

the litter, so that the leaves and crowns of the plant decay. They come out in the spring black and dead.

Nature gives us a profitable hint as to the proper amount of protection for this plant. It grows among the grasses, and the old fog that forms after mowing, where the fields are not pastured, screens them sufficiently from the cold. If the leaves are covered at all, it should only be with loose litter through which the air can circulate freely. With this precaution, we have never found any difficulty in the winter-killing of the plants. It is better to manure them at this season, than in the spring. What is spread upon the surface now, leaches down with the winter rains, and is equally distributed among the roots. Look occasionally to the plants to see if the leaves are green.

KEEP HOUSE PLANTS CLEAN.—A writer in the London Cottage Gardener relates an experiment showing the advantage of keeping the leaves of plants free from dust. Two orange trees, weighing respectively eighteen ounces and twenty ounces, were allowed to vegetate without their leaves being cleaned for a year; and two others, weighing nineteen ounces and twenty and a half ounces, had their leaves sponged with tepid water once a week; the first two increased in weight less than half an ounce each, while of the two latter, one had increased two and the other nearly three ounces. Except the cleansing, the plants were similarly treated.

TRANSPLANTING RHUBARB.—Rhubarb may be transplanted either autumn or spring. Rather the best way is to divide the roots in the autumn, plant in a rich, well-manured soil, and cover with coarse manure. In the spring, as soon as growth commences, this manure may lightly be forked under, or allowed to remain on the surface.

A NEW TOMATO.—The *Gardener's Chronicle* of November 24 thus notices a new tomato recently produced in France:—"It appears in a circular from Messrs. Vilmorin that they are offering seeds of a *new upright tomato*, which requires no support. This plant is said to be entirely different from the kinds previously known. Its stem is two feet high or more, quite upright, and so remarkably strong and stiff as to be strictly self-supporting—a highly commendable quality. It branches less than the common great red tomato, is less leafy, and does not want so much pinching. The leaves are rather curled, much puckered, very firm, and closely placed on the sturdy branches. Their colour is a remarkably deep shining green. It does not bear so freely as the common tomato, but its fruit, which is of the same colour, is larger and more regularly formed. In earliness, it is intermediate between the Early Red (*rouge hative*), and the Great Red (*rouge grosse*.) It was raised from seed by Grenier, the gardener of M. de Fleurioux,

at a place called the Chateau de Laye, wherefore it is to be called the *Tomate de Laye*."

We cannot say that this will be a very great acquisition, but it is worthy of trial, and we shall endeavour to obtain seeds for the purpose. A little brush placed around the plant when young is all our common tomato needs, and if the ear is drawn well towards the stem, forming a mound, the branches may lay on this, where the fruit will ripen earlier than if more exposed. Shortening the tops, or cutting out a portion of the shoots, will prevent too much shade. Whether particularly valuable or not, this upright tomato will be curious.

BUTTONING OF THE CAULIFLOWER.—The buttoning of the Cauliflower has plagued many a gardener; and here the plant having been imprudently planted too early, and in too rich soil, is kept through the winter in the close atmosphere of a frame, from which it is transferred in a gouty or plethoric state, and what gardeners term "drawn," to the open ground to face a March wind and sun; the consequence of course is, that the growing principle is suddenly arrested, and the premature formation of a blossom is produced. The above hint may be useful at this season, when many Cauliflower plants will be placed in their winter quarters. Let not those who have charge of them kill them with kindness.—*Gardener's Chronicle*.

"The CAMELIA JAPONICA," the California Farmer says, "will grow in our gardens most perfectly as an ornamental tree, and bloom perfectly in our open border. The only injury it can affect them is the burning sun in summer. It recommends planting under clusters of large trees to obtain protection from the sun."

THE ALLEN RASPBERRY.—Mr. L. F. Allen, of Black Rock, has an excellent article in Meehan's Gardener's Monthly, descriptive of his red raspberries.

Mr. Meehan says that a neighbor of his had a little bed of the Allen raspberry, under, we believe, an hundred feet square; sold over \$200 worth of fruit, as he informed us at the fruiting season. Soil is low and damp. This will do for the Allen raspberry.

Domestic.

Sewing Machines.

Editor of the Agriculturist

Whilst every number of your paper teems with recommendations to the Farmer, of tools and machinery, to lighten and improve the labor on the farm, little is said of tools and implements to reduce or lighten the toil of the farmer's wife and daughter. Now, Mr. Editor, as the wife of a farmer, you will allow me these few lines to say a word in favor of Sewing Machines. At