

small, should be without a strawberry bed. The present month (August,) is the best season of the year for making plantations. We therefore give the following brief directions as a guide to the inexperienced who may conclude to set about planting.

*Preparation of the Soil.*—Choose a piece of the deepest and richest soil in your garden with a full open exposure to the sun and air, dig it, or trench it to the depth of eighteen inches, adding a good quantity of strong manure. When your ground is thus trenched, rake it off smooth, then take a line and mark off the rows for the plants, two or two and a half feet apart, the latter is preferable where ground is plenty, as it affords sufficient room for culture, and admits freely the sun and air, giving size and flavor to the fruit. A crop of small vegetables may be grown between the rows the first year.

*Selection of Plants.*—Many people have become discouraged from cultivating the strawberry, because their plants have proved barren notwithstanding good careful culture. The cause was—their plantation had become too old, (they should be renewed every fifth year,) or else they had taken their plants from some old degenerated stock.

In either case, a crop of fine fruit need not be expected—plants must be selected from young fruitful plantations, well rooted runners of the present summer's growth. Having procured such, plant after a shower, if possible, along the rows you have marked off, about a foot apart. If the weather be dry when you plant, water the ground thoroughly before planting, and shade the plants for a few days with branches of evergreens or anything else as suitable.

If the plants are not to be had in your

own neighborhood, you can send to any distance you choose for them, they are not bulky and can be easily transported by any public conveyance. Nurserymen furnish them at one to three dollars per hundred according to the variety. *Hovey's Seedling* and *Ross's Pinnix* are two uncommonly large, productive, fine flavored new varieties, esteemed superior to all others; both have the good quality of being very hardy, and well adapted to this northern climate. *Keen's Seedling* is a highly esteemed older variety, well known,—and so is the *Large early Scarlet* a very early estimable fruit.

*After Culture* consists in cutting off the runners three or four times a year. These when wanted to form new plantations may be put out in some corner of the garden till the time for planting. A dressing of manure should be lightly spaded in every fall between the rows. Here in the colder parts of Canada it would be well to lay a good coat of leaves between the rows to guard against the severities of the winter. Managed in this way, a plantation will produce abundant crops for five years, then it must be renewed. P. B.

*Broom Corn.*—The seed is excellent to fatten sheep. Albert Hibbard, of North Hadley, tells us he makes use of the seed of his broom-corn to fatten sheep: that they are very fond of it, and will fatten better on this than on Indian corn. Broom-corn is raised in great quantities in the river towns, where the brooms are made up and distributed to all parts of the country. We have often raised the corn for the sake of the brush, but we have never made much account of the seed, though we think it has seldom been converted to meal for hogs. Mr. Hibbard thinks the Broom-corn seed more valuable for sheep, than oats, or any grain. pound for pound —*Boston Plough.*