

The subjoined table affords an illustration of the mode in which observations on the progress of vegetation may serve to indicate the character of the seasons at different localities.

Flowering Seasons of the Peach, Cherry and Apple, for various localities

Year 1844.	Latitude.	Peach.	Cherry.	Apple.
Madison, Wis.	43° 5'	April 15.	—	April 26.
Lambertville, N. J.	40° 23'	" 14.	April 17.	April 19.
Year 1845.				
Madison, - -	—	April 30.	May 1.	May 6.
Lambertville, -	—	April 3.	April 11.	April 19.
Year 1846.				
Madison, - -	—	May 2.	May 2.	May 8.
Lambertville, -	—	April 19.	April 19.	April 24.
Year 1847.				
Madison, - - -	43° 5'	May 5.	May 5.	May 10.
Lambertville, -	40° 23'	April 22.	April 26.	May 4.
Sandusky, Ohio, -	41° 30'	April 21.	April 25.	April 28.
Year 1850.				
Madison, - - -	—	—	May 15.	May 18.
Lambertville, -	—	April 24.	April 28.	May 1.
Sandusky - - -	—	May 1	May 4.	May 13.

From the foregoing table we should infer—if reliance could be placed upon its accuracy—that the differences between the times of the flowering of the Peach, Cherry and Apple, at Madison and Lambertville, are respectively 13, 15 and 17 days. In other words, we might suppose that the season at Lambertville was one fortnight earlier than at Madison in Wisconsin—and this will probably be very near the truth, though not sufficiently near for scientific purposes, in determining the lines of simultaneous flowering—and other characteristics of the climate of a country from allied data. It may be well to describe the reason why such observations are not strictly scientific. It is evident that in their present form they lose a portion of the interest with which they might be invested, if the time of leafing and fruiting were given; the observations are not complete—they do not comprehend the history of the annual progress of the vegetable from the formation to the fall of its leaves; then again, some varieties of peach, cherry and apple, flower and fruit long before other varieties. We do not know the particular varieties of trees on which the observations were made. These considerations diminish the value of what would be otherwise highly important and interesting records. The first object then, after engaging trustworthy associates in a comprehensive scheme, is to select for observation some kinds of common and hardy vegetables indigenous to the country. We must in fact reject from our list all which, upon cultivation, give rise to numerous varieties, such as roses, tulips, &c. We should also reject all those which show a disposition to put forth their leaves and flowers at different periods of time; finally, we must reject all wild annual plants. The only exceptions which are admissible among biennial plants are the winter grains, because the time of sowing and the variety cultivated, can be always determined. In naming the species of vegetables upon which observations may be made with every prospect of obtaining highly useful information, we shall adopt those which have been especially marked out by Quetelet, and the Regents of the University of the State of New York. It will perhaps be well to observe that observations in the vegetable kingdom are of two kinds:—1st. Those which relate to the annual period of a plant. 2nd. Those which relate to its diurnal period.

The annual period is the time which elapses between the successive returns of the leaves, flowers and fruit. The diurnal period comprises the time of the opening and shutting of the leaves of the flowers. The same kinds of plants, it is to be observed, open and shut their leaves at the same hours of the day, in the same locality.

(To be continued.)

THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL.—Man is so inclined to give himself up to common pursuits, the mind becomes so easily dulled to impressions of the beautiful and perfect, that one should take all possible means to awaken one's perspective faculty to such objects, or no one can entirely dispense with these pleasures; and it is only the being unaccustomed to the enjoyment of anything good that causes men to find pleasure in tasteless and trivial objects, which

have no recommendation but that of novelty. One ought every day to hear a little music, to read a little poetry, to see a good picture, and, if it were possible, to say a few reasonable words.—*Goethe.*

YOUTH'S DEPARTMENT.

TO A CHILD.

BY T. K. HERVEY.

Just out of heaven!—grace from high
And breezes not from Paradise
Shall chill thee on thy way;
Where hills that seem for ever near
Shall fade before thy cheated eyes,
And shouts of laughter in thine ear,
Sink, wailing, into sighs:—
Where thou shalt find hope's thousand streams
All flow to memory's gloomy river,
Whose waves are fed by perish'd dreams
For ever and for ever;
Where guilt may stamp her burning brand
Upon thy soul's divinest part,
And grief must lay her icy hand
Upon thy shrinking heart:
Till—like a wounded sinking bird
Joy's song may never more be heard,
And peace, that built within thy breast,
May perish in its very nest;
And youth, within thy darkened eye
Grow old, and cease to prophecy;
Till thou, amid thy soul's decline,
And o'er thy spirit's ruin'd shrine,
And o'er the forms that haunt thy sleep
To fade with night—may'st sit and weep:
Like me, may'st vainly weep and pray
To be the thing thou art to-day,
And wish the wish—as old as wild—
Thou were, again, a playful child.

"FROM MY MOTHER, SIR."—A few days since a case came up in the U. S. District Court in Philadelphia, in which a captain of a vessel was charged with some offence on shipboard by his crew. An incident occurred in the hearing of the case, which excited a deep feeling in court and in all present.

A small lad was called to the witness's stand. He had been a hand on board the barque at Pernambuco, and was present during the controversy between the captain and the crew. The shaggy appearance of his head, and the bronzed character of his face and neck, from the exposure of a Southern sun, at first sight, would seem to indicate carelessness and neglect; but underneath that long and matted hair, the fire of intelligence gleamed from a pair of small and restless eyes, which could not be mistaken. The counsel for the captain, from the extreme youth of the lad, doubted whether he understood the obligation of an oath he was about to take, and with a view to test his knowledge, asked leave to interrogate him. This was granted, and the following colloquy took place:

Counsel—"My lad, do you understand the obligation of an oath?"

Boy—"Yes, sir, I do."

Counsel—"What is the obligation?"

Boy—"To speak the truth, and keep nothing hid."

Counsel—"Where did you learn this, my lad?"

Boy—"From my mother, sir," replied the lad, with a look of pride, which showed how much he esteemed the early moral principles implanted in his breast by her to whom was committed his physical and moral existence.

For a moment there was a deep silence in the court room, and then, eye met eye, and face gleamed to face with the recognition of a mother's love and moral principle which has made their fixed expression upon this boy, it seemed as if the spectators would forget the decorum due to the place, and give audible expression to their emotions. The lad was instantly admitted to testify.

Behold the mother's power! Often had evil influence and corrupt example assailed this boy. Time and care, and exposure to the battling elements had worn away the lineaments of the infant face, and bronzed his once fair exterior, but deeply nestled in his bosom still the lessons of a mother's love, which taught him to love and speak the truth.