

GENERAL REMARKS ON VEGETABLE CULTURE.

The laying out and arrangement of a Vegetable Garden is of more importance than is generally regarded to it. So far as circumstances will allow, it ought to be convenient to, but not immediately in view of the dwelling-house, and also near the stable, for ready ingress and egress to the manure heap. A southern aspect, sheltered from cold winds, is best.

The size of the Garden is a matter of circumstances, as near as can be estimated, we should say twelve square perches to each head in a family, (exclusive of servants) but rather more than less, is sufficient.

A Vegetable Garden ought to be laid out in straight lines, and at right angles, to allow of its being more conveniently worked, economize space, and give the gardener an opportunity for method and system in his arrangements.

It is useless to expect good Vegetables from bad culture or a barren soil. Before a new Garden is cropped, it is necessary to secure a good and thorough drainage, and that it will be well and deeply trenched, adding a liberal supply of well-rotted barn-yard manure, or, where this cannot be had, a heavy dressing of decayed leaves or the turfy substance of swamp-muck; work it well into the soil, and the expense will be amply repaid; a liberal supply of water is almost a requisite for the use of, and for transplanting crops in hot, dry weather.

All large fruit-trees ought to be kept out of this department, or otherwise planted in plots by themselves, on account of the shade they produce. Vegetables require full sun and air, without which it is waste of time and money to attempt their culture. Currants, Raspberries, or even Dwarf Pears or Espaliers may be introduced with good results, and by judicious arrangement be made to form a fine effect.

It will be seen by referring to the head of each variety of Seeds, that directions are added for the time of sowing, depth to be covered, and other requisite information. These ought to be strictly adhered to, as many good seeds are prevented from germinating by too deep and unskilful sowing, and the Seedsman often in consequence unjustly blamed. The surface also should be well broken and made fine, and care taken that rough lumps are not thrown back over the seed. "Never bury a seed too deep ought to be a household word wherever there is a garden.

The destruction of Weeds is the most important item in the routine of culture. To accomplish this, at the least expense of time and trouble, it is best to cultivate all crops in drills and rows. As soon as the seeding plant shows itself, apply the Dutch or Scuffle Hoe between the rows, and keep it constantly at work during the growing season, for, in direct proportion to the complete eradication of the weeds and to keep the ground loose and porous, will be the weight and quality of the crop—in short—

Every one who cultivates a Garden should keep the following useful facts before them.

To take time by the forelock in everything which relates to gardening, and never omit what ought and can be done to-day till to-morrow. It is hard to catch up in gardening when once behind.

To choose the best seeds to be had, and if possible obtain them from *Responsible Seedsmen*. Never to buy *cheap seeds* because they cost less, they may be the dearest in the end.

To select the best implements, brand them with your name, and never let them get rusty.

To stir the soil often during drought, to prepare it more readily to receive and retain moisture from the atmosphere, and to prevent the plants from being stunted in their growth.

Never to work the ground when it is wet and heavy, it renders it compact and lumpy during the whole season.

To perform everything in the best manner and to complete one operation before attempting another.

Never to suffer weeds to encumber the growing crop, or to go to seed; nor allow any sort of trash to remain in the alleys or plots to mar the neat and clean appearance of the garden.

Plough thorough and deep, while sluggards sleep,
And you shall have corn to sell or keep.—POOR RICHARD.