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HORTICULTURAL

MAGAZINE

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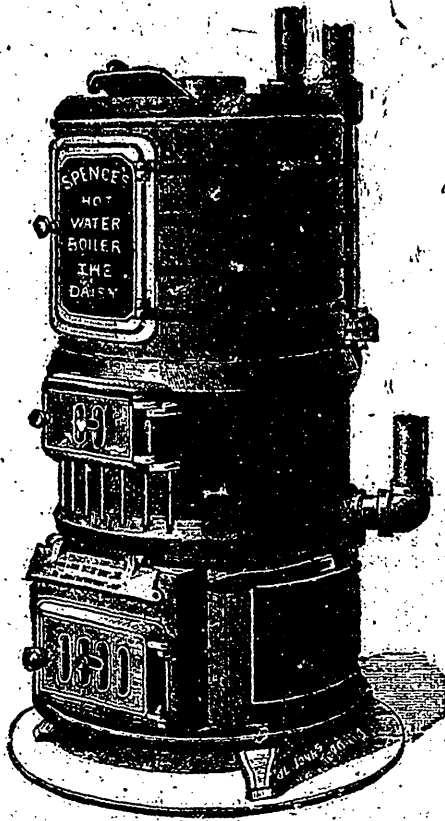
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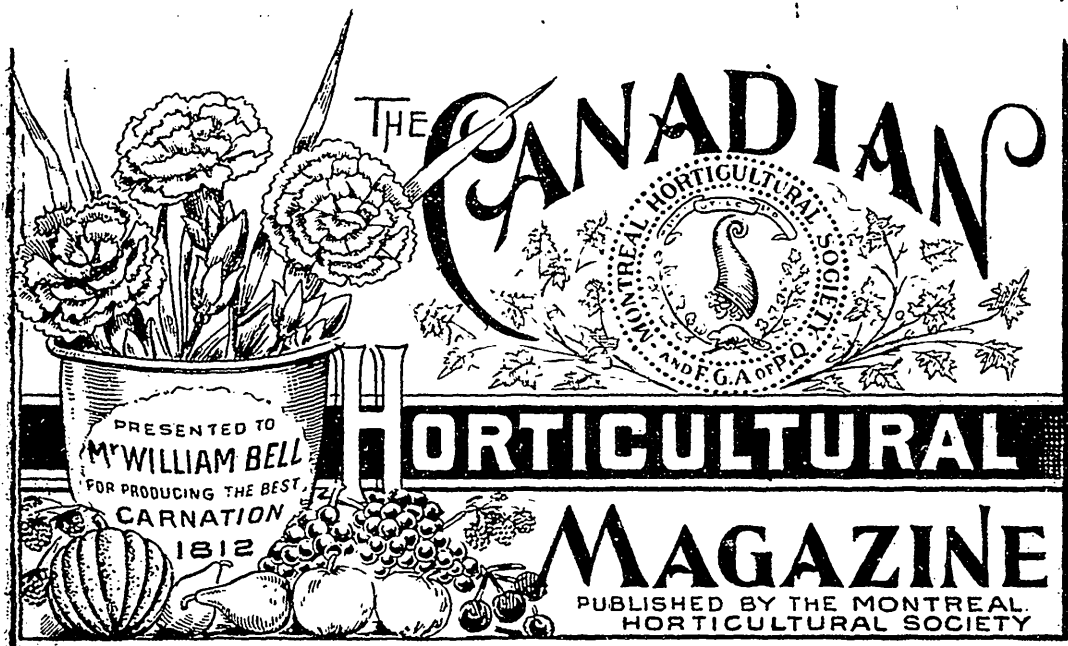
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PROSPECTUS.

The aim of this Magazine, as foreshadowed here by its promoters, and with the promised able assistance of many meritorious writers on the various branches of the ever-interesting study and practice of Horticulture, will be on the broad lines of *Education*. That this indispensable object of a publication of this nature will be faithfully kept in view, and successfully accomplished, need have no surer guarantee than a glance at the names of the contributors, now and hereafter. Many familiar names, prominent in the art, will be recognized amongst them; and the articles will be found to contain practical, interesting and educational lessons.

The one reason for calling into existence any Horticultural Society, and the paramount condition essential to the vitality of an organization of that character, must be dependent upon its capability to disseminate useful and reliable information, and for the powerful object lessons gained through its exhibitions.

When we consider the vast importance deservedly attached to the different divisions of Horticulture, embracing alike the utilitarian and the decorative or ornamental branches, which minister in such a large degree to our support, comfort, pleasure and health, the desire to become better acquainted with the scientific truths and practical experiences of those who have trod the path before us, and acquired valuable knowledge, becomes a demand. That demand, as far as possible, this publication promises to supply. The useful and the beautiful, which indeed in horticulture can scarcely be separated, will receive equal attention. To raise the standard of excellence throughout the broad field of horticulture will be our constant purpose, and if we succeed in making a legible mark in this varied and rich domain our work will not have been in vain.

To the promotion of *FRUIT CULTURE* in its several departments, and the important commercial interests identified therewith, will be devoted a chief share of unremitting attention. Articles conveying practical deductions from the experiences of our highest authorities

will occupy a considerable portion of each issue. This Society is and always will be happy to furnish to those who contemplate planting orchards reliable information as to the varieties of fruits best suited to the various districts throughout the Province of Quebec and Eastern Ontario, whose diverse requirements, it may be remarked, are almost as varied as the counties throughout that radius of the Dominion.

ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE will receive the share of attention and encouragement it so well deserves.

The AMATEUR HORTICULTURIST will have the special interest and advice which his diversified wants demand.

OUR FORESTS, a subject of the highest national importance in Canada to-day, will be treated by competent authorities.

OUR PARKS, and their possibilities, will form a subject which should interest our citizens.

SEASONABLE NOTES, touching upon Fruits, Flowers and Vegetables, will be designed to indicate the work proper to each stage of preparation and cultivation. Imported horticultural publications, written to suit other climates, are more misleading than helpful in this respect.

QUESTIONS are cordially invited. We shall endeavor to return an intelligent reply to all enquiries, whether from the beginner, relating to the rudiments of the art; or from the perplexed student of botany; or him whose plants are suffering from lack of entomological knowledge.

All communications should be addressed to the Editors

CANADIAN HORTICULTURAL MAGAZINE,

Post Office Box 778, Montreal.



THE FARMER'S FRUIT GARDEN.

BY PROFESSOR CRAIG, HORTICULTURIST, GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

While urging the extension of fruit culture, I would yet ask farmers to bear in mind that while all parts of Agricultural Canada, and to be more specific, Agricultural Quebec, are not equally adapted to the growth of fruits, nevertheless, I confidently believe that there are few, if any, sections of the Province where the farmer cannot brighten and add to the luxuries of his home by producing with the exercise of intelligent and well-directed labor—in sufficient quantity for the use of his family—that highest and most refined commodity of nature's bounty—*Fruit*. As time goes on, commercial fruit growing will, as in the case of other industries, develop along the lines of the least resistance. Certain sections will produce apples better in quality than other sections, consequently apple growing will here become a specialized feature of fruit growing; other sections will do the same with regard to pears; others, peaches, and so on. If we were to differentiate further it would not be straining the proposition to say that we shall some day have our special "Northern Spy," our special "Fameuse" and our special "Baldwin" regions, as I may say we have our special "Gravenstein" locality at the present time. With the increased product, will come a keener discriminating sense, a demand for finer quality, which will of itself bring out the characteristics of the products of different sections. But pardon this digression, what I intended to say was this: it seems to me that the Quebec farmer should plant fruits to supply the needs of his own family, and if successful in doing this, then he should add such varieties of fruits as may be profitably grown and exported. Allow me to drop a hint or two relative to the farmer's "Small Fruit Garden." It is easy to find throughout Canada melancholy failures of this excellent farm adjunct. Some are not fenced, and therefore fall an easy prey to the wandering sheep that show a tendency to

"bark" (up) the wrong tree; the cow that prunes well, but without wisdom; and the pig possessed of the fashionable fad of the day, *mining propensities*. Other gardens are "fenced in" so thoroughly that a horse and cultivator may not enter the exclusive precincts, and the work of hand weeding and spading falls on the boy—to be done "after the chores," or when he is not busy. In both cases the garden suffers, to say nothing of the fate of the domestic animals and the boy—that best of all domestic animals.

Let us lay out our gardens so that they may be cultivated like the potato field, by *horse power*. A fenced plot of ground 160 feet long by 66 feet wide will contain about a quarter of an acre of ground. Run the rows the long way, and sufficiently far apart to cultivate with a "Planet Jr." horse cultivator. This area planted with crabs, plums, blackberries, strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries and currants, with sufficient space for vegetables at one side, with proper care, will, I venture to say, give a larger return in solid satisfaction to the housewife, and pure health and enjoyment to the children, than any other area four times its size on the farm, besides giving a cash return for the sale of surplus products more than sufficient to pay the cost of cultivation and the rental of the land. It will give me pleasure to send a plan of such a garden, giving information in detail regarding varieties and methods of culture, to anyone who may feel inclined to apply for it directly, or through your secretary.

A word about novelties: those attractive, fascinating, but alas, so often illusive possibilities, so glowingly presented by colored lithograph and catalogue. Allow your Experiment Stations to test them for you first, then hold fast to standard varieties, making such variations as your observation and judgment may suggest.

Regarding *large fruits*: those growing upon trees, as distinguished from the small fruits, a term applied to the low or bush fruit-producing plants. Certain underlying principles should be borne in mind. Fruit trees—often propagated upon more or less tender stocks, liable to injury from frost, should have a deep, porous soil. A gravelly subsoil is excellent. Clay subsoil may be much

improved by underdraining. Northern slopes furnishing more uniform and equable temperatures are preferable to southern aspects. Do not plant too closely—"Duchess" and "Yellow Transparent" will not crowd each other if set 24 feet apart, while "Northern Spy" is too close at 30 feet—and plant more largely of winter varieties than of autumn or summer kinds. The latter have their spheres of usefulness, but local markets are generally overcrowded. Plant with a determination to care for the trees by cultivating them when young, and by feeding them liberally when they begin to bear. A clover crop cut and allowed to remain on the orchard soil, supplemented with wood ashes, represents a plan of manuring that the orchard will appreciate. Hardy varieties are also essential. Among our hardiest winter kinds are "McIntosh Red," "Pewaukee," "Canada Red," "Winter St. Lawrence," and English "Golden Russet." I am of the opinion that it will pay fruit growers who have large blocks of summer and early autumn varieties planted, to introduce winter sorts by top grafting. If the stock is healthy, and the tree sound and hardy, there is no reason why the operation should result in failure. Let us retain only the best of our summer apples, and work with a view of increasing the number of trees and of productive winter apples in our orchards.

JOHN CRAIG.



PLUMS FOR THE COLD NORTH.

BY DR. T. H. HOSKINS, NEWPORT, VERMONT.

When, 30 years since, I began my attempts to find tree fruits which could be successfully grown about Lake Memphremagog, I ransacked the borders of roads and wood lots, in the hope of finding good varieties of our native plums. I did not find these very abundant; but by consulting with farmers and farmers' boys I gradually picked up a pretty good collection. In addition, I was favored by western fruit growers with varieties of the western wild plums; but with the exception of "De Soto," which is one of the best of this class, though rather slow in coming to fruitage, I have not preserved the names of different varieties with the care I ought to have taken. I have been long wishing for a visit from some western fruit grower, well informed in this matter, or from Mr. John Craig, of Canada, who would give me the needed information which would enable me to write more instructively to others on this subject.

I regard several of my native wild plums as equal to any brought from the west. I have the impression that more of the wild western plums of merit would be found sufficiently hardy in our section. The subject is well worthy of more attention than has yet been bestowed upon it. With me, none of the tree fruits are more saleable, or at better prices. Next to the wild plums, I have found "Moore's Arctic" the most profitable. This variety is not strictly iron-clad; but a plantation of it has rarely failed to bring me four or five good crops before losing its vitality; and I may add the belief, which is gaining upon me, that more careful thinning than I have practiced would give much larger fruit, and a longer life to the trees. The popular "Lombard," so largely grown about Lake Champlain, is too tender to be profitable on Lake Memphremagog.

With the Russian plums of the Budd-Gibb importation I have been expecting to find something better in quality, and the trees longer in life, than we have heretofore possessed; and I think I shall not find

myself disappointed, although I am getting rather doubtful reports from others as to their productiveness. I have perhaps an unusually favorable spot for a plum orchard; being a light warm surface soil, underlain by a firm clay of unknown depth. On this my Russian plums, four and five years planted, have made a vigorous growth; and the past year gave a very satisfactory crop for a first one. As to the general appearance and quality of the fruit, I have been rather surprised to find them not materially different from our older sorts. But they have proved entirely hardy ("iron clad") against very severe winters, where all others except natives have entirely failed. I hear some complaint that these Russian plums are shy bearers. This has been a complaint urged against many varieties of this fruit, as is evidenced by the praise lavished upon quite inferior kinds, such as "Lombard," because of free bearing. I expect to find my Russian plums differ much in this respect; but believe that in such a case we have but to grow seedlings until we produce a Russian "Lombard." It will do no harm to produce several such. The main point is that we have something that can face our climate. The rest will follow in due course.

T. H. HOSKINS.

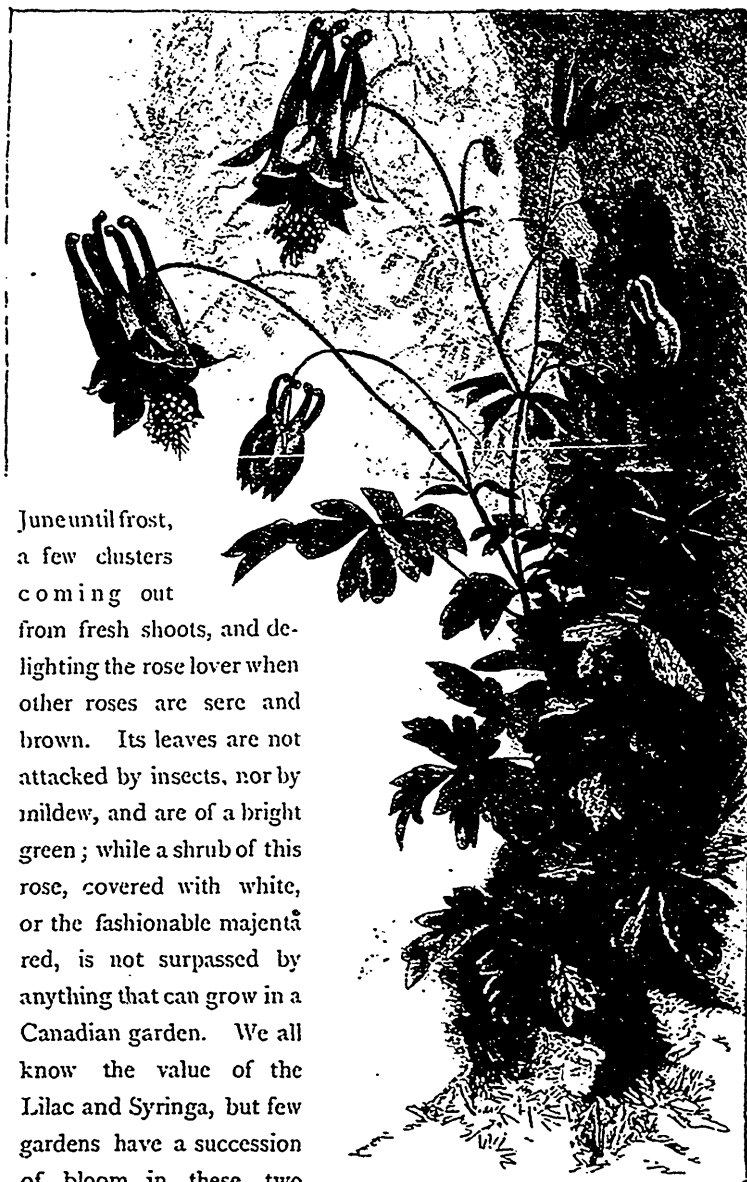




HARDY PLANTS FOR THE GARDEN.

BY MRS. ANNIE L. JACK, CHATEAUGUAY BASIN.

It is a common remark of the amateur horticulturist after two or three years experience to say of flowers: "I am tired of annuals; I want something that will live in the ground all winter." It is quite easy to supply this demand for the earlier months of the year, when the spring flowering bulbs beautify the garden, and the pæonies and other herbaceous plants give brightness and variety; but later on in the season there is a lack of color, and a scarcity of shrubby plants, until the autumn brings the fruit seeds to many shrubs that get a glint of scarlet. A clump of *Aquilegia*, with its many colored bells, that sway and nod in the breeze, is an interesting feature in the floral landscape, and *Delphiniums* that bloom in succession. Then in late June a bed of gay *Pyrethrum* (the flower from which the powder is made) will last two or three weeks, and the Scarlet *Lychnis* in front of a low bush of late *Syringa* will be in bloom together, and attract admiration. The new *Rosa Rugosas* have realized for us what other plants could not furnish, a rose, single if you like, but fragrant as a sweetbriar, and so hardy as to endure any of our Canadian weather. It has the added charm of keeping continuously in bloom from early



June until frost, a few clusters coming out from fresh shoots, and delighting the rose lover when other roses are sere and brown. Its leaves are not attacked by insects, nor by mildew, and are of a bright green; while a shrub of this rose, covered with white, or the fashionable majenta red, is not surpassed by anything that can grow in a Canadian garden. We all know the value of the Lilac and Syringa, but few gardens have a succession of bloom in these two

COLUMBINE
(*Aquilegia.*)

useful shrubs. Apart from the old fashioned lilac is the white and rose colored, and three different shades of the Persian varieties, flowering at different times, the same being the case with the Syringa. We use Mahonia or American Holly for winter decoration : its bright, glossy, prickly leaves somewhat resemble the English Holly, and in June its long racemes of bright golden flowers are quite ornamental. For years we tried to winter the English Laburnum, but it proved too tender, and I have now on trial a Scotch variety that is said to be later in bloom, which will be an acquisition if it proves hardy. Some native Azaleas live out of doors, and bloom faithfully in mid-summer ; but in our limestone soil we had to dig a cavity, and fill with black muck from the swamp, and expect the plants to die as soon as the rootlets touch the native soil. Of late blooming shrubs the Altheas are not very hardy, and the best to be relied on are plants of the Hydrangea paniculata, and clumps of perennial phlox ; for the Weigelas, Thorns, Lonicera, Spiræa, Forsythia, Deutsia and Cydonia in our garden all give us a wealth of blossom just when we have the roses to fill the garden with beauty. A new Lilac, L. Villosa, lengthens the season of that flower, and the Astilbe and some of the latest Spiræas give flowers in August. People who visit Boston and see the hedges of the Japan Quince (Cydonia) come home with the idea that its white and scarlet flowers can be cultivated here, but a plant sent here many years ago by the late Charles Gibb, with the verdict that he could not do anything with it, gives us sparse blooms in seasons when it partially winter kills, but now and then rewards our tolerance and patience by a wealth of flowers. One curiosity of our garden shrubs is Magnolia Stellata, or Halleana, a dwarf Japanese variety, that flowers in early spring. Its blossoms are pure white semi-double, and we counted one year between thirty and forty on one little tree. In winter we protect it with a barrel set over it without bottom or top, and it has been thrifty for half a dozen years. Before any leaves come on the trees we have the Daphne, another curiosity, with its sweet scented bunches of blossoms up and down the stem ; and at blossoming time nothing is lovelier than the dwarf Japanese Cherry, especially the weeping variety. Of the smaller border plants, Lily of

the Valley gives finer spikes grown in the shade in peaty soil, and the Iceland and Oriental Poppies, which are perennial, will make a bright bit of color in a sunny situation, and seldom winter kill, though the Gaillardias will sometimes fail to appear after several years growing. Dictamnus Flaxinella, or Gas Plant, is often grown



GAS PLANT (*Dictamnus Flaxinella*).

for its curious fragrant red and white flowers, but it is not well known that it is a virulent poison, and a dangerous plant to handle. The greatest drawback to shrubs and herbaceous plants in small grounds is the fact of a succession of bloom, and we have surmounted this difficulty in part by planting different species of lilies when possible that bloom at a time when the near by shrub is dormant. In front of a row of perennial phlox we have the new shades of Iris, and Hollyhocks form a back ground for our Larkspurs and Columbines.



HOLLYHOCKS.
(*Althæa Rosa.*)

To secure good results there must be a deep soil and moisture for most of these plants; and top dressing with well decayed manure in late autumn is of value in the treatment of the plants. Many of the shrubs mentioned are effective on the lawn: the *Rosa Rugosa* has done remarkably well for more than ten years, being presented to us by the late Andrew S. Fuller, of horticultural renown. Most of the herbaceous plants thrive best when they are not often removed, many of them being sensitive of change, though the *Dicentra* does not rebel if cut into pieces and transplanted, but sends up its string of bleeding hearts in evident unconcern. And so, even in this severe climate the garden is certain of blossom, if planted with flowers that are awakened by the yearly miracle.

MRS. ANNIE L. JACK.

To obviate confusion of terms it may be remarked that our popular Lilac is botanically known as *Syringa*, while the plant commonly recognized amongst us as the *Syringa* or Mock Orange is scientifically named *Philadelphus*.

Mrs. Jack's prudent allusion to the poisonous quality of the *Dictamnus Flaxinella*, or Gas Plant, might be supplemented by a similar reference to the *Daphne*, whose bright berries, which are understood to be a rank poison, might be dangerously attractive to children.

A future article in these pages on our poisonous garden and native plants, although a repugnant subject, would perchance be of practical benefit. Of the beautiful Oleander, seen on so many of our summer lawns, an authority writes: "Every part of the plant is dangerously poisonous, and death has occurred from using its wood for skewers in cooking meat."—ED.

NOTES ON SOME FAMOUS OLD GARDENS.

BY SIR JAMES M. LE MOINE, F. R. S. C.

I.

"God Almighty first planted a garden; and indeed, it is the purest of human pleasures."
LORD BACON.

Downing aptly remarks that "the love of country is inseparably connected with the *love of home*, therefore whatever tends to make home more enjoyable, more attractive, tends to strengthen man's patriotism, and make him a better citizen." The adornment of rural homes, such is the mission and aim of the modern horticulturist—shall we, with Shenstone, call him the landscape gardener?

"Landscape gardening is an artistic combination of the beautiful in nature and art—an union of natural expression and harmonious cultivation, capable of affording the highest and most intellectual enjoyment to be found in any cares or pleasures belonging to the soul."—(Downing).

"Gardening as an art of design and taste is certainly of very ancient date." Of the first garden of all—that of Eden, we have no exact description. The beautiful ideal evoked by Milton is striking. We are told of fairy brooks where:

"With mazy error, under pendant shades,
Ran nectar, visiting each plant, and fed
Flowers worthy of Paradise, which not nice art
In beds and curious knots, but nature boon
Pour'd forth profuse, on hill and dale and plain,
Both where the morning sun first warmly smote
The open field, and where the unpierced shade
Imbrown'd the noontide bowers; thus was this place,
A happy rural seat of various view.

This bright inspiration furnishes a curious contrast with the kind of garden so keenly satyrised by Pope, in 1713:

INVENTORY OF A VIRTUOSO GARDEN—in the tonsile style:

"Adam and Eve in Yew; Adam a little shattered by the fall of the tree of knowledge in the great storm. Eve and the serpent very flourishing.

Noah's ark in Holly; the ribs a little damaged for the want of water. The Tower of Babel not yet finished.

St. George in Box; his arm scarce long enough, but will be in condition to slick the Dragon next April.

Edward the Black Prince, in cypress.

A pair of giants stunted, to be sold cheap.

An old maid-of-honor in wormwood.

A topping Ben Johnson, in laurel.

Divers eminent modern poets, in bays, somewhat blighted.

A quick-set hog, shot up into a porcupine, by being forgot a week in rainy weather.

A lavender pig with sage growing in his belly."

Grand, indeed, were some gardens in the olden time.

The gardens of King Solomon,—the gorgeous gardens of Cyrus, who, according to Xenophon, had himself surrounded, wherever he journeyed in his domains, with the choicest products of nature; the famous hanging-gardens of Babylon; the rustic alcoves of the Greeks and Romans; the Vale of Tempe; the Academicus of Athens; the luxurious villas of the Emperors Nero and Adrian—can be quoted as instances of the appreciation by the ancients of the beautiful in natural adornments.

Had not also Cicero a classically famous villa at Arpinum, and Pliny one at Tusculum? The gardens of the ancients open out quite an interesting study. Centuries will elapse ere we light on a style of rural embellishment, very different from that of the Persians, the Greeks and the Romans; we mean the stiff, geometric style of gardens and pleasure-grounds, and the tonsile or Dutch style for years adopted all over Europe.

The stiff geometric style and its straight lines is now a thing of the past; the picturesque, the serpentine line or avenue has taken its place, as well as that of the tonsile method, which gloried in disfiguring and distorting trees, plants, hedges, so as to assume the shape of peacocks, monkeys, fortifications and other vagaries. Martial, in his epigrams, attributes its invention or introduction to Cnæus Matius, though some modern writers thought it peculiar to Holland. On reading the description of Pliny's garden, one is led to believe that early French and Dutch Gardens were laid out on the lines of that of the illustrious Roman.

Old writers point to the use of glass by the Romans, in the propagation of exotic plants and flowers. Plato and Columella mention shrubs of rapid growth brought from India and Arabia. Tiberius boasted of being able to ripen cucumbers *ferè toto anno*—nearly the

whole year round. Seneca rates his countrymen, who are not satisfied unless they can procure roses in winter, and spring flowers at the hibernal equinox; he also alludes to the agency of hot water, in the cultivation of some foreign plants.

The Medici, in the middle ages, were the munificent patrons not only of letters, but of the gardener's art as well. Although their gardens were laid out on the architectural, geometric lines—all Europe adopted them as models; they obtained in England, until the advent of the natural style, advocated by Bridgman, Kent, Wright, Repton, and praised by Addison, Pope, Shenstone, George Mason, Whately, Gray and others. Alexander Pope has left a charming description of the lovely garden laid out by him round his pretty Roman villa, at Twickenham on the Thames.

How little now remains of the fairy domain!—not even the legendary Weeping Willow, from the cutting Lady Sylvius sent him from abroad, the first tree of the kind introduced in England: the tree died, in 1801.

The art of laying out public gardens received a great impetus from the genius of Le Notre, the first gardener of Europe, during the reign of Louis XIV., the gardener's art, as well as *belles lettres*, benefitted by the munificence of the *grand monarque* at Versailles.

I shall never forget the pleasurable impression made on me, on taking in the panorama of this fairy spot, its *parterres, jets d'eau*, ponds and plantations, seen from the terrace surrounding the castle. Terrace, park, garden, avenues and reservoirs are nearly all in the same state as when created by Le Notre, at the cost of millions, two and a half centuries ago.

Could any doubt have arisen in my mind as to the ornate style adopted, a single glance sufficed to indicate the school and the master. 'Twas not the natural style—'twere the rules of geometry, but geometry happily blended with architecture, sculpture, statuary, lawns, trees, flowers, pools—an exquisitely bright spectacle; a grand, solemn, though possibly out-of-date arrangement—in harmony, however, with the ideas of art prevailing at the time at Versailles.

Le Notre's theories struck root in foreign lands, far from the

"flowery banks of the Seine," and for fifty years flourished in England, where Le Notre was summoned by Charles II, long after the introduction of natural gardens—styled in France "Jardins Anglais." The most renowned gardeners in France, after Le Notre, were Girardin, Morel and Delille. Le Notre decorated the famous gardens and labyrinth Cardinal Wolsey had created at Hampton Court, and the pleasure grounds at Greenwich and St. James Park. About this time the Dukes of Devonshire and Lauderdale, Lords Essex, Capel, Pembroke, Craven, Northampton, were turning their attention to beautifying their domains. English landscape gardening soon found its way to Germany: several wealthy German Barons adopted it in laying out their grounds. The grand old English gardens, in their arrangement and ornamentation, reflected the age which had ushered them in existence.

"Nonsuch, Theobalds, Greenwich, Hampton Court, Hatfield, Moor-Park, Chatsworth, Beaconsfield, Cashibury, Ham, and many another" says William Howitt, "stood in all that stately formality which Henry and Elizabeth admired; and in which our Surreys, Leicesters, Essexes, the splendid nobles of the Tudor dynasty, the gay ladies and gallants of Charles II.'s court had walked and talked, in fluttering and glittering processions or flirting in green alleys and bowers of topiary work, and amid figures in lead or stone, fountains, cascades, copper-trees dropping sudden showers on the astonished passers-under, stately terraces with gilden balustrades and curious quincunxes, obelisks and pyramids,—fitting objects of admiration of those who walked in high-heeled shoes, ruffs and fardingales, with fan in hand, or in trunk hose and laced doublet."

Such some of the notes and extracts furnished me by the Gardener's Chronicles for the past.

I purpose in my next adding a few remarks in connection with ornate modern gardens in Canada.

J. M. LE MOINE.

SPENCER GRANGE, QUEBEC.

(To be continued.)

THE ORCHARD.

BY MR. ALEXANDER M'D. ALLAN, GODERICH, ONT.

The Montreal Horticultural Society has taken a decided step forward by providing a Journal where all practically interested in any branch of horticulture can ventilate their views and experiences, whether these be good or bad, successful or the opposite. If Mr. Editor succeeds in adhering closely to the practical, and "boiling down" correspondence (for this process is generally required), then the Journal will go on and prosper. The general tendency of such magazines is to speak over the heads of the people, and drift from the practical into the ultra scientific. If practice and science can be linked together, and carried on simply, you will find that they are excellent companions in the study and practice of all branches of horticulture. Keep before the readers in all subjects the "why" and the "how," the former being science and the latter practice.

SPRAYING.—After the large fruit crop of last year many growers will feel careless in regard to properly caring for the trees this season, and this carelessness emanates from the feeling or belief that there is little chance of a crop this year. Now is the time to sound the alarm, and I feel we should do so emphatically; for I am satisfied that if growers can be aroused to deal fairly with their orchards much better results can be confidently looked for in the future than have been realized in the past. Spraying will be neglected if the alarm is not sounded at once to prepare. Grand work was done last year, but its effects will be lost if the work is not faithfully followed this season. I know from actual experience that the early application of copper sulphate, before the buds open, is one of the best, if not *the* best application made during the year. Let every grower make a point of attending to this after the first few warm days of spring, and before the buds open, and we will find clean wood, stronger buds, better foliage and better fruit. The effect is simply wonderful, and I find where it is carefully and persistently done, and the soil enriched with

manure and ashes, the trees will bear every year. But if the grower wants to make money from the orchard he must not allow it to over-bear. It will pay him well to attend to the next step towards entire success just when the fruit is well formed, namely, to *thin the Fruit*.

I don't know of any work in the orchard that will pay the grower so well as the thinning out of all imperfect specimens, and enough of good specimens, to leave only what appears to be a good even crop over the tree. In this way, combined with good feeding and cleaning, it is charming to see how quickly and surely the trees respond by giving regular crops of finest fruit. There is more money in a medium crop every year of really fine specimens, than occasional very large crops of mixed grades. Poor specimens generally have as many and as large seeds as good specimens, and therefore tax the vitality of the tree as much; for it is in the production of seed that the soil is robbed of the valuable ingredient that should strengthen the tree, and prepare it for following years, instead of forming seed in a crop of fruit nine-tenths often of which is inferior.

SALT is a very useful addition to the orchard and garden soil, more as a powerful chemical agent for providing and preparing soluble food for plants from materials in the soil. The importance of this can be seen when we remember that in all soils there are nearly two-thirds dormant, and only about one-third in active condition. I use salt every second year, sowing it broadcast about 600 lbs. to the acre early in spring, so as to get the benefit of early rains. Upon light soil I would use six to eight hundred pounds to the acre, and on heavy soils much less, say three hundred. Indeed I have found salt beneficial in all garden crops, and in all fruit trees, but it must be kept at a safe distance from the roots of all evergreens, especially spruce.

ALEX. MCD. ALLAN.

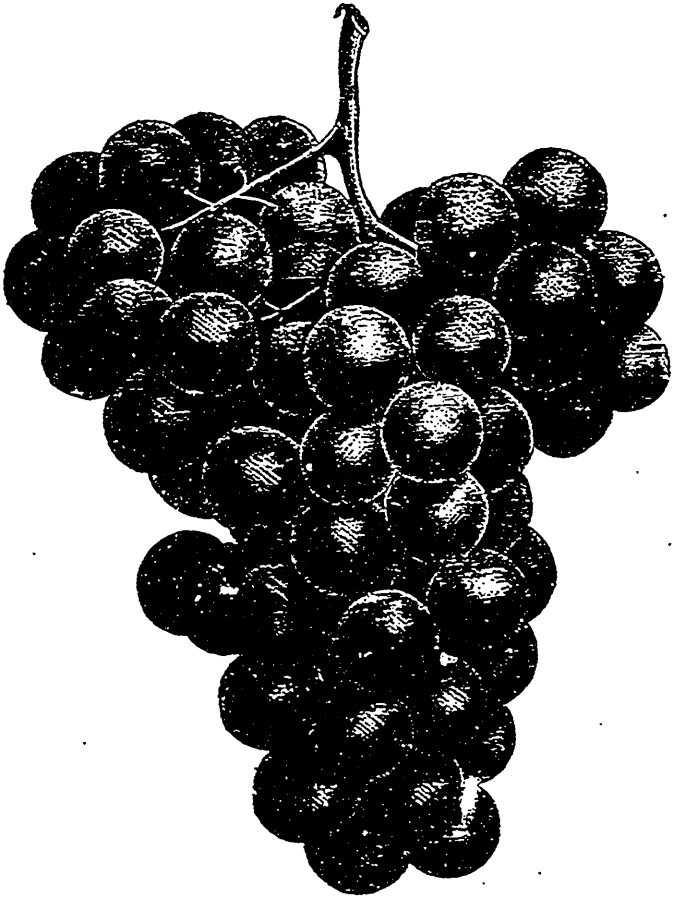
THE 'DELAWARE' GRAPE AND SOME OF ITS RECENT SEEDLINGS.

BY MR. WM. MEAD PATTISON, CLARENCEVILLE, QUE.

This well known Grape originated in Delaware, Ohio, over forty years ago.

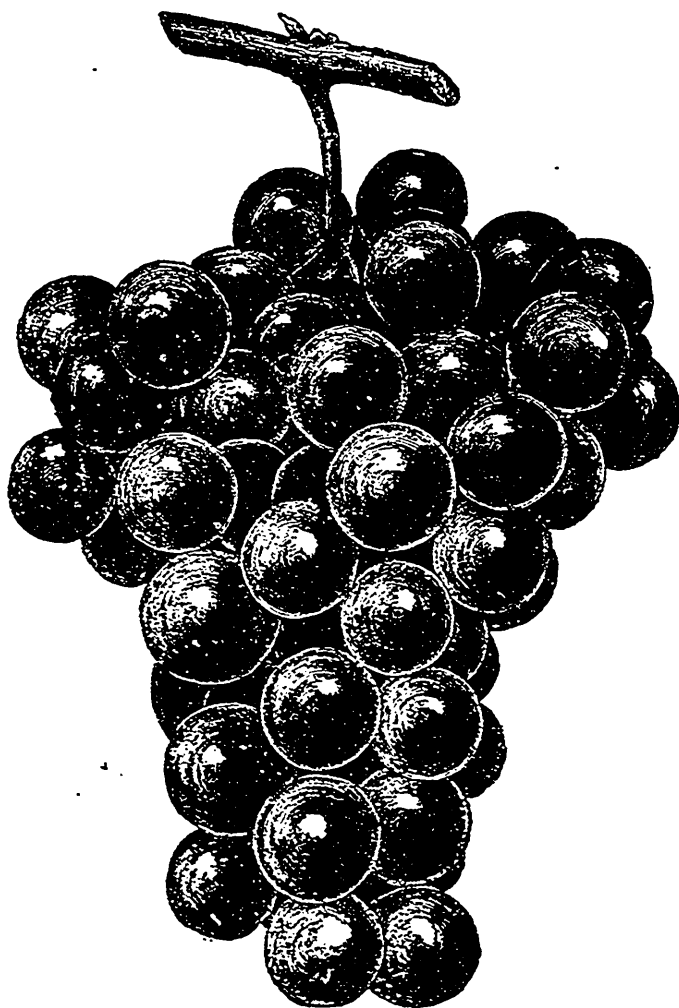
The Hon. G. W. Campbell of that place writes: "The real origin of the "Delaware" is still a matter of conjecture; and, notwithstanding its small size, rather slow growth and delicate foliage, in many places disposed to mildew, its great beauty and unrivalled excellence placed it immediately at the front, and gave an impulse and impetus to Grape culture, before unknown." The advent of this little Grape may truly be said to have inaugurated a new era in Grape growing in the United States, and the interest which it awakened has never ceased, though decades of years have passed and hundreds of competitors have striven to dethrone it from its high position as a standard of excellence amongst out-door Grapes. It rarely attains its full flavour in our latitude, and we know it mainly as imported from the South and West, where conditions of climate are more favorable for its full development. The grape is so well known that anything further regarding it will be unnecessary. I propose to deal with it here more as the parent of earlier varieties, found after due experiment to be much better adapted to our short season. The principal Grape propagators in the United States have striven to cross it with larger and earlier varieties to improve on it in these respects, but the most successful results have followed natural rather than artificial crossing. It is a scientific fact "that a weak grower, like the 'Delaware,' is congenial and easily improved by a strong variety, but a very strong and positive variety very seldom, if ever, by a weak variety." As to colour of the progeny, obtained through crossing, it does not follow that these will be the same as the parents, but may in colour, as well as in other respects, revert to the ancestry of either of the parents. For instance

most of "Delaware's" progeny are black and many of the "Concord" white. Man may devise methods of crossing to obtain desired properties in the seedlings, but we owe to the industrious bee, and to nature's laws, the most satisfactory and gratifying results. The great Darwin held that "Man conjectures what he wants and attempts, generally in vain, to make nature comply, but nature selects the pollen most congenial to propagate the species, and never makes a



BRIGHTON.

mistake." With this axiom in view, and by planting desirable varieties in a group, and selecting the seeds of the finest Grapes and planting them, the late John Burr, of Kansas, U. S., obtained marked success in new varieties in which he could recognize the "Delaware"



VERGENNES.

properties in nearly all. Mr. Burr died in 1892 at the age of 92 years, but actively devoted to his labours on Grape propagation to the end, and satisfied that the theory of his distinguished prototype he had satisfactorily verified. I treasure scores of letters received from the late Mr. Burr in the last twenty years, in which he manifested a deep interest in the wants of our Province regarding earlier and better varieties of out-door Grapes. He sent us all his favorites likely to be of value to us. His earliest discovery, "Early Victor," did not, in lapse of years, meet his own or our expectations, but "Standard," another early black, has proved of much value. Another, "Ideal," a red Grape, very closely resembling, in cluster and berry, the "Brighton," has given good satisfaction, quite as delicious as "Brighton" or the "Delaware," and a winter keeper, only second to "Vergennes." Both varieties are inclined to overbear, to the injury of the vine, hence they require early and liberal thinning out of their clusters to a point within the strength of the vine to mature. "Eclipse," a white Grape of Mr. Burr, is in size and flavor all that can be desired. In some seasons it has mildewed; with proper precaution this may be remedied. The only other variety of Delaware parentage, successfully tested here, is a Missouri grape of the venerable Jacob Rommel, another enthusiastic and life long viticulturist, called by some "Black Delaware," is named "Rommel's Early Black," by the consent of its originator. This fine grape shows its origin in the Delaware, large in berry and often enormous and elegant in bunch, ripens very early,—if not used then the birds appropriate it. It dries and shrivels up too soon to class it amongst the keepers for winter use. Quite a number of other new varieties having their origin through the Delaware could be mentioned. The work of crossing with "Delaware" is still going on, and may in the future give us as valuable varieties as those indicated.

WM. MEAD PATTISON.

EXPERIENCES IN EXPORTING SUMMER APPLES.

BY MR. C. P. NEWMAN, LACHINE.

Up to last year the necessity of looking for another market for our summer apples did not exist. They have generally brought good prices—better on the whole than our late fruit, notwithstanding the limited time for their consumption. But the heavy plantings of the last twenty years, in which the “Duchess of Oldenburgh” and other summer apples have been in undue proportion, are now having an effect on the market. And it is very likely that unless we have an outlet the experience of last year will be repeated; for these trees are young and growing, and every year brings an increased crop, and they are very sure bearers. I have not seen in the last eighteen years a “Duchess” tree fail to bear a full crop every two years.

To test the carrying capabilities of these apples I made a number of shipments this last season to London and Liverpool.

The first shipments were made of “Duchess,” three to Liverpool as ordinary freight, and three to London in refrigerator. The fruit was packed in boxes 27 inches by 15 inches by $7\frac{1}{4}$ deep, holding three layers of apples, a sheet of paper between each layer, and a little “Excelsior” fibre on top, pressed in to keep the whole tight. The fruit was very carefully picked and selected, and packed in layers with stems upward, and each box held about 40 lbs. nett. The first consignment of 30 boxes to Liverpool was picked on the 13th of August, the “Mongolian” left with them at day-break on the 15th, and they were sold in Liverpool on the 26th. The interval between picking and selling was as short as possible. They sold for $\frac{3}{3}$ a box, netting 45 cents in Montreal; the box cost 15 cents, leaving 30 cents; and were reported as follows: “Fair quality for time of year, although some blackballs were noticeable.” These apples were slightly on the green side.

The 2nd shipment was made on August 22nd on the "Sardinian," and sold in Liverpool on the 4th of September for 4/3 a box, netting 66 cents in Montreal. The "Duchess" were in their prime for this shipment, and were reported as of "good size and color."

The 3rd shipment was made on August 29th on the "Numidian," the "Duchess" were then a little too ripe. They were sold on the 9th September for 2/9 a box, netting 39 cents in Montreal. Reported as follows: "Since our last *we have had to resell your 'apples ex 'Sardinian' on account of buyer who lost exactly '50 p.c. on them, the fact being that they had simply melted away. 'The same applies to your apples ex 'Numidian,' there not being an apple which was not badly spotted, hence the low prices realized.*"

The first and third shipments were not profitable, and the second not profitable to the buyer, so that they were all unsatisfactory, and from this I conclude that the "Duchess" will not carry as ordinary freight.

The shipments in refrigerator were made via Bristol, the means of refrigeration was ice packed in cylinders in an air-tight chamber. First shipment made on the 15th of August sold in London on September 2nd for 1/9 a box. Reported, "gone badly rotten." Second shipment on August 22nd sold in London September 9th at 5/3 a box. Reported in good order. Third shipment August 29th sold in London September 14th for 5/ a box. Reported in good order.

The first shipment occurred in that very hot spell last August, and I understand that the steamer was not as well provided with ice as the later ones, and this may account for the loss. The higher prices obtained, and there being no complaints of the condition of these shipments, seems to recommend this method of shipping. There is no doubt better results may be obtained with more complete refrigeration.

The shipments of "Alexander" proved more successful. A consignment to Liverpool of ten barrels, shipped as ordinary freight, was picked on the 4th September, and sold on the 16th for 15/ a barrel, netting \$2.25 a barrel in Montreal. They were reported as

follows: "Very large and fine, but very unfortunately every barrel contained a lot of waste, in consequence, we suppose, of their being too soft to carry." A shipment of 28 boxes to London at ordinary freight brought an average of 4/7 a box, though some were sold as high as 7/. The condition of these was not reported. This apple if carried in good condition should be a most valuable one for export.

Only one shipment was made of "St. Lawrence," a lot of 14 barrels, to London, as ordinary freight; it arrived in bad order, and sold for 5/ a barrel. This apple is very much appreciated on our markets here, and there seems to be no necessity for exporting it.

A consignment of 15 barrels of "Wealthy" on the same steamer as "St. Lawrence" sold in London averaging 10/ a barrel, netting here \$1.40 a barrel. Reported "barrels slack but fruit in good order." This apple will carry and sell well, but will need very tight packing to prevent becoming slack. The great difficulty in shipping these apples is the warm temperature of August and September. Apples in barrels or boxes subjected to these temperatures ripen very quickly and become slack, followed by rapid decay.

A good system of cold storage on our carriers, where a temperature of about 36° is maintained THROUGHOUT THE TRANSIT, would entirely overcome this difficulty. And if this was placed at the convenience of our shippers at a moderate cost to the chief ports, the highly colored apples of this class should be exported profitably.

C. P. NEWMAN.



SCHOOL GROUNDS.

BY MR. ALEXANDER M'D. ALLAN, GODERICH, ONT.

Common sense teaches us that in order to get the attention and interest of a child we must present something that will interest and attract child nature. Does the ordinary country school ground accomplish this? As a rule, No. Generally speaking, the location is the poorest in the section, the soil barren of everything that it should possess, and the fences dilapidated. A bare building upon a barren soil, without form or comeliness, and yet many wonderingly ask why do our young people leave the farm and drift into towns and cities? This subject requires earnest attention, and your Journal will have accomplished a great deal if it succeeds in arousing the SCHOOL TRUSTEES to a proper sense of duty. Those grounds should be spots of beauty, laid out with the skill of the landscape gardener and planted with taste. Give every child the care of some tree or shrub or plant. An occasional hour spent by the teacher with the scholars among the trees and plants, with some simple words of advice, will contribute largely towards building up character in the children. A study of nature and its charms is the simplest and grandest kindergarten school in which to lead the young mind up to nature's God. The interest kindled in the young minds under such circumstances will lead to much enquiry and exertion at home, to make it more attractive; and in after years these children will look back with feelings of fondness and gratitude to the "old school house" where the first seeds of grand and successful lives were planted.

ALEX. MCD. ALLAN.

THE JUVENILE SECTION
OF THE
MONTREAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Two years ago this Society, with the object of promoting in the City a better and more general knowledge of the cultivation of flowers, inaugurated a new branch of its educational work by creating a juvenile section of the Society, composed of children attending the public schools.

Our method has been to furnish the children with plants, together with careful and concise directions to guide them in each stage of cultivation; and, with the design of encouraging attentive and intelligent treatment of the plants, we have offered prizes to the pupils of each class in each school for the best individual results; and, in addition, have awarded tasteful mementoes of their success to the three schools whose aggregate exhibits have been most meritorious. Each child has thus been placed in rivalry with those in its standard or class, and each school has been pitted against the others.

The children's plants are exhibited and judged at the Annual Horticultural Exhibition of the Society, which has been for some years held in conjunction with the Montreal Exposition Company. At last year's show the number of children's plants thus exhibited was 700.

In the first year of this venture—1895—the juvenile membership was about 500. Last year the number had increased to 1050. We have charged a nominal membership fee of twenty-five cents, for which we have furnished each child with two plants, and have admitted them free to all parts of the Exhibition. The revenue thus derived is returned to the children and their schools in prizes; while our expenditure is necessarily a very different matter, including additionally the cost of the plants (of which we last year distributed 2,200,) our outlay for stationery and printing, and our working expenses in this connection.

It has been our experience, however, that a large proportion of the juvenile membership has been composed of pupils attending the better class schools, and we are forced to the conviction by this circumstance that the fee of twenty-five cents may debar from participation many children whose parents are too poor to expend even that small sum without missing it. This would reasonably occur in connection with those schools situated in the poorer districts of the City, where floral decoration and its refining influences are least apparent and most required; and it may thus be that the very essence of our purpose in undertaking this duty is in some degree ineffective, notwithstanding our large juvenile membership. For these reasons, it is our desire to charge a nominal membership fee of only ten cents to each child, while continuing to grant the same privileges as heretofore. It would, in our judgment, be inexpedient to furnish plants without this trifling charge, even if our revenues from other sources enabled us to do so, as the children would probably attach but little value to plants given them for nothing,—and the demands for them would likely be excessive.

It may be fairly anticipated that the reduction of the fee to ten cents would bring a largely increased requisition for plants this spring, and the Society would probably experience serious embarrassment in coping with the increased expenditure. Hence we have asked the City Council for a grant sufficient to enable us to continue this educational work in a creditable and successful manner. Should they think it well to comply with our request, and thereby enable us to effect the reduction of the fee to ten cents, while distributing a largely increased supply of plants, the City would be in reality extending an appreciable measure of consideration for the benefit of the humbler portion of the community.

Incidentally, it may be recalled that a few weeks ago an able paper on "Farm Gardens," read by Mr. Frank Roy before the Central Canada Farmers' Association, then in convention in this City, induced a prolonged discussion, in the course of which the chief facts relating to the juvenile section of the Montreal Horticultural Society were elicited, and the discussion terminated in a

resolution moved by Mr. C. D. Tylee, of the Council of Agriculture, having for its object the stimulating of interest in horticulture among the children attending the rural schools, being unanimously adopted by the convention. The resolution was as follows:—

“The Central Canada Agricultural Association, assembled in convention, in Montreal, on January 26th, 1897, having considered the very excellent results obtained by the distribution of plants and prizes offered by the Montreal Horticultural Society, to the public schools, by which the love of flowers and a knowledge of their cultivation has been greatly fostered, even in the city schools of Montreal;

“Having also considered the fact that, in the future, a system of competition among school teachers is being introduced, by which the best results obtained may be fully recognized and further encouraged by the offering of important money prizes;

“Respectfully recommend that in the proposed competition among school teachers, the success obtained in the teaching of the rudiments of agriculture and horticulture be taken into account in all rural districts;

“And, as one of the best modes of teaching children is through object lessons, school teachers be encouraged to improve and beautify the surroundings of their respective schools, and, when possible, cultivate in or near the school grounds a small vegetable garden, with some fruit, and what flowers can be brought to bloom, both inside and outside the schools;

“That a copy of this resolution be respectfully forwarded by the Secretary of this Association to the Hon. Premier of this Province, and also to both sections, Catholic and Protestant, of the Council of Public Instruction.”

W. M. R.

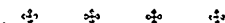


SEASONABLE HINTS.

As Spring advances and the snow disappears, do not be in too great a hurry to see the winter hap too quickly removed from such plants as Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Hardy Carnations, etc. ; but rather favor the snow-cover to "linger in the lap of Spring" until danger of heavy frost at nights is over. A little loose straw laid on the top of the snow will prevent too rapid thawing.



Anyone having an orchard, or only a few fruit trees, will save himself a great deal of trouble later and much unsightliness if he will carefully examine the young or last year's growths for the rings of eggs of the tent caterpillar. The eggs are rarely laid on wood thicker than a lead pencil, consequently they will be found with few exceptions on the last year's growths. Gather them carefully, and drop none of them until you reach the fire. Cremation, in this respect, is beyond argument.



It is generally acknowledged by fruit growers that winter pruning is injurious.

April is a very suitable month for this work.

Remember, the "spot" likes a shady, close orchard—any condition that causes dampness aids this disease.

Do not let your "Fameuse" trees touch each other ; let the sun play around them.

It is sometimes better, if three trees are close, to cut one out entirely rather than severely prune the three ; you will then have two longlived symmetrical trees, against three stalky ones always in need of pruning.

There is more profit in one barrel of first-class apples than in three barrels of seconds.



The season is at hand when the Amateur Horticulturist con-

siders he should start a Hot-bed. The decision is a wise one, and should be the means of much pleasant exercise and study.

To begin at the beginning is the best way, and the material is the first requirement. Stable manure is generally used, and when got fresh it has to undergo several turnings to bring it all into good order. In its fresh condition from the stable it is not serviceable; hence the turnings over to bring it into a more favorable state to *retain* the heat, which is the desired intention. Too much heat has, however, to be guarded against as much as too little; in fact, most hot-bed failures are the result of an excessively high temperature.

When the mass of manure has had two or three turns, according to its condition, and the pile has somewhat contracted in size, a process which can be well accomplished in a week or ten days, then the bed can be made. The manure should be packed with the back of the fork, but not trodden hard, and it should extend fully one foot all round beyond the box.

A soil bed of from 5 to 7 inches in depth will suffice for the varieties of plants to be grown. When it is remembered that a temperature much above 60° is not favorable to pansies, and many other plants which we treat as half hardy, it will be seen that over-much heat, instead of being beneficial, is likely to defeat our purpose.

Shading and ventilation will require to be carefully observed and exercised. It is well after making the bed to wait for two or three days before sowing the seeds or putting in the cuttings, so that the first glare of heat may pass off. Anything higher than 80° is dangerous. Before the seedlings appear above ground shading benefits them, and prevents the ground from becoming too dry; after they come up light must be allowed them.

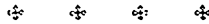
Cover small seeds very lightly, and larger seeds according to their size, three or four diameters of the seed being ample.

With a well-made bed of good material, a good seed-bed sufficiently deep, careful shading and ventilating, and secure covering at nights, an abundant supply of early flowering and vegetable plants can be easily and economically raised, and the amateur horticulturist has at this dull season a constant source of interest, pleasure and exercise.

HOUSEHOLD NOTES.

BY MRS. ANNIE L. JACK.

Every one should know the value of celery as an article of diet. Eaten raw it is not easily digested by a weak or impaired stomach, but can be cut into pieces, stewed till tender, and covered with a white sauce, the same as cauliflower. For invalids the water in which it has been boiled can be reduced by boiling, and used in broth. It is valuable in rheumatism and for nervous disorders.



“Happy is that family who can eat onions together,” said Dudley Warner, and it is not always acknowledged how valuable this vegetable is when properly prepared, not only for its nutritious, but for its medical properties. As an expectorant in obstinate catarrh and oppressed breathing it is especially useful; also in asthma and as a counter-irritant, while an ointment is made from it that is of use in indolent ulcers or wounds. Yet how many people despise or ignore it.



The time to eat fruit is at the commencement or between meals, not at the close; and the reason so many people assert that they cannot digest apples is because they are not eaten at the proper time. At the close of the meal they dilute the gastric juices, and tend to retard digestion.



Amongst the articles intended for the next number of the Magazine are:—

Sir James M. Le Moine, F. R. S. C., Spencer Grange, Quebec—“Familiar Notes on Modern Gardens.”

Professor Fletcher, Professor of Entomology and Botany, Government Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

Mrs. Jack, Chateauguay Basin—“Notes on Strawberries.”

Rev. Dr. Campbell, Montreal—“Native Orchids.”

Mr. Frank Roy, Montreal—“How to Grow Hardy Roses Well.”

This publication is furnished free of charge to all life members of the Society, and to all ordinary members upon payment of the annual membership fee of \$2.00 per annum.

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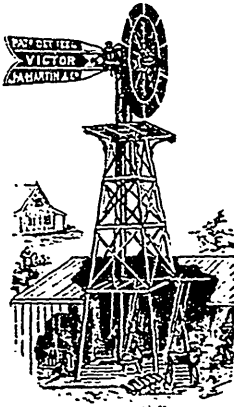
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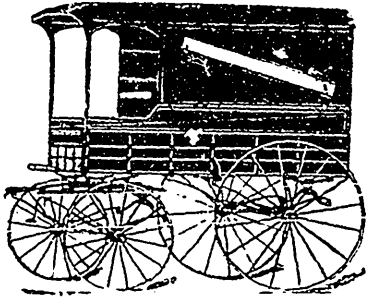
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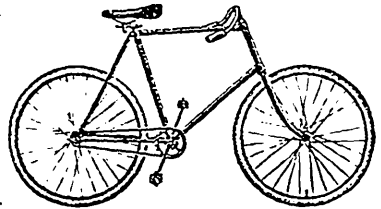
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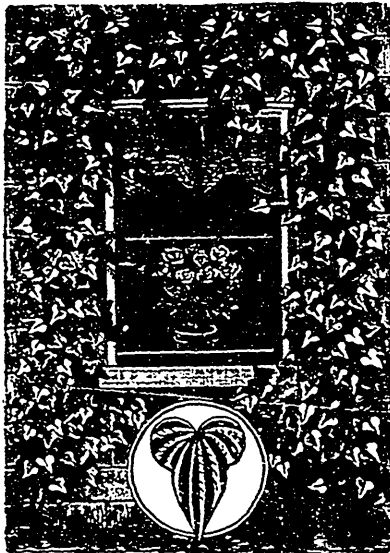
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