because of the enormous amount of land required to support them. Each hedge is five or six feet wide at its base, and taking into account the amount of land they exhaust on either side, the whole space cannot be less than twelve or fourteen feet wide. When it is recollected that the divisions and sub-divisions of land in England are very numerous, the amount of arable land abstracted from the purposes of agriculture, is very great. It has been estimated at several million bushels of grain.—[Plough, Loom and Anvil.

Poetry.

Singing Bird's Petition to Spoartsmen.

Wouldst thou have me fall, or fly?
Hear me sing, or hear me die?
If thy heart is cold and dull,
Knowing nothing beautiful—
If thy proud eye never glows
With the light love only knows—
If the loss of friends or home,
Ne'er hath made life wearisome—
If thy cheek has never known
Tears that fall from sorrow's moan—
If a hopeless mother's sigh
Brings no tear-drop from thine eye,
Thou may'st smile to see me die?

But if thou canst love the lay,
Welcoming the birth of May—
Or summer's song, or autumn's dirge,
Cheering winter's dreary verge—
If thou lovest beauty's hues,
Decked with light or gemmed with dews—
If, all meaner thoughts above,
Thou canst hope, and trust, and love—
If, from all dishonour free,
Thou canst Nature's lover be—
Spare her minstrels,—pity me? M.

Philadelphia, May, 1849.—[Horticulturist.

Horticultural.

Cleansing the Bark of Fruit Trees.

This operation should be performed in early spring, as well as in midsummer. The rough, loose parts of the bark should be scraped off, as well as moss and other parasites. The bark should then be covered with the following mixture, as high as the operator can reach, with an ordinary long-handled white-wash brush:—Five pounds soap, one pound fine salt, one pound sand, two pounds potash, two pounds nitrate of soda, dissolved or mixed with water to the consistency of cream, and thoroughly rubbed upon the bark.

Many kinds of insects are kept from the trees by a solution of whale oil soap alone, and manysuch as are resident in the crevices of the bark are destroyed by salt. The fine sand is intended, during the rubbing, to scratch the outer coating of the bark, and thus assist the other ingredients for more perfect action. The potash and nitrate of soda will decompose or soften the dead parts of the bark, so that during the summer they will be thrown off by the healthy action of the growing bark. If the above mixture be applied in dry weather, it will become so hard as to remain during several showers, and thus have time to perform its office. Trees with smooth bark, such as the plumb, many of the cherries, &c., should be rubbed with a wet, rough, woollen cloth, in a few hours after applying the mixture; this rubbing will cause the sand to clean the surface so perfectly as to give the bark an improved and more healthy surface. Trees so cleansed are not so likely to be revisited by insects as those left with their natural surfaces, nor are they as likely to become bark-bound. Indeed we have never known a tree to exhibit the disease called *bark-bound*, the surface of the trunk of which had been softened by a soap-wash in early spring. The cherry, apricot, peach, and nectarine are subject, when left to their natural state, to this disease, and it has usually been attributed to too rich or too moist a soil; and underdraining and slitting the bark lengthwise with the knife are the usual remedies. The one is expensive, and often impossible where choice trees are planted, and the other is barbarous and unsightly, causing exhalation of gum and consequent canker. In any case, a few applications of soap to the surface of the part hide-bound will remove the difficulty, and the mixture before recommended my be applied, slightly warmed, when required to soften the bark of a hide-bound tree.

WORKING FARMER.

Preservation of the Tomato.

Mr. R. B. Morrell gives us the following:—

"The tomato, which has come into universal use, and is deemed a luxury by almost every one, may be preserved for winter use