

To cure the blues, a correspondent in Illinois advises that farmers devote their blue moments to devising some improvement or other in the appearance of their premises. He has found it a sure panacea. It not only drives off the cerulean devils, but every improvement made helps to keep them from coming again. There is no doubt about it.

At a late meeting of the Waltham, Mass., Farmers' Club, Mr. Dickinson said that he had successfully protected his plants from the depredations of the striped bug by taking a barrel hoop, cut it in halves, cross the halves at right angles, and set in the ground over a hill of vines, and covered this with a newspaper. It worked well.

Do not always base the value of a fruit on the appearance which the same variety gives when upon show on the table of some horticultural society, for it is always the case that these are the largest of their kind, generally forced by some particular process, but the general quality can be had by deducting about one-fourth of its merits, and the remainder will generally give its true value.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Cincinnati Times* says that the following recipe will preserve all kind of grain and garden seeds from the ravages of cut-worms, birds, &c.: One pound sulphate of iron, one pound aloes. Dissolve in water heated to ninety or ninety-five degrees, and pour over one bushel of grain, and in a similar proportion for a greater or lesser quantity.

A correspondent of the *Rural New Yorker* states that he has found Tomatoes grown in boxes in the kitchen window, and transplanted a few times, though only a few inches high when set out, would ripen their fruit quite as early as large plants of the same variety grown in pots, and purchased of the market gardeners. He therefore concludes that age, not size, is what is wanted.

The finding of insects in a black knot no more proves them to be the cause of it, than finding rats in a corn-crib proves that they are the origin of the corn. It may be a "philosophical solution," but not in accordance with facts. It is just as well settled that the black knot is caused by a fungus, as that a plum tree grows from a seed. The remedy proposed—cutting them out with a knife when first forming—is the true one. They are usually left too late.

A NEW field for women may be found in Landscape Gardening. A lady was once criticising in our presence, the manner in which a landscape effect was marred by a gardener, when he said, "Why not enter this profession? You have evidently a taste for it, and are 'dying for something to do.'" She replied, "The time will come when woman's love of the beautiful, and her quick perception will be utilized in this direction." We hoped so then and do still.

THERE is no one thing connected with garden or lawn, that pays so well for the little labor and cost, as a conveniently arranged liquid manure tank, into which all the chamber lye and soap suds of the house may be readily conducted. It is merely to sink a tight barrel or large cask in the earth, and by a pipe laid eighteen inches deep in the ground, connect it with a wire-screened drain receiver at the house, taking care that there shall be sufficient fall to have the water run rapidly and free. It only requires a trial of one season to convince any observing man of the profitable value to be derived

from distributing the liquid from time to time on strawberry, asparagus and flower beds or grass plots.

THE NEW ROSE, "PRINCESS CHRISTIAN," received three first class certificates during the year 1869, from the Royal Horticultural Society, Royal Botanic Society, and at the Crystal Palace Rose Show, and has been thought worthy of a colored plate in the *Flora and Pomologist* for January, 1870. It is described as being a very large flower, globular in the bud state, and finely cupped when expanded, the color ranging from deep salmon to rosy peach, according to the age of the flowers, and holding on clear and bright to the last. It blooms continuously and abundantly from June to November, is robust, and of a hardy constitution. It is introduced by Mr. William Paul, of Waltham Cross, near London, England, and will be sent out by him this spring.

Mr. D. W. Beadle, Horticultural Editor of the *Canada Farmer*, speaks in high terms of the new double Geraniums as bedding-out plants. He says: "These double Geraniums possess the advantage of holding their bloom much longer than the single varieties. In some the flower truss is remarkably large, containing from sixty to eighty blossoms, and in colour as rich as a Provence Rose. Gloire de Nancy is of a rosy carmine, Le Vesuve is an orange scarlet, Madame Lemoine is a bright rose colour, Victor is bright orange scarlet, striped and flaked with white, and Victor Lemoine is of the finest scarlet. These varieties are now grown in Canada, and can be had of our nurserymen and florists."

At the winter meeting of the Western New York Horticultural Society, the Red Astrachan was proposed by some of the most distinguished horticulturists as the best summer apple. A few of the members objected to it on the ground that it did not ripen its crop at one time, but extended its period of ripening over several weeks; while others valued it on that very account, its gradual ripening enabling them to market all the fruit without occasioning a glut in the market. The fruit dealers spoke of its handsome colour, which made it sell well; a few complained that the fruit with them was imperfect. F. R. Elliot, of Cleveland, Ohio, said it was one of the best market varieties at the West. We believe this variety succeeds well in all parts of Ontario, particularly in the colder parts, and on clay soils, and is one of the best, if not the best summer apple we have.

THE CONCORD GRAPE.—A correspondent of the *Rural New Yorker*, writing from Montgomery county, New York, says that the Concord grape stands first, is hardy, well adapted to our severe winters, bears full and ripens early. The Isabella is too often cut off by the early frosts to be reliable.

DAVIDSON'S THORNLESS RASPBERRY.—Mr. H. Collins, writing to the *Gardeners' Monthly*, says that the fruit of this variety is large and fine, earlier than the Doolittle, matures its whole crop, while the later berries of the Doolittle are so small and dried up as not to be worth picking, and that the comfort of picking from plants that are free from thorns is no small consideration.

THE LOGAN GRAPE.—It bears full and ripens, colouring the earliest of any grape I have. It is not as sweet as some, but in view of its hardness, and the fact, too, that the fruit is not injured by light frosts, I cannot but regard it as a valuable