

## GOLDEN ROD.

The air is warm and balmy yet,  
The meadows still are green;  
But Autumn's royal seal is set  
Upon the smiling scene.  
For look! along the wayside nod  
The tossing plumes of golden-rod.  
It seems but yesterday we found  
The May flower on the hills;  
And gaily were the gardens crowned  
With June's first daffodils.  
We thought 'twas yet the opening year—  
Ah, golden-rod, what brings you here?

We had so many things to do  
That scarcely are begun—  
Say not that harvesting is through,  
And Summer days all done!  
With winged sundials were they shod,  
And fled when you came, golden-rod.

"I care not for your greeting cold,  
September's child replies:  
"My livery of burnished gold  
Suits best autumnal skies.  
No sighs I waste for vanished Spring,  
I wait upon the Autumn's king.

"For he, the king, has need of me,  
Fringe on his mantle's hem,  
When gold and scarlet leaves shall be  
His blazing diadem.  
Grieve not that days like these are near—  
They are the glory of the year!"

—Portland Transcript.

**THE BRANDY GAGE.**—A new plum, one of the strongest growers, and very hardy; fruit medium size, yellow, ripens early, and equal to the true Green Gage in flavor; a great and constant bearer, which does not affect the growth of the tree.—*New York Witness.*

**GIANT ZITTAT ONION.**—This is one of the finest onions that has ever been cultivated. It is handsome in shape, clear yellow, and if sown in March and properly treated many of the bulbs will weigh upwards of one pound by the end of September. Hitherto the seed has been rather expensive, but when cheaper it will doubtless be generally grown as a main crop variety.—*The Garden.*

**LADIES' CABBAGE.**—Boil a firm white head fifteen minutes, changing the water, then, for more from the boiling tea-kettle. When tender drain and set aside until perfectly cold. Chop fine and add two beaten eggs, one tablespoon butter, pepper, salt and three tablespoons of rich milk or cream. Stir well together and bake in a buttered pudding dish until brown. Marion Harland says: "I can safely recommend

this dish, even to those who are not fond of any of the ordinary preparations of cabbage, as being both palatable and digestible."

**DECORATIVE TREE PLANTING.**—The Commissioners of the Woods and Forests, of England, are trying to plant a large extent of crown lands in the Isle of Man with forests and ornamental trees. The experiment, which is watched with interest not only by those who follow silviculture as an art, but by the many who regard with apprehension the gradual denudation of forest and woodlands, leads *Land* to comment on the growth of a taste for planting; for transforming into artistic plots, grounds which are ill-favored and uninviting; for digging lakes and forming cascades, resulting in magnificent combinations of sylvan charms.—*American Garden.*

**BAGGING GRAPES.**—A correspondent asks for advice on the propriety of bagging grapes. The advantages are, protection from insects and birds; to some extent exemption from rot when that disease prevails; but more particularly in the appearance which the bunches present by freedom from external injury and with the undisturbed bloom of the berries. Sorts which sell at high prices pay for the expense of bagging: common grapes do not. Where performed for profit, the work must be systematized, the bags made by wholesale methods, and the persons who apply the bags must understand the business of applying them rapidly. As the bags retard somewhat the ripening, the grapes keep longer and may be supplied to purchasers a longer period, and the bags afford some protection from autumn frosts. To prevent rot, the bags should be applied soon after the fruit sets, or before it is half grown; otherwise the operation may be deferred till nearly the time for coloring. Manila paper is the best material, and the upper fold should be drawn over the bunch and pinned, so as to form a roof to exclude rain. Sometimes bagged grapes have been badly injured by long rains in retaining moisture and causing cracking of berries. Time will determine to what extent the practice will ultimately prevail in vineyard culture.—*Country Gentleman.*