

late-sown ones will go to seed a little later than the matured roots, and the difference is usually just enough to enable them to last out till the first little ones from spring-sown seed are ready.

Winter crops of the Brassica family, which includes *cabbage* and *broccoli*, should now be so far advanced as to have covered all the ground about them, and weeds will be no trouble; but other crops, such as *parsnips*, &c., are sure to get infested. The weeds should be pulled or dug out and wheeled away to the heap. Sorrel and couch, when in such positions, increase rapidly during wet autumn weather, and if neglected are likely to cause much trouble hereafter. It is, however, no easy matter to dig the roots out from among parsnips and carrots. The best way to deal with them is to clean the ground as the crop is used. The crop should be dug systematically, not by digging roots here and there, but by beginning at one end of a bed and digging clean, turning the soil over properly and digging in the trimmed-off tops, leaving the ground neat and clean where the crop is used. The same remarks apply to celery-trenches. If these are left rough till a trench is cleared out, it is quite a task to level them down among the rubbish; whereas if it is done in a workmanlike way from the start it is no trouble at all. The first spit in digging out a root should go to the hollow side and forward. In the hole that is left the trimmed-off tops should be put. Digging the next head covers the debris of the first and levels the ground, so that when the last has been dug the whole ground is level, all the debris is buried to enrich the soil, and much labour is saved.

#### SMALL FRUIT.

If seed of *Cape gooseberries* has not yet been sown, as previously advised, it should be sown at once. Sow in boxes under glass, or, if there are no frames available, stand the box in a sheltered, sunny corner, and cover it with a sheet of glass. It is not a good plan to wait for chance plants to spring up in the garden. They do not develop early enough to ensure a good crop the first season. A word of warning: If seed is to be purchased, obtain the Cape gooseberry, not the variety called Francheti (Giant Japanese). The latter is a highly ornamental plant, but the fruit is not palatable, although it is advertised as edible, and is recommended for preserves.

*Raspberry* plantations may well be put in order now. There is more than likely some necessity for clearing them of weeds, and it is well at the same time to clear out the dead canes and surplus suckers. It is useless at this season of the year to hoe weeds. They must be pointed in, or dug out, as their nature requires. After the plantation is made clean, a dressing of farmyard or stable manure should be given. If artificial manure is to be applied, it had better be delayed for a couple of months. The kind and quantity will be given later.