

den-crops until the land has been in cultivation with these for one season. Another way to prepare the land for garden crops is, to plough, harrow, and sow it to buckwheat. When this is in flower, plough it under, and sow it again to buckwheat. Turn this under at the proper time, and in September, or at the usual time, sow the land with rye, to be plowed-in next spring. The object should be to bring the land, a few acres at a time, into condition to raise any garden-crops. The rapidity with which this can be done will depend upon the amount of manure at command for the purpose. It will be worth while for all farmers, who are within easy reach of a market, to give this subject proper thought, and be ready to commence the coming spring to make a farm-garden. —DR. THURBER in *American Agriculturist* for February.

#### THE BEST AUTUMN-FLOWERING SHRUBS.

If we had to name the best spring-blooming shrub, a first choice among so many beauties, might be hard, but among fall-bloomers the *Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora* stands supreme above all competitors, and, considering its many excellent qualities, it seems strange that it is still comparatively rarely found in cultivation. For small inclosures it is rather large, and not as well adapted as for large, open lawns, where its effect, especially when seen from a short distance, is really grand.

In a neighboring lawn, in full view from the window near which we write, and several hundred feet distant, stands a group of half a dozen large bushes in full bloom, completely covered by their large panicles of white and rosy pink. A superb specimen of *Abies Nordmanniana*, with its deep-green, glossy leaves, furnishes a splendid back-ground; on one side stands a *Magnolia macrophylla*, which by the slightest breeze turns the

under side of its monstrous leaves to view, giving a peculiar shining, glaucous tint to the entire tree. A little further distant on the other side, is a beautiful, well-shaped Kentucky Coffee-tree, the tips of its branches just changing to golden yellow in pleasing contrast to the bluish-green of the main foliage. It would be useless to attempt to describe in words the imposing effect of this magnificent combination of rich colors and graceful forms, which, we fear, shows to better advantage from our window than from the proprietor's own grounds. —*Am. Garden.*

#### FARM-GARDENING.

The farmer who continues to raise the same crops that he grew before towns and manufacturing villages sprang up all around him, makes a great mistake. In the older States, at least, there are but few farms not within an hour's or two hours' ride of a market. It is worth while for farmers in such localities, to consider if they can afford to raise field corn, when sweet corn will pay them much better. It is true, that sweet corn needs high manuring, but when the ears are off, there will be a heavy crop of the very best fodder. The ears will bring in ready money, just how much will depend upon the market, but safe to say, more than any crop of ripe corn would be worth. It is a mistake to grow late potatoes, to be dug when every one else has potatoes, and prices are low, while early potatoes will bring several times the price of late ones. It is so with other crops. There are but few garden vegetables that may not be grown as farm crops, and it is a mistake to raise produce that will bear transportation from a distance, instead of that suited to a near market, and must be disposed of at once. A farmer, on the other hand, would make a mistake, were he to devote his land to a