

A LITTLE GARDEN
THE YEAR ROUND

✿ Gardner Teall ✿

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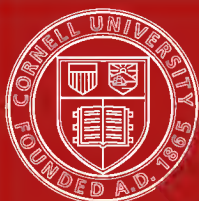
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A LITTLE GARDEN THE YEAR ROUND



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

A LITTLE GARDEN OF FAIR FLOWERS

A LITTLE GARDEN THE YEAR ROUND

WHEREIN MUCH JOY WAS FOUND
EXPERIENCE GAINED AND PROFIT
SPIRITUAL AS WELL AS MUNDANE
DERIVED WITHOUT LOSS OF PRESTIGE
IN A PRACTICAL NEIGHBORHOOD

BY
GARDNER TEALL



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TO
MY FATHER
WILLIAM ALLEN TEALL
THIS LITTLE BOOK IS DEDICATED
IN MEMORY OF THE FIRST LITTLE GARDEN
I EVER KNEW

A FOREWORD TO THE DEAR GARDEN-LOVER

*A little garden square and wall'd;
And in it throve an ancient evergreen,
A yew-tree, and all round it ran a walk
Of shingle, and a walk divided it.*

TENNYSON.

A LITTLE garden the year round—
how dear memory holds it in the
heart! What lessons it taught,
primer of all which you, Dear Garden-Lover,
will find in this little book! And if it chances
that you *don't* skip prefaces, things the author
may say of the pages to follow, or return to
demand from him an explanation of your pos-
sible disappointments, let him confide to you
that he might never have ventured forth into
the realms of your generosity, had not the
kindly encouragement of your neighbors al-
ready put seal of approval on the various es-

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says in garden literature from his own pen which have faithfully served as quarry, when here a stone and there a stone seemed as ready as his craft could make it to lend strength to the foundation of this little edifice.

This little book of a little garden the year round seeks, in friendly way, not only to be useful to every garden-owner, and to every garden-beginner who looks forward to making a garden of his own, but to convey some sense of the joys of gardening, some realization of the pleasures that find place in the heart and soul of one who combines the companionship of prose and poetry in the going about his gardening, an occupation indulged in for recreation, whose limits have taught him that a world may be held in a nutshell after all, if the experiences of his own are not forgotten, and particularly if his trained, observant and sympathetic eye is permitted to make its discoveries in the broader acreage of his fellow garden-makers.

There can never be too many garden-lovers, nor can there ever be too many garden books. I turn to my gardening shelves and scan their titles lovingly. They have taught me much,

have confirmed observations of my own and even those with whom I have, in the mind's way, held dispute, still linger that I may do battle with them, and thus renew confidence in my own reputed prowess!

Perhaps some impatient garden-maker will shrug shoulder at the things I find in a little garden. Let him snatch at lettuces, confound grubs, bully cabbages and drive potatoes to his cellar with the lash of a hardened practicality that never gets above the stomach! For him this little book is not! You, Dear Garden-Lover, *you* I count upon, for you too, I know will be thinking of the birds and the flowers even while arranging your radish seeds in orderly rows. And I shall be gratefully appreciative to you, as I am to those who have permitted me to draw upon the essays, of which I have already told you, that I might plan for you this little book.

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A LITTLE GARDEN THE YEAR ROUND



Photo by Nathan R Graves Co.

A LITTLE GARDEN LIKE THIS ONE IS A HAPPY POSSESSION

A LITTLE GARDEN THE YEAR ROUND

I

A LITTLE FLOWER GARDEN

THERE is a lovely garden nestling in a quiet valley of the Connecticut countryside that I shall call Everyman's garden, because here one finds, season after season, a world of delight in the delectable array of blooming things dear to the heart of every one who holds close to him the memory of Hollyhocks, Larkspurs, Columbines, Marigolds, Cockscombs, Poppies, Asters, Foxgloves, Canterbury Bells, Love-in-a-Mist, Mignonette, Sweet William, Petunias, the Zinnia and all the other beautiful flowers we have called old-fashioned because we love them best. Here one finds no orderly array of

stiffly designed flower beds, looking for all the world like a patch-quilt for keeping Nature covered up. Instead, great banks of Phlox, clumps of Peonies, trellises of Sweet Peas, and banks of Nasturtiums hold almost riotous sway over the domain that stretches from doorstep to the gate, which seems always swinging open to welcome you to the wonderland it gives access to. When you see the gorgeous blaze of wonderful color before you, as though all the gems of Aladdin's command had been strewn by careless but generous hand just there, you will rub your eyes to make sure you are not dreaming; that this little paradise is real, after all. Whatever notions you may have entertained about stiff borders, symmetrical edges and formal garden lay-outs will vanish utterly under the spell this garden casts around one, and you will find that it can teach you more in an hour than many another has taught you in a season.

A few years ago—fifty if you will—we were all imagining that we had no history; to-day we realize we have made a great deal. We cannot whirl through the countryside and catch a glimpse of some old house, landmark of our

Colonial era, that our hearts do not bound up within us with the pride we hold in all we have done since then. It is not because this old pewter mug, or that old sampler, or these quaint candlesticks evoke our admiration merely in themselves for their intrinsic worth that we bargain for them, collect them, and carry them off with us, to adorn our houses, with almost as much pride as the conquerors of old brought back their spoils to adorn the victory; it is because history and these things have gone hand in hand, a thing we love to be reminded of, the quality which lends to the "antique" its chief charm. That, too, is why we must have reproductions of the old things, if the old things themselves are to be denied us. So it is with gardens. The Englishman may walk among his box-bordered geometrics, his Yew-covered paths; the Italian among his balustrated terraces, sentineled by Cypresses; the Hollander among his Tulip-beds, the Spaniard within his arbors of Jasmine, the Frenchman around his rows of Lilies, and the northlander about his shrubbery, his Moss-Roses and Forget-Me-Nots; but to the heart of every American that garden of flowers is

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the loveliest which carries with its perfume the reminiscent suggestion of those gardens of our cradle days, when Salem roasted witches but overlooked the enchantments of her dooryard, red with Four-O'Clocks, white with Candytuft, blue with Batchelors' Buttons, and when the good folk of Boston Village, each over his neighbor's fence, discussed the newest Larkspur seed, the fantastic forms of the Gourd. We love to be reminded, too, of Martha Washington's garden at Mt. Vernon, of the bouquets that used to come fresh with the morning dew upon them to Mistress Dolly Madison, of the garden where the brave Boys in Blue and the brave Boys in Gray played in their happy youth, taking little heed of the prophecy of the relentless Dicentra—Bleeding Heart, indeed!

And so, when I come into a garden such as this one, where on a Summer's day the hum of bees throws me into drowsy meditation and the winds waft sweet music of the nodding stems to listening ears, I say it is the best garden of all—your garden, my garden—Everyman's garden.

*"If they to whom God gives fair gardens knew
The happy solace which sweet flowers be-
stow;
Where pain depresses, and where friends are
few,
To cheer the heart in weariness and woe."*

These words of a poet, whose name has long since been forgotten, come to one as he strolls through the banks of flowering verdure, but only because we feel sorry for that poet of long ago. He may have known lovely gardens, but had he known this one, never would the burden of his song have carried with it suggestion of any plaint, but he would have felt that spirit of all gardens whispering as the *genius loci* to him, as in the exquisite words of Francis Thompson's "An Anthem of Earth":

*"Here I untrammel.
Here I pluck loose the body's cementing,
And break the tomb of life; here I shake off
The bur o' the world, man's congregation shun,
And to the antique order of the dead
I take the tongueless vows; my call is set
Here in thy bosom; my little trouble is ended
In a little peace."*

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How inseparable, indeed, are gardens and poetry, poetry and gardens, though many there be (they, perhaps, who are merely born with the botanist's eye, the agriculturist's crop proclivities, or the spademan's muscle) who pretend to find in the garden only the suggestion of a deal of troweling, a scattering of seeds, a turn at weeding, a thorn or two, and the trouble of beginning it all over again, meeting the occupation or the necessity withal, as the case may be, season after season and year after year, but as a matter of business, as part of the business of life, a duty performed well but blindly, unillumined by the inner light that sheds its radiance upon the joys of gardening.

Indeed, I know a man who has a yard full of plants space-filling his summertimes. If you should ask him why he plants them, he could not tell you, though I suspect he is coming under the spell of habit and that a few more years will find him understanding that he has a garden, not merely a Rose here, a Lilac there and a row of Geraniums, causing him a deal of grumbling and trouble, because he looks upon them solely as agents in outvieing his neighbor's floral display; I say he cannot forever

escape the heart-song his sorry garden is trying to sing to him—sorry garden, for a garden cannot make itself—he cannot escape it if he has a soul, and I think he has. When I go down his street and look over his fence at the growing things beyond, for all the world a garden of prim precision and joylessness, I say to myself, “That is Noman’s garden,” and I pass on with a sigh. I tried to talk to him once about gardens—about mine. It was in the early Spring, and I hoped to learn how he had managed to make his Larkspurs taller than mine, though his were not so blue. Alas! Enough chemicals to have established a pharmacy, and a grim determination that his garden would look down upon mine,—that was all I got out of him; he had never heard of Omar Khayyám, of Francis Thompson, and would have lost faith in Francis Bacon had he known the great philosopher had “wasted” his time in discoursing “Of Gardens.” For my own part, I can dismiss the matter of Noman’s garden from my mind as though he were a purveyor of dried herbs, being, nevertheless, charitable enough to wish him well.

II

MAKING THE LITTLE FLOWER GARDEN

I LOVE to sit out under the trees of Everyman's garden. Now and then a whiff of clover-fragrance, of perfume from the lovely fields beyond, cuts keenly to our retreat, and the master of the garden shakes his head laughingly and gives warning that his flower-children will be jealous. So they are; the next fluttering of leaves is turned by zephyrs scented with the subtle incense of the Columbine, the Honeysuckle or the strange, sweet breath of the Dahlia. Then I tell the master of this garden all the hopes and fears I hold for my own. For two seasons now, I tell him, I have been striving to rear my treasured plants and bring them to maturity, that they may frame the garden of my dreams. He leads me to an old back porch screened with Honeysuckle, Clematis, and stringed Morn-

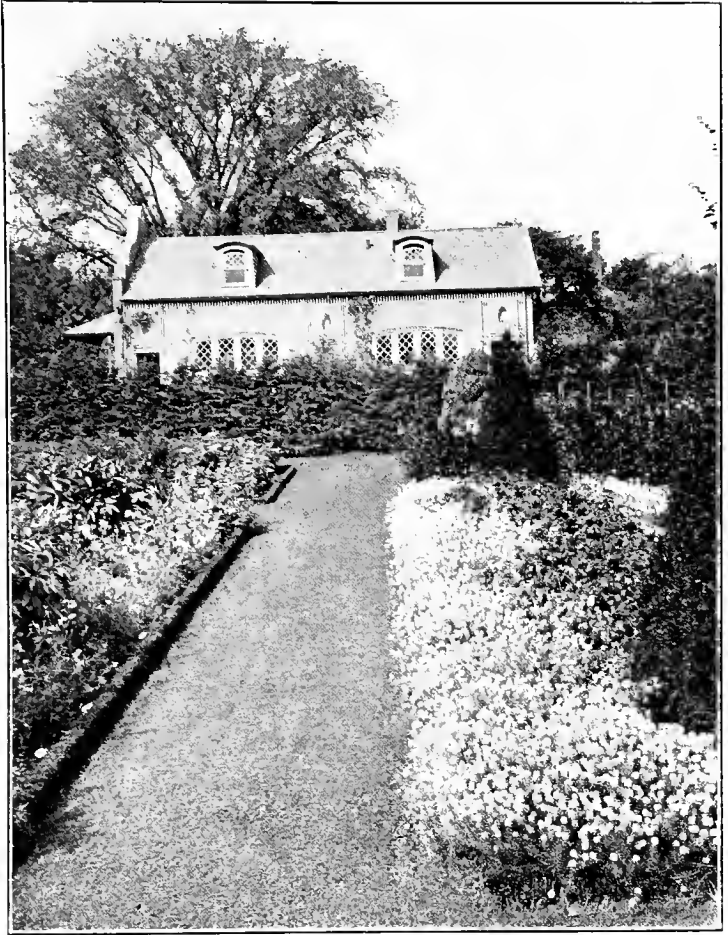


Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

A LITTLE GARDEN WELL PLANNED

ing-Glories. "Here," he tells me, "I keep the diary of my garden." I look over his shoulder at the books he holds forth and find that for many years he has jotted down with loving care therein all sorts of things every one should know about his garden. Some of the things I find written in these bulky notebooks are much the same as the things the master of Noman's garden begrudgingly dispensed when I pressed him for information. How differently it is with the master of Everyman's garden! Eagerly I begin to compare notes, first turning to his trim little entries under

SITES AND SOILS FOR THE GARDEN

"They must be weed-free." We both agree as to that. Weeds cannot be cut under and allowed to hide their heads, ostrich-like. We must not let the foolish things take silly advantage of us that way. We must root them out in earnest, and burn them. Moreover, if the garden plot we have determined upon is neighbor to a weedy field, we shall be called upon to exercise some vigilance over-fence. It is a poor neighbor who will not lend hand to

organized effort in a community to root out obnoxious weeds. We all know that nothing is so injurious to a flower garden as too much water, or too little. A garden spot upon a slope with a southern exposure is ideal for a site, permitting, as it does, access to sunshine—all flowers need that—and proper drainage often denied to the flat garden. We are reminded, too, of the havoc north and west winds wreak upon Roses and other tender plants and we must plan a hedge, shrubbery or some other means of shielding our gardens in the directions of these winds. The owner of Everyman's garden tells me he chose its site away from the road-front, for he not only wished his flowers to be free from the dust clouds stirred up by the vehicles constantly passing, but also because, wishing to have the joy of spending several hours each day tending his plants, he sought a spot that would give him greater privacy than the road-front.

We both discovered, as every one who has a garden comes to discover, that dirt is not soil—at least not soil in the sense of the proper source of nourishment for plants. With earth made up of sand and clay and decayed vege-

table, called humus, plant life must be supplied from these in proportion to the requirements of species. We usually refer to a very sandy or a very clayey soil as a poor soil, and one abundantly supplied with humus as good soil. A poor sandy soil contains from 80 to 100 per cent. of sand, and as sand, unmixed with vegetable or animal matter, supplies little nutriment to plants, it stands to reason one would hardly expect to make a lovely garden out of a mere sandbank, or out of a stretch of closely-packed clay, for though clay may contain plant food, the roots of plants cannot get to it unless the clayey soil is mixed with other soil. To a mixed sandy and clayey soil we give the name loam. Such loam contains from 40 to 60 per cent. of sand; if from 60 to 80 per cent. of sand, we call it sandy loam, and if less than 40 per cent. of sand we call it clayey loam. This loam is the basis of all good garden soil. Drainage lightens the soil and permits aëration, which is so necessary to it; and, freed from stagnant moisture, the earth becomes warmer and drier and more fertile, as the bacteria which nitrify it and convert manure into plant food can live in soil that is

properly drained and tilled in infinitely greater quantities than in soil that stands neglected. We must remember, too, that no amount of commercial fertilizer will help our gardens if the body soil is not put into a proper condition to receive and take care of it; one might as well try to strain tea through a basin of jade. The owner of Everyman's garden has written in his notebook this quotation from Sorauer's "Physiology of Plants": "The ideal condition of a soil is one which resembles a sponge and in which it will retain the greatest amount of nutritive substances and water without losing its capacity for absorbing air." There you have it in a nutshell. The problem does not seem so terrifying after all. We have only to dig a bit in the garden area. If we find the soil there too "heavy," we shall know what to do; too light, we shall likewise know how to alter its condition; but in either event we shall not forget that it will require frequent fertilizing to keep it "up to pitch."

DRAINAGE

I know of no better method of testing the soil of the garden plot than that of digging sev-

eral holes to a depth of three feet and covering them to prevent rain from entering. Then, after several wet days, the covering may be removed, and if water is found to have risen within the holes it may be safely assumed that the ground is not properly drained. For large areas of garden soil runs of tile drainage pipe will be needed if the water collects beneath the top soil, but for small garden areas the soil may be removed to a depth of some thirty inches to receive an underbed of five inches of gravel. Of course, in such an operation the top soil must be restored to its original position.

FERTILIZING

It is not always easy for the garden beginner to know just how much fertilizer the soil requires. Perhaps he will discover that "over-fed" Nasturtiums wither and die, but one cannot seem to "over-feed" the jolly little inhabitants of the flower-bed. Probably for the average flower garden stable or barnyard manure (that which has been heaped for at least six months, until it is well rotted) will prove sufficient. Stable manure, two barrow-

fuls, say, to a square rod being ample, or somewhat less if barnyard manure (better for dry soils) is used.

Annuals bloom more freely the more frequently they are cut. Sweet Peas, Mignonette, Gaillardia, Nicotiana, Nasturtiums, Coreopsis, Love-in-a-Mist, Sweet William—how could we get along without them! Often it happens that a severe winter wreaks havoc in the perennial border. With the advent of Spring we find bare spots in the garden borders where there should be plants. Too late it is to move other perennials to fill these gaps and it is in such instances that we again realize how very necessary the spring-planted flowers are to every garden, as annuals can be used for filling up the borders. Then our gardens would have whole dreary stretches of flowerless plants during those periods which await the time of blossoming perennials were it not for annuals. The newly made garden becomes a joyful sight the first season by reason of a profusion of properly planted annuals. The Spring weeks will be slipping by speedily, and how glad the garden-beginner will be to have given thought in time to Spring planting prob-

lems when he comes to realize that the perennials he planted last autumn will not be sufficient (the first season) to meet his expectations, and that the perennials he will be planting this Spring will not bloom until the second season.

When seed is planted (see the Spring Flower-Planting Table which follows this chapter) the soil must be firmed down to hold it in place. This assists the rootlets to take a firm hold upon the germination. This firming (accomplished by pressing the soil with a board, removing the board, of course!) also greatly assists the soil of the flower-bed to promote what Dr. L. H. Bailey terms "capillarity," providing the surface soil with a means to retain moisture to a greater extent than if the friable, loose soil were left "open" at the top for complete moisture evaporation.

FLOWERING MONTHS

Garden-beginners may find the following memorandum of flowers to be found in bloom in particular months of value and interest. *April*: Bellis, Forget-me-not, and Primrose.

May: Adonis, Sweet Alyssum, Alyssum Saxatile, Iberis, Pansy, and Iceland Poppy. *June:* Ageratum, Columbine (Aquilegia), Adonis, Sweet Alyssum, Balsam, Bellis, Calendula, Calliopsis, Candytuft (Iberis), Carnation, Celosia, Clarkia, Coreopsis, Foxglove, Larkspur, Lobelia, Love-Lies-Bleeding, Love-in-a-Mist, Lupine, Pansy, Iceland Poppy, Oriental Poppy, Salpiglossis, Scabiosa, Silene, Stock, and Sweet Pea. *July:* Ageratum, Sweet Alyssum, Antirrhinum, Aquilegia, Aster, Bachelors' Button, Balsam, Bellis, Calendula, Calliopsis, Campanula, Candytuft, Carnation, Ricinus, Clarkia, Coreopsis, Dahlia, Forget-me-not, Four O'Clock, Gaillardia, Globe Amaranth, Godetia, Larkspur, Lavatera, Lobelia, Love-Lies-Bleeding, Love-in-a-Mist, Marigold, Mignonette, Monks-hood, Morning-Glory, Nasturtium, Nicotiana, Petunia, Phlox, Poppy, Portulaca, Salpiglossis, Scabiosa, Schizanthus, Silene, Stock, Sweet Pea, Sweet William, Thunbergia, Torenia, Verbena, Wallflower and Zinnia. *August:* Ageratum, Sweet Alyssum, Antirrhinum, Aster, Bachelors' Button, Balsam, Calendula, Calliopsis, California Poppy, Cam-

panula, Candytuft, Carnation, Castor Bean, Celosia, Chrysanthemum, Clarkia, Coreopsis, Cosmos, Dahlia, Four O'Clock, Gaillardia, Globe Amaranth, Godetia, Gourd, Helianthus, Hollyhock, Larkspur, Lobelia, Love-in-a-Mist, Marigold, Mignonette, Monkshood, Morning-Glory, Nasturtium, Nicotiana, Petunia, Phlox, Dianthus, Poppy, Iceland Poppy, Oriental Poppy, Portulaca, Pyrethrum, Rudbeckia (Golden Glow), Salpiglossis, Scabiosa, Stock, Sunflower, Sweet Pea, Sweet William, Thunbergia, Torenia, Veronica, Wallflower and Zinnia.

The following flowers may be found in bloom in the late months: Ageratum, Sweet Alyssum, Antirrhinum, Aster, Balsam, Calendula, Calliopsis, Candytuft, Carnation, Castor Bean, Celosia, Chrysanthemum, Clarkia, Coreopsis, Cosmos, Dahlia, Gaillardia, Godetia, Helianthus, Hollyhock, Larkspur, Lobelia, Love-in-a-Mist, Marigold, Mignonette, Moonflower, Morning-Glory, Nasturtium, Nicotiana, Petunia, Phlox, Dianthus, Poppy, Iceland Poppy, Portulaca, Pyrethrum, Rudbeckia, Salpiglossis, Salvia, Silene, Stock, Sun-

flower, Sweet Pea, Thunbergia, Torenia, Verbena, Wallflower and Zinnia.

COLOR GROUPS

As so much in flower gardening depends on color effects, the following short list of flowers, arranged according to color, has been compiled: *White*: Ageratum, Sweet Alyssum, Columbine (Aquilegia), Aster, Bachelors' Button, Balsam, Bellis, Campanula, Candytuft (Iberis), Chrysanthemum, Clarkia, Cosmos, Dahlia, Foxglove, Four O'Clock, Globe Amaranth, Godetia, Gypsophila, Hollyhock, Annual Larkspur, Lobelia, Love-in-a-Mist, Lupine, Monkshood, Moonflower, Morning-Glory, Nicotiana, Pansy, Petunia, Phlox, Pink, Poppy, Portulaca, Scabiosa, Silene, Stock, Sweet Pea, Thunbergia, Torenia, Verbena, and Zinnia. *Yellow*: Adonis, Alyssum Saxatile, Calendula, Calliopsis (Coreopsis), California Poppy, Chrysanthemum, Clarkia, Dahlia, Four O'Clock, Globe Amaranth, Gaillardia, Helianthus, Hollyhock, Love-Lies-Bleeding, Marigold, Nasturtium, Pansy, Poppy, Portulaca, Primrose, Rudbeckia,

Scabiosa, Schizanthus, Sunflower, Thunbergia, Verbena, Wallflower and Zinnia. *Blue*: Ageratum, Aquilegia, Aster, Bachelors' Button, Campanula, Forget-me-not, Larkspur, Lobelia, Love-in-a-Mist, Lupine, Monks-hood, Moonflower, Morning Glory, Pansy, Petunia, Sweet Pea, Phlox and Tornia. *Purple*: Chrysanthemum, Clarkia, Globe Amaranth, Petunia, Phlox, Dianthus, Morning Glory, Sweet Pea and Veronica. *Pink*: Bachelors' Button, Bellis, Campanula, Carnation, Chrysanthemum, Cosmos, Dahlia, Globe Amaranth, Annual Larkspur, Lupine, Primrose, Silene, Sweet Pea and Zinnia. *Red*: Bellis, Chrysanthemum, Dahlia, Clarkia, Cosmos, Four O'Clock, Lavatera, Love-Lies-Bleeding, Morning Glory, Nicotiana, Pansy, Poppy, Portulaca, Salvia, Sweet Pea, Zinnia.

FLOWERS FOR PARTLY SHADED LOCATIONS

Among those flowers which will succeed in partial shade are to be noted the Antirrhinum, Aquilegia, Bellis, Campanula, Coreopsis, Forget-me-not, Larkspur (perennial), Monks-hood, Moonflower, Morning-Glory, Pansy,

Iceland Poppy, Oriental Poppy, Primrose, Pyrethrum, Schizanthus and the Verbena. This, of course, does not mean that these species will thrive in locations on which some direct sunlight does not fall for some part of the day.

HEIGHT OF FLOWERING PLANTS

Another thing to consider in planning the garden is the height which the flowering plant is, under normal conditions, likely to attain. Plants, for instance, which are comparatively low-growing are Adonis, Bellis, Candytuft, Pansy, Portulaca, Silene and Verbena. Those of a little taller growth are Sweet Alyssum, Forget-me-not, Marigold, Mignonette, Poppy, and Primrose. Among the plants which commonly attain a height of twelve inches are Ageratum, Alyssum Saxatile, California Poppy. Still taller in growth are the Aster, Bachelors' Button, Carnation, Chrysanthemum, Gaillardia, Globe Amaranth, Annual Larkspur, Dianthus, Iceland Poppy, Pyrethrum, Petunia, Lupine, Love-in-a-Mist, Godetia, Gypsophila, Calliopsis, Calendula, Salpiglossis, Salvia, Scabiosa, Schizanthus,

Stock, Sweet William, Torenia, Veronica, Wallflower, and Zinnia. Among those flowering plants which reach in height to three feet or more, one may note Antirrhinum, Columbine, Campanula, Castor Bean, Celosia, Annual Chrysanthemum, Clarkia, Coreopsis, Cosmos, Dahlia, Foxglove, Gourd, Helianthus, Hollyhock, Larkspur, Lavatera, Love-Lies - Bleeding, Monkshood, Moonflower, Morning Glory, Mallow, Nasturtium, Nicotiana, Phlox, Oriental Poppy, Pyrethrum, Rudbeckia (Golden Glow), Sunflower, Sweet Pea, and Thunbergia.

By carefully taking into consideration this matter of height of flowering plants, the garden-maker will be able to obtain much more pleasing effects of "landscape quality" than otherwise would be possible.

One of the commonest mistakes with garden-beginners is to place low-growing plants which are intended to be conspicuously in evidence in positions where, as the season advances, they become completely hidden away by plants of much taller growth. In planting flower seeds, mark the rows with neat labels of a durable sort, so there will be no confusion later.

III

SPRING FLOWER-PLANTING TABLE

PERENNIALS AND BIENNIALS

Bloom	Flower	Plants, Inches Apart	Seeds, Inches Deep	Colors
June-July	Aquilegia (Columbine)....	12	—	Various
July	Achillea.....	10	—	Various
May-June	Adonis.....	6	—	Yellow
Aug.-Oct.	Anemone.....	10	—	White—Rose
May-Aug.	Bleeding-Heart (Dicentra).....	26	—	Crimson
June-July	Campanula.....	10	¼	Blue—White—Pink
July-Aug.	Coral Bell.....	12	—	Coral
Aug.-Oct.	Chrysanthemum.....	18	⅞	Various
April-July	Forget-Me-Not.....	6	¼	Blue
June	Foxglove.....	12	⅞	White—Pink
Aug.-Sept.	Helianthus.....	18	—	Yellow
Aug.	Hollyhock.....	16	½, Drills	Various
June-Sept.	Iceland Poppy.....	6	⅞	White to Orange
June-July	Larkspur.....	6	⅞	Blue—White—Pink
June	Lupine.....	5	—	Blue—White—Pink
May-Oct.	Pansy.....	12	⅞	Various
May-June	Peony.....	48	—	Red—White—Pink
July-Oct.	Phlox.....	8	⅞	Various
Aug.	Pink.....	6	⅞	White to Rose
April-May	Primrose.....	6	—	Yellow—Pink
Aug.-Oct.	Pyrethrum.....	12	—	Various
Aug.-Sept.	Rudbeckia.....	12	—	Yellow
Aug.-Oct.	Salvia.....	6	⅞	Scarlet
June-Aug.	Scabiosa.....	8	—	Blue—Yellow—White
June-Aug.	Silene.....	6	—	White or Rose
July-Aug.	Snapdragon.....	8	¼	Various
Aug.	Suflower.....	36	¼	Yellow
July-Aug.	Sweet William.....	10	¼	Red—White—Pink
June-Aug.	Verbena.....	8	—	Various
Aug.	Veronica.....	6	—	Purple
March	Violet.....	6	—	Violet
July-Aug.	Wallflower.....	8	½	Yellow—Brown

SPRING FLOWER-PLANTING TABLE 23

ANNUALS

Bloom	Flower	Plants, Inches Apart	Seeds, Inches Deep	Colors
May-June	Adonis	6	—	Yellow
June-Oct.	Ageratum	6	1/4	Blue—White
July-Sept.	Aster	14	1/4	Various
July	Bachelors' Button	8	1/8	Blue—White—Pink
June-Sept.	Balsam (Lady's Slipper)	14	1/4	Various
June-Oct.	Calendula	12	1/8	Orange
Aug.	California Poppy	10	1/8	Orange
June-July	Campanula (Bellflower)	10	1/4	Blue—White—Pink
June-Sept.	Candytuft	8	1/8	White
Aug.	Castor Bean	36	3/4	Green
Aug.-Oct.	Chrysanthemum	18	1/8	Various
June-Sept.	Clarkia	10	1/4	White—Purple—Rose
June-Oct.	Cockscomb	10	1/4	Various
June-Oct.	Coreopsis	12	1/8	Yellow—Brown
June	Coroflower	10	1/8	Blue—White—Rose
Aug.-Sept.	Cosmos	24	1/4	Red—White—Pink
July-Sept.	Dahlia	36	—	Various
May	Daisy	10	—	White—Pink—Rose
July-Aug.	Evening Primrose	10	—	Yellow
July-Aug.	Four O'Clock	12	1/4	Red—White—Yellow
July-Oct.	Gaillardia	12	1/8	Yellow—Red
July	Globe Amaranth	12	1/4	Pink
July-Oct.	Godetia	12	1/8	White—Red
July-Oct.	Gourds	14	1/8	Various
May-July	Iris	12	—	White—Blue—Yellow
July	Lavatera	8	1/4	Rose
June-July	Larkspur	8	1/8	Blue—White—Pink
June-Sept.	Lobelia	4	1/8	Blue—Red
June-July	Love-Lies-Bleeding	10	1/4	Scarlet
June-Sept.	Love-in-a-Mist	8	1/4	Blue—White
July-Sept.	Mallow	10	—	White—Rose
Aug.-Oct.	Marigold	6	1/4	Lemon to Orange
July-Oct.	Mignonette	12	1/8	Whitish Green
July-Aug.	Monkshood	8	—	White—Blue
Aug.-Sept.	Moonflower	5	1/4	White
July-Aug.	Morning Glory	12	1/4	Various
July-Oct.	Nasturtium	10	1/2	Various
July-Aug.	Nicotiana	8	1/4	Red—White
July-Sept.	Petunia	8	Scatter	Various
July-Oct.	Phlox	8	1/8	Various
July-Aug.	Poppy	5	1/8	Various
July-Oct.	Portulaca	5	1/8	White—Red—Yellow
June-Aug.	Salpiglossis	8	1/8	Various
July-Aug.	Schizanthus	10	1/4	Yellow—Lilac
June-July	Stock	6	1/4	White or Red
May-Sept.	Sweet Alyssum	5	1/8	White
June-Oct.	Sweet Pea	8	3, Trench	Various
July-Oct.	Zinnia	10	1/2	Various

IV

DAHLIAS

WHILE the Dahlia does not share the conspicuous renown of either the Rose or the Lily, or yet that of the Chrysanthemum, it still remains in our estimation one of the most beautiful and satisfactory of the old-fashioned garden flowers and one which no true lover of flowers should neglect to plant in his garden. Unlike the Rose and the Lily, it has not fragrance to boast of nor has it the delicate texture of the showy Chrysanthemum, although equally attractive from a decorative standpoint, if not more so. The soft loveliness of textural quality has had much to do with the unusual vogue of the Chrysanthemum, an attribute of almost painter-quality; while in contrast to this is the sculptural definiteness of the form of the Dahlia. The Dahlia was first introduced into

England in 1789 by Lady Bute. These specimens did not flourish, and again the Dahlia was brought into England by Lady Holland. The actual bed in which these pioneers were planted may be seen to-day at Holland House, Kensington. The first Dahlias were single in form, successive generations under cultivation having produced the remarkable double varieties that have made the modern show Dahlias famous. Indeed, it is doubtful if more remarkable examples of floral double composites exist. Early in the nineteenth century a horticulturist succeeded in producing the Pompon type of Dahlia. This gave a decided impetus to the cultivation of the plant just as the appearance of the Cactus Dahlia did in 1880, which was evolved by a Dutch Horticulturist of Juxphaar.

While tastes in the choice of flowers differ, it is doubtful if any flowers surpass the single Dahlia varieties, no matter how showy the other types may be. It is a fact that in those countries where a sense of design is more prevalent with the public at large than it is in America or in England, the Dahlia is most popular. Its appeal is not one of sentiment or

sensuousness, but very truly one of design and strong color. One must remember that Dahlias in the garden present quite a different problem than may be suggested by a collection of the flowers in an exhibition, and for this reason the home garden-maker can well afford to devote some study to the matter of the choice of specimens for garden display. Nearly all of the Dahlias of the single types may be grown successfully by the amateur gardener.

Dahlias should have a good garden soil, which must not be kept overly moist else succulence in the Dahlia plants and an over-tall growth will be induced. A moderate watering of once a week or so should prove sufficient. However, these periodical waterings should not be mere sprinklings, but should, instead, soak the soil thoroughly. The earth must not be allowed to become packed around the base of the plant stems, for in keeping the soil worked up by cultivation depends success in Dahlia culture. Should the soil in which Dahlias are planted be a sandy one, a top-dressing composed of one part of nitrate of soda to four parts of bone meal, well mixed

together, can be applied. This should not be done before the plants are well above ground. As to the quantity of this top-dressing to be applied to the soil, it will probably be found that one ounce of the mixture will be sufficient for each square yard of the planted area.

On the other hand, it will be found that the above mixture will probably contain too much nitrogen for a soil of heavier character, one into which, previous to the planting, stable manure has been worked. For soil of this last description the garden-maker will probably find an equal-part mixture of bone-black and acid phosphate, freely applied, highly successful.

As to planting, the roots (either clumps or divided) should be placed to a depth of six inches below the soil, the earth just covering the crown. In the process of division the roots should be divided to a single eye. When grown in beds Dahlias may be placed three and a half feet apart. When the newly started plants have attained a height of six or eight inches it will be well to "pinch" the stem tops to encourage a bushy growth, which is more pleasing than a scraggly one. As the growth advances,

the Dahlias should be supported by firm staking. Nowadays the more attractive gardens pay great attention to the matter of stakes. There was a time when it was considered that a piece of lath stuck in the ground was sufficient, but modern gardening is more careful to employ neater accessories, hence the most improved practice is to utilize painted stakes especially planned for the purpose of supporting the more or less troublesome plant stems.

VARIETIES OF DAHLIAS

Among the varieties of Dahlias the following are to be recommended: SINGLE DAHLIAS, *white*: Eckford Century (unusually large flowers, flecked with pink and crimson), Gigantea alba Century (snow white, a prolific bloomer); *pink*: Rose Pink Century, Twentieth Century (an exquisite flower showing a blending of color from outer zone of white through rose hues to a center of violet crimson); Evelyn Century, *red*: Cardinal Century (one of the best deep reds and very large), Wildfire Century (no Dahlia collection should be without this), Poppy Century, Amy Baril-

let (a rich wine-red. The foliage of this variety is very dark); *maroon*: Blackbird (a lovely velvety hue. The petals of this variety have bright red spots at their bases), Fringed Maroon Century; *yellow*: Golden Century.

SHOW DAHLIAS, *white*: Grand Duke Alexis (soft lavender tipped), Storm King (early and free blooming), White Swan, Penelope, Camelliæfolia, John Walker, Lottie Eckford (striped crimson); *pink*: Duchess of Cambridge, Mme. Moreau, A. D. Livoni, Dorothy Peacock, Mrs. Gladstone, Susan, Wm. Pierce; *red*: Red Hussar, A. Moore, Bon-Ton, Crimson Globe, George Smith, Madge Wildfire (orange red); *yellow*: Arabella, Lemon Beauty, Queen Victoria, Gold Medal.

CACTUS DAHLIAS, *white*: Snowstorm, Flag of Truce, Frigga, Snowden, Flora, Pius X; *pink*: Mme. H. Cayeaux, Aurora, Dorothy, Fritz Severn, Juliet, Pink Pearl, Marguerite Bouchon (one of the largest varieties known), Perle Hilde; *red*: Charles Clayton, Gabriel, Harbor Light, Mrs. H. J. Jones, Amos Perry, Floradora (dark velvety crimson), Standard Bearer, Barmen, Florence Nightingale, Flame, H. Shoemith; *maroon*:

Uncle Tom; *yellow*: Cockatoo, Countess of Lonsdale, J. B. Briant, The Pilot, Richard Box, Golden Eagle, Johannesburg, William Marshall, John H. Roach, H. Peerman, Country Girl, Lightship, Miss A. F. Perkins, Morning Glow, Prince of Yellow, Blanche Keith, Mrs. Charles Turner, Valker.

DECORATIVE DAHLIAS, *white*: Virginia Maule, Henry Patrick, Alice Roosevelt; *pink*: Delice, Sylvia, Jeanne Charmet, Mrs. Roosevelt, Mrs. J. G. Casett; *red*: Augusta Nonin, Admiral Togo, Maid of Kent, Jacque Rose, Lyndhurst; *yellow*: Golden Wedding, Golden West, Yellow Colosse, Clifford W. Bruton, Mrs. Hortung, Minnie McCullough.

POMPON DAHLIAS, *white*: Snowclad, Domi-tea; *pink*: Little Beauty; *red*: Indian Chief, Mars, Sunshine, Little Herman, Crimson Beauty; *maroon*: Darkness, Raphael; *yellow*: Amber Queen, Catherine.

PEONY - FLOWERED DAHLIAS, *white*: Princess Juliana, Cecelia, Hermine; *pink*: La France, La Hollande, Mrs. Carter Lewis, Marie Miletta Selma (resembles a Chrysanthemum); *red*: Big Chief, Cleopatra, Sensa-

tion, King Edward, Roem van Nijkerk; *yellow*: Canary, Sunny Jim, Geisha.

Dahlia shows are becoming more and more popular year after year, which offers to the amateur an additional incentive in the pursuit of this delightful specialty. The second and third weeks in September usually find our Dahlias at their best, and it is during these weeks that local Dahlia shows are usually given in consequence. The plan of local flower-shows in village communities has not yet received the encouragement it should, but in a village where three or four enthusiasts pursue the culture of Dahlias, it would be comparatively easy and an interesting thing for these amateurs to arrange for a little local exhibit.



COSMOS

THE Cosmos, unknown to our gardens until a few years ago, has achieved an extraordinary and enduring popularity. It holds a place of its own for distinctive beauty and utility, since it is equally valuable for garden effects and for cutting.

Even garden-makers of experience are not exceptions to the fact that it is not generally known that the Cosmos may be grown in soil far less rich than that required for most garden plants. In fact, a very rich soil tends to produce in the plant an overabundance of foliage and too few flowers, as well as causes late bloom. A more sandy soil is, in fact, preferable for planting.

The Cosmos attains great size in California, but our Northern seasons are somewhat too short for full maturity for the giant varieties



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

WHITE COSMOS (*C. bipinnatus*)

there popular, although these may be grown for their foliage as a backing to the earlier varieties successfully brought to profuse bloom in other sections of the country.

Of course, the Cosmos is propagated by seeds sown in April indoors in flats, potted, and then transplanted when the frost time is definitely past. Recently varieties have been introduced that will withstand a couple of degrees of frost, but the typical plants will not survive such an experience. If seed is sown in the open ground on the chance of a late season, it must not be sown until there is no longer any danger of possible frosts. The plants should be 18 inches apart.

When setting out the plantlets, an abundance of water should be supplied. The great feathery overgrowth achieved by a Cosmos plant is borne upon a comparatively brittle stem, whence it is necessary to give the plants stake-supports to prevent the summer winds from "tumbling" them. Grown against wire-fences, the Cosmos stems may be tied with loops of raphia to the wire, which will give them excellent support.

While Cosmos plants are often self-seeding,

fresh plantings are required from year to year to prevent deterioration. The young plants should be trained to a bushy form, symmetrical in shape by "pinching." If this is not done, the plants will assume the scraggly nature of wild flowers.

The clear white, yellow, soft pink, crimson, and deep red varieties make the Cosmos a popular plant for cutting, as sprigs of the filmy-leaved stems dotted with attractive decorative flowers in these hues lend themselves effectively for filling large vases. In the garden it is much better to keep the separate colors massed together than to mix the different varieties. A border of Cosmos seen across a lawn, or defining a garden boundary, presents a beautiful garden-note in the home landscape. Indeed, the landscape effects to be obtained by a judicious planting of this lovely flower are infinite in their variety and utility. Where there is a scarcity of shrubs, either permanently or temporarily, the Cosmos will be found an excellent annual to act as substitute. Of course, the giant varieties would be utilized for such purposes.

The *Cosmos bipinnatus* often attains a

height of ten feet, bearing white, pink, or crimson flowers. The *Cosmos Hybridus* listed by seedsmen appears to be a trade name for mixed varieties of the *Cosmos bipinnatus*. All the yellow varieties are derived from *Cosmos sulphureus*, while the *Cosmos diversifolius* is often called Black Cosmos. Some of the recent Cosmos varieties that may be recommended are: Lady Lenox (white), Klondyke (yellow), Conchita (crimson), Marguerite (various colors, fringed petals). While all varieties may be planted south of the latitude of Middle Illinois, the "safe" varieties for north of that are the early flowering mammoth ones.

VI

AUTUMN FLOWER-PLANTING

HAPPILY the time is passed when the American home garden-maker simply looked upon the patch of ground at his disposal as being merely a bit of practice acreage in which, as fancy dictated, he might plant here and there a few seeds of flowers or of vegetables in haphazard confusion or skimpy orderliness, feeling that the whole matter was one of experiment, and that failure on the part of the seeds to produce what was expected of them, or even to come up at all, was not attended with any disappointments of serious consequence. That was the time when the man of the house attended to the buying of vegetable seeds, leaving to the housewife all things connected with the seeding of the flower garden. I do not know why it is that our grandfathers and our grandmothers should



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

A GARDEN OF PERENNIALS IS A GARDEN OF DELIGHT

have looked upon all gardening as a pursuit to be divided between themselves; why the raising of vegetables should have been considered a manly occupation or recreation and the growing of flowers not; but so it seems to have been until comparatively a few years ago. Now, fortunately, the joys of gardening are shared alike by master and mistress, the children, the young and the old, and a statesman may wax enthusiastic over his garden of rare Pinks or a milliner over her bed of asparagus without any one's criticizing the choice of either in garden planting.

Nowadays, we do not confine our efforts to Springtime visits to the grocery store for a package of Petunia seed, a parcel of Sweet Peas, or an envelope of Candytuft, content to sprinkle it over a little dirt in a bed that occupies a corner of the "yard," sighing the while that we cannot seem to raise the good old flowers to the state of perfection they reached in the old-time gardens of ante-bellum days, or of Colonial heritage; instead we are happy to have discovered the difference between those flowers which have to be planted every year—the Annuals—and those others—the Peren-

nials—which will continue to come up season after season from the original stock when once the seeds take root, and we have come to plan for permanent gardens, that shall fill our hearts with the joyousness their beauty will lend throughout the season when Nature dons her loveliest raiment. We have come, too, to understand that just sticking a seed or two or a root into the ground anywhere is not all there is to gardening. Year after year our study of the ABC of home outdoor floriculture initiates us into the simple mysteries of garden craft, so that our gardens to-day are as lovely as those that ever gladdened the sight of the American home garden-makers of the early period.

Autumn planting is an important part of the maintenance of the home garden. There are not in the whole realm of the Goddess Flora flowers more exquisite than the hardy species that lend themselves so admirably to permanent planting—the Sweet Williams, Delphiniums, Foxgloves, Canterbury Bells, Pyrethrum, Montbretia, Iris, Hollyhocks, Anemones, Primroses, Saxifrage, and the like. October should be a busy month in every garden,

for this is an excellent time for dividing old roots, re-arranging the clumps of hardy Perennials where these need it, of filling gaps in hardy borders, and of setting out new hardy plants. Perhaps one of the commonest mistakes made by the garden beginner is to assume that a small garden requires small plants and that tall-growing and large flowering plants are out of place in any but a large garden. We have only to recall the wondrous beauty of the English cottage gardens that seem to be bursting with their glow of Hollyhocks, Larkspurs, Sunflowers, and Chrysanthemums, to realize how lovely a tiny garden planted with striking flowers may be. Following this chapter is a table showing, in a general way, the height attained by various flowers suitable for Autumn planting when these have reached their maturity. Not one of the plants in this list would be out of place in the small home garden if properly placed. Under "location" those that require full sunlight have that fact indicated by the word "sunny," and those that require less sunshine by the words "less sunny," though the garden

beginner must never expect success with plants that hardly receive the sunlight at all.

When planning for Autumn planting one must take into consideration the fact that inasmuch as the hardy perennials are to form a garden that will, in all probability, remain unaltered for some years (so far as its essentials are concerned), it will be seen how necessary it is that such gardens be prepared with the greatest care and thought of their future aspect. First of all, thorough drainage must be assured, after which manure must be worked into the earth to some depth, preferably three feet. A good way to prepare beds and borders for permanent perennials is to dig a trench the size of the bed or border to the depth of three feet, covering the floor of it with a five-inch layer of rubble to assist drainage, and a couple of inches of coarse ashes above this, filling up the trench with the bedding composed of loam, manure, and sand. This will make an admirable soil for setting out the hardy plants. Of course, the earth of newly-prepared beds and borders will settle somewhat and will have to be evened off later by filling. Where it is not possible to give to the beds

and borders such thorough preparation one must still be sure that the soil in which the plants are set is not poor or sour, and fertilizer should be worked in where needed, although it must be remembered that the soil should not be over rich.

Seedlings grown from July sowing should be set out without delay in order that they may become established in their new environment before the setting in of winter. In this connection let the home garden-maker remember that, although Autumn planting is now generally recommended, it is wiser in those localities where the winters are long and severe to defer planting until Springtime, as it often happens that the season of snow and ice sets in too early in such places for the newly-planted perennials to get their start ahead of the severity of the climate. There is an advantage in Autumn planting that should always be taken into account. October does not find one as rushed as does the month of May, for in the Spring the home garden-maker (who usually has only a limited amount of time to devote to planting and garden cultivation) finds the planning

of the seeded beds quite enough to take up all of his leisure moments.

When working in an established hardy garden for the purpose of removing and dividing the roots of old plants, one must take care not to damage any clumps of bulbs which might remain hidden in the soil. As one garden-lover put it: "Roots are to be fished out, not to be speared!" In digging up a clump of herbaceous roots, for resetting or for division, all dead shoots clinging thereto should be cut away. It is needless to say that all roots should be handled tenderly. The garden-beginner will come to learn that there is no general rule that can be taught him for properly separating old root clumps into numerous parts, which, when set out, themselves become sturdy clumps in the course of a few seasons, again to be divided and reset. The garden-maker must use his judgment and learn by experience and the intuition that will probably come to his aid just how he may cut or break up an established clump of roots into a number of settings for fresh culture. This process of root division refreshes the stock of any hardy garden. If the old plants were not lifted sea-

son after season, they would eventually form root-masses that would overcrowd the beds and borders. Moreover, such plants as the Iris would form a hard root-mass which would give out a circle of leaves and flower-stems, leaving the center bare, thus forming unsightly patches of bare earth in the gardens.

Fortunately for the garden-maker, Perennials present species adapted both for very sunny, half-sunny and shaded locations, thus offering a wide range of planting material both in low-growing Perennials and in those of taller growth. Again there are Perennials that thrive in rich soil, those that are best adapted to clayey soil, and still others that do very well in sandy soil.

Among the hardy Perennials that require less sunlight than the class in general are the following interesting species: Monkshoods, Anemones, Primroses, Violets, Saxifrage, Funkia, Bleeding-heart, Lily-of-the-Valley, Day Lilies, Hepatica, Vinca, and others that will be found in the table following this chapter.

Of the Perennials of low growth are to be mentioned Arabis, Aubrietia, Hepatica, Bellis

Perennis, and Myosotis, in connection with which it is worth noting that the earlier perennials do not, as a rule, attain as great height as those which bloom after June. None of the species just mentioned attains a height of more than six or eight inches. In arranging a border or a bed of hardy herbaceous plants the table following this chapter should prove useful, inasmuch as the garden-maker can there see at a glance the various heights to which the perennials listed attain and can, therefore, place them in the garden with reference to the taller species forming a background for those of lower growth.

When arranging the permanent garden, succession of bloom must also be taken into consideration. In those states where Spring brings forth growing things at an early date one may look for Adonis, Columbine, Arabis, Hepatica, and Trillium to blossom; in May for other varieties of Aquilegia, for Anemones, Bellis Perennis, Iris, Primrose, Campanula, etc.; in June for Iris, Lychnis, Poppies, Scabiosa, Spiræa Trolius, Veronica, etc.; in July for Achillea, Centaurea, Funkia, Stokesia, Veronica Virginica, etc.; in August for

Asclepias, Boltonia, Helianthus, Rudbeckia, etc.; in September for Aconitum, Aster Amellus, Chrysanthemum, Lobelia, Phlox Paniculata, Veronica Longifolia, Sedum, etc.; and in October, Aconitum Autumnale, Anemone Japonica, Chrysanthemum, etc., all these species flowering somewhat according to the climatic conditions in the matter of time.

Another matter for thought in planning the permanent garden is that of color. One would not care to have monotony in this respect, therefore it is always well to plan carefully the color-scheme of the garden-to-be as it will appear from month to month, always striving to have each month's array of flowers present sufficient variety in the matter of color contrast, as this color contrast is a matter which is of great importance in the planning of a fine garden. Man has spent so much of his time specializing, of segregating floral types, varieties, and colors that the garden beginner can easily go astray if he selects his plants with reference to species only. Indeed, the modern garden-maker must be something of an artist. It is not enough that things planted come up, grow, thrive, and endure that a garden will be

evolved; in the true sense of the word a garden must be a spot where growing things give one a sense of enjoyment. All the flowers in the world wrongly placed hardly would do that, even though, in their entirety, they suggested pleasurable individual types. No, the true garden-maker must be an arranger of flowers as well as a putter-in-the-earth of plants, for he must select from Flora's palette such flowers as represent the wealth of color Nature has placed within range of his skillful hand.

VII

AUTUMN FLOWER-PLANTING TABLE

HARDY PERENNIALS

Season	Height	Name	Color	Location
June.....	8-4 ft.	Aconitum (Monkshood)	Blue.....	Less Sunny
May-July.....	12-24 in.	Aquilegia (Columbine)	Various.....	Sunny
Through Summer.....	4-6 ft.	Alkanet (see Anchusa)	Blue.....	Less Sunny
August-October.....	1-3 ft.	Anchusa (Alkanet)	Blue.....	Less Sunny
July-August.....	1-2 ft.	Anemone.....	White to Deep Pink.....	Less Sunny
June-July.....	2-3 ft.	Bellflower (Platycodon)	Blue.....	Sunny
May.....	2 ft.	Blazing Star (see Liatris)	Purple.....	Sunny
July.....	3-6 ft.	Bleeding-Heart (see Dicentra)	Pink and White.....	Less Sunny
June-July.....	1½-3 ft.	California Tree Poppy (see Romneys)	White.....	Sunny
June-July.....	1½-3 ft.	Campanula (Canterbury Bells)	White—Blue—Pink.....	Sunny
August-September.....	1½-2 ft.	Canterbury Bells (see Campanula)	White—Blue—Pink.....	Sunny
Through Summer.....	2 ft.	Cardinal Flower (Lobelia)	Scarlet.....	Less Sunny
September-November.....	1-3 ft.	Centaurea.....	White—Blue—Yellow.....	Sunny
May-July.....	1-2 ft.	Chrysanthemum.....	Various.....	Sunny
May.....	6-10 in.	Columbine (see Aquilegia)	Various.....	Sunny
September.....	3 ft.	Convallaria (Lily-of-the-Valley)	White.....	Less Sunny
Through Summer.....	2-5 ft.	Day Lily (see Hemerocallis)	Yellow to Orange.....	Sunny
Through Summer.....	1½ ft.	Delphinium (Larkspur)	White—Blue—Pink.....	Sunny
May.....	2 ft.	Dianthus (Sweet William)	White to Red and Purple.....	Sunny
June-July.....	2-3 ft.	Dicentra (Bleeding-Heart)	Pink and White.....	Less Sunny
June-July.....	4 in.	Dictamnus (Gas Plant)	White.....	Sunny
July-August.....	½-2 ft.	English Daisy.....	White—Pink.....	Sunny
May.....	2-3 ft.	Foxglove.....	Pink—White.....	Sunny
June-July.....	2-8 ft.	Funkia.....	White.....	Less Sunny
May-July.....	2-6 ft.	Gas Plant (see Dictamnus)	White.....	Sunny
July-August.....	2-10 ft.	Golden Glow.....	Yellow.....	Sunny
September.....	3 ft.	Helianthus (Sunflower)	Yellow.....	Less Sunny
May.....	4-6 in.	Hemerocallis (Day Lily)	Yellow to Orange.....	Less Sunny
July-August.....	4-6 ft.	Hepatica.....	Lilac to Blue.....	Sunny
May-July.....	1½-2½ ft.	Hibiscus (Marsh Mallow)	Rose—White.....	Sunny
May-July.....	1½-2½ ft.	Iris.....	White—Yellow—Blue.....	Sunny

HARDY PERENNIALS (continued)

Season	Height	Name	Color	Location
Through Summer.....	2-5 ft.	Larkspur (see Delphinium)	White—Blue—Pink.....	Sunny
June-July.....	2-3 ft.	Liatris (Blazing Star)	Purple.....	Sunny
May.....	6-10 in.	Lily-of-the-Valley (see Convallaria)	White.....	Less Sunny
July.....	1½-2 ft.	Loosestrife (see Lyimachia)	White—Yellow.....	Sunny
June.....	1-2 ft.	Lupin.....	White—Blue—Pink.....	Sunny
June-August.....	1-3 ft.	Lychnis.....	White to Red.....	Sunny
July.....	1½-2 ft.	Lyimachia (Loosestrife)	White—Yellow.....	Sunny
July-August.....	4-6 ft.	Marsh Mallow (Hibiscus)	Rose—White.....	Sunny
June.....	2-4 ft.	Monksblood (see Aconitum)	Blue.....	Less Sunny
May-October.....	6 in.	Pansy, Perennial.....	Various.....	Sunny
July-September.....	1-5 ft.	Phlox, Perennial.....	Various.....	Sunny
July-August.....	1-2 ft.	Platycodon (Bell Flower)	Blue.....	Sunny
June.....	2 ft.	Poppy, Perennial.....	Various.....	Sunny
May.....	6 in.	Primrose (Primula)	Primrose—Yellow.....	Less Sunny
May.....	6 in.	Primula (see Primrose)	Primrose—Yellow.....	Less Sunny
May.....	6 in.-8 ft.	Ranunculus.....	White.....	Less Sunny
July.....	4-6 ft.	Ronneya.....	White.....	Sunny
July-August.....	3-6 ft.	Rudbeckia (Golden Glow)	Yellow.....	Sunny
May-June.....	8 in.	Saxifrage.....	White—Yellow—Pink.....	Less Sunny
May.....	3-5 ft.	Spiraea.....	White—Rose.....	Less Sunny
July-August.....	1½-2 ft.	Stokesia.....	Blue.....	Sunny
July-September.....	2-10 ft.	Sunflower.....	Yellow.....	Sunny
Through Summer.....	1-1½ ft.	Sweet William (see Dianthus)	White to Red and Purple	Sunny
May.....	8-10 in.	Trillium.....	White—Pink.....	Less Sunny
May-August.....	2-3 ft.	Trollius.....	Yellow to Orange.....	Less Sunny
Late.....	2-3 ft.	Tritoma.....	Yellow—Orange—Red.....	Sunny
July-October.....	1-2 ft.	Valerian.....	Pink—Rose.....	Sunny
July-August.....	1-1½ ft.	Veronica.....	Blue—Purple.....	Sunny
May.....	Creeping	Vilca.....	Blue.....	Less Sunny
May.....	4-6 in.	Violet.....	Violet—White.....	Less Sunny





Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

PEONIES SHOULD HAVE A PLACE IN EVERY GARDEN

VIII

PEONIES

WITH all her fickleness, Dame Fashion seems never to have deserted the Peony. Other garden flowers may have been held in esteem one decade to be slighted the next—even the exquisite Narcissus was once neglected—but like the lovely Rose, the Peony remains ever popular. To a certain extent the Peony owes much of its enduring favor to its decorative foliage, although its beautiful flowers are, in themselves, quite enough to give this plant the distinction it commands and the place it holds in our hearts. We consider it an old-fashioned flower, but the term only endears it the more to us for it is ever new-fashioned as well. And what a wealth of color its wondrous blossoms present to charm the senses, and what perfect fragrance! There are the sweetly perfumed but

refreshing flowers of crimson, scarlet, purple, salmon, pink, rose, cream, yellow and of white. Then there are single, double and half-double Peonies, fitting every whim in the choice of form for petaled things. There are, in general, two sorts of Peonies—the Herbaceous type and the Tree type. The former dies down at the end of each season but comes forth again with the advent of each spring. The latter type by reason of its woody stems may be classed with shrubs.

Peonies massed in beds or in hedges yield an effective foliage display but at the expense of the profusion and prolongation of blossoming. For floral purposes they require that plenty of space should be left between the individual plants. However, garden-makers can fill in these gaps with the Lilies of tall growth—Tiger Lily (*Lilium tigrinum*), etc., or with the tall growing Gladioli.

The following planting directions will prove useful to the amateur Peony-grower: When planting Peonies, the crown of the stock should be placed some two inches below the surface of the soil. The fertilizer used in the beds should be well-rotted, as Peonies are gross

feeders. A top-dressing placed upon the plants in November and forked into the beds the following spring will be of much help in encouraging growth. Peonies appreciate a generous amount of water, especially in the period of their bloom. When dividing clumps, the division will be determined by the number of tubers with eyes. There should be as many divisions as there are eyes to the tubers. Tubers without eyes may also be planted, as they often shoot forth after a couple of years. As Peonies, when dormant, stand the exposure during shipment and storage remarkably well, the garden-beginner need have little fear of ordering plants from a distance when that is necessary. I need not here touch upon the other two methods of Peony propagation, that of propagation by grafting and that of propagation by seeds, as only the professional garden-maker will be apt to start Peonies by either of these methods. For the garden of small extent the showy *Pæonia officinalis*, blooming in May and June, will be a welcome feature. The flowers are very large, dark crimson in color. Of the *Pæonia albiflora* (white through rose-color to crimson),

such varieties as *Czarina* (Rose), *Festiva Maxima* (White), *Victoire Modeste Guerin* (Rose), *Duke of Wellington* (White), *Delicatissima* (Blush), *Alba Sulphurea* (White), and *Humei Carnea* (Blush) are recommended.

Peonies should not be disturbed from year to year but their undivided clumps left to develop vigorous stalks. One sees the finest Peony blossoms on those plants which have not been moved about or which have not been removed and replaced in the process of dividing. Of this our old-time garden-makers were cognizant as the wonderful Peony clumps in their gardens that have come down to our keeping attest.

I find the following varieties of Peonies very dependable and free blooming: *Albatre*, *Couronne D'Or*, *Festiva Maxima* (white), *La Tulipe* (pale rose to white), *Claire Dubois* (pink), *Floral Treasure* (rose), *Madame Émile Lemoine* (white), *Livingstone* (pink), *Madame Émile Galle* (white), *Marguerite Gerard* (pink), *Monsieur Jules Elie* (pink), *Augustin D'Hour*, *Felix Crousse*, *La Grange*, *M. Barrel*, *M. Krelage* and *M. Martin Cahuzac* (red).

IX

GLADIOLI

THAT the Gladiolus is one of the most beautiful of our summer-flowering plants every one knows, producing for us, as it does, every variety of shade and color combination. What few realize is the fact that Gladioli can be propagated as easily as the potato, and with no more trouble in the matter of winter storage. With the coming of every spring there are always so many things in the way of fruits, vegetables, shrubs, etc. to attend to that the expenditure one plans is apt to be claimed in the flurry of planting without thought of the Gladiolus. Yet with very little additional expense, work and patience one may have a garden full of Gladioli after all.

Some of the seedsmen offer at a comparatively low price per thousand the little one-year-old bulblets that need another season's

growth to produce mature flowering corms. One thousand of such bulblets will produce from seven to nine hundred mature flowering bulbs.

If you have not been able to save all of the little bulbs you think you will need by a method described later in this chapter, order your additional supply from your seedsman early in February, and instruct him to ship these bulblets to you as soon as danger from frost is past. Do this with all your seeds, plants, and bulbs and the resulting increase in both the quantity and quality of the goods you get will be a revelation in prolific results. Most persons wait till the rush of planting time comes before they order, and then cannot understand why some things have been damaged in packing or shipping.

As early in Spring as the ground can be worked nicely, and as soon as all danger from heavy frost is past, prepare your seed-bed as you would prepare it for onion sets. Your infant Gladioli should be set out just as you would onion sets except that the rows must be from eighteen to twenty-four inches apart, and that the bulbs must be placed at least two

inches deep, and not more than half an inch apart in the row. Tend them carefully all summer, keeping all the weeds out.

After the first heavy frost in the fall take up your bulbs and put them in trays to dry, leaving the tops on until they are thoroughly dried, when they should be cut off about one inch above the bulb. Next sack them carefully, using a Number 3 or a Number 4 paper bag (such as those in which sugar comes from the grocer's), and putting two or three dozen bulbs in each bag. Tie the neck of the bags tightly, leaving a surplus of cord from which a loop should be made by which the bag is suspended from a nail in the rafters of the vegetable cellar. There they are to be left until spring. Great care must be taken during these latter stages to prevent bruising; every bruise means a rotted bulb in consequence.

It is at the base of these larger bulbs that the bulblets grow. A two-year-old bulb has clustering around it a large number of the smaller ones, sometimes from thirty-five to fifty. If you have grown Gladioli previously it will not be necessary for you to buy the small bulbs as you may save those adhering to the

bulbs which have flowered the last season. Remove the bulblets, place in separate trays, and as soon as they are dry store them just as you did the larger ones except that two or three hundred are put in each bag. It is not advisable to put a larger number in a bag as they are apt to pack and heat, thus losing their vitality. Care and patience are necessary if you would save all of these little bulbs at harvest time on account of their small size and the fact that they do not adhere to the parent bulb very firmly.

By this method, of course, only existing varieties may be perpetuated. If one desires to carry his experiments farther afield and into the fascinating realm of hybridization, he may buy seeds from the seedsman or may carry pollen from one plant to another in his own garden by means of a camel's hair or red sable brush. It will, however, be necessary to wait an additional year for blossoms from seed.

After the seed has been secured, and about the early part of March, prepare flats as you would for any other delicate seedling. Plant the seed in rows, cover with about one-sixteenth of an inch of potting soil. Then cover each

flat with a pane of glass until germination has taken place, after which remove the glass and place the flats in the full sunlight, taking care, however, to keep the temperature at about 70° during the day and 55° at night.

When the second pair of leaves appears, prick out into the greenhouse bench or cold-frame and transplant to nursery rows as soon as conditions out-of-doors are favorable.

In the fall treat the seedlings as you did the bulblets, planting them in nursery rows the second season. They will flower the third season and may be set out in your regular beds at that time unless you object to an indiscriminate riot of color in contrasting shades. In that case plant again in nursery rows and label each bulb as it blooms.

A good way to do this is to group the crimsons, scarlets, pinks, etc., numbering the different groups "1", "2", "3", etc., putting a label with the number of the group to which it belongs opposite each bulb. In the fall they can be placed in bags and the bags numbered to correspond. Of course any especially desirable bulb may have a distinctive mark and name and be kept separate.

The *Gladiolus* is one of the most useful flowers for fine color effects. You may have the *Salem* for salmon pink, the *Augusta* for pure white, the *Madame Monneret* for delicate rose, the *Nezinscott* for bright scarlet, the *Sellew* for crimson, the *Canary Bird* for yellow, and so on through almost any shade.



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

A TULIP BORDER IS NATURE'S MOST GORGEOUS GIFT

X

BULBS IN THE GARDEN

MY little garden would not seem a garden were the lovely Snowdrops, Crocus, Daffodils, Jonquils, Hyacinths, Narcissi and Tulips to bloom therein no more! "It is not merely the multiplicity of tints," said Novalis, "the gladness of tone, or the balminess of the air which delight in the spring; it is the still consecrated spirit of hope, the prophecy of happy days to come; the endless variety of Nature, with presentiments of eternal flowers which never shall fade, and sympathy with the blessedness of the ever-developing world." This garden of the first flowers of springtime seems to be like the rainbow in the heavens.

*"In hues of ancient promise, there imprest;
Frail in its date, eternal in its guise."*

And how much of Spring we miss if we have neglected to plant bulbs in our gardens! It was Lucy Larcom who wrote

*“All flowers of Spring are not May’s own;
The Crocus cannot often kiss her;
The Snow-drop, ere she comes, has flown—
The earliest Violets always miss her.”*

These exquisite flowers are the first to remind us of the season which, in the words of Thoreau, is a natural resurrection, an experience of immortality.

The garden-lover who would have a few bulbs for the season to come will find October’s days giving him opportunity for putting them into the soil before the heavy frosts strike into the earth. Snowdrops and Squills will be the first to peep up with the Crocus fast on their heels. Then Daffodils “that come before the swallows dare and take the winds of March with beauty” and Golden Jonquils and the Hyacinth and Narcissi will follow in order with Tulips last. It is well to get the best bulbs procurable, selecting them yourself, if possible, and planting them early.

Solid "plump" bulbs are the ones to select. Only firm bulbs should be accepted. By "plump" one does not necessarily mean bulbs of unusual size. A good plan to follow is to plant both large and small bulbs of a sort at the same time for the small bulbs will develop and be productive when the older, larger bulbs will have given way to their progeny.

Almost every spot in the little garden may be utilized for bulb planting and as long as the purse holds out there will probably seem places for more! The Daffodils, Jonquils and Narcissi lend themselves well to remaining in the ground year after year and these develop their own little "neighborhoods," as it were, while Tulips should be taken up every year, in the spring when their leaves have withered and dried off, stored away in a dark cold place where neither frost nor mice can reach them. The hardy Lily bulbs must not be moved at all.

Bulbs will thrive in almost any soil. This is particularly true of bulbs that are lifted in the spring and reset in the autumn. While there is no hard fast rule to observe regarding the depth to which bulbs should be planted, their tops should be placed below the surface of

the soil a distance of about one and a half or twice the measurement of their thickness through. A variation of depth in separate bulbs of a sort will nearly always produce a slight variation of time in blossoming. This procedure forms an interesting experiment. Naturally the bulbs should be placed right side up! The earth placed around them should be free from lumps and carefully firmed down, for the bulbs must be securely set for protection. Loosely planted bulbs seldom thrive. The newly planted bulbs will take root growth through the cool late autumn season. If planted too early their top growth would advance to a point that would subject them to an injury from frost. Lily bulbs (such as those of *Auratum* and *Speciosum*) may go into the ground late in August or in September. The garden-maker must be guided in these matters as in others by an intuitive sense of the fitness and advancement of the season. Right after the first hard freeze a winter mulch of several inches of dry leaves or boy hay should be given as a protection to those portions of the garden where bulbs have been set out. They will, of course, have been marked

by label stakes. When Spring comes round the mulch should not be removed all at once, but a layer at a time, with intervening days.

Bulbs which are planted in the lawn for naturalized effects will, of course, require to be carefully handled when they spring up with Winter's departure as careless raking, and certainly early lawn-mowing, will prevent their blossoming. Snowdrops, Squills and Crocus are favorites for naturalized planting. Narcissi, to my mind, are loveliest of all where late, tall grasses are allowed to grow.

Of the Tulips the Darwin varieties have come into great popularity in recent years. These and the May-flowering Tulip are late bloomers. For early Tulips those comprising the Duc Van Thol section—crimson, scarlet, white, pink, striped yellow and variegated—are to be recommended. The grotesque Dragon type of Tulips are interesting with their lacinated petals and the new tall varieties should not be overlooked.

Narcissi present several distinct types, properly including as they do, the Jonquil and the Daffodil, the Poet's Narcissus (single flower to the stem) and the Polyanthus type, bunch

flowered. Once the garden-lover delves into the love of bulb flowers and extends the hospitality of his garden to their loveliness he will have another joy added to his experience.



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

**FRAGRANT SNOWY HYACINTHS ARE SPRING'S MOST PERFECT
GARDEN GIFT**

XI

THE HYACINTH

EVER since the lovely Hyacinth was introduced by seedlings and hybrids from the Oriental Hyacinth (*Hyacinthus orientalis*) of the Levant, as long ago as the year 1590, it has held a warm spot in the hearts of all garden-lovers, not alone in the affections of the Dutch florists, who have brought it to such perfection, but quite as much in those of American amateurs, who have found it a flower of surpassing beauty, color and fragrance in the early Spring garden. Likewise, the Hyacinth has come to be one of the favorite bulb plants for indoor bloom—probably the most popular one of all.

Of Hyacinths there are many varieties, from the exquisite little Amethyst Hyacinth of Europe, with its brilliant azure of pellucid hue and its exquisite fragrance, to the great, fat,

wonderful ones that have helped to make the gardens of Holland famous and gorgeous. There is not a more beautiful flowering bulb to be found for the purpose of planting for naturalistic effects for lawn, field, meadow, wood, hillside or rockery. The traveler in Europe finds joyous delight in coming upon the Hyacinth in its native haunts. One will find it in Greece and in Sicily, and sometimes in Capri, wild upon the mountain-top. The flower takes its name from Hyacinthus, son of the Spartan king, Amyclas, who was killed when playing quoits with the god Zephyrus, through the treachery of the jealous Apollo. The old Greek legend has it that from the blood of Hyacinthus there sprang up a flower to bear his name, on the leaves of which appeared the exclamation of woe, AI, AI. There is no reason why we should feel that we live in so practical an age that while we busy ourselves with the prose of flowers we have not time for the poetry of their love. Indeed, it is hard to understand how any one who loves a garden and the plants therein can fail to take an interest in everything, legendary or otherwise, pertaining to each of them.

Single Hyacinths invariably succeed better, although many amateurs are just as successful in raising double ones. Whites, blues, pinks, reds, purples, and creamy yellows are the colors of the Hyacinth, but of them all the white is the most beautiful, though amateur gardeners are apt to make the mistake of passing it up for the more showy varieties.

This is a great mistake, for there never yet existed a bed, or border, or grouping of colored Hyacinths that could afford to be without the snowy purity of the white flowers, lending just that note of contrast that one needs to find in every bulb garden. If one looks for mere color effect in massing, the dumpy, short-stalked, "thick" double varieties of Hyacinths may be employed. Their colors are varied and lovely, and their fragrance permeating; but they quite lack the exquisite beauty of the single varieties.

Fortunately, Hyacinths may be planted late, even into November. One recommends fresh bulbs each year, but that is not absolutely necessary, though they must, in any event, be "lifted" in May, after they cease flowering. The finer bulbs send up flowered

spikes from ten to fifteen inches in height. Hyacinths should be planted eight inches apart and about five inches deep. Hyacinths should be placed in the earth upon a little thin bed of sand below the bulbs, and after being covered with earth, should have the further protection of a mulch, of either manurial dressing or leaves. Evergreen boughs (cedars and balsams) make a good covering throughout a severe winter. When spring arrives the mulch should be removed, not all at once, but gradually, so the earth below, which comes in contact with the bulbs, will not be chilled too suddenly.

Hyacinths for indoors may be started in deep pots in November. The best potting soil I have experimented with has been composed of a compost prepared of one part of rich loam, one part of thoroughly decomposed barnyard manure, and one-half part clean, coarse sand. The bulb crowns should be left about half an inch above the surface of the soil, and the root end should rest upon a base of charcoal-covered potsherds. Press down the soil firmly around the bulb and wet it thoroughly. Either "plunge" the pots or set them

safely away in a dark, warm place, where the soil may be kept fairly damp.

When the bulbs are firmly rooted (one may tell by turning out a sample pot for examination) bring them to the light. The whitish-green shoot, an inch or so in height, will soon darken in color and will grow with great rapidity, a few weeks' time bringing forth the flower spike. Hyacinths require liberal watering when brought forth from their seclusion. It is possible to grow Hyacinths in pure sand, if this has been washed to free it from salt. The Hyacinth-glasses, to be found at every nurseryman's or every florist's, are devised for the purpose of growing Hyacinths in water. In experimenting I have found it a most satisfactory method to keep the bulbs in dampened moss for a preliminary period of two weeks, placing the bulbs then on top of the water-filled Hyacinth-glasses. This can be done in a succession of weeks in November, and will produce a succession of bloom. Remember, that the water should just touch the lower part of the Hyacinth bulb, and rain-water should be used for the purpose when it is possible to obtain it, changing it every ten days

and carefully supplying any deficiency caused by evaporating in the interval. The bulbs placed in Hyacinth-glasses must be kept in some warm, dark place until the glass is half filled with roots. Great care must also be taken that the water in changing be the same temperature as that of which it takes the place. The water must never be too cold.

There is not much to be said about the matter of choosing Hyacinth bulbs, but the little that is to be said is of great importance. One should remember bulbs must be chosen not for size, but for hardness and solidity, and the bases must be thoroughly sound. Medium sized, firm, hard and heavy bulbs are always to be chosen for planting.

HYACINTH VARIETIES

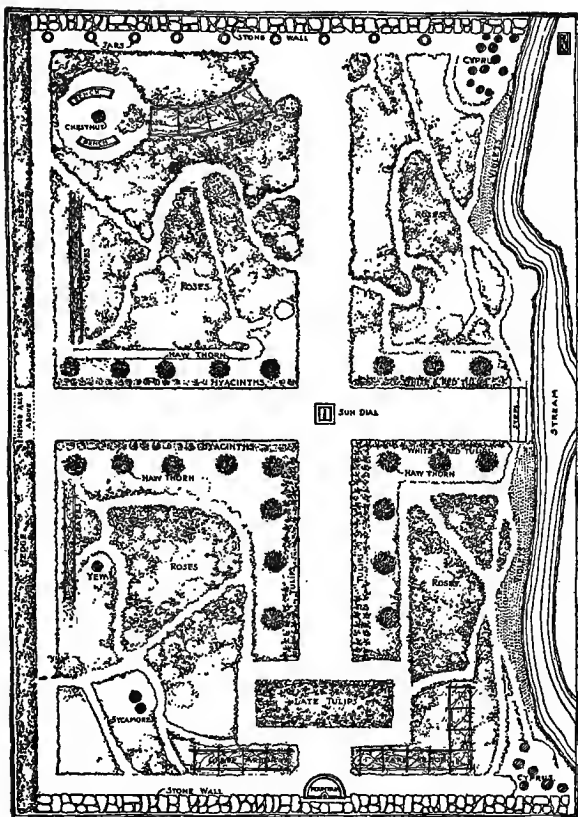
The following varieties of Hyacinths may be recommended to the garden-maker. *White*: Alba Superbissima, Mme. Vanderhoop, La Grandesse, Prince of Waterloo (double), and Baroness Van Thuyl; *pink*: Fabriola and Norma; *reds*: Robert Stieger, Gertrude, Roi des Belges and Lord Welling-

ton (double); *blue*: Leonidas, La Peyrouse, King of the Blues, Czar Peter, Grand Lilac, Baron Van Thuyt and Charles Dickens (double). La Peyrouse is a very light blue, and the Baron Van Thuyt very dark. Of the yellow varieties, the King of the Yellows and the Ida are among the most satisfactory. The Hyacinths known as Roman Hyacinths are usually sold by color and not by name at the florist's, for these Roman Hyacinths are not distinct varieties, but miniature species of some of the above. The Cape Hyacinth, with its bell-shaped flowers an inch long, is also fragrant and attractive, and the Grape Hyacinth (*Muscari botryoides*), blossoming in April, finds its best variety in the Heavenly Blue, though it is also to be found in white varieties, as is the Wood Hyacinth (*Scilla festales*), which last is excellent for naturalizing, and closely resembles the more prominent Hyacinth of the bulb beds, though its spikes are more loose and have not so many flowers.

XII

A PERSIAN GARDEN

IN a quiet corner of the land—just where I may not tell you!—a little garden nestles by the side of a gently flowing stream, whose clear, rippling music is only lost when it meets the slow old river below, where low-bending willow-trees whisper their dirges to the waters. Above the little garden a long row of yews touches a hedge, the other side of which is reached by a stile. And if one follows this hedge to the right, he will be led into a grove of sycamores, whence a winding path leads to a stone wall with gate exactly fronting the side of a picturesque, old-world looking cottage of stone. A turn in the river forms the nearest boundary of the premises, but the land which surrounds this cottage, extends at least three-quarters of a mile in every direction. In front a noble line of elms borders



PLAN OF A PERSIAN GARDEN

each side of the long diverging avenue, an avenue that ends by the quaint gardener's cottage nearly hidden in a raiment of ivy which springs up at the very foot of great borders of Geraniums, flaming in their season.

Few other than its owner's intimates, and the children of the village, have had the good fortune to stroll within these gates. The vigilant 'Arrington, a massive gardener with a mighty manner, turns deaf ear to all others, despite repeated orders to the contrary; for it must not be imagined that the cottage harbors a disagreeable individual who desires no communion with strangers. Not at all. It is inhabited by a scholarly gentleman beloved throughout the country because of his generous philanthropy. But the weight of his years demands a certain quiet, a fact unsuspected by him, but which 'Arrington sedulously makes certain.

The leisure of this gentleman's *vie de célibataire* enables him to follow unhindered the ardor of his own enthusiasm for garden-making. Others have been content with one garden, or with several, but he has many, and fitly might the goddess Flora and the goddess

Pomona have regarded this acreage as a temple grove planted and tended to their worship.

I shall tell you of but one of these gardens. Two stone walls running from hedge to stream form the sides of the inclosure. As one enters through an arch in the center of the hedge—an arch that might have been copied from some old Persian miniature—there is no mistaking this little spot for other than an Omar Khayyám garden, which is confirmed by the various inscriptions composed of rubái from the Tent-maker's own poesy.

A wide marble walk from the gardener's entrance crosses another like it, but not so wide, at the center, where seven low broad steps of white marble all around form the support of the sandstone pedestal, surmounted by a bronze sundial. Its inscription reads:

*"The Bird of Time has but little way
To fly—and lo! the bird is on the wing."*

The marble walk is bordered with beds of gorgeous Tulips and Hyacinths, and by the Roses a marble column bears on its shaft these lines:

*"I sometimes think that never blows so red
The Rose as where some buried Cæsar bled;
That every Hyacinth the Garden wears
Dropt in her lap from some once lovely Head."*

An interesting floral allusion in this garden is a fringe of the purple Pasque Flower (*Anemone pulsatilla*), sent thither from Fleam Dyke near Cambridge where once it grew plentifully, and I guessed rightly that the owner of this garden intended these flowers to suggest a parallel to Omar's Roses, remembering, as I did, that the Pasque Flower grows on English soil only, where Danish blood has been spilt.

Back of these beds Hawthorn trees form lines to the stream and across the garden.

*"Now the New Year reviving old Desires,
The thoughtful Soul to Solitude retires,
Where the white hand of Moses on the
Bough
Puts out, and Jesus from the ground suspires."*

I have seen them in all the purity of their white blossoming bringing back to mind the

words in Exodus. The central walk drops into the stream with its third step.

*“And this reviving Herb whose tender green
Fledges the river-lip on which we lean—*

*Oh, lean upon it lightly! for who knows,
From what once lovely lip it spring unseen!”*

Perhaps this “reviving Herb” of which old Omar sings was the Dandelion, which every one who has traveled in Persia will remember to have seen there resting its gold crowns on the cushion-banks of every Persian water-course, glittering reminders of home. To make sure, Dandelions are here, but this garden’s owner has taken another interpretation so far as his fancy for arrangement is concerned and there I found Violets by the river-side instead of the Dandelions:

*“The Violets by this river grow,
Sprung from some lip here buried long ago.*

*Ah, tread there lightly on this tender green—
Who sleepeth here so still thou ne’er will
know.”*

The air of a Springtime morning is here laden with the exquisite perfume of those Vio-

lets, the memory of which even the later Roses does not usurp. They enrich the silken sod with their precious amethystine embroidery and they lift their dear eyes to the blue heavens.

Just where the wall meets the stream on either side rise minarets of formal cypresses. In another garden they would, perhaps, have seemed misplaced, or tantalized by Marigolds, or have seemed too sorrowful for riot of frolicsome Phlox. But here they are proud of their *rubái*, and the stone garden-bench in the coolness of their shadows is inscribed:

*“Do you, within your little hour of grace,
The waving Cypress in your arms enlace,
Before the mother back into her arms
Fold, and dissolve you in a last embrace.”*

The wild grape here runs riot over the garden-walls, against whose bases great terracotta oil-jars are placed. They might have come from old Sarmacand! But now they hold the most precious things in the garden—Roses brought from Naishapur. On one of these jars this *rubái* is incised:

*“Shapes of all sorts and sizes, great and small,
That stood along the floor and by the wall;
And some loquacious Vessels were; and
some
Listened perhaps, but never talked at all.*

From the center of the other wall a fountain gurgles forth its cooling waters, which disappear again in a porphyry basin. Around it the grapevines cling; yet one can make out

*“Waste not your Hour, nor in the vain pursuit
Of this and that endeavor and dispute,
Better be jocund with the fruitful grape
Than sadden after none, or bitter, fruit.”*

adorning a bit of the treillage.

A bed of late Tulips stretches before the fountain, and in their season you will find by the fountain a cup inscribed with this quatrain:

*“As then the Tulip for her morning sup
Of Heav’nly vintage from the Soil looks up,
Do you devoutly do the like, till Heav’n
To Earth invert you—like an empty cup.”*

Everywhere else are Roses and Grapevines, —white, red and yellow Roses to glorify the

Junes that come and go in this fair garden, great clusters of white and purple grapes which ripen with the early frosts. First the Hyacinths and the Tulips awaken the garden; then the Hawthorn blossoms greet the Violets. After that this little paradise is a gorgeous Rose garden, making early summer and again the early autumn glisten with their jewels. When the sweet Rose-leaves have been wafted afar by autumn winds—perhaps to some Naishapur; who knows!—the purpling fruit of the Vine lends color rich and harmonious the last yellowed leaves of yonder old Chestnut tree are blown into the garden to mantle it with tapestry of rich brocade. Ah, what a tree! Beneath its noble branches, branches that have known two centuries, is a rustic seat and there one reads:

*“A jug of Wine, a loaf of Bread—and Thou
Beside me singing in the wilderness—
Oh, wilderness were Paradise enow!”*

And when one leaves this little garden there come to mind the words of Kisai, Kisai who lived before Omar saw light of day:

*“The Rose is a gift of Eden’s bower,
Our minds in garden grow nobler far;
Why does this Rose-dealer sell his flower?
What is more precious than Roses are?”*

XIII

THE INDOOR GARDEN

THE choice of plants for the indoor garden is dependent upon many things. There are house plants which require a high temperature, others which thrive better with less heat, plants which require an abundance of direct sunlight and which will not flourish a day without it, and other plants which do very nicely under less exacting conditions. Recently a revival of interest has been shown in indoor gardening. The old-fashioned plan of filling a window so full of plants that the glass was almost completely hidden by them has long since passed away. Surely with indoor gardens, as with everything else, a sense of disproportion is not a thing to be desired, or, in these days of an advanced knowledge of things artistic, to be tolerated. Nothing could be more out of

keeping with harmony in decoration than a window full to overflowing of house plants of all descriptions, set in nondescript receptacles.

The modern house decorator has learned to avoid any such atrocious arrangements, and seeks to select plants for indoors with careful thought as to the details of foliage, flower, contrast and suitability. For instance, one would not place fine-leaved and coarse-leaved plants in close proximity where the effect of contrast was not desired, nor would one place a delicately foliated plant in a room so stern and formal that the plant might seem like a stranded exotic. Again, scarlet-flowered plants would hardly be in keeping with a room decorated with crimson wall paper or hangings! nor would it be well to place plants, such as the Tuberose or the Oleander, whose flowers are strongly scented, in a very small room, as their fragrance is oppressive in the confined atmosphere of a small space. Musk is so offensive to many persons that, lovely little plant that it is, it would be well perhaps to omit it from the indoor garden list. On the other hand, there are plants whose flowers, though they exhale a pronounced fragrance, are not

objectionable, for, while their perfume is penetrating, it is delicate. In this class of houseplants may be listed the Hyacinth, the Narcissus, the Rose and the Lemon Verbena.

When choosing plants for indoor use it is well to select some that will bloom continually, so that there will not be the unhappy contrast of a long no-flowering period following luxurious bloom. Many houseplants are chosen for the beauty of their foliage alone, and when this is the case they should be displayed in the most effective manner possible. They should not be so placed as to screen the clusters of a Geranium, the blossom of a Rose or the flower of a Camellia. It is also a great mistake to so arrange indoor plants that, though possessing a decorative appearance from the outside, they present anything but an attractive note as regards the decorative scheme of the interior.

Broadly speaking, plants for indoors may be divided into two classes—flowering plants and plants selected for the beauty of their foliage. Occasionally beautiful flowers and foliage are offered by the same plant, as, for instance, the lovely waxen-leaved and pink-flowered Begonia.

Then, too, there are plants found in the indoor garden which are cultivated more as curiosities of the vegetable kingdom than as units of beauty. Under this head would come, of course, the Ice Plant, the various spiny Cacti and also the "Hen-and-Chickens" plant. There will always be those botanically inclined who will take a great interest in such curiosities of the vegetable kingdom, but these plants need not be taken into more than passing consideration by the one who selects plants to help in carrying out a decorative scheme which may depend upon floral or foliage features to infuse it with that vestige of naturalness that so often saves the inanimate from becoming oppressive.

Following is a list of plants for indoor gardens from which selections may be made: Camellia, Daphne, Azalea, Cyclamen, Geranium, Heliotrope, Rose, Fuchsia, Myrtle, Abutilon, Calla Lily, Cuphea, Oleander, Jasmine, Solanum (Jerusalem Cherry), Lemon Verbena, Hoya (Wax Plant), Begonia, Oxalis, Amaryllis, Hyacinth, Tulip, Daffodil, Narcissus, Primrose, Cineraria, Stock, Wallflower, Gloxiana, Pelargonium, Marguerite, Petunia, Francoa (Bridal Wreath) and Amazon Lily

(*Eucharis Amazonica*) among the flowering plants. Of course, there are other indoor house plants, but those mentioned above are most generally cultivated. As the Hyacinth, the Narcissus, the Tulip, the Daffodil and the Jonquil are bulb plants they are to be considered for the flowers only, and not at all for the foliage, in so far as permanency is concerned. The Camellia, the Cineraria, the Azalea and the Cuphea had best be chosen only by those who have hothouses or conservatories.

A list of ideal flowering plants, easily grown indoors, includes the Geranium, Oxalia, Fuchsia, Heliotrope, Abutilon, Begonia, Primrose and Cyclamen. These, as permanent floral "lares and penates," may be augmented from time to time throughout the various seasons by forced greenhouse plants in full bloom, added for their immediate effectiveness and display qualities.

The Geranium is discussed in a later chapter, but one may here remind the indoor garden-maker that in buying plants only such as look strong, stocky, and healthy should be selected. Lank spindley plants should be refused. By "pinching" the plants may be kept

bushy. As a general thing zonal Geraniums are free from insect pests, although all yellow leaves should be removed.

The Oxalis is easily grown, and is well known by reason of the shamrock-shaped leaf. The Oxalis Floribunda with its rose-colored flowers, is the best for the indoor garden.

The Fuchsia is an old-time favorite, beautiful in leaf and graceful in flower, though its true blossoming season is in summer. Fuchsia culture is not difficult, and although it is prone to bud-dropping, this can be prevented if the watering is carefully attended to. There are both double and single varieties.

Heliotrope is also known to every one, and is one of the delights of the indoor garden. There are a number of varieties to select from. If "pinching" is attended to the plants may be kept compact, although it is often as lovely if allowed to ramble. The old-fashioned Heliotrope, *Heliotropum Peruvianum*, is the sweetest and most floriferous. Abutilon, the well-known Flowering Maple, requires plenty of light and water in summer, but not nearly so much in winter. Finally, the Begonia is to be considered. There are many varieties of this

perennially popular house-plant. Without doubt the best winter Begonia is the exquisite Gloire de Lorraine, which produces an abundance of pink flowers above its attractive waxen green foliage. It will thrive in a temperature as low as 65 degrees F. The Gloire de Scealux is another beautiful pink Begonia. The Rex Begonia is the most popular indoor foliage plant, if we except the Boston Fern.

THE CARE OF HOUSEPLANTS

Although it is true that nearly all houseplants are subject to visitations of injurious insects, and to plant diseases, these enemies of the window garden can easily be overcome if you will give some little study to the matter in order to learn what foes are the most formidable and how to deal with them. Indeed, success at indoor gardening is greatly dependent upon knowledge of this sort, which every one may easily obtain by heeding the following hints and suggestions, and by carefully examining every plant in the window from time to time in order to note the first appearance of its foes.

Insects injurious to houseplants usually make their appearance with the coming of the young plant shoots. And it is then that you must commence to look for them in order that they may be dealt with summarily before they increase, as they invariably do with marvelous rapidity, often to the utter discouragement of the indoor gardener.

Diseases of houseplants, such as mildew, which arise from injudicious watering, drought and drafts, show themselves when present. This is also true of fungi. Mildew is most apt to attack young shoots and new foliage. When the leaves turn a sickly yellow, the roots of the plant should be examined as the trouble may lie there; if you do not find anything wrong with the roots, try repotting the plant in fresh soil, and it will then probably regain its old freshness.

Aphids are the most troublesome insects to be found bothering houseplants; then there are the mealy bug, red spider, scale, earthworm, slug, leaf mining maggot, thrips and wood lice.

These aphids, or plant lice, as they are commonly called, are tiny light or dark green flies,

for in one stage in their metamorphosis, they have wings. The green colored species prevails upon the indoor plants. One remedy for plants bothered by aphids is to fumigate them with the smoke of burning tobacco. Any one can make a fumigator with an old barrel, placing under it a tripod for the plant to rest upon, and under that a pan with the burning tobacco. Of course the infected plant must not be left long in the fumigator, or it would have a speedier end than even its aphid enemy could bring it to. Before fumigating, be sure the leaves of the plant are dry. Prepared tobacco paper for fumigating purposes may be obtained from almost any dealer in garden supplies. Do not, as a rule, fumigate plants that are in blossom; their insect enemies should not have been permitted to remain so long upon them. You may find it necessary to give house plants several fumigations, but do not overdo the matter. The morning after the plant has been fumigated, carefully syringe its leaves with tepid rain-water. The green aphid is frequently the main enemy of indoor ferns, particularly the lovely *Pteris adiantoides*.

The mealy bug appears on houseplants in

a small mass of white, which looks "cottony." It is a most difficult plant pest to overcome, and an insecticide diluted with lukewarm water is advised for destroying it. This should be applied with a plant syringe. Three table-spoonfuls of petroleum to three gallons of soapy water makes an excellent insecticide for exterminating mealy bugs. The solution must be kept well mixed by frequent shakings while in use, and then applied carefully. This treatment is suitable for large plants; small plants can be freed from mealy bugs by frequent cleansings with a sponge dipped in soapy water. Whale-oil soap is best to use in spraying and washing solutions.

The red spider is a minute insect pest which dry, hot rooms tend to bring forth. Also lack of water at the roots of potted plants makes them fall easy prey to this tiny enemy. Frequent washing and syringing are excellent preventives, and when once this destructive insect appears upon a plant, it should be sprayed with the insecticide recommended above for mealy bugs.

The common scale (*Lecanium*) is similar to the aphid, and it frequently attacks Oleanders,

Camellias, Oranges and like plants. Sponge any plants attacked by it with a solution of whale-oil soap and do this unceasingly, for although a tedious process, assiduous sponging alone will eradicate the pest. Let the water be lukewarm, as warm soap-suds will finally conquer this troublesome insect foe.

When earthworms are in the potting soil, they cause considerable damage to the roots of houseplants. A good way to remove earthworms (their presence may be detected by observing the globular masses of excrement they deposit on the surface of the soil) is to plunge the flower-pots in lime-water as far as the brims. In a short time the earthworms will push to the top and may be removed by hand.

Plants procured from the greenhouse often introduce slugs into the window garden. They should be watched for carefully and trapped by putting a piece of raw potato, thinly sliced, on the top soil. This will attract the slugs, and they may then be picked off. Also look among the plants at night, for then slugs come forth from their hiding-places.

The leaf-mining maggot is the larva of a small fly, and bores into the leaves of such

plants as the Cineraria and the Marguerite, greatly disfiguring them. Cut off and burn badly infested leaves, and destroy each remaining maggot to be found. This process requires much patience, but houseplants attacked by this pest can still be saved. Thrips, like the red spider, are apt to appear on plants that suffer from insufficient watering. As water is one of the best discouragers of attacks on houseplants from their enemies, you are advised that frequent leaf washing is one of the best preventives for the insect pest, thrips. When once thrips appear, treat your plants as you would when infested with red spiders, as suggested above, and you should have no further trouble.

Differing from insect foes are fungoid pests; mildew is the only one that is likely to attack plants ordinarily to be met with in indoor gardens, excepting the greenhouse or conservatory.

The Rose is the principal houseplant that suffers from the ravages of mildew. Sudden, decided changes of temperature, or cold drafts in the room, will bring out upon the leaves small, white fungoid patches. To check the

spread of mildew, dust plants that are affected by it with flowers of sulphur.

While all known houseplant enemies have not been enumerated above, those commonly met with have, and the means of combating them here described are the result of practical experiences. Therefore the window-gardener may have at hand for ready reference these various suggestions of a practical nature that will, it is hoped, awaken a wider interest in the necessity of studying the matter if you would have an indoor garden of healthy, beautiful plants.

One of the greatest enemies known to indoor flowers is dry heat, and plants should never be set near a radiator. Rubber plants and palms are very apt to dry up and their leaves will crack. Much of this condition can be arrested by washing the leaves once a week with a sponge wet with milk. There seems to be just enough grease in the milk to feed the leaves, and it will be found an added help to pour either olive or castor oil on the roots of these plants once every fortnight.

It must also be remembered that plants may be as greatly injured by too much water as by

too little. Give them plenty of water, but only when they need it. To tell when a plant needs watering, knock the side of the pot with your knuckles. If the sound is dull the soil has water enough in it. If the sound is hollow the soil is dry.

When there is any doubt about whether the plant needs more water or not, pour the water into the saucer. The water will be taken up by the roots if the plant needs it.

XIV

EVERGREENS AND FERNS FOR INDOORS

WHILE nearly all of the plants in the window-garden retain their foliage, in effect, the year round, a certain number of them actually do, and this class of Evergreen houseplants deserves consideration by itself, as indoor Evergreens are not so widely known as they should be, nor are they as often found among houseplants as they deserve to be. Aside from their place near flowering window-plants, indoor Evergreens lend themselves to table decoration, and being especially suitable plants for hall and stairway, are most useful in arranging decorative effects when the house is being made ready for some festal occasion. The most interesting Evergreens of the indoor class are, perhaps, the Araucarias, the most easily obtainable species being *Araucaria excelsa*, better known by its common name, the Norfolk Island Pine.

This distinctive plant is, in reality, a little tree of coniferous habits, quite as lovely though not so unusual and curious, as some of the dwarf Japanese trees that have become more or less the fashion. Its branches radiate like the spokes of a wheel from the central stem, and its rich, spiny foliage is a dark yellow-green. It is the most symmetrical of the indoor Evergreens.

The *Araucaria robusta* is a more sturdy species and it is more compact than the first named while the *Araucaria glauca* is a handsome blue-green leaved variety of the same species. The indoor gardener may be interested to know that the cousin to these Evergreens (the large form of the *Araucaria*, known to botanists as *A. imbricata*) is said to be the only tree which the monkey is unable to climb. Small specimens of the *Araucarias* are Island Pine, and of other species of the *Araucarias* are comparatively inexpensive, and may be had from almost any reliable nurseryman. A well-started specimen will require but ordinary care, as this Evergreen grows freely under almost any conditions, where light, water and a little heat can be given it. The *Araucarias* must be

watered sparingly, and care must be taken not to transfer them too rapidly to larger pots, as they do not like frequent disturbing. These Evergreens should be repotted only when one feels sure they require more room than they have already been given.

English Ivy is an Evergreen of the broad-leaved variety, and although it has long been one of the most popular plants in the window-garden, it may not have been classed among Evergreens by those who have not familiarized themselves with plant divisions. The botanical name of the English Ivy is *Hedera helix*, which it is well to know, in order that its variety, *Hedera helix Canariensis*, commonly known as Irish Ivy, may not be chosen by mistake in place of it. This latter Ivy has much larger leaves, but it is not nearly so attractive for indoor growing, unless one is indifferent to the pattern effect and merely seeks abundance of foliage, as often is the case. The English Ivy will stand a goodly amount of watering and must always be generously potted. As for its potting soil, any good house-plant soil will do that has a mixture of sand in its composition.

The Camellia's beautiful, dark, shining leaves are remarkably persistent, and this should receive more consideration as a house-plant possibility than has yet been given it. The remarkable beauty of its flowers is, of course, known to every one, as it is a favorite flower with poets and novelists. Camellias may be had from nurserymen in both single and double varieties, in white, pink, and red, the *Alba plena* (white), Lady Hume (pink), and the Hovey (red), being good varieties to select. Keep the potting soil for Camellias just moist, as over-watering will cause their buds to drop before flowering. Camellias should be repotted every two years in a mixture of equal parts of peat, sand, fibrous loam, and leaf-mold.

The Myrtle, or Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*), a plant which the ancients dedicated to Venus, may be grown in any house, although one usually associates it with outdoor gardening. Its bushy growth must be induced by frequent trimming. A rich loamy potting soil is best for this plant, and it should be given a sunny place in the window-garden. There is a variegated species of Periwinkle to be had (*Vinca*

minor, var. *alba*) which presents bright yellow foliage, and also somewhat rarer variety, having white instead of the usual purple flowers. Beside these there is *Vinca rosea*, a pink, erect-growing species, which requires an abundance of sunlight and liberal watching.

Azaleas are among the most beautiful of the broad-leaved Evergreens, although outside the greenhouse it is difficult to grow them in northern temperatures with anything like success. The Azalea thrives best in a cool and airy room. *Azalæa Indica* is the usual species one meets with at the florist's. The proper night temperature for Azaleas is from 50 to 60 degrees. After flowering (in the Spring), new growth in the plants must be encouraged by warmer temperature, and though the potting soil requires to be kept just moist, it must never be permitted to become dry.

Sweet Bay (the *Laurus nobilis*) is one of the most decorative of indoor Evergreens, being cultivated with stem and globular crown, or as a bushy or pyramidal plant, leafing to the soil. It must be kept very cool and should be carefully cellared in Winter. When brought out for indoor use in Summer, the

Sweet Bay should be placed only in unheated rooms.

The Partridge Berry is the only hardy Evergreen we have which, in its native state, carpets the ground and bears red berries throughout the Winter. *Mitchella repens* is its botanical name. It does exceedingly well when brought out of the woods (although it may be procured without trouble from nearly any florist or nurseryman), and it should be grown under a bell-glass or in a vivarium; that is, an aquarium-like case for tender houseplants.

The Laurustinus is an Evergreen native to southern Europe, and though hardy to Great Britain, it requires house culture in our climate, flowering indoors from November to April. Its blossoms are fragrant, white flowers, which are well set off by the dark green of its foliage. This plant stands indifferent usage, being almost hardy, but it thrives best with generous potting and in earth composed of one part each of sand, leaf-mold and well-rotted manure. Care should be taken to give the leaves frequent washings, as they are great dust-attracters, and therefore their beauty is marred if the foliage is not kept clean. This

Laurustinus bears the botanical name of *Viburnum Tinus*, and thus it is closely related to the common Snowball of the garden, the *Viburnum populus*.

Heather (*Erica*), like the Azalea, produces a multitude of small, hair-like roots, and requires loamy potting soil, rich in decaying organic matter. Good pot drainage is also requisite, and rain-water should alone be given these difficult Evergreens. As a rule they stand cool temperatures unusually well, and they must have plenty of air, though cold draughts will speedily injure them. Do not permit these plants to grow tall and spindling, but keep them low, bushy, and compact, by pinching and by frequent turning of all sides to the light. This preserves symmetry. Few house-plants make a greater show. A single day's neglect to water a Heather, or a day's over-watering, may kill the plant; therefore many, through carelessness or lack of knowledge of its requirements, have failed to raise the Heather successfully. The following varieties will be found the best for the window-garden: *Erica Cavendishii* (yellow), *E. caffra* (white and fragrant), *E. hyemalis* (pink), *E.*

persolute (red), and *E. ventricosa* (purple).

The *Daphne* is a beautiful, sweet-scented Evergreen, but it requires careful attention, for which reason it is seldom met with in gardens indoors. *Daphne Indica* is the variety for window purposes, bearing terminal bunches of fragrant white flowers. The leaves are long, glossy, and dark-green. It should have plenty of pot room, and its soil should (in common with that of all houseplants) be well drained.

The *Yucca*'s handsome, stout foliage makes this well-known plant exceedingly decorative as an indoor Evergreen. Every traveler who has visited California recalls the great *Yuccas* to be found there, especially in the southern part of the state. Occasionally these giant species are transplanted to our gardens, and the smaller varieties thrive in gardens by the sea, being useful for decorative borders. The *Yucca filamentosa* is especially recommended to the amateur for the purpose, as also are *Y. aloefolia* and *Y. quadricolor*. Do not repot often, and give *Yuccas* a rich loamy soil. *Yucca filamentosa* var. *variegata* has leaves streaked with white and is very attractive.

The *Kennedy* is a lovely and graceful twining indoor Evergreen, and is not as often met with in the window-garden as it deserves to be. The shoots should be kept well trained to the wall, or against a frame. Give it plenty of water. *Kennedy* *Marrattae* is the scarlet variety, while the blossoms of the *K. monophylla* are rich purple. There is not a finer climber for the window-garden.

Although the varieties of indoor Evergreens here mentioned by no means exhaust the list of those that are available for house culture, those described are especially worthy the attention of every one who has a window-garden and loves houseplants, and who, though acquainted with some of the more common varieties of these plants, may not have known that they come under the head of true Evergreens, which fact may, perhaps, lead the amateur indoor gardener to cultivate a real and lasting interest in them.

FERNS

Where one intends to place Ferns in an unheated conservatory, the following species are

among the best to select: *For Potting*: *Adiantum Pedatum*, *Asplenium cristatum*, *Polypodium vulgare cambricum*, *Pteris scaberula*, *Scolopendrium vulgare crispum*, *Woodwardia radicans* and *Woodsia ilvensis*. *For Baskets*: *Polystichum angulare*, *P. angulare proliferum*, *Woodwardia radicans* and *Asplenium filix-fœmina corybiferum*. *For Wall Growing*: *Asplenium marinum*, *Polypodium vulgare*, *Polystichum aculeatum* and *Scolopendrium*. Of course, there are many other varieties, but these few will be more than enough for the amateur indoor gardener. For ordinary room windows nearly all of the Ferns mentioned will prove successful, but the following are especially recommended for indoor window gardens, *Polypodium aureum*, *Asplenium bulbiferum*, *Nephrodium molle*, *Cyrtomium falcatum*, *Pteris cretica*, *Scolopendrium vulgare crispum*, *Pteris tremula*, *Polystichum angulare* and *Pteris cretica nobilis*. There are few plants for indoors that give as much pleasure to the amateur as do Ferns, when one is careful to see that they are cleanly potted and in well drained pots.



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

A HAPPY BEDDING ARRANGEMENT OF GERANIUMS

XV

GERANIUMS

THE first plant that suggests itself when the indoor garden is mentioned is the Geranium. A collection of houseplants without it would be very much like a desert without an oasis, so necessary to the fullest enjoyment of raising flowers indoors has this lovely queen of the window-garden become. Though no houseplant gives greater satisfaction, and is more easily grown, the Geranium speedily resents neglect, and will languish as quickly from inattention as any other plant in the window. For this reason these pertinent hints are given.

First of all it is well to have some definite idea of the various kinds of Geraniums and of their special characteristics. Horticulturists are coming more and more to use the term *Pelargoniums* for Geraniums, distinguishing

them by calling the old-fashioned mono-, bi-, and tri-colored Geraniums by the term Zonal Pelargoniums, the sweet Geraniums by the term Scented-Leaved Pelargoniums, and the Ivy Geraniums by the term Ivy-Leaved Pelargoniums. However, the term Geranium will be retained in this chapter, as it is the one with which every one is familiar.

SELECTING VARIETIES

There are almost endless varieties of Geraniums of the Zonal class, both single and double, from white to scarlet. Among these the following are especially recommended for their beauty, others may be selected from reliable nurserymen:

Single Geraniums—White, Dr. Nansen; scarlet, Lord Iddesleigh; crimson, Cyclops; salmon, Mrs. Robert Cannell; magenta, Marquis of Dufferin.

Double Geraniums—White, Swanley Double; scarlet, F. V. Raspail; crimson, Colossus; salmon, Miss Floss; pink, H. M. Stanley; ce-
rise, Mrs. Cordon.

In selecting sweet Geraniums, it should be borne in mind that different varieties have different perfumes, as the following list will indicate: *Rose-scented*, *Pelargonium capitatum*; *nutmeg-scented*, *Lady Mary*; *orange-scented*, *Prince of Orange*; *almond-scented*, *Pretty Polly*; *citron-scented*, *Pelargonium radula major*; *peppermint-scented*, *Pelargonium tomentosum*.

Of the Ivy Geraniums the following will prove useful additions to the window-garden (double varieties): *Pink*, *Charles Turner*; *crimson*, *Murillo*; *salmon*, *Ryecroft Surprise*; *magenta*, *Alice Crousse*; *rose-red*, *Robert Queen*; *light pink*, *Mme. Thibaut*.

HOW TO POT GERANIUMS

Clean pots are essential to success with house plants. See that the pots chosen are clean inside as well as out. Having this in mind, the window-gardener is advised to soak new pots in hot water an hour before using them. Unless this is done, the pots are apt to absorb much of the moisture from the soil, causing the roots of the newly potted plants to suffer

in consequence. Insure perfect drainage by putting a few pieces of broken flower pots in the bottom of each new pot before setting the Geranium, always remembering that the larger the pot, the more drainage must be arranged for. In placing these bits of broken pots it is well always to place a concave piece over the drainage-hole in the bottom of the pot, thus "roofing" it and preventing it from becoming stopped up. Many failures have come about from improperly potting Geraniums.

Do not make the common mistake of choosing pots that are too large for the plants they are to contain. Plants should be repotted from time to time as their growth requires it, instead of which many an amateur makes the mistake of giving the newly started Geranium a pot half a dozen sizes too large for it. In repotting always retain as much of the original soil as possible around the root-ball. Potting soil must not be "pastey," neither wet nor like dust, but just damp to the hand. Three parts of fibrous loam, one of leaf mold, one of well-crumbled manure and one-twelfth part of sand combined makes an ideal soil for Geraniums,

and a small piece or two of charcoal placed in the bottom of each pot will do much to keep the potting-soil sweet for the plant. When potted, Geraniums should have their soil half an inch below the rim-level of very small pots, and an inch or more with larger-sized pots. In this way plenty of water may be received by the plant.

WATERING

Many Geraniums have been parched to death, but as many have met their end through an over-zealous watering—indeed, drowned houseplants are not uncommon! Newly potted plants always require to be watered very sparingly, although their soil must not be permitted to become once dry. Soft water—rain-water—is always best for Geraniums, but if you have only faucet water at command, use that which has stood in a pail in the sunlight for a couple of hours. In Winter, and also in the Springtime, avoid watering Geraniums with cold water. The chill of cold water causes them to decline. Also remember that morning is the best watering-time at such seasons.

LIGHT AND AIR

Newly potted Geraniums should be shaded from the sun until they become thoroughly established, and even then, though sunshine is absolutely requisite to successful window-gardening, Geraniums should not be placed where a blaze of the sun's rays strikes them through heavy plate glass in a scorching manner. Like other houseplants, Geraniums should be turned around from time to time so the sunlight will touch them on all sides. Geraniums should have southern, southeastern, or eastern exposure. Any other position is interesting as an experiment, perhaps, but one need not hope to have thriving houseplants under conditions of other lighting. Unfortunately, gas light is one of the worst enemies a Geranium can have, and so many a failure to raise houseplants in the living-room is explained by this fact. Give Geraniums plenty of air. Plants breathe as well as human beings. Every pleasant day let fresh air from source enter the room where you have your Geraniums, but do not expose them to drafts; they are as susceptible to them as persons in delicate health, and

a chill will often send a Geranium that has successfully withstood an actual frost to its end.

Try and keep the room in which you have your window of Geraniums at an equable temperature. If the day is a sunny one, the temperature may run up to seventy-three degrees, but on cloudy days sixty-eight degrees will be better for them. Fifty-five degrees is a good night temperature. Extremes of heat and cold must be avoided at all times.

CUTTING AND SLIPPING

The good housewife of days gone by found one of her chiefest pleasures in the giving of slips of her fine Geraniums to her most deserving neighbors. The ladies of Cranford would have missed much in life had it been otherwise! And yet, underlying the generous impulse lay the economic one of helping the plant along by cutting. Now, this is always a necessary operation if the Geraniums are to attain perfect form—an equal height and breadth. There is nothing in the window-garden more distressing to see than a lanky, gaunt-looking Geranium. In cutting, choose the branches

of the plant you wish to prune and pick off all the large leaves for some four inches from the extremity of each branch, leaving a couple of end leaves, then cut the branch at a point between two nodes square across. When planting slips, be sure no flower-buds are left on the slips, otherwise all the strength will go into them and be taken out of the new plant. Insert the square-cut end of the freshly cut slip in the earth of a small pot by burying it just above the first node, as it is here the new roots will form. Protect slips from the full sunlight at first, and water sparingly.

INSECT PESTS

Fortunately, the pests that bother Geraniums can be well controlled, but they must be watched, for, as once your plants become bothered, you will have continual trouble to do battle with them. This is one reason why one should be careful that flower pots are clean before using, and that the potting-soil does not contain insect larvæ. The author has found that soaking pots when cleaned, in ammoniacal carbonate of copper will kill the green

algæ one often sees upon flower-pots, and the fungi which disturb the growth of houseplants. The little aphides (plant-lice) which occasionally infest Geraniums are easily killed by fumigating the plants with tobacco smoke. Washing the leaves with tobacco water, or dusting them with dry pyrethrum or snuff, is also an excellent remedy. Worms are harmful to all houseplants by reason of their attacking the roots. If you believe your Geraniums to be troubled by this pest, turn the plants out of their pots, and examine the root soil. Finally, do not allow diseased, wilting, or discolored leaves to remain on your plants. Go over them every day, and remove and burn all leaves of this sort. It often happens that plants removed to the moist air of a kitchen for a couple of days recover from their ailments in an astonishing manner. Try this simple "hospital cure" with your Geraniums when they appear yellow and sickly, and you will be well rewarded for your care.

XVI

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

ONE of the chief advantages of suburban life is the possibility it offers to the gardening enthusiast of a home vegetable garden wherein may be grown those table products of the plant world most to his liking. Few luxuries there are in this day of so much "artificial" living greater than that of being able to have for one's home table freshly gathered vegetables in season. What person is there who does not take an understandable pride in early grown corn, fresh green peas and crisp tender salads grown in his own garden! To many a one a vegetable plot is merely a prosaic institution of the most prosaic sort, a corner of the home premises to be tolerated and tended. Such a viewpoint is, at best, quite as prosaic as the quality with which such indifference invests the pleasant art of vegetable gardening.



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

VEGETABLE GARDENING IS NOT ALL DRUDGERY

There was a time, indeed, when the tomato was held to be a choice and highly decorative feature in the flower garden. That, of course, was before our time, even before our grandfathers' and our grandmothers' time, a time before people could be persuaded that the "Love Apple" of old-fashioned gardens (for so the tomato was called) was fit for food and was no longer considered a poisonous fruit, highly dangerous to those who attempted to eat it! But that, too, was a time when flowerbeds were bordered with lettuce plants, for the sake of decorative beauty of their green and russet leaves, fit foliage for Flora's realm, but like the tomato, now found only in vegetable gardens. All this is not to suggest that the finer fiber of those plants which find their legitimate place in the garden of flowers does not bring more votaries to such a shrine than to that of those representatives of plant-life on which we depend for so much of our daily food.

Neither vegetable garden nor flower garden should be considered as rivals either one to the other; instead, each has its own function in the workings of gardening. Neverthe-

less, there is no reason why, at any time, care and thought should not be given to the problem—it is really less a problem than it might appear to be—of making the vegetable garden attractive. By attractive is meant not only a garden well platted, orderly in appearance, conveniently planned and free from weeds, but a beautiful vegetable garden as well. Now this may all be accomplished by bringing a little imagination to one's assistance. A small garden such as one may have on a suburban lot offers many opportunities to the garden-maker if only he will interest himself sufficiently in the matter. When he can he will plant with an eye to the vegetable garden's landscape aspect when the plants will have reached maturity. Thus he will not plant a couple of rows of corn across the lot where he does not wish to screen the portion of it beyond, nor will he plant low-growing things back of tall-growing ones. If the vegetable plot is to be a permanent one, it would be well worth while to consider the advisability of surrounding it with a suitable hedge. And after the growing vegetables have got the start of the weeds a clump of Four O'Clocks, Petunias

or other gayly colored flowers can be tucked away where they will not interfere with cultivating, thus lending a color note to the vegetable beds' expanse of green. Nature herself gives us a hint here in the pumpkin flower, although she is less generous in effectiveness with other plants in the vegetable garden.

In starting out to plan for the coming season the garden-beginner must be cautioned against expecting good results from poor soil, poor seed and after neglect. Vegetables should have good, deep soil. For extensive gardening it is essential for the garden-maker to know the various sorts of soils to which beets, carrots, peas, corn, potatoes, etc., are best adapted. But in the small home garden one grade of soil will probably prevail. Fertilizers, excellent and necessary though they are, require a proper soil condition to receive them. Thus the soil of the vegetable garden must be worked into shape by spading, etc.

Where it is possible to obtain it, there is no fertilizer better for the vegetable garden than well-rotted stable manure. Any commercial fertilizer should contain, as nearly as possible, 4 per cent. of nitrogen, 8 per cent. of phos-

phoric acid and 10 per cent. of potash. For half an acre of ground (without additional use of manure) nitrate of soda (100 pounds), sulphate of potash (200 pounds), acid phosphate (300 pounds) and high-grade tankage (400 pounds) will make a sufficient mixture. You can hardly get your garden soil too rich. Vegetables grown in poor soil are not comparable with those produced by a growth rooted in rich soil.

Poor seed has been the cause of many garden discouragements. Never buy from any but reliable dealers, who can guarantee the germinating qualities of the seed they sell. It is, without doubt, best to order directly from well-known seedsmen and to place orders early. Lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, beets, tomatoes, etc., can be bought later in the season for setting out. These will have been started sufficiently to make the transplanting process a simple one. In selecting such plants for setting out, good "healthy" looking seedlings must be selected in preference to scrawny-looking ones.

Nowadays vegetable seeds sold by trustworthy dealers are accompanied by planting

directions or these directions may be found in their catalogues. The garden-beginner who disregards such directions may miraculously escape total failure, but he will do well to be guided by experience in such matters for it is of the greatest importance to plant seeds at the right time, at a proper depth, and to put them at distances apart which experience has shown to prove the most satisfactory arrangement. The planting table following this chapter will serve as a complete guide to the home vegetable garden-maker. It is only necessary to add that all seeds planted must be firmed in the soil—that is to say, pressed well into it before being covered. Then, upon germination, the roots will take proper hold.

Perhaps one of the commonest mistakes to which the garden-beginner is liable, when laying out his first vegetable garden, is that of not planning proportions properly, as a result of which he finds, when the season is half over, he has planted too much of one thing and not enough of another. To avoid this he must take into account before a single seed goes into the ground, to just what extent the demands on the vegetable garden by the family table

will be. Who has not seen a beginner's garden wherein row after row of lettuce has grown to seed and an abundance of radish plants has grown almost to the size of turnips, while the few tomato plants were early and eagerly stripped of their limited supply of fruit! All this naturally suggests the disproportionate planting that prevents a vegetable garden from becoming fully useful or a thing in which to take particular pride. Pride in one's garden always bespeaks pleasure in it, whether it be given to the planting of flowers or to the production of vegetables, whereas an ill-arranged and faultily planned garden seems only to emphasize drudgery in the working of it.

Finally a word should be said in connection with the fact that with almost every vegetable there is some especial cultural requirement that the garden-maker should study, understand and attend to, which naturally suggests that the garden-beginner will do well to add reliable reference works on the subject to the home library.

XVII

A VEGETABLE-PLANTING TABLE

Vegetables	When to Plant	Amount for 50-ft. Row	Distance to Plant		Depth to Plant
			In Run	Rows Apart	
Asparagus (Plant).....	April	50	1 ft.	3 ft.	4 in.
Asparagus (Seed).....	April -May	1 ounce	2-4 in.	15 in.	1 in.
Bean, Dwarf.....	May 5-Aug. 15	1 pint	2-4 in.	1½-2 in.	2 in.
Bean, Lima.....	May 20-June 10	½ pint	3 in.	3 in.	2 in.
Bean, Pole.....	May 15-June 30	½ pint	3 in.	3 in.	2 in.
Beet (Early).....	April -June	1 ounce	3-4 in.	15 in.	2 in.
Beet (Late).....	April -Aug.	1 ounce	3-4 in.	15 in.	2 in.
Borecole (Kale).....	April -July	25	18 in.	2½ ft.	½ in.
Broccoli.....	April -July	35	18 in.	2 ft.	½ in.
Brussels Sprouts.....	April -July	35	18 in.	2 ft.	½ in.
Cabbage (Early).....	April	35	18 in.	2 ft.	½ in.
Cabbage (Late).....	May -June	20	2½ ft.	2½ ft.	½ in.
Carrot.....	April -July	½ ounce	2-3 in.	15 in.	½ in.
Cauliflower.....	April -June	35	18 in.	2 ft.	½ in.
Celery (Plants).....	July 1-Aug. 1	100	6 in.	3-4 ft.	½-¼ in.
Celery (Seed).....	April	1 ounce	1-2 in.	1 ft.
Corn.....	May 10-July 1	½ pint	3 ft.	3-4 ft.	2 in.
Cucumber.....	May 10-July 1	½ ounce	4 ft.	4 ft.	1 in.
Eggplant.....	June 1-June 20	25	2 ft.	2½ ft.
Endive.....	April -Aug.	½ ounce	1 ft.	1 ft.	½ in.
Kale (Borecole).....	April -July	25	18 ft.	2½ ft.	½ in.
Kohl-rabi.....	April -June	¼ ounce	6-12 in.	18 in.	½ in.
Lettuce.....	April -Aug.	½ ounce	1 ft.	1-1½ ft.	½ in.
Leek.....	April	½ ounce	2-4 in.	15 in.	½ in.
Melon, Musk.....	May 15-June 15	½ ounce	4-6 ft.	4-6 ft.	1 in.
Melon, Water.....	May 15-June 15	¼ ounce	6-8 ft.	6-8 ft.	1 in.
Onion.....	April	½ ounce	2-4 in.	15 in.	½-1 in.
Okra.....	May 15-June 15	½ ounce	2 ft.	3 ft.	½-1 in.
Parsley.....	April -May	½ ounce	4-6 in.	1 ft.	½ in.
Parsnips.....	April	¼ ounce	3-5 in.	18 in.	½-1 in.
Peas.....	April 10-June 15	1 pint	2-4 in.	4 ft.	2-3 in.
Peas (Smoothb.).....	April 1-Aug. 1	1 pint	2-4 in.	3 ft.	2-3 in.
Pepper (Plants).....	June 1-20	25	2 ft.	2½ ft.
Pepper (Seed).....	June 1	½ ounce	3-6 in.	15 in.	½ in.
Pntato.....	April 15-June 20	½ peck	13 in.	2½ ft.	4-6 in.
Pumpkin.....	May 1-June 20	¼ ounce	6-8 ft.	6-8 ft.	1-1½ in.
Radish.....	April 1-Sept. 1	½ ounce	2-3 in.	1 ft.	1½ in.
Rhubarb (Plants).....	April	25	2-3 ft.	3-4 ft.
Salsify.....	April -May	¾ ounce	3-6 in.	18 in.	1 in.
Spinach.....	April 1-Sept. 15	½ ounce	3-5 in.	18 in.	1 in.
Squash, Summer.....	May 15-July 1	¼ ounce	4 in.	4 ft.	1-2 in.
Squash, Winter.....	May 15-June 20	¼ ounce	6-8 in.	1-2 in.
Tomato (Plants).....	May 15-July 20	20	3 ft.	3 ft. 4 in.
Tomato (Seed).....	June	½ ounce	3-4 in.	15 in.	½ in.
Turnip.....	April -Sept.	½ ounce	4-6 in.	15 in.	½ in.

XVIII

THE SALAD GARDEN

THE list of plants available for salads has increased with our ingenuity in discovering the resources of the kitchen garden. Though the lettuce is still the chief salad plant grown, there are other salad plants that deserve attention, and will be very welcome upon those tables that have given themselves up to the monotony of one sort of salad, a limitation one does not find in foreign countries, where a dinner without the salad is not considered dinner at all. However, even in the matter of the lettuce there are so many varieties that some consideration of them will be of interest here.

Lettuce: There are three main divisions of lettuces. The "Cos" varieties, which are of upright growth with hard leaf of coarse veins and coarse midrib (taking their name from

the Island of Cos, whence they were introduced into Europe); the "Butter," especially delicate varieties, with small-veined leaves of generally smooth edges, and the "Crisp" which are harder than the "Butter" lettuces, but have fringed leaves.

It must be borne in mind that in the sorts of lettuces above mentioned there are to be found two classes; those that bunch with upright leaves and those that head like cabbages. "Cos" varieties (bunching): Bath, not so coarse as most varieties, Paris White. "Butter" varieties (heading): Deacon, easily grown in all localities. A good midsummer variety; Hartford Bronzed Head, reddish color; Big Boston, especially recommended for late use; Tennis-Ball Black Seeded, one of the most reliable all-around "Butter" varieties; Golden Queen, for very early use. "Butter" varieties (bunching): Lancaster, grows especially well in the South. "Crisp" varieties (heading): Hanson, best for summer; Black-Seeded Simpson for August; Mignonette, especially tender and good for fall sowing; Iceberg for late use. "Crisp" varieties (bunching): Black-Seeded Simpson, easily grown

anywhere, for intermediate season, especially recommended; Prize head for early use.

A deep rich mellow loam founded on a dry substratum is an ideal soil for lettuces, but they thrive, fortunately, in even indifferent soil. With a little care the salad-garden may be made to produce a succession of lettuces throughout the season. The earliest varieties must be started in the hotbed for spring use, if the seed has not been planted the previous autumn in the open and protected by a mulch (covering of leaves, etc.). It is well to remember that lettuce-seed should be sown thinly one-fourth of an inch deep in drills eight to twelve inches apart. The seed will germinate in from eight to ten days. When the plants push out they should be thinned out to about four inches apart. A quarter of an ounce of lettuce seed will produce some two hundred and fifty plants. Of course, with care, lettuce-plants bear transplanting successfully; indeed, many who have for some reason delayed planting seeds until late in the season may still have early lettuces by obtaining hotbed-grown seedlings from their seedsman for setting out in their own gardens. Transplanted lettuces

must be kept well watered until the roots have taken firm hold in the new soil. Bear in mind, however, that lettuces seldom do well when transplanted in warm weather.

Endive is cultivated for its head of leaves, which, when blanched, are delicious for salads. The seed should be planted from April to August for a succession of crops, leaving sixteen inches between rows, and thinning the plants to nine inches apart. Indoor planting should be done in March. As endive is susceptible to rot, the leaves, in the blanching process, should be tied up with raffia when they are free from external moisture, and the soil drawn up to blanch the heart of the plant. The blanching should be started after about a month's growth. Seeds of endive germinate in about ten days. A quarter of an ounce of seed will produce a twenty-five foot row. Plant half an inch deep. The variety especially recommended for salad uses is the green curled; being the hardiest, it is best adapted for general growing. Batavian endive is highly esteemed by French cooks.

Fennel is a hardy perennial, a native of Italy, which will flourish in any sort of soil.

Plant in April, putting in the seed to a depth of a quarter of an inch in rows fourteen inches apart. Thin out the plants to a distance of seven or eight inches apart. Cut down the stems to prevent flowering, and also to encourage a growth of new leaves. The young stalks, blanched, and the sweet-flavored leaves are relished by many as a salad dish, or used with other salad plants in a mixture.

Chicory: One sixteenth of an ounce of chicory-seed will produce a twenty-five-foot row of plants. Sow in rows twelve inches apart, half an inch deep, and thin plants out to four inches apart. Plant in May or June or, in the South, in March and April. The blanched leaves make an excellent salad.

Chives are delicate onions, a hardy perennial native to Great Britain, easily grown and should be better known in the salad-garden. The flavor is that of leek and onion mixed. A few roots set out the early part of May ten inches apart will suffice.

Nasturtium: There is, of course, more or less sentiment against devouring bouquets, nevertheless the tops of *Nasturtium* plants are delicious with crisp lettuce salads, and in South

America, where the plant is a native, the Spaniards regard the *Nasturtium* as one of their favorite salad dishes.

Cucumber, cabbage, radish, celery, beet, asparagus and onion are so well known that anything beyond the mention of them here as foundations for salads would be unnecessary.

Hyssop is a much-neglected herb, once so popular in Biblical days, but it still deserves consideration as an addition to the salad-garden. Sow seed half an inch deep late in the spring in rows six inches apart. When the plants are three inches high thin them out to stand twelve inches apart. When mature gather the branches on a dry, sunny day, and keep them in cool garret or herb-closet. The powdered leaves lend a delightful aromatic quality to a salad.

Garden-cress is a good substitute for water-cress. Sow in shallow drills in April in rows six inches apart. Put seeds in the ground at a depth of a quarter of an inch, and after the plants have attained a growth of some three inches, thin them out to stand three inches apart.

Water-cress: Happy indeed is the garden-

maker who has a running brook on the premises. Here water-cress may be grown. The warm, pungent taste one finds in the leaves makes them the favorite early spring salad plant. Seeds of the water-cress may be had from all seedsmen and the opportunity of growing one's own cresses should not be neglected. The seed may be planted from April to June in the shallow sandy gravel bottoms of swift-running streams.

Mint: And now we come to a plant little used by Americans in salads, but thoroughly worth attention in this connection. The mint's leaves, both green and dry, are valuable accessories to lettuce-salads, and are especially good in combination with Dandelion leaves. Mint may be propagated from cuttings of old stalks or by division of roots of old plants in the springtime. All nursery seedsmen can supply cuttings, though they do not catalogue mint seeds. A mint-bed will continue to flourish five or six seasons. A very few plants of it will suffice amply for the salad-garden.

Parsley: One cannot pass the subject of the salad-garden without some mention of

parsley. A penny's worth of seed will produce a ten-foot row that will continue throughout the season with proper attention. Sow at the end of April half an inch deep, and when the plants are two inches high thin out the rows so the plants remaining will be four inches apart. Before planting soak parsley-seed overnight in warm (not hot) water to facilitate germination. Do not, when the plants have matured, take all the leaves from a plant at one time. The main value of the aromatic parsley leaves is the distinct flavoring they give, but beyond that their lovely curly leaves add a distinct decorative note to the garnishings of salad and meat dishes especially when their distinct green is used in contrast with tomatoes or the pale colors of blanched endive and cucumbers.

Enough has been said here to suggest to the reader the pleasure and profit one might derive from devoting a small plot of ground to the growing of plants for salads, even if no other gardening were attempted, and to the list of plants given here the amateur may come to add many others which he will discover for himself in his experiments with his salad-garden.

XIX

VINES

WHEN you come to plant your garden, make your lawn, set out your trees and shrubs, and have finished building your garden walls, fences and trellises, there will be the vines to take into consideration.

Perhaps no branch of garden adornment is more carelessly attended to by the amateur than that of selecting the proper vines for the premises. It is always so easy to fall back on Virginia Creeper, or to feel that with a little spatter of Wistaria the whole field has been covered. Nevertheless, looking into vine-lore at planting-time is well worth while.

There are, generally speaking, two sorts of vines: those which are hardy and shrub-topped, and those which die down in winter to spring up again the next season, or which

are annuals that have to be started from seed each year, though some of these may be self-sowing.

The following list of twenty-five vines is sufficiently inclusive, in both divisions, for almost all vine planting purposes.

SHRUB-TOPPED VINES

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Akebia | (<i>Akebia quinata</i>) |
| 2. False Bittersweet | (<i>Celastrus scandens</i>) |
| 3. Virginia Creeper | (<i>Ampelopsis quinquefolia</i>) |
| 4. Boston Ivy | (<i>Ampelopsis tricuspidata</i> , or <i>A. Vetchii</i>) |
| 5. Clematis | (<i>Clematis paniculata</i>) |
| 6. Virgin's Bower | (<i>Clematis Virginiana</i>) |
| 7. Climbing Euonymus | (<i>Euonymus radicans</i>) |
| 8. Wild Grape | (<i>Vitis vulpina</i>) |
| 9. English Ivy | (<i>Hedera Helix</i>) |
| 10. Silver Vine | (<i>Actinidia arguta</i>) |
| 11. Honeysuckle | (<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>) |
| 12. Honeysuckle | (<i>Lonicera flava</i>) |
| 13. Honeysuckle | (<i>Lonicera Japonica</i>) |

14. Kudzu Vine (Pueraria Thunbergiana)
 15. Dutchman's Pipe (Aristolochia macrophylla)
 16. Wistaria (Wistaria sinensis)
 17. American Wistaria (Wistaria speciosa)
 18. Trumpet Creeper (Tecoma radicans)

VINE-TOPS DYING DOWN IN WINTER (NORTH)

19. Moonseed (Menispermum Canadense)
 20. Hop (Humulus Lupulus)
 21. Japanese Hop (Humulus Japonicus)
 22. Scarlet Runner (Phaseolus multiflorus)
 23. Morning-Glory (Ipomœa purpurea)
 24. Moonflower (Ipomœa Bona-nox)
 25. Thunbergia (Thunbergia alata)

Vines should never be planted where they are not really necessary nor where they will not add beauty to the premises, nor yet again without due regard to the grouping of varieties. One does not always wish to turn the side of a house into a flower-garden by a vast expanse

of large-flowering Clematis, for instance; restraint is the better course. Let your flowering vines appear here and there in smaller patches, or around your porches, giving more area to vines such as the Boston Ivy, with its expanse of green, and the Kudzu Vine with its ability to cover an expanse of space in a wonderfully short time.

Again, too many varieties and species should not be planted together unless it is desired to obtain a jungle effect, which is hardly what one strives for in this day of decorative discretion. The Japanese are masters in the art of attaining satisfying effects—next to them come the English gardeners. As nature has the whole world for her premises, we must not be led into the mistake of attempting to translate her swamp, forest, and hillside effects to our lawns and gardens without some consideration for adaptation.

Those vines which require winter protection must not be planted before you ask yourself—that is if you live in the far northern parts of the country—if you wish to have your porch and house-fronts littered (as surely they will have to be when tender vines are met by chilling

winds and winter's snows) by straw and matting protections. For instance, the winter sun is too bright for the English Ivy in its dormant season, wherefore one often sees whole housesides that in summer were green with the Ivy's beauty, yielding, in winter time, to the necessity of an ugly covering of flat mats. Nevertheless we do not plant half enough of this vine, and there are always many nooks and corners of walls and spots that are fairly well sheltered where it will thrive admirably. Apropos of vines and the seasons, the Silk Vine (*Periploca Græca*) retains its foliage very late into the fall, and is an excellent vine for arbor, stump, trellis or tree-trunk.

It must not be forgotten that vines need cultivation in common with other plants. It will not do merely to let them struggle along the best they can. The soil around them must be worked carefully, fertilized, and protected by mulches to retain moisture in summer and to protect the vines from frost in winter. Then, too, it will be found that some of them are of very slow growth, like the Wistarias, while others, like the Kudzu Vine, reach out with amazing rapidity. Every year the seeds-

men and nurserymen are paying more attention to this important subject, so the garden and lawn planter has always a variety to select from.

If vines are to thrive well against the house-side they should not be planted too near the foundation. It is far better to run them out at least ten inches from the walls in order that the roots may have a chance to grow out in all directions from the stalk. Before new growth begins with each succeeding season, some of the old wood shrub-topped vines should be cut away, that new shoots may have a fair chance when their time comes.

Summer pruning, or pinching, as it is more often called, is the most advisable. The ends of the canes (vine branches) should be kept tied to their place, and when dense growth is desired heavier pinching back may be resorted to.

XX

CLEMATIS

THE Clematis is one of our loveliest flowering vines, yet one whose decorative qualities deserve greater study than they have yet received by garden-makers. While the more common forms of the Clematis (*Clematis paniculata*, for instance) are known to all, the more unusual varieties have, as yet, not found the place they deserve in American gardens.

Not only is the Clematis prized for flower and for foliage, but many of the species bear feathery-tailed pods that lend attractiveness to the vines late in their season. There are over one hundred and fifty species of the Clematis, widespread in geographical distribution. The varieties are especially abundant in the temperate zones. In North America alone, we have about twenty species native to the land.

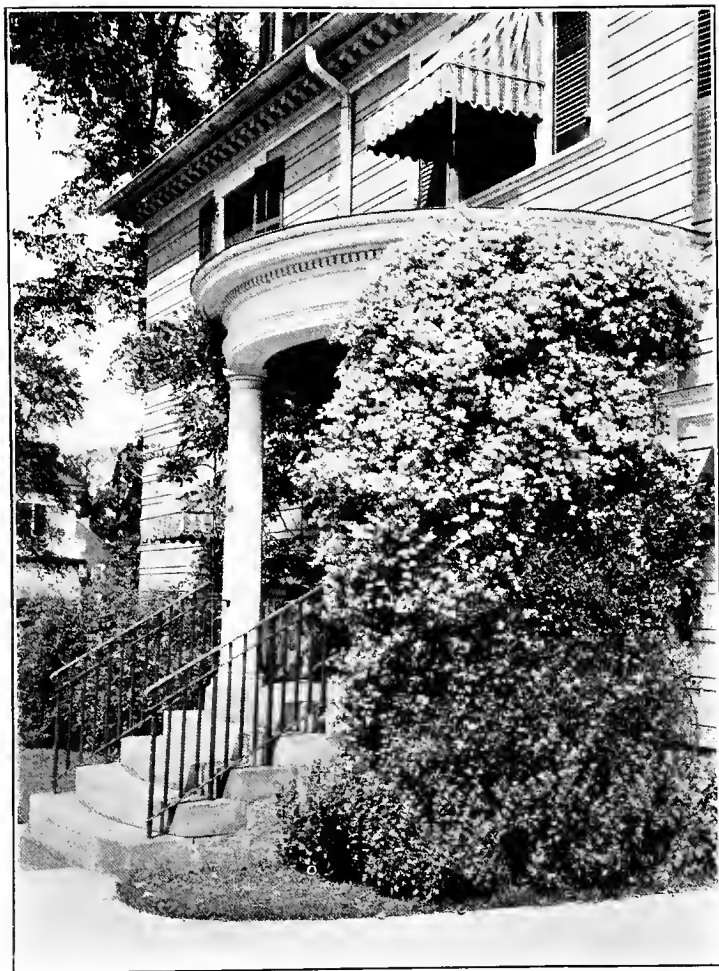


Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

THE CLEMATIS (*C. Virginiana*) AS A PORCH VINE

The Japanese Clematis, *Clematis paniculata*, is a vigorous climber and bears feathery clusters of small, greenish-white flowers of pleasing fragrance. This species may be propagated by seed, is easily transplanted and is of rapid growth. Its lovely foliage makes it an ideal porch or pillar vine and the feathery, smoky filaments of the tufted seedpods in late autumn enhance the great beauty of this plant. *Clematis paniculata* is also an excellent vine for garden arches. Sunny positions are recommended for it. This vine has a decided advantage over many others in that it will stand close pruning in the winter season without detriment to its spring and summer growth the season following. The *Clematis Armandii* in this same group (*Rectæ*) is only suited to a warm, temperate region or for greenhouse culture, as is also the late-summering *Clematis crassifolia*, likewise of Chinese origin. While the exquisite fragrance of the mid-summer blooming English *Clematis flammula* renders it one of our choicest garden vines, it is, at the same time, one of the most fragile and not sufficiently robust to weather the more severe climate of the northern section of our country.

In the South it is especially adapted to shore planting. Our own Virgin's-bower (*Clematis Virginiana*) does not attain the height of the *Paniculata* species but it is, perhaps, our most decorative native variety in respect to foliage and seed-pods. The Traveler's-Joy or Old Man's Beard is the *Clematis vitalba*, which is a vigorous climbing vine, often attaining a height of from fifteen to thirty feet. This is one of the commonest varieties of English gardens. The flowers are deliciously fragrant and have a faint almond-like perfume. One of the newer garden effects of festooning is admirably accomplished with this climbing Clematis, which by reason of its clinging and reaching out habit adapts itself admirably to forming natural arches by overhead festooning, requiring but little training and encouragement.

Of the florists' varieties the *Clematis Jackmanii*, *Clematis lanuginosa*, *Clematis viticella*, *Clematis Florida* and *Clematis patens* will well repay study and experiment in our climate. Of the *Jackmanii* varieties the *Fortunei*, *Gipsy Queen*, *Jackmanii Alba*, *Jackmanii Superba*, *Lucy Lemoine*, *Velutina*, *Modesta*, *Star of India*, and *Madam Edouard André* are

especially beautiful. Of the *Lanuginosa* types one may recommend Princess of Wales, La France, Fairy Queen, the Madame van Houtte, Marcel Moser, Beauty of Worcester, Mrs. Hope, Nelly Moser and the Mrs. George Jackman. Of the *Viticella Clematis* some of the finest are Willisoni, Venosa, Ville de Lyon, and the Ville de Paris. Of the *Patens* species the Miss Bateman, Mrs. S. C. Zaker, the Queen and the Mrs. Quilter are not to be neglected and the effective Hybrid coccineas,—Duchess of Albany, Grace Darling, and Lady Northcliffe are especially beautiful. The garden-maker will find the *Jackmanii* group hardy and the *Viticella* group hardy likewise. As they are prolific feeders, they require good soil and fertilizing. The *Lanuginosa* group produces unusually large flowers, the lovely violet-tinged Beauty of Worcester often producing flowers over four inches in diameter, while the writer has seen blossoms of the Marcel Moser that measured some eight inches in breadth. Generally speaking the Florida types and the *Patens* type thrive best when in shelter. The Queen (of the *Patens* type) bears lavender blossoms from four to five inch-

es across, often attaining a greater flower breadth. The Belle of Woking of the Florida type produces bright vermilion blossoms, very attractive in form. The Jackmanii Clematis ranges from snow white to deep purple and a group of these properly disposed in a garden produces a truly delectable feature and one that cannot fail to evoke wonderment and admiration.

The home garden-maker will find such species of the Clematis as *C. paniculata* invaluable for obtaining permanent effects. Few vines—certainly no flowering vine that may be grown in all parts of the country—offers so many advantages as does the Clematis as a decorative growth for lattice-work and treillage. In all the present architectural trellis-work the light and airy effect requires, where vines are used as accessories to its decoration, that these vines also be light and airy in appearance. It is not the true province of well-designed trellis-work to serve as a support to massive vine-stems, such as that of the Wistaria, except where the treillage is of more than ordinary height, strength and breadth. Where a heavy lattice may support heavy appearing vines,

light trellis-work is too independent in intent to lend itself successfully to such treatment. Therefore one may turn to the Clematis as a happy solution of finding a perennially attractive vine that can be utilized in connection with such architectural features as garden trellis-work.

XXI

SHRUBS

THERE is no reason in the world for believing that American gardens cannot be as lovely as their European antecedents, no reason at all for not realizing that many of them are already as lovely. In speaking of the New World's early Pilgrim settlers, Hawthorne, in *Our Old Home*, had this to say apropos the beginning of gardening in America: "There is not a softer trait to be found in these stern men than that they should have been sensible of their flower roots clinging among the fibres of their rugged hearts, and have felt the necessity of bringing them over seas and making them hereditary in the new land."

That was the day of the old-fashioned garden, the old-fashioned garden whose sway extended to Hawthorne's own time. We are in-



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

SHRUBS DO MUCH TO KNIT THE HOUSE TO THE LANDSCAPE

clined to consider the introduction of the formal garden into the American landscape as somewhat luxurious, because we have been in the habit of liking our flower beds and borders as a lovely jumble of growing things, and the nice orderly restraint with its very paucity of bloom in what we call the Italian gardens, the quaint but stiffly balanced clipped Evergreens we have adopted from English gardens have, perhaps, not even yet entirely completely to appeal to us so thoroughly in the past as it now does. A few years ago we were paying little or no attention to gardens, but just loving them when we came across a fine one; now all that is different. Every one of us wants a garden. We come about in our discovering gardening much as did Emerson when he wrote of what he called his "new plaything"—forty acres of woodland bordering Walden pond. "I go thither every afternoon and cut with my hatchet an Indian path thro' the thicket, all along the bold shore and open the finest pictures." But it was Emerson who laughingly declares: "A brave scholar should shun it like gambling, and take refuge in cities and hotels from these pernicious enchantments." He

never did; no sensible man ever will! We cannot forget Cowley's observation that "God the first garden made, and the first city Cain." There is a delight incomparable in planning a garden, planting it and caring for it. A delight that has taken a firm hold on Americans.

We associate with the perfect garden, whether it be a little garden or a large one, the thought of those flowering shrubs that have endeared themselves to us all and which have won an enduring place in prose and poetry—Lilacs, Syringas and the like. Our lawns are no longer spotted with isolated shrub dots, but we have come to emulate Nature, with her arrangement of borders and of clearings. We leave our lawn spaces free for such treatment lends to the illusion of greater extent and we make little skylines of our own by banking shrubs on the lines of limit, tall growing ones at the back and the shrubs of low growth in front.

In one little garden I have known the following shrubs were growing, having been planted there with succession of bloom in mind in their selection. First came Forsythia which put

forth blossoms in April; then the Lilac in May; Spirea in June; Deutzia in July; the Smoke Bush in August; Hydrangeas in September and the Witch Hazel in October. These hardy species would respond to cultivation in any garden having good soil. These shrubs are neither rare nor expensive and are commonly in all nursery stocks. This little garden also contained Mahonia, Barberry and Deutzia (*Gracilis*) in the shaded positions, where they flourished happily, though long ago the tall Barberry variety was rooted out for alert scientists had discovered that this species encouraged the vicious grain rust. St. John's Wort and the Japanese Rose (*Kerria Japonica*) were there to give two months' successive bloom. Honeysuckles (*Lonicera*), Bramble (*Rubus*), Red Osier, Buckthorn and Snow Berry lent ornamental fruit pods to Autumn's array. Perhaps of all the shrubs the Lilac and the Syringa were the best loved. The flowers of the Forsythia, Syringa, Spirea, and Viburnum, Lilac and Weigela being borne on old stems required that these shrubs should be pruned immediately after blossoming for best

cultivation. Hibiscus and Hydrangea were pruned in late autumn.

The flowering shrubs present species that assure a succession of blossoms. In *April* there is the Hamamelis Japonica, Leucothoë racemosa, and Xanthorrhiza apiifolia. *May* brings us the flowers of Cercis chinensis, Cotoneaster Simonsii, Daphne mezereum, Dirca palustris, Elæagnus longipes, Euonymus alatus (and also E. Bungesnus, E. Nanus and E. verrucosus), Fothergilla Gardeni and F. major, Hydrangea Bretschneideri, Leucothoë racemosa, Photinia villosa, Prunus subhirtilla, Pyrus Kaido, Symplocos cratægoides; Syringa oblata (also S. pubescens and S. villosa), Vaccinium corymbosum, and Xanthoceras. *June* finds the following in flower: Aralia cordata, Buddleia variabilis, Diervilla trifida, Enkianthus campanulata, Euonymus alatus, Hydrangea arborescens (also H. Bretschneideri, and H. Quercifolia, and H. Radiata), Leucothoë racemosa, Magnolia glauca, Stuartia pentagyna, Styrax japonica, Viburnum dilatatum and V. pubescens. For *July* we have Æsculus parviflora, Andromeda Mariana, Aralia cordata, Buddleia variabilis, Cal-

licarpe purpures, *Castanea pumila*, *Diervilla*, *Rhus copallina*, *Vitex Agnus-castus*. *August* gives us *Acanthopanax sessiliflorum*, *Æsculus parviflora*, *Andromeda Mariana*, *Buddleia variabilis*, *Rhus copallina* and *Vitex Agnus-castus*. In *September* the chief shrubs in blossom will be *Andromeda Mariana*, *Gordonia Altamana*, *Jasminum nudiflorum* and *Vitex Agnus-castus*, while *October* is given floral support by *Gordonia Altamana*.

FLOWERS

The following shrubs are especially valuable for their flowers:

<i>Aralia</i>	<i>Prunus</i>
<i>Azalea</i>	<i>Pyrus</i>
<i>Buddleia</i>	<i>Rubus</i>
<i>Cercis</i>	<i>Shepherdia</i>
<i>Gordonia</i>	<i>Styrax</i>
<i>Hamamelis</i>	<i>Symplocos</i>
<i>Hydrangea</i>	<i>Syringa</i>
<i>Jasminum</i>	<i>Viburnum</i>
<i>Magnolia</i>	<i>Vitex</i>
<i>Photinia</i>	<i>Xanthoceras</i>

FOLIAGE

Among the shrubs best suited to planting for foliage beauty are:

Acanthopanax	Nemopanthus
Æsculus	Prunus
Callicarpa	Rubus
Daphne	Symplocos
Diervilla	Syringa
Elæagnus	Vaccinium
Enkianthus	Viburnum
Euonymus	Xanthoceras
	Xanthorrhiza

COLOR

The shrubs whose foliage is especially valued for autumn coloring are:

Andromeda	Nemopanthus
Gordonia	Syringa
Leucothoë	Xanthorrhiza

This goodly array of scientific names need not frighten the garden beginner! Timidly at first, in all probability, he will approach their

use, but when once his nurseryman glibly responds to their magic the potency of the right name for the right shrub will be worth struggling for, even though we will never give up Lilac and Snowball for less familiar names.

XXII

EVERGREENS

THERE are few persons the world over who have not a tender spot in their hearts for Evergreens. Mother Nature has hardly given us greater treasures in the whole realm of plant-life, than in her gift of the trees that remain green always. In summer their deep color, suggesting shadowy mysteriousness, marks them as they stand against the ground of deeper color or against the azure sky. In winter they give to the landscape just the note of relief required to lift the vision above the sense of the monotony of the brown earth or the glare of the snowclad country side. Perhaps we unconsciously associate all Evergreens with the Christmas story and its gladsome festivities, or it may be that there runs in our blood the heritage of the Norsemen, who held the Evergreen in veneration.



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co

EVERGREENS LEND NOBILITY TO THE GARDEN LANDSCAPE

tion. Even the ancient Greeks told how Cybele, mother of the gods, changed a shepherd lad into a pine, and Jove, sympathizing with her in the after-grief she betrayed for her act, ordained that thenceforward the leaves of the Pine should be ever green. Even to this day in China, the natives consider the Pine emblematic of eternal friendship, and did not the Pilgrim Fathers take the old Pine Tree (the only green, growing thing they saw brightening the horizon of their landing), as the emblem of their colony? Then there is the Larch which, when burned, was thought in times of witchery to drive away serpents and evil things, and the Juniper, venerable in the traditions of antiquity. The Fir, St. Nicholas' tree, the Spruce, chief mystic tree of the Indians of the Northwest, and the Hemlock (which we must not confuse with the plant the ancients meted out as death potion to the condemned), the Cedar, famous in the building of Solomon's Temple, and the Cypress, from which was woven the crown of Melpomene, the Tragic Muse.

The value of Evergreens in the construction of the home landscape is inestimable. September is the month in which this subject should re-

ceive particular attention, for while it is true that there are other months in which evergreens may safely be moved,—even in May and June, with proper care and conditions,—September is found to be, on the whole, the most convenient and best-adapted month, generally speaking, for this undertaking. The warmth of the soil of September induces rapid growth, and even though this is usually a dry month, there should be no difficulty in keeping the earth moist around the plantings. Very small Evergreens, not exceeding two feet in height, may be moved without balls of earth about their roots (if the roots are carefully handled) without causing any breakings. However, it is always the more satisfactory plan to move Evergreens of any size with a good ball of earth around their roots. With large Evergreens the home garden-maker takes much risk in experimenting on his own account. In the first place, the varying soil, climatic and other conditions should lead him to consult some one directly experienced in such matters. It is true that one may derive much from reading books on the subject of Evergreen planting, but with the moving of large trees it seems an unneces-

sary and foolish risk to attempt the transplanting unless one is sure he is moving in the right direction. At the present day reputable nurserymen are to be found in all sections of the country and they are only too glad to give advice on such subjects to their customers gratis. There are some things that are worth pointing out that every home garden-maker should know. For instance, every Evergreen from eight to ten feet in height should not be moved with a ball of earth less than three feet in diameter around its roots. If the tree measures fifteen feet in height, an earth-ball of five feet in diameter is suggested (although an earth-ball of three feet in diameter is sufficient for red cedars). If one were moving a specimen of pine, he should see to it that the earth-ball of an Evergreen of this size were fully twelve feet in diameter. The reason for moving large Evergreens with earth-balls proportionate to their size, is that such trees have no dormant period. Evergreens require plenty of water. Those which have been moved one season must not be neglected the next, for it often takes several seasons for an Evergreen's roots to spread out in new environment and become es-

tablished, which makes watering requisite throughout all this period.

A careful selection of Evergreens for the home grounds, both as to the matter of species and size, as well as to color, will greatly add to the attractiveness of the home landscape, even though the premises is limited in extent, as in a small town lot. The winter interest of the grounds is coming to receive proper attention more and more, and the many low-growing Evergreens available for planting makes easily possible the most attractive effects, either in the way of massing or edging, or of rosetting.

As regards climate, perhaps it would be well to suggest here those woody Evergreens that are found to be tender above New York, thus enabling the amateur planter to know that they must be given especial care:

<i>Abelia chinensis</i>	<i>Andromeda nitida</i> (<i>Lyonia nitida</i>)
<i>Abelia uniflora</i>	<i>Arbutus Menziesi</i>
<i>Abies amabilis</i>	<i>Arbutus Unedo</i>
<i>Abies grandis</i>	<i>Aubrietia deltoidea</i>
<i>Abies Pinsapo</i>	<i>Aucuba Japonica</i>
<i>Abies shastensis</i>	<i>Azalia microphylla</i>
<i>Acaena microphylla</i>	<i>Baccharis patagonica</i>
<i>Acaena ovalifolia</i>	

<i>Carrieria calycina</i>	<i>Osmanthus aquifolium</i>
<i>Castanopsis crysophylla</i>	<i>Pachystima augustifolio</i>
<i>Cedrus atlantica</i>	<i>Permettya mucronata</i>
<i>Cedrus Deodara</i>	<i>Phillyrea decora</i>
<i>Chamæcyparis Lawsoniana</i>	<i>Picea stichensis</i>
<i>Cistus laurifolius</i>	<i>Pinus excelsa</i>
<i>Clematis Armandii</i>	<i>Pinus Jeffreyi</i>
<i>Cotoneaster salicifolia</i>	<i>Pyracantha coccinea var.</i>
<i>Cupressus Macnabiana</i>	<i>Lalandii</i>
<i>Daphne Laureola</i>	<i>Pyracantha coccinea var.</i>
<i>Distylium racemosum</i>	<i>Pauciflora</i>
<i>Erica stricta</i>	<i>Quercus macedonica</i>
<i>Euonymus Americana</i>	<i>Quercus Libani</i>
<i>Euonymus Japonica</i>	<i>Rhamnus Alaternus</i>
<i>Euonymus patens</i>	<i>Rhamnus hybrida</i>
<i>Garrya elliptica,</i>	<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>
<i>Garrya Fremontii</i>	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>
<i>Garrya Veitchii var. flave-</i>	<i>Sequoia Washingtoniana</i>
<i>cens</i>	<i>Smilax laurifolia</i>
<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	<i>Thuja gigantea (Thuja</i>
<i>Jasminium humila (J. re-</i>	<i>pilcata)</i>
<i>volutum)</i>	<i>Thujopsis dolobrata</i>
<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	<i>Torreya laxifolia</i>
<i>Lyonia nitida (Andromeda</i>	<i>Tsuga mertensiana</i>
<i>nitida)</i>	<i>Ulex europeus</i>

In the development of our knowledge of effective Evergreen planting for the home landscape, we owe much to a study of the gardens of Italy and of Japan.

We may not have the Italian landscape in America, but from that beautiful land we may glean, as already we have gleaned, many a hint

in the matter of enhancing the home landscape by the judicious planting of attractive Evergreens. Our own Hudson River Valley hillsides and those of some other parts of America contain a hint of decorative value in the casual growth of small Cypress-shaped Evergreens.

In selecting Evergreens for particular purposes the following hints as to appropriate species may prove valuable to the garden beginner. *For dry soil:* Juniperus Virginiana, Pinus Mughus, Picea pogens and Pinus Strobus. *For marshy localities:* Juniperus Virginiana (*var.* Barbadensis), Thuya occidentalis, Picea nigra, Taxodium distichum, Larix Laricina and Chamæcyparis thuyoides. *For heavy soil:* Tsuga Canadensis, Pinus Strobus, Abies Nordmanniana are recommended. *For light soil:* Juniperus Virginiana, Pinus Strobus and Chamæcyparis Pinus rigida may be utilized. The Pinus resinosa and the Pinus Strobus will prove excellent for woodland effects and woodland planting, as also will Tsuga Canadensis, and in dry locations Juniperus Canadensis.

Among the Evergreens of the tall-growing

varieties the hardiest are the *Picea pugnans*, *Pinus ponderosa*, *Pinus Strobus*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Picea Engelmanni*, *Pseudotsuga Douglasii* and *Abies concolor*. Of the hardy dwarf species one may recommend *Pinus montana* (*var. Mughus*), *Chamaecyparis Retinispora* and *Picea nigra* (*var. Doumettii*). Nearly all home grounds of any extent, especially in the northern part of the country, need something in the way of planting to serve as a windbreak. The intelligent use of Evergreens for this purpose deserves encouragement. Even from the point of view of economy, Evergreens serve a practical purpose when placed effectively and ornamentally as a wind-shield in proximity to a home, as it will be found that such a screen will materially reduce the extent of the coal supply otherwise needed to heat the building. The Norway Spruce and the Scotch Pine are extensively used as windbreaks. Of the two, the Norway Spruce is the longer lived. The Austrian Pine, the Douglas Spruce and the White Spruce are also to be recommended. In the eastern section of the country the Hemlock is a good tree for the use under consideration as also is the green form of the Colorado Blue

Spruce (the blue form is rare and more expensive, hence less generally used for ordinary hedging). The American Arbor-vitæ must not be left out of consideration in this connection. The *Taxus cuspidata*, *Taxis baccata*, *Picea excelsa*, *Picea nigra*, *Chamæcyparis plumosa* and *Thuya occidentalis* make excellent hedges. For shade *Picea Canadensis* and *Picea excelsa* and also *Pinus Strobus*, *Pinus sylvestris* and many of the *Pinus* species may be depended on, while *Thuya orientalis*, *Thuya occidentalis*, *Juniperus* and all varieties of *Chamæcyparis* are unsuited for shade trees. Evergreens are especially valuable in the home landscape for massing at entrances. The proper placing of such trees requires careful thought and planning, for Evergreens should never be so grouped as to appear dismal notes in an otherwise cheerful area or of forbidding dignity. Among the Evergreens for massing purposes one may mention *Pinus montana* (*var.* *Mughus*), *Tsuga Canadensis macrophylla*, *Juniperus communis*, *Thuya occidentalis*, *Picea excelsa*, *Chamæcyparis*, *Taxus*, *Pinus Strobus* and *Picea pugens* (*var.* *glauca*), all excellent for the purpose. For

seaside planting *Pinus Strobus*, *Pinus montana* (*var.* *Mughus*), *Pinus resinosa*, *Juniperus Pinus Bungeana*, *Juniperus Sabina*, *Pinus Austriaca*, *Juniperus communis* and *Pinus sylvestris* are good growers.

XXIII

GARDENS AND ARCHITECTURE

THERE was a time in the history of American gardens when even a summer-house was an exception, an arbor the introduction of a dweller of foreign birth. Now and then one would meet with a garden structure somewhat resembling the pilot-house of a Mississippi River steamboat or would come across an unattractive cast-iron Stork-and-Pond-Lily garden seat. Even the arbors (for the most part lattice-work resembling Winnebago wigwams) were unshaded by the vines that should have adorned them.

Architecture and gardens had, in that not very remote dark age of our national art progress, about as much interest one in the other, as had good taste, and the dwelling-houses that emphasized the American art hiatus roughly bounded by 1850-1890, with sins and virtues



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

THERE IS BEAUTY IN THE WELL-PLACED GARDEN ARCH

either side of these years but with few virtues between them.

However, we are now in a settled stage when gardens and architecture not only are on speaking terms with one another but indulge in what undoubtedly is to be a lasting and constructive intimacy. Now and then the attention of garden-makers seems focussed upon some one phase of garden architecture—terrace, the pergola or the arbor. Each in its turn becomes the center of interest. However, this does not mean that there is any faddism about it. Though the pergola became the fashion it has never ceased to be *in* fashion. And so it is with all architectural garden features of excellence.

Good gardens, so far as architectural features are concerned—whether they be balustrades or bird-houses—should dispense with the bizarre. Artistic, simple lines, freely inspired but dictated by the canons of good taste, should disclose the design of any architectural features that we may incorporate with our gardens. In the matter of rustic garden features the sins of commission have, in the past, become, perhaps, the most numerous.

Good rustic garden architecture requires simplicity and directness of design. Otherwise an over-elaborately worked-out arbor, garden-house or pergola ceases to be restful and becomes, instead, a disturbing feature in the garden landscape.

The material employed in the construction of any garden feature of architectural genre is a matter of the utmost importance. Too often there is a little or no relationship between materials employed in building a garden-house, lattice-work, a pergola or an arbor and the materials employed in the dwelling adjacent to the garden where these architectural adornments find their place. While there need not, in all cases, be a stated material in common use, there should be a harmonious relationship maintained; as, for instance, when one finds a brick house in the Pennsylvania Colonial style (the exterior trim painted white) giving hint that a white wood pergola, white trellis work or a white arbor along simple lines suggesting the Colonial would be an appropriate garden accessory.

There are few features in the garden of flowering plants that are more deserving of at-

tention and less deserving of the neglect they suffer, than garden arches. Perhaps garden-beginners are prone to overlook the possibilities in this direction. It is not enough to plant flowering things, have them spring up and bear blossoms, to constitute a garden.

A garden is something more than a display of a number of plants. It is a creation of man's ingenuity in devising ways and means of intensifying the beauties of plant growth by selection, arrangement, color, contrast and design. Thus it happens that after a time every garden-maker instinctively turns his attention to the structural side of gardening. Perhaps his first season has found him content to plant a bed of things and watch them grow, rejoicing and finding satisfaction in their reaching floescence unretarded. But later he will wish to make a "house of flowers" as it were, even to imitate some of nature's plant arrangements. He will wish to construct arbors, mazes, formal and sunken gardens, he will wish to sow a corner with old fashioned flowers which shall fill the vista with a blaze of unpatterned gorgeousness, but if he finds that the bit of ground at his disposal is not sufficient to permit these experi-

ments to any extent, he will still gain satisfaction in constructing a garden arch. This may be simple or elaborate as good taste and suitability dictate. Indeed the garden arch is coming into its own as an architectural adornment and few features more successfully "knit" the garden plot to the house.

Finally there is the friendly dooryard. A charm ever lingered about the old-world dooryard that too often is lacking in our own. We have been wont to feel that so long as we barricaded our premises with fences we were obtaining seclusion, or that in removing them we were lending to our lawns an appearance of inviting hospitality. Now, fortunately, we have turned in the right direction, and the friendly dooryard is coming to be one of the features of our successful homes, whether cottages or villas. We are learning the most attractive materials to use in building garden walks, to terrace our dooryards when they need it, to screen our porches without producing gloomy effects; withal, to make the entrance part informal and inviting without sacrificing its dignity.

In the days of our great-grandmothers the

old-fashioned flowers and shrubs added greatly to the attractive house approach. As a matter of fact, those old-fashioned plants became old-fashioned because we let bad taste—that is to say, the lack of it—creep into our efforts in home-making, and this crowded out so much that was lovely everywhere. But we have returned to happy paths once more, and again the beautiful blossoms of yesterday's garden may now be found in our own, gracing our dooryards and making us feel, every time we set foot within our premises, that our homes are just that much lovelier for our having given thought to the matter of the friendly dooryard, not only for our own satisfaction but that our neighbor, too, may bless us.

XXIV

SUNDIAL MOTTOES

DO you recall Cicero's letter to Tiro—his wishing a sundial for his villa in Tusculum? But it was no novelty there, for the Babylonians had given it to the Greeks nearly half a thousand years before that day when Cicero sat writing to his friend. Perhaps no garden ornament is of greater antiquity. While we do not need sundials in small gardens, we still love them for their own association's sake, and so we shall keep on placing them there, and we shall, many of us, indulge in the absorbing occupation of finding just the sentiments we wish to have conveyed by inscriptions. To the true garden-lover a garden sundial without its motto is not a sundial at all!

There is much literature on the subject of sundials to be found and among the volumes



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

THE PERFECT GARDEN SHOULD HAVE ITS SUNDIAL

that comprise it, "Ye Sundial Book" will lend many delightful and appropriate verses composed by its author, Mr. T. C. W. Henslow. Quotations from the classics in the original Greek or Latin seem to be giving way to lines in English that may please those unversed in the mysteries of other than the mother-tongue who chance to pause to trace their import. The author has taken the following from one of his travel notebooks in which, from time to time, he has jotted down such sundial inscriptions as have held his fancy.

1

"I number none but the cloudless hours."

2

"Shadow owes its birth to light."—Gay.

3

"O sun! of this great world both eye and soul."—Milton.

4

"The sun with one eye vieweth all the world."—Shakespeare.

5

"The selfsame sun that shines upon his court

Hides not his visage from our cottage, but
looks on all alike.”—Shakespeare.

6

“Time is the wisest counsellor.”—Pericles.

7

“Time stoops to no man’s lure.”—Swin-
burne.

8

“Who loses a day loses life.”—Emerson.

9

“To choose time is to save time.”—Bacon.

10

“Time flies over us, but leaves its shadow
behind.”—Hawthorne.

11

“Time stands with impartial law.”—Man-
lius.

12

“Time conquers all, and we must time obey.”
—Pope.

13

“Nae man can tether time or tide.”—Burns.

14

“Dost thou love life, then do not squander time.”—Franklin.

15

“Noiseless falls the foot of Time
That only treads on flowers.”

16

Spencer.

“To-morrow’s fate, though thou be wise,
Thou canst not tell nor yet surmise;
Pass, therefore, not to-day in vain,
For it will never come again.”

Omar Khayyám.

17

“His labor is to chant,
His idleness a tune;
Oh, for a bee’s experience
Of clovers and of noon!”

Emily Dickinson.

18

“Far from gay cities and the ways of men.”
—Homer.

19

“Ye sacred Nine! that all my soul possess
Bear me, O bear me to sequestered scenes,
The bow’ry mazes, and surrounding greens.”

Pope.

20

“He who has lived a day has lived an age.”
—Bruyère.

21

“Flowers preach to us if we will hear.”—
Christina G. Rossetti.

22

“Sweet flowers are slow, and weeds make
haste.”—Shakespeare.

23

“An album is a garden, not for show
Planted, but use; where wholesome herbs
should grow.”—Charles Lamb.

24

“Nature never did betray
The heart that loved her.”

Wordsworth.

25

“Stand still and behold the wondrous works
of God.”—Bible.

26

“The day is thine, the night is also Thine;
Thou hast prepared the light and the sun,
Thou hast set all the borders of the earth,
Thou hast made summer and winter.”

Bible.

27

“Wisdom adorns riches, and shadows poverty.”—Socrates.

28

“But they whom truth and wisdom lead
Can gather honey from a weed.”
Cowper.

29

“Take Time by the forelock.”—Thales.

30

“The Spring, the Summer, the chilling Autumn, angry Winter, changed their wonted liveries.”—Shakespeare.

31

“Each day is the pupil of yesterday.”—Publius Syrus.

32

Eternity, thou art To-morrow!

33

“What is human is immortal.”—Bulwer-Lytton.

34

“The seed dies into a new life and so does man.”—George McDonald.

35

“One hour of joy dispels the cares
And sufferings of a thousand years.”
Baptiste.

36

“Where in the world are we?”—Cicero.

37

“Ye may have heard some wise man say
The past is what we make to-day.”

38

A lesson take, a lesson give:
Make worthy all the hours you live.

39

No man will waste the hours away
Who knows how precious is a day.

40

Within this garden here behold
What love and labor turned to gold.

41

I mark the hours as they come and go
Canst thou a task as faithful, good friend,
show?

42

“The Shadows rise, the shadows fall,
Man sees but part, though God sees all.”
Henslow.

43

If thou wouldst make thy life sublime
Then make a friend of Father Time.

44

The hours of the day I tell
Stay, stranger, dost thou half so well?

45

If you would have a garden fair plant seeds
Of worth and eagerly cast forth the weeds.

46

Without the sun my hours thou canst not see
Let wisdom shine upon the hours with thee.

47

Friend, though my pace seems slow
The day will come when swift my steps shall
go!

48

Daybreak to eventide,
Time by my side!

49

And dost thou know the secret of the flow'rs?
Then canst thou hope to know that of the
hours?

“Methinks it were a happy life
To carve out dials quaintly point by point.”
Shakespeare.



Photo by Nathan R. Graves Co.

A LITTLE GARDEN OF BULB FLOWERS

XXV

THROUGH THE YEAR IN A LITTLE GARDEN

JANUARY

A HAPPY New Year—a new year whose coming season of lovely flowers, luxuriant verdure and fields of the green of growing things will make us forget the stillness and bleakness of white winter-time, when all the earth seems sleeping, and when the creaking of the frost crystals underfoot, as we step forth these crisp mornings, almost startles us with a sense of the loss that seems ours since yesterday's beautiful Summer was gently led by the hand of Autumn to this Wintry couch. We were wont to wend our way through August's woodlands and if a twig snapped at our step it only seemed to awaken an echo caught up by the rustling of leaves, the murmur of the clear waters of the

gurgling spring, the voice of the golden-throated oriole, the buzzing of the bumble bee or the brushing of the frond of the Lady Fern against the great gray rock to which she clung for protection when mischievous Ariel began his endless pranks.

But now the creaking snow is jealous of all nature, and the sound of your tread goes forth like the shots of a miniature battery. The sun will take revenge at noontime and now and then dash to the earth some too-presuming icicle that dares to cling to the branches of the elm by the garden path. And Old Sol will keep the face of the time-marking dial down there free from being smothered by the relentless tyrant of the season, and if your fancy so directs you may stroll in your garden in January after all and not find that the magic of Jack Frost's fantastic doings has blotted out the memory of the delicate handiwork embroidered through the months of the Summer solstice by goddess Flora herself. How the place in a man's heart, the Garden, keeps warm the thought of nodding Daisies, fragrant Heliotropes and the sun-kissed Golden Glow! We may shiver through the months of the short

days and the long nights, but nothing can make us forget the chirp of the cricket, the freshness of the Phlox, and O—mundane wholesome thought!—the delectable rows of ripening vegetables!

The grapes, peach trees, currants and some other small fruits may now need the attention of the pruning knife, though there will be little else of actual outside work to be done.

We may be sitting indoors these wintry nights industriously intent on the tasks before every man, woman and child in the land of ours, and as our thoughts are on those dear ones far away, we may perchance, recall the delight we found that time we discovered Stevenson's "Underwoods" with those three last verses of "Ille Terrarum," the first line coming to mind

"An' noo the Winter winds complain;"

leading us to

*"An' Fancy traivels far afield
To gaither a' that gairdens yield
O' sun an' Simmer:
To hearten up a dowie chield
Fancy's the limmer!"*

FEBRUARY

St. Valentine's month is this, dedicated to the Bleeding-heart, the Dicentra of our old-fashioned garden. The snows still cling to the ground. Even the courageous Crocus will not be so foolhardy as to be peeping its little head above the generous blanket of earth which good Mother Nature has lent it for weeks to come. I often wonder why it is that those who profess to love gardening are so content to occupy themselves with but one phase of its delights—the planting, and why they give so little thought to the matter of the *planning*. The old-fashioned gardens of days gone by were good gardens because they were well-planned gardens. As we sit around the warm fireside these February evenings, with Winter's vesture still with us outside, we may conjure to the mind's eye visions of our gardens-to-be, even though our hands be occupied with other tasks. If in the maelstrom of the year's occupations a little leisure is now and then ours to give to the thought of those gardens on which so much depends after all, we may dig into the lore with which the ever delightful and

ever welcome catalogues of seedsmen and nurserymen are annually fraught. It is all very well to peep out one's window upon the snowbound landscape of the wintry lawn and to say to oneself, "Summer is a long way off! It will be time enough to be bothering about gardens when the Snow-drop peeps up and the birds return." Now those who consider gardening a "bother" at all may as well leave it alone as to go at it with any thought of its being merely drudgery. To such, food necessities may appeal as the only impetus to planting a row of corn, a hill of cucumbers or a tomato-vine. But that is *not* gardening! At least it is not the sort of gardening that puts joy in the heart and health in the body. Your *true* gardener, looking out upon the snowy area, will say: "Just there those evergreens which I planted last Autumn are lending graceful color to the season—a Christmas-tree indeed!—the brown stems of that little clump of shrubbery weave in and out in dignified design and every tree casts shadow-patterns on the white like the blue embroideries on fair linen. Even this wintry season the things I planted are faithful to promise they held forth—that

I should find joy in them every day in the year, and so I shall remember all these things against the advent of another winter and make my plans now for planting that shall grace every season."

These are the things that will be passing in the mind. Then there will come the thought of the new catalogues for which one should be sending, that in their pages the old favorites may be welcomed and new ones discovered. Before it is time to be actually working in the soil what to plant and where to plant it may well be thought out.

The garden monitors tell us that the middle of February is not too early for starting various early vegetables indoors or in the greenhouse, later to be transferred to the hot-beds or to the coldframes outside; that (except in the colder section of the country), if you have rhubarb in your garden from year to year, you may begin to force the roots at the end of the month an early growth by placing barrels or boxes over them and covering with stable manure to bring the stocks well in advance of their ordinary season; that plum trees and cherry trees should be examined for plum-knot,

a plant disease which causes the affected limbs and branches to swell. Such should be cut off and burned. The garden monitor likewise will suggest Rex Begonias and Heliotropes for starting from seed in shallow boxes indoors. Celery grown from seed may also be started indoors late this month, but these require loamy starting soil and a moderately warm place and frequent watering, though the soil must not be soaked or drenched.

MARCH

The mere mention of the month of March brings to one the vision of Springtime. Alas, that we have to confess that the poets who sing so pleasantly of the awakening season carry us by their enthusiasm beyond the realm of facts which we encounter in our climate! We who are patiently awaiting the coming of Spring and the bursting forth of Earth into buds of the Plum, the Peach, the Quince, the Cherry and the Apple Blossoms; we who long to discover the first Snowdrop or the first Crocus, and who look forward to the first purple Hyacinth or the first gorgeous Tulip that shall herald the coming of the glorious garden-time in

earnest; we who wrap ourselves in such expectations are apt to be downcast by the stern realities of sleet and rain and slush, and the favors of goddess Flora deferred. We are apt then to be angry with the poets, to wish to reorganize the calendar, or to find a subterfuge for our disappointments in the old adage that gives March's entrance the similitude of that of the Lion or of the Lamb as the case may be. However we shall find stirring us into a happier frame of mind that indefinable something that tells us with unerring certainty when Spring *is* here, despite any of the astronomical observations of the industriously wise to the contrary in point of time.

So let us not expect to hasten Nature's bounty, and do not let us become impatient because we cannot. Instead, let us remember what a lot of things we really have on hand this month to think about in preparing for the season soon to arrive. We can do much cleaning up in the garden during the spring thaws that are sure to come this month. If our last year's gardening was not completely successful by reason of our not having been able to obtain sufficient fertilizing material, we may do well

now to arrange for the supply of stable or of barnyard manure that this year's garden will require.

Of course hardy Roses should be pruned before the latter part of the month—one cannot dream of fine gardens, neglect this pruning and expect the Roses to be all they should be. Grapevines and fruit trees will need pruning, too, though of course the experienced gardener will know that neither bush, fruit (berries) nor shrubs that flower early should be pruned at this time in the northern sections of the country as such a procedure might prove fatal to their growth. Apricot and Peach trees should be sprayed before April first.

By having a hot-bed or a coldframe one may steal a march on the season. Glazed sash for the purpose may readily be obtained through one's local seedsman or directly from manufacturers of greenhouses. As to the seeds to sow this month in the hotbed, there will be lettuce, peas, cabbage, cauliflower, onions, radishes and celery and, *south* of Baltimore, melons, cucumbers and tomatoes may be started early in the month. Asparagus beds and rhu-

barb rows should be put in shape as soon as the weather permits.

APRIL

April, traditional rainy-month, cannot quench the ardor of the garden-maker. Even though storms compel him to remain indoors, he will only be reminded that the earth is getting into condition for his planting enthusiasm, and he will be arranging seeds, looking over tools, fixing up baskets and making labels and stakes against the busy season, when there will be less time for these things.

But it will not be raining all day every day, and so, here are some of the things to be attended to outside the house: Asparagus beds to be fertilized (Rhubarb beds also); mulching to be removed from the strawberry bed, cold-frames to be put in shape for the tender plants that are to be transferred to them from hotbeds later in the month; Box edging to be set out early; Asparagus beds to be forked lightly when the fertilizer has been spread over them, and bulb beds to be uncovered later in the month. By April fifteenth all spraying should be completed.

Cannas, French Marigolds, Lantana, Drummond Phlox, Double Petunias, and other seeds should be sown within doors under cover for later transplanting. Pips of the Lily-of-the-Valley should be started without delay. For vegetables, onions, beets, egg-plants, peppers and tomatoes are among those that should be started from seed in flats. Lettuce can be sown outside in hotbeds.

While the experienced garden-makers do not need to be reminded that good soil is essential to the good garden, every one will readily understand the needs of plant physiology, that plants are, after all, very much like living beings in respect to their response to environment and proper nourishment, yet how one sees a garden beginner contenting himself with the thought that because he has purchased packages of seeds of his favorite flowers or of the vegetables which may appeal to his palate, and having scattered these seeds upon indifferent soil, trusting in his sublime ignorance of gardening essentials to Nature's strugglings against all odds to produce for him the little garden of his dreams. Instead he should be studying soil problems before seeding at all.

Depth and mellowness of soil are things he must have for his garden. The reason is obvious. Without depth the rootlets cannot find their way to avoid the baked condition of the upper soil during periods of drought, and without mellowness it cannot be open to ameliorating atmospheric influences so necessary to successful plant growth. By the first week in April the garden maker should put a manurial dressing on the plot that is to become the vegetable garden. Asparagus and rhubarb beds must also have fertilizers of this sort or nitrate of soda.

When all danger of frost is past and the earth is therefore fit for digging, we shall be ready for plowing and spading. An early garden is always worth the effort but judgment must be exercised in fitting its planting to the exigencies of the season in the various localities of America. At this time one may thin out the various perennials by dividing their roots. April spraying operations will not be overlooked by the careful garden-maker who will be remembering that Roses should be sprayed with a solution of whale-oil soap and that about the middle of the month and every

ten days thereafter and that apples, blackberries, dewberries, pears, quinces and raspberries need to be sprayed before budding and cherries just before their buds open. Seedling Hollyhocks should be sprayed with Bordeaux mixture towards the end of the month. Elms should also be sprayed in April in preparation of the season's battle against the pests that infest them.

MAY

May, birthday of gardens! I wonder if there is a more loved month in the whole Calendar? Surely not one that is more to the poets' taste, when, as old-time Edmund Spenser was wont to sing,

"the boughes doe laughing blossoms beare."

The practical will tell us that we should forget poetry and take to planting, as though planting were not poetry, as though ancient Virgil had not known how to make vegetable-growing as luscious to literature as pepper-pods are to the perpetually prosaic! After all, what *are* our gardens for? Just to furnish us with

food? What joy would there be in the digging, the seeding, the cultivating if every cauliflower stood to us for cookery, every cucumber as a pickle and every lettuce as a salad! Of course with the proper appetite expected of every normal one of us that our table should be laden with home grown things gives us a sense of satisfaction. But is that not quite as much from the pride we take in our ability to grow all these delicacies, as from the knowledge that they will serve as space-fillers for empty man?

With the coming of May I always think of Hawthorn boughs laden with billowy white blossoms—here and there a pink-domed shrub—when the May days return; and yet there are no Hawthorns where my garden grows! *That* I have taken from the poets, and have given it to the cabbages, the butter-beans, the radishes and parsnips as grace to their utility. But it is not, gentle reader, that I would neglect the vegetables to go a-Maying! Instead, the contemplation of everything lovely in nature lends to an enthusiasm for the rows, and hills and trellises of To-morrow's table-things. In fact I make sure that there is reasonable doubt of late frosts before I rush recklessly to

transplant from hot-bed to garden the tender growing things.

In the exciting gardening for May the one who for the first time engages in the delectable occupation of coaxing Mother Earth to be kind to all efforts to make a back yard an Eden, the front one a paradise of lovely growing things, the initial enthusiasm must not permit the overlooking the fact that the old-time enemy of all garden-makers since gardens first were—Jack Frost—may still be lurking in ambush of the promise of an early season. I know of no greater discouragement that attends the garden-maker than that of encountering late frosts, unprepared for them. But the experienced gardener seldom permits himself to be caught in this slyly placed trap. While it happens, now and then, that Nature seems unkind enough to wax mirthful over man's effort and amuses herself at his expense with unexpected storms, atmospheric changes and freakish weather, the seasons are, on the whole, dependable and the garden-maker has only to study their ancestry.

However, the March-sown hardy annuals will be coming on for transplanting from hot-

bed and coldframe this month and May should find all seeds of hardy annuals in the ground for the regular season of bloom or of maturity, though succession planting can, of course, extend through a later period. With the ground free from frost there will be the hardy perennials to be shifted in rearranging the borders. This operation should be delayed till the end of the month in most of the northerly sections of the country. The second week in May should find one spraying the Rose bushes again with whale-oil soap, and immediately after blooming the Spring flowering shrubs should be pruned. In the strawberry bed the newly set plants should have their blossoms "pinched" (removed) and the old plants should be mulched with clean straw to conserve moisture for the roots and ultimately to protect the fruit from dust as well as to discourage grassy weeds.

I know the eminently practical will feel outraged that I should mention Birds in the same breath with Strawberries! But I never think of melons or apple-trees without thought too, of the small boy's enjoyment of them; so let

me confess that to my mind there never was a truly successful garden—strawberries notwithstanding—that was not also a playground for birds. Garden-makers should not forget their little feathered friends. Let them plant Sunflowers with this in mind, and in the late Autumn, when Jack Frost in sportive mood has nipped the noses of all the Petunias and has finally overcome even the tenacious Salvia, the tall stems crowned with ripened Sunflower seeds will sway with the weight of some throng of finches and will seem to the birds you have loved—if you have not loved your strawberries more!—a store of reward for their summer service in keeping down the obnoxious insects even though some other choice morsel *does* occasionally get mixed up with their missionary work!

As trees are so much the part of the perfect garden, May work is requisite to their best appearance. One has already to be alert in the fight against the Elm-leaf beetle and elms should now be sprayed in order that later warfare against these pests may prove fully effective.

JUNE

When we walk around our gardens let us neither waste breath in sighing over the absence of the plants we neglected or forgot to provide nor be envious of our more careful and perhaps experienced neighbor. I often think a little disappointment of this sort is the leaven which leaveneth the mass of appreciation of those garden delights which, another time, will be the reward of our forethought. It will be hard to miss the Roses we should have set out, the Columbines we overlooked or the Peonies to which we paid no attention last Fall, but we should take all the more joy in the possession of what we have, learning to love the few things of our own instead of making ourselves miserable over the many things of our neighbors. You see Philosophy and Garden-making are inseparable unless one descends to the state of becoming a planter or a harvester. I suppose there will always be in the world some who find no pleasure in growing things, to whom Nature appears a matter of dirt, brambles and potatoes, something to be kept somewhere out in the back yard in contradistinction

to the satisfaction such find in unadorned macadamized expanses of avenue and sidewalk. Fortunately, however, the Genius of Gardening trusts nothing to their keeping, and so it happens that the traditions of the gardener's art are safe with us.

And what a month of joyfulness is June in the garden! It seems only yesterday that we were coaxing Mother Nature to lift her white blanket that Spring might awaken to new life the sleeping plants that lend their color to the season. We are reminded of all the poets of the garden, of Wordsworth, of Tennyson and certainly of old Geoffrey Chaucer's

*"Along the meadows green, whereof I told,
The freshly springing Daisy to behold,
And when the sun declined from South to
West,
And closed was this fair flower, and gone to
rest,
For fear of darkness that she held in dread,
Home to my house full hastily I sped;
And in a little garden of my own,
Well benched with fresh cut turf, with grass
o'ergrown*

*I bade that men my couch should duly make;
For daintiness and for Summer's sake,
I bade them strew fresh blossoms o'er my bed."*

There will be fortunate ones among us who will find the lovely Columbine blossoming this month, yellow or scarlet, red, purple or white, flower of strangely contrasted names borrowing "Columbine" from the Latin *Columba*, a dove, and its scientific name, "Aquilegia" from *aquila*, an eagle! In the old, old days of yore, credulous folk called it Lion's Herb, believing that it was the favorite food of these fierce denizens of desert and jungle. Nowadays we fondly couple the name Columbine with Columbia, and even find an association of enthusiasts who seek its adoption as the national flower of America just as the Rose is for England and the Lily for France—God bless them all! Monkshood will be blossoming in June, too. It is a lovely plant, but a sinister one. It was brewed by Medes to fill the poisoned cup offered the wary Theseus. It was with the juice of Monkshood (*Aconite*) that the ancients used to anoint their weapons when preparing to do battle, and the old-time Greeks

were wont to tell how Chiron the Centaur discovered its dread powers by dropping upon his hoof an arrow that had been dipped in the juice of the plant, his death accompanying his discovery. They believed too that Monks-hood was sown in the Garden of Hecate by Cerberus, the three-headed monster who guarded the Place of Shadows. But June's garden will find within its borders flowers of less sorrowful an ancestry—Campanula (Venus's Looking-glass), Iris (Lily of France), Honeysuckle, Hollyhock, Jasmine (Flower O' Love of the Arabs), the Rose, Pyrethrum, Salpiglossis, Schizanthus, Sedum, Spirea, Sweet Alyssum, Sweet Peas, Veronica, the Violet (sacred to Venus when the gods were still on Olympus) and the Larkspur, though that beautiful plant has almost as sorrowful a history as the Aconite, for was it not this flower, whose petals bore marks forming the letters A I A, signifying Ajax, terror of the Trojans, as *Delphinium Ajacis* on which was spilled the blood of this hero as he fell bleeding upon the earth?

There are many flower lovers who remain ignorant of the names of the plants which claim

their devotion. This is less evident nowadays than it was a few years ago, although in Colonial times not to know the name of every flower or herb in the garden was to indicate a tremendous flaw in one's education, an ignorance not to be condoned. One need not know that the Quince is *Cydonia vulgaris* or that Mignonette is *Reseda odorata*, but not to know that the Quince is Quince or that the Mignonette is Mignonette is misfortune indeed to the gardenmaker who expects to get any true enjoyment out of his garden. There is, of course, a strong appeal in the mere pleasant vision of things; but how much more pleasure in understanding them! Names were invented for a purpose—even Latin ones!—and every one who professes or who exhibits the slightest interest in gardening will appreciate the wealth of interest a closer attention to plant lore and botany will disclose. Now and then we meet with the type of person who calls every sort of a flower either a Rose or a Pink, but even that is better than to have a flower described as “the yellowish flower with velvety brown center” or “the plant that looks like a phonograph horn,” which leads you to

guess "Coreopsis" or to wonder which is meant—"Petunia or Morning Glory?" Just as it is one's obvious duty to know the names of one's friends, just so is it one's duty to acquaint himself with the names of the plants in his garden, true friends they should be! Even those good folk who can tell you that this is a Geranium, that a Heliotrope, are occasionally indifferent to the nomenclature of varieties of a species. A Rose might smell as sweet by any other name but its own name has so become associated with its fragrance that even old Omar could not have imagined any Board of Revision willing to rename this lovely blossom. However, it is not amiss to remember—especially when this June time brings us to the threshold of the "Month of the Rose"—that some Roses are more fragrant than others. Do you, gentle reader, know which ones? Does not the fragrance of the Tea Rose suggest the perfume of olden times, that of the Yellow Rose the perfume of our grandmother's gardens and have not the American Beauty Rose and the La France Rose each exquisite perfumes as peculiarly their own as the perfume of the red Roses of Samarkand? Ought

we not, then, to learn all about our Roses? Their names, their varieties, their perfumes, as well as their colors and their decorative attributes? The garden beginner who aspires to Rose-culture will be surprised at the wealth of pleasure he will derive from such a study. And it is the same with other flowers—Geraniums, Begonias, Phlox, even with the wonderful but neglected Zinnia.

While one's garden is to be enjoyed in June, one's garden-work is not to be neglected. First of all the weeding must be kept up. If it is not it will make it all the more difficult for the beds to attain the perfection one should seek for them, if indeed the plants succeed in surviving at all. Let us remember what Shakespeare said about it:

*“Now 'tis the spring and weeds are shallow
rooted;
Suffer them now and they'll o'ergrow the gar-
den,
And choke the herbs for want of husbandry.”*

Then neatness is a virtue in gardening as well as in other things. Tie up the tomato vines,

trim privet hedges, fill in "thin" places in beds and rows, spray the small fruits twice this month, and keep a sharp eye open for cut-worms.

The garden maker will find when the plantlets have pushed up through the soil, that for reasons not always known, there will, here and there, be gaps in the flower rows. However, it is not too late to fill in border gaps in June when Dwarf Nasturtiums, etc., may be sown for later flowering. Coleus cuttings, too, may be taken and Portulaca seed planted in places partly shaded where other flowers perhaps would not thrive so well.

With vegetable garden disappointments the garden beginner must be patient for there is still time for additional planting, as late crop seeding may now be started for potatoes, carrots, sweet corn, beets, beans, and turnips, as well as radishes for succession crops. June is also the transplanting time for cabbages, cauliflowers, tomatoes, peppers, and for celery. And do not forget that insect pests must be battled with this month. Cut worms are particularly hurtful in the early stages of the garden and one must watch the tender young

plants carefully. Berry bushes and fruit trees should have a couple of June sprayings. But even the insect enemies of plants are not more damaging than weeds when allowed to grow and choke the gardens. By beginning the weeding early, and by consistently keeping it up, the growing plants will have a fair fighting chance to reach unstunted maturity. By this day-by-day weeding the labor attendant on keeping the flower beds and vegetable rows in condition will be greatly lessened and the pleasure in gardening intensified. The neatness of the garden which has a privet hedge may be also enhanced by trimming the hedge at this time.

JULY

Now the gardens of our happy anticipations are unfolding their myriad beauties. We look around the garden plot with satisfaction. Even though here and there we find something disappointing, it should only inspire us to continued effort if our enthusiasm is from the heart. Gardens come and go in one sense, but in another and in a truer sense they are ours forever. June and her Roses, yesterday's

glory, may have passed but Mother Nature has not been forgetful of July's place in her affections, and there are lovely things in the garden that belong to this month of Mid-summer. Sweet Peas, Portulaca, Marigolds, and many other annuals will be bursting forth in prolific blossom, all of which should be kept carefully picked, for if the garden flowers are allowed to bloom without cutting they will soon go to seed and by the middle of August such a garden will be a sorry sight. The late-blooming flowers such as the Dahlias, Cosmos and Chrysanthemums should be encouraged to take on a bushlike form by the process of "pinching," as thus they will attain the ever-to-be-desired compact growth. Many of the herbaceous plants such as the Dahlia and the Gladiolus—Roses also—should be staked if this has not already been done. Perhaps no phase of flower-garden care is more apt to be overlooked by one inexperienced in gardening than the attention of this sort which should be given early in the season to all those plants which will come to require some support other than that of their own stalks.

July will find Aquilegias still blooming,

and Achilles, Bachelors' Buttons, Globe Amaranth, Lavatera will be claiming the month as their own, sharing it with Balsam, Bellflower, Candytuft, Coreopsis, Digitala, Evening Primrose, Larkspur, Love-lies-bleeding, Morning-Glory, the Nasturtium, Phlox and many other old-time favorites, not the least of which is the Petunia, a lovely flower again in fashion. The proficient garden-lover will look around his garden for those blossoming plants that are producing the loveliest flowers and will lose no time in marking them so their seed may be secured later when the pods ripen. All one's seeds will not be home-grown, of course, but there is great pleasure and satisfaction to be found in being able to say, "This lovely flower has sprung from seed of another which I myself planted in my garden." If the flower garden is expected to attain its full beauty, the soil from which the plants sprung must be prevented from becoming hard, flat and sunbaked. Flowers as well as vegetables need to have the soil from which they spring constantly cultivated and properly stirred up.

As to the vegetable garden, July will find one busy there. The garden-maker will be

sowing seed of turnips, bush beans, beets (early varieties) during the very first of the month and a little later he will be sowing spinach seed. If there is a bit of idle ground which the harvesting of an early crop has left vacant, then peppers, tomatoes, cabbage and celery can be transplanted and set out there. The wise vegetable gardener never lets a square foot of earth lie unproductive. He harvests his early crops speedily and puts the idle ground to some use. Our war gardens are teaching us the valuable lessons of succession planting.

A word about watering the garden: when doing this remember that one good, thorough wetting-down of the soil will be worth more than a dozen mere sprinklings. Surface wetting may be better than nothing at all, but plants are watered not alone to remove the dust from their foliage, but to afford the thirsty, hardworking roots ample moisture for sustenance.

July will find pruning to be attended to, Roses—hybrid perpetuals—will need cutting back five or six inches after their June blooming period is over. If they are diligently and

patiently cared for without lapse of vigilance and properly fertilized one may hope to coax forth a second blossoming before frost.

AUGUST

Who, this first of the Autumn months, on contemplating the full August beauty of the garden he has planned and planted, can fail to have his soul stirred with the thought of Nature's marvelous works in the recollection that his own hand was so willingly lent to those human tasks that seldom fail in such rewards as that of the spiritual satisfaction one derives on the memorable occasion which these vines, crowning gardens with their full glory, should be? How grateful we are for the nodding Anemones with their white or rose-colored blossoms, for Dicentra, for the Evening Primrose still with us, for the gorgeous golden Helianthus, the pale Moonflower, Mignonette, the Pinks which claim August for their own, and old Snapdragon, ingenious and entertaining. Then there is lovely Veronica in royal purple and Madam Zinnia, with more colors in her attractive raiment than ever artists have dreamed of mixing on their palettes. The gar-

den-maker will not forget that perennials to be raised from seed should now be sown in coldframes. By planting them in frames the seeds will escape being washed away by the Autumn rains. Then, too, one may plan now for the winter garden indoors. Carnations are to be brought inside this month from the outdoor garden where they have been flourishing in the open through July. Easter Lilies for forcing should be potted at this time. In order that their bulbs may become thoroughly rooted they should be kept in a dark, cool place until this start is made. Seedlings set out of doors may be transplanted to small pots "plunged" in soil and removed indoors as soon as frost threatens to make its first appearance. In "plunging" the pots for out-of-door plant growth, the garden-maker will not forget to lift the pots every now and then to break off the roots that may have pushed down through the opening at the bottom of the pots, thus taking hold firmly in the external soil. Such ambitious root stragglers must not be allowed to do this. Plants should be watched carefully and all cutworms removed by hand. Spraying

with an arsenite solution is useful, but not for table plants.

The maker of a garden may well be deciding now whether or not the plot of ground it comprises would become more interesting and attractive by the planting of one or more Evergreens. There is, of course, quite as often a tendency to overplant as there is to underplant, although our garden-makers are overcoming this fault more and more, and are now appreciative of the fact that a lawn should not be choked with shrubs, even though the individual specimens are very beautiful in themselves, but should be adorned with discrimination and judgment by placing a shrub just where it is needed and only where it is needed to produce as perfect an effect as possible. We are also getting away from the "lonesome pine" effects in Evergreen planting, and are now well versed in the more cheerful arrangements followed by the modern landscape architects.

If the garden-maker wishes to save a year in the matter of a maturing strawberry bed, potted strawberry plants should be set out at this time. In the milder parts of the country peas, bushbeans, cucumbers for pickles, sakura-

jima, spinach and beets for greens may be sown immediately for autumn use. Of course with late plantings there is always a chance to be taken; however, experimenting is one of the chief delights of the truly enthusiastic gardener, and although he may encounter many disappointments, his successes, even though only occasional, will seem to him fit reward for all the trouble he may have taken. Indeed, the writer has known of garden enthusiasts who have sown extra early corn at this time, and have had their adventuresomeness rewarded with ears fit to eat long after their neighbors had given up all thought of this delectable vegetable for themselves.

Especial attention must be given to watering the garden this month. All plants should be watered freely, and evening is the best time for such work. Tree Hydrangeas especially will respond to such watering and reward the garden-maker with unusually large clusters of flowers. Many garden beginners make the mistake of letting the flowers in their gardens ripen their seed-pods. Permit only such pods as you are saving for seed to ripen. All others should be pinched off. This will extend the

blossoming period of the flowering plants. Nitrate of soda and a little bone meal scattered on the soil at the roots of the flowering plants will, after watering, do wonders in the way of fostering prolific bloom. Time must also be given to the various small fruit bushes this month for old canes should be cut from the berry bushes and the small fruited bushes be made trim for their winter rest.

We look to the woods for wild flowers, but all garden-makers are not blessed with living near to fields and woodlands. However, such need not be denied the flowers closest to Nature's heart. Every one may have a wild-flower garden as it is now possible to buy seeds, bulbs and plants of wild flowers from dealers who specialize in them and are glad to give information and cultural directions to those who purchase wild-flower seeds and plants from them. Some of the most interesting small gardens have wild-flower nooks and corners. Garden-makers who have given attention to wild-flower culture develop an enthusiasm for this sort of gardening that is in no sense secondary to that which other gardening things inspire.

And one must not forget the vegetables! The delight to be derived from a well-planted vegetable garden that has thriven and has become luxuriantly productive is not alone a mundane one. It is not because this is a turnip or that is a beet that one's heart gives a little bound on beholding these things growing in his garden; it is because they remind him that vegetable-growing depends upon more than dropping a chance seed in a hole in the ground, that the successful vegetable garden is only possible through the careful attention one gives to it and his interest in it.

SEPTEMBER

To the average person there is scarcely a more interesting month in the season than that of September in the garden. It is a month which finds us forgiving to July's torrid heartlessness, August's uncertain temperament, and although it may bring the blazing sun forth to our temporary discomfiture, the nights in the countryside will usually be delightful and the daytime hours in contemplating the glories of our gardens will atone for all the rest. Our summer lassitude will give way to more

brisk endeavor, and we shall be finding ourselves eager to enter with zest upon another season's occupations. Our gardens will still give us plenty to do and our hands need not be idle in their service.

There is something satisfying about September's well-settled beds of gorgeous *Asters*, *Gladioli*, *Cosmos* and the *Lilies* that have not yet forsaken us. We may miss the *Daffodils* of May, the *Roses* of June, the *Columbine* of July, and *Veronica*, fair maid of the August garden, but we still have *Ageratum*, *Anemone*, *Campanula*, *Clarkia*, *Dahlia*, *Foxglove*, *Godetia*, *Helianthus*, *Lobelia*, *Moonflower*, dear little *Love-in-a-Mist*, and many other old favorites with us. How glad we are, as we step forth in the early morning to gather bouquets for the house, that we took the trouble to plan for, to plant and to care for the blue *Aconite*, the purple *Aster*, *Bellflower*, rose-purple *Chelone*, *Helium* and *Helianthus*—each as golden and as glorious as the other,—the *Scarlet Lobelia*, *Phlox*, *Rudbeckia* and blushing *Sedum*.

We look around upon our garden's delights with pride, and even our garden mistakes seem

trivial beside the successes that have come to our patient cultivation of the plants we love. Over there, we tell ourselves, our hardy border has come out too thinly, but we can make amends even in the month to come, for by the time October's planting is here our summer's experience will have shown us wherein we may make next year's garden even far more lovely, perhaps, than this season's one has been.

The Garden-beginners will wish to take note of the color effects derived by planting—they hardly knew what, when their inexperienced hand first sowed the seed or set out seedlings. Now as one looks about, there may appear too much dark color, just there by the Hollyhocks or the Cosmos may have come out all white and pale lilac, when its own reds would have given the needed "spotting" for contrast. Next year all this could be made right, for as soon as it is possible, one should replant for still better color effects than it was possible until a summer in the garden had taught its valuable lessons.

Our great-grandmothers never let the month of September slip by without being on the alert for ripening seed-pods of annuals and peren-

nials. The garden-maker of to-day usually bothers little about such things as necessity does not compel it, but a garden grown from its own seed is apt to be a successful one, following, in this respect, the sacred traditions of the garden at Mount Vernon, a true descendant of the flowers planted by Martha Washington.

Peonies should be planted in September, and it is found by experience that if showy effects are desired for this first season, undivided root clumps should be selected, as two or three seasons are requisite to the production from single roots of anything approaching a satisfactory display. Like the penny Roman-candle, the cheap single-root Peony is apt to prove a bitter disappointment, only it has the advantage of being perennial and of finally reaching effectiveness.

Crocuses, Daffodils, Jonquils, and other early flowering bulbs can go into the ground this month though Tulips and Hyacinths can very well and safely await October planting.

As we know how merciless droughts assail our late gardens, we will not forget to keep the sun-baked soil around the plant-bases stirred

up when they need it, making little "tunnels" to the plant roots so water may reach these. A good plan is to remove a couple of inches of soil from around the choice shrubs and after watering until the soil will soak up no more moisture, to replace that which we have taken out, crumbling it fine and letting it act as a mulch.

Some of September's blistering days (days that *do* make us forget the cool sound of the month's name and that it is not still midsummer), are often discouraging to lawn-makers. But one need not despair if a goodly water supply and hose are available. Just sprinkling the lawn actually does more harm than good. The kindly intentioned who sprinkle the lawn for five minutes every day probably wonder why the grass still sizzles up! The point to bear in mind is that lawns need to be drenched. They require many and frequent thorough wettings, although one must be careful not to rip up places in the sod by turning the stream of water from the hose nozzle directly upon the grass plot. The nozzle should be so manipulated that the water will drop from it in the manner of falling rain.

Evergreens should be planted now, the roots being kept shaded and well moistened until they are in the ground. In transplanting Evergreens we must not forget the importance of that fact, for the neglect of it may ruin all chances of success for the Evergreens that are being set out.

OCTOBER

To the observant eye even the first days of October are attended by many little changes that mark the rapidity with which Autumn has advanced. The face of nature is changing, whichever way we look. We realize how soon our lovely Summer gardens are to be taken from us, and for once Winter will seem to be creeping stealthily over the border of Flora's realm like an enemy bringing the warfare that later is to devastate the kingdom of foliage. As we walk along our garden paths our way shall lead through fallen leaves and just as Spring scenery awakes within us gladsome emotion so will the Autumn landscape find us sorrowing perhaps. But we know in our hearts that our beautiful gardens will not perish, that they will be but resting for a sea-

son under the kindly mantle of white Winter, to reblossom again when another season shall call them to their awakening. And then as we pause beneath some friendly golden-leaved tree and survey the intimate prospect of the home garden before us, we are reminded that if we would increase the delights we have found in it through the months that are past when next its glory is to shine again, we must not lose time now planning for the development of its beauties. This is, indeed, a month of greater gardening activity than September although many novices there are in the gentle art of the trowel who imagine that planting is merely a Springtime annual duty and not a May and October perennial pleasure.

The lawn will need a careful October overhauling for here and there bare spots are apt to be discovered. A sharp rake will loosen up the soil sufficiently for "treating" them. A dressing of pulverized sheep manure should precede the seeding. In this connection the amateur lawn-maker should be reminded that it is of great importance that seed of the best quality be obtained from a reliable dealer. When the raked surface of the bare spots is

seeded, the seeded places should have earth sprinkled over them and well rolled down to prevent the seed from blowing away. Many lawn makers imagine that grass should be permitted to go uncut and to grow tall during the late Autumn as a protection to the grass roots, but this is a mistake. The lawn should be kept well clipped until the grass stops growing for the season. Another fallacy with lawn-makers is the supposition that an unsightly top dressing of stable manure is necessary for application to lawns. Pulverized sheep manure is of far greater value, a good top-dressing of which will suffice. It is absurd to render the lawns offensively unsightly through the Winter months by the other method, and home garden-makers fortunately are coming to appreciate this point of view.

Unless the Winters in a locality are very severe the early October days lend themselves to the planting of ornamental trees and shrubs, but in one's choice of specimens for planting local climatic conditions should be taken into account. It would be well to consult some local horticulturist of experience or some reliable

nurseryman when planning for shrubs for Fall planting.

Hardy Roses, too, may be set out now before hard frosts, and this will probably insure early Spring bloom if the newly set out Rose bushes are carefully protected by a good mulch before the setting in of any severe weather. Hardy Climbing Roses should also be planted during the Autumn. Among the bush Roses for Autumn planting General Jacqueminot (red), the crimson Prince Camille de Rohan, the Paul Neyron, and the White American Beauty should surely be selected for Fall planting.

It often happens, especially with garden-beginners, that there is neglected the very important matter of providing labels to identify the spots in his garden where he has been setting out bulbs and roots in the time of Autumn planting. One may have an excellent memory, but when Winter comes along to change the aspect of things, it will be found that by springtime there is something of confusion in mind as to where this plant or that one actually *was* placed. All this will interfere seriously with the garden-maker's spring work. There-

fore, it would be well to mark locations of plants set out this autumn by means of secure labels and label stakes.

October is the month wherein should be performed the task of placing manure over the garden. This should then be spaded or plowed in before the approach of November. The fallen leaves that have collected in raking the lawn throughout the Autumn can be saved to use as a mulch for the garden and strawberry beds that require such protection. Those who have hardwood trees on their lawns will find the leaves of such trees the best suited to mulching.

NOVEMBER

November, pioneer of Winter, comes with his sickle of frost to mow down the last outside vestiges of Summer's festive fruitfulness, only defied by the Evergreens in their magic armor. The brown, dry leaves will be blown hither and thither rustling across the ground to the music of the late Autumn winds. We miss the song birds, and half pity the sparrows as they chatter in their almost affected cheerfulness. The purples of cloudland are becoming leaden-hued

at times and the little children are alertly watching for the earliest snowflakes. City dwellers go about much as usual and it little occurs to them to reflect upon Nature's changed aspect along the countryside unless some journey takes them farther from their lanes of asphalt and the groves of brick and mortar.

And yet there is something restful in the contemplation of November in the country if one may come in from an exhilarating walk over hill and dale to the crackling open fire that awaits him indoors. There will be stories to tell of the little animals we have seen busy at work in the nut woods laying in their winter stores. These are busy times of provisioning for them. The squirrel will be the busiest of all for he hibernates for the shortest time, and he will not be minded to wake up to an empty larder. We will watch his antics laughingly, and wonder if we have learned our lesson as well as he has. If our vegetable cellars are well stored we will bear him no grudge. We may well be reminded, though, that if our harvest is over there is still work for us to do in our gardens. We have probably cellared our

beets, carrots, turnips, celery, etc., in cool but frost-proof places by this time, and we should turn our attention to the lettuce, cauliflower, etc., that can now go into the coldframe for wintering against setting out early in the springtime.

November brings one to contemplate the garden indoors. House-plants have come to be much neglected of late years. Of course one does not wish for the return of the senseless old fashion of filling up every window in the house with foliage which prevailed. What funny things one used to see—delicate Fuchsias in tomato-cans or old sugar-bowls converted into receptacles for the second-best Geraniums! Nevertheless there is much happiness to be attained through the pursuit of indoor gardening, and it is well worth thinking about seriously.

Joyous is one whose garden passeth from Summer's glories through Autumn's gorgeousness into Winter's immobile whiteness with that grace which will lead one to have faith in the Niobe-like awakening when Spring shall breathe again upon the face of the frozen earth. There is nothing more dismal and bleak than

the prospect afforded the eye by the sight of an *unkempt* garden, snow-covered and dreary.

Why is it that so many of our garden-makers dream only of Summer's green and jewel-colored season, and take little heed of the white days of the reign of Boreas? Surely a clump of Evergreens just there or a hedge here would turn the whole deserted garden spot into an area pleasant to look upon. I know one garden-maker who has had the good sense to leave standing a row of Sunflower stalks, each one crowned with its seed pod. As you may well know the birds have shown their appreciation, and day after day they flock thither and chirp away with gratitude in their little notes. It is sorrowful enough to be missing the flowers without having to mourn the flown birds. Every *kind* garden ought to have its little bird shelter.

Often has it appeared strange to me that sun-dials are left so bleak through winter-time. A wreathing of Bittersweet or a massing of *Rosa rugosa* would insure scarlet berries and crimson haws for winter decoration. The red of the Rose hip, clinging to the brown stems of the bushes, is one of the many such

compensations which Nature bestows when she seems to have taken so much from our gardens.

And the old stone wall will be looking sear and gray, but it will remind us to plan for planting its crevices with all sorts of flowering things for next Summer's adorning. Then when another winter will have come to our door we shall find the wall covered with a network of vines and stems like a weaving of silken threads of brown.

DECEMBER

I wonder if the time will come when every man whose homeland boasts a few acres will have a little vineyard? For those who have their own vines it will be well to remember that December should not pass without pruning grapevines. It is so much better to do this now, I think, than to wait until March, when the winds of the first spring month will certainly subject the then-pruned vines to the risk of damage.

As there will be plenty of leisure for the country dwellers in December they will do well to utilize some of it in carefully inspecting all

trees to see which trees have dead limbs that need sawing off at this time. The stumps of perennials should also be trimmed off and the hardy borders protected by a mulch, for nothing is more trying to plants than the thawing and freezing and freezing and thawing again to which they are subjected, without such protection, throughout the varying temperatures of Winter's changeable weather. However, perennials should not be covered with any dressing as heavy as that of manureal mulches. Vines, too, will need looking after. It is almost pitiful to see how these are often neglected, being dragged to earth by ice and snow, when a little care and forethought would have made it possible to give them just the support they needed in the way of tacked-up fastenings of cloth and of leather strips, or a stake support. If one is experimenting with plants in coldframes, covering the frames at night with straw mats and shutters is not to be forgotten. Even though the month appears to be mild, neglect to do this will almost inevitably lead the garden-maker to regret it! One may, perhaps, need to turn occasionally from the defensive to the offensive and to sally forth,

hatchet in hand, to chop down any wild cherry trees in the neighborhood if, in the season just passed, they harbored tent caterpillars, the pest to which the Wild Cherry so generously offers hospitality.

December indoors will find us busying ourselves with planning the Yule-tide decorations. It is then we will wish that our gardens could yield us some of the things that go towards brightening the setting of the holiday season. The red hips of the Rose bushes and the Evergreens we need will remind us to make another season more provident for our Christmas time intentions and why should we not spare holiday greens from our indoor stock for trimming the sundial, the quiet fountain or the garden seat? Surely Christmas is everywhere, indoors and out!

L'ENVOI

THE VESPER GARDEN

I know a garden fair where fountains play
And cooling zephyrs blow through fragrant
 boughs.

There purling streams are cut by petal-prows
Of faerie flower-boats a-sail that way.

The air is white with Hawthorn-blossoms
 blown

Like falling flecks of snow to deck the earth,
And patient mother-soil who gave them birth,
Smiles to see them mumming winter flown.

As crimson sunset, when the day is done,
Full red blow Roses filling every bower
With glorious radiance. What subtle power
Of potent magic they from love have won!

Just where that silv'ry well holds shaded pool
 To quench perchance the thirst of grateful
 glade,

Nestles some Primrose, seeming half afraid
 To fill its cup of gold with vintage cool.

The very wheel whereon the Thread of Life
 Is coarsely spun, or drawn by Her,
 Who with the Other Two, heeds not its whirr,
 Less noisy is than yonder bees at strife.

They seek the honey of the Asphodel,
 And all her treasure, despite her moaned grief,
 Tear from her keeping; each a wanton thief,
 Breaks calyx-bolt she thought would guard it
 well.

Like sea of Sicily yon laving tide
 Of meadow-land the garden-shore with spray
 Of Sedgegrass kisses in sweet windwaft way;
 The flush-tinged Daisies in the hedgerow hide.

Lo! Now at eventide the Mignonette
 In fair conspiracy with Jasmine-flower
 Breathes incense to perfume this holy hour;
 A nightingale sings from its minaret.

So calls to prayer my soul when each day
fades,

And all my heart's song now an angelus
Becomes as acolyte's hand tremulous
Swings censer in God's golden glades.

