

but liquid manure employed as the trees are afterwards in full growth. The soil should be rammed down firmly among the roots, so that the tree may stand firmly, and loose potting be avoided. As growth advances, prune and pinch back enough to give the tree a good symmetrical shape, and careful attention must be given to watering; and during active growth liquid manure will be important. The pinching process is to be continued through the season, so as to give the trees a rather dwarfed form, and the third year they will give good crops. They are kept under glass in winter, where the thermometer must never be allowed to go below zero, as the fruit buds are more easily killed than are trees standing in open ground. Artificial heat, for the coming crop, may be first given about the first of the year, and ripe fruit of early sorts may be had by the first of summer. The heat of cold weather may be sixty or seventy degrees in the day time, and always above freezing at night; but as the warm weather of spring advances very little or no artificial heat will be required, as the sun will furnish it. Each tree, when in full growth, will require about a gallon of water in twenty-four hours. When the nectarines are within about five days of maturity, if the trees are placed out of doors on the warm side of the house, the open air will complete the process of ripening and give the fruit a flavor which it will not have if allowed to remain inside. If exposed sooner, it will cause curl of the leaf. These trees will bear a few years, and should then be renewed. (1)

EDS. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—A roof for protecting hay, straw, &c., is much used in this section of country. It is built upon the ground and elevated to the proper height, sliding upon four stout corner posts, and supported in place by movable pins. To bring it to a few feet above the ground is no great undertaking, but to place it at a height of 16 or 20 feet is something of a task. This work and that of lowering the roof, as the contents are from time to time partially removed, have to be repeated year after year making the task in the long run quite a formidable one.

Counsellor A. S. Appelget, a practical farmer living near here, has recently hit upon a contrivance which greatly lessens the difficulty. Fig. 1 represents the roof supported by pins

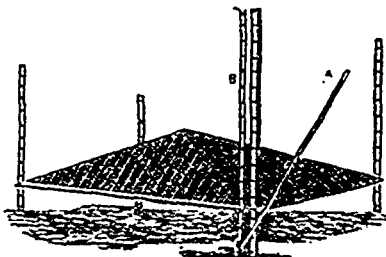


Fig. 1.

in the corner posts and elevated a few feet. It also shows the lever A, and a movable upright B. Fig. 2 gives a view of one corner of the roof together with lever and upright, the pin C, in the upright, being in contact with the under side of the frame. A glance will show that as the long end of the lever is brought down, the upright, together with the corner of the structure, is carried up. Securing this corner in its new position by moving the pin in the corner post a hole higher, lever and upright are moved to the three other corners successively. Coming round again to the first corner, the pin C is placed a hole higher in the upright, and the pro-

(1) See Journal for October.

cess is repeated. With this contrivance two men can with ease elevate a roof 20 feet square to the desired position. Some reader of your paper may find this plan a great convenience and saving of labor.

*Mercer County, N. J.*

W. W. S.

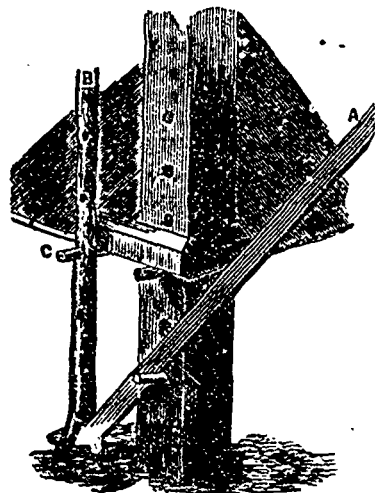


Fig. 2.

## CELERY CULTURE.

DETAILS FROM ACTUAL PRACTICE.

EDS. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—It is commonly thought that celery can be properly grown only by professional gardeners. The following will show that its culture is as simple as that of cabbage or beans, and perhaps induce many to grow a vegetable which is no longer a luxury, but a necessity.

The following I extract from my daily diary of operations. I keep a Dr. and Cr. account with all crops, I as do not believe in guessing at when sown and when ripe. April 6, 1886, cold frames for celery seed, 14 by 9 feet; excavated one spit deep, not shoveled; six inches mixed cow and horse manure (short) put in and well mixed with loose soil left at bottom, three inches of fine soil on top; when finished, flush with natural soil. Put 6 inch hemlock board in front, 10 inch board at back; sides, flush 10, flush 6. This is for two sash of U. S. waterproofing fibre cloth, 6 ft. 6 in. long and 4 ft. wide, made as heretofore described in COUNTRY GENTLEMAN. Soil tramped and raked; drills marked with a 3-inch marker (an old hay rake head answers the purpose for this); seed sown an eighth of an inch deep (Henderson's Dwarf White and Boston Market), covered very lightly, just as thick as the seed. Lay two boards on when finished, and tramp the roughly. As you tramp the one board, lift the other and lay it close to the first one; you will then have no ridges and all the seed will have an equal pressure; when finished, all should be perfectly smooth, not a mark or ridge visible. Put on your waterproofing fibre cloth sash, giving no water or air for three or more days, according to the weather; when your surface is dry, then give a very gentle sprinkling with a light, fine rose watering pot; avoid by all means any slashing.

Ninety-nine per cent. of all the grumbling about bad seed arises from the sower's inattention to proper depth of sowing, and the non-use of feet tramping or of the roller. No legitimate seed merchant can afford to sell bad seeds. I was once called on to visit a sown field of five acres of similar crop to one that I had up and doing well. It was not doing well at all, only a plant here and there. We both bought our seed from the same seed merchant, but my neighbor sowed his too deep. If you purchase from the corner grocery store, you