

attention given to its culture of late years in Europe and the United States, has created many new and splendid varieties, impossible to enumerate. They require a rich deep soil somewhat heavy. Early in Spring all surplus shoots should be cut out, and considerably shortening last years growth of the remainder. "Let some rotted manure be dug in around the roots, as early as possible, and suckers removed; a good bloom may then be expected.

Herbaceous Paeonias—These are beautiful hardy flowers, of the easiest culture, thriving in any ordinary soil. After being planted let them remain several years without removal, as they increase annually in size and abundance of flowers. The finest varieties are *Rosa*, large rose color and fragrant; *Humei*, double crimson, exceedingly large flowers; and *Whitejio*, double white, large, beautiful and fragrant.

Phloxes—Of all hardy perennials none are so ornamental to the flower garden from June to November, or so perfectly hardy and easily cultivated as the Phlox. When planted out they require no care, except to tie the flower stalks of the tall sorts to a small stake. They can be obtained of a great variety of colors—pure white, pink, purple, striped, &c. The following would be a good selection:—*Maculata*, reddish purple—flowers in June. *Picta*, beautiful white with purple eye—July. *Fredlinghuysen*, striped light purple and white—July and August. *Acuminata*, purple, tall—July and August. *Breckii*, purple with white eye, tall—and flowers in perfection in October. *Docustata*, very fine white, three feet high—August. *Paniculata*, fine pink—August.

It would be superfluous to enumerate more varieties, but where required, the writer can supply 20 distinct sorts, different in color, height and season in flowering. Price of *Phloxes*, single plant, 1s. 3d. A dozen varieties assorted 12s. 6d.

The *Verbena* is one of the richest of all flowers. They are tender and require to be housed in winter, but when turned out in spring they bloom in the greatest profusion all summer. Wherever flowers are cultivated they are perfectly indispensable, being particularly adapted to a hot dry climate, they appear bright when all else seems to shrink and wither.

Evergreen Trees, Dahlias, &c., will be noticed in your next.

Toronto Nursery, March 30, 1850.

MANURING ORCHARDS.

When orchards bear profusely, or the soil through which their roots extend, yields crops which are re-

moved from the ground, the trees ought to be supplied with an ample dressing of manure, as often, at least, as once in four or five years. We think, however, a better way is to allow the orchard to take its place in a rotation. Unlike many others, we would not object to occupying the ground with any particular species of vegetation, but let it be potatoes, corn, wheat or oats, as the soil or the judgment of the owner may dictate. But we do insist, that where an exhausting crop has been taken, ample compensation in manures should be made, for the exhaustion thus occasioned.

It is better, however, as a general rule, that orchards be plowed only in their younger days, before their tops become much developed; then put the ground in the highest condition of fertility, and lay it down to grass, and invite the extremities of the outspreading, pendant branches to fall as low as the ground, if they prefer. This greatly facilitates and economises harvesting when fruit is hand picked, as all valuable fruit should be, and the grass may be equally well secured under such trees, as when the branches are more elevated. We admire a luxuriant orchard, with its broad, umbrella-top, sweeping the ground when loaded with rich, blushing fruit, and no fields can be better occupied than with such a harvest, if the varieties are well chosen and the trees have received the proper care.

If the orchard is in a meadow, and the grass and apples are annually removed, the leaves will of course follow them, as soon as the autumnal blasts or wintry winds sweep over the smooth surface; and thus is the ground robbed of all the vegetable matter to which it has given life through the season. Were the orchard as well protected as the forest, by its numerous low swales, fallen branches, or upturned trunks and roots, and the innumerable standing trees, the decaying leaves and branches, and fallen trunks would restore to the soil all it had abstracted; but in the absence of these, its natural manures, it must receive others or starve.

Ashes are one of the best applications for an orchard; so, also, is swamp-muck, or a compost of barnyard manure; charcoal is excellent, as is also lime, and occasionally bonedust, plaster, and salt, each of which is appropriately applied around the roots. Scraping the trunks when they become unthrifty, mossy or hide-bound, and washing with strong soap suds or wood-ashes'lay, and then giving a strong coat of whitewash, are attended with the best effects. These act both as manure and destructive of insects and worms.—*American Agriculturist*.

COUVE TRONCADA.—This is a species of maranóh cabbage, which grows in Portugal to a height of four or five feet. The seeds are sown and treated exactly like those of the common cabbage. The most valuable parts of the plant are the heart and tender flowers buds, which, when boiled tender, and served up with pepper, salt, a little garlic, olive oil, and vinegar, form a most delicious dish with the Portuguese. The white ribs, also, when cooked, somewhat resembles sea-kale. The outer leaves and chopped stalks make excellent food for milch cows.—*American Agriculturist*.

NEW GREEN-HOUSE PLANT.—Few recent acquisitions to the green-house, are of more merit than the Asiatic torrennia (*Torrennia Asiatica*). Its exquisitely-shaded flower is small, and of a delicate light-blue, shaded towards the top with a rich, purplish-blue.—*Ibid*.

PRUNING RESINOUS TREES.—The worst time to prune these is in the spring when they are beginning to grow, the safest in autumn or winter.—*Agricultural Gazette*.