



THE
Cape Gardener's and Agriculturist's
CALENDAR.

SEASONS OF THE YEAR.

AFRICA.		EUROPE.
December, }	<i>Summer.</i>	{ June,
January, }		{ July,
February, }		{ August.
March, }	<i>Autumn.</i>	{ September,
April, }		{ October,
May, }		{ November.
June, }	<i>Winter.</i>	{ December,
July, }		{ January,
August, }		{ February.
September, }	<i>Spring.</i>	{ March,
October, }		{ April,
November, }		{ May.

JANUARY

Is considered to be the hottest month in the year, during which the south-east wind is most powerful. It rains occasionally, and every advantage should then be taken for the purpose of planting or sowing crops.

Kitchen Garden.—In most soils, and sheltered situations, cabbages should be planted during this month, and at this season the Antwerp variety is the best; the York and sugar-loaf is next in value; but the larger European varieties, or those which bear a close affinity to what is called the Cape cabbage, should be rejected, unless localities and the practice of many years justify the trial.

French or kidney beans, may now be sown to advantage; this culinary vegetable requires either a well manured soil,

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or a naturally deep and rich ground ; the roots of this vegetable striking deep into the soil, enables it to maintain its health much better than any others of more robust appearance, and it is only severely injured by the powerful effects of the south-east winds, the *aphides*, and a species of *acarus* ; the former is usually termed *louse* in this country ; the latter is the most destructive to young and tender crops on old and sandy soils, during the rains of the autumnal, winter, and spring months ; hence it becomes necessary to attend to the nature of the soil and to plant the full crop in the proper season. The early Canterbury bean, or *calavance*, the negro, the China, or painted-lady, and the yellow varieties, are of the earliest description and the most proper for the present sowing, the purple-speckled, or Filmer's, and the cream and the liver-colored sorts the most productive.

In garden practice, the kidney bean ought always to be sown thickly in drills about three or four inches deep, and the drills drawn at not less than three feet apart.

Successional crops of turnip, radish, celery, and leeks, may be sown at every convenient opportunity ; in recommending this practice, it is necessary to observe, that European seeds, or those saved from a recent European stock, are intended. Cape turnip, for instance, seldom produces more than leaves for *breedi*, when sown during the summer months, and presents a striking example of cultivated vegetables degenerating, or rather returning to their primitive state of nature. The radish and leek may be sown in the beds with the celery, the drawing of the two former as they may be wanted loosens the ground, and accelerates the growth of the celery, which is very slow while young. Late cucumbers should now be carefully trained, the vines pegged to the ground, and where the fruit appears, the vine should be stopped at the joint beyond that one which shows fruit ; stable litter should also be spread on the surface of the ground to keep it cool and moist, and allow the gardener to apply less water than is usually given to this crop ; it likewise invigorates the plants by the solution of the salts in the litter, and forms a present manure.

European cauliflowers sown at this period, especially on sandy soil, does well. Broad beans, (the long-pod and white blossomed varieties) may also be sown in drills, three inches deep.

The culinary vegetables during the summer months require a constant but judicious supply of water, and it is recommended to the cultivator to water his crops with scoops from any convenient distance, rather than to persist in the ordinary mode of leading the stream to the stems only, by which practice the application is frequently rendered partial in the benefit expected : seed beds, of course, must be watered with a fine-rose watering pot : such depend also on the situation and nature of the land used.

There is much need of improvement in the irrigating of gardens, both in the application and the saving of much water, which, at present, is all but wasted. It is therefore recommended to form tanks on any convenient part of the higher ground, and of a size, if possible, to contain the usual quan-

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sity of which is allowed to flow from the spring during twenty-four hours, and by retaining this supply for at least twelve hours in the tank, the water is somewhat softened, and approaches nearer to the temperature of the atmosphere at the time of using, an essential highly conducive to the health of the crops. By such practice, the cultivator would always have at command a reserve of water for extra occasions, and be enabled to water his crops in general, at the proper hour, which is the evening. Where possible, the water should be discharged through a pipe at the bottom of the tank, and cause the softened water to flow off first from the surface, the more so, if a board is fixed a few inches above the discharging orifice of the pipe, in order to spread the fresh supply of water over the bottom of the tank.

Nursery or Orchard.—The young grafted or budded trees must be attended to, and all spurious buds rubbed off from the stocks; the nursery rows in general be kept free from weeds by frequently hoeing, and the seedling trees pruned of all young lateral or side shoots. Fruit and other trees which were planted out in the months of June, July, and August last, will now require a supply of water; decayed leaves, or stable litter, spread on the ground around each tree, will facilitate the growth of the trees by keeping the ground moist, and on the approach of the rainy season, this top dressing may be dug in, as a beneficial manure to the tree.

Flower Garden.—Various exotic plants are now flowering, or perfecting their seeds; these, especially annual plants, will require a constant and liberal supply of water every evening. Chinese roses should be constantly pruned, by shortening such stems as have produced flowers, to a few eyes, and thus ensure a regular succession of fine trusses of blossoms.

Where the small bulbs (such as uintjes, &c.) are cultivated, they should be planted this month, if not already in the ground.

Vineyard.—Should be diligently watched to prevent the depredations of birds, &c. The vines must also be deprived of water, which only injures the flavour and quality of the fruit if given while the grapes are ripening. Where the foliage is thick on trellised vines, a few of the leaves may be removed, to admit the sun's rays, to perfect and improve the flavour of the grapes; care, however, must be taken not to remove too many leaves, as the sudden exposure to the sun's action would scorch the fruit.

Farm.—The fields should be burned this month, observing to perform this operation at times when rain may be expected. The ashes of the various vegetables being an excellent manure on stiff soils, merit a more particular attention than is usually paid to them. Where the straw is required for thatching, rye may be sown on sandy well-manured soil. The thatch rush being now in full perfection, should be cut this month, and allowed to dry on the ground, before they are stacked for future use.

The rams should be put to the ewes, for the lambs to drop in the months of May, June, and July, when there will be grass for them; and the ewes be able to keep up their milk.

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In the select flocks, it will be for the farmer's interest to keep them pure and healthy, and to consider the age most advantageous for the ewes taking the ram: this will differ under some circumstances of breed, &c.; from one year to one year and a half old, is perhaps young enough; the forwardness of the sheep and the goodness of the keep, will, to the experienced, be the best criterion to judge by. If the rams are young, sixty ewes will be about the number for each ram; if the rams are older, from one to two hundred ewes may be admitted, but a greater number may cause serious loss to the farmer in the number of lambs.

Forest.—Felling of Timber:—Keurboom, Beukenhout, this month; Oak in March or April; the other Cape timber all the year round. Most of the Cape timber-trees being such as are generally considered evergreen, some difficulty occurs in pointing out the proper season for felling several varieties. The practice of the Brazilians may therefore serve as a hint for those who require much timber for their own use, and experience will perhaps overcome prejudice, and the objections of many others who supply the public with this necessary article. The difficulties attending the procuring of timber for the market, are only known to those employed in this laborious undertaking, or to a few who have witnessed them in the depths of the forest. The contracted means of many of the foresters will not perhaps allow them to attend minutely to the proper seasons, but it is incumbent on every one interested in this trade, to establish the good character which much of the native timber of this colony deserves, and prove more generally its fitness for many purposes to which it is not at present applied. Timber should be felled *when the sap is down*; the Brazilians attend particularly to this circumstance, and, from long practice, are aware, that timber felled at the time of full moon will split, or prematurely decay and be of little use, although the same kinds felled in the proper season, are of the most durable qualities. Age and maturity of timber should also be considered, but these essentials are totally disregarded in the country.

Fruits in the Market.—Figs, plums, apricots, almonds, peaches, strawberries, mulberries, grapes, pears, apples, oranges, lemons, cucumbers, few melons and water melons.

FEBRUARY.

The south-east wind blows violently this month, but now and then a gentle rain refreshes the earth.

Kitchen Garden.—At the beginning of the month sow Cape cabbage, turnips, lettuce, radish, and orach, which last, as a substitute for spinage, is better than the others at this season,—the whole of the above in moist ground and sheltered situations. Carrots and parsnips may be sown in light and somewhat dry soil; for the reception of those crops, the ground must be dug from eighteen inches to two feet deep, unless the ground is particularly sandy; in such cases the ground need only be dug the usual depth of the spade; the seed sown in drills at 12 inches apart, and in continued dry weather, must be watered in the evening, especially after the crops appear above ground. York

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cabbage and European cauliflower are to be sown on dry, but well manured soil, also successional crops of celery, leeks, lettuce, and French beans. Transplant cabbage, cos and cabbage lettuce, into moist soil. Peas and Turkey beans should be sown with a growing moon ; and the crops of peas and beans sown last must be kept free from weeds, the earth drawn up on each side with the hoe, and sticks placed to such varieties of peas as may require such support, to strengthen the plants, and guard them as much as possible from the effects of severe gales.

A full crop of stone turnip may be sown on good fresh ground ; this variety will remain during the whole of the rainy season, with little fear of their running to seed. The turnips sown last month must now be thinned with the hoe, leaving the plants at least twelve inches apart : where a good variety of turnip is not in sufficient quantity for demand, and the seed scarce, the young plants may be put out in rows, as usual with the cabbage tribe. Carrots, parsnips, beet, and similar crops, must also be thinned. Towards the latter part of the month, and with a declining moon, sow a full crop of early horn carrot.

Where the red ant attacks the crops, a few leg or other bones, from dressed flesh, should be placed either under ground or under cover of decayed leaves, those traps should be examined every morning, and immediately thrown in boiling water, to destroy such ants as may be found upon them, the bones being replaced as before.

The principal crops of melons, which about this time arrive at full growth, should be deprived of water, that the fruit may ripen with superior flavour. The early cucumber should be encouraged with a plentiful supply of water ; any of the longer shoots must be laid in the ground to root, and thus preserve their health and prolong their fruitfulness. Pumpkins cannot be too abundantly supplied with water, calabash the same. If the earliest crop of cucumbers are becoming deficient in crop, they may be destroyed, (that is, if there is a successional crop in bearing,) and the ground made ready to receive cauliflower, or cabbage.

During both the last and the present month, the attention of the gardener must be directed to the seeds which are ripening, cutting those which have arrived at maturity, exposing them to the sun to dry, clearing them from the seed vessels and every impurity ; afterwards putting them in brown paper or canvas bags, and preserving them for future occasions in an airy and dry loft or room.

Nursery or Orchard.—Where it is possible to irrigate the lands, the fruitbearing apple, pear, orange, and lemon trees, ought not to be neglected ; an occasional supply of water is necessary to perfect those fruits, and encourage the growth of the trees for future years ; when, however, the orchard is situated in low and moist situations, artificial waterings will not be required, and in some cases would prove detrimental to the health of trees.

One of the Cape sumach (*Taaybosch*) has been recommended for culture ; where this is carried into effect, the stems should be

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cut down annually, and close to the ground, the stools will then throw up more vigorous shoots, and consequently contain a greater portion of *tanin*. As this shrub will thrive in any soil, not even excepting the most rocky, and where more valuable vegetables would not grow, its culture might prove useful in many respects; the branches would be always useful as pea sticks, and for other garden purposes.

Flower Garden.—This department in rural affairs, so interesting and conducive to health and instruction, demands, at this season of the year, a close attendance and an abundant supply of water, to invigorate the various exotic productions which now embellish its circle; and let it be remembered, that however small a value many persons may set on a flower garden, several vegetables which now form a great and necessary portion of the support and comforts of man, were first nurtured in flower gardens as mere curiosities, though they are now spread over the wider expanse of the field; and to the same department this country must still look for many useful additions of vegetable productions. Any plants which may have been reared from foreign seeds, and whose names or habits are unknown to the cultivator, should be sedulously attended to, placing them in such situations as the intelligent may conceive approach nearly to the climate from whence they have been procured. In general, the annual plants of all countries require rich ground, a full exposure to the sun, and a constant supply of water, morning and evening; those of a woody nature require to be placed in warm sheltered situations, until they become habituated to the climate of the colony. If, on the final planting out, the names of exotic trees remain unknown, they should be compared with other shrubs, either exotic or indigenous, and the most marked features or character in each be strictly examined. This will be the best guide for the planter.

Seeds of stocks, wallflowers, carnations, pinks, Canterbury bells, evening primrose, and other favourite biennial flowers, may be sown now, in well-manured beds of light soil; some annuals may also be sown, such as mignonette, sweet-peas, lupins, candiduft, &c. several of which will flower during the months of May and June, or otherwise form strong flowering plants for the spring months.

Vineyard.—Requires the precautions to be taken as mentioned last month. Whatever other birds may be destroyed about the vineyard, the Fiscal bird should be carefully preserved: he is the best friend the farmer and gardener have in this country, in destroying insects in every state, and such birds as he can overcome; snakes, and every sort of venomous reptile, are also killed by him, either for food or to impale: by a peculiar cry he warns the unwary of the vicinity of such snakes as are too large and powerful for his strength, and, naturally bold, he is a constant attendant on the habitations of man, and with whom he becomes familiar. Unfortunately, these last characteristics render the Fiscal bird an easy prey to mischievous boys and other idlers: such persons deserve the most unqualified reproof, if they, upon fair warning, persist in destroying this bird, and should not be allowed to *sport* (?) over cultivated grounds.

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Farm.—The field may be burned, but it is late. Such is the general instruction for the open field; but the farmer may do well to attend to the burning of dry grass, shrubs, &c. in the kloofs at various seasons, and as circumstances may require; long experience and local knowledge are the surest guides for carrying these operations into effect. Horses and cattle should not be grazed on lately burnt lands, till the herbage has acquired some strength.

The growing crops of tobacco, and also the crop of leaves undergoing drying or fermentation, now call for constant care.

The male blossoms of maize, which have performed their functions, should, together with the portion of stem attached to them, be cut as green forage, dried and stocked for winter use.

Forest.—Several native trees and shrubs continue to perfect their fruits. Seeds, therefore, may be collected for home planting, or for export; an attention to the period of trees perfecting their seeds, may direct the forester to notice the most proper season for felling timber. The *Onderboschje* (*Trichocladus*) would find demand in the market, its wood being the most appropriate for hoops to dairy pails, and laths, &c. for cart and wagon covers, and other purposes where the toughness of the wood is required to bend without breaking.

Fruits in the Market.—To the notice of last month it is only necessary to add, that some better varieties of apples, peaches, and nectarines, now appear; grapes and melons also are improved in flavour.—This and the next month are the best for drying all sorts of fruit, raisins, &c.

MARCH.

During this month smart showers of rain may be expected, and the heat gradually moderating towards the end, although extreme heat is not unusual for a few days.

Kitchen Garden.—During this month, either with a growing or declining moon, Cape cabbage must be sown on rich moist soil, for planting out in the month of May. Early chervil, parsley, spinach, white and red beet, coss and cabbage lettuce, small sallad, radish of all kinds, onions, and carrots, to be sown in moist soil.

Early hotspur, charlton, and bishop's dwarf peas may be sown now with advantage. The dwarf fan, or bog bean, (the commonest variety in the colony) is likewise to be sown on moderately moist soils; the drills should be drawn at three feet apart, or, they may be planted in single and more distant rows, to permit other crops being reared under their shelter. This bean, on account of its spreading growth and hardness, is better adapted for South Africa, than any other of the broad kinds; it bears freely and abundantly without topping, an operation which must be performed on the other varieties.

Full and successional crops of European cabbage, knolcole, lettuce, turnips, leeks, &c. must be sown; the cabbage will come to head in October; experience and knowledge of his garden will alone direct the cultivator to sow this crop in situations that expose them least to the fly.

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The young cauliflower and European cabbage and celery should now be planted out, (in nursery beds of rich earth,) at five inches apart, and in dry weather, must be well supplied with water. The best method, particularly in dry seasons, for planting out the full crops of all the cabbage tribe, is, to draw drills of four or five inches deep along the ground, place the plants at the proper distance in the bottom of the drill, and leave it open, so that the earth may be drawn to the plants at the future and favorable opportunities of hoeing, to destroy weeds. The early dwarf cabbage requires to be planted at only twelve inches apart each way ;—York sugarloaf, &c. at eighteen inches ;—and the Cape, or drumhead, at two feet. If, however, the soil is rich, a greater distance between the plants may be proper, the grubs of the *scarabæus* (beetle) are at all seasons destructive to the cabbage tribe, but are more actively so during rainy weather ; these grubs must be dug up and destroyed wherever a plant is eaten off ; a handfull of soot put about the roots of the plants, will deter, if not wholly prevent, the ravages of the beetle and other grubs.

The various crops of carrots, spinage, and all other crops which are not to be transplanted, are now above ground, should be tinned out by the hand, or, in dry weather, by the hoe. This last method is the best, if care is taken to loosen the ground to the depth of two or three inches.

Flower Garden.—The Chinese chrisanthemum should be replenished by parting the roots and planting them singly ; the young plants produce better flower than the old stools, which last may be destroyed. Pinks, carnations, stocks, wall-flowers, and other biennial and perennial plants, may now be taken from the seed beds and planted in nursery beds of rich soil ; the *Jacobæa* lilies which have flowered may be taken up and kept dry till August.

Farm.—The farmer is now busy in keeping his corn clean ; if there is any land to be broken up, choose a fine hot day. To have early green barley for forage, it should be sown during this month, on well manured soil ; if the plough cannot work, then the seed sown upon the manure should be covered in with the spade : this method, however, will retard the appearance of the blade for some days longer than when sown after the plough. If the ground is very sandy, and situate in low, or flat situations, liable to be inundated during the wet and cold season, the sowing is much better deferred to a month or six weeks longer.

The farmer who is anxious to improve his estate and increase his stock upon it, should introduce as much feed as he possibly can ; for this purpose mangelwurzel is particularly adapted to the soil and climate of the colony. The mangelwurzel being very *hardy*, may be sown any time from this month until the beginning of September ; the beginning of April is perhaps the best season. To prepare the ground for this crop, it should be ploughed as deep as possible, a second, and cross ploughing should follow, applying manure at the rate of twelve or fifteen loads per acre, harrowing it finely, and collecting the weeds in heaps. These may be carried off the land, or burnt where they are, and the ashes strewed as an additional dressing ;

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drills may then be drawn at two feet apart, either with a drill plough, or with the hoe, the seeds are then to be sown thinly in the drills, and covered with a light harrow. When the plants have arrived at sufficient size, or have three or four leaves, the rows must be thinned to about twelve or fifteen inches plant from plant, leaving those to stand for the crop which show a broad leaf, plane on the margins, (not curled) green in color, or, at most, showing only a flesh colored leaf stalk ; as the plants advance in size, a farther thinning may be necessary. The crop will require to be kept free from weeds by a small horse-hoe, or by hand hoeing. Two or three crops of leaves may be gathered from the plants, if wanted, but such gatherings are detrimental to the growth of roots ; and at the final clearing of the ground, the tops may be cut off, and the roots taken up and stacked for future use. Although this plant will grow on any soil, if well manured, a light loam is what it flourishes in the best. In selecting plants of this crop for seed, chose the largest and best formed roots, preferring those which rise highest above the surface of the ground, and such as preserve a pink color, and green leaves ; the plants intended for seed must not be deprived of their leaves, but permitted to retain them.

Vineyard.—Now is the season for gathering the grapes and making wine. Persons curious in these matters, and wishing to prolong the luxury of fresh grapes for the desert, should select some bunches of hanepoot, or other rich and firm variety of this fruit, cutting off a few joints of the stem with the bunch, and hanging them on lines in a dry room ; they must be examined occasionally, and all decayed berries cut out with sharp pointed scissors, to prevent them damaging the rest. Trusses which are loosely formed (not crowded in the bunch) are the best for preserving.—Grapes secured in this manner, have been kept until November.

March and April are the best months to destroy the couch grass in the vineyard, and the best implements to draw it out of the ground, is the broad-formed three-pronged fork. Couch grass washed free from sand, &c. and cut like chaff, is a nutritive food for horses, &c.

Forest.—This and next month, (April,) is the most proper time for planting and sowing tree seeds. Of the pine tribe, those entire cones which have not opened should be chosen ; they may be opened by force, or, what is better, they may be exposed to the heat of a declining oven, or before a brisk fire, when the seeds will readily fall out. Plant them in rows, covering them only about one inch with earth ; acorns may be planted deeper.

Fruits in the Market.—Almonds, peaches, nectarines, pomgranate, mulberries, grapes, apples, pears, oranges, lemons, figs, melons, and watermelons.

APRIL.

The violence of the south-east wind now begins to moderate.

Kitchen Garden.—Early in this month, onions must be sown on light rich soil for a full crop, and in dry weather they should be plentifully supplied with water. Endive, which is

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of a sufficient size for blanching, should now be tied up, or boards placed upon the open plants, and kept down by any sufficient weight. Succory must be treated in the same way, or the plants may be taken up with a ball of earth, and planted in pots or boxes; and be afterwards placed in a cellar, or a close dark room for the purpose of blanching, observing to gather such leaves only, as may be fit for the table, a succession of this vegetable should be so treated every week, if the demand requires it: whatever method is pursued in blanching these crops in the open air, care must be taken to tie up, or press the plants in dry and clear days, or the plants will speedily decay; if the crop of endive comes in too fast for the consumption, or the weather proves moist, such plants as are tied may be taken up in a dry day, and hung by the roots in a dry cellar. The plants of succory may be divided and planted out in moist weather, the roots are used for stewing, or dried and roasted, as a substitute for or to flavour coffee.

Early carrots, early Dutch and Cape turnip, radish, Savoy cabbage, Brussels sprouts, knolcole, boerecole, red cabbage, broccoli, beans, peas, and potatoes, are now to be sown. The red cabbage come to perfection if not transplanted, but thinned out to the distance of eighteen inches or two feet apart. It has also been observed, that cauliflower raised from European seeds, on somewhat stiff soils, and treated in similar manner, is not so liable to the attack of the fly as when transplanted; this circumstance arises from the plant not receiving the check to its growth usual on transplanting. Slips of boerecole, and the side shoots of white broccoli may now be planted out three feet apart: with the broccoli, this method is perhaps the best that can be adopted in South Africa, if the suckers or shoots are taken from those plants which have produced the largest and closest heads; the white broccoli, although long coming to perfection, amply repays for its tardiness in the size of its heads, and as it resists the ravages of the fly, and the greatest heat of summer, even on sandy soil, it deserves an extensive culture. Observe, that, on rich ground, it requires more space than three feet. In the choice of potato sets for planting, select those which appear the least ripened, as they are found to produce the strongest plant and the heaviest crop; the eyes also, ought to have shot forth at least a quarter of an inch before planting. At this season the skilful gardener will plant an early variety of potatoes in preference to any other kind, unless it may be European seed, which frequently arrives about this time and must be planted; a full crop, however, must not be expected from them. Continue to plant out succession crops of lettuce. Garlic and shallots may now be planted, especially the latter; a light dry soil is best for them, requiring no artificial watering; the shallot produces a supply of greens for salads and soups, till the young onions come in. Cauliflowers sown from the middle to the end of this month, and transplanted in June, in rich soil, come to head in August and September; but in low and cold situations, and if the season prove wet, they are retarded for some weeks longer.

At every convenient opportunity, weeds and the refuse of crops should be burned, as the means of destroying noxious

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seeds and the eggs and larvæ of insects, and the ashes thrown to the manure heap.

Orchard and Nursery.—From the nursery rows, the couch grass and other perennial rooted weeds should be forked out, and where it is intended to manure the ground, the dung or other compost may be laid in heaps and be ready for digging in; fresh beds may also be prepared by digging and throwing up the soil into rough ridges, and thus facilitate the work for the ensuing months. In thriving and established fruit-bearing orchards, the growth of a fine turf of grass should be encouraged, by spreading a good coating of sheep and cattle dung over the surface; and where the branches of the trees are out of the reach of sheep, a few of that animal may be occasionally admitted; their urine and dung will improve the grass.

Flower Garden.—Towards the end of the month, if it prove showery, the rosemary edgings may be trimmed, and slips of rosemary planted where required. The roots of Georgina (Dahlia) must be taken out of the ground when the stems are decaying, and kept in a dry place; slips of wallflower and double stocks to be planted in stiff soil, adding a portion of rotten dung and leaves; those slips must not be handwatered, unless the season prove unusually dry: slips of pinks and carnations may now be planted in a dry soil. Anemonies and ranunculus planted in light sandy soil. Every decaying plant, weeds, &c. and the gravel walks must be attended to.

Farm.—During this month, ditches and ponds must be opened and cleaned out. The corn must be thrashed, or it must be kept over, (the thrashing machine may be worked at all convenient times.) The land must be dunged at the rate of forty loads per morgen, and, if possible, ploughed. It is a favorable time for preparing a light and sandy loam for carrots, the large scarlet or sandwich variety is the best for culture; if, however the soil is mostly sand, the horn variety is better, as the two former will not penetrate far into a sandy soil, when condensed by heavy or continued rains; the carrot should be allowed plenty of room; it is a superior and fattening food for horses, and renders their coats very sleek. Plant out tufts of Guinea grass (*Panicum maximum*) on manured soil, twelve to fifteen inches apart; this grass produces an abundance of green forage, and should be encouraged in districts where the natural herbage falls short in the dry season: new crops of this grass should be planted every third year. Peas may be sown at the end of the present, and during the next month; it is also a proper time to sow the Maltese clover (*hedysarum coronarium*). This plant, with a little manure, will thrive on the most sandy soils.

Fruits in the Market.—Apples, pears, quince, pomegranates, medlars, lemons, limes, grapes, &c.

MAY.

During this month rain may be expected, though in some years this month continues dry, with moderate temperature.

Kitchen Garden.—Cauliflower, cabbage, and lettuce, may be transplanted about the full moon. The cauliflower planted out now, must be considered as a principal crop, and therefore placed in a favorable situation, and in the richest ground of the

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garden ; those quarters which have been cleared of celery and cucumber crops are best adapted to receive the cauliflower, and should now be prepared by digging two spades deep, and adding good rotten dung with an unsparing hand ; when planted, the surface to remain in a rough state, to prevent moisture lodging on the top, and must not be raked smooth till the plants are established, and show health by their rapid growth. Savoy cabbage, Brussels sprouts, &c. are to be planted out in nursery beds as directed in March ; in finally planting out vegetables, agreeably to this practice, the experienced gardener is enabled to reject degenerate plants, replace such as have failed in the standing crops, with the least check, and produce an equality of crop, not usual in this colony.

Sugar and early varieties of peas are now to be sown in a dry soil ; carrots, turnips, onions, lettuce, parsley, aniseed, carraway, and coriander, should be sown about the full moon, and several crops already up, will require the hand-hoe to be constantly used among them in dry weather, to destroy weeds, and by loosening the ground, prevent its settling in a hard surface. Turkey long-pod, and broad beans, must be stopped while in flower, in order to insure a fair crop. Small herbs and others, for which there is a constant demand, should be sown at stated intervals, of these, small salad every week, radishes every fortnight, early turnip, lettuce, and onion, every three weeks, cabbage at longer intervals, and according to their kind ; in this month they are best sown with a declining moon, which is usually accompanied by cloudy weather or rain.

Onions, leeks, radishes, carrots, parsnips, salsafe, and scorzonera, should be planted out for seed. Such cabbages as may have been selected for seed, and turnips for the like purpose, will require to be planted in rich ground, and kept moist, to counteract the bad effects of the fly.

In small gardens, but one variety of the cabbage tribe should be permitted to flower and ripen seeds in any one season, and as those seeds may be preserved in a vegetating state of from four to eight years, no inconvenience arises from adopting strictly this practice ; no *dependence* can be placed upon a crop of seeds ripening in this colony, from recently introduced Europe cabbage and turnip. Cauliflower, broccoli, endive, and lettuce, must be allowed to ripen their seeds without being transplanted : the carrots, parsnips, and similarly formed esculent roots, are the better for being placed in a dry repository for a fortnight or three weeks before planting ; this interim will allow sufficient time for examination and rejection of such as are woody and tough, bad colored and bad flavored ; the breaking off a small portion of the extremity of each root will be no detriment to its future growth, and be a sufficient sample of quality for the experienced to judge by.

Such celery as may now be large enough for ridging out, must be attended to ; trenches of nine inches wide and fifteen deep, must be dug at four or five feet apart ; in the bottom of each trench place rotten or spit dung three or four inches deep ; turn this in with the spade, so as to give it a slight covering of earth ; the leaves and tap-root of the celery being shortened,

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plant them from seven to nine inches plant from plant, give them water immediately, and in dry weather, when the growth of the plants become rapid, the quantity of water must be increased. On the earth which is thrown out of the trenches, lettuce and endive may be planted, and gradually withdrawn, as the celery requires earthing up.

To forward the work for the succeeding months, all spare ground may be dug and thrown into ridges. This practice meliorates stiff soils, destroys many weeds, and exposes insects therein, their eggs and larvæ, to such birds as devour them; when the ground so treated is to be cropped, manure, when requisite, can easily be applied, and the whole expeditiously levelled with the spade or a heavy rake.

Flower Garden — Narcissus, jonquils, tulips, and hyacinths, may be planted in sandy soil; anemonies and ranunculus thrive best in black soil; decayed leaves, reduced to dust, is the best dressing for all kinds of flowering bulbs. N.B. It is necessary to plant Dutch (imported) bulbs, as soon after their arrival as possible, whatever period of the year that may be, but it is desirable to procure them from Holland direct, and at their proper season for export; the bulbs may then be received in this country, and in good condition, in November.

Towards the end of this month, the young and tender exotics must be sheltered from heavy rains, by removing the pots or boxes containing them to the warm aspects of hedges or other fence. Protect the roots and lower part of the stems of young exotics, already planted out, by placing a litter of dry leaves round them, as a guard against the frosts which may be expected in June and July. Seeds of hardy annual flowers sown now form strong flowering plants for August and September.

To those who are curious, and would form neat edges for their flower gardens, it is recommended to collect the bulbs of oxalis, which are now beginning to flower, and plant them about the same depth in the ground as they are found naturally; during this and the next two months Galaxia and Trichoneme, (*Fruta* and its tribe,) may be planted with the oxalis, to prolong a floral display. Those bulbs, after the planting, should not be removed for four or five years. The Brunswick lily (Chandelier) *Hæmanthus* or blood flower, *Knysna* and *Berg* lilies, with others of the same nature, being in full leaf, may be removed from the wilds to the flower garden and planted, where they are to remain without disturbing, or they will rarely flower. Evergreen shrubs are to be planted at the end of this, and throughout the next month, as the proper season.

Orchard or Nursery.—No fruit trees should be pruned this month, but in June or July, according to their several natures and species.

Seeds of *keureboom* sown at this season, thrive well in moist and shaded situations; other native leguminous trees should be sown now; their introduction to garden enclosures would prove beneficial, and might lead to the formation of ornamental shrubberies; a department at present unknown in this colony, and, consequently, the utility of which cannot be appreciated by those unacquainted with its nature and importance.

For the purpose of rearing wood forests, this month and the en-

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uing are the best.—For an oak forest the ripe acorns should be gathered as soon as they drop from the trees, and laid in a place cleared for this purpose, two inches deep, so that it may be put under water.—In June or July the plants are five or six inches high, and may then be transplanted, which is done with an iron spike, commonly called *uintjes yzer*.—For apine forest the cones should be plucked in October, that is to say, such as are a year old, for those will shoot better than such as were gathered in April or May.

Farm.—This is the calving and yearning season; the ewes in lamb should be kept separate from the rest of the flock, if possible, and the general flock from standing too long on the wet lands, in order to avoid the *footsore*. The sheep-farmer would do well to examine his flock daily, and to remove every unhealthy sheep, affected with the *brandziekte*, to cure which he can have recourse to the remedy so well known. If he neglects this, his loss will be considerable.

The land must be ploughed and sown this month, where practicable, although there may be no rain. It was supposed, that when the honey-dew touched the corn, unless rain fell two or three days after, the ears turn black, and the grain is injured. No honey-dew whatever is the cause of this disease, it has its origin in a particular species of *fungi*; such also is the Rust, but differing in its effects. No effective remedy has been found for those diseases; they appear almost beyond the control of man; but the farmer should strictly observe their progress, and take care that his seed-corn be of the best quality, and occasionally procure a change from a distance.

Fruits in the Market.—Apples, pears, quince, medlars, pomegranates, jambos or rose apple, loquat, lemons, limes, grapes.

JUNE.

This month is generally fine, with frequent showers; the south-east wind is seldom felt; the north and north-west winds prevail.

Kitchen Garden.—The several crops mentioned last month, may be continued to be sown, but little progress must be expected in their growth, if the month prove cold and wet. Full crops, however, of radish, lettuce, and small salads should be sown at intervals, according to the demand for them. Horse-radish may be planted either in this or the two following months; it requires a deep and light soil, and to be kept free from weeds. Medicinal, sweet, and pot herbs, may now be planted out, by dividing the roots, or by slips and cuttings; a good dressing of manure should be applied, and in dry weather they will require water.

The crops of potatoes, which are now ripe, should be taken up; and, to judge in general of the fitness of the crop for lifting, notice must be taken of the change of color in the stems, which become yellow before they decay: in such varieties as produce seed, the full growth of the apple denotes ripeness of the potatoe; but unless seeds are wanted for the production of new varieties, the plants ought not to be suffered to flower, but the trusses pinched off on their first appearance. No crop is more injured than the potatoe, if suffered to remain too

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long in the ground after coming to perfection ; such as are so treated will neither be so well flavoured, nor keep perfectly good for any length of time. The potatoes planted in April must have the earth drawn up about the stems, but not to be banked up too thickly or firmly ; it prevents their free growth, by depriving them of moisture, and burying them below the beneficial influence of the sun.

The sets of potatoes intended for planting in August, may be spread thinly on any open space of ground, and left exposed to the weather ; they may occasionally be shifted to hinder their rooting into the ground before they are planted in their proper quarters, before which they must have sprouted half an inch.

European cabbage, Savoy cabbage, and red cabbage, must be planted out in good dry ground : the Savoy, if the plants are strong, may be planted between the rows of potatoes, now finally earthed up ; this method saves much labor and ground ; if the ground requires it, a portion of dung may be placed on the spot where the plant is to be dibbled in, a little soot may be added, to deter the approach of the grub, most active at this season.

Strawberries should now be planted, selecting the strongest runners from the old beds ; the beds of strawberries should be renewed every three years : a stiff loam suits this plant best.

Nursery or Orchard.—Acorns ought to be gathered when ripe, and planted immediately ; those which fall from the trees are frequently dry and unfit for planting ; if no selection of seed has been made, or the planting delayed, it must not be neglected beyond this month, and choose such acorns as are of a dark brown color, rejecting those which are pale. The pine or fir sown in March, is now making its appearance, and should be kept free from weeds. This is the most favorable season for transplanting trees of every description ; fir or pine should not be delayed beyond the middle of the month. The planting of trees should be effected in cloudy or rainy weather, and if the natural soil is not suitable to trees planted for particular purposes, the holes may be dug deeper, and a few green boughs placed at the bottom, covering them with a richer soil, and filling up with such compost as the nature of the tree requires.

Almonds are now to be planted, the point downwards ; this tree forms a most excellent stock for budding peaches and nectarines upon. Stones fruits, such as peaches, nectarines, plums, &c. should be planted as soon after they have been taken from the pulp as possible ; the peach and nectarine stones should be slightly cracked, but not so as to injure the kernels, otherwise they may not vegetate for two seasons, or fail altogether.

Chesnuts, walnuts, and hazelnuts, should also be planted now. The seeds of apples, pears, quince, orange, lemon, loquat, and rose apple, must be sown immediately after they are taken out of the fruit. When rearing apples and pears from seed, with a view to procure good varieties of fruit, those plants which have roundish leaves are expected to turn out the best, those with narrow leaves seldom produce a good variety in size and flavour, but are fit stocks to graft approved varieties upon.

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The pruning and planting of fruit trees must be completed this month ; in these operations, especial care must be taken to employ only those persons whose known experience and abilities entitle them to be entrusted with such work : the mere laborer, or *nominal* gardener, may, by the cut of the knife, or by the injudicious planting of a tree, destroy the labor of years, and what renders the mischief more effectually destructive, one or two years may transpire after planting, before the cause of failure is detected.

Where lemon and orange trees are affected with the scab, they must be cut down, if the insect cannot be kept under by other means, and a strict examination be made of the state of the roots, that if the fault lies in the soil, the proper remedies may be applied. Moss and every impurity should be brushed or scraped off fruit trees in damp weather, and the bark of the plum trees cut through with a sharp knife in perpendicular cuts, beginning at the branches, and continuing the cut downwards to the ground, or to the old and rough bark, all loose flakes of which should be removed : the above operation, simple as it is, by dividing the epidermis on the trunk, encourages the formation of a new bark, and enables the sap to rise and perform its functions without impediment ; the tree generally becomes more fruitful and healthy, and does not throw out so many suckers from the root, which are formed and supported by the sap which ought to nurture the fruit and branches only.

Decayed leaves, particularly of oak, should be collected and thrown in heaps ; if mixed with dung from the kraal or stable, they will form an excellent manure for the garden : these heaps must be turned occasionally to prevent the extra heat of fermentation from destroying the soluble matter of the dung or leaves ; if on turningover, the heap appears too dry, water may be thrown over such parts, but this is not strictly advisable. For very stiff soils, seaweeds and the fragments of shells from the beach are excellent additions to the leaves and dung.

Lemon, citron, and orange trees ought to be planted at least twenty-five feet apart, and in a quarter to themselves ; orange trees thrive best in loamy soil ; lemons grow freely and produce much fruit in light black earth, which contains a considerable portion of decayed vegetable matter. In preparing the ground for planting those trees, it should be trenched three feet deep and well manured : cowdung, with a portion of decayed oak leaves is the most proper for this purpose, and, if the natural soil should be of a stiff clayey nature, the greater quantity of manure will be required. In planting the trees, care must be taken not to bury their stems beyond the depth they have already been in the ground, otherwise the trees will become sickly, and the soil, as is too often the case, be blamed as the cause of decay, scab, &c. In the annual digging, a coat of manure may be regularly turned in, but after the trees have become well established, this dressing will not be requisite ; when turning the ground any unhealthy fibrous roots may be removed, and from their appearance a skilful gardener is enabled to judge what farther treatment his trees may require. All decayed branches must be cut off ; in dry weather the

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young growing trees will require watering, which may be given, with liquid manure, alternately, once a week, but in favourable soils, the orange tree, like many other evergreens, is injured by a superabundance of moisture.

Such fruit trees as are now shedding their leaves, may be pruned according to their several natures and species. The ground may also be turned over with the spade, and manure applied, if necessary. Between the nursery rows, any light culinary vegetables may be sown or planted. This practice, however, is only to be followed where ground and labor are objects of consideration.

Flower Garden.—New plantings of roses, by suckers or cuttings, may now be made, and fresh horse-dung applied to the roots. The Provence and other European roses should be pruned pretty close; the yellow rose must be allowed to remain without pruning, or no flowers will be produced.

Tube-rose, jonquils, &c. must not be neglected to be planted this month; pay attention to such plants as are expected to flower in the spring, by transplanting such as bear this treatment, and thinning out the patches of annuals. Continue to sow hardy flower seeds, and keep the beds and walls from weeds. This is the best time for laying gravel, putting the walks in order and rolling them frequently.

Vineyard.—If possible, the vines must be pruned this month, and the ground turned over, more for the sake of cleansing the land of weeds, and to destroy insects, than for any real necessity there is to dig it. Where it is deemed necessary to manure the vines, it may be done this month, spreading the dung equally over the surface and digging it in. Once in two years is frequent enough for manuring the vines, but even this is often superfluous.

The cuttings of the vines must be tied into convenient sized bundles, and placed in the ground until they are to be planted; this should not be later than the month of September, or the beginning of October. The best cutting of vines for planting are those which have a knot of the old wood, and four or five healthy buds on the new, which permits the leaving of two buds above ground.

Farm.—The calving and yeaning season continues. Attention must be paid to the live fences, particularly where gaps require filling up by the planting of native or other trees. A principal crop of tobacco must be sown during this or the next month. To form and prepare the seed bed for the crop,—mark off the ground at four feet wide, and of any convenient or requisite length, a light rich soil is necessary, and to render it more so, a mixture of decayed leaves and rotten dung must be unsparingly applied, and if the soil should be loamy, wood-ashes may be added; the bed must be dug pretty deep, and trod down with the feet, level it with a coarse rake, and sow the seed as thinly as possible, raking it in with a finer rake, and gently patting it down with the back of the spade or a board; this is to prevent the seeds being washed out by heavy rains; the plants must be kept free from weeds, and when they have about four leaves they are large enough for planting out; this must be performed, if possible, in cloudy or showery

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weather, placing the plants at not less than three feet distance from each other, and in quincunx, or thus * * * * *, which does not permit the leaves of one plant to rub those of another. During the progress of the crop the weeds must be kept down by repeated hoeings, and upon the plants showing ten or twelve leaves the top must be pinched off, after which, the side shoots will appear at the base of the leaves, these also must be pinched off to divert the nourishment of the plant to the reserved leaves.

The proper time of securing the crop is known by the succulency of the leaf and its cracking upon being folded; the cutting should be effected in dry weather, and the whole process of drying must be done under the shelter of a roof or in an open airy building,—drying the leaves in the sun in this country is injurious, it is apt to scorch them and render them brittle, where toughness in the leaf is an object most desirable; the exposure to the sun, by too quick drying, retains a portion of the green color and causes an unpleasant flavour, too common in the ordinary Cape tobacco.

Fruits in the Market.—Apples, pears, medlars, jambos, loquat, lemon, shaddocks, and citron.

JULY.

In this month copious rains fall; the north and north-west winds prevail.

Kitchen Garden.—About the full moon sow cabbage; to be transplanted in September. In warm and sheltered situations, pumpkins, calabash, and maize, may be sown for early crops, and which at this season require rich soil, and, on some ground, top drains; full crops of peas and beans must be sown this month, and towards the end of the month plant the early varieties of kidney beans, on cold, wet, and sandy soils: this vegetable will succeed better if sown a month later. A full crop of celery should be sown now, and in dry weather continue to earth up that which is already planted out. Turnip of all kinds may now be sown in drills, enlarging the space according to the size which each variety commonly attains. In warm situations, potatoes, onions, and leeks, answer well; radish, lettuce, endive, and small salads must not be forgotten at their stated periods.

During the wet season, the seed beds for various crops should be raised above the ordinary level of the ground, and their surface bevelled, or sloped towards the sun, that the plants may receive the full benefit of warmth and drainage, so very essential in the winter months; during which lettuce and endive thrive best on beds so formed.

In dry weather the hoe must be applied, both to destroy weeds, and keep the ground loose.

Plant out such culinary vegetables as are required for seed, onions in particular; it is strongly recommended to seed growers to assort this bulb before planting, arranging them according to their form and the color of their skin; at present, the whole varieties are confounded together, although so easy of arrangement, and which is necessary to prevent a further degeneration in a vegetable of so much importance. As a slight hint to those who will improve upon it, the following are names of the

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original varieties now cultivated. 1. White, or *oignon blanche*. 2. Portugal. 3. Strasburg. 4. Blood-red; several sub-varieties are met with, possessing the essential properties of the onion in various degrees, which are, size, mildness of flavour, and long keeping; the under-ground potatoe or proliferous onion, does not produce seed, and is as yet but little known in the colony; it is fine, productive, and certain in crop, and particularly adapted for small gardens.

The moisture in this month encourages the slugs and snails to traverse the garden and do much injury to the growing crops; to destroy these animals effectually, cabbage leaves may be laid flat on the ground, to which the animals will retire for shelter, and they may be taken by the hand in the mornings and destroyed. To prevent their access to particular beds of plants, chaff may be strewed around these, and which, sticking to the bodies of these animals, obstruct their movements. By a constant attention to such precautions, and not permitting any accumulation of rubbish about the fences, which shelters them, small gardens may be quickly cleared of this pest.

The dust of American tobacco is the most efficient remedy for destroying slugs, worms, &c.; it should be strewed on the ground, and around the plants to be preserved, renewing the application of dry dust, after any shower of rain may have weakened its efficacy.

Nursery or Orchard.—The directions given last month for the sowing tree-seed and planting trees are still to be attended to, if requisite. Cuttings of apples, pears, figs, and mulberries, may now be planted in light, moist, and rich soils. Stakes or truncheons of the black mulberry, of any thickness to that of two inches, and of any convenient length, may be planted in deep rich soil, and treated in every respect as trees are on being planted, giving them support, shade, moisture, and protection from strong winds; such stakes root freely, and produce fruit the second year. The wild mulberry may be planted on any spare ground, and treated as directed for the *taaybosch* in February; this species does not require, though it thrives best in, rich soil. The olive, willow, and poplar, may likewise be propagated by truncheons, and will grow in any soil.

This is the most proper season for grafting fruit trees. The scions (grafts) should be cut off in June, and placed in the ground as directed for the vines till wanted.

As the cork-tree, and some species of oak, (new to the colony) have been lately introduced, but have not yet produced seeds, and it being of importance to increase the species (the cork-tree in particular,) scions may be engrafted on young seeds bearing branches of oak, by which, one of the principal intents of grafting will be exemplified, viz: a *speedy production of fruit*. Chestnut, hazel-nut, and filbert, as they belong to the same natural order as the oak, may also be grafted upon it, and with the same results. The same rule holds good with all trees and shrubs, with few exceptions, but these may be overcome by the observation and practice of a scientific gardener.

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Cuttings of quince may be planted, to form future stocks for pears, it improves the flavor of the fruit; and pears grafted on quince stocks require less room in the orchard than others; it must, however, be observed, that quince stocks do not last so long as seedling pear stocks, and being of smaller growth, care must be taken to suit the variety of pear accordingly.

In moist weather cleanse the trees from moss and scab (coccus) by a strong hard brush, or an iron scraper, and in dry weather apply the soap-ley, to which may be added tobacco-dust, or flower of sulphur.

Where the orchard is situated in low and wet situations, it must be drained during the wet season by well-cut ditches, and cross surface drains.

Flower Garden.—The general instruction for last month is applicable to the present. Nasturtium, or Indian cress, should be sown lower. The tubers of georgianas taken up in April, are now to be re-planted, if desired; the tubers may be divided, taking care to preserve one shoot at least to each division; this plant must be sheltered from the south-east wind. Sweet and Tangier peas will not require sticks.

Vineyard.—In the forming of a new vineyard, the ground ought to be trenched three feet deep, where practicable, removing all the larger stones, strong rooted weeds and shrubs; a good dressing of manure must be applied, mixing it thoroughly with the soil: the cuttings should be chosen about 14 or 15 inches in length, leaving two buds at least above ground. It is by far the best plan to plant the cuttings out at once, which should be done in a regular manner, the lines being placed in a south-east or north-west direction; cuttings should also be planted singly, in pots or small boxes, and plunged in the ground, these will root freely, and serve for future occasions to replace any stocks which may die in the vineyard; if any of the stocks decay in any established vineyard, the vacancy may be filled by layering a branch from a neighbouring vine, or more immediately by a plant from one of the serve pots, taking care to dig a hole for the reception of the plant 18 inches deep, and filling round the young vine with rich prepared manure.

Farm.—To have late barley the land must now be prepared. The early part of this month is also a favourable time for preparing good ground by cross and deep ploughing for mangel-wurzel, carrots, maize, pumpkins, and potatoes. Full crops of peas and beans should be sown now, as a last and principal crop for the season; but in this, as in many cases, the experienced farmer must take into consideration local and other circumstances. The ground for a full or principal crop of tobacco must also obtain particular attention.

Fruits in the Market.—Oranges, lemons, calabash pears, loquat, and jambos. From this period till the month of November, the orange and its congeners may be considered as the only fresh fruits in the market. Walnuts, almonds, and raisins, as dried dessert fruits throughout the year: as to the dried figs of the Cape, they are not so good as they might be.

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AUGUST.

Much rain in general falls this month; the north-west wind prevails.

Kitchen Garden.—There are but few culinary vegetables but what may be sown with advantage this month: and those sown in June and July must be planted out, treating them agreeably to local situations and their several habits, in which operations actual practice must be the only guide. In planting, every advantage must be taken of showers of rain falling; and of dry weather, for the destruction of weeds, earthing up of various crops which may require it, and forwarding the work of digging and preparing ground for the ensuing month. During this month attention must be paid to keeping open of drains, especially in situations liable to the overflow of periodical streams from the mountains, which, if suffered to stagnate on the lower and cultivated grounds, retard the growth of, or destroy altogether, many garden crops.

About the beginning of the month, sow dwarf French beans in a deep and rich soil, or where the ground is very sandy manure must be placed in the drill. With a declining moon, sow Cape cabbage, celery, leeks, onions, parsley, chervil, turnips, carrots, white beet, spinage, orache, succory, radish, and early cucumber seeds. To prepare the ground for early cucumbers, the richest soil should be selected, digging it two spades deep, and dressing it with a plentiful supply of rotten dung; and, if the ground is naturally stiff, decayed lead mould may be added, marking the ground off in rows, and planting the seeds in patches of six or seven in number, and about three feet distance from each patch, or the seeds may be sown thinly in rows. As this plant attains the height of three or four inches before the cotyledon or seed leaf is fully developed, the seeds should be sown in hollows equal to that measure, that the ground may be drawn down to the stems, and brought to the surrounding level, this will require to be done in a few days after the plants appear; when the plants have formed three rough leaves, they must be stopped by nipping off the point of the shoot; this causes the plant to throw out lateral shoots, strengthens them, and forces them into fruit at an earlier period than they otherwise would do.

The stools of artichokes should now be dressed, by taking off all the smaller suckers, leaving only three or four of the strongest shoots to each stool; in stiff soils, a good coating of manure applied now, will promote the growth of the plant, and improve the size and goodness of its heads; where required, fresh plantings may be made of the suckers now removed.

This is a favourable time for sowing cauliflower seed in well manured soil, and thinning out the plants without transplanting, but leaving them in rows at proper distances; a shaded but not a confined aspect is most favorable for this practice; it is observable, that the variety of Cape cauliflower which shows a slight colored tinge in their heads, is the best to sow in this colony at periods which many persons would deem unseasonable. It is a good practice to tie the leaves of the plants, or to fold two or three leaves down upon the heads of the cauliflowers.

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flower, in order to preserve a delicacy of flavor and color.

Celery is best sown in this month, that it may be ready for trenching out in the months of November and December, for a full and principal crop. Plant out onions, leeks, pimpernal, sorrel, and African anise root; there are several native species of plants, allied to the anise, such as *vinkei-bol* and others, well worth the garden culture, and improveable in size and flavor, so as to render them of marketable importance, seeds of which are easily procured from the wilds, or, what is perhaps better, young plants may first be introduced. As the onion forms its bulbs on the surface of the ground, the young plants may be planted only so deep as to fix them securely in their proper position; leeks must be placed deeper in the ground. A full crop of red beet may be sown early in this month, as the most proper time for producing good and well formed roots for use.

Cabbage, turnips, carrots, and parsnips may still be planted out for seed.

As this is the best month for planting potatoes, and the certainty of producing a good crop may be depended upon, (even on the poorest soil cultivated in this colony) the present memoranda must be strictly attended to, referring the grower to the notes in June for what is not repeated here. Whole potatoes are the best sets for planting in this colony, and in general should not be of a less size than one inch in diameter, but if the potatoe is large, and it is requisite to increase the number of sets, the potatoe may be cut, being careful to leave at least one full bud (eye) on each set; as the top of the potatoe forms the strongest bud, so they make the best sets, and produce earlier than either, the middle and bottom, or stalk end, the extremity of which, being without buds is useless for planting, and then keeping each selection to its particular row.

The ground being dug, drills are to be formed to the depth of from six to nine inches, and from eighteen inches to three feet distant from each other, according to the particular habit or growth which distinguishes the variety to be planted; the earlier dwarf potatoe, requiring less room than the late, tall, and large kinds, but three feet distance between drills is the best for all, especially at this season.

The drills being formed, place fresh manure along the bottom of each to the depth of three to five inches, according to the strength and goodness of the natural soil, place the sets on the manure at from the distance of nine to eighteen inches apart, according to the width of the drills, the strength of the set, and above all, the habit in growth of the variety planted: after the sets are placed, cover them with about two inches of earth drawn down from the sides of the drills, and leave them so until the shoots have attained the height of four inches; when the time arrives, cleanse the rows from weeds, and draw down the soil towards the rows, stirring the ground well with the hoe, and leave it at the natural level until the plants have made a farther growth of nine inches in height, when the hoe must be again set to work, and the crop earthed up. If the above method is strictly followed, no artificial watering being

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required, unless the month of October prove unusually dry, it will be next to impossible that the least failure ensue.

The raising of new varieties of potatoes from seed is under the ordinary method a very tedious process, but if the following directions are attended to, the work will be facilitated, and the object attained in one third of the time usually employed.

When the potatoe-apple is fully ripe, gather a sufficient number, wash the seeds from the pulp, dry and preserve them till the time of sowing, the most proper season for which is from the middle of July to the middle of August. Sow the seeds thinly, in boxes filled with light and rich earth, watering occasionally if the season prove dry; when the plants are about two inches high, they are to be planted in richly manured soil, and in single rows, at fifteen inches distance plant from plant; when the plants have gained the height of nine inches, lay the stems on the ground, directing their points towards the opposite quarter from which the periodical strong winds are expected, cover the lower part of the stem, for six inches, with a good mixture of leaf mould dung and earth, and continue this operation as the plants advance in growth, being careful to leave the points of the shoots free for farther progress, keep the plants free from weeds, and in dry weather supply them with water, by hand, and to promote their quick growth, which is highly essential, liquid manure should be supplied occasionally. To each plant sticks with numerical figures should be placed, and any useful remarks respecting the growth of the plant, produce, and quality must be entered in the journal, or memorandum books with tallying numbers: the stems of the earlier varieties will first decay, it is therefore necessary to take the whole up as they ripen, that the notes entered in the journal may be as complete as possible.

Rhubarb for tarts may be sown this month, and afterwards planted in sandy, well manured soil, in rows, three feet by two feet.

Jerusalem artichokes may be cultivated by planting the small tubers, or by cutting the large ones as the potatoe, leaving one or two eyes, on each set, which plant in rows two and a half feet apart, and the sets fifteen inches in the line; keep them free from weeds, and draw a little earth to the stems when twelve inches high. If planted in single rows, they will form good space and shelter for light summer crops. On the decay of the stem, take up the roots, and be sure to clear the ground even of the smallest tuber.

Orchard or Nursery.—Orange, lemon, and fruit trees in general may be grafted until the middle of the month; moist or cloudy weather is the best for this purpose; the saddle or whip modification of grafting is preferable to the cleft method usually practised in the colony: the latter method is most adapted for old trees. The grafts which were put on last year, and are established, should not as yet be permitted to bear fruit, unless for the determination of quality or kind, but every encouragement given to form strong and handsome heads, by rubbing off the flowers, and all spurious shoots from the stocks. In the orchard, destroy every description of weeds.

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Flower Garden.—Requires constant attention in weeding and watering, and the keeping the walks and borders neat and clean. Cuttings of Camelia, or Japan rose, teashrub, Cape jasmine (kaatjepiering,) Heliotropium, and similar flowering shrubs are now to be planted, placing glasses over them to promote their rooting; plant cuttings of geranium or pelargoniums and other hardy shrubs. Sow hardy annual flowers, and also those of convolvulus major, Chinese aster, India pink, and similar, and less hardy kinds; keep the ground loose on the surface and about the roots of Ixia (kalotje) and other small bulbs, divide perennial rooted plants, and plant them out where they are to remain. This is a favorable time for sowing exotic seeds from both cold and temperate climates.

Vineyard.—If the digging of the vineyard has been neglected hitherto, it must now be done, or stand over, rather than risk the shoots which are now sprouting to damage; the vines on trellices must now be attended to, rubbing off all unproductive shoots, or those which are not required to fill up blanks. Land for new vineyards may still be prepared, and the cuttings planted till the end of the month.

Farm.—This is the season to set brooding hens, ducks, and geese. This subject requires more attention than has hitherto been paid to it; the various breeds of poultry should be kept as separate as possible, unless superior cross breeds are the object, and then the desired improvement must be duly considered, and the best method of obtaining it. Much of the poultry brought to the Cape market is very inferior in regard to the size, form, and flavour.

Sow a full crop of mangelwurzel.—(See March.)

A full crop of maize should be sown during this month, the land which has been cleared of green barley being generally freed from the earlier rank weeds, is favorable for bearing a crop of maize; but it will require a good dressing of dung. The grain should be sown in drills at two or three feet apart, and the plants thinned out, at least twelve in the rows, if the maize is intended to stand for a mature crop, the greater space allowed to the plant will enable it to bear larger and more cobs of grain. Where the ground is rich, and sufficiently good to bear a crop of pumpkins or French beans along with maize, the drills for the latter must be drawn at five or more feet distance from each other; the beans may be sown broadcast, but the pumpkin is better in rows or patches. Successional crops of maize may be sown at the convenience of the grower, from this period until the latter end of November, the late crop for green forage. The maize corn, when given to horses or mules, should be crushed in a mill; where this is inconvenient, the grain should be steeped in water twenty-four hours before feeding.

This is a proper time for sowing lucerne, (klavergras,) it requires a deep soil, naturally good or must be made so by manure: for the crop drills are to be drawn at nine inches apart, the seeds sown therein, and, so shelter the young plants from sun and drying winds; buckwheat, (boekweit) sown broadcast over the whole, afterwards harrowing and keeping it free from any rank weed, which the buckwheat cannot overpower. Lu-

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cerne might also be sown earlier in the season, and along with barley, but the buckwheat is best adapted to the purpose required, and will itself repay the farmer, in a speedy return of seed particularly nutritious to swine and poultry; two skepels of buckwheat are sufficient to sow one morgen of land. Lucerne seed sown in drills, twenty pounds weight is requisite per morgen.

Hops may now be planted by suckers from the established weeds, or by cuttings, the hop ground must be kept free from stools and attention paid to the poles, preparing new ones in time.

SEPTEMBER.

Fine warm weather, with frequent showers of rain may be expected during this month. The West, South-west and North-West winds usually prevail, and the weather very variable throughout the month.

Kitchen Garden.—In the beginning of this month, large broods of caterpillars appear, these should be destroyed by beating them down with a whisk, made of the pliant twigs of the quince.

About the full moon, plant out onions, cabbage, lettuce, knolcole, leeks, celery and potatoes; and at the same time full crops of the following may be sown, viz: beans, peas, melons, water-melons, pumpkins, calabash, cucumbers, celery, early dwarf and York cabbage, lettuce, spinage, parsley, beet, carrot and parsnip. At the middle and latter part of the month, sow French beans.

Sow the seeds of sea-cale, in circles of five or six seeds at three inches apart, forming the circles at three feet from each other; when the plants have arrived at a sufficient size, they must be thinned out, leaving only three or four plants in each circle. This vegetable requires a good sandy loam, and decayed sea-weed mixed with sand in proportion to the nature of the soil growing the crop, is the best manure that can be applied; during the progress of growth, the plants must be kept free from weeds and all decayed leaves, to prevent grubs from sheltering around and destroying the crown of the plant. At twelve months old, the plants will be fit for blanching, for which purpose place boxes of fourteen inches wide, and sixteen inches high, over each circle, covering the boxes with decayed leaves, or long stable litter; when the shoots have attained the height of six inches they will be sufficiently blanched, and fit for the table. According to the demand, so must the number of boxes employed be regulated; and, to keep up a regular supply, the boxes should be placed at intervals of fourteen days; two crops may be cut from the same plants in one season. After the crop has been finally cut, the plants must be cleared from dead leaves, and the ground spit over, adding manure if necessary. The sea-cale generally produces well for four years, but it is better to make fresh plantings every year, which is easily accomplished by seed, dividing the plants, or by cuttings of the roots, from two to four inches long.

Prepare ground for asparagus, by deep trenching and an extra dressing of dung; the beds being formed, draw drills at ten or twelve inches apart, sow the seeds in the drills, and

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when the plants are a few inches high, thin them out to the proper distance, observing to leave those of the strongest growth. Where beds are to be formed by transplanting, good plants of two years old are to be preferred, but it is economical of time and labor to sow the seeds where they are to remain. Whichever of the above methods are followed, blank spaces of ground (after preparation) of four feet wide, are to be left between every three drills. This is afterwards, and at the proper season, to allow an alley two feet wide to be formed between the beds, throwing the soil, with manure, on to the beds; in the mean time they may be appropriated to any suitable crops. The beds also will bear light crops of radish, lettuce, &c. for two seasons from the time of sowing. Attention should be paid to the above, as the asparagus sent to the market does no credit to the growers of it.

In very rich ground sow capsicum, chili-pepper, egg-plant (*Bringal*), sweet basil, tumato, okro, &c. The capsicum, egg plant, and basil, being liable to be eaten off by several species of beetle, are best raised in pots or boxes, planting them out afterwards in light and rich soil, supplying them plentifully with water, and giving them liquid manure occasionally.

In dry weather the hoe must be constantly employed to destroy weeds, stirring up and loosening the surface of the ground and earthing up such crops as require or thrive best with such treatment.

Slips and cuttings of sage, rue, thyme, and small pot herbs may be planted during this month, on rich and moist soil.

Orchard or Nursery.—Almonds sown in July, and other stone fruit trees, begin to come up, these must be constantly freed from weeds, and the surface of the ground about them loosened. Care must be taken not to allow water to stagnate about the roots of stone bearing fruit trees, which are now setting their fruit; indeed, water is hurtful to those trees until the stone is somewhat hardened in the fruit. Continue disbudding such trees as require it.

Flower Garden.—Balsams, cockscombs, globe amaranthus, and all other known Indian seeds may be sown, from the middle to the end of the month, they require rich soil and plenty of manure and water. Camelia, and any other favorite garden shrubs may be layered.

Vineyard.—Stop the fruit bearing shoots of the vines, when the clusters are about to open their flowers; keep down all rank growing weeds with the hoe. Vine cuttings must be planted this month if not done sooner.

Farm.—Peas and beans may be sown in the field, and on dry grounds require water while coming to perfection, but must be allowed to ripen without artificial watering. The principal field crop of kidney beans is to be sown during this month, and if done at the beginning of the month, will produce a good crop without irrigation. Destroy the weeds from among the maize, pumpkin, &c.

The beginning of this month is the proper season for sowing cotton-seed in drills drawn at three feet apart, thinning out the plants as soon as they perfect a few leaves, or while they are three or four inches high, the plants left in the rows at two feet

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distance from each other. As there are several distinct species of cotton, cultivated in various countries, it is necessary to ascertain the real description of imported seeds, as the shrubby cotton plant will require nearly double the space mentioned above, and intended for the herbaceous kind, and the species best adapted to this colony. This crop will require to be kept free from weeds, during its growth, and when it is observed to stop blossoming, or to show this circumstance by forming its flowers slowly and but few, the ends of the shoots should be nipped off, to divert the nourishment to the forming pods. The cotton requires a deep soil, and where particularly sandy, a proportionate dressing of manure; it might follow in rotation other crops, the detail of which cannot be inserted in the limits of this treatise.

Attend to the crops of tobacco, depriving the plants of the side shoots; it is proper for the grower to leave a few plants for seed without depriving them of the tops or side shoots, and although the tobacco is a plant which does not degenerate, it is advisable to select and mark the plants of strong growth and producing the best leaves, or otherwise marked by particular habit which may be desirable to obtain in future crops. It is to be observed, that the tobacco so long cultivated here, is the true Virginian, than which there is none better; a variety is known in British gardens by the name of Oronoko, or James' river tobacco, and is distinguished by its less pointed leaves, and is the only variety which can compete with the Virginian.

The farmer might also this time begin to mark any plants amongst his crops of grain which seems to possess any excellencies above those of the crop in general; and save such as he approves of to sow in the proper season, and he may thereby procure an improved variety.

Moist and good land should be well ploughed and dragged in June and July, and then let lie till the middle of September, when it must be properly manured and ploughed in order to be sown towards the end of the month. The lands, especially light and sandy soils, may be cropped with wheat for two years, but the third year, barley, or oats for hay should be sown,—those early crops permitting the farmer to clear his grounds of couch-grass, and other weeds.

OCTOBER.

In this month rain falls now and then, the winds are rather variable, generally from the north-west. In some years the south-east wind does much injury to tender crops during this month.

Kitchen Garden.—Sow in drills and pretty thick, seeds of the silver skinned, or of the white onion, for pickling; this crop being expressly intended to produce small bulbs, are not to be thinned out nor supplied with water, and when they have attained the required size, they are to be pulled up and dried by a few hours' exposure to the sun, but not to remain long enough to be scorched.

Sow Cape cabbage, cauliflower cos and cabbage lettuce, radish, early Dutch turnip, and red beet; pumkins, melons, and water melons, as succession crops, and the young cucumber and melon plants must be sheltered from the south-east.

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wind, by placing small bushes to the windward of the plants, drawing the earth to the stems, and continue to observe the instructions for the cucumbers, given in January; the melons do not require pruning, but the leading stems must be secured from injury by strong winds by pegging them to the ground.

Continue to plant out successional crops of cabbage, celery, lettuce, onions, and leeks, in moist and well manured soil.

Plant out capsicum, chilli-pepper, and egg-plant: spread a mixture of fresh horse-dung and dead leaves two inches thick about the plants and over the beds they are in, to shade the roots and save watering when it can be done. Tomatoes and okro to be planted out; a successional crop of the okro may be sown in rows, leaving the plants eighteen inches apart. Indian or Guinea sorrel, (*hibiscus sabdariffa*.) cultivated for its leaves, may be sown and treated in the same manner.

Potatoes intended to be kept, may be placed in a cool dry shed, and covered with straw, or other long and dry litter, or pits may be dug, of a convenient size, and about three feet deep, placing some good dry straw in the bottom, heaping the potatoes in a pyramidal form, and packing straw round the heap as it is raised in the height and on the top, when completed, banking earth firmly over the whole, to the thickness of eighteen inches, and let them remain till wanted.

Orchard or Vineyard.—The trees in those grounds should be carefully examined, for the eggs, pupæ, and larvæ of insects, which, if destroyed in these states, prevents future injury to the trees, and is the best method of keeping them under. Shoots springing immediately from the roots, or from the stems as far as the bark is hardened, should be removed, particularly on young stocks, as it is desirable to have trees with a clean stem to a convenient height; several of the fruit trees which throw up suckers from the roots, denotes disease in the stocks, that sooner or later spreads over the whole tree; it frequently originates in some bad quality of the ground, perhaps, want of sufficient and proper nutriment, or an excess of food injurious to particular species; whichever it may be, the cause must be ascertained, and the remedy applied in time. In dry weather, water must be led to the trees.

Flower Garden.—Constant waterings in dry weather are requisite for all plants in this department, and the young exotics be planted out: the best time for this is immediately after the cotyledons or seed leaves are fully expanded, and the future stem or leaves pushing up; care must be taken not to injure their roots on removing, and they must be shaded from the noon and the mid-day sun, keeping the soil moist about them but neither giving too much, nor very cold water. Such tulips, ranunculus, and anemones, as are reserved for seed should be marked, and the seed vessels of the other cut off. Towards the end of this month, or the beginning of November, these bulbs must be taken up, the best time is when the leaves are decayed.

Vineyard.—The ground must be kept free from weeds, and the shoots of the vines topped, those producing clusters must be cut off at the third joint beyond the truss; a good stirring of the surface of the ground is favorable to the vines in this season. The vines on trellis-work must be trained in the direction re-

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quired, and tied, to secure them from the force of the wind ; this work should be done in dry warm weather ; in dark and moist weather, the shoots are brittle and require more care.

Farm.—Now commences the most busy time for the farmer : barley and oats must be harvested, and the general instructions of last month attended to in this, if required. This is one of the best months for washing and shearing wool-sheep. Many people now put the rams to the ewes, and wean the lambs from the ewes which have lambed in March, April, May, and June. Experience has shown the farmer, that lambs dropped in those months, form his best stock, and when the severe cold and heavy rains of July and August prevail, then the ewe and lamb are strong enough to withstand the severity of the weather. The opulent farmer who can keep his sheep under cover, may follow his own inclination, but the poorer farmer must do the best he can. The bush-lice is very detrimental to the growth of the young lambs, and the herd as well as the person in charge of them, should pay particular attention to see them kept as clean as possible, otherwise they may prove very injurious. The remedy is well known.

Fruits in the Market.—Oranges,—this fruit now being perfectly ripe, seeds of the best flavored kind should be preserved for planting,—lemons, limes, and loquat.

NOVEMBER.

The south-east wind now begins to prevail, and there falls but little rain. Locusts and grasshoppers do much damage, particularly in the Eastern division of the Colony.

Kitchen Garden.—Sow lettuce, cabbage, early Dutch turnip, knolcole and carrot, in moist ground, and if possible in shaded situations. Plant French beans and peas ; about the full moon, plant out early cabbage and knolcole, and celery in ridges. To produce small cucumbers for pickling, the seeds should be sown at the full moon, in the months of October, November, and December, giving them water in the evenings, and where it can be done, allow the water to soak freely through the beds during the night. The best variety of cucumbers for "Gherkins" are the short prickly sort, of a dark green color, and require less attention in leading and pruning than the longer varieties. Cauliflower is to be sown now in rich soil ; some early melons and water melons may be sown for succession crops ; and, the melons which have arrived at their full growth must be deprived of water, as a continuance of moisture, while ripening, destroys the high flavor of this fruit.

If possible, all young and tender crops should be sheltered by mats, or by temporary fences of reeds or bushes ; where this is done to the seedbeds, the trouble is amply repaid by securing the crops until they have gained sufficient strength to resist the drying effects of the south-east winds.

Sow long-pod beans at the end of the month, and red beet may be sown as a succession crop on deep and rich soil ; also white beet, where it can occasionally be supplied with water.

Nursery or Orchard.—The fruits, now advancing to maturity, should have the water led to their roots in dry weather. Stocks

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for budding upon in the next month should be duly watered, and all unnecessary buds rubbed off. The operation of budding may be commenced during this month, if the buds for insertion are in proper condition.

Flower Garden.—Several flower seeds are now ripening, but only those worth preserving should be allowed to arrive at maturity; all others, beginning to fall in blossoms, should be cleared from the ground (unless of the shrubby description) to make room for other plants, that a constant display of flowers may be kept up. The tube-rose may be planted and kept well supplied with water. Seeds of tropical plants may be sown now, keeping them moist, and sheltering them from the mid-day sun, until they appear above ground, after which they are to be gradually exposed to the sun.

Vineyard.—Where there is a supply of water at command, it should be constantly led to the vines in dry weather; but the moment the grapes have arrived at their full growth, the supply must be cut off. The same constant attention is necessary to stopping and removing all superfluous shoots, but every precaution must be taken against exposing the fruit while advancing in growth, to the powerful effect of the sun. The young vines will be better for a constant supply of water, during this and the two next ensuing months.

Farm.—The harvest work employs the attention of the farmer principally at this season; he must, however, attend to the burning of the fields.

Fruits in the Market.—Early figs, strawberries, loquats, guavas, limes, lemons, oranges, green almonds, &c.

DECEMBER.

There is in general but little variation in the weather from that of last month,—light rains may, however, be expected about the end of the present.

Kitchen Garden.—Sow early Dutch turnip, cabbage, knolcole, celery, white beet, spinach, peas, beans, and potatoes; these will require at this season moist and well manured soil; local situations and circumstances must guide the gardener in exercising such methods as he has already found the best for keeping up a regular supply of culinary vegetables during the dry season, and to improve his practice by any experiments which may occur to him, taking care that he does not overstep the bounds of reason.

Plant out cauliflower for an early crop; if any ground is clearing of early cucumbers or celery, such spots are best for cauliflower, giving at the same time a good dressing of manure; celery may, in like manner, be planted in ridges, where the beds are cleared of early onions and shallots. The different varieties of broccoli may be sown during this month; of this vegetable, the dwarf white and Cape broccoli are the best kinds for this colony; they do not require so rich a soil as cauliflower, but nearly similar treatment; and as the white broccoli is very slow in producing heads, it should be allowed plenty of room.

Strawberry plants must be cleared of the runners, where they are not wanted for future plantations. A constant and plentiful

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supply of water is not only requisite but beneficial to this fruit during the dry season.

Nursery or Orchard.—The various fruit trees should be budded during this month, but, when this operation is not fully understood, grafting must be resorted to at the proper season. The shrubs, &c. which have been layered, will require water during the dry months, and to prevent the roots from injury arising from occasional drought, a covering of dead leaves should be spread on the ground about them.

Both in this and the ensuing month the orchard must be guarded against the depredations of birds and quadrupeds; the figs in particular, intended for drying, should be protected by old fishing nets, or nets made on purpose, and the fruit should not be plucked until they are, in a manner, drying on the trees: when plucked, they are to be dried on hurdles of basket-work, and when ready for packing, must be sorted according to quality and size. The great error hitherto practised in preserving this fruit has been—the drying of partially ripened fruit, which never can be good, as they become harsh and nearly tasteless. The figs of the Cape ought to rival, if not excel, those of the Morea.

Vineyard.—In this department no further instructions are necessary, if the husbandman attends to those of the preceding two months. *No strong vinegar can be made of sulphured wine.*

Farm.—Wheat is harvested during this month, rye ripens about the beginning. Where grain, especially wheat, is stored in lofts, those places should be carefully examined and thoroughly cleaned out, previous to the commencement of harvest; a neglect of this necessary work frequently causes loss to the farmer from vermin remaining in the lofts, especially weevils, which, after destroying the grain, make good their lodgments in the timber of the buildings. The field must be burned this month.

APPENDIX TO THE FOREGOING CALENDAR.

The following hints having been occasionally requested by individuals, are given here as being of general usefulness to cultivators at large:—

On the Importation of Seeds, Plants, &c.

The seeds saved in England in the current year are generally to be purchased in London in the months of November and December, consequently those months are the best for making purchases for exportation.

If *new seeds* are not procurable, which is sometimes the case, the following brief notes of the period during which seeds retain (under proper care,) their vegetative powers, may serve as a general guide:—

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Cabbage tribe,—four years.
 Leguminous culinary vegetables,—one year.
 Beet—ten years.—Turnip,—four years.
 Carrot and parsnip,—one year. Radish,—two years.
 Scorzonera,—two years. Onion tribe,—two years.
 Spinage,—four years. Celery,—ten years.
 Lettuce,—three years. Mustard,—four years.
 Tarragon,—four years. Sorrel,—seven years.
 Parsley,—six years. Dill and fennel,—five years.
 Chervil,—six years. Hysop,—six years.
 Sweet herbs in general,—two years. Rhubarb,—one year.
 Cucumber, melon, and congeners,—ten years.

Tree seeds.—Stone seeds,—two years.
 Acorns,—scarcely grow the second year.
 Fir tribe, in close cones—two years.

The following are desiderata in this colony :

Tree seeds.—Pine and fir tribes, excepting *pinus pinna*, *p. pinaster*, and *cunninghamia lanceolata*, *quercus* or oak, elm, beach, sycamore, plantane, lime, napple, birch, mountain ash, holly, hawthorn, yew, &c. &c.

Herbaceous plants.—Rhubarb, potatoe, onion, cenna, camomile and many other suitable to soil and climate.

Of the following culinary vegetables it is necessary to receive fresh importations at every convenient opportunity,—the species either degenerating in the colony, or being difficult to save in sufficient quantity to meet the increasing demand. The most desirable varieties, or those most suitable to the colony are mentioned, and by procuring those only, unnecessary expense and disappointment may be avoided ; new varieties are constantly introduced to public notice, and for particular accounts of which, as well as other essential information on rural affairs, the reader is referred to " Loudon's Gardener's Magazine," and to the advertising sheet of the same work, for reference to respectable seed and nurserymen, from whom the best articles are alone procurable.

Cauliflower, early and late.	Cabbage, Antwerp
Broccoli, white.	——— red.
——— Cape.	Turnips of sorts.
Cabbage, Savoy.	Beet, dwarf, top red.
——— Brussels sprouts.	—— Mangel-wurzel.
——— early dwarf.	Mustard, white.
——— York.	Radish, of sorts.
——— Sugar-loaf.	Spinage, Flanders.
And for the occasional change of seed, or first introduction :	
Beans, dwarf fan.	Chervil, curled.
——— green nonpareil.	Cress, ditto
——— white blossom.	Onion, James longkeeping
Peas, blue Prussian.	——— Globe, Deptfort.
——— blue Imperial.	——— silver skinned.
——— Spanish dwarf.	Leek, flag.
——— Knight's ditto.	Lettuce, onion.
——— Bishop's ditto.	Cucumber, long prickly.
——— Hotspur.	Melons, any superior flavour.
Parsley, curled.	

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RS The following instructions will tend to obviate disappointments, in the transmission of seeds, trees, &c. if strictly attended to :—

Seeds.—For exportation, must be new, perfectly ripened, and well dried, cleared from all impurities, and to be packed in brown paper, or canvas bags, and on board ship, to be exposed to a current of air.—If the quantity is so large as to require the outer package to be a cask or box, these should be perforated for admission of air, but of a size to exclude vermin. Those boxes or casks are better for being kept on deck, exposed as little to the sun as possible, or, if stowed below, it should be as convenient of access to them as possible, in order to give them an occasional airing on deck. In long voyages seeds should never be stowed in the hold.

Bulbs.—As onions, tubers, &c. as in potatoes, should be carefully dried, and of rare or desirable species; each bulb or tuber should be wrapped up singly in coarse brown paper, each species in packets by themselves, and placed in close wooden cases, carefully *excluding air*; these packages require less attention than those containing seeds, but they must not be placed deep in the hold of a ship, or fermentation will take place, and a total decay of the bulb ensue.

Fruit Trees and other deciduous Trees are fit for export on the fall of the leaf, when they are to be taken up, the longer roots shortened, and the heads shortened also for the convenience of package, and the roots coated with a tenacious clay puddle of the thickness of cream, and which must be allowed to dry on the roots; each tree ought to be numbered with a leaden tally, fixed securely to the stem with copper wire, the trees are then to be closely stowed in strong wooden cases, and made tight to the total exclusion of air. Moss is sometimes used to fill up the spaces between trees, but it is not necessary. Maiden trees are the best for this mode of package, and of forest trees those with stems one inch thick at least. Upon the arrival of the trees at their destination, after unpacking, their roots must be soaked in water for twenty-four hours, and after planting they will require shade and water to be supplied conformably to the season of arrival. On a long passage the package to be treated as those of bulbs.

Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.—To be taken up on the immediate periodical maturity of the leaf, and which are, before packing as above, to be cut off from the stems with a sharp instrument; in evergreens it is better, if possible, to select such as have no leaves on the lower and reserved part of the stem. The pine and fir tribe must be introduced by seed.

N. B.—Seeds, bulbs, or plants, must be kept in distinct packages, or the premature decay of either will destroy or seriously damage the whole. And the smaller the packages of seeds, the greater will be the certainty of success, as they can be placed in the cabins of ships with less inconvenience, and are more readily carried on deck for occasional airing.

The prescribed limits of this treatise do not permit much to be advanced on the important subject of manures, but having recommended the application of *Liquid Manure* to particular

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crops, its composition is given here ; and it is hoped, that the cultivator, viewing the rapid and improving condition of his crops, will extend his experiments to every description of vegetable requiring rich nourishments, and which is so easily applied at all requisite periods, in a liquid form.

To prepare Liquid Manure.—Take two barrows-full of fresh cow-dung, one barrow-full of fresh horse droppings, and one barrow-full of fresh sheep droppings, to which must be added, one skepel of quick-lime for each hogshead (fifty-one gallons;) bring it to the thickness of cream by adding a sufficiency of water, and it will be fit for use.

Bones, broken small with the hammer, or crushed in a mill, are a useful and powerful manure, and deserve the attention of the cultivator, as by reducing the bones to powder, and various sized fragments, all to be applied at one time, the gradual and successional decay of the fragments, and the solution of nutritive matter contained therein, enables the cultivator to manure his land at one dressing for several succeeding crops.

Horn Shavings and the *Parings of Horses' Hoofs*, &c. are a still more powerful manure than bones, and may be used with advantage, taking care not to apply the horny substances to excess.

The occurrence of each revolving year continues to prove the necessity that exists in this colony for the introduction of SYSTEM into every department of rural economy ; to promote so desirable an object, and to assist those who are willing to receive and improve upon instruction, and to set the example to others, the following works are strongly recommended for the general information which they contain, and which will also direct the reader to the most useful and more enlarged scientific works upon similar subjects, and where more information may be required, it is suggested that the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies of the colony should provide themselves with duplicate copies of all Mr. Loudon's works,—one copy to remain for reference at the usual place of the society's meeting, and the other to be circulated by loan, and under proper regulations, to the members of such societies.

The whole of Mr. Loudon's publications require only to be read that their value may be known and appreciated, and become the certain guide to successful improvements. The *Gardener's Magazine*, serving as a continual supplement to his encyclopedias, a register of every new introduction and improvement in the garden and the field, and containing a practical, faithful, and candid review of all new publications on rural affairs, renders it to the industrious and attentive reader a library in itself, and a necessary companion to every person engaged in those pursuits.

The encyclopedia of cottage, villa, and farm architecture, should be in the possession of all persons who may wish to alter and add to old, or erect new buildings ; the price of the work will be comparatively nothing, if attention be paid to the information contained in the work, and is precisely what the circumstances of this colony require.

CURE FOR THE SCAB IN SHEEP.

CURE FOR SCAB IN FINE WOOLLED SHEEP.

Recipe and Directions.

Take of Corrosive Sublimate, 12 ounces,
And Sal Ammonizæ, 6 ditto.

Pound and dissolve these in scalding water,
then add of Turpentine, 2 quarts,
And strong Tobacco-water, 15 to 20 gallons,
and mix the ingredients well together.—This quantity is sufficient for dressing *one hundred* sheep.

The mixture should be kept in an iron pot, as this will not be corroded by it.

Stretch out upon a frame of thongs (riems,) at about two feet from the ground, a hide in which the animal is to undergo the operation, it will also prevent the liquid from running to waste.

The mixture must be kept constantly stirred.

Having first closely shorn such a number as can conveniently be dressed in the day, the mixture is to be applied by the hand with a coarse cloth, rubbed in all over (except the eyes) as hard as possible, taking care to miss no part whatever. The animal can be laid down on each side alternately in the stretched hide described above, while lambs may be dipped at once in a tub of the liquor of about half the strength of that employed for the grown sheep.

Should the scab be very bad, after shearing, it must be removed by a curry-comb.

The operation having been completed on the animals now dressed, they must be removed to a clean place, and on no account to come in contact with the other undressed sheep, or to occupy any old kraal in which deceased sheep may have been kept. After twelve or fourteen days, the dressed should be most carefully examined all over, and if any symptoms of the distemper still linger, the parts so affected must be washed with the mixture, a portion of which can be retained for the purpose in bottles. The whole flock on a farm should be dressed in one year, or a complete separation be made by removal.

The weather in which the dressing takes place ought to be fine, but in case of rain occurring during the progress, the animals should be kept under shelter for two days.

If the infection be particularly virulent, it is recommended, directly after the shearing and previous to dressing, that they should be drenched with a mixture, for Rams or large Wethers, and for Ewes, per hundred, of

Sulphur,	-	-	1 lb.
Milk,	-	-	3 gallons.

This is to be administered in the evening, when they are to be penned up close to induce perspiration; they may be let out to pasture the next morning for an hour or two, but immediately after penned up again until the following day, when the dressing progress is to be undergone.

COOKERY FOR THE SICK.

COOKERY FOR THE SICK.

For the successful treatment of many complaints, we often depend more upon the cook than upon the doctor, and it is, therefore, of consequence that in every family there should be some-one acquainted with the manner of preparing aliments most suited to a weak digestion, or to the season of returning health. We subjoin a few receipts for this purpose, recommended by their simplicity and economy.

Beef Tea.—To one pound of lean beef, cut in slices, add a quart of water; let it gently simmer for twenty minutes, and skim it clean. If wanted in haste, it will now be ready, but it would be better if simmered half an hour longer.

Mutton Broth.—One pound and a half of neck of mutton; three pints of water. Pare the skin and the fat off the mutton, and let it stew in the water very gently. Take off the scum, and let it continue to simmer for an hour; then strain it off. It should be left to become cold, when all the greasy particles coming to and hardening on the surface can be readily removed, and the broth can be drawn off quite clear from the settings to be re-warmed.

Barley Water.—To two quarts of water put two ounces of pearl or Scotch barley; when it boils, strain it very clear, then put fresh water to it with a bit of lemon peel, and let it boil gently till reduced to nearly one half. Strain it off, and add sugar and lemon-juice to the taste. If lemon cannot be readily procured, about half an ounce of cream of tartar will give to the drink a pleasant flavor. If required in haste, barley-water may be made with prepared barley, in little more than ten minutes.

Barley Milk.—Half a pound of pearl barley, one quart of milk, and half a pint of water. Boil for three hours and a half, strain the drink and sweeten with sugar.

Rice Gruel.—Wash a quarter of a pound of rice in water, then put to it a pint and a quarter of new milk, and six or seven grains of allspice: stew the whole gently until the rice is sufficiently tender to pulp through a sieve; return the pulp and the milk into the pan; simmer for ten minutes. If too thick, add very gradually a small quantity more of milk or water; add sugar to the taste.

Another cheaper and very nice gruel may be obtained with less trouble. Boil gently a quarter of a pound of rice in two pints and a half of water during four hours, the rice will then be quite dissolved, forming, with the water, a thick gruel; add nutmeg and sugar. This simple nourishment may be found extremely serviceable in some disorders.

Water Gruel.—Stir two table-spoonsful of oatmeal by degrees into a pint of water, and, when smooth, boil it for five minutes, stirring it all the time. Butter and salt are sometimes taken with this, or sugar and nutmeg. To convert it into caudle, add a little ale, wine, or brandy.

Water Gruel made with Groats.—Boil a table-spoonful of Embden groats for two hours in a pint of water, occasionally stirring it.

Sago.—Soak a tea-cupful of sago in cold water for an hour; pour this off and wash it well, then set it with a quart

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of water to simmer by the fire ; lemon-peel and allspice may be added ; when it looks clear, then it is sufficiently boiled ; add wine and sugar. It may likewise be made with milk instead of water, omitting the wine.

Arrow-root.—Take a tea-spoonful of arrow-root, and mix it with double its quantity of cold water ; pour this gradually into a quarter of a pint of boiling water while yet on the fire, stirring it all the time ; this will immediately thicken the water to the consistence of gruel ; add a dessert-spoonful of wine, some grated nutmeg, and a little sugar : for infants, the wine and nutmeg must be omitted. Arrow-root, like sago, is also extremely nice made with milk instead of water, the quantity to be used of course varying with the thickness required.

Vinegar Whey.—Pour into boiling milk as much vinegar as will separate the curds from the whey ; strain this off, and dilute with hot water to an agreeable acid, and sweeten with sugar.

Treacle Posset is made in a manner nearly similar to whey, treacle being used instead of vinegar. When the curd has subsided, strain off the posset, to which it is not necessary to make any additions.

Bread Jelly.—Toast a slice of bread very dry and brown, pour water over this sufficient to cover it, and let it boil very gently ; as the water evaporates, more is added during four hours, it will then be a complete jelly, strain it, and as it is used add some sugar and a little new milk. This is a very light, nourishing food for an invalid.



SIMPLE MEDICINAL RECIPES.

The Complaints alphabetically arranged.



For an Ague.—Take a handful of groundsel, shred it small, put it into a paper bag, four inches square, pricking that side which is to be next the skin full of holes. Cover this with a thin linen, and wear it on the pit of the stomach, renewing it two or three hours before the fit. Or, melt two-penny worth of franckincense, spread it on linen, grate a nutmeg over it, cover it with linen and hang this bag on the pit of the stomach ; which seldom fails to effect a cure. A tea-spoon full of spirits of harsthorn, taken in a glass of water, has often been attended with success.—A *Tertian Ague* is often cured by taking a purge one day ; and the next bleeding in the beginning of the fit. Or, apply to each wrist a plaister of treacle and soot ; this has proved effectual.—*For a Quartan Ague*, use strong exercise, (as riding or walking as far as you can bear it,) an hour or two before the fit. If possible, continue it till the fit begins. This alone will frequently cure. Or, apply to the wrists a plaister of turpentine ; or of bruised pepper, mixed with treacle.

SIMPLE MEDICINAL RECIPES.

St. Anthony's Fire.—Take a glass of tar-water warm in bed every hour, washing the part with the same. Or, take a decoction of elder leaves as a sweet; apply to the part a cloth dipt in lime-water, mixed with a little camphorated spirit of wine.

The Apoplexy.—In the fit put a handful of salt into a pint of cold water, and, if possible, pour it down the throat of the patient; he will quickly come to himself; so will one who seems dead by a fall. But send for a good physician immediately. If the fit be soon after the meal, do not bleed, but vomit. Rub the head, feet, and hands, strongly, and let two strong men carry the patient upright, backward and forward, about the room.

To prevent Abortion.—In the case of a weak or relaxed habit, take daily half a pint of decoction of lignum guaiacum; boiling an ounce of it in a quart of water for five minutes; observing at the same time to avoid great quantities of tea, or other weak liquors, and to use solid food. But for a woman of a full habit give half a drachm of powdered nitre, in a cup of water-gruel, every five or six hours, using withal a spare diet, chiefly of the vegetable kind. In both cases the patient should sleep on a hard mattress, with her head low, and be kept cool and quiet.

The Asthma.—Cut an ounce of stick liquorice into slices; steep this in a quart of water four and twenty hours, and use it, when you are worse than usual, as common drink; which has been known to give much ease. Or, take an ounce of quicksilver every morning, and a spoonful of aqua sulphurata; or fifteen drops of elixir of vitriol, in a large glass of spring-water, at five in the evening. This has cured an inveterate asthma.

A Dry or Conclusive Asthma.—Drink a pint of new milk morning and evening; this has cured an inveterate asthma. Or, beat fine saffron small, and take eight or ten grains every night. Or, you may take from three to five grains of ipecacuanha every morning; or from five to ten grains every other evening. Do this, if needful, for a month or six weeks. Five grains usually vomit. In a violent fit, take a scruple instantly. In any asthma, the best drink is apple-water; that is, boiling water poured on sliced apples.

To prevent Bleeding at the Nose.—Drink whey largely every morning, and eat plentifully of raisins; or wash the temples, nose, and neck, with vinegar.

Bleeding of a Wound.—Take ripe puff balls; break them warily, and save the powder; strew this on the wound, and bind it on. This will stop the bleeding of an amputated limb without any cautery.

Spitting Blood.—Take a tea-cup full of stewed prunes, at lying down, for two or three nights. Or, two spoonfuls of juice of nettles, every morning, and a large cup of decoction of nettles, at night, for a week.

Vomiting Blood.—Take two spoonfuls of nettle juice. This also dissolves blood coagulated in the stomach.

SIMPLE MEDICINAL RECIPES.

Biles.—Apply a little Venice turpentine ; or an equal quantity of soap and brown sugar well mixed.

Hard Breasts.—Apply turnips roasted till soft, then mashed and mixed with a little oil of roses ; change this twice a day, keeping the breast very warm with flannel.

Sore Breasts and Swelled.—Boil a handful of chamomile and as much mallows in milk and water ; foment with it between two flannels as hot as can be borne, every twelve hours. It also dissolves any knot or swelling in any part.

A Bruise.—Immediately apply treacle spread on brown paper ; or electrify the part, which is the quickest cure of all.

A Burn or Scald.—Immediately plunge the part into cold water ; keep it in an hour, if not well before ; perhaps four or five hours. Or, electrify it ; if this can be done presently, it totally cures the most desperate burn. Or, apply a bruised onion.

In a deep Burn or Scald, mix lime-water and sweet oil, to the thickness of cream ; apply it with a feather several times a day ; this is a very effectual application.

A Cancer in the Breast, of 13 years' standing, has been cured by frequently applying red poppy-water, plantain and rose-water, mixed with honey of roses ; afterwards, the waters alone perfect the cure. Or, take horse-spurs, (a kind of warts that grow on the inside of horses' fore legs,) and dry them by the fire, till they will beat to powder. Sift and infuse two drachms in two quarts of ale ; drink half a pint every six hours, new-milk warm. It has cured many.

A Cancer in any other Part.—Apply red onions bruised.

For a Cancer in the Mouth.—Boil a few leaves of succory, plantain, and rue, with a spoonful of honey, for a quarter of an hour. Gargle with this often in an hour ; or, with vineagr and honey, wherein half an ounce of roche-alum is boiled.

To cure Chilblains.—Apply a poultice of roasted onions hot ; keep it on two or three days, if not cured sooner.

Chin-cough, or Hooping-cough.—Use the cold-bath daily ; or rub the back, at lying down, with old rum—it seldom fails. In desperate cases, change of air alone has cured.

Cholera Morbus, or Flux and Vomiting.—Drink two or three quarts of cold water if strong ; or warm water, if weak. Or, decoction of rice, or barley, or toasted oaten bread.

To cure chopt Hands.—Wash with soft soap, mixed with red sand ; or wash them in sugar and water, or in vinegar.

For a Cold.—Drink a pint of cold water lying down in bed ; or a spoonful of treacle in half a pint of water.

In a Fit of the Colic.—Drink a pint of cold water, or a quart of warm water. Or, apply outwardly a bag of hot oats ; or steep the legs in hot water a quarter of an hour.

For a Consumption.—Cold bathing has cured many, deep consumptions. Take no food but new butter-milk churned in a bottle, and white bread. Or, boil two handfulls of sorrel in a pint of whey ; strain it, and drink a glass thrice a day. Or, turn a pint of skimmed milk with half a pint of small beer ; boil in this whey about twenty ivy leaves, and two or three sprigs of hyssop ; drink half over night, and the rest in the

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morning ; do this if needful, for two months daily—it has cured in desperate cases.

Convulsions in Children.—Scrape piony roots, fresh digged ; apply what you have scraped off to the soles of the feet ; it helps immediately.

For a Cough.—Drink a pint of cold water lying down in bed. Or, make a hole through a lemon, and fill it with honey ; roast it, and catch the juice ; take a teaspoonful of this frequently.

To prevent the Cramp.—Tie your garters smooth and tight under your knee at going to bed, which seldom fails ; or lay a roll of brimstone under your pillow. *To cure the Cramp*, strongly put out your heel, pulling your toes inwards.

Deafness.—Be electrified through the ear ; or use the cold bath ; or put a little salt into the ear.

A Diabetes.—Drink three or four times a day a quarter of a pint of alum-posset, putting three drachms of alum to four pints of milk. It seldom fails to cure in eight or ten days.

The Dropsy.—Rub the swelled part with salad oil by a warm hand, at least an hour a day ; this has done wonders in some cases. Or, eat a crust of bread every morning fasting. Or, take as much as lies on a sixpence of powdered laurel-leaves every second or third day. Or, be electrified.

The Ear Ache.—Rub the ear hard for a quarter of an hour— or, put in a roasted fig, or onion, as hot as may be— or, blow the smoke of tobacco strongly into it.

An excellent Eye-water.—Put half an ounce of lapis calaminaris powdered, into half a pint of French white-wine, and as much white rose-water ; drop a drop or two into the corner of the eye. It cures soreness, weakness, and most diseases of the eye ; and has been known to cure total blindness.

The Croup,—a disorder in children, which has generally proved fatal, is said to be now easily cured by taking from the arm as much blood as the child can bear.

The Gravel.—Infuse an ounce of wild parsley-seeds in a pint of white-wine for twelve days ; drink a glass of it fasting, three months. To prevent its return, breakfast for three months on agrimony tea ; this has cured the complaint without the least symptom of its return.

The Jaundice.—Take a small pill of Castile-soap every morning, for eight or ten days.

To kill Lice.—Sprinkle Spanish Snuff over the head ; or wash with a decoction of oculus India berries, after combing the head.

To cure the Piles.—Apply warm treacle ; or a tobacco-leaf steeped in water twenty-four hours ; or varnish, which perfectly cures both the blind and bleeding piles.

To one Poisoned.—Give one or two grains of distilled verdigrise : it vomits in an instant.

For an inflamed Sore Throat.—Lay nitre and loaf-sugar mixed, on the tongue.

For a putrid Sore Throat.—Lay on the tongue a lump of sugar dipt in brandy.