

CORRESPONDENCE.

CELERY.

There is no reason why the farmer should not raise celery in his garden, for since the introduction of the dwarf varieties, there is no more time or work required than is expended on the garden crop of onions. The "Sandringham" dwarf I esteem the best. If you are not in the habit of making a hot-bed, start your plants in the house in March in a small box of light red soil, such as you compost for house plants. It is well to have a barrel mixed in spring and kept in a shady place to decompose, ready for your house plants on removing them to winter quarters from the garden. Select place for your celery in garden, plant two rows of early potatoes in drills, rows four feet apart, after final hoeing run a tiller between the rows, sprinkle your fertilizer in the channel made by the tiller and hoe it in; it is better if a rain intervenes before you set out your plants; the planting is better done by two persons, one with a small dibble six inches long, acting also for a measure to distance plants six inches apart, making the holes and dropping in the plant. A person following with water fills the holes. After all are set out and the water soaked off, fill the hole with earth pressed slightly around the plant. At this time, last of July or first of August, the potato tops are large enough to afford shade, the plants need nothing more except to be kept free of weeds till your potatoes are dug, then hoe your celery and draw dirt towards it on each side. To blanch easily and rapidly go on your knees, astride the row; take a plant in one hand, shake it and squeeze it close to get out the earth from centre, holding in hand, with the other draw the earth up to the plant on that side, then take plant in other hand and draw earth on other side,

after which let go of the plant and draw earth from both sides, pressing it against the plant. After your row is gone over and blanched, finish up with a hoe; two blanchings is enough; a sprinkling of salt along the row has been found to advantage at time of blanching. To winter celery it should remain out as long as safe in fall, but should be dug when the soil is not wet. It should be dug with a long handle fork, a basket or barrowful at a time, and placed at once where you intend to winter it. I have tried sand, leaves, etc., for storing, but have found it to winter full better without either. Have bins made three feet wide with wide plank, with cellar floor for bottom. Take up celery with as much earth as possible and press the heads as closely as possible in the bin. After your plants are all in, place leaves at the end you intend to use from, banking up the celery on that side to exclude air after taking out for use. If you have been in the habit of buying you will find nothing you can raise in a garden would pay you better than your crop of celery. The space occupied is of little account, as you would plant your rows of potatoes only one foot closer than without. You can raise 300 heads, a fair home supply, easier than in former times one hundred of the Giant varieties could be raised in ditches.

W. M. P.

Clarenceville, Que., June 7th, 1883.

FOUNTAIN PUMP—REPLY TO MR. STRAUCHON.

MR. EDITOR.—In current month's number of *Horticulturist* there is an enquiry by Geo. Strauchon as to a good, cheap fountain pump for spraying fruit trees. I have used for the last two years the fountain pump manufactured by Josiah A. Whitman, Providence, Rhode Island, and find it an