

ferred to the carbolic acid mixture for use against the cabbage maggot. We sprinkled the carbolic acid preparation directly upon the radish plants without injury to the latter, and if it is found to injure the plants from too great strength, it will serve as well to turn it in a trench made close along beside the rows of plants. The peculiar odour of the acid, which repels the flies as they come to deposit their eggs, so far escapes that it is necessary to apply the liquid as often as once a week to ensure perfect success. Caution is required also that the preparation is not so strong as to injure the plants when placed immediately upon them. From one season's trial I can strongly recommend the above application."

PICKING APPLES.

The proper picking and packing of apples is of great importance. The best keeping sorts will not be preserved well unless the fruit is uninjured in gathering, and packed securely. The most approved method of picking is by hand, with ladders, the fruit being put into a grain sack. The bottom and top of the sack are brought together and tied and then hung upon the shoulder. A short stick may be used to keep the mouth of the sack open. The sack is quickly and easily emptied by lowering the mouth end and lifting upon the bottom. The sack can be lowered into the barrel and the apples will run out without being bruised as when they are poured in from a basket from the top. Many apple growers prefer to put the fruit in heaps for a few days that the skin may toughen before barrelling. In short, the aim in picking should be to not bruise the fruit, and in this way enhance its keeping quality. The fruit should not move about in the barrels during shipment, and to this end the apples must be shaken down when the barrel is half full and again when full, after which the head is put on and pressed into place with considerable force. It is much better to have the upper apples somewhat flattened than to leave the fruit so it will stir in the package. The opposite head should be marked as the one to be opened. The mistake is sometimes made of not sorting the fruit. Make at least two qualities or grades, and mark each package with its grade. This will secure uniformity in the fruit in each barrel, and a better price. There is much to be gained in the way of a reputation for careful picking, honest assorting and the proper packing of all kinds of fruit.—*American Agriculturist.*

CHERRY LIGHT AND PEACH BORER.

Mr. Normand Smith writes from Virginia of a discouraging trial of Bigarreau and Heart cherries. "They live," he says, "from five to ten years, and then die." He remarks further: "A nurseryman tells me they were grafted on Mahaleb stock, 'a short-lived tree,' and that if grafted on cherry stock they would probably be more enduring. What is the trouble? It is a general complaint here, and an examination of the trees reveals no cause. Morello cherries we have no difficulty with, and they are grown on their own roots. Also have been experimenting with plum, and when one is found that partially resists curculio (Wild Goose), I find it grafted on peach stock, and very much infested with peach borer."

I can only say, in comment, that cherries of late do not thrive so well as years ago in many districts. A disease in the form of a blight in a few years after planting appears to attack the young tree and soon causes its death. Especially is this the case in low moist grounds or in very rich, highly cultivated locations. The Morellos as a class seem to be pretty much exempt, and can be grown when the sweet cherries prove failures. This is poor encouragement for planters,

but it acts on the principle that "half a loaf is better than no bread." Some complaint has been made against the Mahaleb as a stock; but on the other hand, it does as well as the Mazzard in many localities. The peach root is always liable to attacks of the "borer," no matter whether the top is peach, plum, or apricot. Orchardists, however, who systematically examine their trees annually, have little to fear from their depredations.—*Josiah Hooper, in Tribune.*

ROOT PRUNING FOR BLOSSOMS.

Experiments in root pruning were made on the apple and pear. A vigorous apple tree, eight or ten years old, which had scarcely made any fruit buds, has done best, when about half the roots were cut in one season, and half three years later, going half way round on opposite sides in one year and finishing at the next pruning, working two feet underneath to sever downward roots. It has always answered well also to cut from such trees all the larger and longer roots about two and a half feet from the stem, leaving the smaller and weaker ones longer and going half way round, as already stated. The operation was repeated three or four years later by extending the cut circle a foot or two further away from the tree. By this operation unproductive fruit trees become thickly studded with fruit spurs and afterward bore profusely. The shortening of the roots has been continued in these experiments for twenty years with much success, the circle of the roots remaining greatly circumscribed. The best time for the work has been found to be in the latter part of August and the beginning of September, when growth has nearly ceased and while the leaves are yet on the trees.—*London Garden.*

GERANIUMS.

Geraniums will bloom well in winter under the following treatment:—About the middle of May procure young plants of the varieties you wish. Put them in four-inch pots during the four subsequent months. Use well decayed sod, adding about one-third cow manure. Mix thoroughly together, but do not make too fine, as the geranium delights in rather a coarse compost. Place the young plants in a shady situation, first putting about four inches of ashes under the pots. Their growth at this time should not be encouraged, and should any flowers appear they should be pinched off, as also the leading shoots, that the plants may be kept in proper shape. Toward the end of September, re-pot the geraniums in six-inch pots in the compost described above, and they will commence growing freely. About the middle of October they should be placed in such winter quarters as will afford abundant sun and light.

WATER TREATMENT FOR CALLA LILIES.

I have adopted water treatment of calla lilies in summer, as recommended in the *Tribune*. The easiest way is to plant the roots very shallow in a large flowerpot, or in two pots if there are several, having first stopped the drainage with a cork, and then fill up and keep full of water and exposed to the sun. There should be enough soil to hold the roots in place. Replant the 1st of September, all in one pot, in rich soil. Thus treated, mine commenced flowering in October, and have done well through the winter, giving me once three flowers at one time.

LAYERING consists simply in bending down a branch and keeping it in contact with or buried to a small depth in the soil, until roots are formed. The connection with the parent plant may then be severed. Many plants can be far more easily propagated thus than by cuttings,

OREAM.

He was fond of singing revival hymns, and his wife named the baby Fort, so that he would want to hold it.

In one of the labour organs a manufacturer advertises for "quick cravat hands, who can make ten sailors' knots an hour."

CLARA asks: "What disease is most frequently transmitted by kissing?" A wise editor replies: "Palpitation of the heart, we believe."

A North Carolina trout dragged a boy under water. The man who saw the catastrophe shows the rescued boy and the water in evidence.

A young lady who attempted to read through a text-book on moral science, wrote the following on the fly-leaf:—

If there should be another flood,
For refuge hither fly;
Though all the world should be submerged,
This book would still be dry.

A pint of whiskey put in a fruit cake will keep it for six months, and the same amount put in a man will keep him down town till two in the morning.

Isn't a woman wet enough with a cataract in her eye, a waterfall on her head, a creek in her back, forty springs in her skirt, high tied shoes and a notion in her head?

A snow-white hen in Arkansas hatched out five black chickens and killed every one of them as they left the shell. She didn't want the other hens to eye her suspiciously and talk about her.—*Duluth Tribune.*

A young lover in Iowa paid \$40 for a locomotive to run him thirty-five miles to see his girl, and when he got there the family bull-dog ran him two miles and didn't charge him a cent. Corporations have no souls.

TEACHER: "Why, how stupid you are to be sure! Can't multiply 88 by 24. I'm sure that Charles can do it in less than no time." Pupil: "I shouldn't be surprised. They say that fools multiply very rapidly now-a-days."

A boy was making a great racket on his drum in front of a house in Somerville. "Little boy," said a lady, "you musn't drum here; there is a lady sick in this house." "Well, I don't know where I am going to drum, then; there's one dead in our house," was the mournful reply.

A leading tobacco journal says, "If you would keep tobacco worms away raise tobacco among the cabbages." That is probably the reason the cabbage crop, for making "two for a nickel" cigars to supply the dudes, always pans out so well, and the cheap cigar crop is always good. A little tobacco is planted among the cabbages just to give it a flavour.

Mrs. PARTINGTON says she can't understand these 'ere market reports. She can understand how chess can be lively and pork can be active and feathers drooping—that is, if it's raining; but how whiskey can be steady or hops quiet or spirits dull, she can't see; neither how lard can be firm in warm weather, nor iron unsettled, nor potatoes depressed, nor flour rising—lest there had been yeast put in it—sometimes it would not rise then.

"FATHER," said the young man, as he leaned on his hoe, "they say the balance of trade is agin us." "They do, eh?" "And that our bank reserves are rapidly diminishing." "Du tell!" "And that railroad extension has come to a halt." "Well, I declare!" "And that the volume of securities is substantially without a market." "Great shakes! Well, I never. And do they say anything about a feller stopping to lean on his hoe to talk when he might just as well talk and hoe too?" Reuben resumed.