

Round Spinach for summer may be sown soon as possible in Spring; one or two successive crops may be sown at from three to four weeks intervals afterwards.

Prickly Spinach, to stand the winter, should be sown about the middle or during the latter half of September. It will come into use with the first growth in Spring, and will last until the spring sowing comes in.

Peas should be sown at different times, to produce a succession of crops, say the first early sort as soon as the frost breaks up in spring, the second sort about three weeks later, and the third sort from three to four

weeks later still; always proportioning the quantities to the probable wants of the family during the time that each sort may be in season.

In dry weather, such seeds as peas, beans, radishes, turnips, carrots, parsnips, &c., should be soaked in soft water from 12 to 20 hours before being sown; this will ensure their coming up. In the case of turnips a good plan is to soak half the seed and sow mixed with the other half unsoaked. This will give two distinct brairds, and consequently two chances against the fly. The seed must not be kept over after having been soaked.

ECONOMICAL MODE OF SETTING OUT FRUIT TREES.

If we could persuade every reader who owns a farm to plant out this spring two or three acres of fruit trees, we should consider that we had done more for our country than Parliament with its long speeches and enormous expenditure will be likely to accomplish for the next ten years. The cost of the trees is something, but to most of our readers who till their own soil, that is a small item. The labour of preparing the ground, setting out and cultivating an orchard, is a bugbear to many. So many have set out trees, and so many trees have died! But if farmers treated their wheat-fields as too many treat their young orchards, would they expect to find a crop at harvest time? We shall have something to say in a future number on the care and management of fruit trees. Our present purpose is to point out a cheap and convenient plan for preparing the ground and planting out trees. The season for this operation is close at hand, and we hope the hint may prove useful.

"After the land is prepared as for common farm crops, by such manuring as may be afforded conveniently, and by as deep a plowing as a single team will give with a common plow, proceed to measure off the distances of each row, and mark the places by stakes. Then begin by plowing a small "land" about six feet wide, so as to leave the dead furrow where each row of trees is to stand. Repeat the plowing on the same piece of ground several times, until the earth is thrown out down into the subsoil to a depth of about two feet. Then mark the places, by stakes, where each row crosses these at right angles, or in other words where each tree is to be placed. Deposit near each crossing, half a cubic yard of compost or old manure, throwing a portion of it about the place where the tree is to stand. Then proceed to plow the earth back again, one man being employed at the same time to pass along the row and to scatter the compost gradually and successively over a space of six by eight feet about the place for each tree, while the plowing is going on. In this way, a bed of rich, deep, mellow earth, formed of thoroughly intermixed soil and compost, over a space six feet by eight, is made at the place for every tree. An excavation large enough for the reception of the roots, is quickly made in this mellow bed of soil, and the tree planted by placing the unmanured and adjacent top soil next the roots. This mode of planting will be decidedly better than in holes dug by hand, for these strips of land being down the natural slope of the land, as they always should be, form a channel in the subsoil through which any surplus water, (which would otherwise stagnate in the dug hole,) may easily sink away, and not remain about the roots to injure the growth, as all stagnant water does in a most serious degree. This is especially the case with holes dug in hard clay subsoils, which hold water like a tub."

The *Country Gentleman*, a leading American journal, informs us that this plan has been found very advantageous for large orchards. We think it will be equally useful in the case of one, two, or three acres, with less than which no farmer should be content.

RAILROADS.—The total number of miles of railroad now open for traffic in Canada, is 1, 032, as follows: Grand Trunk, 404 miles: St. Lawrence and Champlain, 45; Montreal and New York, 28; Prescott and Ottawa City, 50; Cobourg and Peterboro, 28; Ontario, Simcoe and Huron, 95; Buffalo, Brantford and Goderich, 80; Great Western and branches, 285; Erie and Ontario, 17.