

DEEP FALL PLOUGHING.—We clip the following from Morton's Farmer's Calendar:—"In Holland the first operation on the stubbles is as deep a furrow given with the plough as can be done with horses. Ten to 12 inches of the alluvial soil are thus turned over; and if the weather permits, a cross-ploughing of less depth is given before winter. In the neighbourhood of Edinburgh nothing strikes the spectator more during a walk over the fallows in winter than the great depth of the ploughing which has been given to the land since harvest. And in instances nearer home, where the practice has been transplanted or adopted farther south, the same advantage seems to follow a deep autumnal ploughing. In the fen districts a large deep-working plough has been lately introduced by Messrs. Howard, which seems to be most influential on the fertility of the land. The bringing up a portion of the clay subsoil to be weathered during winter, when it becomes mixed with the vegetable mould of the surface, is found to be most beneficial."

AN ASTOTRATIC WEATHER PROPHECY.—The Scottish Farmer says:—"A weather prophet has arisen in Ireland. The Earl of Portarlington, anxious to cheer the hearts of his farmers, which must have been much damped by the late heavy rains, has addressed to a contemporary the following letter. His lordship does not state the grounds upon which he bases the belief in which he wishes the farmers to participate:—"Emo Park, August 17.—Sir,—Lest our farmers should go disheartened by the continuance of this rainy weather in the midst of harvest, I am tempted, through the means of your widely-read columns, to seek to encourage them by begging them to look forward to the next week, when, from the 23rd to the 25th, we may expect a great and most favourable change in the weather, introducing to us a lovely, warm, and dry September, which will bring to a close one of the finest summers ever remembered in this country. I cannot but hope that the approaching dry period, though later than we have wished, may yet be in time to save the corn crops in good order throughout the country.—I am, &c., PORTARLINGTON."

VALUE OF WEEDING.—The following experiments show the value of weeding and are reported in the *Journal of the Bath and West of England Society*. 1 Seven acres of light gravelly soil were fallowed and sown broadcast: one acre was measured, and not a weed was pulled out of it; the other six were carefully weeded. The unweeded acre produced 18 bushels, the six weeded acres averaged 22½ bushels per acre, a clear gain of 25 per cent. 2 A six-acre field was sown with barley in fine tilth, and well manured. The weeding, owing to a great abundance of charlock, cost 12s. per acre. The produce of an unweeded acre was 13 bushels, of the weeded 28 bushels, thus showing a difference of 15 bushels per acre, besides the enormous advantage of having the land cleaned for the succeeding crop. 3 Of six acres sown with oats, one acre ploughed out well, and unmanured and unweeded, yielded only 17 bushels: the rest ploughed three times, manured and weeded, produced 37 bushels per acre.

STACK BURNING IN LINCOLNSHIRE.—From a report in the *Agricultural Gazette*, it would appear that the fearful scenes of last winter, which produced such consternation throughout North Lincolnshire and East Yorkshire, seem likely to be re-enacted. Our contemporary says:—"No sooner has the harvest been gathered than two fires—having, alas, too many marks of the unmistakable incendiary of last winter—are reported from North Lincolnshire. The first of these recently occurred at West Burton, a village about three miles from Gainsborough, and eight from Retford. The fire made its appearance soon after midnight upon the farm-yard of Mr. William Toder, Middle House. The household retired to rest at 11 o'clock, leaving all safe. Between 1 and 2, Mr. Foster, of High House, residing about a quarter of a mile west from Mr. Toder's, was awake by a glare from the stackyard, which fronts his bedroom. At about 6 o'clock, in spite of the arrival of two fire engines, and the efforts of the farmer and his men, aided by a good supply of water, the flames had destroyed 25 stacks of wheat, barley and oats, besides four waggons which were left near the stacks, and of which nothing but the iron frames remained. Four large fat pigs, and a peacock which flew into the flames, also perished. The entire produce of the farm had been got in on Saturday, and of the whole a few loads of clover and hay were all that was saved. Happily, by strenuous efforts, the farm buildings were saved. Passengers to Hull by the last train from Grimsby report that some wheat stacks were burning. There is every reason to fear that it was another stack conflagration."



Forwarding Early Vegetables.

I wish to give you a little of my experience in using small pieces of turf sod for forwarding vegetables. I have used it very extensively this spring, and find it of great advantage. I take pieces about four or five inches square, in March, and put them in my earliest cucumber frame, and drop three or four seeds of cucumbers or melons in each piece; and then as I cut lettuce, during April, out of other frames, I plant them in it. Again, in March, I filled two sashes with early Potatoes, in the same way; in April I planted them out in the ground, and filled the sashes with Lima beans, and put them out in the second week in May. Two sashes will hold enough beans to plant 150 hills. It gives beans generally two weeks earlier, and you do not have to replant, as none of them rot with the wet, which is a great consideration. A great many gardeners around here have had to plant three times this spring. I forward Okra the same way. For potatoes and lima beans, I take strips 4 or 5 inches in width, and any length convenient, put them in the frame close together, grass downwards, cut a notch down the centre and put the beans 3 together, then a space of 2 or 3 inches, then 3 more, then cover all over with some loose rich soil. Potatoes I put about three inches apart; when I wish to plant I take them out in lengths and put them in a wheelbarrow; take them to the ground and cut them in pieces with a sharp spade.—G. T., in *Gardeners' Monthly*.

The Apple-Tree in the Lane.

It stood close by where on leather hings
The gate swung back from the grassy lane,
When the cows came home, when the dusky ewe
Its mantle threw over hill and plain.
Its branches, knotty and knarled by time,
Waved to and fro in the idle breeze,
When the spring days wore a blushing crown
Of blossoms bright for the apple-tree.

Its shadow fell o'er the crystal stream
That all the long bright summer days,
Like a silver thread mid the waving grass,
Reflected back the golden rays
Of the noonday sun that madly strove
To drink the foam of the brooklet dry,
But the light clouds showered tear-drops down
Till the glad brook laughed as it glided by.

Never were apples half so sweet,
Golden russet striped with red,
As those that fell on the yielding turf
When she shook the branches overhead
A trying place for youthful friends
Was the apple-tree in the days of yore,
And oft we've sat beneath its shade
And talked bright dreams of the future o'er.

And when the warm October sun
Shone on the maple's scarlet robe,
We gathered apples sound and fair,
And round as our own mystic globe
The stately hemlock crowns the hill,
The dark pines rise above the plain—
But the one we prize far more than they,
The apple-tree in the pasture lane.

Long years have passed, and cows no more
Come home at night through the grassy lane
Where the gate swung back on leather hings
I stand and gaze on the far-off plain.
No more we list to the music low
Of the crystal stream as it ripples on,
And the apple-tree in the pasture lane
Is but a dream of days bygone.

—Mark Lane Express.

RAO CATS AND CHERRIES.—A lady informs the *Maine Farmer*, that she saved her cherries from the birds, by making some cats out of old rags. "Do sure," she says, "to make the eyes out of large yellow beads or bright brass buttons, and the birds will not come near when one of these cats is perched in the tree."

The Bulb Farms of Haarlem.

In the first place the natural soil about Haarlem is composed chiefly of sand and decaying shell, which has been thrown up in former times by the ocean. It also contains a portion of vegetable matter, and is enriched annually by a liberal supply of cow-dung—the only kind of manure which is used. The land which is to be planted with the bulbs is trenched 2 or 3 feet deep in spring, and manured at the same time. But it is not yet in a fit condition for the reception of the Hyacinth. And mark, particularly, the next preparatory operation. A crop of vegetables, generally Potatoes, is taken off it, in order to draw out any rankness or impurities which might prove injurious to the Hyacinth. This being done during the spring and summer months, the land is ready for the reception of the bulbs in autumn, which is the proper season to plant them. Nor is this all; a careful system of rotation in cropping is also observed, so that these bulbs are rarely, if ever, grown on the same land two years in succession.

When planted in October, the bulbs are covered over with 3 or 4 inches of soil, and are farther protected during the winter months with a layer of reed, some 5 or six inches in thickness. And now the process of growth immediately begins, and in a way to which we beg to draw particular attention. It is the roots only that grow. They strike deep down into the earth in search of nourishment, while the stem remains, all but inactive, patiently waiting for the time when the roots shall be in a position to supply all its requirements. And thus it happens that when the spring comes round, and when the bulb begins to grow, as we say, a sufficient supply of nourishment is readily and abundantly supplied.

Another point which the Dutch cultivator considers of great importance is the careful preservation and full development of the leaves. Any disease in the leaves is rapidly communicated to the bulb, and hence every precaution is used to keep them in health and vigour. The flower stems themselves are usually removed before they are in full bloom, not with the view, as is sometimes supposed, of strengthening the bulbs, but in order to prevent the heavy flower-heads from falling upon and rotting the leaves. Huge heaps of Hyacinth blooms may be seen laid up in the corners of all the fields about Haarlem in the month of April, having been cut to prevent the chance of such a thing taking place. The Hyacinth would appear to be very liable to become diseased, and hence every precaution is taken by the Dutch cultivator to remove any predisposing cause, whether it be in the composition of the soil or in any injury that may happen to the leaves.—*Gardener's Chronicle*.

FLOWERS FOR PERFUME.—According to the *New-York Tribune*, the quantity of flowers manufactured into perfumes in the town of Cannes alone, amounts to the following quantities, which we give in tons instead of pounds: Orange blossoms, 700 tons; roses, 265 tons; jasmine, 50 tons; violets, 37 tons; acacia, 22 tons; geranium, 15 tons; tuberose, 12 tons; jonquil, 2 tons;—amounting in all to over 1,100 tons of flowers, and being sufficient, if piled on wagons like loads of hay, to form a close procession more than three miles long, or sufficient to fill twenty good sized barns. According to the same article the rose is the most productive of petals, the plants set about three feet apart yielding two and a half tons to the acre,—which seems to be a rather large story, but may be possibly true if the fresh or undried petals are taken; the other plants do not yield nearly so much, but being higher priced are as profitable, the returns per acre varying from one to two hundred dollars.

TO PRESERVE ORCHARDS.—Nathan Shotwell, Elba, Genesee county, N. Y., thinks the cause of the present appearance of decay and death in so many orchards is owing entirely to neglect and bad management. He thinks a majority of orchards in this country have that neglected appearance; some are not pruned at all, others are carelessly haggled and large limbs left with protruding stumps that cannot heal over. Orchards are ploughed and the roots torn, and many farmers who have access to leaves, muck, saw-dust, etc., never mulch their trees, nor remove the rough bark which furnishes a harbour for insects. It should be scraped off with a hoe, and the tree washed with strong ley. An old orchard planted by my father, and still in vigorous growth and bearing, has not been ploughed for thirty years. It has generally been pastured with swine until apples begin to ripen. Manure frequently put to the roots of the trees destroying the toughness of the sod and making the soil loose and spongy, and the clons (the last year's growth) that were large enough for grafting, have nearly all been removed yearly for more than forty years.—*N. Y. Tribune*.