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PARK'S FLORAL MAGAZINE

Vol LIX. No. 12.
Established 1871.

December, 1923.

10 cents a year
3 years for 25 cts



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U.S. DEPT. OF AGR.
WASHINGTON
D.C.

Flowers are Love's truest language, they betray
**** but love—strong love, that never can decay.

GET THIS BED OF DUTCH BULBS!

Plant Now For Spring Blooming

Superb Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissus, Crocuses, Etc.

Fresh, healthy Bulbs, assorted ourselves according to our stock, from the Bulbs named and Snowdrop, Iris, Scilla, Grape Hyacinth, etc., at least fifteen choite Bulbs, which, if planted now, will bloom next Spring and for years to come, with a year's subscription to Park's Floral Magazine for 25 cts.

75 Bulbs and 5 Subscriptions for \$1.00

We ask our friends to get up a club. A club of four gives you 15 Bulbs and a year's subscription free. We want to increase the circulation of the Magazine quickly. This is another reason we are making these wonderful offers. 150 Bulbs and 10 subscriptions for \$2, which gives you 30 Bulbs and two-years subscription free.

Parks Floral Magazine, Lapark, Pa.

PARK'S FLORAL MAGAZINE

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO FLOWERS

LAPARK SEED AND PLANT COMPANY, Inc., Publishers

LAPARK, - PENN'A.

Entered at Lapark, Pa. P. O. as 2nd-class Mail Matter.

Single Copy 5c.

INDEX FOR 1923

A printed Index for the 59th volume of Park's Floral Magazine, from January to December 1923, will be forwarded to anyone on request.

THE BUSINESS MANAGER AGAIN

I wonder how many of our readers have noticed that they have been receiving the Magazine promptly this Fall, nearly all ahead of the date of the number? I know a considerable number have been aware of the change, because so many letters of surprise and delight have been received. I have in mind one letter in particular, from a subscriber in Texas, who wrote in August, "just to think! here it is August and the postman has brought me a September Magazine. I am so pleased and congratulate you on the realization of at least part of the plans you have written us about, in the Magazine."

We are actually mailing more than half a million copies of each number of the Floral Magazine every month, and we hope, by steady, persistent work and the co-operation of our present subscribers, to reach seven hundred and fifty thousand copies by next September.

I presume we are all at least a little bit selfish and yet every little while something arrives in the mail that makes me wish I had never thought such a thing. Not a day goes by that we do not receive favorable comments on the Magazine, sometimes whole letters, but more frequently a few words in a letter about something else. A day or two ago one letter was brought to me, from a subscriber in the far West who wrote "I have been reading your Magazine since I was a little girl back home in Iowa, and I love it so much that I wish that I could do something to place it in the hands of every mother of a family in all our great country, because I believe we cannot have good citizens except we all love flowers, and no publication, in fact no whole library, gives us so much information and practical directions how to successfully grow flowers as Park's Floral Magazine. To show you what I would like to do if I could afford it I have written down the names of twenty dear friends of mine and am sending you two dollars so that you can mail the Magazine to each one of them for a year, and I am sure every one of them will want it all the rest of her life."

I am wandering whether we cannot

Make 1924 a Get-up-a-club-of-three-new-subscribers-year.

It certainly would be a very easy matter for at least one hundred thousand of our present subscribers, in a dozen minutes, to get up a club or three subscribers at a dime each, and for doing so you know us well enough to believe that the cut raiser would receive a pleasing reward from Lapark, in the form of choice seeds, bulbs or plants.

This is where the selfishness I have mentioned comes in on our part. But it would mean so much to us in publishing the Maga-

zine if such a campaign could be successfully carried out, a magnificent increase in our circulation, the finest class of interested subscribers, ever so much more advertising and more money coming in, so that I would feel very safe in promising you some forty-eight and sixty-four page numbers of the Magazine next year.

When making up a club of three please keep in mind that you are not merely helping to increase the circulation of your favorite Floral Magazine, and to bring yourself more reading matter cheaper, but are taking a very effective part in the great propaganda to increase the love of flowers which so many thoughtful people believe a certain method to make America a more glorious, civilized and Christian land for us all to live in.

Can any one help being a better citizen, a better man, when he reads lines like these, from the pen of a floral poet—Anna Peyre Dinnies:

Fair gift of Friendship! and her ever bright,
And faultless image! welcome now thou art,
In thy pure loveliness—thy robes of white,
Speaking a moral to the feeling heart;
Unscattered by heats—by wintry blasts unmoved—
Thy strength thou tested—and thy charms improved

REPORT ON THE SLOGAN FOR LAPARK PRODUCTS

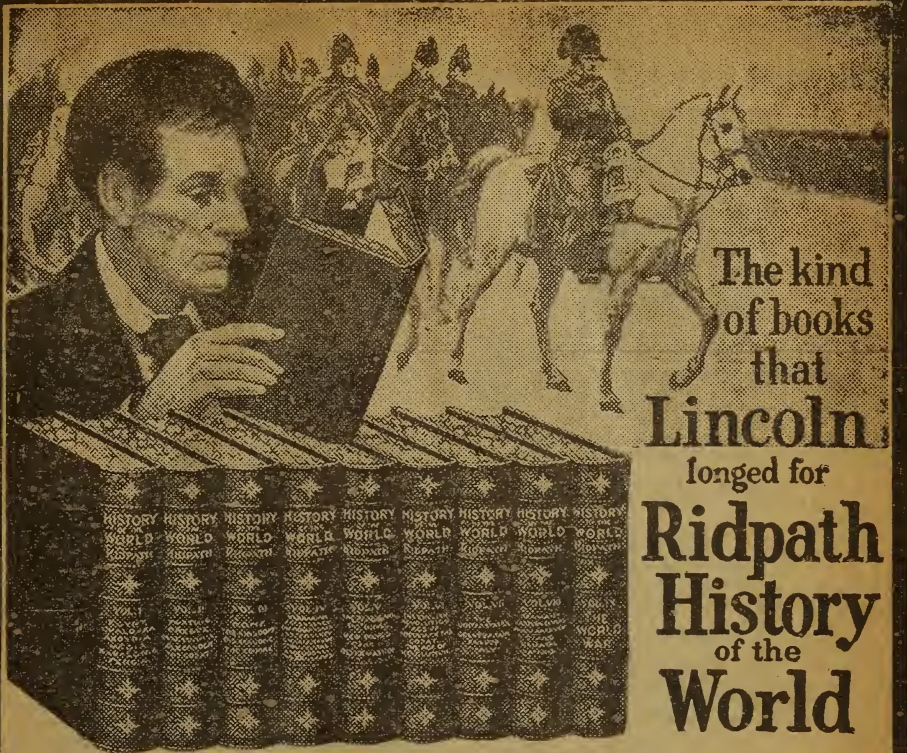
Truly one never knows what latent talent lies buried all around him. In the October Magazine I wrote a few lines about the need of a catchy but dignified slogan, motto or trademark for use on our catalogues, letterheads, envelopes, seed bags, etc. Well, they are still coming in. I have not dared to look at them all yet, but I have been rather compelled to examine two or three because of the way in which they were delivered to us. I have asked one of my stenographers to keep them all carefully in a cupboard until they have stopped coming, at least in numbers. And then I shall ask the president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary of this company all to sit down with me together to go over them all thoroughly in order to select the best. If we are not able to reach a decision among ourselves we shall not hesitate to call in outside, expert aid.

In the meantime if you have a good thought make a sketch of it and send it along. Remember, it is the idea that will count and not the artistic and perfect painting or drawing of it, because many of us have lots of perfectly splendid ideas but are utterly lacking in technical skill to draw them.

Business Manager.

EFFECT OF THE JAPANESE EARTHQUAKE

Very few Chinese Sacred Lilies reached America this year on account of the Japanese earthquake, the importation always coming through Japan, and the announcement just received is that the Hardy Lilies will not reach this country, for the same reason, until after New Year's.



The kind
of books
that
Lincoln
longed for
Ridpath
History
of the
World

Ridpath's History Now Includes a Full Account of the World War

America's Greatest Historian

JUST about the time when Abraham Lincoln became the nation's chief executive, a little Indiana boy wrote one day to the President of Harvard. He was a boy of the Lincoln type—thirsting for knowledge. He wanted to know if there was a world's history, trustworthy, not too bulky or expensive. The reply was that no man had yet appeared with sufficient ambition, judgment, courage, patience and literary skill to write a practical, useful, reliable history of the world. "I'll be that man," said the boy to himself. For 22 years he prepared himself thoroughly for this task. For 17 years he toiled and brought it to completion. The boy was John Clark Ridpath and his History of the World is, in the opinion of every student and scholar, a masterpiece for all time.

Endorsed by Thousands

In the opinion of statesmen, college presidents, professional and business men of all classes and conditions, Ridpath's History of the World stands alone. There is no set of books about which opinion is so entirely unanimous. Ridpath's History is praised by all for its wealth of learning, its brilliant style, and its educative value to old and young. It is already in over a quarter of a million American homes and should be in every home.

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WE will mail you our beautiful forty-six page free booklet of specimen pages from the History without any obligation on your part to buy. Tear off the coupon, write name and address plainly, and mail to us now before you forget it. We will name our special low price and easy terms of payment only in direct letters. We do not publish our special low price because to print our low price broadcast would cause great injury to the sale of future editions. Hundreds who read this have thought that sometime they would buy a History of the World and inform themselves on all the great events that have made and unmade nations. Don't you think it would be worth while to at least send the coupon and find out all about our remarkable offer?

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FREE COUPON

THE RIDPATH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Cincinnati, O.

Please mail, without cost to me, sample pages of Ridpath's History of the World, containing photographs of The Surrender at Sedan, Napoleon, and other great characters in history. Also write me full particulars of your special offer to Park's Floral Guide readers.

NAME

ADDRESS

A Merry Christmas for that Boy of Yours!



Your boy's Christmas will be the happiest ever, if you will send him THE BOYS' MAGAZINE. It is a gift that lasts a whole year. This splendid magazine is chock full of just the kind of reading you want your boy to have. Clean, inspiring stories by the world's best writers. Practical and instructive departments devoted to Radio, Mechanics, Electricity, Athletics, Physical Training, Stamp Collecting, Cartooning, etc., etc. Beautiful big pages with handsome covers in colors, A big lot of jokes and comic drawings.

Subscribe for this great magazine for your boy or for some boy in whom you take a particular interest. It will mean for him a whole year of pleasure, entertainment and instruction.

Special Offer! For only \$1.00 we will send THE BOYS' MAGAZINE for a full year beginning with the big December (Christmas) issue. We will send FREE to each subscriber a copy of our book "Fifty Ways for Boys to Earn Money." We will also send the subscriber a handsome Christmas gift card with your name as donor. (Satisfaction or money refunded.)

THE SCOTT F. REDFIELD CO., Inc.
8218 Main St., Smethport, Pa.

I enclose \$1.00 for which enter the following name for a whole year's subscription to THE BOYS' MAGAZINE. Send him his first copy of THE BOYS' MAGAZINE, a Christmas gift card and a copy of your book, "Fifty Ways for Boys to Earn Money," all to reach him on Christmas morning.

Name
Street
or R. F. D.

City State

Your Name.....

Do you want Mary Ann?

She is just a big, fine, darning doll every girl's heart is hungry for. Mary Ann will come to you without costing one cent. She wants to play mother to walk with her, sing to her when she cries, rock her to sleep.

Mary Ann Can Walk—Cry Sleep—Wink

Her brown hair is soft and silky. Jointed arms and legs, bright blue eyes that sleep. Cries when you lay her down or take her up. Unbreakable head, eyes won't fall loose. Cute silk cap, pretty figured lawn dress, stockings, patent leather slippers.

She is YOURS for doing me a little favor

I will send a Mary Ann doll just as described above in return for a small favor. Just write me today and I will tell you how to get her without cost. Send name and address and say "I want Mary Ann."

THE DOLL MAN, Dept.G,
1102 Elsworth Bldg Chicago, Ill.



13
Inches
Tall

Send
No
Money

SNOW FLAKES

Jolly little snow-flakes
Falling from the sky;
O'er the hills and valleys
Thick and deep they lie.

Swirling on the North wind
Like a swarm of bees;
Falling on the branches
Of the forest trees.

Dancing light and merry
Fast and thick they fly;
On the fields and meadows
Warm and white they lie.

Underneath the blanket
Soft and warm and white;
Flowers are sleeping sweetly
Thro' the Winter's night.

Winter winds are piling
Drifts beside the hill;
Hear the horns of elf-land
Wild and fierce and shrill.

Dainty little snow-flakes
Shine like jewels bright;
When the sun's a-peeping
Scattering rays of light.

Miss Ada M. Aiken, Altoona.

MAMMY'S LITTLE PANSY STORY

"Mammy, what make de lil Pansy blossoms look lak dey done bin cryin'?"

"Lawsy, Jassymine honey, don't you know what mak dem look dat away? De two lil leaves, der names is Maggie and Minnie, and when der mudder died, why der ole daddy went a spahkin an he don com gallivantin in wid de girls a step-mudder and two step-sisters. Dis step-mudder, her name was Nancy, was mighty uppitish and sits above dem all, an de two girls what she hab, der names was Chloey and Floey, and dey mighty uppitish, and dey allus sits above de lil girls and dis make de lil Minnie and Maggie feel so bad an lonesome for der own mudder dat dey jes' rally cried till der now mudder send dem dis comfortin maissage, 'De firs shall be las an de las shall be firs', so when dey all start to hebben, why Maggie an Minnie shal be firs."

"Will Chloey and Floey get to hebben, too, Mammy?"

"Now, Jassymine honey, don't you press yo ole mammy too close, cause der's lots of pints whar she am mighty uncertain, though I spects dey will get der somehow, but dey won't hab all de nice clo's and yellow hair ribbons lak Maggie and Minnie am gwine to hab though, and dat is de trufe!"

Ex-Seaweed, Ohio.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AND WINTER RELIEF WORK Among the Poor

The Volunteers of America under the Personal supervision of General Ballington and Mrs. Maud Booth, are conducting Rescue Missions; Children's Homes; Rescue Homes; Helping Hand Homes for Mothers and their babies; Prison work, Relief departments where the sick and destitute are given assistance.

Will you have a part in this great work by mailing your check today for any amount you may desire to contribute.

Make check payable to the Volunteers of America, and mail to the Volunteers of America, District Headquarters, 271 Lenox Ave., New York City.
"Give and it shall be given you." "God loveth a cheerful giver."

PARK'S FLORAL MAGAZINE

LaPark, Pennsylvania.

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

WHAT do our Christmas ships bring to us? And still more important, what do the ships we send out carry?

I heard a mother say to her little son: "We'll ask Santa Claus to bring you an overcoat for Christmas." "Oh don't, ma," pleaded the little fellow, "an overcoat isn't a Christmas present!" I think he was quite right; a cold back is preferable to a chilly spirit, and it is the *spirit* of Christmas that makes Christmas. When we lose it, and get

a bunch of these flowers on her desk—the first Sweet Peas she had ever seen.

Since the introduction of the Winter-flowering strains, we can have Sweet Peas of our own raising even for Christmas. They must be grown in tubs large enough to insure plenty of room for the deep searching roots, and in a cool temperature, about 45 degrees at night and 55 to 60 degrees during the day. Good garden loam mixed with well rotted manure makes the best compost.



"I saw three ships come sailing in
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
I saw three ships come sailing in
On Christmas Day in the morning."

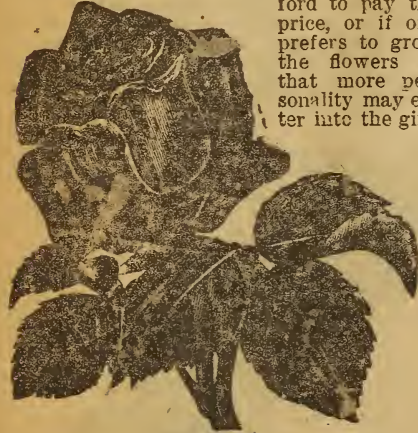
down to mere mercenary giving and receiving, Christmas becomes a burden instead of what it was intended to be—a season of peace and goodwill, and the interchange of expressions of friendship, one with another. Why not say it with flowers? Could there be a lovelier greeting than a "Merry Christmas" card attached to the stem of a red Rose? Red and green are the favorite colors for Christmas, because they are so warm and cheery; and two things which bear a great influence on our lives are color and fragrance. I know a grandma of eighty who says she never smells a Sweet Pea but that it takes her back to the little red schoolhouse where a schoolmate laid

Among red cut-flowers, Roses and Carnations are probably the favorites. As a potted plant the Poinsetta is the reddest flower of all, but it does not thrive long when removed from hothouse conditions. The most gorgeous red of any flower of the season which is good for house culture is the crab cactus. Its name comes from the drooping habit of the plant and the long, claw-like flowers borne on the ends of the branches. A pot of Duc van Thol Tulips—the only red-flowered Dutch Bulb that can be forced for Christmas—is always lovely, and may be combined with forced pips of Lily of the Valley, or with little Ferns. Four Tulips in a six-inch pot with a small Fern in the

center is a pretty arrangement and may be made even more attractive if one is skilled in wicker work and can weave a basket to hold the pot.

Then there are the red-berried Shrubs which can be bought if one lives in the vicinity of a good greenhouse. English Holly in a tub would be sure to say "Merry Christmas" to any man or woman hailing from old England. *Aucuba Japonica*, a tender Evergreen from Japan has red berries all Winter, and will grow outdoors in the South; and *Ardisia crenulata* is very attractive and holds its berries until warm weather.

But if one does not live near a good florist, or if one can not afford to pay the price, or if one prefers to grow the flowers so that more personality may enter into the gift,



RED ROSE

then there is the old Red Geranium, which is as friendly as a country neighbor who calls you by your first name and runs in by the back way for a morning chat. The one thing to remember about growing presents for Christmas is that we must begin in time. Geraniums should be started into growth early in Summer if they are to be raised from cuttings, and not allowed to blossom before Winter. Another old-fashioned plant for ordinary conditions, and one which will grow in a north window about as well as anywhere else, is a Fuchsia. Somehow Geraniums and Fuchsias are especially domestic. For many years they have brightened many homes, and they cannot fail to be rich in associations. It is said that the Fuchsia was introduced into England by a sailor lad who returned from South America in 1788, bringing a growing plant with him as a present for his mother. One day a nurseryman, Mr. James Lee, chanced to pass the house where the plant was blooming on the window-sill. He was much impressed by its beauty, and finally succeeded in purchasing it. He struck cuttings, and as soon as his stock was sufficiently large he put it upon the market, realizing, we are told, three hundred pounds upon his investment. The Fuchsia was first discovered, and its name published, in 1703 by Father Plumier, a missionary in South America, who called his new flower *Fuchsia triphylla*.

A pot of Cyclamen, with flowers looking like butterflies poised ready for flight makes a charming Christmas gift, and is also very appropriate because the Cyclamen seen in our florists' windows are native to the Holy Land. If one prefers to grow his Cyclamen from seed, the seed should be sown in August, and the little plants nursed along through the first

Winter in a temperature of about 50 degrees. The following Summer they may be kept on the north side of the house where they are shaded from the sun on all bright days. In September and October they make their best growth, and should blossom from December to May. A good, sandy loam is the soil they like best, with a little pulverized sheep manure or well decayed cow manure mixed in when preparing the soil for potting them into their flowering pots.

About the cheapest good flowering plant for Christmas is a Primrose. A long time ago—so long we have forgotten the exact number of years—we received a *Primula obconica*, set in a circle of small Asparagus Ferns, and when we removed the wrappings and took it out of its box it was certainly a beautiful surprise. We still have the Primula, and though it is not as lovely as in its younger days we can't bear to throw it away, and will probably go on keeping it as long as it lives—for *auld lang syne*.

Either the Baby Primrose or the Baby Rambler Rose makes a dainty gift, and one that will give lasting pleasure.

And now we come to the Bulbs. Oh, the dear Bulbs! If I ever become seized with an attack of kleptomantia it will happen at the florist's where I see great quantities of bulbs for sale. If they are in big sacks, maybe, like "Tom, Tom, the piper's son," I'll steal a bag and away I'll run. Verily, it wouldn't be safe to trust me where there are bulbs.

Chinese Lilies and Paper White Narcissus grow so quickly in water with a little clean sand, and pebbles or shells to keep them in place, they are the best "last minute" bulbs to buy for Christmas. Only day before yesterday I put six paper white Bulbs in a dish of water, and to-day I lifted one to see if it had started



POINSETTIA

to grow, and to my surprise found the roots fully half an inch long. They must be related to Jack's beanstalk. There are numerous ways in which these bulbs may be given that little original touch which makes a gift especially acceptable. One arrangement we found charming consisted of three bulbs potted in earth in a six-inch brass fern dish with little native ferns, the common Polypody, the Christmas and small Marginal Shield ferns being used. Another bowl of clear glass and pebbles had bits of moss and partridge berry vine tucked in among the pebbles, and the red berries gave just the right touch of color. Still another, a

little Japanese bowl, was accompanied by a raffia mat to set it on. A little money, a little thought, and a few Narcissus bulbs will make a number of people happy at Christmas time. I believe three weeks is the usual time given to bring these bulbs to flowering in water; planted in earth they require more time but the blossoms last longer.

Personally, I would prefer for my Christmas gift the pot of bulbs not yet in bloom to those which have reached the fullness of their beauty. Then there is the additional pleasure one gets from watching them grow. When sending them this way to a friend, directions may be attached, together with the date on which they were potted so that one will know how much longer to keep them in the dark. I have found a good general rule is to plant the bulbs as soon as they are received, in a soil composed of

about three-fourths garden loam, leaf mold and sand, and one-fourth well rotted cow manure. Bits of broken pottery or charcoal in the bottom of the pots will give the necessary drainage. Set the Bulbs two to four inches apart, deep enough to have the tops covered, and press them in firmly. If the pots are not large enough and they get too crowded as the roots begin to grow, sometimes they will kick each other out of bed, and you will find them standing on tip-toe with their white roots showing above the earth. I have tried pushing them back into position, but never got a very perfect growth after this happened. When they are ready for the cellar, water thoroughly, and put them in a cool, dark place. Even freezing temperature does not injure them. Crocuses need to stay down about six weeks, Hyacinths eight weeks, Giant Trumpet and Double Narcissus ten weeks, and Tulips twelve weeks. A good root growth is absolutely necessary if one is to have fine blossoms. Hyacinths that

haven't had time to root properly will have inferior flowers that come out close to the soil on short stems. The tops need to be two or three inches high when the pots are brought to the light. Funnels made of brown paper kept over the pots for a time will often encourage the stems to longer growth before the buds open. A moist atmosphere of sixty degrees is about right, and if set in hot sunshine when in bloom the blossoms do not last as long.

A pot of Kaiserkroon Tulips coming into bloom when we are Winter-worn and hungry for Spring is surely both meat and drink. Nothing else could be more cheerful than these bright blossoms. Among other kinds which are good for forcing, Pottebaker, a clear red, is much in demand; Ophir de Or, golden-yellow, with very large flowers, and King of Yellows, which has a perfect shaped golden flower that keeps a long time, are favorites,

though Yellow Prince outsells them, and is perhaps the best yellow Tulip for forcing. For bright pink, Rose Gris de Lin is a charming variety; and La Reine (The Queen) is one of the best whites for pot culture

An eight or nine inch bulb pan containing a dozen miniature or Dutch Roman Hyacinths, makes a fine gift; and ten assorted Crocus bulbs in a six-inch pot are very Spring-like when in bloom. This year we are trying an experiment, and will tell you how it works out later on. We made cardboard cases which we sank in the pan of dirt, planting one Crocus in each little case; when they have made their root growth and are ready to come up into the light, we plan to lift each little case and transfer it to our Moss and Fern garden which is growing under glass, and in that way have a Spring garden while sleigh-bells are yet jingling. It may not work, but anyhow, it is something to look forward to.

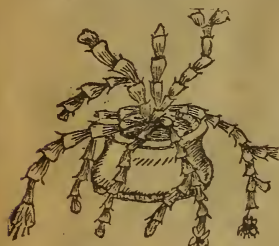
When it comes to Hyacinths, one big, fine bulb in a pretty pot is a good enough "Merry Christmas" for anyone. The cultivation of this bulb in the East dates back to very ancient times. Early in the sixteenth century it came into Western Europe as a plant of both single and double varieties with white, purple and blue flowers. The other shades, of which we now have such a varied collection, have been developed since, either as sprouts or from seedlings. One story says that the "first Lilac variety appeared as a sprout from a red flowered bulb in the possession of a Dutch grower. He was so solicitous lest some misfortune should overtake his precious plant that he put the pot containing it into a bird-cage and hung it from the ceiling of his room. He was successful in its propagation and that bulb is regarded as the parent of the present Lilac forms."

One might go on and on with Christmas suggestions—garden books for the garden lover, garden tools for the boys and girls, bulbs, and seeds, and plants, and cut-flowers, that would scatter Christmas cheer enough to last the year round; and then some one would step up and say, "Here's another good idea."

So we will stop, and give the others a chance; but when we say "Merry Christmas" this year, let's say it with flowers!

Florence Boyce Davis, Vermont.

Geranium Robertianum blooms nearly all Summer and is effective for naturalizing.



CRAB CACTUS



CYCLAMEN



KAISERKROON TULIPS



POTTED HYACINTHS

WINTER

The Summer days with all their charms,
Are numbered with the past.
And Winter with his sleet and snow,
Has come this way at last

The leaves and flowers now are dead,
And the willow tree is weeping.
Above the cold and silent bed,
Where the Hyacinths are sleeping.

The croles away have flown,
Silent now the woodland powers.
And Winter seems a dreary time,
Without the birds and flowers.

But, He who sends the Summer showers,
Both also make the North winds blow.
And whatsoever the Master wills,
Is always right and best we know.

Mrs Rosie Inaries, Va.

A FEW OF MY FAVORITES

I ESPECIALLY like to get very early and very late blooming plants. The new Autumn Glory is one I have raised from seed. It is very much like a Cosmos, the flowers yellow and very close together. Another is a delicate, hardy Aster, it spreads by root and



IRIS

seed, but in the Fall I cut the roots away and do not let much seed ripen.

I like to get my bulbs as late as January and put them in a box and set them in the garden in a sunny location, covered with anything convenient. These I have to bring in the house in the Spring. I have a hundred Pansy plants in a coldframe with muslin tacked on lath frames like window screens to cover them, as this lets the rain through. On very cold nights I put papers under the muslin.

I always wanted plenty of golden Coriopsis, but the two past years I have had so much go to seed that I certainly have had plenty. It is yellow like Cosmos and blooms in June and July. Another yellow flower I have is the double golden Buttercup which spreads by runners like the strawberry. The blossom is

very double, the size of a dime, and the leaves are glossy and green late in December. They need to be thinned out every Fall or Spring.

English Ivy is a beautiful vine to cover ground or cling to a foundation on the north side of a house. It stays green all Winter. Aegopodium Podagaria is a green and white plant for the edge of a Fern bed, or in a mass. It stays beautiful late, as do also Feverfew and Sweet Williams. Iris, Paeonies and Phlox



AEGOPODIUM PODAGARIA

can be transplanted as long as the ground is not frozen, if protected by rubbish or leaves.

I think the red Sunflower of many shades makes a very pleasing bloom; also the dwarf varieties. The single Aster is something new, at least I have seen it only of late years in a few catalogues. I have purple, blue, white, crimson and pink, but did not save very much seed, as there are so many demands on my time. The blossoms the first year were just plain, daisy like blooms, but lately there has been a marked difference in the center of the flower. I had a bed of these plants near the house and every time I sat down in the seat near it I admired them. A few seats in the garden are most desirable. I have one under the grape arbor where I can sit and watch the bulbs in bloom. Mrs. H. E. Iliff, Kans.

FRIENDS' FLORAL CORNER

Dear Floral Friends: A trip into God's flower garden is the best cure for the "blues" I know of. We have so many varieties of Cacti here, from the large Devil's Head, almost as large as a dish-pan, to the Rat-tail which grows six feet high. The flowers range all through the pinks and from pale yellow to bronze.

Blue Ageratums that grow along the creeks are three feet tall. Then we have the wild Phlox, white and yellow Dandelions, Blue Bonnets, Dutchman's Pipe, Maiden Hair Ferns, trailing Hollyhocks and a number of Daisies of which I do not know the name.

It is certainly a beautiful sight to see the hills in their new Spring dresses of every color of the rainbow, in their Summer dresses of many hues, and again in the Fall. Why, in the month of August I counted as many as twenty-five kinds of yellow flowers. Then, in the Autumn, come the Golden Rod, Snow-on-the-Mountain and millions and millions of wild Asters.

The next time things go wrong, take my advice and look around at the natural beauty to be found right at your very door, and you will forget all about being "blue".

Mrs. Bertie Farris, Texas.

If you are troubled with black aphids on your Poppies, spray the plants with nicotine solution.

"Merry, Merry Christmas"

WHAT a merry time we would have if we could look into each others faces when we wish this happy greeting. The Christmas Spirit is such a wonderful thing; when we think what Christmas is, the birthday of the dear little Christ-Child, God's greatest gift to His people, our hearts just glow with a joyousness that no other sea-

put over doorways, using branches of Evergreen and Holly for a background. Perhaps you found, in your Autumn ramblings, a deserted bird-nest in a little branch, tie it up over a picture with a bright ribbon, and hang some of your pressed vines over it. (If you have no pressed vines or leaves this year, be sure to have them ready for 1924.) Put some brown cones among the branches; and I do hope you have been able to gather a lot of Bitter Sweet vines with their glowing red berries, just the thing to drape here and there about the greens.

We dried a big bunch of Pompon Dahlia blossoms this year, and mixed with the fairy like seed pods of the Clematis vine, a few frost tinged Hydrangea blossoms, and some sprigs of Arbor-vitae we have bouquets that are fine additions to our Christmas decorations.

Sparkling adornments are pleasing as well as reds and greens — baskets of crystalized Grasses and Ferns are lovely, and not hard to make, though requiring some patience. Take a pound of alum and one gallon of water; boil until dissolved, when cool pour into a glazed jar or basin. Put sticks across the top and from them suspend the branches, grasses, etc., so that they hang immersed in the water. Let them stand undisturbed over night, some times it takes fifteen hours or more for the crystals to form.

When the grasses, etc., have become sufficiently coated, remove carefully, and hang them to dry for twelve hours. If you wish a frosty appearance, place before a fire, where, by drying quickly, you will get a white effect, like crushed ice or frosted snow.

You can make pretty baskets to hold your frosted grasses, or to use as bright decorations for the Christmas Tree. Make them of wire wrapped with any bright worsted you may have immerse them in the alum bath just as directed above, having the temperature about blood heat when you put them in. If you do more, re-heat the solution, adding more alum if necessary.

This is rather an old-fashioned plan for Christmas decorations but I love to do such things, the personal interest and work make them and the season mean so much more to me than if I merely paid out money for them. I am sure many readers of the Magazine agree with me. D. E. F., New York.

THE CHRISTMAS TIME

The merry Christmas, with its generous boards,
Its fire-lit hearths and gifts and blazing trees,
The pleasant voices uttering gentle words,
Its genial mirth attuned to sweet accords,
Its holy memories.
The fairest season of the passing year,
The merry, merry Christmas-time is here.

—Selected.



son calls forth. We are filled with the spirit of giving, not only the concrete gifts that are to be seen and handled, but the loving thoughts, the kindly messages, really the giving of our very selves to those we love and to those who need us.

It is a marvelous time for the children, and perhaps nearly all of us forget our years, and for a little are children with the children. So away with cares and worries, make the holiday bright and happy, a day to be remembered by all.

Let us see what we can do to make the home don its festive garb. Get out the Ferns you pressed in August, the Sumac, Dogwood and Maple leaves you pressed after Jack Frost had painted them in Christmas reds and greens. Make these into lovely wreaths and letters to

GARDENING RECLAIMED LAND

My garden and flower beds are in no way remarkable, except as to location and the structure of the soil, the latter being rather unusual. It is located on what was formerly the site of a terminal moraine, but commercial expansion demanded its removal. By degrees "Dead Man's Point" was sluiced and shoveled away, and a portion of its base is at my disposal.

The first thing one would notice, on inspecting the remains of the moraine, is that the portion nearest the beach has been submerged beneath the waters of Puget Sound, and has risen again and again; secondly, that there are but few remains of organic life; and thirdly, the soil (we call it that, by courtesy) is a grayish beach mud, solidified almost to the consistency of cement, and everywhere it is bestrewn with glacial drift that would gladden the heart of an amateur geologist.

My poor little makeshift garden is rimmed about with tumuli containing, all told, several tons of rock, varying in size from hundred pound boulders to mere pebbles, and a remarkable variety of granite and feldspar.

We have noted a few odd facts about this soil so destitute of organic matter. One little knoll of the grayish beach mud was left intact. One could not dig it at all without the aid of a pick, and yet the white Clover began to spring up there a few months after the steam shovel had done its work and gone its

Potatoes and Peas, fair; Beans and Carrots, good. As to flowers, the Wallflower flourishes in the poorest spots, as well as the common Poppy, several varieties of Sedum and the Scotch Broom. Fleur de Lys is growing



POPPY

very well in a wet spot of clay and some Holly and Madrona trees are looking as though they would "come through."

Of course we have many other things started where we have taken more pains with the fertilizer, but the plants which I have mentioned are growing in very poor soil. Altogether, we hope in time to have our impromptu geological collection thrown in the background. We also expect a better garden this year than last. Some of our compost has been spaded in and more has been applied as a top dressing. Altogether it was done under difficulties and mainly because we disliked to see the unsightly, bare soil lying so close to our dwelling.

Nature Lover, Wash.

ASPARAGUS FOR BOUQUETS

I note in a recent issue of the Magazine a woman recommends *Gypsophila Paniculata* to hold the bloom of Sweet Peas in place. I wish to add that one of the most lacy things in the plant line is the *Asparagus Plumosus Nanus*. It is used extensively throughout California, in all floral work, combined with the Baby's Breath, or *Gypsophila Paniculata*. The *Asparagus* lends itself readily in combination with almost any flower.

A very pretty way is to drop two or three of the shorter stems, or fronds, in a vase first, then fill in with other flowers in the way that has already been mentioned. The ease with which this *Asparagus* can be raised, together with its long keeping qualities, should make it universally grown. A little swamp slush, now and then, is this plant's choice of fertilizer, and good drainage and light are its chief requirements. Scarcely any foliage is prettier.

Mrs. Bly, Ariz.

DESTROYING THE MOLES

I have found that raisins, soaked in arsenic of lead and put in the runs, will destroy ground moles.

Mrs. Clara Humrick, Iowa.



WALLFLOWER

way. Two years will soon have passed; the hardened beach mud is calcining, eroding and disintegrating, and more thickly the white Clover is covering it. Just for experiment we scattered wood ashes and behold, the red Clover, also, flourished like the traditional "bay tree."

Last year we started a compost pit and a systematic plan of soil building on a small scale. It is no fun digging in ground that resembles the bed of a creek, neither is it financially worth while, when one is well paid for doing something else that is much easier. Still, we always enjoyed gardening and we had a curiosity as to what would grow on so primitive a soil as ours. It possessed almost no organic matter, nor humus, except what little we supplied from our compost pit. Our experiments were as follows: Cucumbers and Pumpkins, failure; Beets, Onions, Lettuce, Radishes and Parsnips, poor; a few Tomatoes,

THINGS WORTH WHILE

Not what you get,
But what you give;
Not what you say,
But how you live;
Giving the world the love it needs,
Living a life of noble deeds.

Not whence you came,
But whither bound?
Not what you have,
But whither found?
Strong for the right,
The good, the true,
These are the things worth while to you.

A MANUFACTURED CHRISTMAS TREE

Just because there isn't an Evergreen or a Fir tree to be had, do not deprive the children of their Christmas tree. Get a small tree, well shaped but not having too many branches, and mount it as you would any tree. Cut green tissue paper in strips two inches wide, and with scissors fringe it up one inch, then wrap each branch, having the plain part of the paper come under the fringe. Then trim as you would an Evergreen tree.

LILY OF THE VALLEY

Now is rather a good time to make a new Lily of the Valley bed, and a desirable situation is a border facing either North or East. First work in a goodly quantity of well rotted



LILY OF THE VALLEY

stable manure, and add sand and leaf mould should your soil be stiff and heavy. Then set the crowns in rows a foot apart and leave the bed undisturbed until it becomes a solid mass.

Asters which are grown in partial shade are seldom injured by plant bugs.

FRIENDS FLORAL CORNER

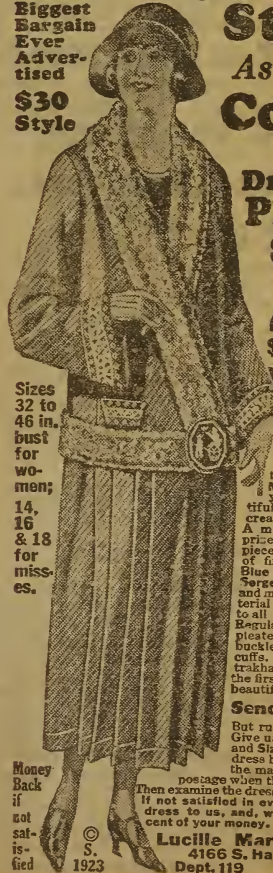
Dear Floral Friends: I wish to tell you of a unique flower garden cultivated by one of my neighbors last Summer. She is a very old lady, living in a tiny house, surrounded by a wide lawn. After the lawn had been neatly mowed, circular pieces of sod, one foot in diameter, were removed and the cavities filled with rich earth from the vegetable garden. These circles extended along the entire street walk and on either side of the walk leading to the house, and were far enough apart to permit the lawn mower to run between. Various kinds of plants were grown but only one plant was placed in the center of each circle. Not being crowded, each plant grew to a state of perfection and the result was one which stayed the footsteps of every passerby. This garden was never watered artificially, but after a rainfall the crust formed in each circle was broken, thereby forming a dust mulch and at the same time discouraging the sprouting of any ambitious weed-seeds.

Try it my friends, next Summer. You will be charmed with the result. Poppy, Ill.

Also:—"The person who is really interested in flowers acquires many things which add to his appreciation of the beautiful, which is denied to those who have not this knowledge."

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NATURE'S GIFT

Nature gives us mountains steep
 Nature gives the plains,
 Nature gives us valleys deep
 Nature gives the rains.

Nature gives us beautiful trees
 Nature gives the weed,
 Nature gives the refreshing breeze
 Nature gives the seed.

Nature gives us sunny weather
 Nature gives the dews,
 Nature gives us flowers to gather
 Wonderful in their hues.

Winnie Alice Meeks, Texas.

FRIENDS' FLORAL CORNER

Dear Floral Friends: I have long wished to write to you, but never got courage until I was reading my September Magazine, in which the letters all interested me so much. Mrs. Stoner of Indiana surely has the same idea I have concerning wild flowers. Many wildlings have been added to my collection and usually there are plenty so that a few can be spared for our individual gardens and never missed from the wayside. I have some of the dear, little Harebells obtained from there and still there are many more; also the dainty Lady's Slippers which I got from the deep woods where no one enjoyed them and which seem to thrive just as well in a shady part of my garden.

M. R., California, I had to take many "patience pills" before I obtained my beloved collection of Aquilegias, but now I have some beauties. Watch out for a worm that eats the bloom and seed-pod. It is the color and size of one section of the seed cluster and so often pass unnoticed until he has eaten holes at the base and let the seeds out or eaten them; I do not know which yet.

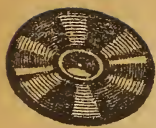
A Park's Magazine Friend, Mrs. Heath, sent me a package of plants two years ago from North Dakota and how I have enjoyed them! Of course a few died, but I have a number, two Lilacs among them, that are doing beautifully.

Iris of Oklahoma, watch your Iris plants carefully or you may, like myself, grow sick at heart when you hear Iris mentioned. I had such wonderful ones and every year I bought a few new sorts until I had more lovely Iris than anyone around here. Then I noticed the leaves rotted and died down. I began hunting the cause and found the dreaded Iris lover had started in his deadly work. I searched for a remedy in all my Magazines but found none. Then, in desperation, I dug them all up, cut out the affected parts, fished out some potato bug poison my husband had been using and soaked each plant and root in a strong solution. I was not at all sure but it would kill plant and all. Then I burned the borers, there were hundreds of them, and the infested stalks, and set the plants in a new spot. You plant lovers can guess how anxiously I watched this year to see if any of my treasures survived. A very few blossomed and though I have watched carefully, have found no borers this year.

Yellow Roses from Maine.

FUSCHIAS

If the leaves are falling it would be wise to give your plants a complete rest. Give just enough water to keep the soil from getting dusty. In about six weeks, or two months, repot in fresh soil, water liberally, and, when growth begins, give them plenty of light and air.



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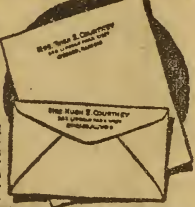
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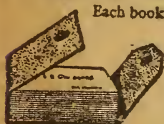
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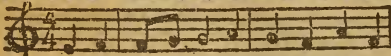
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It is a wonderful garden—so carefully planned, so beautiful in its colors, so trim and well kept. The Sweet Peas do not sprawl instead of climbing; the Scabiosa does not fail to appear; the supposed orange Cosmos do not prove to be ragweeds; the Poppies never get seedy; in fact it is wholly delightful, the garden we are going to have next year. For if the Winter takes the flowers, it takes the weeds, too, so there is always hope of a fresh start. And next Summer may be the season in which the dream-garden materializes.

While perennials irregularly placed may be effective, they are not for farmer folks. As long as chickens scratch, and pet lambs nibble, and little pigs ten inches in circumference reckon the wire fences intended for their restraint, so long must flowering plants imitate the early settlers in dwelling together for mutual protection. A long bed with perennials in crosswise rows is easily ended; though perhaps more space is conserved by planting the bed in two lengthwise rows with a path through the middle.

While hastily gathering corn, one day this Summer, I saw an apparently white flower gleaming among the potato vines. Investigation showed it not white, but pale yellow, with a reddish-brownish-black eye. There was time for only a hasty inspection. Returning later, I could find no trace of the new acquaintance. For some time the mysterious disappearance puzzled me, until another walk through the potato patch resulted in finding the stranger there again, this time with nine blossoms—and a handsome plant it was. A search in the good old Analytical Key of school days showed it to be Bladder Kalmia, or Flower-of-an-Hour. It was then evident that on its first appearance its one blossom had closed before my second visit. I saved some of its numerous seeds, and hope to include the interesting little mallow among the garden plants of next year.

Last spring my zinnia seeds were divided with a friend. In looking at her flowers, later in the summer, we discovered a large, fully double green zinnia—a pretty, light, but unmistakable green. A week or two later my annual bed also furnished a green zinnia—double, with the outer petals tipped with crimson. The seed has not been renewed for a number of years. Were our zinnias a new departure, or did they revert to an originally greenish form?

When is a weed? If dandelions, catchfly, and Mayweeds were less common, we should be cultivating them with hope; while the ox-eye daisy, the jewel weed, and the St. Johnswort would grace the finest collections, and the bindweed would climb over the most ornamental pergolas. Then there is "the flower of love-lies-bleeding", with its relatives of the amarantus tribe. The single plant is not a beautiful one—is, in fact, a glorified pigweed—yet the rich masses of color are decidedly attractive in the autumn, even apart from the interest of the plant as the theme of one of Campbell's finest tragic poems.

And, considering flowers in poetry—have you noticed how the Celtic poets leave the asters and the lilies and the orchids to the southland singers, and write of the lowlier flowers?

Bell Heather, Mich.

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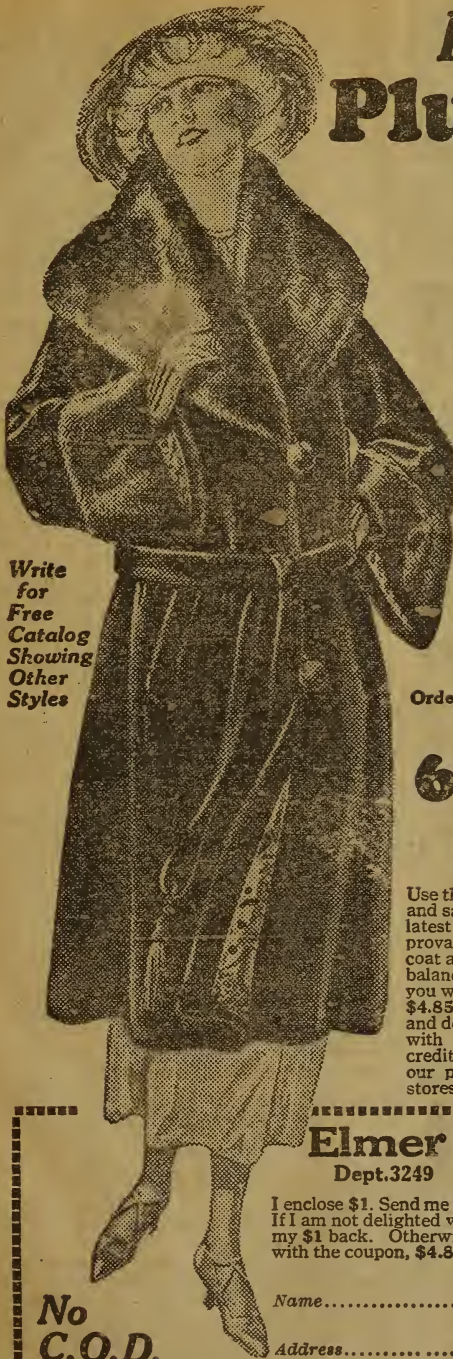
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And each one something finer hath.
Rare silks and satins of Cathay
To please some fair lady's eye,
Their brilliant hues in bright array,
Purple and red and gold I spy.

Oh, what a magician made them ope
So promptly their enchanting packs?
I think an artist could find hope
In their display. If beauty lacks
A cunning gown, just let her peep
Into the evening's treasure-box,
Where twilight takes her scented sleep,
Among my opened Four O'Clocks,
—Will Thompson, Md.

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FRIENDS' FLORAL CORNER

Dear Floral Friends: I saw in the September issue where a flower friend wanted to know how to store Canna roots through the Winter. I will tell you how I care for mine; maybe it will help someone.

Canna plants should have one fairly severe freeze before the bulbs are dug. This kills the tops and ripens the bulbs better. A few days of drying weather will wither the frozen tops and they can be easily removed. But do not remove them until ready to dig the bulbs, as the tops will protect the roots should the weather turn colder. Dig carefully so as not to bruise the outside bulbs, for they will be your best ones in the Spring. The digger should begin well back from the center.

Leave the clump all together and do not expose it to the air during the Winter. This means that as much soil should be taken up with the clump as can be; it prevents the roots from drying out and withering during the Winter. If the soil is a little wet the roots will hold it better.

A cellar is the best place to store Cannas, but I have to keep mine in a thick box upstairs where they will not freeze. The clumps should be placed on the floor, or bottom of a box. Put them as close together as possible and the tubers that are uncovered should be covered with soil. Do not let the soil get dust dry during the Winter; this dries out the roots too much. I have seen all the life simply dried out of them this way. Sprinkle the soil with warm water once in awhile, but do not wet it enough so the roots will start growing. Never separate the clumps until you are ready to plant them out. I believe in this way you will have no trouble with your roots drying out.

D. M. C., Mo.

EXCHANGES

Flower seed for magazines with crochet work or crochet patterns. Mrs. Clara Tiltman, Mt. Greenwood, Ill. Box 75.

Full-blooming Crocus, red and yellow Cannas, Tiger Lilies and Gladiolus for exchange. Write. T. A. Gilbreath, Yantis, Tex. RED 3.

Fancy-work, flower and garden seed, hair switches and a knitting machine for Hardy bulbs and shrubs, canaries, etc. Write. Mrs. G. A. Runyon, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Yellow and Blue Flag for quilt scraps. Mrs. Hester Haynes, RFD 2, Box 31, Holladay, Tenn.

Amaryllis, Iris, Hibiscus, Gladiolus, Chrysanthemums, Bleeding-Heart, Lily-of-the-Valley, Phlox-Spotted Calla, Rubber Plant for other plants and shrubs. Write. Mrs. F. Tolander, Waterville, Iowa.

Red shades Gladiolus and flower seeds for other Gladiolus. Mrs. J. Moore, 706 Lake View St., Ludington, Mich.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Why does my Cape Jessamine not grow? It is only a few inches high and has a bud that gets no larger.—W. T., Pa.

A. Repot in a four-inch pot, with a teaspoonful of bone meal mixed in soil; place in a warm, sunny window.—EDITOR.

Q. Why does my Asparagus Plumosus grow to vine instead of making the dense plant florists picture?—C. B., Ariz.

A. It is naturally a climber and will run up anything it can reach; if away from support it will grow as you wish.—EDITOR.

Q. My Narcissus make wonderful foliage but no flowers; they have not been moved for years, what shall I do?—R. M. S., Va.

A. Narcissus should be dug up every third year, after foliage is thoroughly yellow and dead. In November, divide and reset four inches deep and six to eight inches apart in rich soil.—EDITOR.

Q. What causes my American Wonder Lemon to lose its leaves, and drop its fruit?—W. T., Pa.

A. Either chilled or infected with mealy bug. During fruiting season keep in sun, in temperature of 60 to 70 degrees; for mealy bug spray with lemon oil, to be had at any good drug store.—EDITOR.

Q. My Leopard Plant has lost its spots. What can I do to bring back its spots?—C. B. E., Iowa.

A. Repot, adding teaspoonful of bone meal, with an inch or two of broken pots or cinders at bottom of pot for good drainage, place in a moist, rather shady spot.—EDITOR.

A Heliotrope plant may be grown in the same pot for several years.

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FRIENDS' FLORAL CORNER

Dear Floral Friends: I have five varieties of Tradescantia or Wandering Jew. The plain, old fashioned green; the large, new green with such thrifty foliage and large white flowers at the end of each leaf; then the red and green; the green and white, and the pure white, which is a sport off the green and white. Cuttings put into ornamental glass bottles will root and grow in the water all Winter. Change the water every week and keep the bottles full; the white roots in the water and the growing plants are both interesting. I could spare cuttings to floral sisters. Ima, O.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. What flowers are suitable for cemetery planting on graves?—K. M. W., Wis.

A. Hardy Roses, Hydrangeas, Lilies and Chrysanthemums, Iris, Paeonies and English Ivy.—EDITOR.

Q. What was the trouble this Fall with my Asters? When they were almost grown they turned yellow and died. Examination showed the roots a mass of green Aphis, like those that killed my Sweet Peas in other years. What should I have done? Mrs. S. J. Moore, Iowa.

A. Water with strong tobacco water. Next year put a small handful of tobacco dust around the roots before covering them with soil.—EDITOR.

Q. What shall I use for a Winter plant box where there is no sunlight, something to drop down and festoon a white wall?—Mrs. Ross Frede, Mich.

A. Parlor or Irish Ivy, English Ivy and Asparagus Sprengerii, are all desirable.—EDITOR.

Q. The children played and dug in my garden all Summer and I believe it is too dry, sandy and poor for anything to grow in it. How shall I get it ready? Should bulbs be planted indoors or not?—J. Ambrey, N. J.

A. Coat the surface thickly with well rotted manure, dig and break up well. Then set your shrubby two feet apart and water well. Bulbs can be planted outdoors or in according to varieties; the large sizes are for indoors, but most of them flower better in the garden.

Q. In an old number of *The Flower Grower* a correspondent asks whether it is true that an application of lime water would clear up the delicate shades among bulbs, and Scotch soot intensify the darker ones. And I would be glad to have an answer too, or rather to hear the experience of others.—Editor.

Q. Please tell me why every leaf on my Water Hyacinth turns brown or is spotted? I keep it in the kitchen. Is it too warm?—S. P., Pa.

A. Too warm. Up North Water Hyacinths are good only in tub of water or still pond outdoors in summer, in sun.—EDITOR.

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City of Haarlem. Best fine yellow.
Gigantea. Blush pink, very large.
Grandeur a Merveille. Blush white.
King of the Blues. Finest dark blue.
L'Innocence. Biggest, best pure white.
Lady Derby. Dark pink, almost red.
Lord Balfour. Rose-violet, handsome and of great substance.
Queen of the Blues. Most perfect, light blue.
Roi des Belges. Scarlet, a grand flower.
Victor Emanuel. Bright, rosy, carmine-red; handsome.

3 collections, 30 bulbs, and 3 subscriptions, \$1.20.



COLLECTION NO. 11

10 Best Named Double Hyacinths 45 cts.

The bulbs are fine and the varieties the best Doubles for outdoor planting this Fall for blooming next Spring.

Stoksborg. Light porcelain-blue, large stalk.
Chestnut Flower. A bright, rosy pink, like the pinkish red in a chestnut flower.
Crown Prince of Sweden. Violet-blue.
Garrick. A showy, light blue with lilac tinge.
Grootvorst. Fine, rich, rose-pink.
Jaune Supreme. Yellow with creamy pink center.
La Tour d'Auvergne. The earliest pure white.
Madam Antinck. Large white flower.
Noble Par Merite. Deep red-pink; magnificent.
Princess Alexander. Finest dark rose.
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3 collections, 30 Bulbs, and 3 subscriptions, \$1.20.

12 Fine Bedding Hyacinths, Mixed, 45c

3 collections, 36 Bulbs, and 3 subscriptions, \$1.00, post paid.

Very good size Bulbs for planting outdoors this Fall. Address all orders,

Parks Floral Magazine, Lapark, Pa.

Dear Floral Friends: I hope you all grow cactus, for really you don't know what a lot of pleasure there is in watching them grow, and the blooms are something wonderful, and when they begin to bloom one can count on flowers each year ever after. My red phlocactus Ackermani blooms in Spring and again in Fall, but phlocactus Empress only blooms in Spring, or at least that is all mine has done so far. Another one blooms in November and this one I call my Thanksgiving cactus, although it is usually in bloom before Thanksgiving and lasts until long afterwards, and has such fine blooms of the loveliest carmine color, with purplish sheen. Then comes good old Christmas cactus, with its wealth of fine flowers, and it lasts for a long time. One that has given me great pleasure is an Opuntia, with yellow blooms having red center, about two inches in diameter, the center full of yellow stamens. I love this one, although the blossoms do not last so very long. Then there is Opuntia Servetis, with its long hairs, and while my plant of this one is small, yet it bids fair to be a very odd and pretty one. Spider-web, too, with its soft leaves that feel like the finest velvet; who wouldn't love it? I also have the Burbanks' spineless cactus in two varieties, the purple and the yellow fruiting sorts. While both are lovely, I do like the tall growing one better. One hardy variety is so closely filled with glistening, straw-colored spines as to make it a formidable enemy, but up to now it has shown no signs of flowers for me. Prickly Pear is filled every Spring with its dainty yellow blossoms that look as though they had been cut from the finest crepe de chine. I believe it might prove hardy here, but I have never yet tried it, but always carry it to the cellar on the approach of Winter.

Dainty little Mistletoe! how I do admire it, and 'rat-tail', too, especially in late Spring, when its long tails are filled with the beautiful flowers it bears.

And still I could go on, and on, but fear our Editor would call a halt pretty soon, and just now I really am busy getting them all carried into the house and hunting Winter quarters for each and every one. And let me tell you this is no small job when one has only an ordinary house with quantities of plants, but still not one variety can I spare.

Mrs. M. B. McQuown, Penna.

Verbenas flower profusely and blend well with other flowers.

Deadman's Fingers is Habenaria Conopsea.

RECIPE FOR GRAY HAIR

To half pint of water add 1 oz. Bay Rum, a small box of Barbo Compound, and ¼ oz. of glycerine. Any druggist can put this up or you can mix it at home at very little cost. Apply to the hair twice a week until the desired shade is obtained. It will gradually darken streaked, faded or gray hair and make it soft and glossy. It will not color the scalp, is not sticky or greasy and does not rub off.—Advertisement.

MOTHERS! Good Health is the greatest blessing of humanity. Do you and your children possess it? If not send for my booklet entitled "Guard Your Health." It is FREE for the postage two cents. VIOLA NURSE, Dept. 58 D, Colorado Springs, Colo.

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THE JOY IN BULBS

I have been thinking for some time of telling you about the pleasure I got from a batch of unnamed bulbs sent me two years ago. I received them about this time of the year (Nov.) and could see that they were Tulips and Hyacinths. That was all I knew about them. I planted them in an old dish-pan, about two inches apart and three inches deep. I mulched them well and set the pan down in a bed of cinders on the south side of the house. They were truly cinderellas. The Hyacinths were pretty well mixed as to color and were beautiful, but the Tulips were as much more beautiful as it is possible for one flower to be than another. When they opened I was disappointed, because they seemed to be an unusually large size, but such a dirty white, but what a change the second day! It seemed as though they began to blush in embarrassment. First a dainty pink tipped the edge of the petals; this deepened at the exclamations of admiration they received until they boldy flaunted a dark rose. It was like looking at a different flower each day. They were all the same color except two that did not bloom until the others faded. They must have waited until the others were gone so they would show off to the best advantage. One was a lovely yellow, the other an indescribable shade of bluish red. The two shades blended so nicely that they attracted lots of attention. I looked forward to when they would bloom this last Spring, but a late hard frost had spoiled them all. One nice thing about Bulbs is, that there is always a "next time".

I see some one is still talking about putting castor oil on Ferns. A florist told me it was really a fertilizer if you had time to wait for it to decay, but there were so many other fertilizers that would affect the plant right away, that it was better not to use castor oil. I am sure nothing else could make the earth around the Fern look any dirtier. The Asparagus Ferns, which are not real Ferns at all, like a good taste of salt twice a year. Plumosus Nanus and Sprengerii are first cousins to the garden Asparagus, and many gardeners salt their Asparagus beds regularly.

Mildred Fisher, Kans.

EXCHANGES

Rosemary, Artemisia, etc., for perennials or bulbs. H. DeHaas, 404 S. 8th St., Livingston, Mont.

Hardy plants and seeds for Tuberous Begonias, Tuberous Moonflower and roots of Magnolia, Cyperus, Pampas Grass and Paeonies. Mrs. E. E. Thompson, Thompsonville, Conn.

Bundle of Minn. native plants including Lady Slipper, Cranberry, etc., for baby chicks, or anything you offer. Write. Mrs. O. A. Winton, Kerrick, Minn.

Flowers and flower seed for quilt scraps. Lunnie Quinn, RFD 2, Holladay, Tenn.

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By Miss Annette
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Can You Believe This?

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everyone to have this fine mode. You take no risk—my company guarantees to please you perfectly.

SEND NO MONEY! Just write me, giving size and whether you want Navy Blue, Black or Brown color. On arrival, pay Postman only \$3.97 and postage. Then, after try-on if you are not more than delighted, return it at my expense and your money will be quickly refunded.

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Lancaster County Seed Co., Station 26, PARADISE, PA.

Let us gather 'round for a farewell look ere Mother Nature closes the Autumn edition. How we linger over each page, loathing to close so lovely a book! But we must go on just as each day's changing, shifting scenes thrill us. Days are hazy, with blue sky, billowing clouds, birds southward bound. Fairylike touches of Jack Frost make leaves glorio-ous.

Our homely tasks—over my line of billow- ing wash I see fields and hills stretch into nothingness; a vagrant breeze is calling me, how I would like to wander gipsy-like, stop- ping to admire a leaf here, and there to speak to the roguish squirrel with the self satisfied mien, his preserving and canning are about finished; he is happy.

How lavish is Mother Nature with her gifts, each one better than the last; how we antici- pate each season. Soon Winter will be with us, the glorious leaves will quickly have danced happily to bed, to be covered with a snowy sheet. Glistening Winter scenes, boughs heavily laden with snow, and then a day of wonderfully bright diamonds gleam, and pearls softly festooned from branch to branch; not fences, but crystal lace of intricate design—the flash of color, a cardinal in flight—the miracle of it all.

Since Nature can do so much what have we done? Let us take stock of our past accom- plishments. Have we gained something in knowledge? passed something on, some new flower? Have we made some heart glad with a flowering plant, or bouquet; a message of cheer? Have we interested some one in gar- den, a convert to the cause of "Flowers"? O! how much easier is the rocky way when flower- strewn.

Nature ever ready to aid sends messengers of cheer. Let us never fail to follow in her footsteps.

Then make ready for Winter; clean up the flower beds, store away roots with the loving care Mother Nature teaches. If your cellar is very dry pack your dahlia bulbs in boxes, stem downwards, (to drain water out of stems) and fill in with dry sand, soil or sawdust, to avoid too much drying out. Water in the stems causes rot.

Next Spring mark with a small stake odd bulbs that must be lifted, in order to find easily when lifting time comes. Strive always for more and greater variety in flowers, ex- perimenting, helping others, especially child- ren, and so, not missing one of Nature's love- ly pictures, be extremely happy in making the most of what we have.

Sweet Pea, Penn.

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- FREE—15c Bulb with every dollar order—FREE
- 100 Fine mixed Gladioli, 3-4 to 1 inch - \$1.25
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All above, over 300 bulbs, only **SIX DOLLARS.**
Paul L. Ward, Plantsman, Hillsdale, Mich.

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THE THOUSAND HILLS

The thousand hills with spring are green,
And wrens in airy flight are seen.

The slate-blue peaks, that distant lie,
Are like a bowl to catch the sky.
While farmers plant the fruitful bean,
The earth prepares for heaven's queen
A myriad of hues, whose splendors mean
Less gloomy days where tower high

The thousand hills,
Wet winter past, the bard is keen
For vistas, where plum-blossoms lean,
Above clear brooks that twinkle by.
What dreams within the poet's eye,
Hued like the opal's prisoned sheen,
The thousand hills?

Will Thompson, Md.

LOOK BACKWARD A MINUTE

Dear Floral Friends: Well this is a good time of the year to think of our successes or failures with flowers and to plan for the coming year.

My dahlias from seed grew fine, were 2 to 3 feet high with ordinary care, but the long, dry season blasted the buds, and the light frosts so soon after the rains came, have postponed until next year my enjoyment of the flowers.

For the first time in my experience only the larger bulbs of gladiolus bloomed. The bulb-lets I bought grew so nicely that with a favorable season I hope for flowers next year. I received a primulinus gladioli as an "extra" last Spring. Was not much interested in the description, but planted it. However, it was a surprise, so dainty in form and coloring that I must have a dozen or two next year.

My Perennial Peas grew nine feet tall in spite of drought, and bloomed from Decoration Day until after the Chrysanthemums began, with no care at all. It is a good choice for busy and lazy folks.

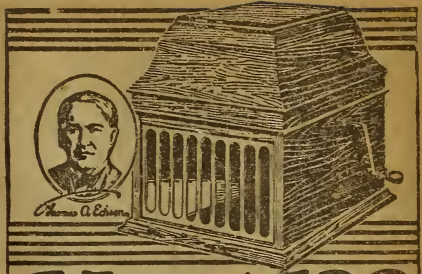
But with most flowers, lack of care, either "don't-know-how" or "haven't-time" kind, is fatal to the amateur's hopes of beautiful flowers from annuals. Perennials, after they get a start, seem to stand it better. I have thirty-one plants from a packet of Aquilegias sown this Spring that did not seem to grow all Summer, but with the Fall rains how they jumped!

My three-year old bed of mixed hardy Pinks and Dianthus was as nice as anything I had this year, almost like Carnations, and the colors were glorious.

I shall make a specialty of Bulbs for Christmas presents this year, as I find they are always appreciated, which is more than can be said of many gifts.

I have found that nice plants of Ageratum, taken up in the Fall, will bloom almost all Winter in the house, and then bloom the next Summer in the bed again.

But after the frost my flowers were scarce. I wish the Editor would print a list of frost-proof annuals.
Mayweed, N. Y.



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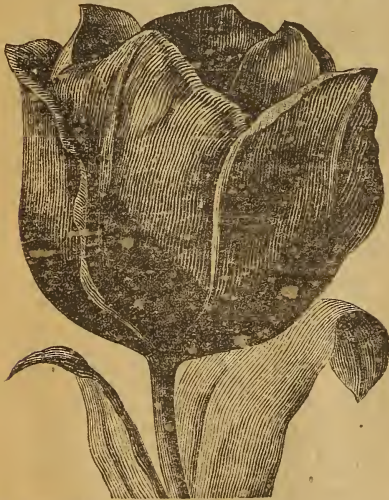
COLLECTION NO. 2

8 Lovely Named, Single, Early Tulips, 30c

Artus. Scarlet. Rich, bright red; flowers very large.
Cottage Maid. Immense white petals charmingly
 suffused with carmine-pink.

Duchess de Parma. An enchantingly beautiful,
 large flower, brownish-red, light orange-yellow border.
Just van den Vondel. Cherry-red-violet, charm-
 ingly feathered white.

La Reine. Pinkish white. One of most popular.
Prince of Austria. Outside petals orange-red,
 with a copper tinge, inside petals brilliant scarlet-red.



White Hawk. Very large, pure white round flower.
Yellow Prince. A clear canary-yellow, occasion-
 ally streaked with a little red. One of the finest.
 4 collections, or 32 Bulbs, and 4 subscriptions, \$1.00.

COLLECTION NO. 3

8 Named Double Early Tulips, 30c

Couronne d'Or. Orange and golden. This is ab-
 solutely the finest double yellow Tulip.

La Candeur. A large, full, double flower, white
 tipped with green.

La Matador. Large, dazzling, scarlet flower, with
 pinkish sheen.

Lucetta. Rose-violet-pink. Showy and handsome.
Murillo. The handsomest and most desirable pink-
 ish white; on long stems.

Enfero Mexicana. The largest red double Tulip.

Salvator Rose. Dark rose flamed with red.
Tourneval. Most popular and widely grown double
 Tulip, bright red with golden base and yellow edges.
 4 collections, or 32 bulbs, and 4 subscriptions, \$1.00.

Parks Floral Magazine, Lapark Pa.

It is a long time since I have written to our dear little Floral Magazine, though I have read and re-read each copy. Perhaps I have been too busy reading and putting it to practice the many valuable suggestions found in it. Since I have written to your paper I have tried out many different flowers; one, the Chinese Wool Flower, an annual which has gave me more real value for the small amount of expense than anything I know of. It blooms from early Spring until killing frosts, a mass of velvety crimson. Then there is the golden yellow one, which, with its many varying shaped and shaded blossoms, is a constant delight to every member of the family, and when its Summer's work is done, if it is gathered and stored heads down until dry, it makes a wonderful Winter bouquet, together with grasses, gilded and silvered by being dipped in gold and silver paint, worth a lot to brighten the dark corner. It would make a lovely gift for an invalid or shut-in.

Another flower, not so hardy but repaying one very well for his trouble, is the Strawflower, in its many shades and forms, making both Summer and Winter more cheery with its wonderful colorings. It, too, must be dried heads down for use in Winter bouquets.

My Dahlias



Dahlias have been my great standby for the past few years, and my collection of choice ones is over fifty, and yet I would like to have more. They are planted in my flower garden in rows, and plowed just as my husband plows his cotton, and hoed and cultivated about the same, and to say they reward us with a wealth of blossoms is putting it mildly, for I could gather sometimes five hundred blossoms at a time. The same conditions that make corn and cotton will make Dahlias, but they must have sun, fertilizer and moisture in plenty. Never plant them in the shade where soil is too poor for other crops and expect blossoms. Of course they might come up and make some foliage but certainly few blossoms. This year the bugs were sucking my Dahlia blossoms. To get rid of them I first sprayed with Paris green, and as they still continued to bother I used Bee Brand insect powder and that was the last of the bugs.

Cherokee Rose of Georgia

IS IT ANYBODY'S BUSINESS?

Is it anybody's business
If I would rather get
One dozen choice Rose bushes
And wear my old hat yet?

If I could find more enjoyment,
In the Roses white and red,
Than in Roses artificial
On a new hat for my head?

If I wear my coat four winters,
Why should people criticize?
I'll buy hardy bulbs I long for,
When the bulbs I dearly prize.

If the Daffodils and Tulips,
And the Hyacinths so rare
Would give me far greater pleasure
Than the new coat I might wear.

I've decided to buy Roses.
Yellow, red and pink and white,
And a few new grand Paeonies.
Last year's hat will look all right.

Only think of the great uplift
I will have from day to day,
When my treasures bud and blossom,
And from blooms I'll give away.

Now I never had ambition
A live fashion plate to be,
To be known as the "Flower Lady",
That name does appeal to me.
—Eva Wendel Smith, N. Y.

PLANTS HAVE EYES

Most people are aware that Potatoes have eyes, but how many know that certain common garden and wild flowers are similarly equipped? The Nasturtium, Begonia, Clover, Wood Sorrel and Blue Bell, among others, have eyes placed on their leaves. They are tiny protuberances filled with a transparent, gummy mixture, which focuses the rays of light upon a sensitive patch of tissue behind them. A Nasturtium plant has thousands of such "eyes" on its leaves, but it is not yet known if the plant can see.

Are the sense impressions telegraphed to some central nerve corresponding with the brain of the animal kingdom? In addition to this visual organ, many plants show a sensitiveness that points to further resemblance to animals, while certain Seaweeds and Mosses, in early stages of their existence, are able to actually swim through the water.

Elsie B. Stoner, Penna.

USING SMALL POTS

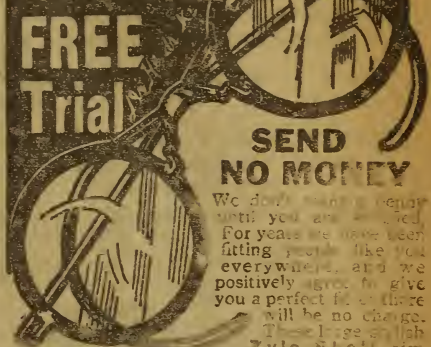
Amateurs, when visiting greenhouses, often express astonishment upon seeing large and perfect plants grown in small pots. If one wants a plant to bloom soon and sure, put it in a small pot; when the roots have filled the soil, the plant may be fed with liquid manure, or even a little ammonia added to the water will give satisfactory results.

CHINESE PRIMROSE

There is nothing better than the Chinese Primrose for a window plant, and, with care it will bloom the year round—usually, though, it blooms in Winter and Spring. Keep your plants near the glass, moderately warm, and have good drainage in your pots. Put in a few sticks for support if the plant grows top-heavy.

Gentiana was named after Gentius, King of Illyria, because of the belief that he discovered the tonic value of the plant.

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Toric Spectacles**



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I will send you a regular, full, complete, three-fold Lexoid Course of treatment, without a penny in advance—charges paid—ready to use—so you can try it without a penny's expense.

Take it when it comes. Use half of it, and see just what it does. Then when you know it is helping you, just send me a small amount—an amount within your easy reach—an amount you can easily afford to spare—that's all I ask. Try it first, pay afterwards when you know, not before. When you have used half of it, if you are not satisfied, return what's left and pay nothing. Don't send a penny now, not even a postage stamp; just your name and address to

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A MEXICAN PRIMROSE

This is the desert's child,
Reared in her bosom wild.
It dwells mid lowly grass
Which careless eye might pass,
And opens its petals four
Like a celestial door;
Bares its delicate heart
Far from the busy mart!
It spreads its petals white
Deep in the silent night,
And sends its perfume rare
Out on the morning air,
For bees that wander by,
Or thoughtless butterfly.
For a day it braves the skies!
Then blushes, fades. Alas, it dies!
—Evergreen, Calif.

FRIENDS' FLORAL CORNER

Dear Floral Friends: I have been a fond but silent reader of the little Magazine for seven years and each issue brings me great pleasure. But I am a very busy housewife, and mother of three children, with neither time nor talent for writing, but I certainly do enjoy the Floral Friends' Corner. Two flowers grow in our yard and I would like you to tell me their names. I am sending you the flowers. The yellow one is from a shrub several feet high, while the purple flower is a foot tall and comes up every year, but I do not know whether it is from seed self-sown or the roots.—Flora, Tenn.

(I take the liberty of answering Flora because I cannot show you the flower. The yellow one is *Kerria Japonica flore-pleno*; the purple one is *Verbena Erinoides*.)—EDITOR.

Dear Floral Friends: Three years ago I had a bowl of beautiful *Narcissus* blooming in the house. They lasted long enough, I suppose, but they grew so rank I hated to part with them, and kept them long after they had toppled over after flowering. Then I found a fairly good planting-out day in February, and I selected three of the largest bulbs and planted them, more for an experiment than from faith. The first two years they came up, but did not bloom. This Spring they had large buds, but a late freeze killed them just in the act of blooming. Would they ever again bloom do you think? Mrs. C. L. Lett, Ky.

Dear Floral Friends: Suppose all the Flowers are troubled, at times, *Double Purple Petunia* has another good remedy which was fine for her Lily bed, this season. It is this: dig a small trench all around the Lilies, say a foot or so from the Bulbs; have the trench four inches deep, then fill the trench with small pieces of glass, crockery and bits of old wire netting, cover over with dirt and then let them start on their travels. I bet they will have some "tire trouble" and will go in the opposite direction, quick. *Double Purple Petunia*, Connecticut.

EXCHANGES

Feverfew, Cosmos, Larkspur, Hollyhock, Daisy, Marigold and Poppy seed for fancy-work, thread, yarn, patterns and beads. Miss Florence I. Wood, 911 Wright Ave., Eagle Grove, Iowa.

Sweet Pea, Bleeding-Heart, Strawflower, Sweet William, China Aster, Geranium, Parrot feathers, Cannas and Rose of Sharon and other flower seeds and plants for odd quilt pieces. Bertha Ballinger, Holladay, Tenn. R 3.

Plants for other varieties. Write. Alice Russell, Groesbeck, Tex. RFD 5.

Caladiums, Cannas, Dahlias, Amaryllis for Victor records. Write. Mrs. John Holwell, 316 Jackson Ave., Warrensburg, Mo.

FRIENDS' FLORAL CORNER

Dear Floral Friends: In our part of New York state, we have had a delightful October so far, and it is nearly two-thirds gone. The trees and bushes have been brilliantly arrayed in all their becoming shades of russets, tans and greens—all the charming shades of red as well as the more subdued tones—so at present we do not long for the flowers that we were so eager to see bloom earlier in the season, and it seems just as desirable to clean up the dried garden and care for the bulbs.

But now you will no doubt be reading this when Jack Frost has been out etching the window panes with his fairy swiftness. That is just what I've been thinking of this afternoon when I took care of my Lilies. I don't know what you call them but my grandmother called them "Surprise Lilies," my aunt calls them "Witch Lilies," and some call them "August Lilies." Now you know what I am telling you about and yours no doubt are slumbering for the Winter in the cellar. Just you bring them up along in February or March; give them light, warmth and water, and you will be surprised, for they will blossom just beautifully. Mine do well in a north window, and how we do enjoy those dainty pink blossoms when the wind howls and the snow blows.

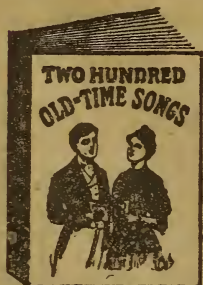
I think a lot depends on the containers you keep your plants in. For me Begonias do far better in the earthen plant jars, though many plants are not partial whether they are in jars, tins or wooden containers. Keep the outsides of them neat, too. Tissue paper helps a lot or even wall paper. White paint is more lasting.

Do you know that Christmas Cactus can easily be rooted in water? I do not know if other varieties can or not.

As soon as the holidays are gone and the flower and seed catalogues appear, one begins to enjoy anticipating next Summer's flower bed and we find it a good plan to draw an outline of the house and yard and mark down where the different seeds, plants and shrubs should be placed. It makes a very enjoyable work of an evening, getting these plans made, and helps out wonderfully when Spring comes with its many necessary tasks that give us small time for the pleasures. Every year, yes every season, we exchange something with some one and truly our collection, outdoors as well as in, is a friendship garden.

Chrystina Bee, N. Y.

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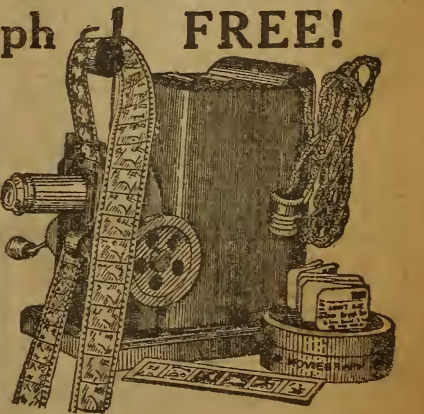
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GYPSOPHILA PANICULATA, OR BABY'S BREATH

Gypsophila Paniculata is a lovely, hardy plant that, once started, will live for years. It is easily grown from seed sown in the Fall. The sprays are branching with delicate, pale blue flowers which are fine for bouquets with brightly colored flowers.

Mrs. Knox, Colo.

Who has ever had Vincas? If you have not raised them try these plants for outdoors next season. I keep mine over Winter and they bloom freely. They need only light and water and any good garden soil suits them.

Spearmint, Ills.

They are old-fashioned, it is true, but the cheery, bright red bloom of a Geranium will certainly do wonders on a dismal, bleak November day. I would not think of keeping house without one, for it is as important as "polishing" up the family on a dark day as polish is to tarnished silver. N. C. B., Md.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Is the Star of Bethlehem used as a window plant? If not I would like to know what window plant bears a mass of white star-like blossoms.—Ethel F. Legro, Mass.

A. The window plant is Ornithogalum Arbiicum, which is also known, however, as Star of Bethlehem.—EDITOR.

Q. In the April 1922 Magazine you published an article about the Sacred Lily of Indo-China. Could you tell me where to obtain the seeds?—Mrs. Earle A. Prescott, N. H.

A. I understand Government regulations do not permit the importation into America of this seed.—EDITOR.

Q. How can I remove scale or lice from my Ferns.—Mrs. W. M. Moore, Texas.

A. Cut Fern back to surface and let it grow new shoots.—EDITOR.

Q. You will see from enclosed fronds that my Fern is diseased. What shall I do for it.—Mrs. C. E. Everson, N. Dak.

A. Trouble is scale. Cut off all the affective fronds and burn them.—EDITOR.

Q. When is the best time to plant Hardy Pea?—Miss Pearl Kerr, Ill.

A. Hardy Pea or Lathyrus latifolius can be planted any time in the Fall. If the ground is frozen, break up the crust and plant seeds underneath.—EDITOR.

Q. Please tell me what to plant around my porch. Morning Glories wilt. Do you recommend Wild Cucumber?—I want plenty of shade.—Mrs. S. W. Baldwin, Kans.

A. Japanese Kudzu vine is about the best thing.—EDITOR.

Q. Where can I get a dictionary giving the scientific and common names of flowers?—Mrs. E. Y. Cooper, Mo.

A. I suggest you consult the principal of your High School, or Teacher of Botany in that institution.—EDITOR.

Q. My Amaryllis bloomed in August; shall I treat them like Gladiolus? Which is the yellowest yellow Gladiolus? How can I destroy a shrub that is crowding my garden? It is not killed by being cut down? What causes the buds and half opened blossoms of my Fuschia to drop?—E. Timmer, Mich.

A. Yes, take up your Amaryllis just like Gladiolus and give them a rest. Golden Measure is the yellowest Gladiolus. I cannot tell you how to destroy the Shrub without knowing its name—send me a leaf and bit of branch. Sour soil is affecting your Fuschia. Repot in new soil, putting an inch of broken pots or cracked stone in bottom of pot for proper drainage.—EDITOR.

SALVIA FOR INDOOR WINTER BLOOMING

If not already frozen, dig up a Salvia, or Scarlet Sage, cut it down to about 10 inches, pot and take it in the house, treat like any other pot-plant and you will have its brilliant



SALVIA, OR SCARLET SAGE

red flowers to brighten up the room in the worst old month of Winter, February. The variety of Salvia said to be most beautiful indoors is *Involucrata Bethellii*, which bears spikes of bright rosy, coriine flowers, in groups of three, at the end of the branches.

FOR JUSTICIAS

During the hot days of Summer my Justicia does not seem to like the heat at noon, and needs very little care, but lots of water. When the first blooms die I just pinch them off close to the head of bloom and other flowers will come where they were.

My Periwinkles that began to bloom early in the Spring had flowers on them until late in December, and my Hibiscus bloomed until nearly Christmas.

Mrs. H. M. Whitehead, Ga.

AQUILEGIA IN POTS

Try two or three pots full this Fall and you will find no urging to plan for them each Autumn. Take up the largest crown very carefully and place it in a pot large enough to accommodate it; set the pot in a cold frame or plunge it in ashes outdoors, like bulbs. Towards Spring bring into a warm room, and they will grow quickly and provide a fascinating decoration before they can be expected outdoors.

EXCHANGES

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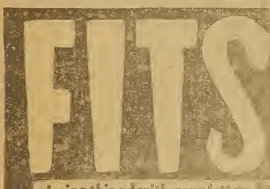
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PLANTS FOR A WET SPOT

I have such a spot near my spring, and in it grow "Swamp Violets", "Church Bells" (kind of Fox Glove), orange Day Lilies (Hemeroclidus), tall white Spiderwort, Perennial Phlox, Hibiscus Mallows, red-flowering Horse Mint, Cardinal flower and Turtle Head. Showy grasses are always pretty, too.

Wenona B. McCluer, Ky.

Dear Floral Friends: Several years ago the writer purchased a number of Paecony root which were planted on the south side of a building under the eaves. In fact, one was planted where the water from the roof fell directly on it. An old dishpan, with the bottom removed, was put over this particular root and the pan was filled to within two inches of the top with loam so that there was at least six inches of earth over the crown. The water from the eaves filled the pan and froze, so there was a solid cake of ice on top of the plant nearly the whole Winter. That plant produced more flowers than all of the others put together.

I want to tell you this because we are told to put the crowns just so deep; if too deep it is very bad, if too shallow, worse.

Edgar M. Keith, S. Dak.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Please advise me about my Heliotrope; its leaves are turning brown and I find a little brown aphid on the back of them. I changed the soil but it does not prevent them dying.—G. M. N., Ore.

A. Dust with tobacco dust, being sure to reach the under side of the leaves, and keep rather dry, in a warm, sunny room.—EDITOR

Q. Last Spring my double Narcissus started to open, then seemed to stand still, finally the petals seemed to blight somewhat, and opened green instead of yellow, a sort of cross between colors of leaves and flowers.—C. B., Ariz.

A. This is exactly what Narcissus Votion does from time to time, and there is no help for it.—EDITOR.

Q. Tell me the best perennials for a hot, dry climate like ours.—C. S., Ark.

A. Gaillardia, Coreopsis, Hardy Asters, Heterocallis and Pyrethrum.—EDITOR.

Q. Is there such a thing as a breeder among Amaryllis bulbs. My Johnsonii has refused to bloom for four years, but produces new bulbs persistently; it rests under a bush in summer.—G. L., Mo.

A. There are no breeders among Amaryllis. Remove all young ones, plant out in sun next season, and give no water, then pot up in Fall.—EDITOR.

Q. My Rubber Plant is losing its leaves. First there is a little yellow tinge to the leaf, it spreads, curls up and has a black, mouldy appearance. What shall I do.—J. F. F. Mich.

A. The Rubber Plant is subject to this condition; cut it back within a foot of the surface and let it grow up again.—EDITOR.

Q. My Rhus Cotinus has tiny blossoms but never presents the appearance of smoke. Is there something wrong with it.—L. L. W., N. Y.

A. Nothing wrong, it is only in the distance that Rhus Cotinus is sufficiently suggestive of smoke to be entitled to its common name of Smoke Tree.—EDITOR.

Q. When a new leaf comes on my Calla the other one dies. Why? I keep the plant in a jar of water all the time.—T. A. M., Mass.

A. Grow it in soil, not water, in a six-inch pot, with a handful of well rotted stable manure mixed in.—EDITOR.

Q. Must a Christmas Cactus be root bound to bloom.—H. C., N. Dak.

A. It helps, but is not positively necessary.—EDITOR.

- Q. What makes Chinese Sacred Lily buds blast?
—O. L., Ohio
- A. Either kept too warm or the water has become stagnant—keep a lump of charcoal in it.—EDITOR.
- Q. I have set out my May-flowering Tulips in a bed where I want tog row Cannas next Summer. If the Tulips do not bloom early enough can I transplant them and will they surely flower?—F. S. Ohio.
- A. It would be an experiment, and I think a very unwise one.—EDITOR.
- Q. In Florida there is a perennial Coral Bell, with coarse, bean-like leaves and large clusters of pink flowers. Please tell me its name?—M. E. F. Wash.
- A. *Heuchera sanguinea* is commonly known as Coral Bell, and also as Crimson Bell. It is a perennial and quite often grown in pots for Winter blooming indoors.—EDITOR.
- Q. Are tea and coffee grounds good plant food?—M. A. C., Me.
- A. They are frequently used, but are of no earthly use as growing "food."—EDITOR.
- Q. How old must a Wistaria be before it will bloom?—A. L., Tex.
- A. Three to four years.—EDITOR.
- Q. What shall I do about little white flies on my window plants?—C. M. F., Vt.
- A. They are acid flies that gather because your potting soil is sour. Spray plants with tobacco water, daily, three or four times.—EDITOR.
- Q. Kindly give me cultural directions for *Ruellia Makoyana*?—R. P., Mich.
- A. Just the same as for *Geranium* or any common house plant—use four-inch pot and rich soil.—EDITOR.
- Q. What can I do to make my *Tuberose* bloom? At what age should they flower?—C. J. DeH., Mont.
- A. Unless your tubers are offsets they will bloom when two years old, but never if chilled.—EDITOR.
- Q. What shall I do with my Chinese Sacred Lilies after they have finished blooming?—C. J. Ill.
- A. Throw them away.—EDITOR.

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