# THE GARDEN.

## Preparing for Small Fruits.

### Currants. Gooseberries, Blackberries, Raspberries, Strawberries.

To prepare an acre for Small Fruits, begin in this way:

In the Autumn plow the ground as deeply as you can without lifting too much subsoil, and follow this plow with a subsoiler loosening and breaking the ground to an additional depth.

Spread your manure very freely and harrow it in thoroughly. If any weeds start in the fall, take the harrow, or cultivator if needed, and cleanse the ground thoroughly.

In the spring, plow the ground, give another coat of manure and plant with potatoes. Cultivate these well, not allowing a single weed to make any progress. If you can destroy every weed after it sprouts, you will have a fine crop of potatoes. When the potatoes are ready to dig not a weed should be visible.

After digging the potatoes give another coating of old well decomposed manure, plowing it in lightly, and then set out your Small Fruit plants as follows:

Keep the roots of your plants in mud made of good soil and about the consistency of thick cream.—Spread the roots as you set them in the ground, and firm the soil around them. Take each plant out of the mud as you need it, so that it may be neither sun nor wind dried. If this can be done on a cloudy day it will be well; if followed by a rain it will be the best.

Now your acre should be quite free from weeds; but watch it and use the hoe or cultivator if it seems needed, any time after planting. If possible cover the ground with a mulch of coarse straw. If this straw has been used as bedding for the horses, it will not hurt it.

The next spring use the cultivator freely, and mulch with coarse strawy manure. Of course you get no fruit; and take off the blossoms when they show themselves, allowing all the force of the plant to expend itself in growth.

Cultivate, exterminate the weeds, mulch for the next winter.

This is your preparatory work, and the next spring you will find that you have an acre of small fruit. If Strawberries, you will have a large crop. If Blackberries or Raspberries, you will have a fair quantity. If Currants or Gooseberries, you will have a reasonably good beginning.



## Grafting Potatoes.

Successful Grafting has been practiced of Tomatoes upon Potato vines, giving a full crop of potatoes below and tomatoes above ground. Tobacco has also been grafted upon the potato, but to the injury of the tubers in flavor.

This report comes from German experimenters.

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## Fall Preparations.

The Garden should be thoroughly cleaned off of all vegetable matter which cannot be profitably turned into the soil, such as stakes, limbs, briars, cuttings from currant and gooseberry bushes, etc., and thus prepared for spading or plowing.

Spade or plough it thoroughly. Do not be particular about turning it over; but stir it, break it up, and mix it well. It needs to be thus treated to the full depth of the good soil.

If you have decided to add any fertilizer this Fall, place it broad cast over the ground, and rake or harrow it in.

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## Callas.

To succeed with the Calla, give its roots plenty of room, and do not remove the young plants until they have become stout and strong.

Once a year remove some of the old soil, and put in fresh rich soil from the barnyard mixed with sand. Do not water it much in summer, just enough to keep it from drying up; in the winter do not use very cold water. If you want many flowers, you must let the young plants remain. COM.

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## Taking up the Flowers.

Most of flowering plants should have been cared for before this number reaches our readers; but if they have not yet been taken up, and have received the slight protection required from the early frosts, they may now be safely put into pots for indoor protection or use.

Geraniums will stand several degrees of frost with little or no injury, although we prefer to have them up before the frost touches them.

In transplanting thus, give soil from some other part of the garden, so that it may not have been geranium cropped. The plant will do the better for the change of earth. We should practice this with all plants.

We enjoy the following common plants in the house during winter:

Ageratum, Sweet Alyssum, and the Madeira Vine and Cobœa Scandens; Asters, dwarfed very much from poverty of soil, and placed in very small pots.