

and separate each. Some people cut the tops off, and some even cut the roots. Do neither—all the roots are wanted, and the leaves help to re-establish the plants. For planting, a good sharp dibber is required. Thrust the dibber in at the bottom of the drill to its full length; give it a circular motion so as to broaden the hole, insert a plant in the hole as far as it will reach, then lift it a little to straighten out the roots, which are apt to become doubled up. Then thrust the dibber into the soil at a little distance from the hole, and when it is well down in the soil bring the handle over to the hole with a firm pressure; this will close the hole and put the plant in position. Nothing more is wanted for the present, and watering will not be necessary, as the roots being well down will find all the moisture they require. Practically nothing else will be wanted but hoeing, to keep the soil open and suppress weeds. The drills will be found to be labour-savers, as the mere filling-in of them at a later stage will destroy all weeds that have sprung up between the plants.

Parsnips and carrots for main crop should be sown in breadth at this time, as they are to stand through winter. Prepare the soil carefully, and sow thinly; it is easier than doing the work roughly and having a lot of thinning to do. Turnips should be sown every seven or eight weeks through the summer months. Sow only a small quantity, just enough to meet current needs; they will not stand long while the weather is hot. Sow red beet for winter use. The long varieties are best for winter; the turnip-rooted sorts are valuable for early use, coming in quickly. Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, Autumn Giant cauliflower, and red cabbage should be sown at once if not already in. Peas are to be sown in the usual way at intervals of about two weeks. French beans may now be generally sown at intervals of four weeks. Runner beans also should be got in at once. The best kinds of runner beans are the comparatively new stringless varieties, of which Epicure is one, which is worth a trial.

In most places all the gourd family, including marrows, pumpkins, melons of different classes, and hardy cucumbers, may now be sown in the open ground. Lettuces should not be transplanted at present; it is better to sow in lines and thin out; the plants come quicker, and are far less trouble.

Tomato-plants are best grown in shelter until reasonably safe from frost, as they do not make any growth to speak of until warm weather is fairly continuous. The first half of November I consider the best time to plant in the middle districts of the Dominion. Of course, there are some places not far apart where the conditions are quite different; one can only speak generally. Growers are again warned against using so much water as is