

with water, and when it soaks away, put in your plant which has been kept in water to prevent wilting. *But*, in putting in the plant do not plant too deep. "Too deep" kills 99-hundredths of all the Strawberries that die in the year from transplanting. "Too deep" is when anything but the small fibres are buried under the surface.

As to varieties, it is strange to say that after so many new kinds, *Triomphe de Gand* and *Wilson's Albany* still find the greatest number of advocates. *Downer's Prolific*, *Jucunda*, *French's Seedling*, *Agriculturist*, *Brooklyn Scarlet* and *Fillmore* are kinds which prove good in many situations,—and about Boston, *La Constante* and *Hovey's Seedling* are still largely grown.

The Grape vine at this season will require attention, to see that the leaves are all retained healthy till thoroughly ripened. It is not a sign of healthiness for a vine to grow late; on the contrary, such late growth generally gets killed in the winter,—but the leaves should all stay on, to insure the greatest health of the vine, until the frost comes, when they should all be so mature as to fall together. Frequent heavy syringings are amongst the best ways to keep off insects from out-door grapes, and so protect the foliage from their ravages.

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

As soon as your vegetable crops are past kitchen use, clear them out. Never suffer them to seed. In the first place, a seed crop exhausts the soil more than two crops taken off in an eatable condition; in the next place, the refuse of the kitchen is likely to produce degenerate stocks. Good seed saving is a special art by itself, always claiming the earliest and best to ensure a perfect stock.

Celery will require earthing up as it grows, to get it to blanch well. It is not well, however, to commence too early, as earthing up tends, in a slight degree, to weaken the growth of the plants. Take care, also, not to let the soil get into the heart in earthing, or the crown is apt to rot.

As fast as *Eudive* is desired for Salad it should be blanched. Matting thrown over is the best for this purpose, as the plants are not so liable to rot as when pots or boards are employed.

In cold or mountainous regions, Melons are hastened in the ripening process and improved in flavor, by a piece of tile being placed under the fruit.

Keep weeds from your compost heaps, as they exhaust the soil, and bear seeds for future brow-sweatings.

Sow Lettuce for Fall crop, thinly, and in deep and very rich ground.

Early Valentine Beans may still be sown early in the month,—the soil for a late crop should be well trenched, or if

the Fall be dry, they will be stringy and tough.

Cucumbers, Squash, and other similar plants, often suffer from drought at this season. Cold water does not help them much, but a mulching of half-rotten leaves strengthens them considerably.

Cut down straggling herbs, and they will make new heads for next season.

Towards the end of the month, a sowing of Spinach may be made in rich soil, which will come in for use before Winter. That desired for Winter and early Spring use, is usually sown in September in this region. A few Turnips may also be sown for an early crop, but will be hot and stringy unless the soil is very rich.

Corn Salad is often sowed at the end of this month. It does not do so well in damp soil or low situation.—*From the Gardener's Monthly.*

ON JUDGING.

In the management of Exhibitions, there is no more important matter than that of judging the Animals and Articles brought forward in competition. It must be confessed that, as a rule, the same precision does not obtain at Agricultural Exhibitions which we see aimed at by Horticulturists. The subject is just now exciting some interests in Britain, and at this season of the year, when our Exhibitions are coming on, it may not be without use to call attention to some of the views advanced in the Mother Country.

JUDGING ANIMALS.

In judging animals, the common method is for each Judge to form his opinion upon each Animal as a whole, without going into a detailed calculation of points. In many cases the superior excellence of an animal over his fellow competitors is such as to claim for him the prize, without much examination or comparison. Yet it must be confessed that a careful calculation of points by the Judges would not only secure greater satisfaction among competitors, but would lead to more intelligent attention being paid to the perfecting of Stock by breeders, which is really the most important object gained by Exhibitions, so far as Agriculture is concerned.

The other day, Lord Kinnaid addressed a letter to the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland suggesting the propriety of framing a set of Rules for the guidance of Judges of Stock at the Shows, according to points, after the manner in which prizes are accorded in Rifle Matches. The Board of Directors gave answer that they were unanimously of opinion that it would not be advisable to alter the present system of judging Stock adopted by the Society; that is, we presume, the Rule of Thumb method. To this his Lordship replied that he was not

surprised, although he regretted the decision, having had previous experience of the unwillingness of the Directors "to consider any new proposal." He adds: "I have little doubt that to the end of all things the same routine in the management of the affairs of the Society will be observed which has existed ever since I have been a member of it—that is to say, for forty years at least—causing the Society to act as a drag on, rather than a leader in, agricultural improvement, with an occasional waste of power by a somewhat questionable interference in political matters." After full discussion the combined wisdom of the Board was expressed in the following letter drawn up and ordered to be sent:—"Dear Lord Kinnaid,—At a meeting of the Board held here to-day, I was instructed to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 28th instant. I am, yours faithfully, F. N. Menzies, Secretary."

A different spirit was shown by the Royal Horticultural Society of England, at their recent Congress at Oxford, when two excellent and exhaustive papers on the subject of judging, were read, and elicited intelligent discussion. These papers have been published in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*. The first is by Dr. Hogg on

JUDGING FRUITS.

Dr. HOGG, after a few preliminary observations, said:—"Though the judging of fruit has on various occasions occupied the attention of those interested in the subject, and has from time to time been discussed in the public prints by those most competent to deal with it, I am not aware that any common understanding as to the bases on which fruit-judging should rest has yet been arrived at. Notwithstanding this want of a written law on the subject, the practice of judging fruit is followed with results which, though not always agreeable to unsuccessful competitors, are upon the whole, generally accepted and acceptable.

It is not my intention to submit anything to this meeting which can be regarded in any light as a solution of the question—Upon what principles ought fruit to be judged? This I will leave to be dealt with by those of my audience who are sufficiently versed in the subject, and who feel themselves competent to do so. All that I shall do is to state the motives which actuate me in coming to the conclusion I do when I am acting the part of a fruit judge, leaving others to set up any other code they may think better and more in accordance with their own views.

And first, let me remark that, in judging fruit at exhibitions, I think we ought to do so upon different grounds to those upon which we should judge it at our own tables. We must bear in mind that exhibition fruit is exceptional, and is produced