

attention, two or more successive sowings of each of which ought to be made during the commencement of the month.

Successional sowings of white stone turnips may continue to be made; for, to have these in perfection, it is best to make frequent small sowings, using the roots only when they are young and tender; swede turnips sown now will be fit for use in winter; for although they are usually considered a field crop, they are also a very excellent winter vegetable.

Further supplies of spinach, and repeated sowings of peas and broad beans may continue to be made; should the soil happen to be dry at the time of sowing any of these crops, it is an excellent plan, after the drills have been formed, to run a potful of water along the bottom of each, immediately after which the seeds may be sown and covered in. This is a much better and more natural plan than steeping seeds, and the ground will retain the moisture thus imparted better than by surface watering, whilst the germination of the seeds will be considerably accelerated thereby. Crops, however, which have recently been sown, will be greatly benefited by repeated surface-waterings during dry weather. This assertion, I am aware, is sometimes challenged by the inexperienced and unobservant.

Successional sowings of cress, mustard, radish, endive, and lettuce can be continued. Spring-sown early and late cabbages can be transplanted, and additional sowings made; any of the other sorts of winter greens fit for removal may now begin to be transplanted, care being taken to select suitable weather and a fit condition of the soil.

Vegetable marrows, cucumbers, gourds, pumpkins, water-melons, and tomatoes, raised in pots, as previously directed, may now, if omitted last month, be planted out in a sheltered situation; each of which, except the tomatoes, may be planted in threes, each three standing about a yard apart. The first few days after removal they should be constantly shaded, and frequently watered. Tomatoes may be planted at the bottom of a paling, to be trained against it, or in continuous lines across the garden, twelve inches distant in the line, and to be ultimately supported by branches similar to pea stakes, or bricks may be placed upon the surface, and the plants pegged down upon them, the radiating heat from which rapidly ripens the fruit.

Fruit trees, especially vines, peaches, and nectarines, are liable to produce more young wood than is either favourable to the future production of fine fruit, or conducive to the general vigour and symmetry of the tree. Pinch out, therefore, with the finger and thumb, all seeming superabundant shoots, leaving only such as are likely to leave the tree symmetrical and well-proportioned.

Established raspberries, especially on a hot, dry soil, are liable at this season to throw up numerous suckers, which should either be frequently cut with a garden hoe, or very carefully lifted with a fork; for they are produced at the expense and to the great injury of the parent fruit-bearing plants, at the bottom of each of which, from three to five young shoots, left for next year's fruit-bearing canes, are amply sufficient.

Strawberries out of bloom should have frequent liberal waterings, to assist them in swelling their fruit.

Flower gardens should be neatly hoed and raked, and sweet-peas, broomrape stocks, dahlias, hollyhocks, and other tall-growing plants, will now require to be staked or otherwise supported; whilst all the dwarf-growing and choicer sorts of flowers will have their brilliancy of colours and duration of bloom greatly prolonged by frequent shading and watering.

The green-house will now be profusely gay with all the rich and gaudily colored flowers which geraniums, fuschias, and verbenas in a full blaze of bloom can impart, brought out in contrast, and heightened in effect by the gaiety of

numerous other flowering plants, exhibiting every shade of color, as well as a large diversity of foliage.

The duration of this display will be best maintained by watering freely at the root only, by airing largely every calm day, and by shading the house slightly from the brightness of the mid-day sun.

Climbing plants, growing up the rafters and columns of the house, will require frequent pruning and training, so that the beauty of their gay blossoms may not be obscured by the density of overcrowded leaves and branches.

Vineries will require a rigid adherence to instructions previously given with reference to temperature, moisture, and ventilation, increasing, however, the two first conditions of culture, and reducing the third as the vines enter upon the critical stage of blooming and setting their fruit; a high moist temperature and somewhat close atmosphere will favour the setting of all the varieties of grapes, and will be found to be completely indispensable to the alexandrian and cannon hall muscats, as well as several other of the imperfectly setting but higher flavoured varieties.

Stop all lateral shoots at the first joint, and tie up with care every branch which has fruit to support, and permit no more than one bunch of grapes to each branch.

DECEMBER.

Be gracious, Heaven! for now laborious man
Has done his part. Ye tender showers descend!
And temper all, thou world-reviving sun,
Into the perfect year!—THOMSON.

Midsummer—Luxuriant Vegetation—Budding Fruit Trees—Garden Employment—French Beans—Radishes, Lettuce, &c.—Sow Swedes—Plant out Cabbages, Cauliflowers, &c.—Turnips—Winter Greens—The Flower Garden—Christmas Fruit and Flowers—Greenhouse Plants out of Bloom—Thinning Grapes.

Midsummer begins with the commencement of the present month, which is especially the season of luscious fruits and beautiful flowers. The trees also rejoice in their leafy pride, the fields luxuriate in the abundance of their verdure, and animated nature is full of life and enjoyment.

Exuberant growth in gardens everywhere prevails, and especially amongst fruit trees, which now require to have both the fruit and young growths properly thinned; the rapid growths of the stocks of fruit trees and roses fit them for commencing the operation of budding, care being always taken to select for the operation a showery or cloudy day.

The season for seed sowing is now so far advanced, that the chief gardening duties of the present month will be the care rather of those crops we have sown, than of the few we can still successfully commit to the ground; for, although such as peas and beans may be sown, yet the crops they are likely to produce will not be quite equal to those sown last and previous months; and, although they produce equally well, yet a considerable portion of the pods are liable to be destroyed by a caterpillar abounding at this season.

French beans and scarlet runners may be planted, and additional sowings of radishes, lettuces, cress, and mustard, may be continued; but the chief crops which claim attention this month are turnips, a large breadth of which should now be sown for winter use. The yellow swede, for use as a vegetable, should be sown as early as possible in December, and the yellow and white garden varieties about the end of the present and beginning of the ensuing month.

The earlier part of the present month is usually characterized by frequent