuse for a dirty, untidy garden, than for going with one's clothes torn, or flesh unwashed.

#### BEEET SUGAR.

The proposition in the Quebec Legislature, of Mr. Bonnemant, the chief promoter of the beet sugar manufacturing scheme, is as follows:—That the Provincial Government should guarantee the stockholders investing the capital of \$300,000, five per cent. interest thereon for five years. If the business pays one, two, three, or four per cent., the Government would only have to make up the difference till five was reached. At the worst Government would have to pay but \$15,000 one year and after the first five, no more money would be asked. It is believed the scheme would be self-supporting, if not largely profitable by that time. The projectors are sure that all the beet necessary can be produced from Canadian soil, but as Canadians would not at first raise it in sufficient quantities, it is intended to import French or Belgian farmers to bring up the requisite supply. The names of Sir Hugh Allen, Mr. Drummond and other influential capitalists are associated with Mr. Bonnemant in this enterprise, which the Committee on Agriculture consider a hopeful one.

#### Communications.

##### A LAST BUZZ.

(To the Editor of Journal of Agriculture)

In the address on Bee Culture, from which I took those extracts which you were kind enough to publish in your last number,—Bee keeping is alluded to as a *Science* under the name of "*Apiarian Science*"; but (perhaps owing to my careless mode of writing,) this is made to read as "*American Science*" in your Journal. To some this will make no difference; but perhaps to others, the mere allusion to "*American Science*" may have the effect of causing them to doubt the genuineness of the whole article.

I lay stress on the correction for this chief reason—that it is greatly, if not entirely on account of Bee keeping being conducted on sound *Scientific* principles, that such marvellous results are now obtained from what were formerly considered such very insignificant insects.

J. H. HODSON.

#### Agricultural Reports.

##### REPORT OF THE ONSLOW AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1872.

The officers in making their Annual Report for the year, are happy to state that the affairs of the Society are in a prosperous condition. Many persons that heretofore stood aloof from the Society—on seeing the improvement made in stock by members—are now asking admittance, and no doubt there