

# WEEKLY MISCELLANY.

Devoted to the Intellectual and Moral Improvement of the Young.

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## HORTICULTURE.

Horticulture, or Gardening as it is familiarly called, is engaged in both as a vocation for a livelihood and for pleasure or amusement. In the neighbourhood of large towns, especially in Europe, it is carried on to a very large extent, and many engaged in it have realised respectable fortunes. As an amusement or recreation it is at once one of the most interesting, instructive and useful occupations, for such an object, that we know of.

Gardening may be described under three different heads, as appertaining to the Flower Garden, the Fruit Garden, and the Kitchen Garden. Some devote their time to one of these particular branches; but all thorough or professional gardeners are more or less versed in each, although from prudential or interested motives they give their chief or perhaps their whole attention to one of them.

To persons living in the country we cannot imagine a greater comfort and source of pleasure than a nice garden, suitable to the size and wants of the family, well kept and attended to, and combining Flowers and Fruits, with vegetables for domestic culinary use.

It is not our intention to attempt giving any instructions in gardening. We merely wish to point out what may be done in domestic gardening in Nova Scotia.—The recent exhibition at Kentville of Fruits and Vegetables, might have done credit to any country—and the appearance of these productions of our country, at the Great International Exhibition of 1862, and more particularly the Fruits at the London Horticultural Exhibition in the October following, created much surprise, and procured unbounded approba-

tion. Nova Scotia is naturally able to compete with any country, and to excel many, in the growth of all ordinary useful vegetables and fruits of the temperate climates. Nothing is wanted but the attention and industry of her people to the cultivation of them. Our apples are beginning to be favorably known in Great Britain, where some lots have met ready sale at high prices; and grapes thrive in the open air in several of our Counties.—It is a curious fact that Black Hambro Grapes regularly ripen at Windsor, while on the River Hudson, in the State of New York, they only ripen one year in six. Of course they require to be carefully covered during winter.

Persons living near towns may make their gardens a source of considerable profit—and those in the country can, at all times, make them a source of comfort and economy, if not of profit also.

Here again we would call in the aid of our young readers. Let them ask their parents to allot them small gardens, and with the instruction they can get from any who are at all acquainted with gardening, and the experience which they will year by year acquire, they will, before they grow up, be no contemptible horticulturists. And if, by their future pursuits, their acquirements in this way do not add to their wealth, they will greatly contribute to their own satisfaction and general usefulness. There is no saying in what position any one may be placed in the world.

## PERFECTION OF THE MIND.

Mental perfection should be one of the great aims of life. To this end should our best endeavors be directed. In youth, in manhood, in old age, we should seek to render more perfect our powers of mind. We are never too old for mental improvement. To perfect our minds we must contemplate perfect objects, both in the material and spiritual universe. We must appropriate their perfections to our mental use—cherish, admire, love them. We must look for beautiful things, that images of beauty may throng our minds. We must cultivate amiable

feelings, that harmony of soul may enrich the inward temple with the music of its numbers. We must strive for perfection of action, that in our daily walk the halo of angel life may surround us. Deformity will not make us more perfect; vice will not help us in our work. The artist never studies deformity to augment his treasures of beauty. The musician never makes discords and hearkens to them, thereby to cultivate the sense of harmony and beauty in his soul. So in life, we should seek the company of sweet thoughts, lovely objects, amiable feelings, pleasant words, and good offices. These help to perfect our minds. Our thoughts are the chisels which carve the statuary of our souls. They do it well or ill, as they are right or wrong. Bad thoughts are enemies worse than all outward ones.

A Bazaar was held at Truro, during Wednesday and Thursday of last week, in aid of the completion of a Presbyterian Church at Salmon River. The Chronicle says there were some very good and useful articles on sale, and the enterprise was liberally patronized, and consequently a considerable sum of money must have been taken by the managers.

An animal of some sort has been prowling round Windsor and Falmouth for the last few days, destroying the sheep, geese, &c., belonging to farmers in that vicinity. In one night 30 sheep and about 20 geese were killed. It is supposed to be a wolf, but night watches have been unable to find the miscreant, and no traces of him could be found in the morning after the sheep, &c., were killed. It is reported that a great many sheep were killed in Falmouth on Thursday night last.—*Chr.*

MISSION VESSEL.—A fine brigantine called the Day Spring, built for the Foreign Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church, now lies at Collins' wharf, receiving stores for her voyage to the South Pacific. We learn that she will be open to visitors this afternoon, and for several days to come. Tickets can be obtained gratis at Messrs. A. & W. Mackinlay's book store, and at Messrs. Maclean, Campbell & Co's., Jerusalem War-house. No one can be admitted without a ticket.—*W.*

He who would avoid sin must not stand at the door of temptation.