Our author's plan for preventing the shanking of cabbage, and for causing good heads upon those plants which seem inclined to grow to stalk, is equally faulty both in theory and practice. He recommends making a slit in the stalk and inserting a piece of wood, when, as he states, good sound heads will be produced. It is perfectly well known that this condition of the plant arises from an imperfection in the seed, the parent plant having become impregnated with some other than the true cabbage, such for instance as rape, and the best culture in the world will not raise good cabbages from bastard seed.

The plan proposed by Mr. Jones for raising new varieties of potatoes is one which we should not have expected at the present day, when the true methods are so well understood among our practical horticulturists. He recommends fastening together the half tubes of two different kinds of potatoes, and prognosticates a different variety from such process. It is scarcely necessary to observe that the whole proposition is an utter absurdity; our author must entertain but a poor idea of the knowledge and understanding of Canadian Gardeners, if he thinks they will give any credit to such arrant nonsense.

It is scarcely necessary to dwell any longer on the purely horticultural discourses of our author, further than to remark that he recommends planting cuttings of gooseberries in August, and prunes his trees every second year, but we will now proceed to discuss some of his Horticultural experiences which certainly seem to be of a very extraordinary kind. We are exceedingly anxious to know in what favored portion of Canada dahlias can be safely planted out by the middle of April; we have generally found the middle of May quite early enough to be secure against frosts. If planted at the time he recommends, in nine cases out of ten they will be utterly destroyed.

In the chapter on planting flowers, he recommends the use of a quarter of a pound of guano, or half a pound of plaster to each gallon of water employed in watering; these quantities would be more than sufficient for a barrel. Furthermore, he informs us that stable and cow-house manure may not be used for flowers, as they will generate large worms, which if the manure be well rotted, we certainly consider as a curious fact (?) in natural history.

But the grand discovery of Mr. Jones, which more particularly evinces his profound knowledge of practical and theoretical horticulture, is the plan for producing colors in tulips and other bulbous roots, as well as in dahlias. We certainly have long been acquainted with this valuable method as handed down from our Great-Great-Grand-Mother, but that such an absurdity should be put into print at the present day, does not argue very favorably for Mr. Jones' idea of the intellectual developement of Canada.

The plan is to run a piece of silk of any color through the bulb, and to plant it in this condition, when he assures us the flower will have the color of the silk. If this plan succeeds with bulbs, it surely ought to do so with seeds, and we wonder that our author has not made his fortune by producing blue moss roses or scarlet pansies, or red snowballs, problems which have as yet baffled our best gardeners.

The Dublin Horticultural Society long since offered a prize for a blue dahlia, and a bright blue or a jet black tulip would certainly be an acquisition. We hope to see some wonderful productions of that nature at our Horticultural Exhibitions this year.

The process for destroying thistles, upon which Mr. Jones seems rather to pride himself, is certainly one of the very strangest portions of the whole work. He proposes to cover the thistle bed to the depth of half an inch with a mixture of saltpetre, brimstone and salt, and more particularly to kill any stray plants by dropping into the top of each *one drop of spirits of turpentine.* This process strongly reminds us of the plan which was recommended to *Granny* for killing fleas—by means of a peculiar powder—catch the flea and holding it in the left hand, with the forefinger and thumb of the right apply a pinch of the mixture to his nose, when after a few struggles the animal will die! Bless me, says Granny, would it not be easier to crack him between your nails?

If Canada thistles be hoed down twice or thrice during the season, cutting well under the surface, they will be as thoroughly eradicated as can be desired, and with considerable less trouble and expense than by Mr. Jones' plan.

There are several other points in this most extraordinary work to which we might allude, but we think sufficient has already been said to prove that Mr. Leonard G. Jones can lay but little claim to his title of Practical Farmer and Gardener, and that "*Farming and Gardening made easy,*" is by no means a valuable addition to the literature of the present day, the peculiar drift of which seems to be the communication to the million of *correct information*

ANTI-HUMBUG.

LIQUID MANURE.

What are we to do with our liquid manure? is a question we have already discussed in a variety of forms, but all tending to show that, except in cases where *irrigation* was practicable, it was not wise nor economical to apply it in the shape of liquid. We well remember the rage there was for tanks and tank-making some twenty years ago—the birth-time of agricultural improvements in this country—and yet we hardly see one of them in proper use at this moment. They are nearly all diverted from their proper purpose; and so unsettled does the question remain, that, after a multitude of essays and papers of great value, the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland still presents the same form of heading for a premium on the subject.

We have demonstrated over and over again that the conveyance of water by the liquid manure cart will not repay the cost. The raising and discharge by hose or tubes are processes by far too complicated and expensive for farm purposes, while distribution by steam-power seems still more questionable.