

## GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

## AN ORNAMENTAL HEDGE.

But few fences are ornamental. An iron one is well enough about a handsome place, in a town having many other fancy places, but it is hardly in keeping with the ordinary house in an ordinary village, and its cost is such as to prevent the general use of it.

The picket fence, if well painted, and kept in repair, answers all the purpose of a fence about a lot in town, but is not very ornamental. It is so common that one is apt to tire of the monotony of seeing the same kind of fence in front of every lot on the street, and wishes there might be a change.

Last fall I went to visit a friend who lives in a thrifty inland place, which is in that transition state which reminds one of the boy who is passing out of boyhood into manhood. It is too large to be called a village, and hardly large enough to be called a city. While retaining many of its village characteristics, it is putting on city airs. About many of the houses are ornamental fences. About some are no fences at all.

My friend lives on a corner lot. Most of the houses on that street stand in open yards. There is really no need of any fence, but my friend felt, he said, as if there ought to be something to mark the boundary of his place. His idea of home was something that did not belong to everybody, and to leave his lot without a mark of some kind to tell where it began and his neighbour's ended, was like making it common property. Along one side of it—it was about 75 feet square—were three stumps, as luck would have it, about 20 feet apart, and standing in a row near enough to the edge to answer the purposes to which he put them. The idea occurred to him that he could make use of them, and thus save the trouble of removing them. They were large, and of oak, and it would have cost considerable hard labour to grub them out. He procured some Norway spruces, about six feet high, and set one at each end of the row, and one between each stump. This gave him a row of evergreens, alternating with unsightly stumps. Then he procured roots of the Virginia creeper, and set about each stump. When the plants began to grow, he fastened wires from stump to stump, setting a post by each tree to also fasten the wires to. The creepers soon completely covered the stumps, and were then trained along the wires until they reached the evergreens. When I was there, the creeper was brilliant in its full garb of crimson, and its bright leaves, contrasting with the dark hues of the evergreens, were like blossoms. The effect was extremely fine. At the front of the lot, in the centre, he made an archway of gnarled, knotty, and crooked limbs, and over this he had trained the creeper. Between the arch and the corners of the lot, evergreens had been set, and the creeper grew from one to the other, as it did along the side of the lot. Thus the lot had a sort of hedge on the two borders meeting the street. On the other two, his neighbour had built light fences to separate their possessions. No iron fence could be made that would be half so ornamental as was this hedge. It was a thing of beauty the whole year round. And the cost of it was next to nothing. The care it required was so small that it might be said to take care of itself.

## SOFTSOAP VERSUS BORERS.

A correspondent advises orchardists to remove the earth about the stems of their apple trees and supply its place with gravel as far down as the roots. He has tried it, and feels certain that it

kept the borers from harming his trees. We can see no reason why such treatment should bring exemption from injury. If the gravel would effect better drainage, it might indirectly do good in the direction mentioned. Vigorous trees are less liable to attack, especially from the big-headed borer, *Chrysothris femorata*. The round-headed borer, *Saperda candida*, is just as liable to attack vigorous trees as any others. These borers do not work beneath the earth, and so the gravel could have no direct effect. The remedies already recommended in these columns have been widely proved, and if faithfully applied leave little to be desired. If we depend on the softsoap, it should be used three times—three weeks, six weeks, and nine weeks after the trees bloom. The best way to apply it is to put on an old cloth glove, or wrap the hand in a woollen cloth, and rub the trunk and the main branches thoroughly with the undiluted softsoap. This treatment should never be neglected in case of young trees, and may well be adopted in case of newly planted shade trees, where the latter are, like the maples, liable to attack by the borers. If the carbolic acid mixture already recommended is used, we need apply but twice, four and five weeks after the trees bloom.

## ORNAMENTAL TREES.

The following select list of ornamental trees, for grounds of some extent, was made by H. H. Hunnewell, whose magnificent place near Boston is well known as one of the finest specimens of landscape planting in America:

## DECIDUOUS TREES.

|                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Elm, American,            | Tulip Tree,                   |
| " English,                | Magnolia acuminata,           |
| Oak, White,               | Magnolia Lenzel,              |
| " Scarlet,                | Linden, European,             |
| Maple, Sugar,             | " American,                   |
| " Norway,                 | Virgilia lutea (Yellow-wood), |
| " Scarlet,                | Salisburia (Ginkgo),          |
| " Japanese atropurp-      | Dogwood,                      |
| roum,                     | Catalpa,                      |
| Other Japonico Maples,    | Flowering Cherry,             |
| Beech, American,          | Common Chestnut,              |
| " Copper,                 | Liquidambar,                  |
| " Weeping,                | Weeping Willow.               |
| Out-leaved Weeping Birch, |                               |

## CONIFEROUS TREES.

|                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abies alba (White spruce),       | Abies pieta,              |
| " canadensis (Hemlock spruce),   | Pinus lambertiana,        |
| " excelsa (Norway spruce),       | " pyrenaica,              |
| " orientalis (Oriental spruce),  | " excelsa,                |
| " monziesii,                     | " strobus (White pine),   |
| " alcockiana,                    | " combra,                 |
| " polita,                        | " sylvestris,             |
| " douglasii,                     | Sciadopitys verticillata, |
| " nordmanniana (Nordmann's fir), | Larix americana,          |
| " cephalonica,                   | " europaea,               |
|                                  | Retinospora obtusa,       |
|                                  | " plumosa aurea,          |
|                                  | " filifera.               |

## PLANTS FOR SHADY PLACES.

Every garden contains some shaded beds and borders, and to know just what plants to place in them is a matter of grave consideration. Among those that thrive and do well in this situation I would mention the fuchsia, petunia, larkspur, achyranthus, centauria, begonia, lycopodium, candytuft, ivies, ferns, madeira vines, morning-glories, forget-me-nots, pansies, seddiums, fever-feu, etc. Give these a shaded corner and they will rejoice in bud and blossom. The fuchsia, of which many ladies take especial care, cannot be often made to bloom freely; but place them in a shaded bed where a few hours only of sunshine reaches them, and you will be rewarded by a constant succession of flowers. They require plenty of strong light, good rich soil, free room to spread their roots, and abundance of moisture, and given a little liquid manure once a week they return hundreds of blossoms of the most perfect size and colour. The petunia planted in a shaded bed will be one mass of colour in a very short time. The

fever-feu is a great lover of shady spots, and will continue to bloom until late frosts in the coldest climates. It is very lovely to dress the hair with, and desirable for all purposes of adornment of the person and the house. The achyranthus is a great favourite of all flower adorers, and needs only a moderate temperature to perfect its rich tints, deepest red, bright carmine or apple-green streaked with a deep shade of pink or ruby. The pansy also desires to shun the light, and lifts its wise bright face when the sun's rays come but feebly—although it delights in rich food, and given it will flower perpetually and magnificently. Pick off the flowers generously, and they will continue to bloom until heaviest frost. Ferns do well in a half shady position and a northern or western position. The soil for ferns to thrive best in must be one part silver sand and two parts dry and porous peat. If you plant them in pots, put in pieces of charcoal to the depth of one inch and add a little powdered charcoal to the soil, also some cocoanut fibre. To have your garden a success, and one that will delight the eye of the beholder and bring gratification to yourself, all these things must be given due attention, and in no one instance will it be proven of more importance than in finding a congenial amount of sunshine and shade.—Aunt Addie in N. Y. Tribune.

## SACKING GRAPES.

A correspondent in the *Fruit Recorder* states that he sacked 20,000 bunches of grapes last season, putting the sacks on when the berries were quite small. If nearly grown, the sacking does not always prevent rot. He says the operation pays, but he does not state the expense. We make the following deductions from his statements:—For large bunches, as of Concord, he employs the paper sacks which are used for peanuts, and smaller ones for the Delaware—the former costing \$1 per 1,000, the latter 65 cents. They are pinned on with common pins, costing 40 cents per dozen papers. One person puts on 1,800 in a day. The following would be about the cost of bagging 1,000 bunches of grapes: Paper bags, \$1; putting them on, say \$1; 1,000 pins, about 12 cents, or \$2.12 for bagging 1,000 bunches of grapes. If they weigh half a pound each, and allowance is made for accidents and drawbacks, the cost would not much exceed half a cent per pound. If the fruit does not sell lower than three cents per pound, the cost of bagging would probably be warranted by its advantages in protecting from rot, birds and insects. This is the inference from one man's statement. But in the same number is another communication from a Vineland man, who applied 80,000 bags, and repeating, found it did not pay the expense. At first, six men put on only 2,500 in a day, but afterwards 5,000. To escape the rot, the spores of which often infect the grapes when they are the eighth of an inch in diameter, the bags were applied when the bunches were so tender that many broke off, and even then only one-third of the whole crop was saved—all the rest, being infected, were spoiled. He concluded emphatically that "it did not pay," and bagging is given up at Vineland.

## RUSTIC WORK.

Rustic work, if neatly and tastefully constructed, and cautiously introduced in the more wild and picturesque portions of ornamental grounds, may give a very pleasing effect. But if fully exposed to the weather, without any kind of protection, it speedily decays—a result which is hastened by the slender young material used, and the numerous joints and crevices where water can enter. Nothing can appear much worse than de-