THE KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDENER: A
SELECT MANUAL OF KITCHEN GARDENING,
AND CULTURE OF FRUITS, CONTAINING
FAMILIAR DIRECTIONS FOR MOST
APPROVED PRACTICE IN EACH DEPARTMENT,
DESCRIPTIONS OF MANY VALUABLE FRUITS

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The Kitchen and Fruit Gardener: A Select Manual of Kitchen Gardening, and Culture of Fruits, Containing Familiar Directions for Most Approved Practice in Each Department, Descriptions of Many Valuable Fruits by Anonymous

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A CALENDAR OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED EACH MONTH IN THE YEAR.

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THE CLIMATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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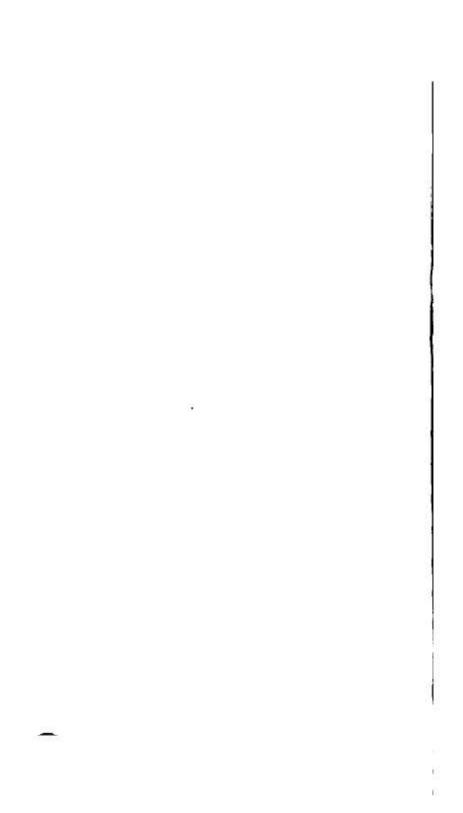
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### PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

With a view of improving the English work, from which this has been printed, it was placed in the hands of the same person who so ably revised the "Complete Florist." His additions have been as numerous as could be expected for so small and unpretending a volume; and it is now submitted with a hope that it may aid in extending information on the subject on which it treats.

Philadelphia, Jone, 1844.



### INTRODUCTION

### TO THE AMERICAN EDITION.

Most persons who possess a garden, whether it be for flowers, fruit, or kitchen vegetables, it is probable desire to hear the remarks of others, on the best mode of culture, provided the cost be not disproportioned to the information given; but nearly all publications on Horticulture have been in such expensive forms as to confine the circulation to the few; on the contrary, the plain unpretending style which has been adopted for this work (a reprint from an English publication, received with favour at home, and amended to suit the climate of the United States,) will enable . all who feel an interest in the subject to benefit by the hints presented, and we hope it may prove serviceable to the class of enquirers which it is specially designed to benefit-those who from taste or convenience cultivate a plot of ground without incurring the expense of a regular gardener.

The great extent of territory in the Union, and consequent diversity of climate, render it difficult to specify periods for the performance of work, which shall apply equally throughout the country, for whilst in the south they may be luxuriating in the earlier vegetables of the spring, we of the north may still be bound by the frosts of winter. To overcome that obstacle as far as practicable, the seasons, not the

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months, have been named in the directions on kitchen gardening, and it is believed the exercise of a little judgment will enable the cultivator, whatever may be the latitude of his location, correctly to time his operations. The methods for performing the work may be the same in all places—good modes apply with equal benefit in every section.

A matter of primary importance in kitchen gardening, it must be self-evident, is the selection of good seed; without that, land, skill, diligence are thrown away. When the cultivator has occasion to purchase his supply, (which is generally the case in small gardens, where the produce of many sorts within narrow limits would be a heterogenous mixture) true economy will be found to consist in procuring the best, even at an advanced price on the trashy seeds, which are frequently vended. If the question be asked how are the best to be obtained, we answer, purchase only from responsible persons, and, so far as practicable, from a well-known grower himself, or those who represent him in the sale, and stake their credit for the quality of what they vend. Vast quantities of seed are imported into this country from Europe which are worthless: the vitality of many is seriously impaired by the confined air of the ship, others appear to have been the stale refuse of the shops, and some, which prove sound, are found to be unsuited to our There are a few kinds, among them Cauliflower and Broccoli, which it may be necessary to import; but, with those exceptions, it is safer to depend on seeds of American growth, but by no means on such as are casually collected and sold to

dealers, to be again vended without the slightest knowledge of their age or quality. We have elsewhere, in these pages, alluded to the importance of procuring fruit-trees from sources to be relied on; that is even a more serious consideration than the purchase of seeds, for in the latter case, vexatious as may be an imposition, one season's labour only may be lost; but in fruit the imposture can in most instances only be detected after years of culture, and anticipation of return for the care and anxiety incurred.

It was the design of the publishers to have issued the Manual of Kitchen Gardenne, and the Fruit-Garden, distinct, but they finally concluded, with a view of making it still more acceptable, to unite the two, without enhancing the price. Another work from the same publishers, the Complete Florist, treats of ornamental plants, and, with the present work, affords instruction on the several branches of Gardening, which they hope may prove useful to such as feel an interest in the subject.