

dawn of reason, the first voice of childhood seems to say, that Paradise should have been its home, and Horticulture its proper vocation." With the success of Horticulture in its ornamental branches, advances true refinement and correct taste; fully do we agree with the inimitable Cowper :

"But elegance, chief grace the garden shows,
And most attractive, is the fair result
Of thought, the creature of a poli-hed mind."

Horticulture, however, does not confine itself to the ornamental, it includes the useful and substantial; wholesome vegetables and delicious fruits are also the objects of its solicitude and care. Hence, the science is valuable, as being closely allied to Agriculture. Indeed, it is difficult to determine where the line exactly should be laid between Horticulture, and Agriculture, the garden and farm. Both require an intimate acquaintance with the vegetable kingdom in reference to the wants, habits and capabilities of various plants. Therefore the soil—the common parent of the productions of both the field and garden—should be chemically considered and understood. The cultivation of the soil, the adaptation of manures, stimulants, and composts to different lands, for the introduction of different plants, is a subject of immense moment, and if properly attended to, is of untold benefit to the community at large. A mere *hortus siccus* is not what Horticulture purposes; but a well arranged, verdant, and fertile spot, yielding abundantly the wished-for crop, the successful operations of Horticulture can be conveyed to, and carried on in—in a modified manner—the furrowed field. Horticulture gives us in their perfection, a large and well arranged variety of useful vegetables, and uses the pruning hook, the scion and the bud, to impart luscious and delicate flavors to ordinary and natural fruits. It is pleasing to know that there is a deep interest taken in this community, in respect to the Society now in existence, and now as the period of the first exhibition of the season, which will take place on the 29th of June next, we trust that the lovers of this science will come nobly forward, and append their names as members, and pay their subscriptions (which is only five shillings Cy.) By so doing, the Society will be enabled to award suitable prizes, which will have the effect of greatly increasing competition, and giving due encouragement to the enterprising and successful.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF THE CABBAGE.

To the Editor of the Canadian Agriculturist.

SIR.—Amongst the various vegetables raised for food for cattle, there are few that can be more easily raised, or that will produce a larger amount of food to the acre, than the cabbage; and it is really surprising that so little attention has been paid to this vegetable as an article of field culture, as it comes in for use so conveniently in the fall, when grass has become scarce, and before turnips, carrots, or mangold wortzel have attained their full growth, or are ready for use. I believe one reason why the cabbage has not been more generally cultivated is, that al-

most all who have grown any, have transplanted them,—first raising the plants in a bed in the garden, and then transplanting them into the field. Now though this method may answer very well for small patches, and with careful management, it is neither the easiest, nor in my opinion the best way of growing them. The way I have grown them for several years past is the following:—As I always sow the cabbage in the same field in which I sow my turnips, and plant potatoes, the land receives the same previous treatment for all; ploughed once in the fall, and once (or twice if necessary) in the spring, with sufficient harrowings to reduce the land to a proper tilth. The land is then drilled up, and well dunged in the drill, as few crops bear heavier manuring than the cabbage; then, after covering in the dung in the drills, I sow the seed on the top of the drill in spaces as far apart as the plants are intended to stand, and after sowing roll the drills well down.

I prefer sowing them *in hills* on the top of the drill rather than to sow them all along the drill, as it is well known that when plants come up thick at first, they grow much faster than when they come up thin, and thus get sooner out of danger from the fly; it would be a great waste of seed to sow the whole drill as thick as as would be necessary to give the young plants a fair start. A slight dressing of plaster just after the plants come up, is of great benefit to the young plants.

There will always be a few hills that will not grow, but there is always sufficient plants for all deficiencies and to spare at the time they want hoeing.

In their after cultivation I pursue the same method as I do with potatoes and other root crops,—that is, horse hoe them well between the drills, and hand hoe between the young plants on the drill, then when the plants get to be pretty large set them upon the drills with the plough.

Although the cabbage thrives best on clays, or moist clog loams, yet with proper manuring they will thrive on almost any soil, and as they are both fast growing, and broad leaved, they soon cover the whole ground, thus effectually smothering any weeds that may come up often they are hoed.

As I generally grow the large drum-head variety of the cabbage, I make the drills about three feet apart, and allow the plants to stand from two to three feet apart in the drills, but with the smaller varieties of course the drills would not require to be so wide, nor the plants so far apart, and then there would be a greater number of plants on the acre. There is some danger of sowing them too early, as when sown very early, if they get a good start, they are