

big brown hands—paused in the midst of their work, and listened reverently.—Drunken, brutal diggers left unfinished the sentence and looked bewildered and ashamed. Far and near the news spread like lightning—"Have you heard the lark?" "Is it true, mate, that there is a real English lark up at Jack Wistlead's?" So it went on for three days, and then came Sunday morning. Such a sight had not been seen since the first spadeful of golden earth had been turned! From every quarter—east, west, north, and south—from far hills and from creeks twenty miles away, came a steady concourse of great rough Englishmen, all brushed and washed as decent as possible. The movement was by no means preconceived, as was evident from the half-ashamed expression of every man's face. There they were, however, and their errand was to hear the lark! Nor were they disappointed. There, perched in his wooden and iron pulpit, was the little minister; and as though aware of the importance of the task before him, he plumed his crest and lifting up his voice sang them a sermon.

It was a wonderful sight to see, those three or four hundred men; some kneeling on the ground; some sitting with their arms on their knees, and their heads on their hands; some leaning against the trees with their eyes closed, so that they might the better fancy themselves at home and in the midst of English corn-fields once more; but sitting, standing and lying, all were equally quiet and attentive; and when, after an hour's preaching the lark left off, his audience slowly started, a little low-spirited, perhaps, but on the whole much happier than when they came.—*Boston's Home Pets.*

Hints for October.

October is one of the most active months in the year with the gardener, orchardist, and nurseryman. A multitude of labours demand simultaneous attention, and it requires the most untiring energy and industry on the part of every one who has any considerable charge on his hands to see that every thing is done at the proper time and in the proper manner. Fortunately, in this country, our October weather is delightful—dry, cool and bright, generally, and therefore eminently favorable for the rapid and proper execution of all out door work.

Transplanting of all hardy trees, shrubs, and plants usually begins here in the north about the 1st of October; farther south it must be deferred later. It is by no means necessary to wait until the leaves have fallen. If growth has fairly ceased, and the wood has become firm, trees may be removed; the leaves must be taken off to prevent shrivelling, and the roots must be carefully guarded against exposure until they are again placed in the ground. Autumn planted trees should by all means be secure against the

winds, either by staking or banking up, and they should be well mulched besides.

Neglected orchards should be renovated manuring and ploughing or spading about roots. This should never be deferred till spring because during the winter and spring the sod cays and the manure dissolves, and abundant food is thus prepared for the trees next season.

Kitchen and garden crops for winter and spring use require nice management to keep them in a proper condition. Such as are taken up and placed in the root-cellar should be harvested when dry, and the cellar should be clean, sweet, and perfectly free from moisture both above and below; it should also be kept cool possible, but not admit frost.

Such of the bedding plants as it is desired save for another season, should be carefully lifted early, and either potted or planted close in boxes, and placed where they will have light and not freeze. Many of the bedding plants taken up carefully and in good season, may materially to the beauty of the green-house through November! Many of the late flower annuals are useful in this way.

Hardy bulbous roots should be planted immediately, yet it can be done any time before ground freezes. There are certain things to vegetate early in spring, and should therefore always be planted in the fall, such as gooseberries, currants, rhubarb, and all hardy spring flowering shrubs and herbaceous plants. A good bloom next spring may be secured by planting now, but will be lost if the planting be deferred till next spring.—*P. Barrey.*

ANIMAL INSTINCT.—I knew of a jackdaw often used to eat the gum that exuded from plum trees, and always did so when it was well. In connection with this subject, it is as well be mentioned that a careful observer would find himself repaid by watching modes of cure employed by sick or wounded creatures. We all know that the dog will resort to grass when they feel out of health, hares to a species of moss. I was also on the authority of the eye-witness, that a finch, which had been struck by a hawk wounded, made its way to a dry puff-ball, it open with its beak, and dusted the wounded shoulder with the spores, thereby stopping effusion of blood. The spectator was surprised at this incident, and being indolent to try the effects of the same remedy upon a wounded finger, found that the experiment was completely successful.—*Routledge's Illustrated Natural History.*

CHLORIDE OF LIME AS AN INSECTICIDE.—Scattering chloride of lime on a plank in which all kinds of flies, but more especially gnats, were quickly got rid of. Sprinkling of vegetables with even a weak solution of salt effectually preserves them from the attacks of slugs, caterpillars, butterflies, moths,