

VENTILATION OF THE APPLE BARREL.—By this we mean the boring of holes in the head staves of the barrels that will allow the escape of the moisture that is constantly passing off from the newly gathered fruit. We hazard nothing in the statement that one-half the fruit sent to this market this season, so far has been materially injured from this cause. The effect of confined vapor upon the apple is not at once apparent. The fruit appears uncommonly bright on the first opening—but as the surface dries off the apple begins to grow dull looking, and if a light skinned apple in a day or two will present the appearance of half-baked fruit.

But this steaming from confinement not only injures the sale of the fruit, but to the great disappointment of the consumer, his fruit does not keep as he supposed it would, and as the variety of apple he purchased led him to suppose it would. Premature decay is sure to follow as a consequence of this want of ventilation.—*Chicago Fruit Dealer.*

HOW TO PLANT WILLOW.—Mr. Skean gives the following directions to the *Farmer and Gardener*. "The proper time to plant is before the sap starts in the spring. Take your limb or pole, point it with a keen hatchet, and having made a hole with a suitable crow-bar, insert the pole, tapping it on the top with a mallet to make it firm; or, what is equally good, ramming the ground firmly around it with a common post-rammer. The pointed end should be inserted, if possible, until it reaches the water, otherwise they will not thrive so rapidly. The willow succeeds best where the water is fresh, and not stagnant."

IN-DOOR PLANTS.—Plants in rooms should be watered more frequently than in green-houses, and they should be syringed over the tops *every evening* about sunset, in dry weather. The syringing will not injure a carpet upon the floor, if the water is wiped off immediately after the drip ceases to fall from the leaves.

Those that I would recommend as the best to flower in parlors are the semi-double, and that have a green calyx; also all the single varieties. The plants should have air, by letting down the top sash whenever the weather is mild, or when there is no frost in the atmosphere, for a short time, though it may be cool. Camellias require a great quantity of air; they will bloom in a room where the heat varies from 35° to 50°; but will bear a much greater heat, and bloom well, and on some occasions they will flower, even though the earth on the top of the pot has been slightly frozen, but extremes, either of heat or cold, do not suit them.

I have had Camellias bloom finely on tables, as above, where the sun did not shine on them; but, in such cases, they should have a great quantity of light.

I generally use soft water for my plants, both winter and summer, and it is better if warmed

to the same temperature of the room in winter. As to general watering I think it best, whenever the top soil begins to get dry, to water well and freely, so that the water may pass to the bottom roots, and to repeat the watering when the surface begins to get dry, to water well and freely, so that the water may pass to the bottom roots, and to repeat the watering when the surface begins to dry again; when Camellias are blooming or growing, they require more watering than at any other time.

In the latter part of May, after danger of frost is over, the plants should be removed to the open air, and placed in a situation where they will be shaded from the mid-day sun. Here they will only require watering occasionally, until time for re-potting, and removing to the house, in the autumn.—*London Floricultural Cabinet.*

GISHURST'S COMPOUND AND MILDEW IN GOOSE-BERRIES.—A writer in the *English Cottage Gardener*, who had used dressings of the usual mixtures of soft soap, soot, dusting with sulphur, &c., to cure what is called mildew, without avail, syringed all the vines in one viney with Gishurst's compound in the mild form of two ounces to the gallon of water, and not the least sign of the disease had appeared (Nov. 1) at the time of writing. He also syringed wall peach trees, on which the mildew or disease (for he regards it as distinct from mildew) had become visible, with about three ounces of the compound to the gallon of soft water; in a few hours the disease had turned quite black, and the trees have made an excellent growth.

The same writer speaks enthusiastically of this Compound's effect upon insects. He used it first on a three light frame of verbenas, and they were all cured of the fly at the first dressing, without injuring the plants. No second dose is necessary, if properly mixed in soft, warm water. He closes with the assertion, "you may depend it is one of the greatest boons to the gardener for more purposes than destroying insects."

CURIOUS ALLEGED DISCOVERY IN FLORICULTURE.—It is said that Mayor Tiemann, at his paint factory in Manhattanville, has accidentally made a discovery which threatens to revolutionize floriculture. One of the factory hands having thrown some liquid green paint of a particular kind on a flower-bed occupied by white anemones, the flowers have since made their appearance with petals as green as grass. The paint had in it a peculiar and very penetrating chemical mixture, which Mr. Tiemann has since applied with other colors, to other plants, annual, biennial, and of the shrub kind—the result being invariably that the flowers so watered took the hue of the liquid deposited at their roots. By commencing experiments early next year, during seed time, and applying different colors, we shall no doubt soon be enabled to "paint the lily," which was Solomon's ambition.—*N. Y. Tribune.*