

AGRICULTURE.

The Tomato, or Jersey Apple, was introduced into England about the year 1800. The Indians were the first to use it largely as an article of food. Subsequently the French people began to appreciate its excellent qualities, and so it has spread throughout the world, adopted it as one of the indispensable of the table. Within the last fourth of a century, it has successfully won its way to the first rank among our garden vegetables, and is cultivated more extensively, perhaps, than any other single annual, if we except potato and cabbage. It is grown from seed, which, if early fruit is desired, should be sown in hothouses in March, or in pots or boxes in warm and well lighted and ventilated apartments. If sown in a hothouse, the shrill should be made about five inches apart, and half an inch in depth. When the plants attain a height of two or three inches, they should be transplanted or potted out into another bed, or in some small pots. When the latter plan is adopted, the whole of the earth in the pots may be permitted to remain attached to the roots when the plants are finally set out. Two or three transplanting has the effect of rendering the plants more sturdy and branching. But these out in the beds in May, as early as the weather will admit, but not until all danger of frost has passed. They should be planted at least a yard apart, to allow the full spreading of the vines. Water freely when first transplanted, and if hot sun-shine follows, shade them for a day or two.

There is a diversity of opinion in regard to the after culture of tomatoes. Some prefer to allow the vines to cover the ground at will; others prefer trailers or frames. The French method is as follows:

As soon as a cluster of flowers is visible, they top the stem down to the cluster, so that the flowers terminate the stem. The effect is, that the sap is immediately impelled into the two buds next below the cluster, which soon push strongly, and produce another cluster of flowers each. When these are visible, the branch to which they belong is also topped down to their level; and this is done five times successively. By this means the plants become stout, dwarf bushes, not above eighteen inches high. In addition to this, all the internodes that have no flowers, and after the fifth topping, all the internodes whatsoever, are nipped off. In this way the ripe crop is directed into the fruit, which acquires a quality, size and excellence unequaled by any other means.

There is an endless variety of the tomato. A few, however, of the best are still a family regimen. The large "Smooth Red" is an excellent variety, not early, but productive and fine flavored.

The "Small Tomato" is early and productive, but is liable to be hollow-hearted.

The "Parroted Tomato" has recently and deservedly become a great favorite. The fruit is of large dimensions, red, very solid and firm-skinned, with few seeds, and yielding a large return, when cooked. It is medium early, and is sold under various names as "Fancy," "A," "New and Very Superior," and has recently been introduced to general public notice. For several years past is distributed in the Philadelphia market. A full description, with an anatomical and integral view of it, was given in our December number, to which we refer the reader. We consider it one of the best, if not the very best, tomatoes yet introduced. The seed can be purchased in small quantities, from Mr. Dunn of Philadelphia—Gardener.

A few words concerning the "Lima" or "Lima Bean." This is a native American vegetable, and is now extensively cultivated in the United States. It is a large bean, with a smooth skin, and a white, yellowish pulp, which is very nutritious, and is used in many ways, either boiled, or dried and ground into meal, or made into flour, or

GENERAL, &c.

N O T I C E

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FRUIT, SPICES, &c.

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all other kinds of goods for

GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHING.
His assortment of fine goods is the largest, and
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If not satisfied, then any other store.

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COMING, COME ALL,

and see for yourselves, his beautiful men's wear,
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will take every pleasure in showing

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and especially a large variety of
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