

our hearts should be deeply imbued with gratitude to God for the large measure of peace and prosperity with which this highly favoured Province is blessed.

B.

## Horticulture.

**LONDON CURRANTS.**—A writer in the *Horticulturist* speaks of the fine currants of the market gardens near London, which are grown in the following manner.—They are planted in rows twenty or thirty feet apart, and three or four feet apart in the rows; the ground, which is naturally good, is highly manured, and cropped between with vegetables. When the plants commence bearing, they are pruned very hard; the greater part of the young wood is thinned out, and what is allowed to remain is shortened back to three or four inches. By this means the trees are always kept short, never attaining a greater height than two or three feet. These strong manured and well-pruned trees produce magnificent fruit, and in great abundance, well remunerating the market gardener for all his trouble.

**TO PREVENT FRUIT TREES FROM SPLITTING.**—For preventing forked fruit trees from splitting under their weight of fruit, Isaac Lewis, of Hopkinsville, Kentucky, has given us his plan. "My plan," he writes, "which I have followed for thirty years, is this: When I find a forked tree that is likely to split, I look for a small limb on each fork, and clean them of leaves and lateral branches for most of their length. I then carefully bring them together and wind them round each other from one main branch to the other. In twelve months they will have united, and in two years the ends can be cut off. The brace will grow as fast as any other part of the tree, and is a perfect security from splitting. I have them now of all sizes, and I scarcely ever knew one fail to grow."

**HINTS FOR GARDENERS.**—All growers of raspberries, gooseberries, blackberries, currants, &c., can secure their bushes against disease and unproductiveness, by *mulching the roots well*. Any old trash in the garden answers for this purpose—such as weeds, grass, leaves, and the scrapings from the avenues. It acts as an extirpator of weeds—as a cooler and moistener of the soil—and as the *best manure*, when it rots, that can possibly be applied. We never knew a gooseberry bush that had been properly thinned out, and not bound up too closely, shewing *mildewed fruit*, or that did not bear abundantly every year. These mulchings should be applied three times in the season—in the spring, in midsummer, and late in the fall. It should also be remembered, as it respects raspberries, that any grubbing or digging about their roots should be carefully avoided. In nearly if not quite every instance where we have disturbed the roots of the raspberry, the stalks either perished over winter, or were so much injured as to be next to worthless the following season.—*Germantown Telegraph*.

## PLANTING TREES.

Many are deterred from planting trees by the thought that they will not live to see them sufficiently grown for any useful or ornamental purpose. H. F. FRENCH, Esq., in the *New-England Farmer* remarks:

If I could assemble all the boys of New England together in this old village, and show them the trees that my own hands have planted and assisted others in planting, no doubt a score of years would witness such an improvement in the streets of our town as no mere talking or writing can accomplish. Twenty-five years ago or thereabouts, the old Lombardy poplars which had been planted about the paternal mansion when it was built, in the first years of the century, were decayed so as no longer to be an ornament and were cut down. There stood the tall, white three story house close to the street, with only a few lilacs and roses to shelter it. Now, as you approach the mansion on either side, no glimpse of it, except of a chimney top, or of a window or door, where the branches have been cut away, can be seen. The rock maples and horse chestnuts and elms have interlaced their boughs and lifted their heads so as completely to shelter it. A quarter of a century has sufficed to increase the tree which a boy would carry on his shoulder to a foot or more in diameter. Yesterday I fixed a swing for my children upon a chestnut which grew from a nut which I saw my father plant in the garden, and which I transplanted to its present place some twenty years ago. The street is lined for half a mile with elms and maples which we boys of the village with our own hands dug from the rocky soil of the forests and planted. Now they are the beauty and glory of the place.

**GAS TAR AND GARDEN INSECTS.**—Gas tar may yet amount to something.—Its unpleasant odour seems to keep away all insects from garden crops. Galignani's Messenger says:

"A French gardener, whose frames and hot houses required painting, decided on making them black, as likely to attract the heat better, and from a principle of economy he made use of gas tar instead of black paint. The work was performed during the winter, and on the approach of spring the gardener was surprised to find that all the spiders and insects which usually infested his hot house had disappeared, and also that a vine, which for the last two years had so fallen off that he had intended to replace it by another, had acquired fresh force and vigor, and gave every sign of producing a large crop of grapes. He afterwards used the same substance to the posts and trellis work which supported the tiers in the open air and met with the same results. All the caterpillars and other insects completely disappeared. It is said that similar experiments have been made in some of the vineyards in the Gironde with similar results."

**MELON BUGS.**—The Maine Farmer has the following:—"Reader, are you ever troubled with that terrible pest, the melon or squash bug? You need not be. Get 4 lbs. quassia chips and pour four gallons of boiling water over them in the barrel. Cover to keep in steam and stand 12 hours; then fill the barrel and water daily. Bugs don't like bitters."—The Bangor Whig endorses the above, and adds:—"A friend here guarantees the correctness of the statement, and informs us that an occasional application of the decoction, say once a week, to his rose bushes, has enabled him, for two seasons, to preserve their foliage from the insects which infest them. It will operate both as prevention and cure."