

upon it. Never have we seen the fields and woods so fresh and green as at the beginning of June this year, but we still require favorable weather for a month or two to give even an average crop of hay. Red clover has suffered more than other hay plants, and in some places is quite killed out. The gathering of wild strawberries commenced in Halifax and Hants Counties on the 20th June; lilacs and horse chestnuts had been in bloom for a week previously, and the first flowers of the English hawthorn opened on the 19th.

The prospective scarcity of oats and potatoes next fall, consequent upon the unfavorable season we have had for planting, both here and in Prince Edward Island, naturally suggests the propriety of seeking in some other way to provide for winter food. The season for turnip sowing is now upon us, and it is not too late to put in a crop of Swedes, which, if properly manured and cared for, will give a profitable return. If every farmer in this province will sow an acre of Swedes, with three hundredweight of bone dust, this month, an average crop of 600 bushels will be obtained, which, even with a short crop of hay, will carry a few cows through the winter very comfortably. The Swedish is the only kind that should be grown for winter use. The Yellow kinds do not give so heavy a crop in this country, and the White kinds are only suitable for fattening cattle in the fall, which with our system of fall pasturing is not required as in Britain.

It is now time to begin to prepare live stock for THE EXHIBITION in October. They will require to be kept in good pasture, and supplied with extra feed as occasion may require. In wet weather they should be sheltered, and at all times kept clean by an occasional brushing down; this will greatly increase the comfort and improve the appearance of the animals.

#### KITCHEN GARDEN.

It is time now to have full crops of cabbages and cauliflowers planted for fall and winter use. The wet character of the season is bringing up an amazing quantity of weeds, and every crop must be carefully and frequently hoed for the next month or two, particularly carrots, mangolds, potatoes, parsnips, &c. Seed onions require careful hand-picking of the weeds, and the same is necessary in the case of sweet herbs, and all weak growing crops. Peas require to be supported by rods. Tomatoes should be planted without delay in the warmest and most sunny part of the garden. Cucumbers will now be in the rough leaf, and require no further attention, except careful weeding. This is a good season for celery, but although it prefers a moist soil, too much wet is injurious, if there be not proper provision for drainage.

#### ORCHARD AND FRUIT GARDEN.

In exposed localities many fruit trees have been killed or severely injured by the intensity of the frost of last winter. The apple trees have now set their fruit in most localities, and there is a pretty good show; but with so much moisture, the trees will, no doubt, shoot out into wood more than usual. Currant bushes are suffering from caterpillars, and gooseberries from mildew in some places. The caterpillars require to be picked off, which is the only remedy. In regard to mildew, good cultivation, and plenty of old manure to encourage vigorous growth, appear to be the best remedies. An American gooseberry, the Houghton Seedling, is said to be not liable to the mildew. Strawberries have been severely winter killed, and new beds should be made up without delay to replace the old ones. Garden raspberries have likewise been killed down where not protected, and will yield no fruit this season. In sheltered gardens, however, or where the canes were laid down under brush or mats, there will, no doubt, be heavy crops of this delicious fruit. If the merits of the European garden raspberries were properly known, there would never be another wild raspberry picked for sale in Nova Scotia.

#### FLOWER GARDEN.

This is the time for neatness and beauty in the flower garden. Parterres of tender bedding plants are now made up, annuals transplanted from the hot-bed, &c. It is necessary to bear in mind that all these require a rich as well as light soil, and that old rotten manure is essential for the production of fine flowers. Verbejas, antirrhinums, portulaccas, phlox drummondii, dahlias, calceolarias, &c., should all be planted in warm sunny situations, whilst pansies, hollyhocks, and sweet Williams prefer a little shade. It is not too late now to sow mignonette in the open border. We hope many of our floriculturists are using their efforts in preparing specimens of plants and flowers for the Great PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION in October next. Should we not be visited by an early fall frost, such plants as dahlias, hollyhocks, balsams, African and French marigolds, zinnias, asters, antirrhinums, verbenas, &c., may, with a little care, be had in their greatest perfection at that season of the year.

#### THE ROCHESTER FAIR.

The next Annual Fair or Exhibition of the New York State Agricultural Society is to be held at Rochester, from 29th September to 2nd October inclusive. Copies of the Premium List may be obtained on application to "The Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, Albany, N. Y." In reference

to the competition for the State Fair, the *Utica Herald* remarks editorially:—"It appears to be the prevailing opinion in Buffalo, where the State Fair was held last year, that Rochester, in being selected as the place for holding the coming fair, has been visited with a serious misfortune. This feeling results from a misunderstanding between the Buffalo authorities and State Fair officials last year. It was claimed by the latter that Buffalo did not fulfil its part of the contract for the location, while the former were inclined to denounce the State Fair as a failure and a nuisance. However this may be, it is evident that the cities of the State are as urgent for the presence of the annual exhibition, as are the unnameable seven cities for the birthplace of Homer. Whatever Buffalo may say to the contrary, there is little fear that the State Fair will ever go begging for a locality in which to be held."

[Rochester is an ambitious place in matters of rural economy, and will, we doubt not, do justice to itself in efforts to carry out the State Fair to a satisfactory result.—Ed.]

#### HOP CULTURE.

Furtive attempts have been made at different times to introduce the culture of hops into Nova Scotia. Of late years the Halifax brewers, instead of importing their hops from England, have been bringing them down by the Grand Trunk Railway and the *Carlotta*, from Belleville and other places in Ontario, where neither the climate nor the soil is better for hop culture than the Halifax peninsula. An attempt was made, 20 years ago, to establish a hop garden in the parish of Sackville, within fourteen miles of the city, and the hops still flourish there to testify that the experiment did not fail from any deficiency of soil or climate. We should like to see the experiment tried again by some industrious farmer, and therefore quote the following results from the April number of the New York State Agricultural Society's monthly journal:—

Brighton, Monroe Co., N. Y.,  
March 16th, 1868. }

BENJ. P. JOHNSON, Esq.:

Dear Sir,—In commencing our hop yard, we purchased six bushels of roots, for which we paid \$2.00 per bushel, and set them on a dry, undulating, rich, sandy loam, (formerly a tobacco field) well exposed to the sun. The vines were planted in rows seven feet apart each way, with four roots in each hill, and four male hills equally divided through the field. The hills should have been placed at least eight feet apart each way, and there should have been ten male hills, or one to every ten in the rows each way.