

course, our opinion of the berry's promise is based upon the supposition that it will succeed as well in other localities as in its native one. Its tendency to produce a heavy crop the second year is exceptional. Other varieties and species do not produce a full crop until the third year, but we should say that this yields its largest the second year. At any rate, the seedlings appear to have full as many berries upon them as two years old.—*Am. Rural Home.*

### Moss Covered Apple Trees.

Mossy trees in an orchard, generally indicate too much moisture in the soil—that is that the soil needs drainage and the trees require drainage. Give the ground under the trees a good top dressing of sand, and water, drain the ground thoroughly, scrape off the moss from the trees with a hoe, and wash trunks and large branches with strong soap-suds. But we should, perhaps, observe that while mossy trees generally indicate too much moisture, it is not always the case; for trees on sandy soils are often mossy; and soils are covered with the same species of moss. Moss, therefore, often indicates poverty of soil, or ungenial conditions in some way. It may be a want of moisture as well as too much. Stimulate the growth at any rate, as we have above suggested, whether the soil is dry or wet.

### New Pear.

**Burrer Dorelson Pear.**—This Pear, which attracted much attention last season in Belgium, is now remarked upon in the *Bulletin de l'Agriculture*. We consider the Burrer Dorelson the most valuable acquisition of the present generation, as it equals the finest October pears in quality, and is in perfect condition in February and March—a time when thoroughly melting fruits are not to be had. It has, moreover, another valuable quality, viz., that of keeping ripe in a fruit-room, without suffering any change for four months, commencing from the beginning of December. The following description of this Pear is given by M. de Mortier, in the *Pamone Tournaise*:—"Fruit of a large, oblong, slightly indented, truncate, and ribbed at the base, which is attenuated towards the top. Skin short, thick, yellow, not much sunk in the flesh. Flesh yellow, dotted and speckled with russet, sometimes slightly colored on the side next the sun. Rich, long-grained, buttery, sweet, slightly aromatic, and very juicy. Quality unsurpassed."

We see it stated in North-western papers, that in some localities many apple-trees that have and blossomed are now dead.

**WATERING FOR RASPBERRIES** is almost a necessity if good, fair sized fruit is to be grown and the plants refreshed in vigor for the strength of the comes to produce the next year's crop. Moisture is essential for the raspberry, don't take us in saying the wool moisture that we mean wet, for the raspberry will not bear a wet foot, but it wants a cool, damp footing, void of any stagnant water, and the spreading of six inches deep of new mown grass is the best and cheapest manner of supplying it that we have ever practiced.

**PREVENTION OF ROTTING IN PEAR FRUIT.**—It very often happens that fine fruit, especially of pears and apples, is attacked by birds or insects as to make a wound, which, if left to itself, will cause the fruit to rot. It has been found that by cleaning out the place affected, and removing the rot and disorganised and bruised matter, and filling up the cavity with plaster of Paris, further decay may be arrested, and the fruit become better than. A little space may be worked out from under the edge of the skin, so that when the plaster is pressed inward it will keep its place. The object of this is to prevent the progress of decay. This would, of course, be inexpedient in many cases; but when large and valuable apples and pears are involved, the trouble will be but trifling in comparison with the result accomplished.

### THE FLOWER GARDEN.

#### Roses.

The rose is not a new beauty. It was cultivated, and loved, and sung by the poets centuries ago, but has been improved by crossing, as have most of our flowers, fruits, and vegetables. The rose likes a virgin soil, and the nearer the position of our rose-beds approximates to that of a greater will our success be likely to be. Hence decayed soils, and leaf-mold from the woods when it has been sweetened by the sun, are good fertilizers.

The old-fashioned way of scattering roses about the lawn is not the best way. They will, thus isolated, be apt to be neglected, as lawn weeds in and choke them, besides the effect is not equal to where they are grouped in a round, or oblong bed, highest in the centre.

Suppose that we decide to plant a bed of Hybrid Perpetuals. In the centre we would want a white rose, or a cluster of white roses, according to the size of the bed. Madame Alfred de Rougemont is one of the finest whites. Portland Blanche is another fine one. Next we could have a row of flesh color and light pink. Caroline de Rezel is one of the finest of the former, and Lyons of the latter. Auguste Meunier, pink, and pretty nearly correspond with this shade. The next row should be golden, pale, rose or deep rose. Of this shade, we have Madame Victor Verrier, Victor Verrier, and Madame Victor Verrier. In the next row we could have rosy crimson, rosy pink, rosy carnation, and vermillion. Among those of these shades, Anne de Diesbach, General Washington, John Hopper, La Poise, M. U. Perrier, Maurice Lemaire, and William Griffith rank the highest. On the outside we could have the deepest shades, as dark red, crimson, and velvet. Dr. Arnauld, Francoise Arnauld, Giant of Pithou, General Jacqueminot, Jules Marceau, and the Ninth Prince de Montebello, and Triomphe de l'Exposition would fill the outer ring.

We do not say that this order should be strictly adhered to, but we think the highest effect would be produced by having white in the centre, and gradually shading deeper to the circumference. All that we have named are first-class roses, and our readers will be assured that in selecting from them they will get no inferior rose.—*Am. Rural Home.*

#### Balsams.

When well grown these are, perhaps, the choicest of all our tender annuals, and are the best adapted for decorative decoration from July to September. They like a rich, open compost to grow in; the great decayed manure on the potting bench is a useful auxiliary to keep up vigor, and may be applied freely when the pots become full of roots; bottom heat must also be given while they are growing, and they like plenty of air during every stage of growth. The soil preferred is half-decayed turf, calcined clayey loam, horse droppings, half rotten, and rubbed through a half inch sieve, and bone-dust. The clayey loam is the best, and it acts as a drainage to the soil; in the absence of this, soft bricks broken to the size of Filberts may be used. The turfy loam may comprise rather over one-half the mixture, the dung and drainage material the other. A handful or two of bone-dust may be used or not, as it may be at hand. The seed should be sown in pan, in a hotbed, and the young plants potted singly as soon as they are an inch above-ground; otherwise they become unsightly and drawn. Each time the plants are shifted, lower the ball a little in the pots, so that the stems may be short and stout; roots may be produced from the plants buried. If possible, keep them plunged in bottom heat, but near the glass, in a frame, the shades of which are tilted up a little night and day. Should they form flower-buds sooner than wanted, rub them off, and they will speedily be succeeded by another supply.—*P. S. in "Garden."*

#### Marcel Niole Rose under Glass.

What a glorious Rose this is when planted out in a rather cool house and allowed to develop itself! Two years ago I planted on a back wall, in a new house just erected, a plant I had budded on a briar the previous summer. The situation was not particularly favorable for it, as it does better trained nearer the glass; but last year it made shoots, some ten feet long, which were laid in along the wall their full length, and now every eye has broken, and the plant is studded with bloom buds over the whole surface. A stronger plant of climbing Devonensis, planted at the same time, has not done near so well. One of the very best plants of Marcel Niole I ever saw was planted in an open-roofed orchard house (where the fruit trees were grown in pots), and it had rambled unpruned, or nearly so, all over the roof, but the foliage was not sufficiently dense in any part to injure the trees beneath, and in fact I was told a much larger return in profit was derived from Marcel than from the potted trees for which the house was originally built. There is an old tea-scented Rose called Moret, a strong, vigorous grower, and one of the best to plant under glass I have ever seen. Some years ago I had it in a lofty conservatory, trained up one of the pillars, and allowed it to ramble

about near the glass. We could at almost any time, either winter or summer, cut a beautiful bouquet of flowers from the old plant. Last winter the flowers were almost a pure white, but in the spring I painted the edges of the petals were tinged with pink. I have a plant of it on a south wall here, but in the open air the color is a beautiful bluish-tinted pink. I cannot imagine a greater beauty amongst flowers than a house devoted to this plant. Planted in a good border, allowed to develop themselves, they then assume their true character, which is much more the long, slender plants in which we sometimes meet with it, and when well treated and in vigorous health, that kind of thick, compact, mildew, is not nearly so troublesome as it is when the plants are grown under less favorable circumstances.—*Ed. H. in L. H.*

#### A Precocious Century Plant.

On the premises of Mr. Joseph Lee, between Twelfth and Thirtieth streets, is growing a young century plant of the month's growth, which has developed itself into a most remarkable specimen. The plant stands about two inches high, and is of itself a curiosity, as it is of a most delicate proportion. About three weeks ago the lady landed the germination of a small sprout on the plant, which has since grown with such remarkable rapidity that it now presents a stalk nearly three feet in height. This stalk is sending forth many roots, and from all appearances they will all be fully developed within the course of a few weeks. That the plant has most extraordinary development of germination is the opinion of a number of horticulturists of the State who have seen the plant. It is a popular delusion that century plants do not come to maturity in less than a hundred years, but modern investigations show that under favorable conditions they will soon be plants twenty years of age. Having a plant of this kind on the premises of Mr. Lee, the fact is not the peculiarity of the growth of this plant, but its attractive, and even more interesting, to its owner. The family have appropriately christened the plant "General Lee." The plant is a plant which stands but a few feet high, and has a large number of long, narrow, lanceolate leaves, eight inches to three feet in length. These leaves are coated upwards of one thousand beautiful buds. Since the commencement of its growth, over one thousand persons have visited the plant, and many more registered, and so many more visited the grounds who did not enter the enclosure at all.—*San Jose (Cal.) Mercury.*

#### New Horticultural Fertilizer.

Some time since we called attention to a new chemical fertilizer for horticultural purposes, suggested by Dr. J. C. Smith, of Maine. *See Atlantic* of recent date, in commenting on results obtained by its use, says that it represents the fertilizing principle of at least one hundred times its weight of concentrated animal manure, and supplies to the plants nitrogen, phosphorus, potash, sulphur, and iron in a completely soluble state. The compound consists of 100 parts of nitrate of ammonia; 250 parts phosphate of ammonia; 250 parts nitrate of potash; 50 parts nitrate of ammonia; 60 parts sulphate of lime, and 40 parts sulphate of iron. These ingredients are pulverized and mixed. One dram of the powder (about a teaspoonful) is then dissolved in a quart of water, and a wineglassful of the solution over two or three times a week, in accordance with the health and luxuriance of the vegetation.

The plants may be placed in any kind of earth however poor, even pure sand, or may not be potted at all. It is stated that certain flowers, the *fuschia*, for example, may be cultivated without earth by simply placing the stalk in a jar at the bottom of which is an inch or so of water, just sufficient to cover the ends of the roots. To the fluid a proportional quantity of the fertilizer is added, above specified, once in eight days. The foliaceous development of plants treated with the substance is said to be truly wonderful, and yet the rapid growth of the leaves does not interfere with the most luxuriant flowering. To this we may add that quite recently we have tried a compound hastily composed of the majority of the substances above detailed, merely as an experiment, on a small and sickly *fuschia*. The plant was drooping, and little else remained than a half dry stalk. After two applications of the fertilizer, its effect was apparent, and at the end of ten days, during which probably half a pint of solution had been supplied to the earth, new shoots had sprung out, leaves formed, and the entire plant became perfectly loaded down with buds.—*Scientific American.*