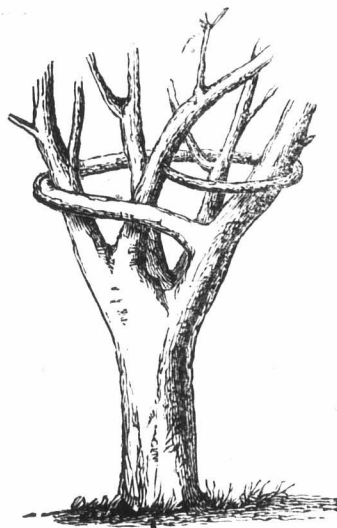


Garden, Orchard and Forest.

Seasonable Hints—September.

BY HORTUS.

In the vegetable garden much work yet remains to be done, in the way of saving seeds of tomatoes, cucumbers, melons, and various herbs. When saving tomato seeds in any quantity, an easy method to get clean seed is to put the fruit in a barrel and bruise it up into a pulp; leave it till the mass ferments when it will be found that the seed has separated itself and settled to the bottom; give a final washing in clean water and spread the seed on paper in a shady place to dry. CELERY requires earthing up for blanching; this consists in merely spading the earth up to the plants, doing this from time to time as the plants grow, firming the soil with the fingers around the stalks. SPINACH, an important crop in market gardens is sown during



this month. There are several methods of cultivating it, but the simplest, is to select a rich piece of soil, throwing the ground up roughly with the spade or plough, sow the seed without smoothing the soil, the crevices in the soil will hold the seeds and the general unevenness will retain the snow as a covering. MEDICINAL AND POT HERBS such as sage, parsley, thyme, wormwood, &c., should be found in every garden, the seeds of a great many may be always had. They should be gathered when in bloom and dried in the shade—when dried keep in paper bags or bottles away from the air, dust, and flies. For the successful growing of garden truck the soil should be well prepared in the fall—lay on plenty of manure and ashes—plough deeply and subsoil if possible.

In the fruit department this is a good time for the planting of strawberries—if the soil is sandy sow a piece in rye which will be just fit to cut for mulching the plants. This keeps the fruit from the dirt besides keeping the roots of plants cool, thereby prolonging the bearing season and increasing size of fruit. Where the rye has been cut off the ground may be put in peas or hungarian grass the same season. CURRANT AND GOOSEBERRY plantations may be made toward the latter part of this month.

GRAPES will require thinning out a little of the foliage to help ripen the fruit and the growing ends of vines may be pinched off so as to ripen the wood.

Remove blighted tips and dead branches from amongst the fruit trees. Keep an eye on heavy laden trees so as to be ready with a prop to prevent wind from breaking the branches.

A good plan practised by western orchardists is to train a branch right around the main branches of the tree for to prevent breakages and loss of fruit by the gales that often sweeps the prairies.

Of course this is commenced when trees are young and the branch is carefully tied in position it completes the circuit of the tree when the top is inserted underneath the bark of a branch like a graft as shown in Fig. 1.

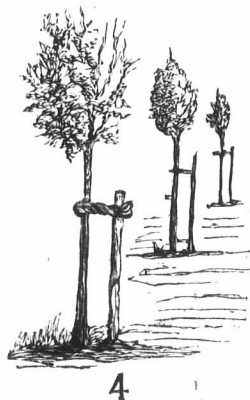
YOUNG FRUIT TREES, particularly apples, after being planted a year or two often become black-hearted, the head of the tree die or the bark becomes shrivelled and scorched, this is caused partly by neglect, bad drainage or late pruning. They



may have been carelessly planted at first and the treatment continued. We have seen many such attempts at orchards as represented in Fig. 2. Good care may restore most of such trees though replanting would be the best thing to do under the circumstances. Such a tree as shown in the foreground of cut may be treated as a bud. Neatly cutting off the diseased stem leaving it thus re-organized like Fig. 3. Cover the cut with wax or other substance to exclude air and moisture.



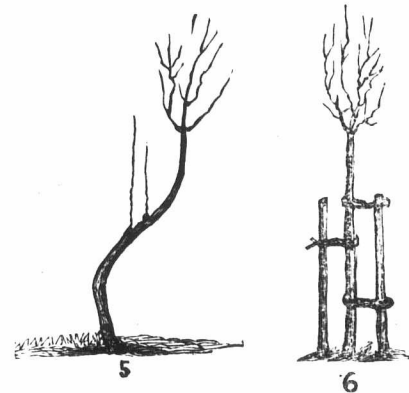
STAKING is next to planting, and should be attended to carefully and as soon as trees are planted. Without being staked the newly planted tree is entirely at the mercy of the elements—the swaying to and fro by the wind or rubbing by cattle destroys the young roots struggling to establish themselves and after a brief struggle for existence the unfortunate tree dies, to the disgust



of the planter and the detriment of the nurseryman, upon whom all the blame is put. We are safe in ascertaining that over one-half of the trees annually set out die through carelessness or ignorance.

We turn with pleasure to an orchard as illustrated in Fig. 4, planted and cared for by the wise man for futurity. Many crooked trees like Fig. 5 can be straightened by placing stakes on opposite sides and tying firmly in the various crooks till the tree is as straight as Fig. 6.

Many shrubs, roses, and softwooded plants can be propagated rapidly by inserting cuttings of each in damp sand. Make a small hot bed for the purpose and with a temperature of 75° to 95° bottom heat fill your bed with cuttings. When rooted pot off in small pots. For making any important changes around residences such as roadmaking, changing of walks, sodding and general re-arrangement the fall is the best season for such work. Beds of Hyacinths, Tulips and other flowering bulbs may now be planted, the soil should be deeply trenched and well manured where they are to be planted. Crocus, Jonquil, &c., are effective, dibbled into the lawn amongst the grass. Designs, such as diamonds, circles and so on may be worked out and filled with bulbs of contrasting colors.



Nothing is more charming than to see the bright flowers in early spring blooming amongst the green.

New and Desirable Strawberries.

HOW TO GROW THEM SUCCESSFULLY.

By R. H. Haines, Saugerties-on-Hudson, N. Y.

The attention that is now being paid to this fruit is very marked, when compared with what it was twenty years ago. Now, thousands of acres of land, throughout the country, are devoted to its use. At that time estimates would more fittingly be made in rods or square feet of surface. Now, in the proper season they may be found upon nearly every table. Then, the cultivated cherries were largely limited to the rich alone. At the present day our exhibition tables are visited by those who talk with the utmost composure of specimens measuring from seven to nine inches in circumference. At that remote time, berries of hardly half this measurement would excite exclamations of wonderment and surprise. Certainly, as we compare the past with the present, we cannot but feel that the American people are to be congratulated that this delicious fruit is now so generally and successfully grown throughout our land. Before giving the methods for growing these large berries, it will, perhaps, be as well to briefly describe some of the varieties that are now attracting special attention.

SENECA QUEEN.

We are led, at the appearance of this royal berry, to give it the praise that its various qualities seem to demand. A merit that proves a powerful assistance to it in winning adherents is its very early habit of ripening. Another of almost equal importance is the productive habits of the plants; and when to these are added the pleasant flavor and bright color of the fruit, we are led almost to overlook the fact that it is exceeded in measurement by a number of other varieties, and that as yet it only stands in the second or third