

their seeds for another year of mischief. And, of all weeds, these two are among the most unsightly. We hate the latter worse even than we do the Canada Thistle, and think it almost as persistent in self-propagation. Most people cut it when it is in bloom, but in our experience it pays best to wait until September, when the seeds are nearly matured, for then it may be cut and piled for burning, and so destroyed. If cut too early it throws up numerous sprouts, which are more difficult to cut than the original stem.

Protecting Crops in time of Drouth.—A writer in the *Horticultural Times* makes some sensible remarks under this head. He gives four available means for accomplishing this end which is so desirable in such a season as the one just past, viz.: (1) *thorough under-draining*—which encourages the roots of plants to push down deep in the soil below the dry surface soil; (2) *deep ploughing*, and thorough cultivation; (3) *application of wood ashes* at rate of fifty to one hundred bushels per acre; (4) *extra cultivation* during the hot weather.

Transplanting Large Trees.—Mr. Thos. Meehan, of the *Gardeners Monthly*, says it is not at all necessary to remove a large ball of earth, in transplanting large trees. His plan is to "dig out far enough from the trunk to get the feeding roots, and go deep enough so as to get under with forks, so that the tree can be easily drawn over by its own weight. A two wheeled cart is then backed up to the tree, the trunk lashed to the shafts to be used as a lever, and the job is soon done." By this means a tree 20 feet in height, and a foot or more thick can be moved several miles for a few dollars.

The Decease of John B. Moore the well known Massachusetts horticulturist, is announced in the September number

of the *American Florist*. He died at his home, in Concord, on the 21st of August last, at the age of seventy. Hardy roses and grapes received special attention from him, and his Moore's Early grape has made his name famous far and wide.

Mr. Moore has been a prominent member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society since 1849, and was President of that Society for the year 1885.

## Question Drawer.

*This department is intended as an open one to every reader of the "Horticulturist" to send in either questions or answers. Often a reader will be able to answer a question which has been left unanswered, or only partially answered by us. For convenience of reference the questions are numbered, and any one replying or referring to any question will please mention the number of it.*

68. Empire State Grape.—*Can you give me any points on the Empire State Grape?* J. H. MORRISON, Hamilton.

A colored frontispiece of this grape, with a description, may be found in this Journal, Vol. VIII., p. 97. It is a hybrid of Hartford Prolific and Clinton. The bunches are large, shouldered; berry smaller than Niagara, but by many considered better in quality. The vine is vigorous and hardy, so far as tested.

69. The Currant Borer.—*Is there any remedy for the grub that eats the pith of the red currant bush? How does the varmint get there, and what is its origin?*

See the *Canadian Horticulturist* for January last, p. 15, for full description, with remedy.

70. Oyster Shells as a Fertilizer.—*I have quite a quantity of ground oyster shells, more than I can use for fowls; would grapes, currants, &c., be benefited by its application; soil, a sandy loam on top of a clay subsoil?*

STANLEY SPILLET, Nantye.