

four years old, bred by Mr. J. Beattie, Annapolis, got by Laughing Stock, out of Nanny, by Nimrod, well known in the Cumberland Hunt.

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.

A Member of the Board of Agriculture has handed to us a copy of the *Ontario Farmer* for June last, containing the following announcement:—

"The Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia have decided to import \$10,000 worth of pure-bred Stock by the 20th September. It will consist of Horses, Short Horns, Ayrshires, Devons, Herefords, Alderneys, Sheep and Swine."

We are sorry to say that our Board of Agriculture is not in a position to make any such importation, otherwise \$10,000 would not be too large a sum to expend. No special grant has been made by the Legislature this year for importations, but the Board intend to purchase animals to the extent of about \$2,000, depending upon the prices to be realized by their sale to reimburse a great portion of this sum. The *Farmer's* paragraph probably has reference to the action of the *New Brunswick* Board, who, we believe, find themselves in the position this year to import to the extent of \$10,000. We hope their importation will be successful, and we hope that our own Board will be able to do likewise in course of a year or two.

IMPORTATION OF STOCK.

The New Brunswick Provincial Board of Agriculture, we are informed, have appointed the following gentlemen a committee to select and purchase superior breeds of stock in the United States and Canada: Hugh McMonagle, Esq., Sussex Vale; Jas. D. Dixon, Esq., Sackville; and James E. Fairweather, Esq., Kings. These gentlemen are well qualified for the duty assigned them, and being practical men, we doubt if a better selection could be made. We understand the committee are authorized to purchase extensively in Canada and the United States, and will start on their mission immediately.—*Chignecto Post*.

GARDEN HINTS FOR AUGUST.

FLOWER GARDEN AND PLEASURE GROUND.

Every reader of our pages ought by this time to know how to trim a hedge. Experience shows all do not. Perhaps if we put the rule in a few words; it may be remembered. To keep all parts of a plant healthy, every part must have light. A hedge trimmed with upright sides and square top, allows light to the bottom parts of the hedge only mornings and evenings, therefore, the faces of the hedge

should be sloping. Such hedges mowed once a year, are models of perfection for twenty years.

The improvements in mowing machines have nearly driven the scythe out of use. This is to be rejoiced at. It is a blessing to hundreds of gardeners, and numberless places are enabled to be kept pretty that were in roughness before. Every one should have a mowing machine. But every new idea produces evils as well as good. So these machines allow small weeds to get light which were crowded out in the long grass of past times. These now crowd out the grass in their turn. We pointed out this consequence when mowing machines were getting general. Hundreds now find it so, and ask us for the remedy. All that can be done, is to keep up the health of the grass by top-dressing in fall. This will keep the grass up in good heart longer than it otherwise would be. But it will fail in time; then the best thing will be to break up the plot, and sow it down again with fresh grass.

It is pleasant to note the increasing attention given to hardy herbaceous plants. Now is the time to look after collecting seeds. If the places where they are sown can be covered with something to shade them, and kept thus shaded till next spring, it is best to sow now. Most of our best hardy herbaceous plants are natives of America, hence if we see very pretty flowers in the wild wood or prairies, there will be nothing unfashionable in saving their seed and sowing in the garden also. When sown at this season, they will mostly flower the next year. Some seeds must be sown now to grow at all. Sweet Briar is like this. Wash the Haws out of the red pear like fruit, and sow in sandy soil.

Hollyhocks are generally increased by dividing the roots or cuttings of the stems; but these are best renewed occasionally from seeds. The very double ones do not seed freely when unaided by art. The petals which are produced from the staminal column, overgrow the pistils and prevent the pollen from acting. Therefore it is necessary in order to get seed with certainty, to rub a camel hair pencil in the pollen and twist it around in the centre where the pistils are. An examination of the double flower will show what is meant. Single Hollyhocks usually vary much from seeds; but double ones reproduce themselves very nearly, because it is hard for them to fertilize with their own pollen, and worse from others. If new varieties are desired, use the brush in the pollen of some other color than one you wish seed from.

Some plants vary from seed very much without any cross fertilization. Carnations and Pinks are of this class. These seed very freely in this country, and many forms may be had from one plant. They

are beautiful, and as sweet as they are good looking. Pity they are not more grown. Left to themselves, they will dwindle away in time. Every other year the side branches should be layered into rich soil to renew them. Roses may be raised from the haws, like Sweet Briars. They flower in two years, and may make one's fortune. *Devoniensis* or the *Magnolia Rose* was thus raised in a lady's garden. She was paid well for the whole stock.

FRUIT GARDEN.

Two successive seasons of good crops is highly encouraging to the fruit grower. He must now take care that exhaustion does not follow. The wise orchardist has thinned his fruit at an early stage of growth, and will now be looking round for material to fertilize them with. It is not too late to do it yet to advantage. We should surface dress with manure, compost, or rich materials, any time between now and frost; but the earlier the better. There is not much use in putting it on after the soil is frozen. Rains wash its best portions away. As to kind of manure, it makes little difference. If the surface is not disturbed much, the richer the surface soil the better. We have noticed but little difference between animal manure and mineral. Some of the best and healthiest trees we know, stand near the manure heaps in farm yards.

A little trimming is useful to most trees at this season. The Blackberry and Raspberry may have their tops shortened so as to leave the canes about four feet. Some do this earlier in the season; but the buds are apt to burst if done too soon. In like manner, pear and apple trees that grow well, but produce no fruit, are benefited by having, say half of some of the young growth cut back. The buds then left are very likely to form flower buds, in place of growth buds, for next season. Many take out the old shoots of raspberry and blackberry after they have done bearing, and we have in times past recommended it ourselves; but on further observation, we see very little good, if not positive injury. The partial shade the old stems make, seems rather beneficial than otherwise under our hot suns.

Strawberry planting often commences in August, providing the weather offers a chance. Get the soil in readiness for this chance. Heavy manuring is not good for the Strawberry except in very poor soils. Wet soils are not good. But the soil cannot well be too deep. In the field subsoil,—in the garden dig at least 12 to 18 inches. Strawberries do better moderately close than too wide, some kinds do very well in beds.

After a piece of ground is dug at this season for Strawberries, roll it well with the garden roller. When ready to plant, make holes with a dibble, fill the holes