

top level or sloping a little to the South, then set a rough frame made of four boards nailed together at the corners upon the bed of manure, fill the frame with 6 inches of garden soil and cover with a window of glass. Any old window will answer the purpose, but it is better to have the bars of the sash run only one way, and to have the glass laid in the manner of shingles.

The best plants to force are tomatoes and cabbages which may be transplanted from the hot-bed to the open ground without any trouble. We have removed tomatoes when they were in blossom, and had them all live. If melons or cucumbers are forced, they should be planted in flower-pots, and in transplanting them you turn the pot over upon your open hand and give it a gentle thump, when the earth comes out in a solid lump and the roots are not disturbed in the least. While the plants are growing, they should be watered frequently, and in warm days the sash should be raised a few inches to give the plants air. We have found the growing of plants under glass, from a small hot bed, 4 feet by 6, up to a large grapery for raising the black Hamburg and Frontignac grapes, the most satisfactory of all horticultural operations.

Having the control of the climate both in heat and moisture, the plants can be made to grow with vigor which they rarely if ever exhibit in the open air. A hot-bed should be made from four to six weeks before the time for planting corn.—*Scientific American*.

WHY YOUNG MEN LEAVE THE FARM.—ACER, in the *Country Gentleman* justly says: "The reason why so many young men at school acquire an aversion to labor, is, because the practical application of knowledge is not taught in the schools. They learn only abstractions." He instances a neighbor's son who had learned at the Academy all about surveying—only he did not know practically how to measure a ten acre lot, but could do it on paper.

UNHEALTHINESS OF ARTIFICIAL MANURES.—A correspondent of the *Mark Lane Express* thinks the prevalence of disease among turnips last season, in England, is due to the overdoses of guano and other artificial manures, given to the soil in order to stimulate it to increased production. He also cites the expressed opinion of several practical farmers of the injurious effects of such roots upon sheep and cattle when fed on them.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE INSTRUCTOR.—We have the testimony of many of our readers that the Instructor is highly appreciated. One correspondent informs us that there were several families in his neighborhood that "never took a paper of any kind, previous to the issue of the Instructor, and now your Magazine is eagerly sought for." This is encouraging, and did modesty permit, we could give numerous extracts from private letters highly appreciating our Magazine. The recent large additions to our subscription list also testify

that our efforts are not in vain. Unlike a weekly news paper, it is convenient to preserve, and is always on hand for reference. We intend in future to devote more attention to Agriculture than heretofore; and hope to make the Instructor worthy of the countenance and support of our readers, and a paper that you will not be ashamed to recommend to your friends. The price is low and within the reach of the poorest family in the country.

We feel much obliged to the press