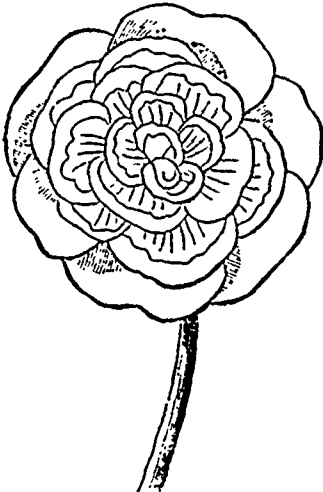


which have been allowed to degenerate into a long thick, tangled mass of wood, bearing little or no fruit, and which are at once unsightly and inconvenient. These are mostly to be seen about farm houses and the owner is generally found to be discouraged, declaring, "the grape had done no good with him, and that he is quite certain will never answer in this country." It is not likely it will with such treatment. Vines in this state, however, have generally strong roots, and may be trained into proper shape



FIG. 23.

with one or more vigorous canes, and in two years brought into abundant bearing. A part of the numerous canes, it is true, may be left, and the vine brought into shape and bearing gradually, but we think the better plan is to cut down the whole at once to one stem, see Fig. 28, and train up one or more canes the following year. Several strong shoots will spring up, but all but one or two must be pinched back. There will, of course, be no fruit the first year, but with ordinary care, if trained according to some of the methods previously described, in succeeding years there will be abundant results.



Double Bedding Pansy.

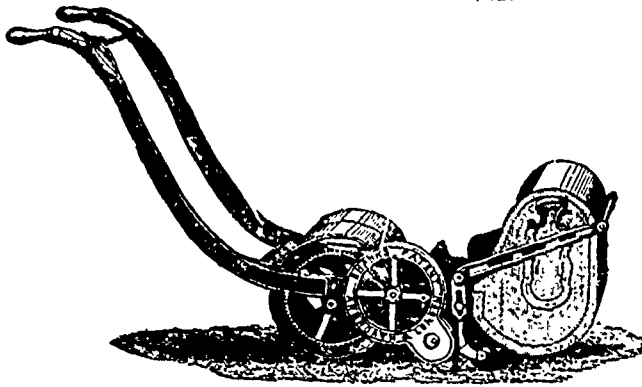
THE Cottage Gardener thus describes this floral novelty:—

"The outer or guard petals of the flowers are about the size of a good pansy, and the inner gradually diminish toward the centre, forming a double flower. There can be no question that it will form a valuable plant for beds and borders, more especially as we understand that it has proved a profuse bloomer."

CRANBERRIES ON UPLAND PRAIRIE.—J. G. Scheffer, Albion, Iowa, writes the *Prairie Farmer*, and says he is satisfied that cranberries can be grown abundantly in the common prairie gardens, and of much finer quality than on the low lands. He received plants of the "Cape Cod Cranberry" by mail in the hot days of last June, planted them in his garden on high prairie land, showered them two or three times because of the drouth, covered them during the heat of the day with rhubarb leaves, and the first of August they commenced fruiting and are doing well.

GRAFTING THE GRAPE.—The Editor of the *Valley Farmer* gives a correspondent his mode as follows:—"We take the dirt away from the root to be grafted, to the depth of 5 or 6 inches. Then cut off the root 3 or 4 inches below the surface, and insert the cion in the root in any of the usual methods of grafting. Then wrap that part of the root receiving the cion with paper, and fill it with fine earth, pressed carefully about the root and cion, leaving one or two buds above the surface. Keep the ground nicely worked about the plant during the summer, and if you have a strong root you may expect a great growth."

## Shanks' Patent Lawn Mower.



HEREWITH we present a cut of this pretty little machine for mowing lawns. It cuts, collects, and delivers the grass, leaving it in heaps ready for removal. It is made by Alex. Shanks & Son, of Arbroath, Scotland, and is adapted to either horse or hand power. The following are its leading peculiarities: The cutter is so constructed that in mowing the closest and finest turf there is no appearance of ribbing. The drums are loose on the shaft, but so geared, that in turning, the machine will mow as well as when going in a straight line. It will

mow on the most uneven lawn, without injury to the turf. It will turn into the most intricate windings of the flower garden, amongst trees or flower-beds, with perfect ease, and without the smallest chance of injuring the shrubs or flowers. The wheels are all protected by guards, which entirely prevent any particle of cut grass, shrubs, or flowers from getting into contact with the teeth. A scraper is introduced to keep the rollers clear of small stones or rubbish in crossing gravel walks, &c. The cutter works in brass bearings, and is made so very strong that breakage is rarely heard of. Malleable iron is always used for the handles or shafts, which are necessarily neater and much more durable than the usual cast iron ones. An important feature in this machine is the method of emptying the grass-box. In the spring, when the grass grows up rapidly, nothing is more annoying in working a mowing machine than the stopping and almost constant travel from the handles to the box, and vice versa, for the purpose of emptying the grass. This is completely obviated in Shanks' machine. A simple and efficient apparatus empties the box without the man being under the necessity of either leaving the handles or stopping the machine.

We saw one of these lawn mowers at work last summer on the grounds of the Hon. D. L. Macpherson, near this city, and were much pleased with the manner of its operation. J. Fleming & Co., of this city, have some of these machines on exhibition and for sale.

ORCHIDS IN VINERIES.—There are but few orchids worth growing that might not be cultivated under vines, and that too in cool houses which in winter, are not allowed to go below forty degrees, and where in summer the temperature is allowed to go as high as the sun will raise it. This can be done without injuring the grapes either in colour or flavour.—*Gardeners' Chronicle*.

WATERING PLANTS.—The following methods have been successfully adopted for watering garden vegetables:—Place a vessel containing water near the plants, from which extend a piece of old cloth to the roots. By this means water will be conveyed, slowly, from the vessel to the plants, keeping the ground all the while in a good degree of moisture.

Cucumbers are sometimes grown as follows: Set a headless barrel half way in the ground, and fill partly with manure. Plant the cucumbers around the barrel, on the outside. Pour water on the manure in the barrel and it will reach the roots from beneath, keeping the soil both moist and rich.—*Rural New Yorker*.

TRANSPLANTING AT NIGHT.—"A friend in whose power of observation," says the *Working Farmer*, "we have confidence, and who is an exact experimenter, informs us that last spring and summer he made the following experiment:

He transplanted ten cherry trees while in blossom, commencing at four o'clock in the afternoon, and transplanting one each hour until one in the morning. Those transplanted during daylight shed their blossoms, producing little or no fruit, while those planted during the darker portions maintained their conditions fully. He did the same with ten dwarf pear trees after the fruit was one third grown. Those transplanted during the day shed their fruit; those transplanted during the night perfected their crop, and showed no injury from having been removed. With each of these trees he removed some earth with the roots."

A GOOD CROP OF ONIONS.—W. R. Tatem, formerly with a Shaker Society in Pennsylvania, gives an account of his success with onions. The bed 20 x 40 feet, had been ploughed deeply the previous autumn. In spring it had a shallow ploughing, after which three horse loads of fine old manure were spread on, and thoroughly harrowed in. The bed was then covered with straw, ten inches deep, which was burned. The seed was sown in drills 14 inches apart, and rolled. As soon as the seed was up, the bed was sowed over with one bushel of a mixture of 3 hen manure, and 1 ashes, which application was repeated three times during the early part of the season. The onions were carefully hoed and weeded, and when as large as one's thumb, they were thinned to two inches in the row. The result was 30 bushels of large onions, equal to about 1,000 bushels to the acre.—*Agriculturist*.

SUBSOILING—ROOTS OF PLANTS AND TREES.—There are many statements in your valuable paper, in relation to light and shallow ploughing, that are not in accordance with my views of good farming. I believe in deep ploughing and even subsoiling on all but clayey land, when the clay comes near the top of the ground; in that case I think subsoiling injurious.

In excavating into the earth, I have found the roots of clover and hergrass to run from three to four feet deep, when the ground has been dug over to that depth and made rich with dressing. Corn and potato roots go quite as deep under like circumstances. The roots of many of our tallest trees are longer than the whole trunk of the tree. I have often found this to be the case with elm, oak, yellow birch, and white maple.—S. Poot, in *Maine Farmer*.

KEROSENE DESTRUCTIVE TO FRUIT TREES.—J. W. Cook makes a statement, in the *Grand Haven News*, to the effect that Kerosene has proved destructive to plum trees when it has been placed in vessels on the trees for the purpose of saving the fruit from the curculio, and by this means got on the branches and trunks of the trees. He says, "the Kerosene failed entirely to keep off the curculio, while it proved fatal to the trees." If Kerosene has any such destructive effect on trees it would be well for those in the habit of using it indiscriminately, to bear the fact in mind. We have never seen much good result from placing liquids in vessels on trees in order to catch and destroy the curculio. He is a tough customer, and must be followed up persistently and destroyed, or the fruit is pretty sure to suffer.—*Ulrica Herald*.

ACCLIMATISATION IN ENGLAND.—In the sixth century wheat was first sown in England. Up to the sixteenth century, Englishmen grew few fruits and vegetables. What they consumed were imported. Their chief food consisted of bread, beef and mutton. Nearly all the favourite flowers in England are exotics. The rose came from France, Flanders, and Italy; the honeysuckle, hawthorn, and passion flower from America; the lavender, rosemary, and mignonette from the south of Europe; the laburnum from Hungary; the laurel from Portugal; the bay tree and daffodil from Italy; the weeping willow from the Levant; the fox-glove from the Canaries; broccoli, beans, and cauliflower from Greece; peas from Spain; carrots and celery from Flanders; asparagus and kidney beans from Asia; lettuce, artichokes, and cabbage from Holland; parsley from Egypt; and potatoes from America. The mulberry is from Italy; the apple and plum from Syria; the grape from Portugal; the nectarine and peach from Persia; the gooseberry, cherry, and strawberry from Flanders; the currant and apricot from Greece; the quince from Austria; the pomegranate, orange, and lemon from Spain; and the raspberry and walnut from America. The hop plant came from the Netherlands.—*Australian Paper*.