

GROWTH OF PINES.—During a recent visit to Lincoln county, we saw quite extensive tracts of splendid pine woods, the trees standing very thick, and running up straight and tall. There were several lots belonging to different parties, of from fifteen to twenty-five acres in extent, and from some of these considerable quantities of timber are now being cut. Years ago the land upon which this pine growth is now standing was covered with a growth of white and red oak, which was cut off for staves. These were manufactured, sold in Wiscasset, shipped to the West Indies, and brought back filled with molasses. Nearly all the large oaks along the coast were used for this purpose, and the ground is now producing a growth of pines. Mr. David C. Pottle, of Alma, informs us that fifty years ago his father, while gathering oak timbers for staves, drove his oxen and sled over the tops of small pines that are now forty, fifty, and sixty feet high, and that will cut from four hundred to one thousand feet of lumber. Some of these trees are now two feet in diameter at the ground, the average being eighteen inches. The profits of these trees have been as good as money at ten per cent. interest, and yet our farmers fail to grow forest and timber trees, thinking they and their children will not get paid for their trouble. Behold these facts, and let some of your waste land grow up to trees for your children's benefit and profit, if not for your own. —*Maine Farmer.*

Horticultural.

A PRETTY PARLOR ORNAMENT.

An interesting ornament for the sitting room or parlor may be easily obtained by growing one of the club moss trees under a glass shade. Procure an ordinary glass shade, such as are used to protect vases and other articles, and of any size that offers—also a china dish that is two or three inches deep, or a common flower seed pan. Fill the latter with light soil, as vegetable mould or sand, and get from a nurseryman or florist a plant of one of the common varieties of club moss. Place this on the soil in the pan, and then the glass shade over it, pressing it down a little into the soil. The earth being kept moist, this moss will grow rapidly and will climb up and fill the inside of the glass. It requires to be kept in a window near the light, and soon becomes a pleasing object from the delicate texture and form of its ramifications. Although the moss requires to have a constantly moist atmosphere within the glass, yet it takes but little water, because the evaporation from the soil condenses on the inner surface of the glass shade, and descends in the form of water down it again. The shade should never be taken off when water is needed; a small quantity may be poured between the outside of the shade and the side of the pan, which will find its way under the edge of the glass to the earth which is inside.

ROSES.

The rose requires a deep, rich, loamy soil, unshaded or smothered by trees or shrubs; good drainage, careful waterings, if the season is dry, and close, judicious pruning.

The soil should be well intermixed with thoroughly decayed manure; and during the heat of summer it should be mulched with straw manure, to keep the roots moist and cool, and encourage a strong growth.

All the wood which produced flowers last season should be cut clean out, or back to the strong, fresh growth of the past year; and these free shoots can also be pruned one-third or more of their length.

This may seem to the amateur gardener a terrible waste of material, but it will make the rose throw out stronger flowering shoots, and produce flowers of extra size and beauty. So spare not the knife! As early in the spring as is practicable, cut back the branches with a will.

Hybrid perpetual roses have been the fashion of late years, but they are not as free bloomers as the Bourbon and Hybrid China. Their name is also a misnomer, for, though they may bloom again in the morning, they will not flower as profusely as in June, nor will their blossoms be as handsome, unless the shoots are trimmed back in July to within two or three eyes of the main stem.

The old-fashioned moss, damask and Provence roses of our childhood far excel these so-called perpetuals in fragrance, and they are rapidly coming into favor again.

Roses are easily propagated by cuttings, but the shoots should be old enough to be free from softness, yet not too woody or hard. It is best to cut off the shoots just below a joint, trimming off the leaf attached to it, and leaving two or three buds above it, with leaves on them; but when they are too luxuriant cut off a part, for if they wither the cutting will not strike root.

Sand is far better than loam for rooting cuttings; so fill up your tiny pots with it, and

insert the cuttings close to the edge of the pot, keeping it thoroughly wet—for if the sand dries the tiny roots will die. Then sink the pots in a hot-bed made of manure, or in a pan of hot water, changing it as it cools.

Bottom heat is a necessity—without it aid there is little use in attempting to strike tender roses; and a glass shade, to retain the heat and moisture, is also needful. Another way to strike cuttings is to fill a large flower-pot half full with a little rich loam, and two or three inches of sand; then plant the cuttings close to the edge, about half an inch apart, and cover them with a pane of window-glass. Place the pot in a pan of hot water, in a window, and, if you change the water three or four times a day, you will have a good hot-bed for striking tender cuttings of all kinds. It will take from three to five weeks for delicate roses to become rooted, and they must be kept well watered all the time. In planting cuttings, the sand must be firmly pressed around the base, so that it is in the closest contact with it.

Our roses are often ruined by the slug and the green fly. A few days of neglect, and every bush will be shorn of its glory. But if air-slacked lime is scattered over the leaves when wet with morning dew it will usually prove an effectual remedy.

A pint of common soft soap, with a pint of fine salt added to ten gallons of warm water, syringed over the bushes, is also a good insect destroyer. No one can expect to cultivate flowers without trouble. So as soon as the green leaves appear we must begin our fight against their insect enemies.

Rose-bugs are routed by shaking the stems containing them over a dish of hot water, or by hand-picking and burning.

Scot is an excellent remedy for mildew; it must be dusted thickly over the plants while wet with dew, and in twenty-four hours syringed off. It is also an excellent fertilizer to the soil. Wood ashes can be applied in the same manner for both mildew and insects. —*Scrubner's Monthly for June.*

The cabbage moth has already made its appearance, and visits the young cabbage and cauliflower plants as soon as the plants are large enough to hold the eggs which produce the larvae called cabbage worms. A capital remedy for these voracious fellows is that used by Quinn, of New Jersey. The mixture is:—One part carbolic powder; two parts fine superphosphate. Dust the plants once or twice a week when the dew is on the leaf.

WINDOW PLANTS.

Among all the winter-blooming plants the Fuchsias, "Speciosa" and "Serratifolia," are my chief pets. Often they will bloom continuously for months, and if their tastes are consulted and congenial food provided for them, they will be in flower from eight to ten months in the year. They delight in a rich, black, moist soil, such as is found in the woods beside old stumps, and is fat with the decay of years. If you cannot get this, equal parts of leaf mould, thoroughly decayed manure, and garden loam, will make them flower profusely. They grow most readily from cuttings, will strike quickly late in May or June; or they can be pruned of the florists by mail. Some of them advertise to send six different kinds of Fuchsias for one dollar, and all handsome varieties.

A Calla Lily is always desirable, and if kept from freezing, will bloom two or three times during the winter; and its snowy white spathe is very ornamental to a stand of plants. A Heliotrope is indispensable, and if a fresh cutting is started in June, it will often bloom all winter, and become a tall, thrifty plant. I have one now that is in full bloom, and nearly two feet high.

The prudent, "canny Scotchman" always thinks of laying up in store for a rainy day, though as yet the need of it may be unseen and distant. So would we have the minds of our readers well stored with agricultural and horticultural lore before the time comes to put the theories in practice. Bear then in mind the friendly hints and counsels we give you from time to time, though some of them may be in advance of the time for following the advice, as is this extract from *Science and Health*:

GRAPES AND THEIR EASY CULTURE.

It is surprising that so many families in the country are willing to live year after year without cultivating a single grape-vine about their dwellings. They are compelled to purchase this delicious fruit for the table, or not taste it during the season. There is a common impression that to cultivate grapes perfectly a vast amount of knowledge is required. To many the simple training of a vine is a mystery, more difficult to comprehend than the hardest problem of Euclid. This is an erroneous view, and ought not to prevail. Any person of common intelligence can learn

in an hour how to trim and nourish vines; and if instruction cannot be obtained from some experienced cultivator, there are books filled with cuts and illustrations which make everything plain. Three vines of as many different varieties, planted in some sunny nook, or by the side of some building, so as to obtain shelter, will, if properly cared for, furnish many a bushel of delicious grapes every year. Select a Concord, a Delaware, and an Adirondack; make the ground mellow and rich by the use of a spade, and by employing old manure, finely ground bones, and ashes; and set out the plants. In three years the rich clusters will appear, and in four years the product will be abundant. It is well to have vines planted so that the waste liquids from the dwellings can be used in fertilization. If there is any food the vine especially loves it is the soapy liquids which accumulate on washing days in families. Vines drenched every week with these liquids will flourish astonishingly, and extend themselves so as to cover large buildings, every branch bearing fruit. We say to our readers, plant vines.

SUCCESS WITH FLOWER SEEDS.

If the following simple rules are attended to, success is almost certain in growing flowers from seeds. But if neglected, failure is almost equally certain.

1. The seeds should not be sowed until about the time of planting cucumbers and putting out tomatoes. If sown too early, the frost will destroy the choicest varieties.

2. Cover the seeds with fine dirt, and only one quarter of an inch deep, as a general rule. Large seeds may be covered a half inch.

3. Shade the bed with a board, or in some other way. Sprinkle on water every day unless it rains, and keep the surface of the bed constantly moist until the plants come up. Then remove the shade and give them the sun. But still continue to sprinkle the bed every evening or early in the morning, until the plants get a little strength of root.

It is not yet altogether too late for this item. It is true, almost all flower seeds have been sown, but it is not yet too late for some, and we like to have them come forward in succession.

Miscellaneous.

AID TO EMIGRANTS.

This being the season when emigrants of all races flow into the country, it behooves Municipal Councils to aid the Government officials as best they can in procuring homes and employment for the new comers. It is useless to cry for emigration and not help it. Farmers grumble at the scarcity of labor, and yet train loads of "greenhorns" pass their towns without an effort to detain them. The emigration officers can accomplish nothing without the hearty co-operation of employers. Thousands of emigrants annually pass through Canada as birds of passage and settle in the United States, for the simple reason that there is not a hand to bid them come here. Considering that the majority of our people were once emigrants themselves, and new out homes without any assistance outside of their own strong arms, that is no reason why the emigrants of 1872 should be similarly treated. If we want the country settled, we must rival the United States in encouraging emigration. If Canada extended to the Gulf of Mexico, she might command emigrants without an effort; but having a pushing neighbour at her elbow, she must compete energetically, or be habitually shunned by those who come to the New World for a home. The *Port Hope Times* gives an instance of carelessness almost criminal on the part of employers in that district. "Some years ago forty Germans who were sent here from Montreal had to be fed and lodged by their countrymen in town, and were afterwards sent to the States for want of employment, although hundreds of farmers in our neighborhood required help." There is too much apathy with regard to German emigrants. Because they cannot speak English, it is inferred that they cannot work as well as Britons. If the Western States had drawn the same conclusion, the Indian and the buffalo would have reigned supreme. It is the duty of every patriot to encourage the settlement of his country. Teuton, Celt, Gaul or Turk can find room in Canada to their own and Canada's benefit; and Canadian employers should exert themselves to keep every emigrant from crossing the Suspension Bridge or passing Windsor. —*The Mail.*

[In New Brunswick, the great complaint

is the scarcity of laborers. The *Colonial Farmer*, Fredericton, N.B., says that the directors of the Riviere du Loup Railway were informed by telegraph that 130 men had left the Shetland Islands for Glasgow, where they will embark for this province to work on the railway. We learn from the same authority that 32 miles of the railway will be completed and ready for traffic before the end of the year, and nothing but scarcity of labor can possibly prevent the road from being completed within the time specified in the contract. A large body of Swedish emigrants are also expected in the provinces. In all parts of the Dominion labor is in great demand, betokening a more than usual state of prosperity. We consider the subject of emigration as bearing incidentally on agriculture. We sometimes feel the want of help in our farming operations, and we are convinced that the more the wilderness is made to give way to advancing civilization that always marks the footprints of the tillers of the soil, so much more will be the progress of our country in wealth and power. A. T. Ed.

WE LEARN from a correspondent of the *Toronto Globe* that some of the manufacturers of Canada are likely to meet with a good market for the products of our country in the United States, notwithstanding the prohibitory duties they have to contend with. A commercial agent now in the west has succeeded in effecting sales in Chicago of the products of the Hespeler worsted mills, at remunerative prices. The duty on these goods is nearly equal to 50 per cent. of their cost in Canada, but as there is nothing in the American market to compete with them, they can be brought to Chicago and sold at such a price as to leave a fair profit to the manufacturer. This is a matter of importance to others besides manufacturers, for as the business increases so will the market for Canadian wool improve. The Hespeler worsted manufactures are known to be unrivalled for their good finish and durability, and the wool of Canada is peculiarly suited to it. The present demand for wool and the high prices paid for mutton are such as to make the raising of sheep very remunerative. As farmers, we rejoice in the prosperity of the farmer and merchant. We are glad to record the prosperity of every class in our common country, and we watch with interest the onward advance of every branch of industry. We believe that if they to whom is entrusted the control of the affairs of the Dominion be worthy of the honorable position to which they have attained, Canada will ere long be, as her natural resources entitle her to be, one among the greatest nations. A. T. Ed.

CARE OF ASHES.

No mortal living knows the amount of property which has been destroyed by carelessness in the care of ashes. How often do we see newspaper accounts of fires, origin unknown, "supposed to be the work of an incendiary!" That we have numerous incendiary fires there can be no doubt, but it is my honest conviction that more than half of those fires of unknown origin, charged to incendiaries, are really the result of carelessness with ashes. Who of us cannot call to mind many instances where buildings were either burned or had a hair-breadth escape by fire from ashes deposited in wood in the shed or outbuildings? How often has such a fire been discovered barely in season to save the entire destruction of the buildings! Yet with a knowledge of these cases and the danger thereof, it is surprising to see how many continue such carelessness, often reminding the writer, in his insurance surveys and ferreting out the ashes deposit, of the case where he found a pile of ashes on the floor of an unfinished room in the house, and on inquiry respecting them, was told that they usually kept them in boxes, but the box was wanted, and knowing they were cold, they were turned out. As laughable as this may be, let me remind those who deposit ashes in wood in outbuildings, that those ashes were probably safer on that parlor floor, which I think it now is, than where they are putting them, as in case of fire from them it would be discovered quicker from the smoke, and the chances greater for