


thinks out plans, matures projects, and thus advances farming. He only toils—from necessity; this is practical; it is the practical alone. The practical alone is a ship in a gale without a compass. There are false theories—and the world is full of them. So there are many poor seedlings in the world before a valuable one comes to light. And so there is much practice in the world—and how much evil practice, to say nothing of misdirected practice.—*Rural World*.

#### DECORATE THE HOMESTEAD.


 EXT to wholesome food, home pleasures are necessary to enliven our spirits, promote our good health, and give a zest to rural life.—What can give greater satisfaction to a family for refined taste than to have the grounds around the homestead decorated with the beauties of nature so bountifully furnished us? The species and varieties of trees, shrubs, roses, vines, &c., are now so numerous that a choice selection can be made to suit every clime, soil and exposure, and to bloom and fruit all the growing season. See them tastefully arranged and gorgeously dressed with foliage of various colors, and

decked with blooms far transcending the most costly jewelry in brilliancy, and perfuming the air with their fragrance. In windy days they gracefully bow, prance, and whirl around like sprightly youth in the dance, and the melody of the breeze serves them for music. How beautiful the picture and great the enjoyment, to those who can appreciate it. It makes a cot a palace, and home a paradise: the owner a king and his wife a queen; it imparts a dignity to the manly graces of sons, and lustre to the beauties and virtues of daughters. The passing wayfarer is delighted with the scene, and sets it down in his mind as the abode of the great and good in heart, and the virtuous and wise in actions.

After planting climbing vines to clothe the veranda, and a few deciduous trees around the house for shade in summer, all the other trees, shrubs and roses, should be so arranged over the lawn that all will be seen at one view. Set the more dwarfed nearest the house, the taller farther off, and they will appear to rise in graceful folds as they recede from the eye, and the contrast of size, form and color of the various individuals will show to greater advantage, and that will give additional graces to their charm.—*Rural Adv.*

### FARM OPERATIONS.

#### CULTIVATION OF TOBACCO

 T is important in the early growth of the plant to plough and work the soil deep once or twice, so that when it is ripening, the ground will be broken deep and fine and be less affected by drouth; this should be done before the roots have made much progress. Hence, the advantage of greater distance between the rows is, it can be plowed and worked with less damage to the roots. In this as well as all other crops, if we wish a good return, we must be active with plow and hoe before the roots run out, that we may have the soil in a mellow condition for the roots to run into, not waiting for them to spread in the packed ground, and then breaking up the ground, roots and all, trying to pulverize the ground for the roots. On our high land we should endeavor, by deep plowing, to counteract the bad effects of drouth, and on our flat lands we should aim to prevent the collection of water by drains, discharging at the lowest points. From the time the plants are set

out, the earth around them should be occasionally stirred with a rake or hoe; at first hoe flat, but as soon as the leaves assume a growing disposition, begin gradually to draw a slight bed towards the plants, which must be closely examined even while in the nursery, to destroy the numerous worms that feed upon them, cutting the stalks and gnawing the leaves when first set out. After plants are too big for the plow, finish stirring the ground with a hoe, by drawing up good hills around the plants. If the ground is broken and stirred deep while the plants are small, they will suffer but little from drouth.

**PRIMING.**—The object and meaning of this is, to strip off the under leaves of the plant that they may stand clear off the ground and not be injured. You commence priming when hoeing, and finish when you do the topping; the plants are primed from four to eight inches high, six is the most proper height; but when the plants are small, late in the season, it is better to prime only four inches. The ob-