

is a different species from the above. The numerous varieties of the tomato are the result of cultivation, or perhaps some of them may be hybrids between the species. Those varieties are best which have a smooth, uniform outline, and solid, good flavoured meat. With a little care in selecting seed, tomatoes of almost any shape and quality may be grown. The tomato is very easily cultivated. Being a half-hardy annual, and requiring the entire heat of our summers to produce a full crop, it is necessary to start the plants in a hot-bed, so that they shall have attained considerable size before the advent of warm weather. Give the plants plenty of room in the hot-bed, so that they may become stocky and strong, and if transplanted in the bed before putting into the open ground they will be all the better and stronger for it.

It is better to train the plants to some sort of trellis than to let them lie upon the ground, and cutting back the branches so as to expose the fruit to the sun is very beneficial. A good way is to train the plants to a south wall, in the same manner that grapes are trained. In this way the fruit receives the benefit of radiated heat from the wall, and is hastened in ripening. Sometimes the main stem of the plant trained in this way will reach a height of ten feet, with regular side branches, and all loaded with the finest fruit. In open garden culture, a good way is to make a trellis about three feet high of stakes and lath, and train the plants to it as they grow, keeping them down to a moderate size. In this way more good will be obtained from a half dozen plants than from a dozen allowed to trail upon the ground. —*W. Rural.*

### The Flower Garden.

Most people have yet to learn the true enjoyment of life; it is not fine dresses, or large houses, or elegant furniture, or rich wines, or gay parties, that makes homes happy. Really, wealth cannot purchase pleasures of the highest sort: these depend not on money or money's worth; it is the heart, and taste, and intellect, which determine the happiness of men; which give the seeing eye, and the sentient nature, and without which man is little better than a walking clothes-horse.

A snug and clean home, no matter how tiny it be, so that it is wholesome; windows into which the sun can shine cheerily; a few good books and papers; no duns at the door; a neat and cheerful flower garden without, with flowers in your room; and there is none so poor as not to have about them the elements of pleasure.

Nature tells us to be happy, to be glad, for she decks herself with flowers—and the fields, the skies, the thickets, the dells, the mountains and the prairies, the morning and evening sky, are robed in loveliness.

The "laughing flowers" exclaims the poet; but there is more than gaiety in the blooming flower, though it takes a wise man to see its full significance. There is the beauty, the love, and the adaptation, of which it is full. Few of us, however, see any more deeply in this respect than did Peter Bell:

"A primrose by the river's brim,  
A yellow primrose was to him,  
And it was nothing more."

What can be more innocent than flowers? Are they not like children undimmed by sin? They are emblems of purity and truth, always a new source of delight to the pure and innocent. The heart that does not love flowers, or the voice of a playful child, is one that we should not like to consort with.

Flowers have a voice to all—to old, to young, to rich and poor, if they would but listen, and try to interpret their meaning. "To me," says Wordsworth, "the meaneast flower that blows can give thoughts, that do often lie too deep for tears." Have a flower garden, then, by all means. Have flowers in your room; it will cost but a trifle, and the gratification it will give you, will be beyond all price. If you can have a flower for your window, so much the better. What can be more delicious than the sun's light streaming through flowers—through the midst of crimson fuschias or scarlet geraniums? Then to look out into the light through flowers—is not that poetry? And to break the force of the sunbeams by the tender resistance of green leaves? If you can train a nasturtium round the window, or some sweet peas, then you have the most beautiful frame you can invent for the picture without, whether it be the busy crowd, or a distant landscape, or trees with their lights and shades, or the changes of the passing clouds. And what a pure taste and refinement does it not indicate on the part of the cultivator. There are, we doubt not, many who may read these pages, who can enter into and appreciate the spirit of all that we have said; and to those who still hesitate, we would say—begin and experiment forthwith, and do not let another season pass away without flowers and a flower garden. —*Rural World, St. Louis.*

### Miscellaneous.

**PORTLAND CEMENT.**—We have found this a very useful article to the gardener. Made into a thin solution like white-wash, it gives wood-work all the appearance of having been painted and sanded, and may, for ought we know, have as preservative a property. Piles of stone may be set together with common mortar, and then the whole washed over with this cement, making it look like one immense rock of grey sandstone. For temporary use, a flour barrel may have the hoops nailed, so as not to fly apart, and the inside washed with ten cents worth of Portland Cement, and it will do for a year or more to hold water. Boards nailed together, and washed with it, make good hot water tanks; and in so many ways is it of use, that we have come to look on it, as one of those peculiar things in a garden which it is "always good to have about." —*Gardeners' Monthly.*

**PROPERTIES OF CHARCOAL.**—Among the many properties of charcoal may be mentioned its power of destroying smell, taste and colour; and as a proof of its possessing the first quality, if it be rubbed over putrid meat, the smell will be destroyed. If a piece of charcoal be thrown into putrid water, the putrid taste or flavour will be destroyed, and the water be rendered completely fresh. Sailors are aware of this; for when water is bad at sea, they are in the habit of throwing pieces of burnt biscuit into it to purify it. Colour is materially influenced by charcoal, and, in a number of instances, in a very irregular way. If you take a dirty black syrup, and filter it through burnt charcoal, the colour will be removed. The charcoal of animal matter appears to be the best for this purpose. You may learn the influence of charcoal in destroying colours, by filtering a bottle of port wine through it; in the filtration it will lose a great portion of its colouring and become tawny; repeat the process two or three times, and you have destroyed it altogether.

**ABOUT ORDER.**—Put things right back in their own place when done with. Never leave them all about helter skelter, topsy-turvy, never. When you use any article, hoe, shovel, rake, pitchfork, axe-hammer, tongs, boots or shoes, books, slates, pencils, writing apparatus, pins, thimbles, pin-cushions, needles, work-baskets, kitchen furniture, every article of house-wifery or husbandry, no matter what it is, the very moment you have done using it, return it to its proper place. Be sure to have a special place for everything, and everything in its place. Order, order, perfect order, is the watchword, Heaven's first law. How much precious time is saved (aside from vexation) by observing order, systematic regularity! And little folks should begin early to preserve order in everything. Form habits of order. These loose, slipshod, slatternly habits are formed in childhood, and habits once formed are apt to cling for life.

Young friends, begin early to keep things in their proper places; study neatness, order, economy, sobriety; in everything be just, honest, pure, lovely, and you will have a good report. —*Rural New Yorker.*

**JOSH BILLINGS ON LAFFING.**—Laffing is strictly an amusement, although some folks make a bizzness of it.

It has been considered an index of character, and there is some so cluss at reasoning that they say they can tell what a man had for dinner by seeing him laff.

I never saw two laff alike.

While there are sum who don't make enny noize, there are sum who don't make anything but noize—and sum, agin, who hav musik in their laff, and others who laff just as a rat does who haz caught a steel trap with his tale.

There is no mistake in the assershun that it is a cumfort to hear sum laffs that cum romping out ov a man's mouth—like a distrik skool of young girls just let out tew play.

Men who never laff may have good hearts, but they are deepseet—like sum springs, they have their inlet and outlet from below, and show no sparkling bubble on the brim.

I don't like a giggler; his kind of laff is like a dandyion, a broad yeller, with no bit of good smell about it.

It is true that enny kind ov a laff, if it iz honest, iz better than none; but give me the laff that looks out of a man's eyes, fust, tew see if the coast is clear, then steals down into the dimple of his cheek and rides in an eddy there awhile, then wags a spell at the corner of his mouth like a thing of life, then bursts its bonds of beauty and fills the air for a moment with a shower of silvery-tongued sparks, then steals bak with a smile tew its lair in the heart tew watch agin for its prey—this is the kind ov laff that I lav and ain't afraid ov.

### Advertisements.

## HOVEY & CO.'S ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE AND CULTIVATOR'S GUIDE TO THE Flower and Vegetable Garden, for 1866. IS NOW READY.

THE THIRTIETH EDITION of our CATALOGUE is greatly improved and enlarged to upwards of one hundred and twenty pages of small type, and is illustrated with more than

### Fifty New and Beautiful Engravings

of the most popular and showy flowers, and several of the novelties of 1866, now offered for the first time in this country, with full descriptions of nearly 2500 FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SEEDS, accompanied with complete practical directions for their cultivation and treatment. It will also contain a list of 125 Varieties of French and American Gladiolus, and all the most beautiful Summer Flowering Bulbs, Lilies, &c.

The Catalogue now offered to our numerous friends and customers is one of the most complete ever published, no pains or expense having been spared in its preparation. It contains all the information necessary for the amateur for the successful growth of all the most beautiful flowers adapted to the Summer Garden, or Winter Conservatory.

In consequence of the high cost of paper and other expenses attending its publication, we shall charge the nominal price of 25 cents, and it will be mailed free to all applicants enclosing that amount. Address  
HOVEY & CO.,  
73 6-24 53 North Market Street, Boston.

## J. A. SIMMERS, SEEDSMAN,

DEOS to inform his friends and the public, that the Eleventh Annual Issue of his

## CULTIVATORS' GUIDE, Or Descriptive Catalogue of Seeds of all kinds, for the ensuing season, IS NOW READY!

And intending purchasers may have a copy of it gratis on application. It contains a list and the prices of all the leading varieties of seeds for the garden and farm, which he offers for sale, together with a large number of some striking novelties of recent introduction, illustrated with over 20 artistically executed engravings, and a great variety of useful information respecting sowing of seeds, &c. Parties at a distance wishing to purchase seeds, may have a copy by sending two cents (postage free) to my address.

J. A. SIMMERS,  
West Market Place, Toronto, March 15. v3-6-11

## IMPROVED HAND LAWN-MOWER.

A SIMPLE, substantial, cheap, and effective Machine. Also manufacturers of the

PREMIUM FARM CRIST-MILL,  
And every variety of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS. Send for Descriptive Circular, and address  
v3-6-11. WM. L. BOYER & BRO., Philadelphia, Pa.

## IMPROVED FARMS

OF various descriptions, in the COUNTY OF PETERBOROUGH, C. W.  
FOR SALE ON EASY TERMS.

—ALSO—  
UNIMPROVED FARM LOTS,  
Adjoining a Settlement with Grist and Saw Mills, Post Office, Store Schools, &c., at

## ONE DOLLAR PER ACRE.

For particulars apply to  
CHAS. JAS. BLOMFIELD,  
Secretary to Canadian Land & Emigration Co.,  
Toronto Bank Buildings, Toronto.  
Or to  
CHAS. P. STEWART,  
Resident Agent of the Company;  
Haliburton, Co. Peterborough.  
Toronto, March 7. v3-6-41

## IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.

THE undersigned has for sale a quantity of Imported PEAS, highly prolific. Price \$2 per bushel. Respectable references can be given as to last year's yield in Canada.

Address, A. BOYCE,  
Geo. Cooper's Farm, Davenport P. O.  
v3-6-11

## WILSON'S EARLY BLACKBERRY,

THE largest, best and most productive, ripens before any other Blackberry, yielding its whole crop in the shortest period between Raspberries and other Blackberries, just the time when fruit is scarce and brings the highest price.

PHILADELPHIA RASPBERRY,  
For hardiness and productiveness, is unequalled, bearing the extreme cold of Minnesota without injury, and yielding in that latitude a splendid crop of fruit, it has produced here over 200 bushels per acre.

20 Acres of STRAWBERRIES—best varieties. Send for Catalogue, gratis.

WILLIAM PARRY,  
Cinnaminson, Burlington Co., New Jersey.  
v3-6-31