

FRUIT GARDEN.

August and September are favorite months to plant out Strawberries, with those who desire a crop of fruit the next season. In making a strawberry-bed a warm, dry spot of ground should be chosen, with, if possible, a good loamy or clayey subsoil. A moist wet situation is very unfavorable. It is best to subsoil at least eighteen inches deep, and if the soil is poor, let it be moderately enriched with well decayed stable manure. In setting out, take care that the plants do not become dry from the time they are taken up till they are replanted, and see that they do not wither afterwards. Many persons cut off the leaves, if they are afraid of their wilting under hot suns, but a much better plan is to shade. Inverted 4-inch flower-pots are excellent for this purpose; they may be taken off at night. The dews will so invigorate them, that the shade will only be required for a few days. Sometimes in September they may need a good watering; but this should never be attempted unless a thorough saturation of the bed be given; and in a few days after, the hoe and rake should be employed to loosen and level the surface, which the heavy watering will, in all probability, have caused to bake and become very crusty.

Strawberries are best grown in beds about four feet wide for the convenience of gathering fruit, and giving them the best of cultivation. About three rows in a bed, and the plants twelve inches apart in the row, will be a good arrangement.

Many kinds of fruit trees that have arrived at a bearing age, may perhaps be growing very vigorously and producing very little or no fruit. Those who have read our remarks in past numbers, will understand that whatever checks the wood producing principle, tends to throw the plant into a bearing state. For this purpose, summer pruning is often employed, which, by checking the most vigorous shoots, weakens the whole plant, and throws it into a fruitful condition. The same result is obtained by root pruning, with this difference, that by the last operation the whole of the branches are proportionately checked, while by pinching only the strong growing shoots, the weak ones gain at the expense of the stronger ones. Presuming that the branches have been brought into a satisfactory condition in this respect, root pruning may now be this month resorted to. We cannot say exactly how far from the trunk the roots may be operated on, so much depends on the age and vigor of the tree. In a luxuriant, healthy tree, one-fourth may be safely dispensed with. In a four year old standard pear tree, for instance, the roots will, perhaps, have reached four feet from the trunk on every side. A circle six feet in diameter may then be cut around the

stem, extending two feet beneath the surface. It is not necessary to dig out the soil to accomplish the result; a strong post spade, or strong spade of any kind, may be driven down vigorously describing the circle, and doing the work very effectually. Of all trees, the peach is as much benefitted by root pruning as any.

The Grape vine at this season will require attention, to see that the leaves are all retained healthy till thoroughly ripened. It is not a sign of healthiness for a vine to grow late; on the contrary, such late growth generally gets killed in the winter—but the leaves should all stay on, to insure the greatest health of the vine, until the frost comes, when they should all be so mature as to fall together. Frequent heavy syringing is one of the best ways to keep off insects from out-door grapes, and so protect the foliage from their ravages.

A little trimming is useful to most trees at this season. The Blackberry and Raspberry may have their tops shortened so as to leave the canes about four feet. Some do this earlier in the season, but the buds are apt to burst if done too soon. In like manner, pear and apple trees that grow well, but produce no fruit, are benefitted by having, say half of some of the young growth cut back. The buds then left are very likely to form flower buds, in place of growth buds for next season. Many take out the old shoots of raspberry and blackberry after they have done bearing, and we have in times past recommended it ourselves; but on further observation, we see very little good, if not positive injury. The partial shade the old stems make seems rather beneficial than otherwise under our hot suns. Frequently the sun shining on the hot ground seems particularly favorable to fungoid development. The lower leaves then fall before the wood is ripe, when it dies in the winter, and is not hardy.

CAULIFLOWERS.

Judging by the size and quality of the cauliflowers that have been sold in our markets during the past few years, one would naturally come to the conclusion that good vegetables of that class cannot be raised in the neighborhood of Halifax. Yesterday we visited a small garden at the south end of the city, belonging to a friend who professes to understand but little of gardening, and we were surprised at the size and beauty of his cauliflowers; many of them measured ten inches in diameter. On inquiring into the method of cultivation, we were told that the bed, which was in size 22 by 7 feet, was manured, about the middle of May, with bone-dust in the proportion of 1 lb. per square yard. On the 1st of June, fifty-two plants of the early London variety

were set out, and shaded from the sun until they had firmly taken root. From the day they were planted, they have been completely drenched with water every evening. The result of this treatment is four dozen cauliflowers, of a size just about three times that of the cauliflowers usually offered for sale in the Halifax market. A few plants of the same variety in the same garden, that were manured with old stable-manure, did not succeed; most of them are club-rooted.

HORTICULTURE AND LANDS—
CAPE GARDENING IN
ENGLAND.

The following Address, read by P. T. Quinn before the Rural Club of N. Y., is extracted from the *New York Horticulturist*:—

The first view of the British Islands, as seen from the deck of a steamship in the English channel, is strikingly beautiful and picturesque. The distant and green-clad hills of the county Wicklow, Ireland, and the bold, abrupt, and in places precipitous landscape of Wales, divisioned off into fields by the neatly trimmed hedges, is a pleasant and enjoyable picture, coming suddenly upon one, after a ten days' voyage, during which time little or nothing is seen, but sea and sky, with an occasional spout of the ever-welcome *rhale* to break into the monotony and lazy habits one falls into in crossing the Atlantic. But on approaching Liverpool through the Mersey, there follows a sad feeling of disappointment, with this muddy, sluggish, stream, flowing lazily along; as if without purpose, and confined on either side with tame and uninviting banks. One wonders that in a country with a world-wide fame for its cultivated tastes in embellishing its landscape, where gardening was taught and fostered, as one of the fine arts, as early as the sixteenth century, that so little has been done to adorn and beautify the banks of the river leading to the great shipping port of the world. But this disappointment soon vanishes when leaving the outskirts of this, the centre of the shipping interest, for, travel whichever direction you may, the general appearance of the country is that of a well-kept and highly cultivated garden, when compared with our own country, where fertile land is too plenty and too cheap for the same kind of close cropping. The total absence of the unsightly post and rail fences, and in their stead the thorn hedges, gives tone to the landscape, and adds much to the general appearance of the face of the country, that grows on one the more they see of it.

Another feature, common in England, Ireland and Scotland, and one well