

THE OLD FARM HOUSE.

BY MRS. L. L. DEMING.

At the foot of the hill, near the old red mill, In a quiet shady spot, Just peeping through, half hid from view, Stands a little moss-grown cot; And straying through the open door, The sun-beams play on the sanded floor. The easy chair, all patched with care,

Is placed by the hearth stone; With watching grace, in the fire place, The evergreens are strewn; And pictures hang on the whitened wall, And the old clock ticks in the cottage hall. More levely still, on the window sill,

The dew-eyed flowrets rest, While midst the leaves, on the moss grown eaves The martin builds her nest, And all day long the summer breeze Is whispering love to the bending trees.

Over the door, all covered o'er With a sack of dark green baize, Lays a musket old, whose worth is told, A relic of other days, And the powder pouch and the hunter's horn,

Have hung beside for many a morn.

Five years have fled, with noiseless tread, Like fairy dreams away, And left in their flight, all shorn of his might,

A Father-old and gray; And the soit wind plays with his snow white hair, As the old man sleeps in his easy chair. In at the door, on the sanded floor,

Light fairy footsteps glide, And a maiden fair, with flaxen hair, Kneels by the old main's side-An old oak, wrecked by an angry storm While the ivy clings to its trembling form.

Native versus Foreign Grapes.

The American Agriculturist for July, which we received by the last Eastern mail, contains the following truthful article, which we copy for the special perusal of those who are such ardent advocates of almost anything that comes from abroad, and who are somewhat apt to lightly esteem, however excellent, whatever is produced at home:

The question is frequently asked us: "Why all this ado about raising native grapes, when there are foreign varieties already tested, and proved to be of the very finest quality! The native grapes, with hardly an exception, are poor things, fit only for slovens and coarse grained people. Why not take the delicate and refined grapes which Europe offers us?"

And then, to enforce this appeal, we are occasionally shown a bunch of Black Hamthe question is put again in a sort of imperious

your coarse, foxy natives?

To all of which we humbly reply, that the der favorable circumstances, a foreign grape may succeed in our climate for a few yearssay two, three, or five-bnt after that, and will, with fair treatment, flourish fifty or a hundred years in full health. Most foreign grapes, too, are tender, and need protection him two lots of vines, standing side by side, the one native—the other foreign, and he will generally find the foliage of the first bright low, crumpled and falling off, and the fruit garden plants generally. cracked or covered with mold.

And here, we are reminded of the inquiry of another correspondent, viz.: whether, if cuttings were taken from foreign vines which have been long growing in this country, and so become acclimated, they would not be as

hardy and healthy as natives?

Our friend must be referred to the simple fact that, as a general rule, all vines of foreign extraction, if grown in the open air of this country, soon become the prey of mildew. They may hold out a while, but soon succumb: they cannot be relied on. So that you can not get healthy vines to start with, and if you did, you can not change their constitution.

It is the opinion of some, that mildew is itself a plant, growing upon the vine, the roots penetrating the canes, absorbing their vitality, and preventing their healthy action. So long as this parasite can be kept off, the foreign kinds will do tolerably well. Native Americans have so firm bark and wood that the mil- splendid stock. The sale of the live stock of

dew can not grow as well upon them. number of European grapes. And we are high rates. certain and sickly foreign kinds.

We could wish that every gardener would plant a few seeds annually, of his best grapes, and so have a race of new sorts continually coming forward. Out of them all, we should get some important additions to our stock of superior grapes. One good native, like the milky, and delicate exotics. The time is not far distant, we confidently believe, when it may be said of our northern hill-sides:

The vine, too, here her curling tendrils shoots, Hangs out her clusters glowing to the South, And scarcely wishes for a warmer sky.

The suggestion contained in the last paragraph we consider valuable. But little care has hitherto been given to propagation of the grape from seed. We are of opinion that good and perchance more hardy stocks than the original, might be raised from the seed of the California varieties now generally cultivated here.

So far as we have been informed regarding the success attending the introduction of choice hardy varieties of the grape from the Eastern States-to say nothing of importing exotiesvery little of an encouraging character has vet been accomplished. The Concord, the Catawba, the Isabella, and other well-known and highly-recommended hardy varieties have been forwarded here in air-tight cans and, when opened, have appeared green, fresh and lively, and, being planted, have, in many instances, put forth shoots; but, from some cause or causes, have subsequently withered and died. We doubt not, however, that there is yet a possibility of success. There are a few vines of these varieties growing in several gardens in this city. Whether they will prove as hardy here and as thrifty and full-bearing as in the East, remains to be seen.

Whatever success may in future attend the introduction and growth of Eastern grapes in Utah, to us it seems that there is a profitable and reasonably sure field now open for the amateur, in the propagation of the grape from seed. While cuttings are used, the variety remains true to its kind; but from seed, other varieties, perhaps hardier and of better flavor may be raised.

Are not the Delaware, the Catawba, the Concord, the Isabel and the hundreds of others of like precious names, the choicest plants selected from an almost innumerable number of seedlings? What, then, is there to hinder Utonians from having as many choice varieties of the grape, as the inhabitants of other sections of the Union?

Soap Suds .- The value of soap suds, as an article to be used in irrigating plants, appears burg, or Sweet Water, or Royal Muscadine, not to be generally appreciated. Suds con- six inches in length, taken only from the finest leaves of the rose-scented or some of the deliwhich has been grown in the open air, and tain the food of plants, in a state of solution, stocks; crop the leaves, and strip the rest of cate growing varieties, are good—then form, and when applied its effects are more imme- the stem bare; dibble the slips so prepared tone, Why not plant these in preference to diate than those produced by any other stimu- into a bed newly dug, and shaded by trees or a lant that can be used. For irrigating gardens, north wall; sprinkle them with water, and facts are not as our questioner assumes. Un- especially during the summer, it is unequalled. shade any part to which the sun has access. But when used for this purpose, it is advisable to let it stand till it becomes putrid, as it will, even before, it is liable to be destroyed by in that condition, act with greater energy, and mildew or other diseases. But a native grape prove much more nutritive and salutary in its effects upon the plants. If your garden beds are infested by insects, fresh suds from the from the frests of winter. A good way to laundry, if sprinkled over them, will prove convince any one about this matter, is to show highly beneficial in arresting their ravages. It should be applied early in the morning to culmiferous vegetables, and perhaps the early and healthy, while that of the latter is yel- morning is the best time to apply it to all

> Working of Butter .- Mrs. H. Jessup, of Chautauque county, N. Y., writes to the American Agriculturist as follows:

put water in the working bowl, to rinse off the round: buttermilk. In another dish have cold water and a linen cloth free from lint. Wring the cloth out dry, spread the butter out with the ladle and press the cloth gently on the butter | What will people think, when we inform them and remove all the drops of moisture. Continue this process until the butter is ready for with new potatoes; that strawberries are ty Horticultural Society. Two of the most salting-keep the water clean for rinsing the raised here every month in the year; that eminent professional florists exhibited hand cloth often. Any one trying this, will be surprised to find how much it facilitates the preparation of butter to salt.

Fine Stock .- We clip the following from the California Farmer:

Our Irish friends can boast of some most the late Charles James Knox, Esq., Jackson But one word more with our first inquirer: Hall, Coleraine, toek place there Oct. 25th, You misstate the case, when you say that our when very high prices were obtained. The shire cow, or a Southdown buck? native grapes are coarse and unfit for refined fine cow, "Carnation," calved March, 1855, mouths to eat. This may have been partly brought 180 guineas; one-year old "White true many years ago, but it is not now. The Rose," 50 guineas; and a calf calved on the Diana, Delaware, Rebecca, Isabella, Cataw- 24th of May, 1859, named "Pocata," sold at ba, etc., when well grown and fully ripened, 108 guineas. These were prime animals, but suffer nothing in comparison with an equal the rest of the stock went at proportionately

likely to improve even upon these. So that By the interest they take in stock, we do now there is no need of trying to grow the un- not wonder we hear so much about "Irish Bulls."

Horticultural Notes.

DIVIDING THE ROOT.

most herbaceous perennials may be treated in this way.

SUCKERS

taking up along with them a part of the root emblems of beauty, love and innocence. in spring, after the plant has begun growing, buds are developed on them, they should be taken off.

LAYERS

Of plants are runners sent out along the ground, having joints at certain points, which have a tendency to take root and become the centre of a new plant; in carnations and pinks, the young side-shoots called "grass" are selected for layering; the shoots should be stripped of their lower leaves, and the stem cut half through by an oblique slit near the base, then fixed to the ground with a hooked stick in the formation of the elegant boquet. or peg, and which may be covered slightly with mould, giving a little moisture; in a few weeks roots will strike out; and at the end of the season, the plant can be cut from its parent and transplanted.

CUTTINGS

Are strong shoots cut slantingly and smoothly from the parent stem or branch, and set in soil that is not too moist.

PIPINGS

Are the upper and young part of each shoot taken off close below a joint with a sharp knife; cut each off at the third joint, and then cut the top leaves down pretty short, taking off the lower and discolored ones; when plantoperation of the horticulturist as well as the ing the pipings, the earth should be light and sandy, and recently loosened; gently thrust ought to be cult vated, and as yet we have no each piping half way down into the soft earth, and fix it in the bed, watering them often, if the weather is dry, but moderately, just to keep them moist, and shading them from the hot sun in the day; and if covered with a hand-glass, they will root sooner than those lor, is like painting a good landscape, or in a which are exposed. Piping should be done lady to dress herself with judgment and taste, in June and July, and the plants will be and requires experience and a fine apprecirooted and fit to plant out in October.

To insure a succession of the best wallflowers (and the method applies to the double flowering, which yields no seed, and cannot otherwise be preserved,)-about the beginning of July pinch off slips or young shoots of five or Not one will go back; and in this way a pro-The best soil for carnations is good loam, enriched with well-rotted stable-dung, and quickflowers will lose their fine colors; if left too poor, they will want vigor.

A Fine Country .- The Los Angeles (Cala.) Star, of April 28, gives the following account of that country, which indicates it as one exhibitors to point out the bouquets, for really most admirably adapted to the growing of the most luscious fruits, which, best of all, ac-After the butter is removed from the churn, cording to the Star, abound there the year exhibited were intended for bouquets had they

> "It is suggested to us that we in Los Angeles were faring netter and more sumptuously than the inhabitants of any other part of the State. that our market is supplied the year round exhibition of the Albany and Rensselaer Coungreen peas are in constant supply; that toma- bouquets. They were formed artistically, and toes may be had every month, one garden beautifully arranged from the choicest flowers; having vines three years old, which are con- of the green-house. One, however, had a stantly bearing; and that cucumbers are now | Lavetera on the apex, and this was the only in market."

QUESTIONS FOR A FARMERS' CLUB.

Will soiling improve neat cattle? Which will make the best butt-er, an Ayre-

Will the introduction of short-horns be favorable to the temperance cause?

Wart on a Colt .- The New England Farmer says that Mr. A. Briggs, of Mass., says that potash dissolved to a paste, laid upon the wart for half an hour and then taken off and on man or beast,

Bouquets.

We frequently see bunches or groups of In dividing the root of a growing plant, the flowers called boquets, which, though they root should be partially uncovered, and one or may be composed of very fine colors and choice Delaware, would be worth fifty of the green, more portions removed; the root should then varieties, in reality possess but little attracbe covered up, and the detached parts trans- tion for those accustomed to arranging or beplanted in soft earth prepared to receive them; holding flowers systematically and artistically combined. We cannot but admire the artless arrangement of the child's "bo-ka," as gathered for the gratification of a younger brother, Are young shoots clustering round the roots or sister, or, peradventure, as a heart-offering of the main plant, and may be removed by to a fond parent. These are nature's truest

> When we roam abroad to view the everand immediately planted out; and if any flower varying, romantic scenery presented above and all around us of these sequestered vales, gathering as we pass the lovely wild flowers, probably elsewhere unsurpassed in varied and uxuriant hue, there will be found most ample opportunities for the cultivation and display of all the taste and skill that art and experience can combine. It will not be questioned when we state that the additional charms that art imparts in other branches of industry and in other walks of life, is also correspondingly exhibited in the skillful arrangement of colors

Mr. Wm. Newcomb, of Johnsonville, N.Y., furnishes the Country Gentleman with the following sketch, which we have deemed of sufficient general interest and importance to transfer to our columns, trusting that, with the gradual development, in "our mountain home," of a praiseworthy care for the culture of flowers, a correct conception of the most suitable arrangement of colors, as well in the simple bouquet as in the flower garden, may be also elicited:

This is a theme on which writers have been very sparing of instruction, and probably for the reason that taste varies so much that it is difficult to write to suit all readers, or even a majority of them; yet it is a theme of considerable importance. True style and taste standard by which to judge, but I would not wish to bring the public to my standard in a matter of taste, unless it be correct. I now introduce the subject in hopes of having experienced persons express their opinions through your valuable paper.

To form a good bouquet for the hand or paration in blending colors, and an artistic hand

to form into proper shape.

First, it is necessary to have good flowers, and for a hand bouquet they ought to be fine, for no large or coarse flower is here admissible. Next, have as many of them fragrant as convenient; then a full supply of green-many of the ornamental grasses, and geranium them compactly, either in pyramidal or semipyramidal shape, and not over large-have each flower so as to show distinctly its beauty, and so blended, as to color, as not to offend. the eye of taste.

Some prefer the loose or flowing style; but I do not; this style is better adapted to mantlefusion of one of the sweetest flowers, and the vase bouquets and large table bouquets, where best of its kind, may be had from year to year. larger flowers are admissible. I would as soon expect to see a gentleman or lady without previous instruction or practice, take the pencil and draw a beautiful landscape at the ened with a little sand. The quantity of ma- first effort, as a person to form a good bouquet nure can only be determined by the previous the first time he or she has tried it. Any lady strength of the ground; if made too rich, the may put on her dress, and many artists succeed in producing a sort of a picture, but how few of either really succeed in dressing becomingly or painting a picture of merit,-so with bouquet making.

> At the State Fair at Elmira, one of the lady committee on flowers enquired of one of the she could not tell what was meant for them. I have myself served on committees of flowers, and should not have suspected that the flowers not been labelled and entered as such-and if such be the want of information, either with the committee or exhibitor, it is high time in-

formation was obtained.

I recollect an incident that occurred at an coarse flower in it; of course this mistake decided the question; but the unsuccessful florist felt that injustice had been done him, and made his complaint to me. I pointed out the defect to him. About eighteen months afterwards he called my attention to the circumstance, and said it (our decision in that matter) had been worth to him more than a hundred dollar premium, for, said he, "I have never made that mistake since."

I do not feel inclined to discourage the effort to form nature's most beautiful productions, but I do advise all to study and practice, and in a short time most ladies will be able toaccomplish a combination that will be pleasthe part washed in vinegar, will cure a wart ing to themselves and their friends; very few gentleman will be able to accomplish it, but