

Horticulture.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We congratulate our readers on the formation of an *Horticultural Society* in this City. When the rapid progress of Upper Canada in population and wealth is considered, the desirableness of such an Institution, centrally situated, will at once become apparent. Horticulture is the precursor and natural ally of Agriculture. Both are dependent upon the soil, and are, in common, governed by the same great principles or natural laws. Hence, we feel anxious that our publication should, as far as practicable, embrace both. While Agriculture furnishes the more common and necessary-food for man, and is in almost all countries the principal source of wealth, Horticulture presents an endless variety of other productions, in vegetables, fruits, and flowers, which, while many of them minister largely to his physical comforts and wants, others more directly tend to refresh the spirit, and reform and elevate the taste. We confidently anticipate a large share of public patronage to this Society, as soon as its merits become known, and shall always be happy to register its successful proceedings. The price of members' tickets has been judiciously placed low, with a view to extend the gratifications and benefits of the three annual Exhibitions, which are intended to be held as widely as possible. Gentlemen's tickets, 5s; Ladies' do. 2s. 6d. The following are the office-bearers for the ensuing year:

Patron—The Chief Justice.

President—Mr. Justice Dyer.

Vice-Presidents—Mr. Justice Sullivan, Mr. Sheriff Jarvis, and Mr. Wm. Baldwin.

Directors—Mr. George Allan, Mr. George Buckland, Dr. W. Nicol, Mr. H. Y. Hind, and Mr. Collier.

Treasurer— * * *

Secretary—Professor Croft, King's College

BRIEF HINTS ON SOWING AND RAISING CULINARY VEGETABLES.

Most kinds of seeds grow more freely if soaked in soft water for 12 to 48 hours before sowing. Seeds of a hard nature, such as blood-beet, mangel wurtzel, nasturtium, &c., often fail from want of attention to this circumstance. Rolling the ground, after sowing, is very beneficial, and will assist in making the seeds vegetate more freely. Where a roller is not at hand, it may be done with the back of a spade.

Kidney, or French Beans, may be planted any time this month (May), in drills two inches deep; the beans two inches from each other; the drills about 18 inches apart. If a regular succession is required, sow a few every two weeks, from the 1st of May to the 1st of July.

Broad, or Windsor Beans, do not succeed well in this climate, the summer heat coming on them before they are podded, which causes the blossoms to drop off. The best soil to grow them in is a rich, stiff clay, and on a northern border, shaded from the midday sun; sow in drills two feet apart, the drills two inches deep, and the seeds 3 inches asunder.

Blood-Beet, Long, and Turnip may be sown in a good, rich, deep soil, about the first week of May. Draw drills about a foot apart and one inch deep; sow moderately thick; when the plants are up strong, thin them out to the distance of six inches from each other in the rows.

Broccoli and Cauliflower require a deep, rich soil, of a clayey nature, and highly manured. To produce early cauliflower, or broccoli the seed ought to be sown in a hot-bed, early in March, when the plants are quite strong and hardy. They may be planted out in the garden, about the middle of May. Plant in rows, two feet square. The only kinds that will do well in this climate are the Early London Cauliflower, and Purple Cape Broccoli.

Cabbage, both early and late, may be sown any time in May. The best situation for raising the plants is a rich, damp piece of ground, partially shaded. Seed sown in a situation of this kind is not so subject to be destroyed by the black flea. When the plants are strong, they may be planted out in rows, and managed the same as directed for cauliflower. The best kinds for summer use are the Early York, Battersea, and Vannack; for winter use the Drumhead, Large Bergen, and Flat Dutch.

Cucumbers may be sown in the open ground any time in May. They require a good, rich soil. Sow in hills, four feet apart, leaving only three plants on each hill. The cucumber and melon vines are liable to be attacked by a yellow fly or bug. Soot, charcoal dust, or soap suds, applied to the plants, will assist in keeping them off.

Musk and Water Melons may also be sown at the same time, taking care to sow the different kinds a good distance apart from each other, as they are apt to mix. Plant in hills, six feet square, leaving only three plants on each hill. When the plants have grown about six inches, stop or pinch out the top of the leading shoot; which will make the plants throw out lateral shoots, on which you may expect to have fruit.

Carrots.—The most suitable ground for growing carrots is a deep, rich soil, that has been well manured the previous year. Sow any time this month, in drills one foot apart, and one inch deep. When the carrots are up, thin them out, four inches apart, and keep the ground free from weeds. The kinds that are generally sown in the garden are, the Early Horn, Long Orange, and Red Surrey; for field culture the White Belgian and Altringham. The produce of one acre of field carrots, when properly cultivated, may be rated at from 500 to 800 bushels. In cultivating them on the field system, the drills ought to be two feet apart, and the carrots thinned out, at least, twelve inches asunder.

Celery.—This vegetable is much esteemed as a salad. It requires considerable attention to grow it to perfection. To have early celery the seed requires to be sown in a hot-bed, in the month of