

In another vineyard almost across the road from this, where the soil is just as good and the vines twice as old, there was not one-quarter the crop. Good cultivation is the secret of the difference.

If on our way to Chicago last summer we had stopped off at Lansing, Michigan, we might have seen at the State Experiment Station there, a striking experiment on the effect of sod in an orchard. One half of the apple orchard was under good cultivation and the other half in sod. Although there was little or no fruit on any of the trees this year, the contrast in the vigor of the trees was very marked. The foliage on those in sod was turning yellow at the end of August, while those under cultivation were still as fresh and green as in June.

Leaving now the orchards and fruits we will continue from Cornell, along the winds and curves of the Lehigh Valley R.R. to New York, to see some of the large market gardens of the east.

The first place visited is the establishment of the great seedsman, the late Peter Henderson. Here I expected to find large seed testing grounds, but found that the grounds, and greenhouses covering nearly a couple of acres, are now almost entirely given up to the growing of ornamentals for sale. But out on Long Island are to be found a number of the large gardens that help to supply New York and Brooklyn. At Jamaica, ten miles out of Brooklyn, is one of the finest vegetable gardens on the western end of the Island.

There are thirty acres in potatoes. These are planted one foot apart in rows two and a half feet apart, opened by a fertilizer drill, which by means of projections on a wheel following in the furrow measures and marks the spot for each piece of potato. The potatoes are not hilled, but the ground is gradually worked up to them with the cultivator. The potato beetles are kept in check with Paris green applied with a barrel sprayer, spraying four rows at once. In potato growing, however, I value more the experience of a Niagara grower who raises twelve or fifteen acres every year, and is probably one of the most successful potato growers in that district. He takes his seed potatoes out of the cellar a couple of weeks before planting time and puts them in a warm shed to start the growth. Just before planting they are cut and sprinkled with freshly slacked lime. Experiments with and without liming show a marked difference in favor of liming. His favorite method is to plant in a well manured clover sod, plowing in the potatoes in every third furrow. The potatoes are dropped eighteen inches apart on the shallowed or mould-board side of the furrow. As soon as the tops begin to appear above ground, a harrow is put on and the ground thoroughly harrowed. In cultivating the soil is worked gradually to the rows. Out of a large number of varieties tested the most profitable early varieties are the Early Ohio, Toronto Queen and Burpee's Extra Early, and for late varieties the Empire State, Rural New Yorker No. 2, and Beauty of Hebron.

But we must stay in the Jamaica garden on Long Island to see the sights in growing rhubarb and asparagus. There are about four acres in rhubarb, the plants standing $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart. These are cropped but two years in the open ground. The roots are then taken up and forced in the greenhouses for winter market. The stalks are of immense size, very few of them shorter than a foot and a half. The asparagus, Conover's Colossal, is truly colossal, each stalk being eight or ten inches long and as big around as a hoe handle. To suit the fashion of the New York market this is all bleached perfectly white. The bleaching is done by banking the earth in the spring twelve or fourteen inches high over the crowns of the plants, and as soon as the stalks appear on the surface they are gathered by cutting from below with a long knife. They are then bunched in two pound bunches, cut square at the bottom, washed clean on the outside, packed in barrels, and sold in New York for fifteen cents per bunch. The immense market wagons used by all the New York and Brooklyn gardeners are quite in keeping with the extent of the business. These wagons alone cost \$300, and generally carry all that can be drawn on a good road by one team of horses.

There are plenty of fine gardens to be seen on Long Island, but to see one of the most extensive vegetable gardens of the Eastern States, if not in the whole of the United States, we must visit that owned by W. W. Rawson, of Boston, the author of that

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