

## In the Vegetable Garden

### The "New Celery Culture"

Try the "New Celery Culture." It is growing the plants 6 to 12 inches apart each way, the dense foliage causing the celery to blanch without further labor.

The chief essentials are plenty of food and water. These are very important since six times the ordinary crop is to be grown on the land, it is reasonable that a corresponding amount of fertilizer must be applied.

The ordinary rainfall is not sufficient and water must be given every week, and in generous quantities and light cultivation continued as long as practicable.

The "new culture" is a capital method for the town gardens where every foot of land must be utilized and where water can be applied from a hose.

White plume and golden self blanching are perhaps the best varieties for close culture.

W. S. F.

### Pole Beans and Parsnips

Among eight varieties of pole beans tried last summer, I find the Cuban Asparagus to be far ahead of the Kentucky Wonder, and Old Homestead, both in yield and as a green podded string or snap bean. It is very early, the vines cling better to the pole than most sorts and the enormous length of the pods, sometimes two feet long, make it quite a novelty. Although of great length, the pod is round, fleshy and tender, and is in good condition for a longer period than the caseknie and other well-known green-podded pole beans. As a pole bean for use, either shelled green or dry, the most productive was the white runner, and although the flavor may not be as good as the smaller kinds, it is much better than the scarlet runner. The bean is the largest of any I know of, being the size of large pole limas, only two or three times as thick. As a baking bean, I find them equal to any, the process of baking seeming to improve their flavor to a great extent. On account of their great productiveness, large size and freedom from disease, I think they should be more largely grown. The horticultural, or cranberry, is a good pole bean, and although an old variety, is equal to many of the newer sorts. Pole beans may never be a profitable market crop, except in a green state, but for home use they will hold their place for some time to come, especially where land is valuable and in the vicinity of towns and cities.

There are very few varieties of the parsnip offered by seedmen, so that variety does not count for as much as in some crops. A good crop of parsnips is only possible when the soil is deeply worked and the manure or fertilizer thorough-

ly mixed with the soil. To show the depth the tap root of a parsnip will sometimes go in search of food and moisture, I had some last year over three feet long in a heavy clay soil, which had not been as deeply worked as it should have been. The intermediate, or maltese, parsnip has been with me much superior to the hollow crown and long Dutch. On account of their thickness, they can be used or bunched quite early, and are also better keepers, although where the soil is deep and rich enough, the longer sorts may give heavier crops.

E. MacKinlay, Halifax.

### Treatment for Potato Scab

In all cases where seed potatoes are affected with scab to the slightest degree they should be treated with the formaldehyde solution.

"Make the proper solution by pouring one pint of formaldehyde into a cask into which have been put 25 gallons of water, then distribute the liquid into several casks, and into these casks put the uncut seed potatoes. The potatoes should be placed in sacks and completely submerged in the liquid and left for two hours; if the potatoes are very scabby, leave for two and one-half hours. This treatment will kill the scab fungus on the seed potatoes, and the crop should be free if planted on land that had not in previous years grown scabby potatoes or in any other way have become contaminated with the potato scab germs.

"An experiment was carried on at the Wisconsin Station during the season of 1902 for the prevention of potato scab in accordance with the above method recommended. Seed potatoes were chosen that were very scabby and part were treated for the prevention of scab and part planted without treatment. The yield was nearly the same, but the quality of the potatoes was decidedly in favor of those grown from the treated seed. "By actual count it was found that 19 per cent. of the potatoes grown from the untreated seed were scabby, while only 5 per cent. of those grown from the treated seed were affected with scab."

### House Cleaning

Old Father Time has poked up the fire

That was burning quite low in the sun

And has warmed up the water for washing earth clean,

House-cleaning time has come. The robin while warming his chilly red toes,

Clears out his throat for a song, He says he's been fearing 'twas time to begin,

But he hopes it won't last very long.

L. E. Chittenden in the Household.

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