

year, and with a little care the bank is always in good condition.

Royston Park, Feb. 24. NATURE.

POTATOE CULTURE.

Potatoes may be grown in any kind of soil, but to grow them of good quality requires land of a sandy nature, well drained. To grow them for early market plant the sets in a hot-bed close together about ten days before setting them out in the field, so that they may have a growth of an inch or so in length. Some start them in boxes or barrels in a kitchen or warm room, but that is only for small quantities. Have the land ploughed the fall before, and in the spring work it well with the grubber or pulverizing harrow. Make the drills thirty inches apart. Closer than that you will not have enough of earth to fill them up properly, and there will be more small ones and a great many sun-burnt growing out of the ground. Put one-seventh cart load of rotten manure to a drill of three acres in length. Plant the sets carefully therein, about ten inches apart, covering them gently with a few inches of earth with the hand or feet, taking care not to break off the sprouts; then apply about fifteen pounds of fertilizer (containing a good percentage of potash) to each drill, scattering it over the sets. The sets being slightly covered with earth protects them from the fertilizer, as it is concentrated, and might injure the sprouts. Finish covering with the plough. By using this fertilizer I have had potatoes fit for market ten days before those where I used no fertilizer. In a few days the potatoes will be through the ground. Keep the weeds down by the use of the hoe and cultivator. When the plants are long enough they may be moulded up with the plough. By this means of cultivation we have had potatoes on our mar-

ket by the end of June, bringing from two to four dollars per bushel.

For general crop plough in the manure in the fall, about twenty-five one-horse loads to the acre, for manure in the drill, especially cow manure, tends to grow scabby potatoes. Draw drills as for early potatoes, and use fertilizer also. Never let the drills be drawn a long time before planting and covering; for if the drills remain a day or two in the hot sun the potatoes will get scalded and never come up. It is a good thing to pass the roller over the drills; it keeps the land moist. When the potatoes are on the point of coming up, harrow the drills down with the saddle harrow or a Scotch harrow turned upside down. To kill the weeds use the hoe and cultivator, &c., the same as for early potatoes. We have grown 450 bushels to the acre cultivated in this way. For early potatoes I like the Early Vermont the best. It was a week earlier than the Beauty of Hebron and Early Rose. The Hebron is a popular market variety, but rots easier than the other two. I raised 200 bushels of Early Maine from $7\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of seed. They resemble the Early Vermont. I have not tested them for earliness together. Old pasture land and clover ploughed in will give the largest yield of potatoes. Change your seed every year, if possible from land different from your own.

M. G.

THE NEW DUTIES ON BERRIES.

By the change recently made in the tariff of customs on berries, the duties on a crate containing 54 baskets is considerably increased. The old duty was two cents on a basket, which was \$1.08. on the crate. The duty is now four cents per pound, weight of package to be included. A crate containing 54 baskets will weigh from 90 to 100 lbs.,