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VOL. XXIX

LIBONIA, PA., JANUARY, 1893.

No. 1.

## A Grand Premium.

TEN SPLENDID BULBS AND FIVE PACKAGES OF CHOICE SEEDS TO EVERY SUBSCRIBER.

**P**ARK'S FLORAL MAGAZINE is the oldest of all the floral journals, having been edited and published by the present proprietor since 1871. It has always been entirely floral in character, and to-day it is the favorite periodical among amateur florists, and has an immense circulation. It is, indeed, the amateur florists own journal, answering questions, offering exchanges, and imparting just such information as is needed to make success with flowers certain.

The publisher contemplates many improvements during the present year. New type has been ordered, new headings, and the general style of the journal will be improved, while it will be doubled in size and profusely illustrated. This change will not take place till the wrong of the season is past, but in the meantime I want every flower lover to become a subscriber, and so make the following offer:

To everyone subscribing before June 1st, 1893, I will send ten splendid flower bulbs, and five packages of choice seeds as a premium.

### 10 FLOWER BULBS.

- 1 *Splendid Tuberous Begonia*, a fine blooming bulb.
- 3 *Splendid seedling Gladiolus*, in finest mixture, all choice blooming bulbs.
- 3 *Superb Excelstor Pearl Tuberoses*, all superb blooming bulbs.
- 3 *Superb Named Poppy Anemones*, producing gorgeous Poppy-like flowers.



(GLADIOLUS BULB AND FLOWER.) FIVE PACKETS OF SEEDS.

- 1 *Packet New Margaret Carnation*, the new clove-scented carnation, which blooms in four to five months from seeds, double and showing a good variety of colors.
- 1 *Packet New Striped Single Dahlia*, as easily grown as a Zinnia, and producing richly colored flowers profusely throughout autumn.
- 1 *Packet New Ivy-leaved Cypress Pine*, the most rapid growing of ferns with delicate foliage and bearing a mass of fiery scarlet flowers in autumn.

- 1 *Packet New Star Phlox*, fringed and edged and elegantly variegated; a great favorite for pots and for cutting. The mixture offered is unsurpassed, containing all the new varieties.
- 1 *Packet Ever-blooming Schizanthus or Butterfly Flower*. This should be better known. It is easily grown from seed, and a plant in bloom with its position of flowers on its stem appears like a swarm of rich-colored butterflies. Everyone should have this delicate orchid-like flower.

Now, all these Ten Splendid Bulbs and Five Packages of Choice Seeds will be sent by mail as a premium to everyone who subscribes for PARK'S FLORAL MAGAZINE before June 1st. Now is the time to subscribe. Price 50 cents a year. Now is the time to get up a club.

Address **GEO. W. PARK, Libonia, Franklin County, Pa.**

50 In clubs of Five I will make the price 40 cents for MAGAZINE one year with the above premium, and to the agent I will send

- 1 *Elegant Blooming-sized Bulb of the New Pansy*, just imported from Mexico.
- 1 *Elegant Clump of Bulbs of a fine Mexican terrestrial orchid*, a sup. novelty.
- 1 *Elegant Bulb of Spotted Calla*, large blooming size.
- 1 *Packet Seeds of the grand new Brilliant Aster*, white, with fiery red and yellow.

Let all the friends of the MAGAZINE go to work at once and get up a Club of five subscribers. Do not delay till after other solicitors are ahead.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Roses in California.—Here in California Roses do better when planted out in winter, and all, or nearly all Tea Roses flourish here in the open ground. Florence L. Weir.

Soloma Co., Cal., Dec. 5, 1892.  
Mr. Park:—I am very much pleased to see your "counterfeit!" preseatment in the November Magazine. You look much younger than I thought you were; but none the less capable of managing the Magazine "for a" that." I like the Magazine as much as I ever did.

Cnas. H. Holloway.

Phlilada., Pa., Dec. 11, 1892.  
Mr. Park:—The premium bulbs you sent me were the finest I received this fall. They are all growing, and a source of much pleasure to all of us. I have an Auratum Lily which bore 42 blossoms last season. We have beautiful wild Lilies here—Erythroniums Trillium and L. Canadense. It is a pleasure to think of them now, while the thermometer is below zero and the ground white with snow. H. M. Page.

Chittenden Co., Vt., Dec. 12, 1892.  
Mr. Park:—My bulbs received as a premium have been very satisfactory. The Tuerose had a even lovely double blossoms just in season for Thanksgiving, and now, I think the Freshia is beside me with two of its delicate creamy bells, and so fragrant! I shall have more of them another year. Mrs. M. Crowell.

Rockingham Co., N. H., Dec. 19, 1892.  
Friend Park:—I hope you will soon give us an article of your travels and of the wonderful plants and flowers you must have seen. I am sure all your readers would be interested in such an article. I hope you will prosper in the coming year. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs. H. F. L.

Linn Co., Iowa, Dec 21, 1892.  
[NOTE.—My observations and experiences could hardly be related in a common article. They will doubtless be put into book form soon for the benefit of my numerous friends. I thank you and others for kind wishes.—Ed.]

Mr. Park:—In one of your Magazines one of your readers invites congratulations on her Artisan well; and now it is my turn to rejoice, for I am going to have a plant room, or rather an extension of my room. My dining room faces the south, and it will be extended six feet, the entire length, which is sixteen feet, the extension being all of glass, excepting the roof and door. I fancy I will enjoy my meals better when I can look at that extension full of plants. Eva Galliard.

Eric Co., Pa., Dec. 12, 1892.  
[NOTE.—It's a pleasure to offer congratulations upon such a desirable acquisition as a plant room to the welling. Of course the meals will be better enjoyed in such a cheerful and attractive dining room.—Ed.]

Dear Mr. Park:—I am so glad you went through a part of Texas. I think it is lovely. I enclose a few seeds of "Buffalo Cloer." I think you was there too late to see the lovely sight. The Prairies were one mass of blue with this lovely flower when I arrived there (April 22nd). After the blue disappeared, came pink and white, and when I left there (June 5th), the wild Coreopsis and Wild Poppy held full sway. I think I should never be weary if my home were only in Texas instead of Rhode Island. I enjoyed the journey there. We travelled to Montreal, Canada. From there we watched and enjoyed the changing scenery and the different climates. When we left Rhode Island the trees were just leafing out. At Montreal all was "bare and brown" and snow on the hillsides. At St. Louis it was just midsummer at the North. When we arrived at Covacana, Texas, green corn and vegetables were in abundance. Just four days from Providence, where it was "between hay and grass," and we had an abundance of the good things of this earth. I do not know but we shall move out there this winter. As soon as we decide I will send you my subscription, for I couldn't get along without the dear little Magazine. I should have a lovely little flower garden there, and shall send to you for seeds, as they give entire satisfaction. I see you have several Texans in the "Band." I hope I shall make the acquaintance of some of them. They are a very genial, kind hearted people, and I shall be glad when I can live among them. I am glad you have gratified us by placing your photo in the Magazine. Hoping you may live a long, happy and prosperous life, I remain

Your sincerely,  
E. M. Briggs.

Providence, R. I., Dec 11, 1892.  
Mr. Park:—Kind Friend: I call you friend if you allow me, for I believe there is a mutual liking

between all flower lovers—for each other, as well as for the flowers. At least, I feel that way myself. I was very much pleased when I received my little flower book (as I call it) to find your portrait therein. I have long been anxious to see what kind of face the Editor of our highly prized little Magazine has, and I think I could read kindness and refinement in that face. Now, I will tell you what I would like to see. I am a Prohibitionist, and I would like to see all the intoxicants and saloons banished from our land, and in their place flowers and green-houses. Wouldn't that be a grand and glorious change? Then we would not have any more sad, pale, broken hearted wives and mothers, and ragged, shabby and starved, little children. Oh, would not that be a glorious change? Then all would be peace and prosperity in this world; all would have happy homes. No need of poor houses and orphan's homes, or prisons. Husband and wife would be kind to wives and children. Did you ever think this demon drink is the foundation of almost all the sin and sorrow in this world? Oh how I long to see the time when all sensible men awake to a sense of their duty, and crush this curse out of our land.

Mrs. Almah Campbell.

Hendricks Co., Ind., Dec. 19, 1892.

[NOTE.—The vision of greenhouses, flowers, and prosperity instead of saloons, intoxicants and misery is one pleasant to contemplate. May a kind Providence hasten the Millennial Day so ardently desired by a host of the Floral Sisters.—Ed.]

Dear Friend Park:—It is but fitting, at the close of the year, to express our friendship, and send congratulations and New Year's wishes. So again I take my pen to tender these to you, thanking you for the many favors and presented articles of the past. As I have been boarding three hundred miles from home since May, I have had poor facilities for the gratification of my passion for plants and flowers. However, some few "old standbys" were indispensable, so they came with me from old Maine. I have but one sunny window now, a south east, but it is well stocked. At the top hangs "Dick," a German Canary of seven years fame. Halfway up, across the window, is a pot of pink and blue Verbenas, a small Oleander, and Begonias Metalica and Wettontensis alba. At the bottom, on the stand, are thirt-een small Geraniums, (double), two dark Coleus, one Agave (green), one small Night-blooming Cereus, two pots of C. Sacred Lily, etc. Besides these there are two pans of seedlings of your mixture for the window garden for winter, and their many odd leaves and forms are a never failing source of daily interest. I shall have enough fine plants of those to brighten the stand of more than one invalid before the long winter is done.

We were so glad to see our Editor's kindly face in November Magazine, and probably the November number will be the most carefully preserved of the whole year. Our little two-year-old Park calls it "Pity! O mamma, pity! Mr. Park!" and he has called the attention of three callers to the engraving, and th-n smooths it carefully with his chubby fingers and lays it away. So our Editor was called "prerty" by one.

Some of the dear sisters of four or five years back never speak in the Magazine now: Mrs. E. R. Owens, Mrs. L. A. Cadwell, brother Edwin R. Lurch, M. A. Farrel, and others. Have they passed "Over the River?" We who have taken the Magazine for quite a while miss those old names, especially those whose words of Christian hope, sympathy and love helped to bring peace and sunshine into our hearts in the day of affliction. One dear sister, sister Myers, of Bath, Me., has an elegant window collection of plants. Let us have some notes from her ripe experience. Another sister from the same place has the handsomest collection and most beautiful varieties of Ferns that I ever saw. Will not Sister Hyde speak out, too, and tell us of her success with these favorites of the red spider, with which so many of us fall? Her Asparagus tenuissimus was a sheen of beauty last winter. Mrs. E. B. Card.

New Haven Co., Conn., Dec. 20, 1892.

Mr. Park:—These few weeks past have been busy ones with me getting my plants into their proper places for the cold winter that will soon come upon us; but even now they are trying to pave my way through by their lovely flowers. I have two Cacti in bloom, also, Rose, Geraniums, and Tuberoses, Rubra, Begonia, Oleander, and Pleroma Splendens. This Pleroma is just lovely. I have also many kinds of Geraniums in bloom. So you can imagine that my conservatory is just lovely, even now. Mrs. S. Ensign.

Hampden Co., Mass. Oct. 24, 1892.





VOL. XXIX

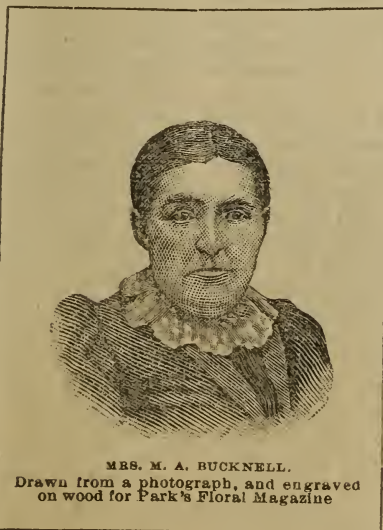
JANUARY, 1893

No. 1.

AMERICAN AMATEUR FLORISTS.

MRS. M. A. BUCKNELL.

Mrs. M. A. Bucknell, of New Douglas, Illinois, is the oldest of thirteen children of Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Cochran, now residing at Litchfield, Illinois. She was born at Jonesport, Me., Oct. 9, 1848. In 1854 the family emigrated to Illinois, where, in 1873 our subject married Dr. S. E. Bucknell. She has five children, the youngest of which is twelve years old. The family are Baptists and strong Prohibitionists, Mrs. B. taking an active part in the work of the W. C. T. U. Mrs. Bucknell has been an ardent admirer and cultivator of flowers from childhood. Her earlier experience was mostly with annuals, but she now has a large collection of hardy perennials, bulbs and house plants. Her collection of Cacti numbers 130 species. Mrs. B. gives her plants her personal attention, but the exercise must be agreeable, for she still weighs 164 pounds. She often assists her husband in his work, and accompanies him on his trips to the country. She has been a contributor to the MAGAZINE for many years.



MRS. M. A. BUCKNELL.  
 Drawn from a photograph, and engraved  
 on wood for Park's Floral Magazine

WHITE ROMAN HYACINTHS.

I am feasting my eyes and nose nowadays, for I have not had, and do not expect to have a blossom this year, that can excel the one on this plant.

It is a single blossom, but it is as pure as the snow in color, while the fragrance is as delicate as it is penetrating. Even among Hyacinths I think I never found the same spice-like fragrance, there being none of that cloying, half-sickening sweetness which so many flowers possess.

No winter will find me without the "White Romans" in my Hyacinth collection, if I can get them.

Eva Gaillard.  
 Erie Co., Pa.,  
 Jan. 4, 1893.

STAFELIA VARIEGATA.—Can anyone of the Band tell me how long it takes this plant to bloom? I have one. It is two years old, but it just grows and does not bloom as yet. S. R.

GASTERIA—A. E. G., Madison, S. D., your plant is undoubtedly a Gasteria. Last winter I had one to bloom that was identical with the one you describe.

E. P. H.

## BEGONIA METALICA AND ITS TREATMENT.

The metal-leaved Begonia, *Begonia metalica*, is a very beautiful warm greenhouse plant belonging to the Natural Order Begoniaceae. It may be described as being a warm greenhouse plant growing from one to two feet in height, of shrubby habit, and branching freely. The leaves are triangular in form, much longer than wide, of a lustrous bronze green color, with depressed dark red veins, giving them a crepe like appearance. The plant blooms freely during its season of growth, the flowers being borne in panicles. When unopened they are of a bright red color, with a plush-like surface, and when open of a waxy white. It is a free, robust-growing variety, very novel and distinct, and quite invaluable for the decoration of the warm greenhouse at all seasons of the year. It is well adapted for show or exhibition purposes, and is also an excellent plant for the decoration of the window garden. It is not subject to insect pests, and although it is not a new and rare variety it is not as extensively known or cultivated as its merits entitle it to be.

To grow this Begonia to perfection it should be given a compost, composed of two-thirds turfy loam, one-third well decayed manure, and a good sprinkling of sharp sand. Mix well and use the compost rough. In potting use porous or soft-baked pots, let them be proportionate to the size of the plants, and see that they are properly drained. If the pots are one-third filled with drainage it will be none too much. During the winter season, or from September to March, the plants should be given a light sunny situation, and a temperature of from 55 to 60 degrees, and water should be given according to the requirements of the plants. As soon as the plants are well rooted in the pots liquid manure should be given occasionally.

During the summer, or from May to September, the plants do best when planted out in a deep, well-enriched border, in a partially shaded situation, where they should be watered as often as necessary, both overhead and at the roots. They must, however, be taken up and potted about the middle of Septem-

ber, so as to give them a chance to become well rooted before cold weather sets in.

Young plants can be obtained at moderate prices of all of our prominent florists, and the supply can be readily increased by cuttings of the half ripened wood, and as it is a plant of rapid growth with liberal treatment, good specimens are obtained in a short time.

The generic name was given in honor of Michael Begoe, a French Professor of Botany, and the specific refers to the bronze or metallic-like appearance of the leaf.

Chas. E. Parnell.

Floral Park, N. Y., Dec. 17, 1892.

## A "WILD GARDEN" BED.

Two years ago my neighbor bought a package of "Park's Wild Garden Flower Seeds." The package was said to contain one thousand varieties of flowers, so my friend said "There is enough for us both." We each made a hotbed, simply a pile of manure with a few inches of good soil from the woods, set on this a box 2x4 feet, and covered with four panes of glass. My friend covered hers with a muslin sash. In these inexpensive affairs we sowed our flower seeds as thinly as possible. I picked out the larger seeds and planted them separately at the distance apart I thought necessary. Well, they grew, and as soon as they were large enough to handle, I transplanted them to a well-prepared garden. Such fun and pleasure as we did have from those beds! In my bed there were very few duplicates, and such a variety! One tiny little *Mimulus* had two flowers on when the plant was not three inches high. This plant I wintered in the cellar, and last summer I had two plants of it, thrifty large fellows that bore hundreds of flowers. In the fall I started a number of plants from branches broken off. They root very easily, and I am keeping them for next summer. I think they would make lovely window plants, if well grown in a hanging basket. Morak If you wish a good display, at little cost, get a packet of wild garden flower seeds and treat them as I did, and you will not be disappointed.

Mrs. M. C. Marshall.

Indiana Co., Pa., Jan. 2, 1893.



## TUBEROUS BEGONIAS FROM SEED.

I will give you my treatment of Tuberos Begonias from seed. I use soil composed of equal parts of sand, leaf-mould and good rich loam. After mixing well this soil is put in a saucer belonging to a good sized pot and the seeds sprinkled on top of the soil and pressed in with the hand. Then I put this saucer in another a little larger, and keep water in this one, never watering from the top of the soil. I keep it in a warm place on a shelf behind my stove till the plants are up, then set it on a shelf in front of an east window. When the plants are large enough I transplant to a long box of soil, of leaf mould and rich loam with a small quantity of sand and charcoal mixed in. In the fall I set this box in a warm closet, and in February I bring it out and put it in a warm room near a window, and soon leaves will start from the bulbs. When they are large enough buds will come and then you will be paid for all your hard work with an abundance of lovely flowers all summer. When they want rest in the late fall, I put them in the closet again, and the next summer you can bed them out or keep them in boxes.

Mrs. Solomon Ensign.

Hampden Co., Mass., Oct. 24, 1892.

**MINA LOBATA.**—How my Mina Lobata did grow. I don't know how far it climbed, but it went to the top of the support and then the vines wound round each other till they fell over upon a Lilac and just covered the top of it. I began to think it was all vine and no bloom, but it commenced to bloom with the Madeira, and wasn't that tree a beauty! Just looked as though it was afire! You could see it over a block away.

Mrs. Sarah Rice.

Champaign Co., Ill., Dec. 24, 1892.

**SNAPDRAGONS.**—My Snapdragons this year were splendid. To-day, Dec. 11th, I picked a bouquet of the flowers. Is it hardy? I hope it is. We do not have any cold winters, but cool springs. I start all my seeds in the house and transplant them.

Sadie L. May.

Nantucket Co., Mass., Dec. 11, 1892.

[Ans.—Snapdragons will endure the winter if they are not allowed to exhaust themselves blooming and seeding the previous autumn. To prevent this cut the plants back in September. A covering of evergreen boughs would benefit them.—Ed.]

## RAISING SEEDLINGS.

I have a fine lot of seedlings, all with four or more leaves, and out of danger of damping off, a disease we all dread. I have lost many a package of valuable seeds by not knowing how to water the seed-bed. I lose very few now. I make little drills between the rows of plants, and with a tin-cup, or anything that will not splash the water over the entire surface, pour warm water in these drills which goes direct to the roots. I do not allow water to touch the leaves of young plants in winter. From one package of Verbena seeds, which cost me 15 cents, I have 34 fine plants, and from a package of window-garden seeds I have 51 plants, including three Smilax plants. These little plants have a sunny window in my sitting-room where fire is kept up night and day.

Mrs. A. Fisher.

Robertson Co., Texas, Dec. 15, 1892.

**ABOUT CAMELLIAS.**—How old must a Camellia be to bloom? Mine is four years old, three feet tall, but has never had a bud on it. In the winter I keep it in a pit, in the summer in the yard under an oak tree, on the east side of the house, and I water it when the ground looks dry. It is in a two-gallon tub. Is that large enough for it?

J. D. S.

Oconee Co., S. C., Dec. 20, 1892.

[NOTE.—A grafted Camellia or a Camellia started from a cutting of a blooming plant will bloom when quite small. I have known plants to bear flowers when less than a foot high, and growing in a four inch pot. It may be that the two gallon tub is too large for the plant in question. The flower-buds of a Camellia form early in summer and develop gradually till late in winter or early in spring when they expand into full blown flowers. If, from some cause, neglect or improper treatment, the development should be retarded, the buds usually turn black and drop off. As the buds are terminal they might readily be taken for leaf buds.—Ed.]

**CLERODENDRON AND TABERNAMONTANA.**—Will someone who has tried Clerodendron Balfourii and Tabernamontana coronaria please tell us if they will succeed well in an ordinary living room? I have long wished for them, but hesitated, as they were strangers, though highly lauded by most salesmen. What does friend Park think of them?—Mrs. C., Conn.

[NOTE.—I have never seen a creditable specimen of either of these plants in any collection, though I do not say that good specimens cannot be found. The Clerodendron I have known to bloom beautifully and abundantly on the east side of a building in a protected bed out doors. My opinion is that both these plants have been overpraised. If any readers have succeeded with them will they please report their method of treatment.—Ed.]

## THE FORM OF PLANTS.

I see much written about the preference for plants in their natural form or shape, and while I am not in favor of all artificial, conventional forms, I do like to see plants of a thickly-branched, bushy-shape, though not always necessarily pruned and rounded off symmetrically; for this latter form is not only conventional, but mostly artificial. A few plants look well in a yard, if only in contrast with other shapes, but if the yard contains that and no other kind everything around smacks too much of a rigid suppression of nature's efforts.

What I wish to add my voice against is the scrawny, straggling forms of plants—the only kind which occupies many flower shelves, and which is especially noticed among Geraniums. By proper pinching at the right time plants which it is a pleasure and a pride to possess, could be had. The plants in my beds do not come up to this standard at all, however, though it is because I am often not at home (for I belong to a roving profession) at the time when they should be undergoing the training process. But when among my flowers I try to make them conform to my ideas, those which I think should receive such care.

H. P. Simpson.

Macon Co., Ala.

**SEA SQUILL LILY.**—This bulb being recommended by a doctor as an antidote for malarial fever, when growing, I want to tell you it is also good for colds or whooping cough in children, when boiled, leaf and bulb, and the juice again boiled with white sugar. Indeed my children, especially the baby, eat all they can get of them. Baby calls the small bulbs baby bulbs, and seems to think they only grow for him to eat. As they increase so fast, and the big green bulb looks so much better without the small ones, I let him have lots of them.

Lucia Falconer.

Ontario, Can., Dec. 31, 1892.

**SLITTING CHINESE LILIES.**—Slit your bulbs of Chinese Lilies longitudinally, making five slits about half an inch deep. I have tried both ways and the slit bulbs are over a week ahead.

Mrs. M. A. Bucknell.

Madison Co., Ill., Dec. 9, 1892.

## ABOUT CRINUMS.

I have many kinds of Crinums, and find *Ornatum* and *Kirkii* the same. I have one that has pale green foliage, that is over five feet long. This *Crinum* sometimes flowers several times in one season; flowers white, with a deep pink stripe. Another has foliage like *Crinum Rotatum*; flowers six petaled—each petal half an inch wide. Both are very fragrant, but a different fragrance. Then, there are others with foliage five feet long, a blue green, in color. But the *Crinum* of *Crinums* is one that I think has never been named. The foliage is very wide near the bulb, but tapers to a fine point before it reaches its length of four or five feet. The leaf edges of this *Crinum* are waved near the bulb—almost ruffled; color a clean pale green. Flowers very large, pure waxy-white with faint rose stripes. Each cluster contains from five to twelve of these flowers, and each large bulb throws up from three to four clusters. This *Crinum* is the most handsome and sweet of any. It is always called Confederate Lily here.

Margaret Campbell.

East Baton Rouge Par., La.

**DAHLIAS FOR WINTER BLOOMING.**—In August I received a letter from a person which contained a request for an exchange of plants, and offered to root for me slips of house plants in exchange for Dahlia tubers. In my reply, I accepted the offer, and said that I would send the Dahlia tubers so soon as they were lifted in the fall, or in the spring, as he might wish. The reply came soon, with the rather peremptory request to "Send the Dahlia tubers now. I want them to bloom in my conservatory this winter."

Uhlm.

Riverside, W. Va., Dec. 20, 1892.

**BEGONIAS DROPPING THEIR LEAVES.**—A draught of cold air striking Begonias will cause their leaves to drop about as quick as anything. Sometimes small black flies surround them and get into the soil, and the branches dry up. Lime-water will kill the flies and revive the plants.

Ally.

Longlake Co., Wis.

[NOTE.—The presence of the black flies referred to is an indication of too frequent and liberal watering. The lime-water application will be found more effectual if given when the soil is partially dry.—Ed.]



## STRAY LEAVES FROM MY NOTE-BOOK.

ONE time there was a gentleman at our house, who was telling me of his visit with his sister to the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia. He was telling me of the beautiful appearance of Floral Hall, in June, and he said, "I wish you could have seen my sister when she first saw this Hall. I took her to a position from which she could look down and over the glorious scene. She stood with folded hands as one enrapt in prayer."

WILL some one kindly arise and say why it is that the Pansy and the Adumia, both such delicate plants, with stems almost transparent, are so hardy and endure without flinching and often unprotected, our coldest winters, and even floods, and resume their growth in the spring and bloom fully and freely, while so many hard wooded and apparently hardy plants, like the Crape Myrtles, Oleanders and Pomegranate, will succumb to the slightest frost; I would like to know why this is so.

EARLY one morning, in September, I chanced to pass through the thriving town of Huntington in West Virginia, and across a beautiful yard I saw the lower and upper porches of a house covered with Morning-Glories, and the whole was a shining mass of glorious flowers of red, white and blue, and I stood and drank to my fill of this glorious scene. And this reminds me of a letter which I received a short time since from a friend then sojourning in this same delectable town. She wrote that "On Columbus Day she met a beautiful boy who was richly dressed and had a silk draped across his right shoulder and tied in a large bow at the left side. 'Why, she said to him, you are a veritable Prince, charming.' 'Yes,' he replied, 'my mamma says I must always sing the Red, White and Blue.'

'TIS STRANGE how one thing brings up another. I now recall a most beautiful group of flowers that graced my border last summer. This consisted of a large clump of Japanese Iris, with large, pure white flowers on long stems. Near these was a clump of Oriental Poppies with their brilliant scarlet flowers. In front of the white Iris there grew a clump of blue Spanish Iris, and in front of the Poppies there gleamed the flowers

of golden yellow Spanish Iris. Each of these flowers, was, in its kind exquisitely beautiful, and together they formed a group that was harmonious and exceedingly attractive. "What do you see in that group of flowers," I said one day to an old soldier, who had been a color-bearer in the army, as he passed through my garden. "I see, he said, and he straightened himself up and lifted his hat as he said, "I see our National Colors! There is the Red, White and Blue, with the gold for the stars" Uhlma.

Riverside, W. Va., Dec. 23, 1892.

## IN FAVOR OF MANETTIA BICOLOR.

I really wish the floral readers could enjoy one sight of my magnificent Manettia bicolor, which so many complain of as "not satisfactory." I am sure I have one that is a beauty to any one's floral collection, and a real beauty to behold. The brilliancy of its cute little flowers are greatly enhanced by the waxy green leaves and the blossoms remain on so long—weeks before falling. It really has my highest commendation without the least exaggeration. It is an elegant winter bloomer.

Mrs. H. H. Baker.

Palaska Co., Ky., Dec. 13, 1892.

[NOTE.—It is always a pleasure to read of a friend's success with a refractory plant, but what is still more pleasant and satisfactory is to learn the treatment which led to that success. Kind readers, you are all cordially invited to write to the editor about your plants, but when you write do not forget the practical side. Always tell us just how you manage to produce favorable results.—Ed.]

PHYLLOCACTUS LATIFRONS.—I have a plant four years old from the cutting, which had a flower to expand, not at night, but in the day time, being open from 6 to 11 o'clock in the morning. This happened the first week in September, when the nights were quite cool, and the morning that it bloomed it was cloudy until 10 o'clock. I have seen several blooming this season in August, at night, which were very fine, and drew many visitors who had never seen one bloom before. But to see the flower by daylight it looks much finer, while the fragrance was just the same as if blooming at night. H. E. Brehm.

Montgomery Co., Pa., Sept. 19, 1892.



LEAVES AND FLOWER SPRAYS OF LILY OF THE VALLEY.



LILY OF THE VALLEY.

The *Convallaria Majalis*, popularly known as Lily of the Valley, is a favorite flower on account of its delicate, waxy, modest bells and exquisite fragrance. The foliage, too, is graceful in form and of a pleasing green, making an admirable background for the handsome sprays of flowers. The plants are perfectly hardy, and like a shady position. Indeed, they will often richly clothe a spot so densely shaded as to be a barren waste before the plants of Lily of the Valley were introduced. The natural time for blooming is in the spring, but the demand for the flowers has been so great in the city markets that florists now keep the plants dormant in cold storage till they are wanted for blooming, and in this way the flowers may be obtained at almost any period of the year. The propagation and growing of the strong blooming pips is extensively carried on in Germany, and the pips obtained by florists in this country are all or nearly all imported from German florists. Our engraving represents leaves and well grown sprays of the flowers, but their waxy beauty and exquisite fragrance can only be enjoyed by experience.

WINTER-BLOOMING PANCRATIUMS.—In the November number of your FLORAL MAGAZINE, an article on the White Spider Lily states that it is not a winter-blooming plant. I have owned some of these plants more than ten years and they seldom fail to bloom in November or December. One of them has been in bloom till within two weeks. I give them plenty of pot room and never let them rest. They sometimes blossom in June.  
Annie M. Tilton.  
Middlesex Co., Mass.

AN OLD CALLA.—I have been very much interested in reading in the Magazine about the large Callas; but the writers do not tell how old they are. Now, we have one that we have had over thirty years. Last winter it had four very large flowers. I wish I had measured them. The leaves were immense.  
Sadie L. May.  
Nantucket Co., Mass., Dec. 11, 1892.

DIANTHUS CHINENSIS.

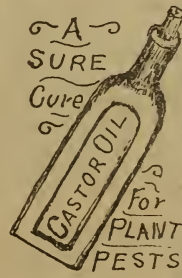
Mr. Park:—I, too, think that your seed of *Dianthus Chinensis* are not excelled. Let me tell of just one plant: In June, 1891, I bought some seeds of you, among them a pkt. *Chinensis*, mixed. I sowed them in the open ground; they came up and were doing well, when some chickens found their way into the garden and destroyed them all, save one plant which was badly trampled and bitten. I placed it in a small sized wooden box, and set it on a shelf on the east side of the house. It lived, but looked so poorly in the fall. I did not think it worth saving and left it unprotected out of doors all winter. Early in the spring it began to put forth young shoots and took on a healthy look. I then gave the soil a good forking, added a little fertilizer, and the first of May it was in bloom and has never been out of bloom a single day since. In the past five and a half months it has produced hundreds of flowers. I think every one should have it. Just think! hundreds of flowers from one seed of a five cent pkt! And mine were so beautiful, very large, and as double as double could be. The color was a lovely pink, blotched and striped with crimson.

Mrs. A. V. Parks.  
Pamlico Co., N. C., Oct. 17, 1892.

A SURE REMEDY FOR PESTS.

Editor PARK'S FLORAL MAGAZINE.—Do all members of the Band know that Castor Oil is an unfailing remedy for green aphids, thrips, mealy bug and all other kindred pests?

Like other medicines it must be used with judgment; a little will cure, a little more will kill.



Make a suds with soap and water, add the oil in the proportion of a teaspoonful to a quart of water. Wash the plant in this and afterward in clear, warm water.

For white worms in the soil drop three or four drops on the soil as far from the main stalk as possible. It is a sure cure. They not only go away, but stay away.  
Mrs. Della Johnson.  
Crawford Co., Ohio, Dec. 21, 1892.

## CACTI.

I have put my 130 kinds of Cacti into winter quarters. Maybe you will laugh at the place I put them. I "did not put them to bed with me," the Dr. says, but where I can see them the last thing at night and the first thing in the morning, that is on top of my wardrobe in my bed room. It stands beside the door going into the sitting room, where we keep the fire going day and night, and keep the bed room door open all of the time. There was not room for all of the Cacti on the wardrobe, so I took an old table leaf, sent to the store and bought a pair of brackets and put the shelf over the door where the heat comes right in under it. I think I'll have no trouble to keep them this winter, and if I do you will hear from me in the Spring. I'm already making arrangements for another rockery, to be built next spring. The ground is selected, and the boys have orders whenever they see a stone or rock they are to pick it up and bring it home and dump it there. I shall put my Prickly Pear section of *Opuntia* in it. I had an *Echinopsis Eyresi* which bloomed a month ago. I wish all the sisters could have seen it. It opened at 8 p. m., and closed the next evening at four. It was a pure waxy white, the stem eight inches long and the flower six inches in diameter when open. It repaid me for my trouble with all of them this summer.

Mrs. M. A. Bucknell.

Madison Co., Ill., Oct. 20, 1892.

**SUCCESS WITH DAHLIAS.**—This is the third year I have tried to grow Dahlias, and the first year of success. This year I planted my Dahlias on the north side of a sandy ridge on the fourth day of May. I cut the first Dahlia June 23, and the first bouquet July 3. I have seven shades of color.

F. B. Nevins.

Lorain Co., O.

**MINIATURE ROSE.**—My Miniature Rose at one time last season had over fifty buds and flowers, and it is only about five inches tall. I shall leave it out in the garden this winter, as we do not have any severe winters.

Sadie L. May.

Nantucket Co., Mass., Dec. 11, 1892.

## THE BERRIES OF AUTUMN.

Very beautiful and attractive are the shining berries of Autumn. Coming at a time when nature is in the "sere and yellow leaf" they certainly lend a rich and gracious gayety to the garden. How brilliant is the Bush Cranberry, the Baneberry with its oblong, red berries, the common Barberry bushes with their gay scarlet streamers, the sweet little modest partridge berry, hiding coyly from sight, the Holly berry with its Christmas associations, the vermilion and light red berries of the Mountain Ash, the spicy and delicious Winterberry, which is so much sought for by epicures. All are colorful and beautiful on the late autumnal landscape.

"Where never-resting Time leads Summer on  
To hideous Winter, and confounds him there;  
Sap check'd with frost, and lusty leaves quite gone,  
Beauty o'er-snow'd, and bareness everywhere."

It is then that these glorious crimson beauties force us into admiration and love. I never meet these berry clusters in the wintry garden smiling at the cold and snow but my heart is warmed by their presence and caressingly I gather them. Why do not our garden-loving sisters plant for a large crop of "this brilliant fruit of Autumn?"

Mary Elliott.

Chestnut Hill, Penna.

**WATER HYACINTHS.**—How many of the sisters have had a Water Hyacinth this summer? I had a small one sent to me from Florida last spring, and I have put it in a gallon glass jar. It soon called for more room and I put half of it in another jar. Now I have the two jars and two water buckets and have given away two dozen plants, I know. Mine did not bloom for me. What do you suppose was the reason? Let me advise any of you who have these plants, to put about two inches in the bottom of your jars, of good, well rotted manure. You will soon see a difference in the size of the leaves in the jar. The leaves in the jar with the manure are at least twice as large as the ones where there is no manure, and a darker green. This plant cannot fail to please every one who sees it.

Mrs. M. A. Bucknell.

Madison Co., Ill.



MY PANSY BED.

My bed of Pansies grown from a pkt of "Park's Premium Pansy" seed are in full bloom now and are very beautiful indeed. I sowed them about the middle of March, in an old pan filled with good rich soil. I laid a cloth double over the pan and sprinkled it thoroughly over the top, then placed it near the sitting room fire. Almost every seed came up and grew finely. When large enough I transplanted them to the circular bed on the lawn which had been previously prepared for them. When they began to bud I watered them with manure water two or three times a week, now about once a week. These are yellow of several shades, one an old gold color, very handsome purple of all shades, plain and striped, blue and many others equally as pretty. Another year I should start the seed a little earlier if possible. Truly they are well worth the trouble.

Miss L. Jennings.

Litchfield Co., Conn., June 23, 1892.

NIGHT BLOOMING CEREUS.—Yes, Mrs. G., is right. Some people will not call a flower by its right name. There are so many Night-blooming Cerei! When a sister asks me the name of one, I tell her it is a Night-blooming Cereus. Just as likely as not she will say, "Oh no; I have a Night blooming Cereus, and it is not like that. I got it from a florist, and I know mine is a true Night-blooming Cereus." Well, there is no use in telling her there are many kinds. To her there is only the one and she has it. One Night-blooming Cereus here has leaves or blades much wider than my hand, then has smooth canes three feet high which are just putting out new leaves. The two-year-old leaves are full of buds, one at each notch, which will, in time, develop into large white waxy flowers, larger than a large soup plate, and with a fragrance so heavy that one does not like to be in a room with it. The flowers open at dusk and close at daylight, to open no more. This cactus will not bear hot sunshine, then rain.

Margaret E. Campbell.

E. Baton Rouge Par., La.

[NOTE.—The flowers of Night blooming Cereus may be enjoyed for several days, if the plant is placed in a perfectly dark room or closet as soon as the flowers open. Lamplight has no influence upon the flowers, while sunlight will immediately cause them to wither.—ED.]

TUBEROUS BEGONIA.

Last spring I had sent to me a fine large bulb of Tuberous rooted Begonia which I potted March 1st, and kept in a warm place. Two or three times during the day I set the pot on a warm soapstone until the top of the earth felt warm. After nearly four weeks of anxious waiting my eyes were gladdened at the sight of a sprout. I then placed it in a sunny window, but as it did not grow very fast I removed it to a more shady corner. It soon began to grow very fast, and before many weeks were past it was budded. Now it has two stems of blossoms, and many buds of a rich, deep, velvety scarlet color, very large. Several of the leaves are from seven to eight inches in length. I think the foliage almost equal to that of the Rex Begonia.

Miss L. Jennings.

Litchfield Co., Conn., June 23, 1892.

THOSE MARGARET CARNATIONS.

Mr. Park:—A word about those Margaret Carnations! Mine were just splendid. They commenced to bloom in just four months from the time of planting, and such a variety of colors! with just a few single flowers, and oh, so deliciously sweet of an evening. They bloomed till we had a *hard freeze*—a frost didn't stop them. I took up some and cut them back, and they are blooming nicely in the window.

Mrs. Sarah Rice.

Champaign Co., Ill., Dec. 24, 1892.

EUCHARIS AMAZONICA.—My Eucharis Amazonica is blooming now, Oct. 17th. It nearly always blooms in the fall. It is very sensitive to cold, and must have a warm place in winter, and while in active growth a lot of water.

Geo. Diemer.

Hancock Co., Ill.

CHIP DIRT AND IRIS.—Mrs. M. A. Bucknell, Ill., will do well to avoid using chip dirt in cultivating Iris. It causes the colors to change in some varieties of the Germanica.

E. P. H.

Litchfield Co., Conn.

## ENGLISH BEDDING VIOLAS.

Those who have not yet tried growing from seed the "English Bedding Violas," to whose good qualities Mr. Park's modest description in Spring catalogue hardly does justice, have a pleasure and surprise in store for them. Last year I began the culture of these flowers, but hope to continue it for years to come, should my life be spared. The English Bedding Violet or Pansy Viola, is said to be a cross between the Pansy and Violet. The Pansy seems to have won for itself such distinctive favor, by the size and brilliancy of its bloom, as to be hardly recognized as being only a Violet, after all, as it really is. In foliage and flowers the "Hybrid Violas" give evidence of their relationship to the Pansy and Violet, when if we consider the Pansy as a plant *per se* instead of merely a very much improved member of the Violet fraternity. The leaves sometimes bear a strong resemblance to the cordate foliage of the fragrant violet, and anon have a decided likeness to the more finely cut leaf of its royal relative, the Pansy. The flowers of some of the Pansy Violas have a suggestion of the violet in color and form, especially those of the *Cornuta alba*, whose blossoms are of the most exquisite white, with barely the faintest suspicion of yellow in the center. They have a long and slender spur, like those of the *Viola rostrata*, of our native fields and woods. These dainty, airy flowers are poised on long delicate stems, which give to them an indescribable grace, and renders them of practical use as a cut flower. While some of the blossoms of the Pansy Viola rival those of the Pansy in size and markings, yet there is a difference between them as a rule. The Pansy Viola, however, has the additional charm, of yielding a delicate odor, so that it is really one of the most desirable flowers that we can obtain. Though the flower is usually not quite so large as the average Pansy this plant makes up for any deficiency in size by its productiveness, sending up its masses of lovely bloom day after day for an indefinite time. A close estimate of the flowers gathered from one plant this season, places the number already at one hundred and ten; and I do not know but

one might say of it as of Moses at his death, that its "natural force" is not "abated." What the future will develop in this plant deponent saith not. The manner of growth and persistency in blooming of the Hybrid Viola, makes it admirably fitted, not only for bedding, but as a border plant for the edging of beds, in such places as are suited to the Pansy in a rich soil and slightly protected from the intense heat of the summer sun.

To those people who cannot see beauty in a flower of less size than a Sunflower, Paeony or Dahlia, this plant would prove a poor investment. But those who can appreciate modest worth will find plenty to admire in the myriad blossoms of the Pansy Viola, with its varied hues and delicate fragrance. The hardiness of this flower will also commend it to those who live at a respectful distance north of Mason and Dixon's line, and who are obliged to fight Jack Frost during nearly two thirds of the year, as this interesting hybrid seems fully able to cope with Jack, unaided by human assistance, so I can testify from my limited experience. Disinterested (?) benevolence induced me to put the majority of my plants into the cellar for safe keeping last winter, only to make the humiliating discovery this spring that those left in the open ground came into bloom weeks earlier.

Rhexia.

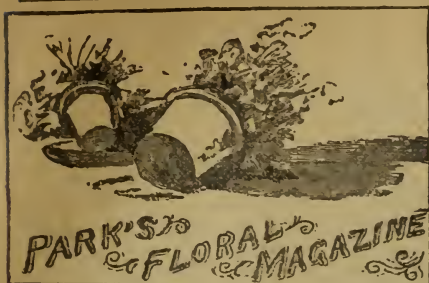
Rensselaer Co., N. Y., June 18th, 1892.

ECHEVERIA.—I have a species of Echeveria that I keep with my collection of cacti (of which I have over seventy-five varieties) which I have never seen anything written about by the many who do occasionally write up articles on that class of plants. We call it the Cobweb Echeveria. Another person tells me it is *Sempervivum tomentosum*. My plant now has seven heads growing in a cluster. These heads, when first formed, are one mass, a webby substance, which, as the leaves expand, carry this substance forward with them, forming several fine strands from point to point of every leaf, just as if a spider had been at work on them. My largest plant is about one inch in diameter, the others growing around it not quite so large, the cluster covering the top of a three-inch pot.

H. E. Brehm.

Montgomery Co., Pa., Sept. 19, 1892.





PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

GEO. W. PARK, LIBONIA, FRANKLIN Co., PA.

PRICE, 50 CENTS A YEAR.

All who love flowers are cordially invited to correspond with the editor.

JANUARY, 1893.

### NOVELTIES OF 1893.

Among the things offered as novelties this year are a compact sulphur-colored *Calendula*; a dwarf species of *Elecampane*, called *Inula ensifolia*, a double scarlet Iceland Poppy; a double violet-colored *Petunia*; several semidouble varieties of *Phlox Drummondii*, one yellow, the other purple marbled; a hardy yellow-flowered *Mullein* from South Bulgaria; a variegated-leaved Japanese Hop; a *Lobelia* with yellowish foliage; annual *Chrysanthemums*; a yellow *Ageratum*; and a rose-colored *Calampelis*. Some of these may be valuable acquisitions, but if so they will survive the test of those interested, and the amateur florist can mostly afford to wait a year or two until the worthless sorts are excluded.

**CARE OF HARDY BULBS.**—Several persons have written the editor to know if they may keep their hardy bulbs out of the ground till spring, or if they shall plant them in boxes and keep them in the cellar. It would be better to plant them in boxes. Cover the bulbs entirely with soil, and press the soil over them to keep out the air, then water them, and keep the soil moist but not wet till spring. As soon as danger from freezing is past in the spring set the bulbs out in the garden and they will soon come into bloom and do almost as well as if the bulbs had been set out in the autumn. If the bed is mulched with manure after the bulbs are set in the spring it will prove beneficial.

### PLANTS FOR A SHADY WINDOW.

A sister at *Vicksburg, N. C.* asks what plants are suitable for a west bay window which is shaded by three large trees, so that it only gets direct sunlight daily for a short time. She will find *Calla Lilies*, *Primroses* and *Hyacinths* and *Narcissus* satisfactory as blooming plants. For foliage, *Palms*, *Grevillea* and *Ficus elastica* may be used; also *Hoya*, which will look well as a vine in winter and bloom freely in the spring. *Parlor Ivy* and *Smilax* may be trained in an attractive manner upon strings, and *Linaria cymbalaria* and *Othonna* will do well in baskets.

**"WHITE WORMS" AND "GNATS"**—Mrs. Humphrey, of Illinois, wants to know what will kill "white worms" and "gnats." The "worms" are the larvæ of the "gnats," and in time develop into "gnats." Dry lime, sulphur or wood-soot dusted over the surface soil will prove efficacious in destroying the "worms;" also allowing the soil to become nearly dry, then watering with tobacco tea or lime water. The "gnats" can be destroyed by dusting the room or conservatory freely with pyrethrum powder—using the bellows until the air is completely impregnated. Several applications may be necessary to thoroughly eradicate the pests.

**PEPPERS FOR POTS.**—Among the novelties in vegetables this season the German seedsmen offer a Pepper they call "Elephant's Trunk." The engraving they publish reminds the editor of some huge Peppers he has cultivated for several years in pots, under the name of *Procopp's Giant*. The plants do not bear many pods, but those produced are nearly a foot in length, and when they assume their rich scarlet color in the autumn the plant is exceedingly showy and ornamental. It is well worth cultivating as an ornamental pot plant.

**THE MARGARET CARNATION.**—The *Margaret Carnation* is still offered this season as a novelty. It is one of the really good things that has been recently introduced to the flower-loving public, and although not altogether new this year it is something that we are not likely to praise too highly. No flower-grower who has not already procured it should fail to obtain seeds this season. It is easily grown from seeds, and will not disappoint those who try it.

## EXCHANGES.

Mrs. Jessie Crouse, Altamont, Albany Co., N. Y., has blooming bulbs of *Amaryllis Valotia* and small bulbs of Prince of Orange. Would like Stephanotis, and bulbs not in her collection.

Mrs. R. R. Bilze, Ephrata, Pa., has *Gloxinias* to exchange for tuberous *Begonias*, and has three Palms for large-flowering *Clematis*.

M. A. Farrell, 37 Summer St., Pawtucket, R. I., will exchange choice flower seeds, over thirty kinds, for curiosities or specimens suitable for cabinet.

Mrs. S. A. B. Sherwin, Ostrander, Minn., has Gardeners, Monthly, American Garden, Purdy's Fruit Recorder and other reading for knitted hose, Waverly Magazine, Crinum, and the true "Old man Cactus," and others. Write first.

R. Gebels, Erie, Pa., has *Cinnamon*, and *Madeira Vine*, *Dahlia* and *Gladiolus* Bulbs to exchange for *Cacti*. Exchange lists.

Mrs. A. M. Desch, York, Neb., has Tuberose Bulbs, blooming size, to exchange for *Iris Kampferi*, French Cannas and Peacock Tulips.

E. M. Mastingly, Oxon Hill, Md., has *Chrysanthemum*, *Gladiolus*, calico and cotton pieces sufficient for large quilt, wool scraps, handsome piece of crazy work fifteen inches square, to exchange for sea shells from Pacific coast, minerals, or bulbs not in her collection. Write first.

Mrs. Frank Baumann, Elgin, Ill., would like to exchange *Begonias* for *Gloxinia*, *Cyclamen*, Spotted Calla, and others.

Mrs. Alice Johns, Millville, Ky., has Chinese Matrimony Vine and *Chrysanthemums*, etc. to exchange. Exchange lists first.

Mrs. Agnes Fisher, Bremond, Texas, has *Chrysanthemums*, Parlor Ivy, etc. to exchange. Exchange lists.

Mrs. E. T. Roland, Eldon, Wapello Co., Iowa has seeds to exchange for bulbs and plants.

Mrs. J. M. Perkins, Quaker Spring, N. Y., has music and slugging books to exchange for plants or bulbs. Exchange lists first.

Mrs. Harry K. Day, De Luz, San Diego Co., Cal., has Ferns, Valley Lilies, *Gloxinias*, etc. to exchange. Write first.

Mrs. Daniel Sheeler, No. 47 Davenport St., Cleveland, Ohio, wishes choice bulbs and plants for hand-painted crazy scraps, good size. Write first.

Mrs. R. A. Blair, Mechanic Falls, Me., has Parrot's Feather to exchange for spotted and dwarf Callas.

Mrs. Alice Woodcock, St. Joseph, Mich., has three new hardy perennials to exchange for Confederate stamps or money, or United States stamps issued during or before the war.

Mrs. William Henry Miller, Matthews C. H., Virginia, has *Madeira*, *Smilax*, *Lily of the Valley*, *Tiger Lily*, etc. for Old-man Cactus.

Mrs. J. D. Shonkin, Richland P. O., Oconee Co., has Chinese *Hibiscus* to exchange for tree *Pæony*, good roots. Nothing else wanted.

Mrs. C. M. P. Octor, Bryan, Texas, would like to exchange roots of Egyptian Lotus, water Poppy and water Lilies for Tuberous *Begonia*, *Gloxinia* and *Cyclamen*.

M. A. Ely, Allegan Mich., has White Pinks, Geraniums, and bulbs to exchange for others or anything useful or ornamental.

H. M. Page, Aulesburg, Vt., has choice grape vine, white peonies and narcissus poeticus to exchange for white lilies—Candidum and day lilies preferred. Write first.

Mrs. W. M. Wright, box 86, Huntington, Tennessee, has back numbers of Households, Housekeeper, Home Companion, Floral Cabinet and Mayflower to exchange for plants. Write first.

Jas. Billings, Ravenswood, Ill., box 216, has stamping patterns for fancy work to exchange for plants and bulbs.

H. F. King, Fayette, Mo., has *Dahlia* tubers, Perennial plox, tall blue daisies, Lemon Balm, Spearulants, etc., to exchange for *Cacti*, *Lilies*, or anything choice.

Mrs. J. Hoymann, Springville, Ky., has a choice lot of small fruit, hardy vines and other plants for exchange. Exchange lists.

S. A. Didd, Talmage, Cal., has *Tiger Lilies*, Ferns, and several kinds of everlasting flowers to exchange for *Smilax* vine, *Manettia Bicolor* or *Auratum* Bulbs.

Mrs. Geo. C. Crosby, Jefferson, Ohio, would be pleased to exchange mixed *Gladiolus*, blooming size, for worsted pieces nine inches square, all plain, bright colors, (no black.)

Corra Jewell, Tallapoosa, Ind., has Phoenix Palm, named *Dahlias*, named *Chrysanthemums*, hardy perennials, &c., to exchange for *Fuchsias* and plants she has not. Send full list.

## NATIONAL FLOWER.

## TRAILING ARBUTUS.

As to the National Flower, I give it but little thought. Voting on it will not give us one. As well might a young man's friends vote what maiden he shall marry. Nevertheless, as voting is in order, I will cast my vote for the Trailing Arbutus—*Epigaea Repens*; for it was the "first flower seen 'neath the land by the Pilgrim Fathers," and the first flowers seen by the soldiers at Valley Forge after a wearisome, vexatious winter in the snow. It has therein a National sentiment, an accompaniment of patriotic, poetic feeling that belongs to no other flower. The Plink I prize; the Columbine I like in spite of the old play associations with its name; some *Lilies* I admire; the Golden Rod is pretty, though a weed; and the clover is useful but void of sentiment. But if I were a poet I would stog the rhythm of the Trailing Arbutus, and make other poets at least glow with such feelings as are kindled by "The Breaking Waves Dashed High," and the "Star Spangled Banner." We are fast forgetting our past as a people with the incoming flood of foreigners, and the mad rush of the Nation into the future, and the ravenous greed of many for filthy lucre—the filthier the better, for there is so much more of it. There is not one tith of the sentiment that ought to hang over and pervade the Columbian Exposition at Chicago, in its merely superficial recall of the past, but its actual pompous, gaudy show of the present. The Trailing Arbutus, out of sympathy with the glare, the hugeness, the clang and the equipage of those who are selling their souls for wealth. Nevertheless, the strength of the Nation is not in such. They will pass away. When the country is all settled and our financial, political, social, theological, international problems secure through discussion and satisfactory solution, then the virtues of the people shall have saved them, then in peace and modest prosperity poets will gather the relics of the past, and then the song of the Arbutus shall be sung with its fragrant flowers, its modest eye, and its patriotic associations. Chas. H. Holloway.

Philadelphia, Pa.

## COLUMBINE.

I give my vote for the *Aquilegia* or Columbine as our National flower, for several reasons: It accords with our National emblem, the eagle, the king of birds. If you examine the single column line, you will see a cluster of eagles' heads under the corolla, "Many united in one." Then see how near the name comes to being Columbine—"The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave." Another reason is that it is a native of our country. A recent writer says no one who has not seen it in California can form an idea of the variety and beauty of the Columbine. E. O. Alward.

Wilcox Co., Ala.

## LILY.

I think the Lily has not yet been adopted as the National Flower of any country. We speak of the *Lilies of France*, but they are, correctly speaking, *Iris*, and not *Lilies of the caudium* or speculum type, such as would be my choice for our National Flower. If the Rose or *Chrysanthemum* had not been already claimed, I think either of them would be preferable, for corsage bouquets, garnitures, &c. But for purity and stateliness, or for carving in wood, stone or marble I think we may be proud of the Lily. Aunt Em.

New Haven Co., Conn.

## THE CARNATION.

I vote for the *Carnation* as our National Flower. It comes in all colors, and with all occasions, both merry and sad. Place a double white one in the center of a rose geranium leaf, and you have a pretty bouquet for friend or lover. Cluster them in sprays of shining *Smilax* and they may grace the fairest bride. The little "fots" may raise and handle them without fear; and when some loved one is laid to rest, they are nice with the Lily to place on their breast. Could we do this with the Sunflower or the Goldenrod? Surely not. So by all means give us the *Carnation*.

Greenup Co., Ky.

Subscriber.

## THE ROSE.

The Rose, I think, is the most loved of all flowers, but as that is already appropriated, the *Carnation Pink* stands next. Its enduring qualities are superior to the Rose, and for all occasions and places where the National Flower will be used, there is none so suitable as the *Carnation Pink*.

Litchfield Co., Conn.

E. P. H.



# CENTROSEMA GRANDIFLORA.

## AN ENTIRELY NEW CLIMBER.



FROM Wm. F. Bassett, of New Jersey, we have seeds of what he claims is an entirely new perennial climber, and it is highly recommended by him as follows:

"Centrosema grandiflora is a perfectly hardy vine of rare and exquisite beauty, which, from seeds sown in April, even in the poorest soil, will thrive from early in June and cut down by frost, and produce in the greatest profusion large clusters of inverted pea-shaped flowers delightfully fragrant, one and a half to two and a half inches in diameter and ranging in color from rosy violet to reddish purple, with bright feathered markings through the center. The large buds and back of flowers are pure

white, making it appear as if one plant bore many different colored flowers. It is well adapted for every purpose desired for a climber, running six to eight feet in one season."

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**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.**

Mr. Park:—I have a Rosemary two years old, but it does not grow. What shall I do with it to encourage growth.—Mrs. K., Mo.  
 Ans.—In the spring plant it out in a rich, sunny spot in the garden. It will soon reward you with growth and flowers.

Madeira Vine:—Can you tell me the botanical name of Madeira Vine.—Miss H., Mass.  
 Ans.—It is *Boussingaultia bas-illoides*.

Jouquill Buds Blasting.—Mr. Park, kindly tell me what causes Jouquill buds to blast. They have a fairly sunny situation and good soil, but every spring the buds form and grow until about ready to open, and then blast the flowers and your expectations at the same time.—Eva Gaillard, Erie Co., Pa.  
 Ans.—The new bulbs of the Narcissus family are always borne upon the base of the old bulb, and consequently each year the bulbs grow deeper and deeper till it affects their blooming. Hard freezing also often causes the buds to blast. To overcome the former reset the bulbs; to avoid the latter cover with manure in winter, allowing it to remain on till after blooming.

Mr. Park:—I have a large tree of double flowered cherry which I am thinking of grafting with some good cherry fruit. I am told that it will not be a success—that it will not grow fruit. Now, I can not quite understand this and so ask your opinion. It is a nice large tree and will save lots of time, if it can be done. Mrs. J. M. W.  
 Litchfield Co., Conn.  
 Answer.—If the clons used in grafting are of good bearing varieties they can be depended upon for fruit. Cherries are considered difficult to graft. This, however, is due to cutting the clons in the spring. To have the best success, they should be cut in the fall and kept dormant until time for grafting in the spring.

**MAGAZINE APPRECIATED.**

Mr. Park:—We just received your paper this morning. We think it a perfect little gem.  
 Mrs. Rev. T. Stacy.

Onondaga Co., N. Y., Dec. 16, 1892.  
 Mr. Park:—Your Magazine is the best of all the floral periodicals. So far as I know it just suits everyone.  
 Mrs. Sarah Rice.

Champaign Co., Ill., Dec. 24, 1892.  
 Mr. Park:—My son subscribed for your Magazine to be sent me as a present, and I am much delighted with it.  
 Mrs. I. M. Meacham.

Catt Co., N. Y., Dec. 18, 1892.  
 Mr. Park:—I am a subscriber to your Magazine, and am much pleased with it—it is so bright and practical. Like Wilmer Atkinson's Farm Journal, it is all cream.  
 H. M. Page.

Chittenden Co., Vt., Dec. 21, 1892.  
 Mr. Park:—I value your Magazine so highly I should be sorry to miss even one number. It is just what we amateurs need.  
 Mrs. M. Crowell.

Rockingham Co., N. H., Dec. 19, 1892.

**QUESTIONS.**

Japonica.—Will someone tell me why my Japonica does not bloom? It is six years old, and has not yet bloomed.—Mrs. S. White, Vt.

Seeds.—How shall I treat Oleander and Peony seed to have them germinate quickly? Should the seeds be soaked in warm water, and if so, how long?—Ally. Wis

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