

PARKS FLORAL MAGAZINE

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CLARKIA "QUEEN MARY"

12

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PARK'S FLORAL MAGAZINE

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO FLOWERS

LAPARK SEED AND PLANT COMPANY, Inc., Publishers

LAPARK, — PENN'A.

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FRIENDS FLORAL CORNER A Special Letter.

And as it is really a special letter, and a long promised one, I shall publish it on this page, where it will also serve another purpose, to help me fill space left empty up to the last minute by the continued absence of the Editor, who, for two months now, has left it to me to do at least part of his particular work.

A year ago a number of the good "Corner" friends asked me to become a "really truly" member, and suggested that I use my space to tell of some of the details of publishing the Magazine. But I wonder if I would be justified in occupying so much space for a story that, perhaps, would interest only a few, while everyone is asking for more floral matter.

And then, too, writing stories is not in my line. You must know, a general manager and an editor are two entirely different beings. An editor becomes, if I may use the expression, saturated with the special subject his publication is planned to cover, and is in constant and close touch with the very thoughts of his readers; he has but one department of the work to attend to, while the manager must be familiar with the details of the entire business entrusted to him. Incidentally one of the thoughts always uppermost in the mind of a general manager is how perfectly and splendidly a person should carry on his work, no matter what it may be, when he is responsible for only one "job". I think the failure of so many of us to "make good" is because we do not specialize, but, rather, scatter our efforts. This is a particular reason for jealously excluding everything but floral matters from the Magazine.

And that brings me back to your request for something about the Magazine.

WHERE SHALL I BEGIN?

Perhaps with a little ancient history. The Magazine was first published away back in 1871, or before most of us were born. It was slow work, but after a few years the publisher realized that in order to make headway he must confine his magazine exclusively to flowers and keep the subscription price as low as he possibly could.

With varying fortunes the time came that the circulation of the Magazine was large enough to entitle it to carry advertising, and, incidentally, it was at this time, along about 1900, that I became interested in the proposition, and secured for the Magazine its first substantial advertising contract.

The publisher gradually made a fortune, and retired from the business about four years ago, turning over to us actually something like 124,000 paid-in-advance subscribers.

The war was on, paper was hard to get, more than four hundred percent higher in price, publishers were wisely limited by the Government in their use of this precious product so greatly needed in other effective channels for ending the war.

And so until about a year ago we could do nothing towards increasing our circulation. For a while it even looked as though we would have to raise the subscription price. But things finally took a turn, the cost of

paper started downward, and now we can afford to give you a thirty-two page magazine, such as we have been mailing, for only ten cents a year. No other periodical in the country has so low a subscription price, and we feel a responsibility to keep the cost down to that point as long as we possibly can because of the tremendous educational value of the Magazine in floriculture, a subject to which no other journal is devoted, and in which there is no other available source of practical information.

The great drawback in a thirty-two page magazine is lack of space to print nearly as much matter as we would like to put out each month, and we certainly cannot give you more than an occasional larger number. We feel the time will come, with increased circulation, when our larger advertising patronage will necessitate a forty-eight and even a sixty-four page magazine several times a year. It will then be time to think of going up to twenty-five cents a year. But then you will be receiving increased value to warrant the higher charge.

Of course no publisher expects every subscriber to renew his subscription year after year; there must be a certain percentage of loss. But it does seem to me that, at only a dime a year and with the date of expiration printed on every copy as a reminder, seventy-five per cent of the subscribers to Parks Floral Magazine should voluntarily renew their subscriptions and it should be done a couple of months before expiration to save us expense and labor.

To get along on ten cents a year is close work, and I feel your appreciation of a really interesting and helpful publication for less than a penny a month should insure us against the unnecessary expense of writing a special letter asking for your renewal.

This is the first and most desirable point of co-operation between subscribers and publisher. But the second is also important, and so very encouraging to an editor, that each present subscriber, when sending in her yearly renewal, would form the habit of securing and sending along, too, a subscription from a neighbor who has never taken the magazine. In this way a subscription list of a million or two can be built up and maintained, composed entirely of subscribers who are really interested in flowers, and who not only read each number of the Magazine as it appears but enjoy reading it.

We are naturally assuming our Magazine is worth a dime a year to you, or, we cannot think you would have subscribed for it at all. And then, with the two points I have covered in the preceding paragraph as an accomplished basis to work on, what we could do for you in the way of a larger, more comprehensive, more richly illustrated magazine is almost too wonderful to even try to write about.

But my page is filled and I have only begun. However, a start had to be made somewhere, and I believe now that I am getting into it I may be able to write something that will prove interesting to a great many of you. I hope what I have said this far will appeal particularly to readers whose subscriptions should be renewed now.

THE GENERAL MANAGER.

FLORAL MAGAZINE

LaPark, Pennsylvania.

WHAT GLADIOLUS SHALL I PLANT?

It is not advisable to wait until planting time to decide on what to plant, for by that time it is likely to be a question of taking what you can get, or of doing without. Catalogues are issued early in the year, but the supply of some of the flower stocks is limited, so if you put off your decision until the grass is green and the earth is warm with the Spring sunshine, you may be disappointed unless you can content yourself with varieties that are well known. All of which is equally true for flowers in general and for the Gladiolus in particular.

Undoubtedly the best way to choose the varieties you will plant is to visit some commercial garden where the flowers may be seen in bloom, and that is best done in August, for that is the Gladiolus month. You may not know what you want until you see it.

But it isn't necessary to wait until that time before making a beginning; there is no time like the present, and a small beginning can be made now.

An idea is prevalent that it is best for a beginner to start with a mixture, but that is only partly true. There are mixtures, and mixtures, but separate named varieties can be had at no greater expense than a good mixture. If you don't want to select your

varieties, and don't care to bother with names, then a mixture, or a collection, or an assortment, is just what you need. But I am not willing to agree that a poor mixture is better than none at all. It will take just as much room in the garden, and just as much care as a better mixture, while the difference in price per bulb is very little. And the idea you will gain of the beauties of the Gladiolus will be distorted, for into the cheap mixtures go the discards, the outcasts and undesirable.

It used to be the custom for growers to sell many of their best productions in mixtures; in fact some never named their seedlings, but disposed of them all in this way. But this is the day of named varieties, and the best of these are not put into cheap mixtures. But do not misunderstand me, there are good mixtures to be had at comparatively low prices, but you will pay for them as much as for many of the named varieties. For example, America is one of the best known of the pink Gladioli; Halley is another; and either one of them can be had for fifty cents a dozen, and occasionally for less. They

are both good and well worth growing. Some of the cheap mixtures contain a few of these, but along with them you will have to take other



FOR A BEAUTIFUL WHITE, CHOOSE PEACE

Varieties that are not so good, Halley and America being put in to "sweeten" the mixture, so to speak. In good mixtures, too, we often find Halley and America, for they are good varieties, but along with them will be others just as good, making a *good* mixture, but not an expensive one. So much for mixtures.

If you are prejudiced in favor of certain colors, or shades of color, you will need to consult the catalogue. Perhaps a few suggestions will help the beginner to choose his first varieties. It certainly would not be wise to start in with expensive sorts, although the Gladiolus is not hard to grow, for accidents do occasionally happen, and an evil-minded borer might destroy your choicest possession, which would, of course, be particularly discouraging for a beginner.

There are certain varieties that are well-known, some might say even common, but no one need be ashamed of growing them, although the connoisseur, with his "choice" collection, might turn his nose to some of them. I make no apology for the following list; all the varieties are good and they have the added advantage of being low in price, i. e., from 50 to 75 cents a dozen.

In shades of pink there are: America, Halley, Independence and Panama; in white and cream shades: Chicago White, Glory of Holland, Meadowvale and Peace; in yellow and buff: Niagara, Minnesota and Golden King; in shades of red: Crackerjack, Mrs. Frances King, Brenchleyensis and Princes; and in the "blue" shades, Baron Hulot.

This does not pretend to be a complete list.



A MIXED BOUQUET SHOWING DIFFERENT TYPES

There are other good varieties that cost little, if any, more, but it will do for a beginning. All of the varieties mentioned so far are of the larger-flowering type with the exception of Baron Hulot, which, like most of the earlier Lemoine Hybrids, is of medium size. They all

vary considerably in form of flower and spike, and you will have plenty of variety too choose from. So much for the named varieties.

The three races of Gladioli that were mentioned in the January number, Gandavensis,



SPIKE OF BLOOM, FLOWER, BULB AND BULBLETS

Lemoine and Childs, are no longer distinctly separated one from the other, they have been interbred so that the pedigrees of many of the recent varieties are much mixed. And this is no disadvantage, for each of the types had its good points, so why be fussy about a pedigree if the result is good?

Let us, then, speak of types rather than races, even though we may be called unscientific for doing so.

There is the plain-petalled type to which by far the largest part of our present varieties be-

long. Most commonly the flowers are separated a little so that each flower as it expands does not crowd its neighbor and can be seen at best advantage. And, too, all the blooms face fairly forward so that as you hold up the spike you do not have to crane your neck or turn the spike, in order to see every blossom. This is generally admitted to be the ideal form of a spike, but there is another less common form in which the flowers



VARIOUS FORMS OF MARKINGS

are in two ranks, separated by a little interval, and facing in nearly opposite directions; Pink Perfection is a good example of this form.

In some of the latest developments the blooms are so large and so close on the spike that they overlap, and only the uppermost flower can be seen satisfactorily. If size is the most important consideration from your point of view you will probably like this type, but there are many large-flowered varieties with a spike of the first type mentioned, in addition to those we have already named.

The ruffled type is another development, and is especially associated with the name of Kunderd in this country, and with Souchet in France. In this type the edges of the flowers

A MUMBLY-PEG GARDEN

Leah Evans says, "So many of us are cursed with golf-playing instincts and have mumbly-peg incomes." So it has been in the case of my garden, a mumbly-peg garden with golf-playing instincts. You would scarcely call it a garden, just a fringe of ground with a downward trend of one hundred and



FRAGRANT LILIES-OF-THE-VALLEY

twenty-five feet, surrounding a brown shingle, craftsman bungalow.

At the rear is a little lane flanked by an entanglement of Osage Orange trees with firm, thorny, interlacing boughs where the nests of scarlet tanagers, busy wrens and staid robins are hidden.

There is a driveway of brilliant Red-Dog, outlined by cobblestones to set off the long slopes of tender greensward. In the Springtime the stones are flecked by the lavender and pink of several hundred Crocus, followed by a riot of colors in the scarlet and gold of luxuriant Nasturtiums.

It was a problem to know what to use as an inexpensive bird-bath. At last an old terra cotta saucer was remembered, one that had been at some time used for a Fern crock. This served a double purpose: its porous nature kept the water cool and the rough surface gave a good hold for the birds' feet, whilst they could splash around without danger of slipping. The cobblestones were laid in circles, one on top of the other, until the whole formed a cone. On the apex, the saucer was sunken. Rich earth had been packed between the stones and with a pointed stick holes were made in which to place our Crocus bulbs.

A long bed of flowers and the south end was much admired. In the early Spring there was a border of Lilies-of-the-Valley in the foreground, great clumps of Iris alternating with Phlox, and in the background a wealth of yellow Marigolds and pink Cosmos. The yellow and pink color scheme, with a touch of lavender, was very effective against the brown shingles of the bungalow. The flowers bloomed with spend-thrift prodigiousness until the first frost came.

My implements for successful flower-growing have been a sharp-pointed trowel, a bag of sheep-manure for fertilizer, and a spray with plenty of water for use during the hot months. For leaf-eating insects, after various experiments with expensive germicides, one-half cup of kerosene to one bucket of water, applied thoroughly with a whisk during the coolest part of the day, was most effective.

As people become older, they grow more and more conservative, and it is a wrench to them to get out of the beaten track. When something new comes along and is tried in the garden, the conservatives hold up their hands and chant, "Don't, don't —."

The way to win them is to dream one's dream and then work it out. When each scheme is a success, the "don'ters" hang out the longest and are watchful of the result. Then, one by one, you will find them trying the same thing.

Mrs. Clyde Yohe, Pennsylvania.



JAPANESE IRIS

HILL AND HOLLOW PAPERS

BY FLORENCE BOYCE DAVIS

Number Three

OPEN DOORS

Warm rain rides on the shifting airs,
Sugarhouse smoke goes veering;
Up from the depths of their Winter lairs
Bright eyes are peering.

From wayside fences and pasture knolls
Squirrels the weather are chaffing,
Flickers are thrumming on ancient boles,
Robins are laughing.

The ice breaks up, and the river roars,
Bank high its refuse piling;
Leaning on brooms in their village doors
Women stand, smiling.

Open doors: Oh you good people who were gathering oranges from the trees and roses from the vines last Winter when we were shoveling drifts and tending fires, we have the best of you now. You cannot possibly feel the thrill that the coming of Spring gives us up here among the hills and hollows. Just to sit idly on the doorstep in the warm sunshine, and smell the Spruce boughs of the banking, and watch a bluebottle fly buzzing around is joy enough. Then look off on the hills and see the sugarhouses sending up the smoke, and hear the teamsters' voices ringing through the Maple Groves. In warm farm yards the cattle are standing, chewing contentedly, half asleep in the sunshine. The eaves are dripping, and all around the neighborhood hens are cackling, and roosters are crowing. Sarah just came from her hen house with a grain measure full of fresh eggs, and Abraham is out in the garden smoking hams. In a day or two Sarah will go out and dig some Horse-Radish, and calculate on how soon the frost will be out of the ground so they can have buttered Parsnips for dinner.

Modern sugarhouses are fitted up to take care of sugar-making from the time the sap

in the house. Then the big pan was put on the kitchen stove, and as the syrup boiled up and got nearer and nearer the top, somebody stood with tin dipper in hand, dipping and dipping to keep it from boiling over. Did you ever taste the creamy skum that swirled around



DIELYTRA, BLEEDING HEART

the edge of the pan? Oh, but it was fine! And then, of course, we children had to each have a saucer and a spoon, and stir some of the sugar when it was ready, and vie with one another on which would get it the whitest. Is it any wonder that everywhere you find men and women, busy with affairs of the world, whose dearest memories go back to their childhood days spent among the hills and hollows?

One thing that I regret is that the old aunts seem to be going out of fashion. When I was a little girl there was Aunt Polly and Aunt Sally, and Aunt Hitty, and Aunt Mary-Jim, and a number of others in our small town. Nobody had to depend on blood relationship to have an aunt in those days. As I look back, it seems to me Aunt Sally was the favorite. She was old when I knew her, but she still had a lovely garden, and the flower that most attracted me as I trudged past to school was a great, wonderful *Dicentra spectabilis*. I never liked the name Bleeding-Heart, I don't like it now, and wish somebody would give it a more appropriate title. Aunt Sally called it *Dielytra*, but whatever we call it, no garden is complete without it. Once installed in a sunny situation, given a rich bed and occasionally mulched, and there it is, year after year, ready to come up with the early Tulips and bear long, drooping sprays of pendent pink hearts from May to late in June.

It was Aunt Sally who used to call my mother in as she was going over the same road to school, and give her flower seeds. In those days flower seeds were more rare than they are now, and it was a great treat for a little girl when her kind old neighbor shared her treasures with her. Once she gave her some seeds she called Baby Faces, and sure enough they looked like them, little plump



PLANT SHIRLEYS FOR COLOR

comes into the evaporator until the sugar is in shiny tin pails, labeled and ready for market. But a few years ago the men came in from the sugar-plant at night, with sap-yokes across their shoulders, bring great buckets of warm, sweet-smelling maple syrup to be sugared-off

cheeks and snubby noses! In the catalogues they are annual Lupine, and a few years ago, almost half a century later, my mother, took some of the seed to the old cemetery where Aunt Sally is buried and planted them on her grave—for auld lang syne.

There is a sort of kinship among flower lovers and folks who work in gardens that always gives a nice taste to life. I came across this little poem in Youth's Companion, and liked it so much I want to pass it on to you:

Gardens and the things that
grow in gardens,
I like them all!
In Summer, Peas and Beans,
and Cantaloupes,
And Squash in Fall.

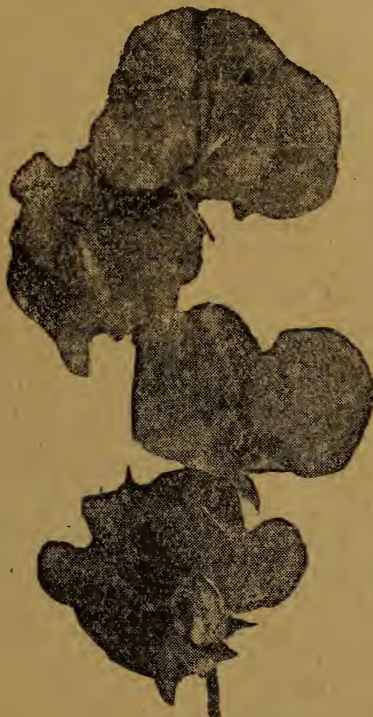
Gardens and the folks that
work in gardens,
They are my friends,
Along some garden walk I
visit and I talk,
Till Autumn ends.

And when its Wintertime I
read
A catalogue of garden seed.

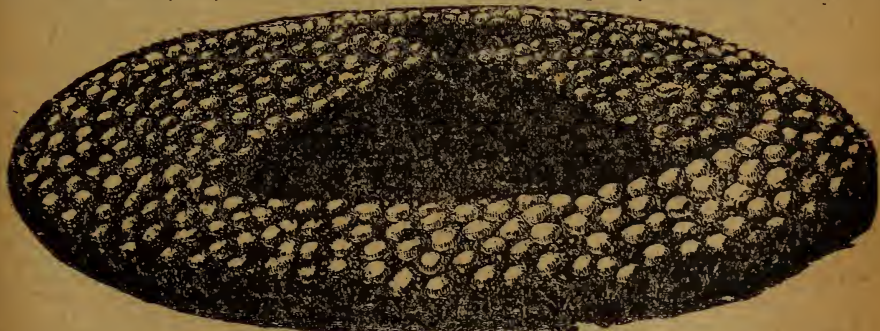
Last year we wrote to the editor of a well-known magazine for advice as to how to get rid of a meadow mouse (*Microtus Pennsylvanicus*) which was destroying our bulbs and perennials by the hundreds, and the mole (*Scalops aquaticus*) that was burrowing the lawn and vegetable garden. The editor published our letter, and we began receiving letters from all over the country, telling us of similar troubles, and methods used in eradicating the pests. We tried almost everything that was suggested, except the offer of a pair of cats which we refused on account of being bird lovers, and birds and cats are not congenial. We poisoned grain with strychnine and arsenic and put in their runways, put out a rat virus that was recommended, planted Castor Oil beans for the moles, etc., etc. Later we shall

think how many dear people had taken the trouble to write to a stranger simply to help surely made us feel that we were living in a fine, friendly, old world, and the more flower folk we have in it the friendlier we are going to be.

As we say here in the hills and hollows when we lean over our neighbor's garden fence: What are you going to plant? Asters, of course. Perhaps you have already sown the seed in the house. If you haven't, get out some shallow boxes, cigar boxes will do, fill with equal parts of rich, sandy loam and leaf-mold, sow the seed broadcast and cover with about one-quarter inch of soil. Use a fine hose or watering can when you water them, and cover with paper, or else lay a thin cloth over the box and sprinkle through the cloth. The covering should be removed as soon as the seeds begin to break through the soil. Transplant the seedlings when an inch and a half or two inches in height, and again if they need it before time to set out in permanent beds and borders. Of course the time for planting of seed has to be regulated by the latitude in which we live. Around Philadelphia Aster seeds should be sown in the house by the middle of March, north of there later, according to the date when plants may be set out. It isn't safe to get them in open ground until the leaves are coming on the trees. Give the plants a good watering before you lift them, so that plenty of soil will adhere to the roots. A cool loam, liberally enriched with well-rotted farmyard manure, makes the best soil for Asters. One successful grower recommends raking into the surface soil a dressing of acid phosphate, about four ounces to the



NEW SWEET PEA, GLITTERS



A LARGE BED OF ASTERS

be able to tell you the results of our warfare, though we used so many different weapons I'm sure I don't know which we will credit the victory to, if indeed, victory is ours. But to

square yard. Asters, like the rest of us, have their enemies. Sometimes the heat and dry weather of Midsummer blight the buds; also the black



GARDENS: WILD AND CULTIVATED

These are busy days for Dame Nature. The "old woman who lived in a shoe" had an easy time of it compared with Dame Nature in Springtime, for in with her gardening comes a'so her housecleaning; the snow and ice must be swept away, and all the hills and valleys washed clean. A little later there will come a flower festival, and the earth must be made ready for it. In the midst of all this work she must set the sap rising in the trees, and see that buds are beginning to swell, that the Pussy Willows are coming out and the Skunk Cabbage is putting in an appearance in swampy hollows.

Then there are all the little hibernating animals to be wakened from their long Winter naps. Dame Nature is busy long before we see any signs of her work, dressing up Crocuses and making pink bonnets for the wild Arbutus, and little fuzzy furs for the Hepatica to wear on those first Spring days when it peeps above the leaves. In fact, she has been busy all Winter spinning, weaving and fashioning beautiful things for the coming of Spring. Even last Summer she was hard at work getting ready for sugaring, for the sweetness of this Spring's sap depends in a large measure upon the influence of last Summer's sunshine on the leaves of the Maple. While we were off on our vacations, and thinking about ball games and good times generally, Dame Nature was seeing to it that the Maple leaves were storing up starch and sugar, and the roots sending up moisture, and all the little laboratories busy performing wonderful chemical processes in order that sweet sap would drip into buckets in March and April, to be boiled down and spread on snow-banks and eaten with doughnuts and pickles when we get together for a jolly sugaring-off! How many of our boys ever worked in a sugar orchard? The Bird Woman used to love to go out with her brother in the Spring, and once she tried helping tap the trees. She thought she was doing pretty good work, but chancing to look around, she saw her brother sitting on a log doubled up with laughter, and, to her chagrin, she found that she had tapped a number of trees that were not Maples. She made up her mind right then and there that she would learn to name the trees by their bark as well as by their leaves.

Now let us take a peep at Nature's wild garden in early Spring. From March to May, in the light, sandy loam in woods, especially under Evergreen trees, or in mossy, rocky places, we may find the beautiful trailing Arbutus, the little flower that cheered the hearts of the Pilgrim Fathers when they found it above the frozen ground at Plymouth. From Newfoundland to Florida it grows, but in many localities it has been exterminated by thoughtless people who tear the plant up by the roots and selfishly pick every specimen they can find. This little wildling pines away and dies when we try to coax it into our gardens, so there is little use in transplanting it. It is Nature's own Spring flower, and should be allowed to beautify its natural haunts.

Even before the Arbutus, comes the Hepatica, whose flowering season is said to be from December to May. But the real race among the Spring wild flowers begins in March or April when Hepatica, Arbutus, Spring Beauty, Adder's Tongue, wild Ginger, Bloodroot, Squirrel Corn, Anemone and many kinds of Violets strive for first honors in Nature's garden. All of these excepting Arbutus and Spring Beauty take kindly to a protected corner of our own garden, and make a little beauty spot early in Spring. Give them wood's dirt, and don't let their roots dry out when you transplant them; then leave them alone and they will take care of themselves indefinitely, for most of them come up ahead of the weeds that we have to fight later in our cultivated beds.



Now of course this is just the starting point of Dame Nature's Summer work in her wild gardens, but what about our own gardens? I wish every boy and girl in homes where Parks Floral Magazine makes its monthly visits would plant at least six kinds of seeds this season, and send reports in to the Pine Tree Nature Club in the Fall, telling us what he or she raised. Those of you who have a practical turn of mind may prefer to plant vegetable seeds; or you may want to turn your floral work into pin money. One way to do the latter is to start now growing plants of Jerusalem Cherry (*Solanum pseudo-capsicum*) and Pepper Plant (*Capsicum annuum*) to sell for Christmas. Red and green, you know, are the Christmas colors, and these plants, laden with bright

red fruit, are always in demand. Both the Pepper and the Cherry are readily grown from seed. Sow in shallow boxes in February or



ANEMONES FROM THE WOODS

March, and keep warm till germinated; when the seedlings are large enough prick them off into thumb pots; they may need transplanting several times before time to plunge out of doors for the Summer. Take them in before frosts, and give them a sunny window. They should be in fruit by the middle of December, ready to make beautiful and appropriate gifts for Christmas

time. Some of you may have a little plot about home that needs beautifying. Experiment with it; see how attractive you can make it. Plant annuals for this Summer's flowers and perennials to blossom next Summer.

Last, but by no means least, comes the school garden. In 1878 a woman in Boston began the first work for children's gardens, and since then there has been widespread interest in the movement. Many schools have taken up the work, and some have carried it on with wonderful success. Much is gained by having an experienced gardener give advice as to soil, fertilizer, and care of the plants, but when this isn't possible, one may learn a great deal by studying a good garden magazine, or seed catalogue, or often the directions on the seed packets.

If there is no space allotted for a school garden, then beautify the building with window boxes and vines. Red Geraniums and white Daisies and variegated Vinca vines



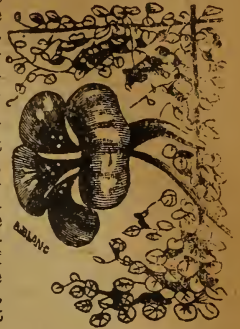
OSTRICH-PLUME ASTERS

make a pretty window box; Asters, Gladioli bulbs, and many other flowers can be used, but be sure that a committee is appointed to care for the plants during vacation, for nothing looks much worse than a neglected window box. For a permanent vine the old Dutchman's Pipe (*Aristolochia Siphon*) is always satisfactory. Scarlet Runner beans, Morning Glories and Nasturtiums make pretty



SOLANUM PSEUDO-CAPSICUM teosinte.

ners make a shady spot in which to sit and study on hot days. Trees that bear berries, especially the white-fruited Mulberry, will bring birds from miles around, and give the boys and girls a chance to get acquainted with bird neighbors. It would be an easy matter to start an arboretum by having ground set aside for the purpose, and planting the different trees and shrubs native to the section. Such a collection would be of great value to both the school and the town.



See if you can't get your school board interested by promising to do the work if they will set aside a plot for an experiment in school gardening. Some good neighbor is sure to let you take his horse and cart to draw in leaf-mold; and some one else will contribute a load of fertilizer.

This is the best country in the world for a boy or girl to live in and accomplish things that are worth while. Remember, a lad who was born in a log cabin became our greatest President. The limit is the sky, and the closer we keep to Nature and her good, clean ways of doing business, the higher we are going to climb.

Next month our topic will be "Frogs, and Spring Fashions."

PINE CONES

"Nature is sometimes slow, but always sure," says The Youth's Companion, and gives the following information of how Indian Corn was developed from a wild grass called

"The Indians found teosinte covering our plains. It bore tiny ears with two rows of small kernels like corn. The cobs were from two to four inches long, thinner than a lead pencil, with each grain encased in a separate sheath. Discovering that the kernels were good to eat, the Indians began to cultivate the plant. Since they always saved the best kernels for seed, the teosinte ears gradually became longer and bigger around so as to take care of extra rows of kernels. In time the sheaths disappeared.



SPRING VIOLETS

"Such, the botanists believed was the history (Concluded on page 82)

CONSCIENCE

If you wrong your friend intentionally,
 You wrong yourself the more;
 For the wrong you do to others
 Will greet you at your door.
 A court of justice you always bear,
 About within your breast;
 Yourself the judge and jury
 Which is worse than all the rest.
 A prisoner at the bar are you
 Condemned forevermore,
 Your conscience ever more alert
 Like waves upon the shore,
 And they lash and leap, and surge and fret
 As the furious storm is raging wild,
 These wrongs you never can forget,
 For your judge is never mild.

—Mrs. Mattie Cooke.

BEGONIAS

Begonias are a species of plant that I dearly love, and they respond so easily to treatment. The dear old M. de Lesseps and Pres. Carnot, one with white, the



A BEAUTIFULLY FRILLED TUBEROUS BEGONIA other with rose-colored blooms, are my standbys.

But the glory of the species lies in the Tuberous-rooted Begonias, single and double, crested and fringed, sending up their gorgeous flowers until Thanksgiving; then the jars can be set away anywhere that potatoes will keep, and brought out again the following Spring. Lots of bonemeal in the bottom of the jar serves as a complete fertilizer, while a shady nook and plenty of water is their delight during the Summer months.

Sometimes rust bothers the plants. Can you tell me how to treat that? It is more prevalent in the fibrous varieties.

Mrs. G. W. Bain, New York.

Note: Use one teaspoonful of baking soda in a teacup of warm water, and with a soft cloth bathe the affected leaves.—EDITOR.

SWEET PEAS; HOW TO SOW THEM

As soon as the frost is out of the ground in the Spring, we dig a trench about six inches deep in a section of the garden where there is shade part of the day. At the bottom of the trench we place small stones for good drainage and over them put a layer of good, rich dirt, then a layer of well-rooted manure; followed by another layer of soil perhaps two inches deep. On top of this layer we sow the seed quite thickly in a row. We generally sow the colors which harmonize near each other and the mixed seed at the lower end of the row.

After this we cover the seed about two inches deep, patting the soil down gently. When the little plants are two or three inches high, we draw the soil carefully over the roots. We do this every little while until the trench is filled to the level of the ground. This gives the peas good, long, healthy roots that will not wash out with the heavy rains. If the plants do not come up evenly, we transplant from where they come up too thickly.

We keep the roots well watered and give them a shower bath with the garden hose occasionally. After they begin to bloom we pick the blossoms every morning. If the beginners do this, they will have Sweet Peas that will delight them until Jack Frost comes.

Miss Beulah M. Hayes, New York.

In my Botany of school days I find that *Corydalis* is a near relative of "*Dicentra Spectabilis*".
 Spearmint, Illinois.

Large Sums of Money in Old Kettles

Don't throw away any more household or cooking utensils on account of leaks in them, as one of our readers has discovered a harmless powder which, after being mixed into putty form, becomes hard as stone and successfully mends leaks in agate, graniteware, aluminum, copper, brass, iron, tinware, and plumbing. Even a child can mix and apply it, as it requires neither heat, acid, nor tools and will not melt.

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This should be a big money getter for live agents. —Adv't.

(Continued from page 68)

are waved, or fluted, like the Spencer Sweet Peas, and the blooms are typically placed rather closer together than in most of the plain-petalled type.

Both of the types just mentioned, plain-petalled and ruffled, have large flowers, and many of them, and can be had in practically every color of the rainbow, and more. But there is another type now coming into popularity, and no list of Gladioli, no matter how long, would be complete unless it mentioned the Primulinus Hybrids which, for want of a better term, we will call the hooded type because of the form of the flower. It is too bad that they have not a more graceful name, one more in keeping with their daintiness of form, but not even the name can hide their good qualities. In size they are not so large as the older types, and there are not quite so many flowers on the stem; neither do they show so great a variety of coloring. But the form of the flower and gracefulness of the stem, as well as the coloring of the petal, make this type very desirable. The upper petal is hooded, being bent forward so as to partly conceal the opening of the flower, and this peculiarity, typical of the wild Primulinus, is transmitted to its descendants sometimes even to the third and fourth generation. The general appearance of the flower and spike reminds one, except as to color, of the Yucca, Adam's Thread-and-Needle. The color ranges from cream, through yellow, apricot and orange, to scarlet, with a few pink shades, but by far the larger part of them are in shades of yellow and apricot, "Nasturtium shades" they are sometimes appropriately called, and so bright and cheerful in appearance that it would be impossible for one to be anything but cheerful in their presence.

Place a few spikes of these flowers in a vase or basket and the whole house will be brighter on account of them. So when you are planning your garden, be sure to reserve a place for the Primulinus Hybrids. They are usually sold as mixtures, either all colors together, or in separate color sections, and these mixtures are usually good. There are named varieties, too, that are called Primulinus Hybrids, but many of these have departed from the true Primulinus type, particularly as to size, though generally retaining more or less of the hooded form. Here, as in other types, the trend of development has been to increase the size of the blooms and, if it continues, the original grace and daintiness of the type will be lost.

We have covered this subject only in a most general way, but no description, however long and full of detail, could possibly take the place of a visit to a commercial garden in giving a correct understanding of the differences between the types of Gladioli. The named varieties we have mentioned are fairly typical, but those who are well acquainted with the Gladioli will want other varieties than those mentioned here. It is not the purpose of this article to play the part of a complete guide, for it would be impossible to name all the good varieties, and to mention only a few would be an injustice to others; so we have mentioned only those that can be bought practically anywhere.

There are plain-petalled varieties, and those with ruffled edges, in all colors, to suit any taste, and the price that can be paid for the bulbs needed to fill even a small bed is limited only by the size of the pocket-book.

Generally speaking, it cannot be very satisfactory to start with only one bulb of a kind,

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even though many of the larger bulbs will give two spikes of flowers. For the price of one good Dahlia root you can have a half dozen Gladioli of corresponding value, and from what a dozen Dahlias will cost you can buy at least 50 Gladioli bulbs, and of the two the Dahlias will occupy more space in your garden. So, when you think of Gladioli, think in units of six, except, of course, when indulging in the more expensive sorts. Nothing here said must be construed as reflecting on the Dahlia, it is not so intended. Both flowers are popular and neither can replace the other. What I have said is, in other words, that you must not expect as much from one Gladioli bulb as you would from one Dahlia root, but value for value you should get as much satisfaction as from the other.

Many of the old varieties are good, but many of the new varieties are better, better in shape and better in form, and you will recognize the difference when you see them. If you know what you want you will find what you are looking for if you are persistent. This is the program: Consult a catalogue, watch the advertisements, visit the gardens and the flower shows, and before next year's planting you will be able to answer your own question: What Gladioli shall I plant?

Thomas M. Proctor, Massachusetts.

NOTE: The fourth of this series of articles by Mr. Proctor will cover Planting and Care and will appear in the April issue.

EXCHANGES.

Mrs. G. W. Hill, 106 Kinsley Ave., Waterloo, Iowa, has Dahlia and hardy plants to exchange for others. Write.

Mrs. W. A. Rushin, Boston, Ga., has Begonias and Ferns to exchange for dress gingham.

Mrs. Francis Dickson, Holladay, Tenn., R.F.D. 3, has hardy shrubs, bulbs, flowers and seeds to exchange for dress goods or anything useful. Write.

Mrs. A. M. Blue, R.F.D. 2, Ft. Morgan, Colo., has Gladioli and seeds to exchange for Tulips, Jonquils, Crocus and Hyacinths and seed. Write.

Mollie Van Hook, Ellihu, Ky., has seed of Moon-vine, Hibiscus, Cypress-vine, Zinnias, Bouncing Bet and Cosmos to exchange for seed of Hollyhocks, Four O'clocks, Vinca, Asters, Salvia and Antirrhinum.

Ruth Jackisch, R.F.D. 1, Box 16, Greensboro, Ala. Magnolias for Azelias, Cyclamen, Poinsettias, Begonias, Geraniums, etc.

B B Lott, R.F.D. 2, Lewisport, Ky. Dahlias, Cannas, Mums and turkey eggs for Mums. Write.

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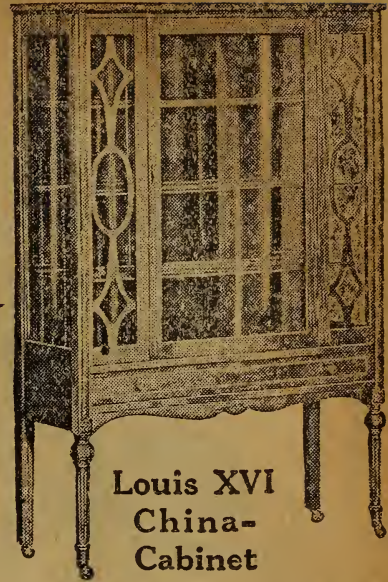


Dear Floral Friends: I wish to tell you how I managed my Gladioli last year. First, to fix the bed, I spread about a two-inch thickness of very fine trash and the rotted wood from my wood pile where it has been for years. Then, not being able to dig, I got down on my knees with a good, long-bladed butcher knife and thoroughly mixed and loosened the dirt the length of the blade. The trenches I made about twelve inches apart and dropped in the bulbs, the larger size, four to six inches apart.

In the beds of the smaller bulbets I made the trenches six inches apart. These smaller ones were so small that I did not think they would bloom last year, but more than half of them did bloom, and in the Fall, when I dug them, I was surprised at the size of the bulbs, for the tiny bulbets had formed bulbs from one to two inches in diameter.

Last Fall I took up the bulbs as fast as the tops died, for if we leave them here until all are ready, and there comes a lot of rain, a great many of them rot. I have lost several pretty ones in the past by leaving them too long. It is not that they freeze enough to hurt them in this country, but the tiny bulbets rot from the rain. If left, those that do not rot will come up in the Spring, but it is certainly advisable to take them up each year so as to separate them. They multiply quickly, and bloom better apart. Gladioli will well repay you for any extra care.

A. E. S., Louisiana.



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EXCHANGES

Mrs. F. L. Brown, Shortsville, N. Y. Flower seeds, including Columbine and Canterbury Bell, for bulbs.

Mrs. G. L. Spear, Marlette, Mich. Named Dahlias, Cannas, Tuberoses, Ismene, Callas and flower seed for named Dahlias, Cannas and other plants. Write.

Delia Brown, Buena Vista, Ind. Dahlias, Jerusalem Cherry and Zinnia seed for Callas, Oxalis, Begonias, Fuchsias, Geraniums and house plants. Write.

Mrs. Wm. Crawford, LaPorte, Ind. Christmas Cactus for double red Chrysanthemum or Amaryllis.

Mrs. E. B. Frolich, Bellefont, Kans., RFD. 1, Box 11. Cannas, hardy Phlox, Dahlias and Grinums for Paeonies and other plants.

A. J. Baker, Uniondale, Penna. Red, white and black Currants for Loganberry Plants or Gladiolus.

Myron Fawcett, Rye Star Route, Pueblo, Colo. Stamps and Cacti for Roses, Iris, Paeonies and Fall bulbs. Write.

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Floral Friend's Corner: I love all flowers, but my favorite is the Amaryllis, and I have dozens of them, in all shades and colors. I must tell you of my experience with this bulb, lest you, too, have the same trouble.

I did not have window space enough, so I put a salmon-colored Amaryllis and a dark red one in the same pot, in the Fall, when I potted them. Imagine my sorrow and surprise this month when the dark red bulb bloomed a brick red, and the salmon-colored one followed, another brick red. From now on, my Amaryllis bulbs will each have their own pots.

I find that the bulbs do best in quart tin cans; I punch one hole in each side of the can and hang them up by the window casings. The higher up they hang in the Winter, the better they like it, for the Amaryllis likes hot atmospheres. I water them very sparingly. At one time last Winter I had two stalks, four blossoms on each stalk, on one bulb.

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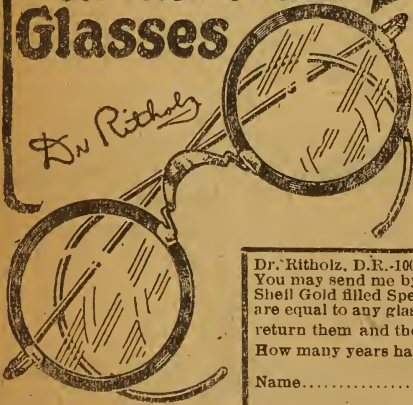
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 of Handsome
 Tortoise Shell
 Glasses



FLORAGRAMS

In the south corner I set a six-foot fork which my Trumpet Honeysuckle soon covered; a Robin made her nest in it and there raised two families.

Very early dig a ditch a foot deep, fill with manure and a few inches of dirt and, when warm enough, set your Dahlia tubers a foot apart on the dirt and cover well and you will have large blossoms and plenty of them before Jack Frost comes.

My Christmas Cactus is larger than a bushel basket and just loaded with buds. I keep it in a cool place so as to have blooms in April. My Crab Cactus bloomed from November until Christmas.

I have a large beaded Cactus with little wax-like, yellow buds peeping out; they will open in March.

Then the May Cactus will be covered with large, pink bells.

Place a half-barrel on the corner of your porch; paint it green and fill it with a mixture of sand, rich loam and well-rotted manure; stir often. Just as soon as the weather will permit sow a few Virginia Creeper seed in the center and trailing Nasturtiums and Sweet Alyssum around the edge. Your porch will be admired by all who pass by.

By the last of May my King and Queen Cactus will bloom; it has large red bells, the size of a teacup. The Rat-tail and Pincushion have not bloomed. In September the night-blooming Cereus had several lovely blooms.

Place a large sweet potato in a glass jar with a little water, the potato just touching the water, and a few slips of Wandering Jew. You will have a pretty, green window.

Florally Ray.

GLADIOLUS

I plant about 1,000 Gladiolus each year. Set them in trenches 6 or 8 inches deep and draw the dirt in as they grow. Plant the bulbs six inches apart, two rows in the trench. What armloads of flowers, and so little work!

Mrs. J. M. Laflen, Illinois.

A WOMAN FLORIST
3 Hardy Roses 25^c

On their own roots
ALL WILL BLOOM THIS SUMMER
Sent to any address postpaid;
guaranteed to reach you in good growing condition.

GEM ROSE COLLECTION
Crimson Queen, rich velvety crimson.
Alexander Hill Gray, pure yellow.
Columbia, glowing pink.

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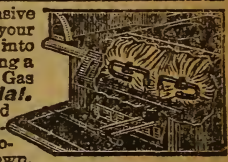
- 3 Carnations, the "Divine Flower," all colors, 25c
- 3 Choice Ferns - - 25c
- 3 Chrysanthemums, 25c
- 4 Beautiful Coleus, 25c
- 3 Flowering Cannas, 25c
- 2 Choice Dahlias - - - - 25c
- 2 Choice Hardy Iris - - - 25c
- 5 Lovely Gladioli - - - - 25c
- 5 Superb Pansy Plants - - 25c
- 8 Pkts. Flower Seeds, all different, 25c
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clutches. Rush me your name and address and plans of the home. You risk nothing.

(Continued from page 73)

of our Maize. Mr. Luther Burbank made an experiment in order to test the theory. Starting in 1903, he gradually developed the teosinte plant with its miniature flat cob and two rows of kernels into a much larger plant with a round cob and several rows of large, fat kernels. At the end of a few years he found an occasional kernel that had emerged from its husk, or sheath. He bred only these kernels, and in a few years more the husks had entirely disappeared. At the end of the eighteenth year he had produced ears of Indian corn. Though the ears do not equal the superior varieties now grown in America, they compare favorably in every way with those that the first white settlers found the Indians cultivating."

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Some Magazine!

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Name..... Street or R. F. D.....
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- IV. What plants steal their living from others?
- V. What is the favorite color of bees?
- VI. Flowers of what color are most attractive to humming birds?
- VII. What two flowers, one a bright blue and one a brilliant red, are twin sisters?
- VIII. What tribe of flowering plants is best fitted by nature to inherit the earth?
- IX. Name several plants that fold their leaves in sleep at night?
- X. Name six different members of the Lily family?

Answers to February Questions

- I. Blue Jay, Chickadee, Cedar Waxwing, Cardinal, Carolina Wren, Flicker, Meadow-lark, Prairie Horned Lark, Song Sparrow, Goldfinch.
- II. Junco, Horned Lark, Pine Grosbeak, Redpoll, Snowflake, Northern Strike, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Bohemian Waxwing, Tree Sparrow.
- III. The Northern Shrike, or Butcher-bird. The consternation that the appearance of a shrike produces among a flock of chickadees or other little birds is proof enough of his blood-thirsty habits. He cannot begin to eat all he kills, and impales his victims on thorns and twigs to feast upon later if it suits his fancy.
- IV. The Ruby-throated Hummingbird is the smallest bird we have; it winters in Central America.
- V. The Horned Lark. The male birds have a few erectile feathers on either side of the head which look like horns; this gives the birds their name.
- VI. Smith's Painted Longspur and Lapland Longspur.
- VII. The American Crossbill and the White-winged Crossbill. They are extremely fond of salt. One writer tells of an old ice-cream freezer that attracted flocks of these birds one Winter.
- VIII. White-breasted Nuthatch and Red-breasted Nuthatch. Their name is derived from their habit of wedging nuts in the bark of the trees, and then hatching them open with their beaks. They never hold their food with their feet as their cousins, the chickadees, do.
- IX. Hairy Woodpecker. He is a devoted lover in Spring, but makes a poor husband in Winter.
- X. The Downy Woodpecker, who is the most social and friendly member of the Woodpecker family.

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We require the services of an ambitious person to do some special advertising work right in your own locality. The work is pleasant and dignified. Pay is exceptionally large. No previous experience is required, as all that is necessary is a willingness on your part to carry out our instructions. If you are at present employed, we can use your spare time in a way that will not interfere with your present employment—yet pay you well for your time. If you are making less than \$150 a month, the offer I am going to make will appeal to you. Your spare time will pay you well—your full time will bring you in a handsome income. It costs nothing to investigate. Write me to-day and I will send you full particulars by return mail and place before you the facts so that you can decide for yourself.

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Gladioli-Plant "Pride of the Garden". Gardens not complete without them. Write for prices on dozens, hundreds or thousands. J. H. Miller, Waynesboro, Pa.

Dahlias, 15 kinds, \$1.10. Chrysanthemums, 20, \$1.00. Gladioli, 25, \$1.00. Geraniums, Iris, Cannas, 3 for 25c. Your choice. Mrs. J. O. Simmons, R5, Box 112, Roanoke, Va.

Rhubarb, 75c. dozen. Flower Seeds, 6 pkts, 20c. prepaid and guaranteed to please you. John L. Wilson, Elk City, Kansas.

12 Lovely Iris, \$1.00. Eva Myers, Hardin, Mo.

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Earn \$25 weekly, spare time, writing for newspapers magazines. Experience unnecessary; details Free. Press Syndicate, 621, St. Louis, Mo.

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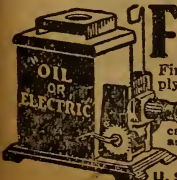
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Girls earn this beautiful Kewpie Doll. Given away for taking orders for thirty bottles of our select perfume at 15 cents each. We send the perfume without any charges. When sold return \$1.50 and doll is yours. Send name to

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10 Inches High



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SPRING'S TELEGRAM

The Crocuses and Daffodils
And Tulips, Jonquils, too,
Have peeped up just a little.
Our telegram: Spring is due.
And even Robin Red Breast
Is back again once more,
Chirping here, and chirping there.
Our telegram: Spring's at our door.
What more added to happiness,
To everyone so sweet,
As flowers, birds and everything.
Our telegram: Spring's treat.
—Mrs. Emma A. Hagstrom, Illinois.

SHAMROCK

It seems that it has never been authoritatively settled as to just what is really the true Shamrock. The best authorities, however, agree that it is some species of our common white Clover, *Trifolium repens*. There is a form of it, *T. minus*, that is often sold as the genuine Irish Shamrock.

Fannie S. Heath, North Dakota.



WONDERFUL NEW RUFFLED GLADIOLI

New and far superior. Beautiful 56 page catalog free. Shows 19 varieties in color. Finest and most useful Gladiolus catalog ever published. Write today.

A. E. KUNDERD

The originator of The Ruffled Gladiolus
Box 59, GOSHEN, INDIANA, U. S. A.

ASPARGUS ROOTS

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100 Roots Postpaid \$1.25

Only 25,000 to offer at this low price. Rush order now for early Spring delivery.
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6 for 50c; 15 for \$1.00; \$6.50 per 100;

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Ask for catalogue

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MOUNT CLEMENS, MICH.

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Send 25c for any one of the following 50c values; or 60c for all 3 Collections

20 Exhibition Aster Plants, or
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12 Large Flowering, all different, Gladioli.

Gladiolus to send big list worthwhile seeds, bulbs, plants
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My catalogue has a questionnaire of eight questions. For the 8 best answers I will give \$20.00 worth of Dahlias, your own selection, from my catalogue listing over 100 varieties. \$20.00 in Dahlias would make a wonderful display in your garden. Send postal today for catalogue and questionnaire.
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Anyone Can Grow Them

\$ YOU CAN MAKE MONEY \$

Write to me for information. I will show you how I have made money. You can start in the business on \$10.00. One of the best opportunities of the day.
Robert R. Walker, Dept. A. Mansfield, Mass.

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White Giant, the finest pure white variety grown; long, strong spikes, well filled with handsome, large, pure white lily-like blooms. Very early. Write for prices per 100.

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Our mixture consists of some of the best, and rarest varieties, Cactus, Peony Flowered, Decorative, Show, Collarette, Pompons, etc, etc. All are good quality flower producing roots, and even at this low price we prepay postage.
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Gladiolus Specialist

SPRING.

I love the spring with its sunny hours,
With its singing birds and blooming flowers;
With its budding trees and its rainbow hues,
With its evening showers and morning dews.

I love the spring with its beauty rare,
With its carpet of green and its fragrant air
With its skipping lambs that play by the streams,
As the light on the crystal waters gleams.

I love the spring, the beautiful spring,
When I gaze on the butterfly's painted wing;
As it gathers the sweets from the opening flowers,
Or rests on the woodland's leafy bowers.

Mrs. G. B. Marshall.

PERENNIALS, SHRUBS AND BULBS

I wonder why people who love flowers do not plant more perennials? So many say to me, "I love flowers, but it is too much work to raise them." Do they really love flowers? I think not.

Perennials are very little trouble, and there are so many flowering shrubs that when once set out need very little care. Gladiolus are very easy to raise, and nothing can be lovelier than a great, big bunch of them in the Summer.

Dahlias are fine, but it is more work to care for them, and, here in Minnesota, they will not bloom every Summer. However, I keep on planting them each Spring, for when they do bloom, they more than repay me for all my work.

Mrs. R. A. McCoy, Minnesota.

MORE ABOUT ROSEMARY AND SWEETMARY

Some one asked for the true name of Sweetmary. Gray's Field, Forest and Garden Botany gives it as Chrysanthemum Balsamita, variety tanacetoides. He states that it is known as Costmary, Mint Geranium, and sometimes erroneously called Lavender. Although also called Rosemary, this latter name is more often applied to the Rosemarium, meaning "Dew of the Sea," which Gray says refers to its habitat.

The Sweetmary is sometimes catalogued as Costmary. I am not acquainted with Rosemarium, but have known Sweetmary since earliest childhood, it being one of the first two plants planted in my garden; Sedum Telephium, Live-forever, being the other. Both plants are still there, though not from the original planting.

Fannie S. Heath, North Dakota.

MAKE MONEY AT HOME GROWING GLADIOLUS

bulbs, pleasant, profitable work, either sex; particulars free. Oakland Gardens, Box F. Walked Lake, Mich.



PARKER'S HAIR BALM
Removes Dandruff—Stops Hair Falling
Restores Color and
Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair
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3 Glorious ROSES

Everblooming, Guaranteed True to Name. All bloom this summer.

25c



Radiance—Intense pink
Alex. Hill Gray—Yellow, fine bud
Crimson Queen—Velvety crimson

5 Pkts. Flower Seeds

The following collection blooms from early summer to late fall: Aster, Petunia, Pansy, Phlox and Salvia. Generous pkts. Extra special value postpaid 10c.

I will also mail 5 packets of Daisy Seed (five colors) for 15c, or I will mail the above 3 Collections, the 3 Roses, the 5 pkts. of Flower Seeds and the 5 pkts. of Daisy Seed all for 40c.

COMPLETE NEW CATALOG

Lists 400 roses, all the newest and best. Dahlias, Ferns and everything for house and garden. Send for it.

MISS JESSIE M. GOOD, Box 305 Springfield, Ohio

EVERBLOOMING TUBEROSE BULBS

This charming, delightfully fragrant, pure white variety begins to flower in July and continues throughout



the season. Each bulb throwing from 2 to 5 flower spikes in succession. Plant in the open ground 6 inches apart, when the ground becomes warm.

6 for 50c; 15 for \$1.00; \$5.50 per 100 postpaid.

GROVER C. SCOTT, Lapark, Penna.

WHY NOT SPEND SPRING, SUMMER, FALL GATHERING Butterflies, Insects? I buy hundreds of kinds for collections. Some worth \$1 to \$7 each. Simple outdoor work with my Instructions, Pictures, Pricelist. Get ready now. Send 25c. NOT STAMPS, for Illustrated PROSPECTUS. MR. SINCLAIR, Dealer in Insects, Dept 31, OCEAN PARK, CALIF.



Why Men Take Mastin's Yeast Vitamon To Clear The Skin

Build Firm "Stay-There" Flesh, Strengthen the Nerves and Increase Energy.

EASY AND ECONOMICAL—RESULTS QUICK.

If you want to quickly clear your skin and complexion, put some firm healthy flesh on your bones, increase your nerve force and power and look and feel far better, simply try taking two of Mastin's tiny yeast VITAMON tablets with each meal and watch the results. Mastin's VITAMON tablets contain highly concentrated yeast-vitamines as well as the two other still more important vitamins (Fat soluble A and Water soluble C) combined with true organic iron and the necessary lime salts all of which Science says your body must have to keep you strong, vigorous, well formed and fortified against the germs of disease. Mastin's Vitamon Tablets will not upset the stomach or cause gas, but, on the contrary, are a great aid to digestion, to overcome constipation and as a general conditioner of the whole system. Pimples, boils and skin eruptions seem to vanish like magic under this purifying influence, the complexion often becomes fresh and clear, with cheeks glowing with ruddy health, the flesh firm instead of flabby, the eyes bright instead of dull.



Of what use are fine features with an ugly, mottled skin, flabby flesh, sunken cheeks, pouches under the eyes or a careworn, sickly-looking face?

WARNING: Your safety and protection depend upon getting MASTIN'S VITAMON TABLETS—if it isn't MASTIN'S it isn't the Original and Genuine VITAMON—the World's Standard—now used by millions. Beware of imitations, cheap substitutes or so-called "yeast vitamine tablets." Insist upon MASTIN'S. At all good druggists.

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Are Fully Guaranteed In Every
Respect Or Your Money Will Be
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The Worlds Standard—Used by Millions

MOOREI CRINUM

Much to my surprise, one day in December I discovered another bud stalk on my pink Moorei Crinum. The first bud is now just ready to open and there are five more buds; surely a most welcome visitor on a cold, January day. This bulb bloomed before in September so I was not looking for any more buds and, too, I never heard of a Crinum blooming in the Winter before. This variety looks different from any Crinum I ever saw. The leaves look exactly like corn leaves. I believe there is a white Moorei Crinum too, but I never saw one.

FLOWERING CURRANT

I have a pretty, old-fashioned plant given me as a Flowering Currant. It makes a neat, symmetrical, little window plant and with god care is always decorated with little racemes of tiny white flowers which develop into little red berries looking like miniature clusters of red currants. They are easily grown from seeds but require a long time to germinate. After one has had a plant for some time he will notice young plants coming up in the pot. I am much pleased with the plant and would like to know if it has another name. Can anyone tell me?

BOUGANVILLEA

Did you ever try a Bouganvillea? I had one which was very much admired but unfortunately it was frozen last Winter. They are very easy to grow and a lovely sight when loaded with the rosy purple bracts which we call flowers. They bloom in Spring and Summer and the bracts last for a long time. They do not seem to grow through the Winter and are not at all particular where they are kept, just so they have a fairly good light. I considered my Bouganvillea one of the most satisfactory Window-garden plants I ever had and mean to get another one some day.

Dear Floral Friends: If any of you live where there is black loam, rather sour and soggy land, try this: Dig a pit, or bed, three or four feet deep and fill it with old, broken glass, crockery, tin cans, old shoes, bones, rusty nails and old wire. Have the old shoes and bones nearer the top. Some even burn the glass first on account of chemicals. I have burned tin cans before throwing them in and have found that my plants change color.

After the pit, or trench, is full of rubbish, fill the top of it with rich soil which has been mixed with coarse sand, lime and a pound of tobacco. On top of this plant your perennials and watch for results. I have raised so many plants in this way from seed that I never regret the time or money spent. Besides, this does away with the tin cans and all other trash.

Mrs. Edwin Eggen, Minnesota.

RECÍPE FOR GRAY HAIR.

To half pint of water add 1 oz. Bay Rum, a small box of Barbo Compound, and ½ oz. of glycerine. Any druggist can put this up or you can mix it at home at very little cost. Apply to the hair twice a week until the desired shade is obtained. It will gradually darken streaked, faded or gray hair and make it soft and glossy. It will not color the scalp, is not sticky or greasy and does not rub off.

Factory Sale

AIR TIGHT



COPPER KETTLES

All made of 16, 18, 20 and 22 gauge best cold rolled heavy solid copper. Non-explosive. All solder outside. 5 inch air-tight screw cap. Absolutely guaranteed to be the best and strongest kettle made.

Packed in strong, plain boxes. Above are lowest factory cash prices. Send money order or draft with order.

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Dept. K92 2650 No. Halstead St., Chicago.
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100 Single Rooms, \$2.50 per day.
250 Double Rooms, \$1.00 per day and upward.
Single Rooms with Bath, \$4.00 per day and upward.
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BULBS

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10 kinds Gladioli mailed for 10c and names of four friends who grow flowers. Will include FREE, bulb of the beautiful Mirabilis.

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TREATMENT sent you on Free Trial. If it cures, send \$1.00; if not, it's FREE. Give express office. Write for your treatment today. W. K. Sterling, 831 Ohio Ave., Sidney, Ohio

Dear Floral Friends:

How many of you have tried putting heavy papers against the outside of your windows and closing the shutters on the paper to keep cold wind from blowing through and freezing the window plants? We fix our windows that way and lose no plants. Mt. Mellick, Ohio.

BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATED CACTUS and FLORAL CATALOGUE WITH CULTURAL DIRECTIONS

Out March the 15th. Price 25c. or one Free with order amounting to \$3.00. You cannot afford to miss this Unique Catalogue, has many Bargains offered in Cactuses and Plants.

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CANCER

Treated at home. No Pain, knife plaster or oils Send for free treatise.

A. J. Miller, M. D.

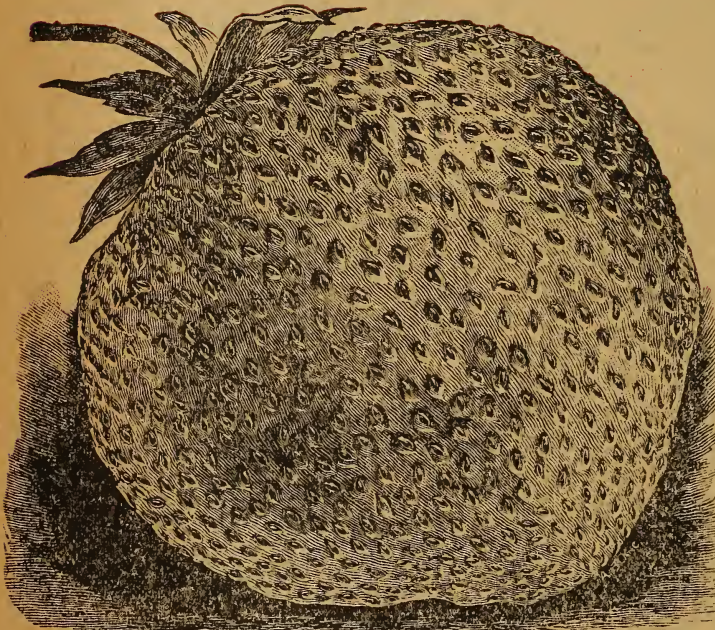
Clayton, Mo

DAHLIAS IN POTS.

We do not think of Dahlias as Pot Plants, but they are admirable in every way when grown for house decoration in containers. They may be started from seed at any time during spring, and as the second pair of leaves appears, may be transplanted to small pots, one plant in each pot. Shift to larger pots as the plants grow, and when large enough to occupy six-inch pots they will begin to bloom. Dahlias treated this way will begin to bloom quite as early as those in the open ground, while they may be taken to shelter on the approach of a storm. Removed to the house in the fall they will continue to bloom for several months and the large, showy flowers are as much prized as any flowers that adorn the window during the early winter months.

Please tell the Floral Sisters I sprout my Dahlia tubers, then cut out all the eyes except one to each tuber, hence have strong stems and fine, large flowers. If I desire a cluster, I put several tubers in one hill.—Mrs. Margaret E. Adams, W. Va.

25 Strawberry Plants and a Year's Subscription 30 cts
Beller's Big Valley Berry
The Largest, Sweetest Most Licious Strawberry



Last spring we announced in the Magazine we had 10,000 plants of this grand, new berry to distribute among our friends as an opportunity to try it. Actually Mr. Beller was finally not able to let us have so many we had applications for considerably more. But we contracted with him then and there to take all he could grow, and we now have 140,000 plants in fine condition for mailing this spring. Spring is the only real season to plant Strawberries. If set out in the Autumn they are apt to be neglected and allowed to dry out.

This is truly a grand variety, a strong, vigorous plant, loaded with the largest, sweetest fruit. Mr. Beller formerly grew quite a number of different sorts selling his plants largely to those who would call and taste the berries—his business was both berries and plants. But as everyone wanted Big Valley he now grows it exclusively and says he often has berries 6 1/4 inches around. Last season was one of the driest ever known here and

there were practically no strawberries. On account of its deep growing roots Big Valley was loaded almost as heavily as usual. Color is bright crimson. Set plants 15 to 18 inches apart in rows 3 to 3 1/2 feet apart. Cultivate often. After four or five weeks begin working in well rotted manure a foot wide on each side of row—plenty of it—this means success.

100 Plants and 4 Subscriptions \$1.00

Please get 3 friends to join you and we will send you the hundred Plants, tied in separate bundles of 25, postpaid, and the Magazine will be mailed to each of you for a full year—new or renewal, and you save 20 cents. Of course we would like the 3 friends to be new subscribers.

Some folks asked us if they might not subscribe for more than a year and get more plants. For the benefit of anyone who wants more plants we offer 100 plants, postpaid, and a five year subscription for \$1. But we would rather have the club of four, so as to add new subscribers to our list.

SPRING.

If I could only tell you,
In a poet's way,
How youthful I am feeling
On a Springtime day!
With all the buds and blossoms
And trees draped anew,
With Mother Earth a beaming
'Neath the heaven's blue.

If I could only tell you,
In a poet's way,
How rapturous I'm feeling
On a Springtime day!
The flowers set me dreaming
Of the bygone days,
With sentiment and romance
The Earth's all ablaze.

If I could only tell you,
In a poet's way,
How my heart throbs with new life
On a Springtime day!
With all the green things growing,
Earth in new array,
Tho old in years, hearts are young
On a Springtime day.

Emma P. Ford.

Dear Floral Friends:

Didn't some one want to know about growing Balsams? (Touch-me-nots.) Do not crowd them, and pinch the tops out, and they will limb out like little trees. They like mellow, moderately rich soil, in partial shade, and as they are succulents, they must have sufficient water to keep them in good growing condition. I have some in a long box, and they certainly are beautiful in the many different colors of waxy camellia-like flowers. Should single blooms appear, as is often the case, I pick them off and leave only the very double ones to mature seed. "Mississippi Jassamine."

CURED HIS RHEUMATISM

"I am eighty-three years old and I doctored for rheumatism ever since I came out of the army, over 50 years ago. Like many others, I spent money freely for so-called 'cures' and I have read about 'Uric Acid' until I could almost taste it. I could not sleep nights or walk without pain; my hands were so sore and stiff I could not hold a pen. But now I am again in active business and can walk with ease or write all day with comfort. Friends are surprised at the change." You might just as well attempt to put out a fire with oil as try to get rid of your rheumatism, neuritis and like complaints by taking treatment supposed to drive Uric Acid out of your blood and body. It took Mr. Ashelman fifty years to find out the truth. He learned how to get rid of the true cause of his rheumatism, other disorders and recover his strength from "The Inner Mysteries" now being distributed free by an authority who devoted over twenty years to the scientific study of this trouble. If any reader of Park's Floral Magazine wishes "The Inner Mysteries of Rheumatism" overlooked by doctors and scientists for centuries past, simply send a post card or letter to H. P. Clearwater, No. 29D Street, Hallowell, Maine. Send now, lest you forget! If not a sufferer, cut out this notice and hand this good news and opportunity to some afflicted friend. All who send will receive it by return mail without any charge whatever.

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This Book contains one of this noted author's best novels.



Pressed close against the window pane was a wan, white face.

The pathos of this story sweeps all before it. It touches the heart of humanity everywhere. Even the man with a heart of stone learns from this story that deep down under the cold, hard strata of stone, he has in his heart a deep well of human sympathy for the erring one; that he has also a heart capable of love and admiration for the good and noble character of Luella, the gentle, loving, self-sacrificing sister. Righteous indignations aroused toward Silas Lockwood, her relentless and unnatural father. The heart's emotions like a great ocean billow, rolls on from the beginning to end of the book; when you lay it down and say blessed is God who rules over all for the good of all. Thousands will want to read this book and pass it on to their friends. Libbie Sprague Phillips writes exclusively for THE ILLUSTRATED COMPANION; has done so for 16 years. One minister has furnished it with sermons for 15 years; other writers have contributed regularly for years. THE ILLUSTRATED COMPANION is 43 years old. The years of continued service of its writers show that our magazine is one of fixed and standard worth. We know you will enjoy reading it. THIS OFFER of magazine 6 months and book, for 25 cents is made to get new trial subscribers. Address

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SEE PAGE 79. WRITE FOR CATALOG

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(Continued from page 71)

beetle may attack the plants. The remedy for both these evils seems to be to avoid them, either by setting out sturdy, house grown plants that will bloom early, or else sowing the seed later, not before June in open ground. The blue root aphid and the white grub of the May beetle sometimes give trouble. A heavy dressing of wood ashes on the ground, or a mulching of tobacco stems will rout the aphid, and a teaspoonful of bisulphide of carbon poured on the ground in contact with the collar of the plant will generally discourage the white grub.

Plants that are crowded never do so well, eighteen inches apart is near enough for the tall varieties. Personally I prefer rich masses of one color, but that is a matter of individual taste and all shades of Asters harmonize. The main thing is to keep the hoe busy and the top soil loose, and water thoroughly in hot, dry weather. An authority on gardening told me that no water in time of drouth is better than a light sprinkling, which only turns the little roots up for a drink to be scorched off by the sun.

Now, what else are we ready to plant? Sweet Peas: for who can afford to be without Sweet Peas? Some recommend Fall planting; we have never tried it, so cannot speak from experience, but we do know that early planting is absolutely necessary if one wants many flowers. As early as the soil will allow is a good rule to go by, for the better the root growth before the weather becomes hot, the better the Sweet Peas. When sown in pots indoors, four or five seeds are enough in a four inch pot; water sparingly and avoid too much heat. When the vines are about two inches high it is well to set the pots in a coldframe, or lacking that, keep them where it is rather cool and give them fresh air day and night when the weather is not too severe. Before setting them in the ground, water thoroughly and let stand several hours, then turn the pot over and rap bottom to bring the ball of earth out without disturbing the root. Set each pot full entire in the row, allowing twelve or fifteen inches between them. Give them a good watering and settle the soil firmly about the roots.

An ideal bed, whether for seeds or seedlings, is made by digging a trench two feet deep, filling it with alternate layers of well-rotted cow manure and soil, each layer three or four inches thick; toward the bottom work in a little fine bone-meal with the soil, and near the top some freshly slacked lime. Just before planting, rake in acid phosphate, about two ounces to the yard of row, along where the seeds are to be sown. One Sweet Pea grower assured me the rows must run north and south in order to produce flowers, but I am inclined

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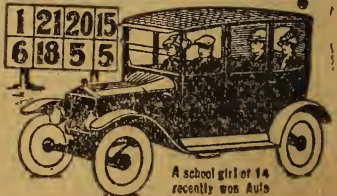
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A LUXURIOUS SEDAN, IDEAL ALL-YEAR CAR

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A school girl of 14 recently won Auto

to think a rich, moist bed for their roots, plenty of light and air, and early planting will accomplish wonders even though the rows do not incline polewards. Plant the seed in the ground two or three inches deep, thin out the little vines to stand four or five inches apart, and hoe the soil well up around them. In fact, when you buy a hoe be sure you don't get a lazy one, for a good, active hoe that is forever keeping at it is one of the secrets of successful Sweet Pea culture, along with several other garden crops.

One objection to early planting is that the seeds sometimes rot in the ground. To avoid this, soak the seed in tepid water twelve hours or so before sowing; this hastens germination, and after Sweet Peas once start they are brave little fellows and not very susceptible to bad weather.

Brush is their natural support. I always think they like it better than wire or string. As to seed, get the best. There are such wonderful Spencers, with waved standards and fluted edges, and so many fine colors that a good assortment of Sweet Peas is a garden of itself; and since the more freely they are culled the more profusely they bloom, they are surely worth all the trouble we go to in raising them.

Last Summer we had a wonderful bed of *Centaurea Americana*. The catalogue said "reddish lilac," but these were a delightful lavender. As the half-open buds will develop in water and last a long time, they are excellent for cutting. One open flower and one or two silvery buds in a vase are very artistic; while in combination with white and lavender *Scabiosa* they make a handsome bouquet.

Perhaps we had nothing else in our gardens that gave us more genuine pleasure than a great bed of single annual Poppies, English Scarlet, Admiral, etc., and Shirleys of all descriptions. Nearly every morning before the sun was up (you must pick Poppies while the dew is on them if you want them to last) we gathered big bouquets of the beauties; they visited the neighbors, and went to church Sundays, and were used daily for home decoration. Combined with wheat they make an attractive bouquet. Of course, their silken petticoats are not pinned on very securely, and they will drop off, but there are always plenty more Poppies, ready and waiting.

Young folks hate monotony, so if you have boys and girls in the family be sure the flower garden is attractive and full of changes, for the love of flowers is one of the finest things you can instill into their minds, and, as the Dutch say, "If you do not teach Johnny, you cannot teach John."

Those who have *Clematis Paniculata* will find it best to cut the vine off at the ground in the late Fall.

Mrs. Gillespie, Missouri.

Stop Whiskey

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Any lady can give it secretly at home in tea, coffee or food, and it costs nothing to try! If you have a husband, son, brother, father or friend who is a victim of whiskey beer or wine, send your name and address to Dr. J. W. Haines Co., 292 Glenn Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio and they will send you absolutely free, in plain wrapper, a trial package of this wonderful treatment. Write today and be thankful all your life.

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I want every sufferer from any form of muscular and sub-acute (swelling at the joints) rheumatism, to try the great value of my improved "Home Treatment" for its remarkable healing power. Don't send a cent; simply mail your name and address and I will send it free to try. After you have used it and it has proven itself to be that long-looked for means of getting rid of such forms of Rheumatism you may send the price of it, One Dollar, but understand, I do not want your money unless you are perfectly satisfied to send it. Isn't that fair? Why suffer any longer, when relief is thus offered you free. Don't delay. Write today

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Our bulbs are firsts, largest, finest blooming size. Cultural direction sent with every order.

America. One of the choicest bedding and cutting Gladiolus. A beautiful, soft, lavender-pink, Orchid-like in color and texture.
5c each; 50c a dozen; \$3.50 per 100, by express

Augusta. Pure white with blue anthers. Very fine.
5c each; 50c a dozen; \$3.50 per 100, by express

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Baron J. Hulot, or Blue King. Royal, violet blue; a really blue Gladiolus and one of the most lovely and satisfactory.
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Chicago White. Flowers are pure white with faint lavender streaks in the lower petals; very large flowers. The best white for early blooming in open ground.
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Columbia. Light, orange-scarlet, splashed with bluish purple.
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Europe. The best pure, snowy white, without an exception, with finest spike of bloom and largest individual flowers. Scarce and in great demand on account of its quality.
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Halley. Early, pure salmon-pink. A popular and very fine bedding.
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Mary Blackman. Flowers a beautiful shade of salmon-red; the lower petals finely pencilled and feathered at the base with carmine on a rich, golden yellow. Lasts a long time when cut.
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Who will tell me what to do with my Crab Cactus to make it grow into a large plant and prepare it for a long blooming period next Christmas? I watched in vain for buds this December and saw a smaller one in bloom at a neighbor's.

Wichuraiana, Ohio.

Note: A Crab Cactus to bloom freely must be out-bound, but care must be taken not to apply too much water when the plant is in this condition, for the soil may become sour and any buds that form will drop off, and in time the plant will die. An occasional watering with lime water will be found beneficial during Winter. Plunge your Cactus outdoors in a sunny situation during the summer, giving it little attention and no water unless the plant begins to wilt. Buds will form in great abundance during the Autumn and the plant should bloom freely during the Holiday season.—EDITOR.

If you are troubled with ants in your plants, dust the plant and the dirt around the plant well with Borax, and you will find that the ants will quickly leave the plants alone.

Mrs. Ida Kerr, Kansas.

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Sold on a test proposition. You are thoroughly satisfied it is helping you before the appliance is yours. Nothing to do but wear it. No trouble or expense, and the most wonderful fact about the appliance is that it is sold so reasonably that it is within the reach of all, both rich and poor.

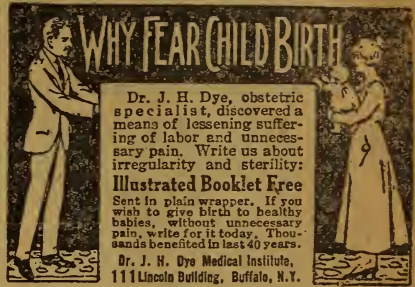
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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Please inform me in what quantity to use ammonia to water plants. Have heard it was good, but didn't know how to proportion it.—Mrs. R. H. Young, Missouri.

A. One tablespoonful to a gallon of water. Ammonia is good for Ferns and any foliage plants.—EDITOR.

Q. The buds on my Tuberous Begonias, when ready to bloom, turn brown at the little stem, and drop off. Please tell me what to do.—Mrs. J. B. Conn, Pennsylvania.

A. Probably you have been keeping your plants in full sunlight, or using too heavy soil. The following are full cultural directions for both Tuberous Rooted Begonias and Gloxinias. We assume yours have been growing in pots. This summer I grew quite a number out-doors, and these were quite well shaded, grew luxuriantly and bloomed all summer. They need very little sun, if any.—EDITOR.

The potting soil for Tuberous Begonias should be fine, black, woods earth, the bottom of the pot containing a layer of charcoal or broken pots, to secure good drainage. In potting make a cavity or furrow in the loose soil and place the tuber so that when the soil is pressed about it the crown will protrude above. Do not place the tuber and press it in, as the soil will thus be made too compact for the roots to penetrate readily. The base or root part of the tuber can be distinguished from its oval, smooth surface. The crown end is mostly either depressed or unevenly elevated. After pressing the soil firmly water thoroughly, and set in a moderately warm place. Avoid watering freely for awhile after the first time. Keep the soil barely moist till active growth begins, then water more freely. Be very careful to avoid chilling the tubers. The temperature should never be below 50 degrees. Keep the atmosphere moist, and give all the sun possible in early spring. Later, however, as the sun grows stronger, shield them from its warm rays at mid-day, giving only evening and morning sun. During summer water freely, and always protect from wind and storm. As winter approaches, and the plants begin to fade, withhold water gradually till the tubers begin to ripen and the tops disappear. Then set the pots away in a dry room where the temperature will not fall below 50 degrees and will rarely rise much above that. These simple directions will, if properly heeded, enable you to succeed with both Tuberous Begonias and Gloxinias, and they will be found among the choicest and most satisfactory summer blooming house plants.—EDITOR.

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