

There is no remedy for these evils but a careful and accurate plan of operations at the commencement of the year. The course of cropping should be distinctly marked out beforehand, and the number of acres determined for the oats, barley, corn, potatoes, carrots, wheat, corn-fodder, and so forth; the amount of labor for each of these may be nearly estimated, and the time in the season when each should be fully completed; and then, making allowance for interruptions, accidents, and rainy weather, the requisite force may be timely secured, and the whole machinery move on with regularity and without any derangement. All these plans must be fully recorded in a book kept for the purpose—if the memory is depended on, confusion and failure will be the certain result. If possible, the year's plans should be so completely digested, that the operations of every week may be distinctly laid down on a page allotted for each; the necessary variation of a few days, according to the earliness or lateness of the season, may be easily made afterwards. On such a book as this, notes may be made with the progress of the season, thus perfecting the plan for a second year. A few minutes daily devoted in this way, will accomplish much that is valuable for the farmer, and prevent a great deal of anxiety and confusion.

FLOWERS FOR THE SHADE.

There are several flowering plants that do better in the shade than when fully exposed, among which are those brilliant evergreen shrubs, the Kalmias and Rhododendrons. The Mezerion succeeds best in the shade, as well as the fuchsia japonica, the gentians, chrysanthemums, pansies, the periwinkle, gladiolus floribundus and natalensis, the tiger flower, the auriculas, cowslips, and the forget-me-not. Most of the Phloxes, and Ranunculi do well in the shade, and many bulbous plants, as hyacinth, tulips, &c. All our wild flowers from the woods will of course succeed; such for instance as the Hepatica, Claytonia, Erythronium, Trillium, Lillium philadelphicum, Cypripediums, Orchis simbricata, and Cymbidium. Some evergreens are much better grown in the shade; among them the box, which is always of a fairer green when sheltered from the sun. The English Ivy and the yew are of the same class. This list might, doubtless, be greatly enlarged by those who have had occasion to grow plants in the shade, our experience being quite limited in this direction.

THE FARMER'S NEGLECT OF THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

The reluctance shown by this class of people to give a little time and labor to the

production of Vegetables for the use of their families, is most surprising. They appear to think the employment altogether beneath their attention. It may be all very well for the women to engage in it, but to suppose that the farmer himself would do so is deemed almost absurd. Ask a farmer why he does not set off a piece of his land as a Kitchen Garden wherein to raise a plentiful supply of agreeable and wholesome vegetables, and in nine cases out of ten he will reply, "Oh, I have not the time, and cannot afford the labor." Now this is altogether a misapprehension. For what purpose has he time at all, but to support comfortably himself and those dependent upon him? (higher aims always supposed.) If, therefore, the products of the kitchen garden will (and who doubts?) most materially add to the comfort and health of a family, and at a far lower cost than the yield of a field, to grudge a little time and trouble is surely inconsiderate if not unreasonable.

Very long is the list of choice edibles; a small lot of ground so devoted will afford Asparagus, Sea Kale, Lettuce, Peas, Beans, Squash, Onions, Cabbages, Cauliflowers, Carrots, Salsify, Parsnips, Beets, and Tomatoes, besides many useful herbs. A few days' labor in the year would suffice to give an abundance of these things. Probably there is no one who could raise them to greater advantage than the farmer. In most cases he can choose a suitable soil, and he never need lack manure. Indeed, he ought to have these rich gifts of nature in their highest condition. No one can doubt but that vegetables would contribute to the health and enjoyment of the farmer and his household. Through the greater part of the year he eats salt pork, which is apt to engender scrofula and kindred diseases. It is owing to this extreme use of salt provisions, without the counter tendency of vegetables, that such diseases are so prevalent. If he must feed so much upon salt meat, he ought to provide that which would prevent its injurious effects. I find that such people have no reluctance to eat of them when presented, but do so apparently with as great relish as others, while they neglect their cultivation. The expense of growing vegetables is small. Let us take Asparagus as an example. The bed once made will last a lifetime, and two or three dollars will obtain a sufficient stock of plants from any nurserymen.