

ing capacity of the main canes. 2nd. Increases the number of side branches, and consequently the quantity of fruit.

Soot is an excellent manure: but, as in many other cases, one must know how to use it. It is: First—Good for all fruit trees; then, for meadows over-run with moss, and for clover. In the kitchen garden, reserve it for onions. For other vegetables it is more hurtful than useful. Use it with moderation. In small quantities, soot produces good results; in large, it disorganizes the plants, burns and cauterizes them, eats both leaves and roots. On a rainy day, give your soil a weak dose; prudence says, mingle earth and mud with it. Above all, do not make use of it in hot and dry weather.

The hardiest cherry are the Kentish or Early Richmond, the Dukes and the Lorellos. These succeed well at the farthest limits in which the cherry can be raised; and when all other varieties fail, they may be depended on for regular crops.

A writer in the *Rural New Yorker* says that last spring he sowed some seeds of the General Grant tomato in a hotbed, transplanted them to the open ground in the latter part of May; when they were a foot high he commenced tying them up to stakes six feet high, and after the first blossom set cut off all the laterals, leaving only the main stem to grow. Then he applied liquid manure, which he obtained by setting up a leach of horse manure. His first ripe tomatoes were gathered the 24th of July, and plenty of them. The vines were covered with beautiful smooth tomatoes, and continued to bear until the frost killed them.

Besides the Everlasting, which can be cut in summer and laid away in a drawer for the decorations of the holidays, the double geraniums finish a showy and most beautiful bouquet. If these are cut when the truss is in perfection, and carefully dried in a dark drawer, they will keep their colours perfectly and not drop a petal. Tastefully arranged with a few sprigs of evergreens, they make a most showy ornament for the Christmas dinner table.

There is an illustration in the *Rural New Yorker* of a new weeping variety of the hemlock, which must make a very handsome addition to our collection of hardy evergreens. It seems to have been discovered by H. W. Sargent, Esq., of Fishkill, N. Y., growing among some young seeding hemlocks. Grafted some feet from the ground on stocks of the common hemlock, it forms a very pretty drooping head of light feathery evergreen spray.

USEFUL MANURE FOR RASPBERRY PLANTS.

Mix equal parts of sawdust and stable manure and place the compound around the roots every fall before the snow comes. This mixture tends not only to keep the roots warm during the winter, but the sawdust, by partially decomposing, furnishes a quantity of potash which is very requisite food for the growing plants. Grape vines may be treated in a similar manner.

CELERY IN WINTER.—In regard to the management of celery in winter, the *Germantown Telegraph* remarks:—"We pursue two modes, and find both to answer well. The first is to remove the celery to high and dry ground, dig a straight trench spade deep, stand up a row of plants singly, then three inches of soil, then another row, and so on until about a half dozen rows are finished, when commence another bed and so on. The soil

should be packed in firmly and banked up, so that the tops of the celery are just covered, then spank off in roof fashion to turn the rain. Over this two wide boards, nailed together, should be placed, as a security against moisture, or straw can be bent over and secured at the bottom with beam poles. Celery put away thus carefully, ought to keep till May. *For remember it is water, and not frost, as some say, that ro's celery.* Frost adds to its tenderness.

Another plan is to sink barrels into the earth, so that the tops are two or three inches below the surface, then stand them compactly full of celery, without any soil, put tight covers upon them, so as to exclude all moisture, and then a couple of inches of soil. By this mode somewhat more troublesome than the other, and which we adopt for only a portion of the crop, it kept well for the last four or five years until all was consumed, which was late in the spring.

"If preserved in the rows, it should be well banked up, the water protected against, and a covering of straw or corn fodder laid crosswise."

Heath and Home.

FARMING FOR BOYS.

CHAPTER XVII.

ALL WEATHER GOOD.—A DISAPPOINTMENT.—MAKING MONEY.—CITY AND COUNTRY LIFE.—WEALTH AND ITS USES.—CONTRAST BETWEEN OLD TIMES AND THE PRESENT.

"What a miserable spring we have, miserably rainy," said Joe Spangler one day in the succeeding April, when Uncle Benny and the boys were walking over their strawberry field, looking at the beautiful white blossoms that were unfolding on every side. "I wish we could have some good weather."

"Ah," replied the old man, "all weather is good, though we may not be able to see it at the time"; and unfolding a paper which he carried in his hand, he read the following extract from a speech of Mr. Everett to an English audience, many of whom had previously expressed to him their regret at having so wet a day for their meeting:—

"It is a good day, notwithstanding the rain. The weather is good; all weather is good; sunshine is good; rain is good. Not good weather sir? Ask the farmer, in whose grain and roots there yet remains some of its moisture, to be driven out by to-morrow's sun. Ask the dairyman and grazier if the rain, even at this season of the year, is not good. Ask the lover of nature if it is not good weather when it rains. Sir, one may see in Europe artificial water-works, cascades constructed by the skill of man at enormous expense,—at Chatsworth, at Hesse Cassel, and the remains of magnificent water-works at Marly, where Louis XIV. lavished uncounted millions of gold, and thus according to