HOUSE AND FARM.

The Vegetable Garden.

Though much has been said and written on this subject, yet comparitively few people attach to it the importance which it deserves. No small part of the support of a family can be found in a well cared for vegetable garden. We have noticed many gardens, in both city and country going wild, but which would, if properly cultivated, supply more vegetables, of good quality, than their owners could use all the year round. For the few who care for their gardens well, there are many who go to work so thoughtlessly. and so slovenly, and with so little sense about a proper application of labor that they may well decide that it is cheaper to buy their vegetables in market. Even farmers, as a class. are negligent of their vegetable gardens. Some seem to think such gardens unworthy of their attention, and others look on the little work which they call for as disturbing the work of the farm. Now let any one take the trouble to think how small a spot of land well tilled, will grow more vegetables than a family can use, how important it is to have a full and varied supply of the choicest kinds each day in the year, and as we have already said, of a family such a garden will afford; and the intelligent farmer will not, after all, look on it as the least unfruitful portion of his acres. Even when the farm is snow covered and frost bound, he may find in his well stored cellar and fruit rooms enough of all the products of garden full of the fruits of the soil? The care of such a garden would tend to profit as well as health, and many an hour which might otherwise be wasted, or worse employed, can be well spent in the vegetable guden .- Pen and Plow.

Potatoes for Seed. The following are the ideas of an old tarmer in Maine, on seed potaplanting, presumedly, prevents per- about it.—Rural Home. lect ripening, hence the principle of the above reasoning would be in 1-100°

Sod as a Fertilizer.

doubtful whether commercial fertil-S'as s-sods, which were taken up has not tried can have any idea of rate.

furrows, and of such length as the when trained to a stake which has sod would allow. These were turn- a set of stubby side branches left TOLEDO MUTUAL ed bottom upward in the furrows, which were then filled full of loose in the style of culture is that the earth with a hoe. After the first plants occupy far less ground than rain the plants, which were of good when permitted to spread over the size, were dippled into the loose surface in the usual way. This is a earth, the roots reaching down generally to the sod. The plants gained large ones, for that matter, for if and the result was such a crop of few of us have time to waste in preduced except in soil in a high state to the perfection of a crop.—Garof fertility previously, or made so dener's Monthly. for the special crop by a very liberal application of fertilizers. The sod was a source of both moisture town Telegraph, writing from Iowa, fertility, and maintained a thriftiness in the plants during a drouth, Englishman, a doctor and a scien which seriously affected adjoining tific man, came out from Boston and crobs.—Plantation.

Most Butter From Shallow Pans. I have been reading reports of factory men for a considerable time, and have heard it asserted frequently that as much butter can be ob. this part of the world. He never J. R. SWIGART, tained from a stated quantity of milk set deep as shallow, but I did | While his neighbors were planting | FRED BATON. not accept their evidence as conclu- and replanting, and fighting and sive. In the early part of last winter I set 2 inches one week and 5 the next, and made a pound of butter ing his time. He ploughed his from 17 to 18 pounds of milk with ground just before the planting. the shallow setting, and from 19 to when the weeds all had a good how much of the healthful support 20 pounds of milk from the deep start; this made the ground clean setting. I did not, however, consider these trials a conclusive test, so during the winter just ended I took a single milking of 124 lbs., put it all in cans together and mixed thoroughly; set 62 pounds 2 inches deep, and 62 pounds 5 inches deep, skimmed after 36 hours, churnhis garden, many of which may be ed ear hot separate, and the result kept the greater part of the year by was I got 3 pounds and 5 ounces unripe seed, he contended, enabled simply protecting them from frost, from the 2 inch setting and 2 lbs. while others of the more delicate and 1 ounce from the 5 inch setting, kinds may be canned and kept al- which would make one pound in famost as tresh as when they ripened vor of shallow setting each day on their parent plants. Who that while I had that amount of milk. lives in the country ought not to The milk was kept at the same altifeel ashamed to be without a fine tude, setting side by side, so that each had the same usage from the time it was drawn from the cow until the butter was weighed. This experiment I consider as near a fair ripe; and from his success so it aptest as any I could make, and it satisfied me there is an advantage in shallow setting.

A Large Poultry Farm.

We learn from a correspondent that Mr. Briggs, of Wyandotte, toes, as given in the Lewiston Jour- Kansas, has inaugurated a poultry nal: "We use too ripe seed when farm near that place on a large we propagate from tubers that have scale, as an experimental poultry lain in the ground till dead ripe. farm. He has set apart twenty Plants that are propagated by tub- acres for that purpose. He plants ers require different treatment than sunflowers two by three feet apart, those propagated by seeds. Our which makes excellent shade for corn and grains that we use for seed fowls in the summer, and the seed we like to have stand a little longer is the best of feed in the fall and than the main crop, and become per- winter for fattening purposes. He tectly matured. On the same princi- says its broad spongy foliage is one ple our corn is selected from the rip- of the best neutralizers of miasma in est, best developed ears and kernels. the vegetable kingdom. We hope But potatoes for seed should be dug to hear more of the workings of this and placed in a cool, dark cellar, poultry farm in due course of time, just as soon as a majority of them and shall give such facts relative will slightly crack open in boiling. thereto as we may be able to gather, This is most invariably while the for the benefit of our readers. Such typs are yet green and growing an undertaking in this country will fist. The tubers are then in their be looked forward to with a great most vigerous state. Disconnect deal of interest. We have no doubt them from the parent stalk at that in our own mind but that poultry time and they retain their vigor. can be raised on a large scale, and Instead of deteriorating, as most with much profit in this country, as all of us know the older sorts have, well as any other, and with equal their vitality is increased, and they success. Of course any one enteryield better, with less tendency to ing into the business must give it rot." As long ago as 1815, and sub- proper care and attention, and use squently, observation led him to caution and judgment in making his make some experements to test the selections of fowls for eggs and martheory, and he finds it the proper ket purposes. We read an account course to pursue. It is not often of a large poultry and egg establish- Texas cattle trade. said that the late planted potatoes ment, some time since, located in are better for seed than those plant- Chenango county, N. Y. Can any ed early. The lateness of their one give us the facts and figures

Cucumbers.

Whereever we go we see the cucumber in the open air suffered to run on the ground. This is no During the past year I made a doubt a relic of European culture. limited experiment in the use of There it is necessary. The climate grass sod as a fertilizer. It was de- is not hot enough, and the plants sired to plant a piece of worn out have to be started, if not grown aland in cabbage. Home made ma- together, in low, flat grass frames. nure was exhausted, and it was But where the cucumber grows wild, it spreads over bushes and izers would pay on land so utterly trees, and the growth and product destitute of humus and all other are enormous. All plants with tencarbonaceous matter. Furrows were drils prefer to ramble in this way. opened four feet apart with a one The grape vine, it is well known, horse turn-plough, which was run seems fairly to rejoice when it can wice each way, opening to a depth find a large mass of twiggy brush maples of New England will be anand width of about ten inches. The to ramble over as it wills, and so nihilated in fifty years, if they road-sides were resorted to for wild does the cucumber. No one who continue to decrease at the present

with a spade, of a width to suit the the luxurious growth of a cucumber along its length. A great advance great gain to small gardens—and to a rapid growth within a few days, we have land enough and to spare, ORGANIZED IN APRIL, 18 72 cabbages as I have never seen pro- paring more of it than is necessary,

> Unripe Seeds. A correspondent of the Germansays: About the year 1838 an settled in this country, and went to farming, of which he knew nothing but from books and observation. He was soon a good corn raiser, then, as now, the staple crop of C. L. LUCE, planted before the 10th of June. worrying with worms, mice and birds, he was looking on and waitand in good order, the weeds being so well subdued that they were of very little trouble in after culture; the cut-worms were gone, the birds were living on insects, and replanting was unnecessary; his corn had no enimies, so that he never missed getting a fair crop.

But this was not all his theory him to carry out the other part of his system. He always gathered the seed while "in the milk," and hung it up to dry; when dry it resembled the common sweet tablecorn. This early gathering, he contended, gave the seed greater vitality, and enabled the crop to grow and mature in a shorter time than if left on the stalk until fully THE TOLEDO MUTUAL

You may wonder why his neighbors did not fall into this system of planting. I have wondered so too. There seemed to be a general fear of failure; most people thought he was running down the size of his corn; but he did not, for he adhered to the system as long as he lived here, some twelve or thirteen years.

There is an art in saving seeds, particularly in that of corn. I thought I would be more wise than the doctor, and went through the corn when ripe, selecting the largest and best ears. This course I pursued for fourteen or fifteen years, with the same variety of corn; but every year it gave less satisfaction, as a rule, there being a few exceptions, finally, the last year it had so far degenerated that at least onethird of the stalks had no corn on them. By this method of saving the seed, the corn was running to stalk to the neglect of the ear.

Now, in gathering seeds of any kind I reject the undergrown and overgrown, whether of corn, potatoes, wheat, or anything else, and seek for the medium in size and well matured. In wheat and other small grains this mode is not so easily practiced, but it can be approximated by selecting patches of moderate

THE hard winter has hurt the

Old pastures may be improved by a good harrowing in the spring.

Over thirty agricultural papers have been established at the South since the war.

A French paper says that a small quantity of spent tan bark put in the "hill" prevents the potato di-

THREE hundred million dollars is the sum charged to insects injurious to vegetation in this country annually, by entomologists.

A NEW departure in horse shoeing is to set the heel-cork of the fore shoes lengthwise of the shoe instead of sidewise, to prevent the horse from slipping sidewise.

Somebody predicts that the sugar

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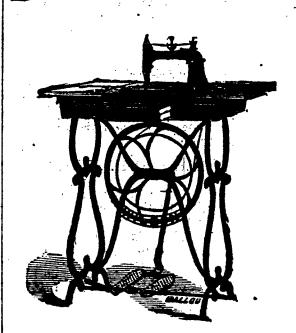
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