

be no blank spaces in a mangold patch—ought to be none.

Blanks in the turnip field may be filled up by sowing Yellow Aberdeens, White Globes, Stubble or White Stone turnips. These mature in a much briefer time than the Swede, and though not so valuable, are by no means to be despised. They may be fed in the late fall or early winter, and made to help materially in eking out the supply of roots. The Yellow Aberdeen is the best of these late varieties, and will come to a very respectable size if the season be good, though sown three or four weeks after the general crop of Swedes. A good supply of White Stones is by no means bad filling for a bin in the cellar, or for the pot on days when there is a "boiled dinner" preparing in the kitchen. It is very little trouble, when the turnip crop is gathered to separate the different kinds, and convey them to their proper destination.

There is another mode of filling these vacancies which may be mentioned, though the suggestion is rather late to be of practical value the present season. It can, however, be made note of, and acted on another year. We refer to filling up with another kind of foliage crop, namely the cabbage. There is no better expedient than this, and none that can be more easily carried out. Moreover, cabbages are greatly relished by cattle in the winter time, and are especially valuable for milch cows. Being of easy culture, the wonder is that they are not more extensively grown as a field crop. The plants require to be grown until fit for transplantation in a seed bed, which should be located in some sheltered and sunny spot, and the seed sown in early spring. The soil of the seed bed should be very rich, well-worked and mellow. In sowing a quantity for field culture, of course a good-sized bed will be required, and it is the better plan to sow in drills, as the plants can then be more readily hoed and weeded. They will also require thinning, and if the plants can be used at different intervals, it will be well to take the larger and stronger ones first, leaving the feebler ones to grow into more vigorous condition. A moist time should be chosen for transplanting, and the work done with a tool known among gardeners as a "dibble." This tool is usually made of an old broken spade handle. The top part of the handle, about eighteen inches in length, is what is used for the purpose. A gradually tapering point is made to it, which is pushed into the soil, and withdrawn with a turn of the hand. Into this dibble-hole the young plant is set and the dirt firmly pressed around it. The most expeditious way of doing the work is for one person to make the hole and drop the plant beside it, while another set the plant. This is an operation in which the "young folks at home" can be employed to

advantage, as their backs are short and their fingers nimble.

A POTATO BUG PARASITE.

A correspondent of the *Patrie Farmer* says:—

"I have found an enemy to the potato bug in my patch. I hesitated to speak until I caught the fellow three different times with his lance into a young potato bug. The first two times, the P. B. was dead before I saw him, but the last time I saw the whole affair. The Doctor advanced, and made an attack on the young P. B., when P. B. rolled himself up into a round ball, making quick movements with his legs. The Doctor kept backing up and down the vine, as long as there was any movement. When the movements ceased on the part of P. B., Doctor stood still and drank his fill. I took Mr. Doctor around among my friends to see if they could tell me what kind of a bug he was. Some thought it the squash bug; all the boys who saw him said it was the pumpkin bug. I went to my squash vine and found a bug resembling him very much, with this difference: Mr. Squash Bug was much larger, and very dark both on breast and back, while my Doctor is of a light drab color on the back, and still lighter, with a golden tinge on the breast."

INSPIRATION FROM THE STEAM PLOW.

A writer in the far South, enthused by the hopeful account of Thompson's Traction Engine and Steam Plow, breaks forth into singing thus:

Ho! weary sinews! Rest!
In the East and in the West!—
For the labor-pang is past!
For the child is born at last!
For the colt is folded, whose tread
Transmutes your dust to bread!

Aha! the seed of steel,
With the gutta percha heel!
With the limbs that never tire,
And the lungs of brass and fire,
To tug our planet straight
On to Eden's gate!

Let the valleys dance and sing,
Let the hills of harvest ring
With a triumph peal, before
The swordless conqueror,
Whose scepter shall not cease—
The Mitrailleur of Peace.

A GOOD UNPATENTED HARROW.

An Iowa farmer claims to have used for five years, with very good results, a harrow made by attaching four arms at each side of a double-hinged centre piece. These are placed a foot apart, and have teeth made of one-half inch iron, eight inches