

House & garden.

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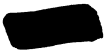
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VOLUME FIFTEEN

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HICKORY TREES

IT is rather a pity that our hickories should receive highest appreciation from us when they are yielding up their substance in roaring flames in our fireplaces. For nowhere in the forest world can we find a genus of trees that is, as a whole, more attractive and valuable than the genus *Carya*. Most of the hickories are beautiful in summer when their glossy foliage is at its best. In autumn this foliage turns the color of uncoined gold, and when bare of leaves there is revealed an oak-like twist to the branches which makes these trees most picturesque and beautiful objects in the winter landscape. We have never made as much commercially of the nuts as we might well have done. Our Indian predecessors knew how to make a most attractive beverage from them, and the early settlers pressed from them an oil that was a luxury. The pecan is the only hickory species that has been developed and cultivated to any extent, and this has only recently begun its career as a cultivated tree.—*Country Life in America*.

THE TEXAS MISSIONS

THE ruined buildings, known as "Missions" in the State of Texas, have a history altogether distinct from that of the buildings to which we give that name on the Pacific coast. The Spanish colonization of the territory we now know as Texas began about the year 1680 and the conquest of the country is said to have been completed in 1691. The Mission System was not resorted to in aid either of colonization or of the pacification of the natives in Texas, and the religious foundations planted in the territory by the Franciscans in the eighteenth century, for the most part previous to the development of the mission system farther west, were, although supported out of the treasury of New Spain, intended purely for the evangelization of the native races, without the promise of any present or future political advantage to the government. Neophytism seems not to have been practised in Texas, and the missions succeeded in getting less than five hundred Indians attached to them. Their herds of livestock were kept small by the oft-repeated raids of the wild tribes of the mountains and deserts, to whom the missionaries were unable to extend the

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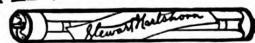
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gospel. And so far from the Texas missions being a source of revenue to the Spanish Government, they were the occasion of the expenditure of millions of dollars from the public funds. The proof is that in his official report to the King of Spain, in 1793, the Viceroy, the Count of Revillagigedo, did not regard the returns from the eight missions then in Texas a justification for this enormous outlay.

Hence, as factors in the colonization of Texas, the missions are scarcely to be taken into consideration. And of the five buildings which survive, in a more or less ruined condition, as relics of these missionary enterprises, only one is worthy of preservation as an historical monument, and that one because of events subsequent to its career as a mission. The others, though not wholly devoid of architectural interest, may properly be regarded as merely interesting ruins.

A number of efforts for the evangelization of the Indian tribes within the present boundaries of Texas had ended in failure, before Antonio Margil de Jesus, with nine other Franciscans, founded in 1716, four of the six missions attributable to him. These four were named San Antonio Velero, Nuestra Señora de la Concepcion, San Juan Capistrano, and San Francisco Espada. The first was the outgrowth of an attempt to plant a mission as early as 1703 on the bank of the Rio Grande. Thence it was transferred to San Ildefonso, then back to the Rio Grande. And now it was successfully established at the Presidio of San Antonio de Bejar, which with the villa of San Fernando formed one settlement. The second and third missions above named were established, respectively, two and six miles south of the first; and the fourth was established on the Medina River, but removed in 1730 to a point in the San Antonio Valley seven miles south of San Antonio.

In 1720, the Missions of San José Aguayo and Espiritu Santo were established, four and eighty miles south of San Antonio, respectively. In 1726, Margil died at the age of seventy. It was long afterwards that his mission schemes were completed by the establishment of the Missions of Nuestra Señora del Rosario (1754), and Nuestra Señora del Refugio (1791), respectively seventy-five and one hundred miles south of San Antonio.

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Of these eight missions referred to by the Viceroy in his report, as an unprofitable investment of the public money, some suffered change of location and final abandonment, before the dawn of the American régime in Texas, leaving San Antonio, Concepcion, San José, San Francisco and San Juan for our special consideration.

The Mission of San Antonio Velero, when finally established under presidential protection, flourished. So did the presidial town. In 1732, a church was built by the wealthy Spanish families of the colony. To this building, in which the Mooresque style of architecture prevailed, modern, though not inharmonious additions were subsequently made, and the whole has become the Cathedral of San Fernando upon the advancement of San Antonio to the dignity of a See City.

In 1744, the corner-stone of a new building for the mission was laid. The main building was of the dimensions of seventy-two by sixty-two feet, including walls, of soft yellow stone, four feet thick. A slab in the walls of this building, bearing the date 1757, testifies to the length of time consumed in its construction. The mission was secularized by royal decree before the end of the last century, and the building was converted into a fort. This required no very radical changes, as barracks for soldiers and large stone enclosures for the protection of the Mission Indians from the attacks of Apaches, Comanches and Lipans, were essential to mission architecture in Texas.

The first soldiers to occupy the secularized mission buildings came from a famous fort, called the "Alamo," in the Province of Coahuila. They brought with them the name and bestowed it upon their new garrison. The main building was on March 6, 1836, the scene of one of the most heroic episodes in American history. The flag of Santa Anna was floating from the tower of the old church of San Fernando. Within the Alamo, one hundred and forty-five effective men, besides sick and wounded, under the indomitable Colonel Travis, chose to die, martyrs to the cause of Texan Independence, rather than surrender to the insatiable Mexican Dictator. "Remember the Alamo" was thenceforth the war-cry of the Texans as they continued their struggle for independence. The Alamo has been made the monument of Travis, David Crockett

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Some Other Special Features of the January-Holiday Number:

“English Homes and Gardens;” “Mulum in Parvo, a Compendium of Short Articles; “The Comic Side of Crime,” by Harry Furniss; “Bridge Blunders,” by William Dalton; “The World’s Best Puzzles,” by Henry E. Dudeny. The beautiful color section is devoted, in this number, to “The London Stage,” describing and illustrating the theatrical successes of the day—in London—and which will appear in America later on. The fiction includes some splendid short stories by such well known and popular authors as W. W. Jacobs, Arthur Morrison, E. Bland, Horace Annesley Vachell, Ellen Thornercroft Fowler and E. Nesbit.

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James Bowie and the other brave defenders, being preserved by the State as a museum of historical relics.

With our American lack of appreciation for the beautiful names under which ecclesiastical edifices are dedicated, and our tendency to designate things numerically, the ruins of the other missions are pointed out to tourists as numbers one to four, in the order of their location from San Antonio. Thus the Concepcion is the “First Mission.” The present building was begun in 1730 or 1731, the mission having been removed from its first location, though its distance from San Antonio was not altered. The “Second Mission,” San José, four miles south of San Antonio, was one of the finest specimens of mission architecture on the continent. A famous Spanish architect, Huica by name, was sent from Madrid to superintend its construction, and the façade is his design. It is in the “Churrigueresque” style, that is it shows the elaboration of carved stone, practised by the Spanish architect Churriguera, late in the seventeenth century, and a popular treatment of Mexican churches after that date. This elaborately sculptured façade is one of the marks differentiating the style of this building from that of the mission buildings of the Pacific coast, though all the Texas missions are more distinctly Mooresque than those of California.

The “Third Mission” is San Juan, six miles south, and the “Fourth Mission” is San Francisco, seven miles south of San Antonio. These have fallen into a more advanced state of decay than the other two. But in their ruins they exhibit open-arched campaniles and some other features suggestive of some points in common with the Californian Mission buildings.—*The American Architect and Building News.*

NUT NOTES

WALNUT growing in the far Northwest has passed the experimental stage and the acreage is being rapidly increased.

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COMMENTS ON NEW BOOKS

English Houses and Gardens in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries

ENGLISH Houses and Gardens in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries* is a recent publication, particularly interesting to architects. It contains some sixty bird's-eye illustrations, reproduced from early engravings by Kip, Harris, Badeslade and others. It covers the period from 1550 to 1720, during which time the best of early English architecture was designed and built, and shows the work of such famous architects as Inigo Jones, Sir Christopher Wren and others. In addition to the illustrations, the descriptive texts by Merryn Macartney are extremely interesting and valuable.

THE GARDEN SCHOOL

AN object lesson to the citizens of Newton was the garden school conducted by the ladies of the Social Science club of that town during the summer of 1906. Assured by George H. Maxwell of the Home Crofters' guild of the Talisman of the free services of an experienced garden director, provided the club could defray the further expense of a garden, a committee of five ladies was appointed from the club to see what could be done.

First they obtained the use of a piece of vacant land on Jackson road, which was then an open grass-plot. Then an appeal was made by the committee to the department of agriculture at Washington for free seeds, which were promptly sent. The committee sent a circular letter to about fifteen of the enterprising business men of Newton telling them of the plans for the garden

* English Houses and Gardens in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries. London, B. T. Batsford; New York, Charles Scribner's Sons. Price \$6.00, net.

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HOW \$100 MADE \$12,000

❏ I wonder if you have ever stopped to consider the splendid profits in the magazine business. If you have not, let me give you some facts,

❏ *Munsey's* publications, according to Mr. Munsey's own statement, earn a net profit amounting to the immense sum of \$1,200,000 a year. The *Ladies' Home Journal* and the *Saturday Evening Post* are both owned by the Curtis Publishing Company of Philadelphia. These two magazines return a gross annual income of not far from \$6,000,000. *Everybody's Magazine*, *McClure's*, the *Cosmopolitan*, the *Outlook* and others earn yearly profits which are enormous.

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H. & G.
Jan., '09.

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school and asking them if they were sufficiently interested in the experiment to give it some financial support.

The response was quick, and at the end of a week we had the required \$100, and the director went to work. One hundred and six gardens, nine by thirty-five feet, were planted by as many different children from the Nonantum district, and the names of as many more interested children were placed on the waiting list.

A few of these children, having learned how under the direction at the garden school, went back to the home dooryards which had for all time previously been used for dumps, cleared away the debris, spaded up the earth and planted seeds which they procured gratis from the director. The reward was a scarlet runner at the doorstep, a row each of lettuce, radishes and beans and for garden flowers nasturtiums, sunflowers and sweet alyssum. One of the boys carried some vegetables from his home garden into the exhibition at Horticultural hall and was awarded a prize.

Could these children, think you, ever again be contented to live in a dump instead of a flower garden? These girls and boys learned the law of cause and effect; that the soil through healthful, pleasant labor will produce food supplies sufficient to nourish the body; that debris, squalor and untidiness may be supplanted by cleanliness, order and beauty and many other lessons, not the least of which were pride in ownership and respect for other people's rights. —*Talisman*.

INDIVIDUAL TREE PLANTING ON STREETS

IN view of the extensive planting of trees on streets which is done it is surprising to see the mismanagement or lack of any management whatsoever existing in most of our cities and towns, says the Los Angeles Times. Every one plants to suit himself, having a favorite tree of his own, and ninety times out of a hundred no provisions are made to promote the existence of the newly planted tree. A hole is dug and the tree buried in it, and that is the end. The proper remedy lies in a good state law or town ordinance that will prevent irrational treatment of public highways.

ART AS APPLIED TO ARCHITECTURE

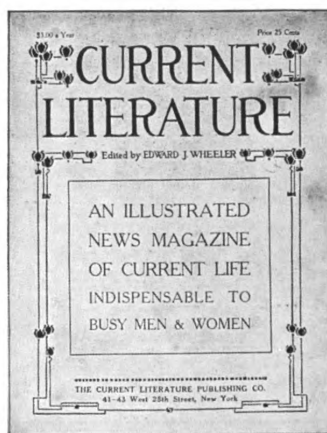
EVERY year the International Studio Magazine puts forward an annual dealing on broad and generous lines with some aspect of applied art. The volume for 1907 treats of art as applied to architecture. Though it is more pertinent to England than to the United States, it still presents many features of interest and instruction that will be found valuable as hints to American builders of homes.

The editor complains that England at the present moment appears to be suffering from one of its periodic phases of copyism. What is only periodic in England is unfortunately permanent in America. Our architecture is too obviously an imitation rather than an original growth. If we must imitate, however, let us at least imitate good models. This volume with its more than two hundred illustrations, some in color, others in black and white and the rest in photogravure, gives the reader an ample field of choice not only in the way of exterior architecture but of internal decoration.

The editor in his introduction takes up first the question of site. It is obvious that the site of a proposed house ought always to be taken into consideration in determining the character and treatment of the building. Thus it is as absurd to introduce balconies and bay windows and terraces where there is no prospect to look upon as it is to rear a gaunt barrack, without any of those conveniences, in a position where a superb view invites the fullest provision being made for its enjoyment and contemplation. Or, again, a narrow and lofty house of many stories is as much out of place in the open country where economy of ground space is no object as a low and rambling cottage would be in the midst of a congested town.

The type of building which, with its white marble colonnade, gleaming in the sunshine and embowered amid silvery olives and scarlet blossoming pomegranates, beneath a vault of intense and cloudless blue, is perfectly indigenous in Greece or Sicily, loses all its magic when translated in coarse gray stone to the scenery and surroundings of a more sombre clime. In England the classic styles are necessarily cold and portentous and artificial. For if it be true, as most assuredly it is, that a house should bear

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some reasonable relation to the means and status of its owner then the temple of a discredited deity is as inappropriate a model as could possibly be chosen for any man's private dwelling at all times and places, and most of all in the prosaic, work-a-day environment of the present century.

Again, just as the interior of a house has to be subdivided into rooms of different sizes for different purposes, so, too, the exterior, if it correspond, as it should, to the internal arrangements, cannot well be of symmetrical form. It often happens that comfort within is sacrificed in order to secure conformity of plan and balance of parts outside. But so far from esthetic appearance being enhanced thereby, the exact reverse often proves to be the case.

Take a familiar instance, the Ducal Palace at Venice. In the upper half of the façade immediately overlooking the *riva* an ornamental balcony window in the middle is flanked by six windows, three on either hand, of which the two easternmost are on a different level from the rest. So far from the composition suffering in consequence, one may safely assert that it is to this very irregularity that a large share of its picturesqueness as a whole is to be attributed.

In domestic architecture the placing of the chimneys is an important factor. If a house be in a cold and exposed situation it is best for the flues to occupy an internal position; since no precaution that may help to warm the dwelling through and through should be neglected. But where a house is in a warm and favorable spot, and heating is a matter of proportionately less consequence, the chimneys may well be built against the outer walls in which event they add picturesqueness and do, both in appearance and reality, act as sturdy buttresses for the support of the building.

One of the principal factors that differentiate ancient and modern buildings consists in the respective slope of the roof. Old roofs are not only higher pitched but also occupy by comparison a much greater expanse in the elevation than is customary with modern built houses. Steepness of roof is no mere archaism, but a matter of extremely practical utility in a land of rain and snow.—*Exchange.*

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In an industry where the cost of timber is so large an item it is important to know what method of preservative treatment will give the greatest service at the least expense. To determine this, experiments were conducted in the seasoning and treating of mine timbers, principally pine, oak, and chestnut. The last two woods were investigated largely to determine their suitability for planting in the anthracite region as a source of supply of mine timbers. The results show that peeled timber is superior in durability to unpeeled timber, and if it is peeled and seasoned for from two to four months in the woods there is an additional saving in freight and in yard room at the mines. Peeling costs from ten to twenty-five cents per set. With creosote at nine cents a gallon, mine props can be treated with a brush at a cost of one and one-half cents a cubic foot, or forty cents per set. If a timber checks, however, an opening is made through the portion protected by creosote, and decay sets in. By the use of closed cylinders a very thorough treatment is secured, but at an average cost of between \$3 and \$4 per set of mine timbers. A method of treatment less expensive than by the closed cylinders, and yet which secures a penetration of

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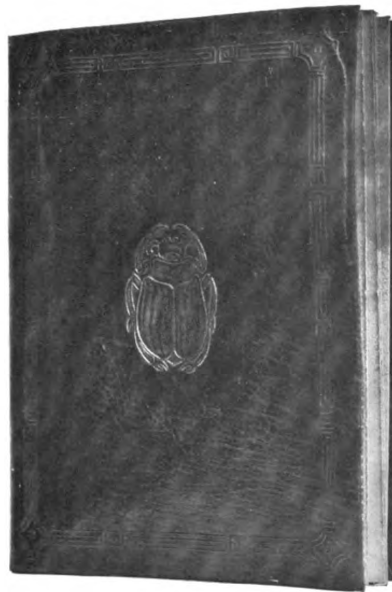
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DATES GROWN IN CALIFORNIA

INVESTIGATIONS by the Southern Pacific company have gone far enough to show that the date palm can be grown successfully in California soil. At the government's experimental farm near Mecca, in the Colorado Desert, several acres have been set out and the trees are thriving. They have not reached the full bearing stage, but several branches have produced as high as twenty pounds each already. Mr. Fee, Passenger Traffic Manager of the Southern Pacific, has received samples of both the soft and dried dates, and pronounces them of excellent quality.

The region selected for the experiment is the Coachella Valley, west of Salton and north of the Imperial Valley. There is no reason, experts say, why it should not be covered with thriving date plantations that will produce the fruit, instead of importing it.—*Exchange*.

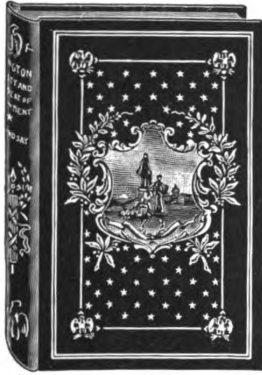
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(Continued on page 12)

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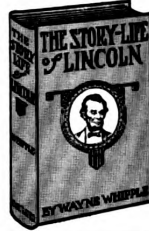
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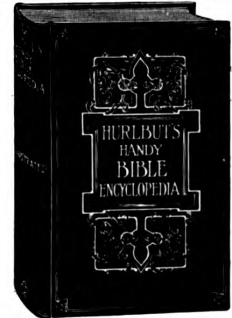
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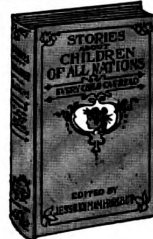
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"hard cider" stage and deficient in acid strength. Modern quick process vinegar has superseded the old method and complete fermentation is now obtained in forty-eight hours. The flavor of cider vinegar is partly due to the minute particles of the apple pulp remaining in the vinegar. To call these character giving particles "impurities" is incorrect.

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THE POTATO

THE common potato was at the time of the discovery of America in cultivation from Chile, to which it is indigenous, along the greater part of the Andes as far north as to New Granada. It was introduced from Quito into Spain about 1580 under the name of *papa* which in Spanish it still bears. From Spain it found its way to Italy, where it became known as *tartuffalo* and thence was carried to Mons in Belgium, by one of the attendants of the pope's legate to that country. In 1588 it was sent by Phillippe de Sivry, governor of Mons, to the botanist, De L'Ecluse, professor at the University of Leyden, who in 1601 published the first good description of it under the name of *Papas Peruanorum*, and stated that it had then spread throughout Germany. Recommended in France by Casper Bauhin, the culture of the tuber rapidly extended in 1592 throughout Franche Comte, the Vosges and Burgundy. But the belief becoming prevalent that it caused leprosy and fever, it underwent an ordeal of persecution from which it did not recover until three-quarters of a century afterward.—*Exchange*.

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(Continued on page 14.)

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The February Issue will be devoted largely to Garden Topics as will the issues of March and April

THE HOME GARDEN AT DREAMWOLD

ON the summer estate of Mr. Thomas W. Lawson the home garden possesses every fascination, not only for the botanist and expert floriculturist, but also for the amateur gardener. The wealth of blossoms is so surprising, the simplicity so refreshing, and yet withal there are spots quite formal in their lay-out. As Miss Northend says in her description; "Everywhere there is green, eternal green, broken and contrasted with a multitude of harmonious colors. Narrow winding grass paths lure one's feet in and out, revealing surprises of art and nature at every turn."

THE MARTHA WASHINGTON GARDEN

Mount Vernon is the Mecca at some time or other in the life of every American. To behold the resting place of the illustrious Washington, to see where he lived, to follow the paths whereon he walked, all are part of the regular programme. Another place of interest is the garden he laid out for the pleasure of Martha Washington. The rose trees, the boxwood hedges, one hundred and fifty years old, indicate that some of the most enduring monuments may be builded of other material than stone or marble. John W. Hall has secured some photographs which give a clear idea of this garden and show how carefully it has been preserved.

WHY MANY AMATEUR GARDENERS FAIL

A feature of the February number will be an interesting series of letters from leading nurserymen and seedsmen giving practical instructions, based on their personal experience, as to the planting and care of trees, shrubs and plants. Letters of inquiry and complaint have been received regarding poor results secured and these have determined us to find an explanation of the failures. We have succeeded in doing this and the letters will be found instructive and valuable.

A HOME SHRUBBERY

Those plants which we group under the name of shrubs go farther to adorn and beautify the home grounds and at less expense than anything else that can be procured. Then too, a little searching of the byways in whatever part of the country we may be, will show that nature has provided everywhere a remarkable variety of such plants, from the hardy sorts that will thrive in Minnesota to those which will revel in the sand and sunshine of Florida. E. P. Powell has prepared this interesting paper under the above caption.

STARTING SEEDS IN THE HOUSE

L. J. Doogue of the Public Grounds Department of the city of Boston contributes some useful information under the above title. He tells how seeds may be successfully started in the house and why so many fail in their efforts in that direction. He gives illustrations of a portable window greenhouse by use of which success may be assured.

HELPFUL HINTS ON HOUSE PLANTS

The difficulties encountered by many lovers of plants in making them thrive in the house are most intelligently dealt with by C. L. Meller. The errors of management are cited and suggestions for remedying them are given.

ROOT PRUNING OF FRUIT TREES

Many fruit trees which are very thrifty in growth seem to refuse to bear fruit. The balance is not maintained. To rectify this condition Mr. W. R. Gilbert urges root pruning. By this proceeding a curtailing of the luxuriant top growth is secured and the tree immediately begins to use its energies in the production of fruit buds.

THE GARDEN OF ANNUALS

Eben E. Rexford the enthusiastic floriculturist writes of the great number of annuals which he feels are not always given the prominence or attention which they deserve by amateur gardeners. The profusion of their flowers and their brilliant color effects throughout the summer and often late into fall, should make them prime favorites with the gardener whose space is small.

JAPANESE GARDEN DEVELOPMENT

The second garden to be described by Mrs. Phebe Westcott Humphreys in this series is that of Mr. Charles J. Pilling at Lansdowne, Pa. In a most fascinating way she describes the beauties of green draperies of trailing growths,—of boulder outlined creeks and ponds and of the wistaria arbors hung with vines and masses of the pendulous blooms.

FURNISHING A HOUSE OF SIX ROOMS FOR \$1,500

This article takes up the chambers of the house and describes them in detail, giving cost of material and furniture, in a way to be most helpful to the amateur house furnisher.

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fifty miles, as on an ordinary day the trip is made about ten times. If the same ingenuity was applied to the arrangement of the kitchen and pantry that is ordinarily given to make the stables and fields convenient, there would be fewer worn-out middle-aged women in our land; although it can be said that men and women are commonly found consistent in this regard, that a brief study of the arrangement of their buildings, as to position and inside conveniences, shows that little thought was given to the saving of labor and more particularly in places where the saving would be constant like that noted above. Fifty miles, the energy required to do four good days' work, enough to give the mother a pleasant outing instead of nervous prostration. It would have been economical for this lady and her husband to take a full day off to think of nothing but how this one particular change could possibly be made.—*The Michigan Farmer*.

FIRE-PROOF SUBURBAN HOUSE

FOUNDATIONS have recently been laid for a suburban home of an unusual type at St. James, L. I., on the north shore of the Sound, for Francis C. Huntington, a New York lawyer. Only the trim and the thin floor covering will be of wood. The walls, floors and partitions are to be of hollow terra-cotta blocks—the same kind used for fire-proofing Manhattan skyscrapers.

The use of this material in dwellings is a comparatively new thing. It is only about a year since the New York City Bureau of Buildings had to pass, for the first time in its history, upon the plans for a terra-cotta home. In the suburbs, where an earlier start was made, the progress has been greater but the number of such structures is still small.

The St. James house is situated in an estate of several acres bordering Long Island Sound. The windows of the living-room and the dining-room overlook the water, and there is a brick terrace on the same side. The exterior surface of the terra-cotta walls will be covered with stucco and the plaster inside will be applied directly, without the use of lathing. The roof is to be of green tile. With a furnace and complete heating apparatus, the place is designed for occupation in winter as well as in summer.—*Exchange*.

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House & Garden

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GARDEN OF THE OLD MISSION SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

House and Garden

Vol. XV

JANUARY, 1909

No. 1

The Gardens of the Missions

BY CHARLES FREDERICK HOLDER

WITHOUT question, the most interesting feature of the landscape in California is the line of Franciscan missions which extend far down in Mexico and Texas, and along shore from La Paz and San Diego to San Francisco. They are the only really old things on the coast; the only ruins, and being Moorish in design, they lend to the landscape and are one of the picturesque features, redeeming the coast in the estimation of the artists.

The best known missions extend for five hundred miles from San Diego to San Francisco along what the Californians call the King's Highway—El Carmino Real. The missions were begun in 1769 by Father Serra, and were so arranged that a traveler on horseback along the coast, could reach a hospitable mission each night and find a hearty welcome from the fathers, their bands of neophytes, the soldiers of the king, and the many retainers.

It is not my object to describe the missions, but to refer to their gardens, which were often beautiful, and to the love of the out-door life which the padres inculcated in the minds of the people, and which still holds as time rolls on.

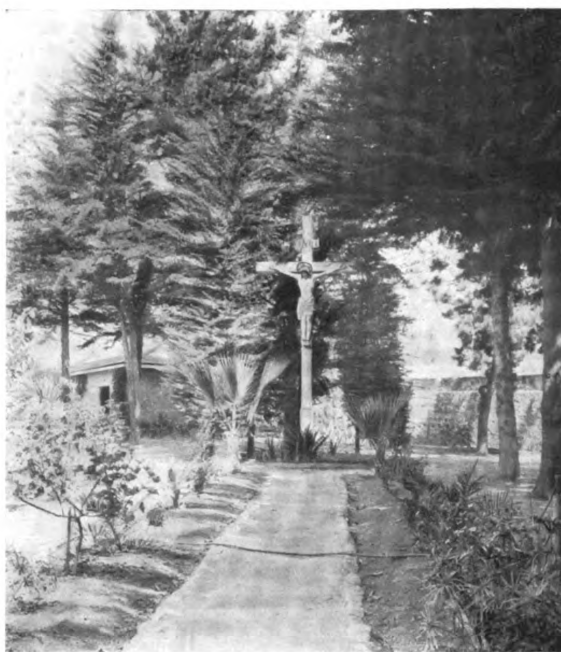
The fathers, all, or nearly all, came from Spain, in the old days, and brought with them a love for flowers that found its expression in gardens, at all the old missions, remains of which are seen about many of the ruined or half-ruined piles to-day.

The mission of San Diego is nearly a

complete ruin, but not many years ago there was an attractive garden; the old date palms alone tell the story to-day. So with the next mission, San Luis Rey, on the river of that name. The old garden is but a memory, but the fine corridors remain, the long rows of arches telling of the splendors of the old days when this mission had its thousands of cattle, its throngs of neophytes and soldiers, and fortunes in cash, wine and hides. This mission is being restored, and the old garden with its Spanish roses will again be seen.

Should a stranger enter the region in February, what is considered the depth of winter in the East, he would find the old mission of San Luis Rey de Francia the center of a radiant wild garden, as extending in every direction is a field of the cloth of gold, a carpet of many colors, made up of countless wild flowers, which reach away and up to the distant mountains,—a splendid and glorifying spectacle.

It is but a short ride to the fine and picturesque mission ruin of San Juan Capistrano, founded by Junipero Serra, assisted by Padres Mugartegui and Amurrio, Nov. 10, 1776. San Juan became a very rich and prosperous mission. It is located in one of the most beautiful regions in Southern California on the little river, San Juan, midway between the mountains and the sea. Here the air is soft and balmy; the country a garden in winter; here, in the old



CORNER OF THE CEMETERY GARDEN
Mission of Santa Barbara

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3

House and Garden



THE GARDEN OF SANTA BARBARA MISSION

days, the padres planted their gardens. In 1817 an earthquake destroyed the chapel, but the splendid corridors still stand, and the garden can still be seen, fenced about, enclosing the old trees and others planted later.

The beautiful corridors of San Juan lend themselves readily to the gardens, as the climbing roses, myrtle, fuchsias entwine about them in loving embrace, concealing some of the ravages of time, and bringing out their artistic features. Here one may sit beneath the great beams and look out on a part of the old garden with its oranges and flowers, and imagine the picture of the last century, with its strange medley of padres, soldiers and Indians. On the death of Father Serra, there were four hundred and seventy Christian Indians at this mission, and the work of making and keeping up the mission gardens doubtless devolved on them, as the padres endeavored to so instruct them that they would become self-supporting.

The next mission to the north is the picturesque San Gabriel, founded about 1771, an oblong building, with a stone stairway on the outside leading to the choir-loft at the east end of the edifice. On the west end are the padres' rooms; and here is a most interesting, old-fashioned garden, with its large rose

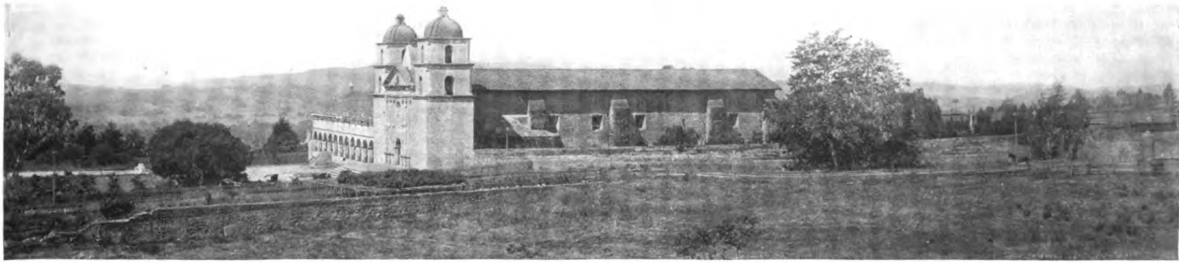
bushes, the original plants having, it is said, been brought from Spain.

Here is a beautiful rose of Castile and many quaint plants nod over the fence a welcome to the thousands of pilgrims who visit the mission. In the old days the padres had a most attractive garden in the vicinity. They brought oranges, lemons and limes from Spain, also palms of various kinds; and all the fine old olive and orange trees seen in the vicinity to-day were planted by them.

To protect the gardens and crops they planted cactus, locally known as the tuna, about it in a vast square. This is a rapid grower and soon formed a great fence about the mission property, effectually keeping out all enemies; to-day sections of this unique garden wall can be seen almost a mile in extent; about a century ago there must have been several miles of it. Near-by the padres had their olive grove. The olives were pressed at a mill which is still one of the interesting spots to be seen here. Here were the great vineyards reaching away for acres, all forming a principality, represented to-day by the old mission and its garden.

When the writer visited San Fernando mission for the first time, some twenty years ago, there was a garden of roses, old briars climbing up against the

The Gardens of the Missions



THE SANTA BARBARA MISSION. THE CEMETERY GARDEN AT THE RIGHT

adobe walls and lovingly covering the abuses of time in cracks and holes. This mission was extremely picturesque, and has been rescued from actual ruin by the efforts of the local Landmarks Club. This was one of the fine old missions a century ago; rich, prosperous, powerful, with gardens extending in every direction; but to-day the bats flit through empty corridors; an old and neglected olive grove, some stately palms alone tell the story of its former greatness, beauty and power.

At San Buenaventura stands the small mission of that name. It has a most attractive garden, laid out tastefully years ago by the padres. Here are countless roses all winter long, from the rose of Castile to the luxuriant Banksia which grows over everything, a mound or fountain of glory. In January

California flowers fill the air with fragrance. Countless flowers which are raised indoors in the East are midwinter flowers here; while daisies, fuchsias, the latter climbing ten feet high, poppies of wonderful tint, color, variety and size, masses of brilliant Bougainvillea, begonias and many more make this one of the most attractive of winter gardens.

The home of the padres at the old mission, founded in the eighteenth century, or 1793, by Father Junipero Serra, is a low slanting-roofed adobe, adjoining the mission and facing the garden in which, among the flowers, are ancient grape vines as large as trees, planted by the old fathers, stately palms, and a wealth of flowers of every kind, amid which the padre takes his spiritual consolation.

Of all the California missions that of Santa Barbara

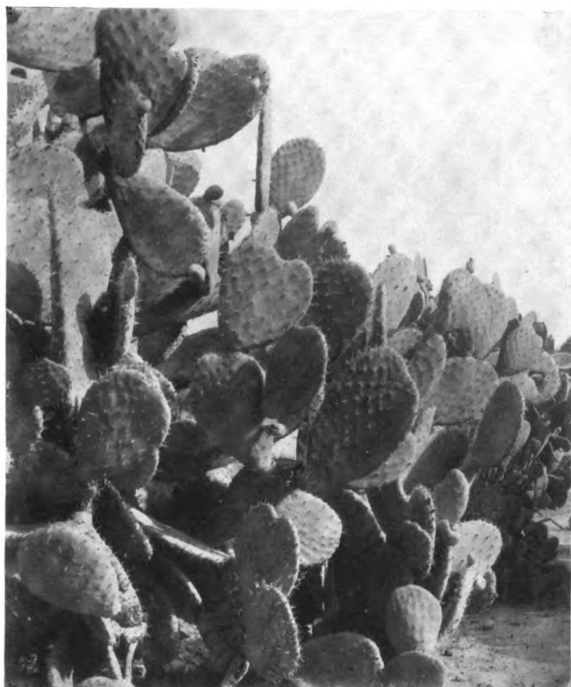


OLD PEPPER TREES AND STAIRS TO CHOIR-LOFT
San Gabriel Mission



FLOWER GARDEN AND PIERCED BELL FAÇADE
San Gabriel Mission

House and Garden



FENCE OF TUNA ABOUT THE GARDEN OF SAN GABRIEL



PART OF THE OLD MISSION GARDEN OF SAN GABRIEL

is the best preserved and has the most attractive garden. The mission was founded by Father Serra in 1782, assisted by Governor Nerve. The garden was begun in this year. As the writer wandered through it a few years ago while the ladies of the party stood in a tower above, the good father laughed and remarked that their simple garden, where the friars took their exercise, was the cause of no little curiosity on account of the fact that women were not allowed in it, and but two, the Princess Louise and one other, had ever set foot in it, but they could climb the tower and look down into it.

The old mission has two artistic towers, a fine tiled roof and a beautiful façade, giving the pile a commanding appearance. The ravages of time are not seen to an especial extent. In the old days an

extensive vineyard and olive orchard reached away from the mission; but the grounds have been sold, and now its possessions are limited. The same old olive trees still thrive, and set against the Santa Inez mountains, the old pile is a gem in a beautiful setting.

Just who laid out the mission garden is not known; possibly Padre Junipero Serra himself, or some assistant. In any event, it is a delightful rambling corner, where one can conjure up the ghosts of the past. In the center is a large fountain, or pool in which grew many water plants. From this, walks radiate like the spokes from the hub of a wheel. All roads lead to the fountain, let us hope of youth as well as of eternal life. Scattered about are trees of various kinds; oranges filled with golden fruit,



VINEYARD OF TO-DAY ON WHAT WAS PART OF THE DOMAIN OF THE SAN GABRIEL MISSION IN 1800

The Gardens of the Missions



THE OLD GARDEN OF MISSION AT SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIFORNIA

lemons, citrons and many varieties of citrus fruits. Yuccas with spiked leaves face the walks, giving forth their beautiful blossoms in spring, known as the candlesticks of the Lord. The curious trumpet tree is dotted with its long pendent trumpets, while white and red oleanders fill the air with fragrance. In one corner is a fine evergreen, suggesting a Normandy poplar, cheek by jowl with a bush ablaze with great scarlet blossoms, growing under the feathery boughs of a fragrant fir.

The fathers are particularly fond of the great white magnolia blossoms, which look like great roses nestling among the shining rubber-like leaves. In one corner the clean polished leaves of the camphor tree rustle in the wind; roses in great variety line the walks or climb the walls, from the resplendent Gold of Ophir to the Duchesse and the deep red roses. Even the wild rose, with its single petals, finds a place here, filling the air with incense that is wafted on and on by the alternating sea and

mountain breeze. In following up the walks of the cemetery garden of this mission lined with flowering shrubs or palms, one comes upon a grove of cypress trees, in the center of which is a cross twenty-five or thirty feet high, bearing an effigy of Christ crucified,—a startling and life-like object, especially when seen from a distance through the trees, yet well one of the treasures of the monks who have given the sacred reminder a beautiful environment. In this old and fragrant *jardin de flores* with its cowed

Franciscan *jardine-ros*, its semi-tropic verdure, its warm winter days, one can well imagine that he is in Italy, or some land along the Spanish or Italian Riviera. The good fathers have not only the beautiful, the fragrant plants and bushes, but their cactus garden, made up of a variety of these plants, suggestive of the stings and penances of life. Outside the wall fine old pepper trees grow along the street, where there is another beautiful old fountain, their fern-like verdure hanging gracefully,



CORRIDOR OF MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

House and Garden

filled with scarlet berries, in sharp contrast to the peculiar vivid green of the foliage.

This old garden has an air of peace and contentment. It is a page out of the old World; fair, radiant and beautiful. Here the friars take their exercise, as they are workers in the gardens, and one may see them on the walks, trimming the plants, binding up the vigorous growth of bamboo, or sitting beneath the generous shade of the cypress of Monterey.

From Santa Barbara north there are missions to be met at every day's journey; and in the old days, before the buildings fell into ruins, they had charming gardens, telling of the taste and love of flowers by their builders. Such was the garden of the mission of San Luis Obispo De Tolosa, founded by Father Serra in 1772.

Nearer to Santa Barbara, and among the most picturesque of all the old missions, is San Miguel, whose ruined garden was laid in 1797 under the direction of Padre Sitjar and President Lasuen. There was also an attractive garden, according to the old records, at San Antonio, and at La Purissima Concepcion, which was built on the Santa Inez River in 1784. The great earthquake of 1812 almost



ANOTHER CORNER IN THE CEMETERY GARDEN OF SANTA BARBARA MISSION

an earlier and more willing convert.

Many of the missions are being restored. The old King's Highway on which they stand, winding through sheltered valleys, has been repaired, and only a short time can elapse before replicas of the gardens of a century ago will appear; gardens which had their original inspirations in Spanish memories, and

demolished it. Like many other old mission gardens of to-day, it is overrun with wild flowers and merges into the great wild flower garden of all California.

It is not strange that where nature could be so easily coaxed into extravagances that these fathers from Spain should have won for their gardens many of her treasures. Perhaps they realized that if beauty of form and color could be impressed upon the native through his sense of vision, it might likewise aid in awakening his heart to the spiritual truths and beauties which the padres were endeavoring to unfold to him and make of him

souls to save; gardens where in the padres worked with their hands and planned with their heads the harvest of their spiritual gardens. Glad the anthems and great the rejoicings within those old adobe walls, when a native soul blossomed into the full sunlight of Christianity.



THE BELFRY AT SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO MISSION

Christmas Customs in Many Lands

BY HARTLEY M. PHELPS

"At home, at sea, in many distant lands,
This kingly Feast without a rival stands."

CHRISTMAS is celebrated in every land and clime where the Christian faith is believed in and revered. The manner of its observance in foreign countries differs as each race or nationality differs from the other, the distinctive customs and traditions of the various peoples imparting infinite variety to this most sacred of all Christian days. In some of these Old World celebrations quaint and picturesque customs figure—heritages handed down from generation to generation through the ages of the misty past; poetry and romance a-plenty cast a warm, vivid charm over the observance of the day in sunny Spain and in Italy and in the more sedate and less passionate North the festival partakes of those curious practices of Druid and Celt, Gaul and ancient Slavonian. Of surpassing interest is it to learn something about these Christmas celebrations and to note how they differ from our own observance of the day.

First as to England, as that country is nearest to us in brotherhood of thought and tradition. Christmas there is pre-eminently a day of family reunion, sons and daughters coming from all parts of the globe to sit at the parental board with its roast turkey, steaming plum pudding and mince pie. In the morning everyone goes to church, for the religious significance of the day is more strictly adhered to on the "tight little isle" than with us. There is no Santa Claus and it is only within recent years that Christmas trees have found favor in England. But despite these things, which every American boy considers indispensable to Christmas, his little English cousin has a royal good time, nevertheless. Plenty of presents are exchanged and what with houses decorated with holly and mistletoe and games and merrymaking galore the afternoon passes swiftly.

One of the features is the indispensable Christmas dance when the "ball-room is wide open thrown, the oak beams festooned with the garlands gay." Toward evening the time-honored game of "snap-dragon" is played. A match is applied to a bowl of raisins covered with brandy and as the alcoholic vapors ignite into a pale, blue flame there is all kinds of fun snatching for the goodies. This does not cause burns, but one must be quick. Salt is sprinkled on the flame and as it turns to yellow the faces of the merry-makers take on ghostly hues in the semi-darkness much to the amusement of themselves and the spectators.

Perhaps the most beautiful feature of Christmas

in England is the carol sung at or near midnight on Christmas eve. Nothing is more delightful than to hear the strong, sweet voices of the boys and girls suddenly break forth from under one's window on a clear, frosty, moonlight night.

The day before Christmas is called "Boxing Day," as it is then gifts are presented in boxes. On the evening of this holiday the magnificent, costly pantomimes in the London theatres commence.

To Germany is the world indebted for those two charming features that make Christmas so delightful to the young in this and other countries—the Santa Claus and the Christmas tree. Santa Claus is called *Knecht Rupert* there. As for the tree it is safe to say that no cottage, be it ever so humble, is without one, with its candles and wealth of toys, sweets and pretty knick-knacks.

Santa appears in person on Christmas Day and distributes his gifts but he does not come down the chimney. So there is no need of hanging up stockings, as is the prevailing custom here.

Christmas eve or the night before Christmas is elaborately celebrated in the Fatherland. The supreme, dramatic moment is when the folding doors are thrown wide open and a gorgeous tree disclosed before a mirror, the branches thus seeming to be hung with hundreds of lights. Even in the Emperor's palace this celebration is observed, twelve great fir trees being placed in the "blue dining hall." After the four o'clock dinner the royal family and their invited guests are regaled with the sudden vision of these lighted trees, when at a word from His Majesty the doors of the blue apartment are thrown open.

Then with the Emperor and Empress leading, a court procession is formed, their majesties personally conducting the members of their household to the tables laden with presents. All these have been carefully arranged by the Emperor and his consort with the assistance of the court Chamberlain.

At nine o'clock supper of carp cooked in beer, a time-honored dish, and *Mohnpielen*, a concoction of poppy-seed, with white bread, almonds and raisins stewed in milk, is served. Presents between members of the royal family are exchanged and with tea half an hour later the Christmas eve celebration ends.

All devout Germans attend *Christ-Kirche* or Christmas services five o'clock Christmas morning, the sacred building being brilliantly illuminated and decorated with holly and other evergreens. Then

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comes dinner of carp or roast goose but there is no plum pudding and as for mince pie—well, it can be said that pie of all kinds is unknown in Germany.

The day before New Year's is a fete day, relatives and friends exchanging cards of good will while *Pfann kuchen* or doughnuts filled with jelly and sprinkled with sugar are served along with carp and hot punch.

In warm, passionate Italy and Spain Christmas is a veritable carnival of joy and good feeling, everybody greeting everybody else on the streets, and the shops blazing with color and light. Bands play and bells ring and in the Spanish wine shops the sound of the castanet is to be heard. This revelry is kept up until the hour of midnight mass. In Italy Santa Claus comes down the chimney as an old woman with white, curly hair and fills the little *calza* or stocking hung by the chimney. She also leaves letters of advice for the children. In the home one of the unique features is the placing of letters written by the children to their parents under the napkins at dinner. The Christmas dinner consists of fish, curly black cabbage, anchovies dressed in olive oil; capon soup, stewed sweetbreads, wine, etc., and if there is any century-old family linen it is brought out for that day.

In Spain only members of the immediate family gather for Christmas. The peasant has his humble *puchero* or stew and as night steals on the head of the household lights the tiny, oil lamp and illuminates the ever-present image of the Virgin with a taper. In Andalusia or Southern Spain the flowers of spring are blooming but in the mountainous North there is snow and ice. Presents are but sparsely exchanged but it is the custom to give something to various impecunious mortals such as newsboys, scavengers, postmen and to the *cura* or parish priest.

The religious side of the Christmas celebration is observed with gorgeous pomp in the famous churches of Italy. In the light of massive, silver lamps worshippers from every Christian land kneel before the beautiful, sacred shrines in St. Mark's in Venice and in St. Peter's in Rome. The subdued, colored light from storied windows make the gold and silver work and the priceless treasures of the Duomo a spectacle of magnificence indeed and the scene is heightened by prelates in scarlet and ermine with jewelled crosses and flashing gems.

In St. Peter's a hundred lamps burn around the saint's shrine while broad beams of golden sunshine stream on burnished gold, rich frescoes, marbles and bronzes and envelopes the purple-garbed bishops and the gray-vested canons with a holy light. As the organ notes roll through the vast pile a long procession of vergers in purple and scarlet with a red-robed cardinal in vestments of cloth of gold and torch and censer bearers pass across the magnificent background. This is High Mass at St. Peter's and once seen is never forgotten.

Epiphany or the "Feast of the Kings," January 6th, commemorating the Saviour's appearance to the Magi, is celebrated in an imposing manner in Italy. It is also observed in France and Russia.

New Year's is the great festival day in France but the observance of Christmas after the manner obtaining in England and Germany is gaining ground. With the influx of Alsatians into France following the war of 1870-71 the Christmas tree was introduced and now mistletoe, that ancient, Druidical plant, grown in Normandy and Brittany, is sold in Paris. Santa Claus, as Noël, appears as an old man as with us and places his gifts in shoes set before the fireplace.

In the provinces, Noël or Yule logs are burned, the name being handed down from the ancient Celts who celebrated the 25th of December or winter solstice as the Feast of Noël or the Sun, that date marking the beginning of the long days and the resumption of vegetable life. The celebration in Flanders is picturesque indeed, men and women sitting before the blazing fire in the long, low-roofed rooms that artists love to paint, while the big table glistens with highly colored cups in which steams savory coffee.

In Switzerland the German method of celebrating Christmas is adhered to, St. Nick bringing presents and lighting the tree, each little boy and girl reciting a poem or singing a song before receiving his gift. In the bleak, rugged Austrian Alps the hardy peasant builds fires that flash from mountain top to mountain top and in every cottage is a miniature replica of the Nativity. In Vienna toy-laden Christmas trees are given the poor.

The Russian Christmas preserves many strange, pagan customs of the ancient Slavs despite the protests of the national church. Children go from house to house singing *Kolyadki* songs of congratulation and good wishes, *Kolyadki* it seems, being a solar goddess of yore. "Mumming" or the paying of visits in grotesque disguises also forms a prominent part of Christmas in the land of the Czar. The Christmas season or "Holy Evenings" lasts until the "Feast of the Kings," January 6th.

There is a pretty custom of giving a Christmas dinner to the birds in Norway, sheaves of corn being attached to barn-doors and gateways. In Wales Christmas carols are sung as in England; the house is gay with paper decorations and "kissing bushes" and toffee or *cyflath*, a kind of taffy is made, the young people taking their turn in stirring it in a great bowl. Goose is eaten on Christmas and a bun loaf baked large enough to last a fortnight.

Perhaps the strangest Christmas to Americans is that of Australia where parties are formed to picnic in the woods and parks, summer then being the season. Christmas regattas are held in that country and also in New Zealand.



The Pasadena Country Club

Southern California Country Clubs

By DAY ALLEN WILLEY

THE development of the country club is governed by the climate and topography of a locality as well as by the population of the near-by communities and the character of the people. It is of course evident that a structure suitable for the outdoor lovers of such cities as New York and Philadelphia would probably be far too pretentious and costly to be adopted for a smaller city. Nor would it be appropriate for a warmer climate because the thick walls, the heating provision and other features necessary for such a club in the spring and fall, if not during inclement weather in summer, would tend to make the building uncomfortable, in short ill adapted for its purpose in the South and Southwest. Here December and January may bring with them the summer sunshine to some localities and the noon-day breezes are welcomed through the opened windows and upon the verandas.

It might be expected that the people of Southern California, who have originated so many types of homes for that part of the country, would be original also in the designs of their outdoor pleasure centers. While they could not plan the club houses on such an elaborate scale as in the East, and their buildings are small in cost as compared to many of those in New York and New England, the country clubs of Southern California have some very attractive homes in design, arrangement and equipment. The buildings which have been erected in the group of towns in the vicinity of Los Angeles form excellent illustrations of this fact. While some are termed golf clubs and some tennis clubs all are utilized for recreation and pleasure amid the outdoors and it may be said, have very large memberships considering the size of

the cities and towns from which their membership is enrolled.

A type of the most appropriate houses is that of the Pasadena Country Club. Pasadena may be called a home city since it is the residence, not only of many business and professional men in Los Angeles, but a large number of people of leisure have taken up their abode here attracted by the climate and the scenic beauty with which Nature adorns the landscape. They are of the class who join in the life of the country club and are willing to generously support it. Consequently the Pasadena Club is commodious, complete and especially suited as a recreation center. In its architecture it is on the order of the bungalow but does not appear low or insignificant in height by reason of proportions. The main entrance leads to a sheltered veranda extending nearly the length of the front—one of the most desirable parts of the house as it contains ample space for a large party to sit upon it and thus enjoy the open air if they prefer. The interior is lighted by broad windows and contains such apartments as a lounging-room, reading-room and library as well as dining-room. Other space is devoted to cloak-rooms, bath-rooms, etc.

The decorations and finish of the Pasadena Club are in keeping with its character. A brick fireplace of generous dimensions is ornamental as well as useful. A deep wainscoting adorns the principal apartments while around the walls space is given to an artistic mural decoration on a landscape theme. The furniture is sufficiently varied in wicker work, carved wood and upholstery and is one of the attractive features of the building. In connection with the club house are suitable grounds for the sports in

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which the members indulge. The golf lovers, however, are so numerous that they have another outdoor resort under the title of the Annandale Golf Club. They have secured an excellent course in a valley near the city where eighteen hole links have been laid out which have the reputation of being among the best on the Pacific coast.

The home of the Annandale Club is large enough and imposing enough in appearance to be called a country club. Erected on a massive foundation the main structure is two stories in height exclusive of the large attic formed by the roof which extends outward to form a porch around three sides of the building. One corner is rounded out into a bay window which forms one of the most attractive features of the interior. The porch is reached by a flight of stone steps. On entering the lounging-room in front one can get a fine view of the links and the mountains in the distance.

This lounging or reception-room extends from side to side and is notable for its dimensions. Simply but attractively finished, it is brilliantly lighted by the windows which, reaching from the floor to the panel of the upper wall, swing on hinges like doors. In spite



THE READING-ROOM, PASADENA COUNTRY CLUB

of the great width of the room it has no posts or other supports to break the interior space, the ceiling being supported by longitudinal beams of wood that rest upon transverse girders. At the end of the apartments is a huge fireplace, formed by an arch of massive stone blocks, above which extends a stone chimney which is one of the most conspicuous features of the design. The Annandale has a tract of 125 acres for its golf course and the outdoor amusements in which it indulges.

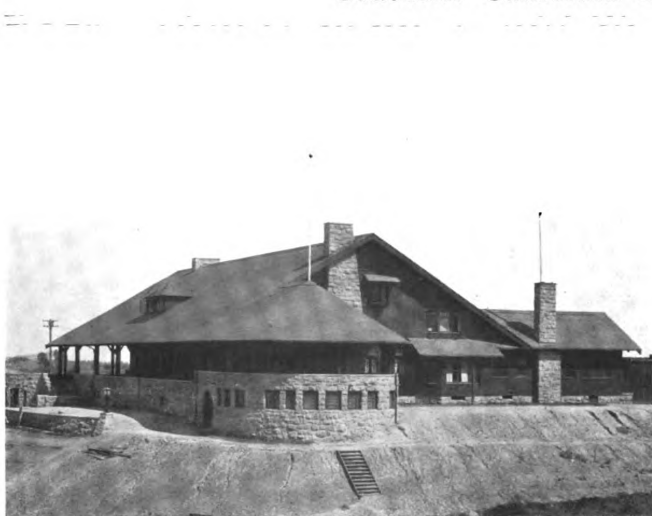
The most pretentious of this group of pleasure centers of Southern California is the Los Angeles Country Club. This club has a membership of over 600, and upon its golf links the game is played throughout the year.

Situated on what is known as Pico Heights, the club house and grounds are but a short distance from the center of the city. As the illustrations show, the club house is not only spacious but appropriate and picturesque from the architectural standpoint. Ample space is provided for the various outdoor sports in which the members engage but much attention is given to the social features so that the building not only includes reception-rooms, a spacious



SOUTH PORCH OF THE PASADENA COUNTRY CLUB

Southern California Country Clubs



THE ANNANDALE GOLF CLUB



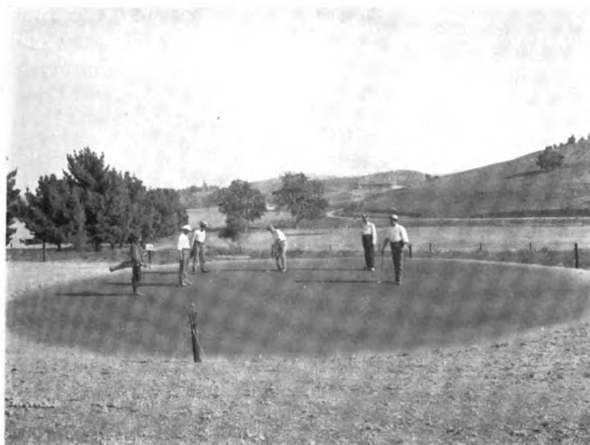
THE LOUNGING-ROOM AT THE ANNANDALE GOLF CLUB

lobby and dining-room but also apartments reserved exclusively for the lady members of which there are a large number.

In addition to its golf course of eighteen holes it also has a polo field 800 feet long and 450 feet wide, while in connection with the club house are bowling alleys and pool and billiard-rooms. The automobile owners form an important contingent of the organization and provision has also been made for them. In numbers the Los Angeles Country Club is perhaps the largest organization in California, for the purpose of enjoying outdoor life, south of the city of San Francisco.

Perhaps the greatest sporting city in Southern California, considering its size, is Riverside, for it contains no less than three golf clubs in addition to a polo club

which is noted for its skill in games and tournaments. The club is situated near Riverside, but its membership includes horse lovers in the vicinity. It has laid out a dirt polo ground of the regulation size but in addition has provided a half mile race track which encloses the polo field. This game is played frequently during the season from November to May and the programme includes at least one tournament each year to show the skill of the riders, which attracts large numbers of sport lovers from the communities around even Los Angeles and Pasadena, although the city is located fifty miles east of Los



THE SIXTEENTH GREEN IN MIDWINTER



THE SEVENTEENTH LEE IN MIDWINTER

House and Garden



THE LOS ANGELES COUNTRY CLUB



THE PORCH OVERLOOKING THE GOLF LINKS, LOS ANGELES COUNTRY CLUB

Angeles. Riverside also has the Victoria Country Club with membership of several hundred. Here golf, tennis and other outdoor sports are enjoyed. A large number of the membership of both of these clubs are English people who have located in Southern California and have introduced many of the English outdoor pastimes.

It may be said, however, that the game of golf is one of the favorite recreations in this part of the State. Nearly every country club, small as well as large, has



ON THE EIGHTEENTH GREEN IN THE REAR OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTRY CLUB

Southern California Country Clubs



REDLANDS COUNTRY CLUB



THE PUTTING GREEN, REDLANDS CLUB



"AT THE TRAPS," REDLANDS CLUB



ASSEMBLY ROOM, REDLANDS COUNTRY CLUB



THE RIVERSIDE COUNTRY CLUB



ON THE GOLF COURSE, REDLANDS CLUB

House and Garden



RIVERSIDE POLO CLUB



READING AND BILLIARD ROOMS, COVINA COUNTRY CLUB

its course either of nine holes or eighteen holes and some have both courses to prevent congestion. The Redlands Country Club controls another set of links which has the reputation of being one of the best in California. This is a very popular resort, especially during the so-called winter months.

The interest taken in this feature even in smaller towns is remarkable, as is shown by the formation of the Covina Country Club. This little town, which can be called a suburb of Los Angeles, being about twenty miles distant, contains less than 500 people within its limits, but the country about is so thickly settled that these residents have joined with its citizens in forming such an organization. Its home is on the bungalow order but may be considered complete in every detail although its size is limited in proportion to the membership of the club. Its site is very beautiful, being at such an altitude that one gets a fine view of the valley beneath and a number of the near-by villages as well as ranches, while in the distance rises the snow-capped mountains.

As already stated the house has every requisite of the modern club, including library, smoking-room,

reception-room and billiard and pool-rooms besides a dining apartment. Each apartment is finished in a different design, the billiard-room having a wainscoting of dark wood that reaches nearly half-way to the ceiling. The principal apartments are separated merely by archways which can be left open or closed by heavy curtains as may be desired.

These clubs are cited because they show that the country resort can be designed to suit a small organization and yet be of an attractive and tasteful design and have every appointment which is essential. It is a mooted question if Southern California is not ahead of the rest of the country in point of the little country clubs since so many of its villages, in addition to all of its cities, are provided with them.

The organizations named above, many of them exceedingly modest as far as their housing is concerned, exert a very marked influence upon the social life of the communities wherein they are located. They have provided also the necessary incentive and diversion to many visitors and dwellers who have sought Southern California to derive the benefit of its equable climate.



VIEW OF VALLEY FROM COVINA CLUB HOUSE, LOOKING NORTH

Sentiment and Symbolisms Associated with Christmas

By MARIE VON TSCHUDI

IT is usual at this season of the year for many of us to be interested in Christmas and Christmas greens, in the singing of carols and the exchange of gifts. The history of how these customs and decorations of cedar and fir, of box, holly, mistletoe and laurel for "greenery and rich berries" came to be adopted is a long and stormy one. Poet and antiquary have united to praise and do it reverence and sentiment and symbolism have fought side by side for this wearing of the green. The forests and gardens have given their treasures to church and fireside and as Christmas customs and the various decorations have survived anathema as well as neglect and Puritan reproach it may be of interest to go back over the long road which brought them to us and hear at least a part of the story.

As sentiment and symbolism have ever been associated in man's religious ceremonies, we find in sacred and profane history numerous incidents describing his rejoicing over victories gained, moral, physical or spiritual, and for any event calculated to arouse his deepest emotions, we discover that the human heart had a universal mode of expressing itself. In manifesting joy, particularly, it has been man's custom to make gifts, to offer up rich treasures to his gods, and he decorated their altars and temples with festoons and garlands, with flowers and boughs as an outward expression, a symbol of the deep, inner sentiments, taking shape and form and color. Every religious rite was surrounded with ceremonies and symbols, some so remote in their beginning as to bear no historic date, and yet so woven into the fabric of his thoughts and traditions as to be inseparable. Sweet is the old story now to be told over again; for around the lowly manger, which served to cradle the holy Child born at Bethlehem, cluster the most sacred sentiments of the Roman, Greek and Protestant churches. We see the pageant of the Three Wise Men of the East, kings coming with their gifts, each symbolic, to offer to the Christ Child, and we of the twentieth century, still held by the spell of this wondrous time, follow the old ceremony of giving as a symbol of that reverence and rejoicing that ever draws us by the hand of divine childhood.

Rollins, the historian, has suggested that pagan mythology exhibits striking incidents that coincide with facts in sacred history, and many writers agree with him. Another writer says that the Feast of the Nativity was pre-figured and foretold by sibyl, seer and prophet, and that the infant gods of the Greeks,

Egyptians, Hindoos and Buddhists, showed the primitive efforts of the early religions to grasp the idea of a perfect child that they might worship as God. The year, so memorable, even the exact date of this day we call Christmas, is still enveloped in mystery. The Western or Latin Church had always held it to be the twenty-fifth of December, and although others differed from it, and the Eastern or Greek Church had established the sixth of January as the anniversary of this event, Pope Julius I., about the middle of the fourth century held the Christian festival at Rome on the twenty-fifth day of December. At the beginning of the fifth century this date for Christmas had been accepted by all the churches of the Christian world, and the time was most propitious, for in pagan Rome and Greece, in Egypt, since remote antiquity, among the Teutonic barbarians, even from the earliest infancy of the human race and in every part of the then known world, the time of the winter solstice was a period of religious ceremony, of festival and rejoicing, when temples were decorated, feasts were spread, hymns sung and gifts exchanged. And, in making its converts, the early churches merged gradually the pagan into the Christian festival, directed the feelings of good will and rejoicing into a more spiritual and less riotous expression and without stripping the temples of their decorations it gave a deeper meaning to these symbols. At the winter solstice, when the sun returned to light the earth, it was worshipped as a deity that gave life and gladness to the world. From Druidical chants, hymns to Be'al Baal, Thor, or Saturn sung at these festivals, the origin of the Christmas carol has been traced. In Northern Europe the annual festival in honor of Thor was celebrated with the same feasting and merrymaking together with religious ceremony, as at the feast of Saturn in Italy and it was called Yuul or Jule. The burning of a huge clog or log of wood, brought into the house with ceremony and revelry and lighted with reverent rites was a special feature of this festival. England preserves this custom when she burns her Yule log and Yuletide has come to be another name for Christmas. The word Christmas comes from a special mass or service held in the early churches called Christ's Mass or Christmas and it did not supplant the old English name of "Midwinter" for the festival until the eleventh century. A carol of the fifteenth century sings of:

"Holly and Ivy, Box and Bay
Put in the church on Christmas Day,"

House and Garden

and in the eighteenth century poets still took delight in singing of these customs. Gay in his "Trivia" says:

"When rosemary and bays, the poet's crown,
Are bawl'd in frequent cries through all the Town,
Then judge the festival of Christmas near,
Christmas! the joyous period of the year.
Now with bright holly all your temples strow,
With laurel green, and sacred mistletoe."

To rosemary blooming at the time of Christmas and rich in fragrance, occult virtues were attributed. It was thought to possess the power to clear the head, strengthen the memory and to make touching appeals to the heart, and for that reason it was stirred in the wassail-bowl, by which no doubt men hoped to be able to "put an enemy in their mouths" that would not "steal away their brains." Laurel was used to crown the minstrel and poet singing at the Christmas revels and though a symbol of victory and peace it was also thought to possess the spirit of prophecy and was thrown by man and maid into the blazing Yule-fires for omens.

Holly, with its evergreen, thorn-tipped leaves, belongs to the holm-oak or ilex family. It was used by pagan Rome at the feast of Saturn, and the Romans sent holly sprigs to their friends with wishes for well-being and happiness. The early Christian churches were decorated with it at their festival on the twenty-fifth of December, sending forth the message of the "Gloria in Excelsis." Although it was a survival of the Druidical worship, the Germans and Scandinavians after forswearing their ancient gods, used it in their churches and called it "holly-tree," and as it put forth its reddened berries at this time, they also called it "Christ's-thorn" so that holly, as a Christmas decoration, is one of the most ancient and precious symbols the festival retains.

But there is no decoration so woven into poetic and traditional lore, so full of spell and mystery as the mistletoe. This plant, a parasite, of more than four hundred varieties, was supposed to have a mystical origin, and contrary to the general belief that it grows only on the oak tree, it flourishes on the hawthorn, service, sycamore, lime, poplar, pear and fir trees, and best of all on the apple tree. It was honored and used in the Greek and Latin churches. Virgil makes reference to it in the sixth *Æneid*. Pliny describes how the Druid high priests cut it with golden sickles and the attendant priests at the winter solstice gave small branches of it to the assembled crowd of worshippers with greetings for their new year. The people hung up these sacred sprigs of mistletoe in their houses for protection against disease and evil spirits, and the early Christian people preserved the same custom, but they regarded the mistletoe as a symbol of the conquest of light over the spirits of darkness and symbolized

in its mysterious healing virtues, the moral health to which man was restored. Kissing under the mistletoe is mentioned in the oldest chronicles of England and Germany. It was doubtless regarded as the silent witness of an oath, and when the kiss of peace and brotherhood was given under it, the pledge was held sacred and not lightly to be broken. The origin of this custom, however, is so remote and shrouded in mystery that it has never been satisfactorily traced. Its use at this time comes from the Druidical and Saturnalian festivals and divested of the license given by it during the latter feast, it has become now an innocent symbol of household festivity and jollity, for the Christian church soon forbade its use in its decorations in honor of Christmas. The lavish use of cedar and fir at Christmas is less associated with pagan rites and symbolism than any it possesses. And in decorating sacred edifices with these greens, the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, who foretold the return of power to the church in the verse: "The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary." He also referred to the fir tree "where the stork built her house." Temples, altars and houses were built of these woods and decorated with branches of them at the winter festival, and the early Christians used them without fear that a pagan god or evil spirit might be lurking in their midst. Biblical references to the cedar and with the stork building "her house" in the fir tree, together with the legends associating it with children, it is not difficult to imagine how the fir came to be used as a tree for Christmas.

The history of the first Christmas tree is legendary, many nations have myths full of poetic interest relating to it, but none more beautiful than the German legend that gives St. Winfrid the credit of having first suggested it. He was cutting down a large oak tree, so the story relates, that had been sacred to his Druid converts, and as the giant tree fell with a crash, St. Winfrid discovered standing behind it, unharmed by its fall, a young fir tree "pointing a green spire towards the stars." Turning to the crowd assembled around him he said: "This little tree, a young child of the forest shall be your holy tree to-night. It is the wood of peace, for your houses are built of the fir. It is the sign of an endless life, for its leaves are ever green. See how it points upwards to heaven! Let this be called the tree of the Christ Child. Gather about it, not in the wild wood but in your own homes; there it will shelter no deeds of blood, but loving gifts and rites of kindness."

The Christmas story, like the Christmas decorations of cedar, fir and holly, that in the elder time symbolized immortality, is ever fresh with immortal youth. Its charm renews itself with each returning

Continued on page 16, Advertising Section.

Cut Flowers and their Receptacles Artistically Considered

By WILLIAM S. RICE

A WRITER in one of our photographic monthlies, some time ago claimed that to arrange cut flowers gracefully and naturally required but a touch of a feminine hand, under whose skilful guidance, they fell naturally and carelessly into easy positions and groups.

This, we have known to be the case in some instances in which the individual possessed a sympathetic quality for the growth or "gesture of the plant" as Ruskin expresses it, or an intuitive "feeling" for the art of grouping which is known in art circles as "composition." But this quality is inherent in very few, consequently, the majority of us do not know how to group cut flowers artistically and naturally in the decoration of our homes. This is not surprising when we think how few ever give the subject a moment's thought as to how the flowers grew on the parent plant, or whether the vase or other receptacle is in harmony with the flowers either in color or in shape.

We must, therefore, turn to the Japanese for suggestions if we wish to catch the real spirit of nature in our decorative uses of cut flowers. Of course, it is but natural that these people should excel, in an art which has been practiced by them for generations. The American and Japanese ways of arranging cut flowers differ quite a little; and it is interesting and instructive to compare the two methods. With many persons exists a tendency to crowd all they can in a vase, massing the flowers too solidly; instead of seeming to realize that a flower showing its long stem and its beautiful foliage is more beautiful and effective than when it is set down low in a vase. On the other hand, the Japanese are very particular to arrange their flowers with some care and forethought. Their method is as follows: They select the one flower that has the longest stem and trim off the superfluous

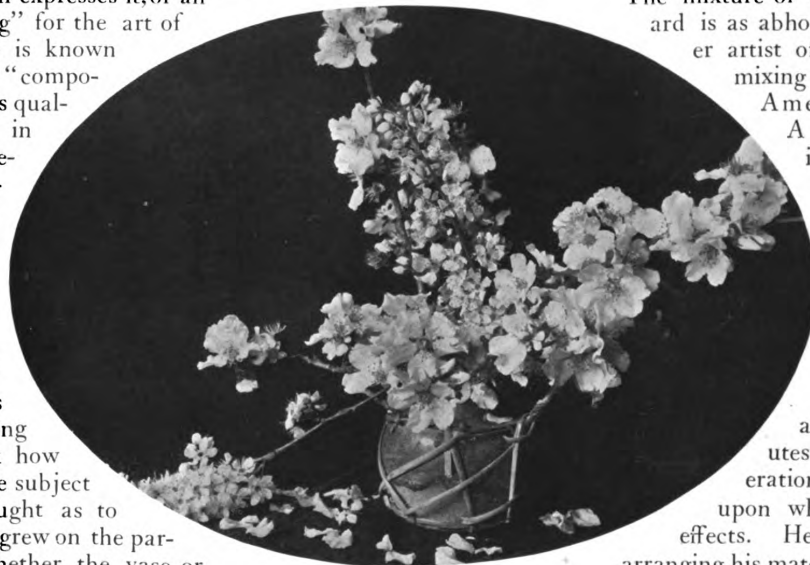
leaves and stem if necessary. This flower is then placed on top. Then they pick out the flowers for the second important position treating them in the same way, and lastly, those for the third position which are often draped gracefully over the sides of the vase. This manner of arrangement, according to their general attractiveness, shows the color and habit of growth of each individual flower without detracting in the least from the others in the vase.

The mixture of colors at haphazard is as abhorrent to the flower artist of Japan as is the mixing of wines to an American epicure.

A Japanese, looking at his blossom-clad stem, notes its natural curves, in other words its architectural formation, its wealth or paucity of leaves and twigs; and, after several minutes of careful deliberation, forms a plan upon which to build his effects. He has the option of arranging his material according to the three great principles—the "three lined" the "five lined" and

the "seven lined." This has reference to the leading lines of the composition. Upon these he may elaborate to his heart's content; but from the main ideas he must not deviate, if he have a reputation to keep up. One of the commonest errors that the novice is bound to make is the combination of impossible colors. Then again the colors may be in harmony but two kinds of flowers may be massed together which grew in an entirely different manner, that is, whose habits of growth are totally unlike. Quite often the flowers are arranged in some highly decorated vase or jardinière so that the eye immediately lights upon the decoration and the beauty of the flowers is but secondary, whereas, had the vase been well proportioned and simply and plainly colored the effect might have been far different.

Another mistake frequently made in arranging cut



JAPANESE PLUM AND ALMOND

House and Garden



1. Peach blossoms in a green glazed Japanese teapot.
2. Pansies in an artistic Indian basket.
3. Buttercups in a black unglazed jardinière.

flowers is to make the bouquets too symmetrical or too full, thus destroying the individual spray. The wild sweetbrier is charming in an old Chinese ginger jar; but place the same rustic wild flower in a vase of cut, or Bohemian glass, and it will look as much out of place as a rustic maiden in an aristocratic ballroom. On the contrary a cut spray of *Cattleya* orchids looks charming in a green vase of Bohemian glass or in one of Tiffany's favril glass; especially when relieved against a spray or two of maiden-hair ferns or *Asparagus Plumosis*. An aristocrat like the orchid demands a flower holder of this class to be thoroughly in keeping with her dignity and imperial beauty.

Long stemmed flowers of the lily type as the iris, tulip, hyacinth, Easter lily, canna or the calla look best in tall, cylindrical jars, or pitchers of plain glazed, or unglazed earthenware, or china. A soft shade of green or brown will harmonize with almost any colored flowers. Pansies or violets or any short stemmed flowers that grow near the ground demand low, flat shaped vessels as bowls, saucers, or low jardinières. Most roses look best in bowls or jardinières; unless it be Paul Neyron or the American Beauty which are most effective in tall, cylindrical jars or vases. That is because of their upright stems.

A great bunch of buttercups is very effective as a mass of golden yellow contrasted with the green foliage in a deep terra-cotta or black unglazed jardinière.

For branches of fruit blossoms nothing is prettier or more effective than a Japanese vase of a gray-green tone laced over with wicker work. The illustration of almond blossoms arranged in a jar of this sort was a most fascinating color subject. The vase was of the tone described above and the blossoms of the daintiest white, slightly pink-tipped on the buds and petals. The stamens of the flowers were brilliant yellow and the twigs were colored in sombre grays and browns. The vase stood on an old mahogany table against a wall of warm gray. The effect was charming beyond description and set all my chromatic nerves a-tingling while engaged in focussing it upon the ground glass of the camera.

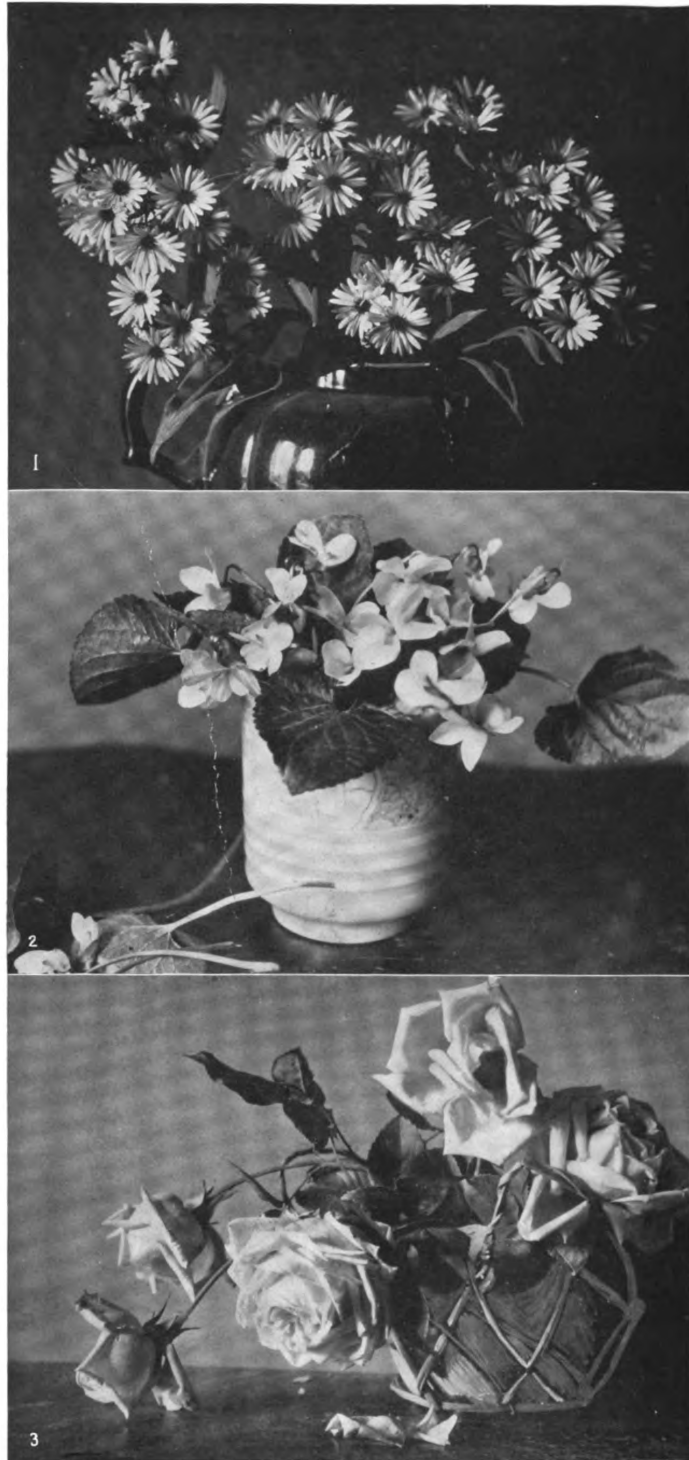
Another dainty Japanesque effect may be obtained by arranging a branch of pink peach blossoms in a green,

Cut Flowers and Their Receptacles Artistically Considered

glazed Japanese teapot. You will notice in the photograph that the teapot is not stuffed with twigs as full as it will hold, but that the one twig is allowed to droop over in a naturalistic position; and, by having this single branch the individuality of the sprays and blossoms is not sacrificed as it would be, were the flowers massed more compactly.

A spray or two of New England asters look very charming in an old brown earthenware teapot; and a cluster of pink and yellow Dutch tulips seem perfectly at home in a red brown glazed pitcher. One of the cleverest little devices for holding flowers with stiff stems, as the iris, canna, gladiolus, or geranium, in an upright position as though growing in a shallow bowl, is a Japanese iron turtle flower holder with a series of hexagonal openings in it just large enough to hold one good sized stem and leaf. By means of this, certain cut flowers may be arranged exactly as though growing in a flower pot. The little holders are inexpensive and may usually be purchased at any large Japanese store. If this cannot be had strips of sheet lead bent in various loops will answer just as well. To do the bending properly take a sheet of lead six or more inches long and about an inch wide and twist it around a lead pencil here and there to make a kind of loop fold to receive the flower stalk; this lead is then folded into S shaped waves, or curves, so as to make it stand firmly on its edge. It is convenient to have both long and short lead strips. Sometimes the mouth of a vase requires some sort of a plug to hold the stems of the plants in the required position. For this purpose one may use cotton, tow or paper. I think paper is about as good as anything and is more easily obtainable than the other materials. Sometimes the paper is rolled and sometimes it is crumpled.

In Japan the art of artistically arranging cut flowers has reached its highest development where it ranks as a science and a philosophy which can only be mastered after several years of close study given to the subject. In America the art is regarded as a pretty accomplishment for gentlewomen of the leisure class, and that fact largely accounts for many of the errors made in the arrangement of cut flowers in the American home.



1. New England asters in brown teapot.
2. White violets in a gray-green bowl.
3. Pink roses in a Chinese ginger jar.

House and Garden



EXAMPLES OF WELL-DISPLAYED CUT FLOWERS. THE EFFECT IS HEIGHTENED IN EVERY INSTANCE BY THE ARTISTIC FORM, COLOR OR QUALITY OF THE HOLDER

1. White Laurestina in gray-green glazed pitcher.
2. Fruit blossoms in gray vase.
3. Pink and white tulip in red-brown pitcher.
4. Pink and white hyacinths in green glass.
5. White iris in green glazed pitcher.
6. Cattleya trianae.
7. Red and yellow tulips in terra-cotta pitcher

KEMPINSKI'S

ONE OF BERLIN'S MODEL RESTAURANTS

By WILLIAM MAYNER

THE traveler on returning from Berlin brings with him a host of memories of museums, theaters and sights and also a pleasant remembrance of luncheons and dinners in restaurants. A lunch at Kempinski's, a dinner on the terrace of the Zoological Gardens suggest ideas not only of pleasure but of the vast technical and business considerations involved in catering successfully to thousands of hungry mortals.

Whoever has sat at Kempinski's in the business rush of the middle day must have given a thought to all the detail work necessary to keep so big an establishment going, but if one goes more closely into the subject its magnitude becomes overwhelming.

The many spacious dining-halls are barely half the size of the kitchens and offices, where some 500 employees and a mass of electric and steam engines are at work to provide for some seven to ten thousand guests a day. The cellars below the restaurant and adjacent houses contain over one and one-half million bottles of wine and the use of water equals the consumption of a small town; there is a special room set aside for resilvering the metal dishes and knives, forks

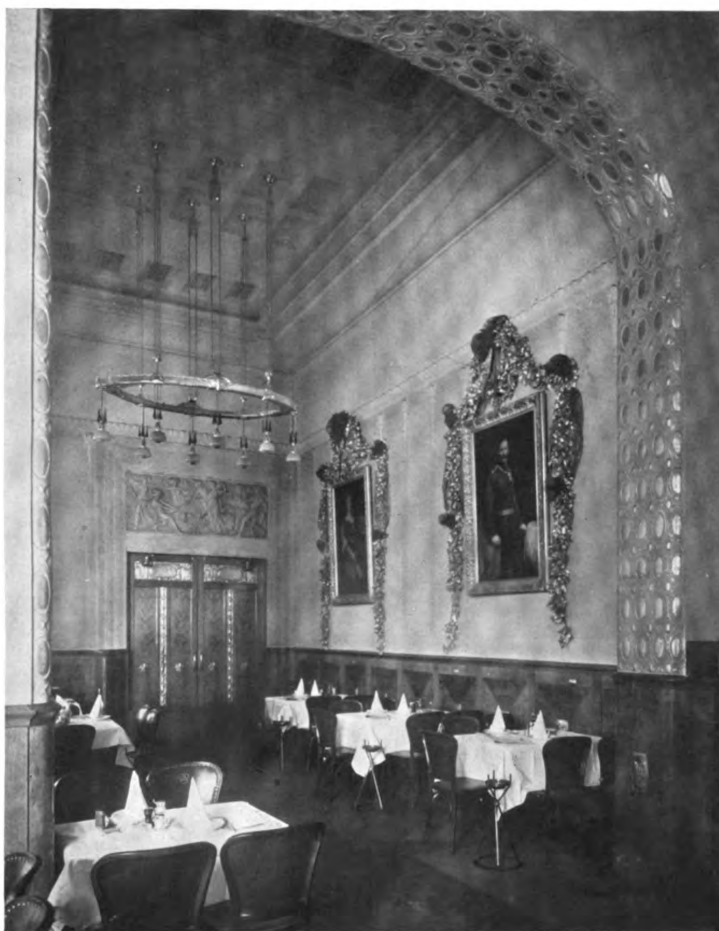
and spoons. In the laundry, 30,000 serviettes, towels, etc., are washed daily. In the four kitchens 190 persons are at work, under fifty-nine cooks, the whole staff working under one head cook or chef, who rules supreme, is responsible for all, has to see that supplies are plentiful and good and yet with an eye to economy and already occupied to-day with the bill-of-fare for the morrow.

In the kitchen there are several electric machines, one for instance for the manufacture of mayonnaise which turns out a hundred weight of mayonnaise in an hour; a potato-peeling machine, which pre-

pares over sixty pounds of potatoes in four minutes; a machine for mincing meat with an output of two hundred-weight an hour; a milk-cooker in which 120 liters of milk can be cooked in fifteen minutes.

Illustrations show the bakers at work; the girls plucking and preparing fowl; the butchers preparing meats and the cool room for storing it, and the potato-peeling machine.

The following are a few items of specialties, for instance, a daily consumption of 1700 grouse, 18,000 oysters, five hundred-weight lobsters, 16,000 rolls, eighty pounds caviar, fifty pounds



"THE SILVER ROOM"

Woodwork of Swedish "Bjork" and gray maple, highly polished showing original grain of wood

House and Garden



In this hall holm-oak has been used, the wood given a brownish-green tint



The woodwork is of Swedish "Bjork" and gray maple, highly polished



Central hall of old oak and Paonazzo marble



This room is panelled with ash which has a golden polish

INTERIOR VIEWS OF KEMPINSKI'S MODEL RESTAURANT

Kempinski's



1, 2, 3, 5, KITCHENS IN KEMPINSKI'S. 4, 6, SERVING ROOMS

House and Garden



1. Butchers' room
2. Pastry bakery

3. Potato-peeling machine
4. Cool room for meat

5. Preparing poultry
6. Room for accident cases

Kempinski's



Room finished in old oak and Paonazzo marble



Room finished in holm-oak and given a brownish-green tint

coffee, ten tons ice. In the kitchens the most scrupulous cleanliness is observed and the latest sanitary improvements applied, the walls and floors are paved with china tiles, the gangways strewn with saw-dust, which is renewed at short intervals, thus absorbing all moisture and guaranteeing perfect cleanliness. The noise of cooking, rattling of pots and pans is continually interrupted by the voice of the call-boy, singing out the orders, which are not repeated by the chefs, but the cooks, each attending to his department, immediately attend to their work, only directed by their superiors by nods and signs.

The meat is kept in an ice-cellar, each portion having been cut exactly to its proper size and the pieces are placed on a wooden tablet, which is first covered by white of egg, upon which is placed a perfectly clean serviette put three or four fold and upon that the meat, which is sent up from the ice-cellar as it is wanted.

The storerooms of fruit, vegetables and

poultry are an equally interesting sight, cleanliness being everywhere the order of the day. All the employees of the kitchen and kindred departments must every day take a bath in the bath-rooms on the premises.

After inspection of the kitchens and stores, one turns into the dining-halls with an appetite sharpened by the sight of tempting delicacies and the dainty way of handling and preparing them for the table.

A very interesting feature of Kempinski's is the first-aid for the wounded, patrons and employees of the immense establishment being treated by the physician and surgeon retained by the firm.

Should a guest of the restaurant be taken suddenly ill he will receive immediate attention from the physician or trained nurse employed for the purpose. The employees also receive daily instruction without cost, in sanitary matters, as well as how to afford first necessary aid to the wounded.



FAÇADE OF KEMPINSKI'S

Decorative Detail in a Modern French Apartment House

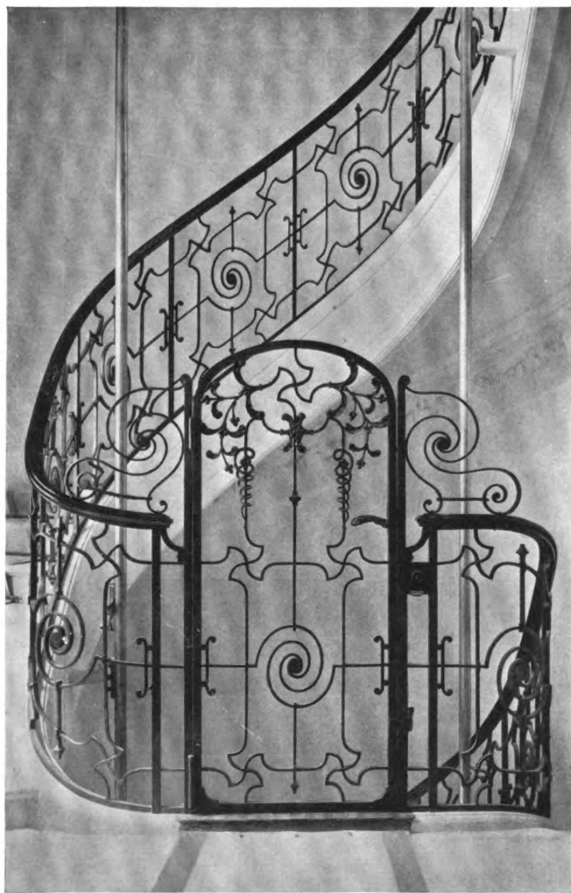
By FRANCES B. SHEAFER

THERE are not many American architects who have the time or the patience—even given the ability—to work out every minute detail of ornamentation which goes into the buildings they design. With so many ready-made cornices, shelves, fireplaces, balustrades to be had at little cost, there is really nothing,—except professional pride—to induce a man to design his own details. Then, too, few clients, either individuals or corporations, in America are willing to pay the extra cost which such personal work must entail, for special designs, of course, involve special workmanship, and every one knows what prices stone masons, for example, can ask in the United States.

In France, happily, there is still leisure enough for

a man to do his best, in architecture as in everything else, and while sociologically, the lower scale of wages here may be all wrong, esthetically, it brings certain artistic results within the reach of the many, instead of, as with us in America, the extremely few, and, one must add, the extremely rich.

Whether one admires or not the tendencies in recent French domestic architecture, one must acknowledge that there is nearly always present in any modern building, a consciousness of the ensemble produced by the architect's careful supervision of the whole of his structure. When a man of trained intelligence puts all of his knowledge and his skill into the task of uniting the parts of his work by thoughtfully designed ornament he must, of necessity,



GRILLE OF THE ELEVATOR AND STAIRWAY



DETAIL OF THE ENTRANCE DOOR

Decorative Detail in a Modern French Apartment House



THE ENTRANCE HALL

express his solidifying motive better than if he spent his abilities trying to tie together the stock details which are sold in quantity and in bulk.

Of course, even in France, every ambitious architect does not have a full swing, for here as elsewhere, economical considerations put their stultifying restraint on many an artistic flight of fancy. When, however, a chance comes, such as that which was given M. Eugène Chiffot in his new apartment house just finished on the Boulevard Raspail, to do his best according to his artistic convictions, the result is more than creditable,—it is enlightening, too.

One cannot help feeling that here is a man who enjoyed his task. The new house is *gai* in the sense in which the French employ that much-used word, and

so it is quite opposed to the *triste* and therefore rather depressing structures which mark the transition period from Old Paris to the Paris of to-day. Although this house is *art nouveau*, it is *art nouveau* whose ornamentation never borders on the bizarre, and for a Frenchman to keep anything, designed in the modern art spirit, within the bounds of reasonableness, shows more than the average French allotment of self-restraint.

The ornamentation is really ornamental and never obtrudes. For example the square entrance hall,—which is of a size to scandalize most contractors in, well, let us say, New York City,—is already sufficiently furnished, without having anything but the carpet added to its architectural simplicity. The plot of ground in which the building stands, being irregular has obliged M. Chiffot to use some ingenuity in planning this hall. His wall spaces are adroitly managed,

and the plaster decorations of the ceiling are not heavy and oppressive as are too many of the ceiling treatments of the older styles.

M. Chiffot has helped the unity of his scheme by carrying the same motive through most of the detail ornament in his building. The entrance door, which is of the satisfyingly ample proportions peculiar to the Continent, and for some reason unpopular in America, has a grille and a knocker of forged iron, the design being the gracefully interwoven branches, leaves and fruit of the blackberry vine. This same motive is used in the plaster ornament in the hall, and in some of the exterior stonework as well.

The design of the elevator grille is simpler. One

suspects the influence of an enforced economy here. But it is good, a deal more interesting than the correct and hackneyed Greek fret which adorns by the thousands the elevators of New York's apartment houses and office buildings.

It may possibly be that the time is not yet ripe for "personal" structures in America. There are some American architects who cannot help doing original work, who can, indeed, do no other kind. It is scarcely a matter of conviction or opportunity with them, but a matter of temperament. Unfortunately,



DOOR PULL OF WROUGHT IRON

not many of them are employed in building modern apartment houses and so the making of our American cities goes on haphazard; and architectural banalities increase each year, making the problem of the generations that are to come—the generations that will have to face a reconstruction period,—all the harder. Meanwhile the tastes of these coming generations are being formed in Europe, by the vast traveling American public; and it might be just as well if the architects of to-morrow were getting ready too for that day of architectural reckoning.

The Practical Use of Thermometers

By SAMUEL K. PEARSON, JR.

THE use of the thermometer in the home and office is not as general as it should be, and there are thousands of homes and offices in every large city in which the thermometer is not considered one of the indispensable furnishings.

Ignorance or negligence seems to be the only excuse for the absence of a thermometer in the home, as the price for a fairly reliable instrument for indoor use is within the limit of everybody's pocketbook. The value of the coal saved by the use of a thermometer during the winter season would probably pay many times over for such a useful instrument.

An expensive thermometer is not essential, because a cheaper one can be purchased and compared with a reliable one, thereby obtaining the difference in degrees and making corrections when a reading of the thermometer is taken. The most reliable thermometers have the scales and figures marked on the glass tube which contains the mercury or alcohol, as well as placed on the metal, glass or wooden backs or supports for the tube. Thousands of thermometers are manufactured without the scale marked on the tube, and yet they may be nearly correct, within a degree or two; they will answer the purpose for the narrow limits in temperature required in the home, but for outside use when it is extremely warm or cold, such an instrument could not be relied upon.

Janitors of libraries, schools, churches, office buildings, etc., usually depend upon the thermometer for regulating the proper temperature to be maintained by their heating apparatus, while in the home the temperatures maintained depend greatly upon the temperaments of the people themselves. The human body is a very unreliable instrument to depend upon for judging the temperature of rooms.

The limits of range in temperature within which living-rooms can be maintained in comfortable conditions are very narrow. A very few people with ordinary clothing on, can be comfortable in a room where the temperature is above seventy-five degrees Fahrenheit, or below sixty-five degrees, so that a range or variation of more than ten degrees results in a room becoming either too warm or too cold.

The temperature of the living-room, for most people, should be about seventy degrees, and to keep this average temperature should be the duty of the person who has charge of heating the home. If this average is always maintained as near as possible the home will always be comfortable. The only reliable guide to be used is the thermometer, if it is exposed properly in the room, because that instrument is not subject to the varying vicissitudes of the human body. The thermometer should be exposed in that portion of the room where the average temperature may be obtained and must never be located

The Practical Use of Thermometers

near a window or radiator from which cooler or warmer air may be flowing.

As everybody understands, great care should be taken to admit a full supply of fresh air into all apartments of our houses, particularly into our sleeping-rooms. A simple method to do this, and at the same time prevent from taking cold from a draught, is to insert a board about eight inches wide, and long enough to reach entirely across the window and fill the space under the raised lower sash. Currents of air will then enter only between the upper and lower sashes, and will be projected upward, losing their force before reaching the person of anyone in the room. It is a good plan to turn off the heat when retiring allowing the room to become cooler while sleeping.

Atmospheric conditions indoors, during that portion of the year when artificial heat is required, would be much improved in regard to health if the relative humidity was increased. Relative humidity is the relation of the amount of moisture present to the amount necessary to completely saturate the air. As the atmosphere expands with an increase of heat, its capacity becomes greater for holding moisture, and with an increase of cold, it becomes less, so that if the air contains fifty per cent of moisture and the temperature rises, the percentage of moisture would become less, and should the temperature fall, the percentage would become greater.

The instrument used for indicating the amount of relative humidity in the atmosphere is called a hygrometer, and although such an instrument for scientific purposes is expensive, there are cheaper grades on the market which may not be so precise, but will do for ordinary observations in the house.

Experiment tests have demonstrated that in buildings heated by steam, hot water and hot air, with an average air temperature of seventy-two degrees, that the average relative humidity becomes as low as twenty-eight per cent, while with furnace heating it has been known to become even less. A room with such a low percentage of moisture is probably drier than the driest climate known.

During the winter months throughout the Eastern portion of the United States, the external humidity averages above seventy per cent, and it is safe to assume that the average relative humidity in our homes and offices during that season when they are artificially heated, is about thirty per cent or over forty per cent less than the outside relative humidity.

When the relative humidity becomes as low as thirty per cent in our houses, the evaporation of the air is very great, and the tissues and delicate membranes of the respiratory tract are subjected to this drying process, an increase of work is forced upon the mucous glands to keep the membranes in proper physiological condition, so that Nature, in her effort

to make up for the deficiency of moisture in the air, is obliged to increase the working of the glands. This increase of activity and the frequent unnatural stimulation, influenced by the changing conditions of humidity from the moist external air to the arid air indoors, finally results in an enlargement of the gland tissues, just the same as continuous exercise to any part of our body will increase the size of that part. The membrane itself becomes thickened and harsh, and the surface is in condition for the admission of the germs of disease which may develop if exposure to the constant changes of humidity is continued. Catarrhal troubles have been apparently cured or relieved by increasing the moisture of the air sufficiently to bring the relative humidity to about the normal.

Experienced engineers claim that about one quarter of the cost of heating a building is expended in raising the temperature from sixty to seventy degrees. To be conservative our rooms could be heated to sixty-five degrees with a relative humidity of fifty per cent, which would save about one-eighth of the fuel that it would require to heat at seventy degrees and at the same time it would avoid the possibility of any unpleasant results from condensation on the windows.

It might be interesting for readers of this article to know just how thermometers are made and tested. The greatest care is taken with those used for scientific observations which must be sensitive and minutely accurate. Sometimes these instruments are kept on hand for long periods and frequently compared with standard ones known to be precise. Mercury is always used for such thermometers, but for cheaper ones, alcohol which is colored with aniline dyes is used as a substitute. Alcohol must also be used in thermometers, which are to be exposed in extremely cold regions, because mercury freezes at a temperature of thirty-nine degrees below zero, Fahrenheit.

The cheap grade thermometers are turned out by the thousand, but more care is devoted to them than many people suppose. The manufacturer secures the tubes in strips from glass factories, and his blower cuts them to the proper lengths and makes the bulbs on the ends. The bulbs are allowed to stand several hours after they are filled with alcohol to give the fluid time to expand, and then the blower closes the upper end.

By dipping the bulb into melting snow or shaven ice, the first guide mark, which is thirty-two degrees Fahrenheit, is obtained. Then it is dipped into a tank of water kept at a temperature of sixty-four degrees, just thirty-two degrees higher, and so on allowing thirty-two degrees for each guide mark. After several of these guide marks have been completed they are framed and have the other degrees and their fractions marked off accordingly.



The Editor, Margaret Greenleaf, wishes to extend a personal invitation to all readers of *House and Garden* to send to the Correspondence Department, inquiries on any matter pertaining to house finishing and furnishing. Careful consideration is given each inquiry, the letter and answer being published in due time as matters of interest to other readers. Where an early reply is desired if a stamp and self-addressed envelope are enclosed, the answer will be sent. No charge whatever is made for any advice.

IN answer to the question so frequently brought to us, "What feature of the interior of the house should be first decided as affecting the general harmony of the finished whole?" we feel it difficult to offer any definite rule as special conditions govern individual cases.

In the early days of the architect's preliminary sketches, it is a good plan to select the character of wood to be used for the interior, and to decide upon the treatment of the standing woodwork and floors of the various rooms of the house. The importance of this feature of house decoration cannot be over-estimated. It should be considered from three view-points,—first, the architectural idea as evidenced in the design of the house, second, of the uses to which the various rooms will be put, and last, but by no means of least importance, the style of furniture which must be used in the new home, unless one is to begin at the very beginning and buy new furniture throughout.

Thus the architectural detail will, in a measure, settle the style of treatment to be adopted for the standing woodwork, and this in turn will control the treatment for the walls. In the latter case the exposure and dimensions of the rooms must be considered, and also their relative position. Again, often the owner is possessed of some very special and interesting pieces of furniture, tapestry, rugs, or pictures, in which case the rooms should be largely designed with these in mind.

There are few epochs in our lives more fraught with "pleasurable anxiety" than the time of planning and building the permanent home. We have perhaps for months eagerly culled and carefully preserved all pictured articles and house plans appearing in the magazines and papers, and from the day we definitely decide to build, we find ourselves unable to pass a house in process of construction without stopping for a peep, at least, at its interior if only to see how much more advantageously the floor space in our house will be arranged, or perhaps glean some suggestions that we can utilize. Before a plan is finally adopted, we change, eliminate, re-arrange,

and modify the earlier sketches many times, until the original idea, while still embodied is refined, revised, and improved.

In studying the plans before submitting them to the contractor, one should have in mind the individual needs of the occupants of the rooms. Sunny recessed windows for built-in seats or flower shelves, closet space, good spacing for the beds, convenient openings between the rooms, extra shelf space in kitchen and pantries, can all be arranged for at this time with very little, if any, additional expense.

The location of the various rooms is a factor of importance to the comfort of the occupants. In planning the house, the dining-room, for instance, should be so placed, if possible, as to receive the morning sun. If, however, the room must be small and ill lighted, the walls should be covered with a good clear yellow paper either in two tone or plain effect. This greatly lightens its aspect and apparently increases its size.

Frequently white enameled woodwork is feasible and is an added improvement if the furniture used in the room can be in accord. Ivory white woodwork makes an excellent setting for mahogany, mahoganyized birch or cherry furniture.

These suggestions apply also to the other rooms of the house. Where the wood is of poplar (or any soft, inexpensive wood) it is often found desirable to paint or enamel it. Where this is done in the first floor of a house, it should be used in connection with mahogany stains, or the ivory enamel finish throughout. In other words, it is not well to use a variety of finishes in rooms which open together.

In many of the houses planned and built to-day natural or stained woodwork is employed throughout the interiors. In those recognized as the craftsman type of house this is particularly true. Most architects prefer to adhere to what they term "natural tones" for the wood, and in the stains specified for mahogany, birch, or cherry, the deep rich color age brings to real mahogany is successfully reproduced. This may show either the brownish tone of old San

The Editor's Talks and Correspondence

Domingo mahogany, or the more reddish color of the African variety. On other woods such as oak, chestnut, ash, and yellow pine, the colors affected by time and weather may be brought out by judicious use of stain.

Plain walls tinted in soft colors, or treated with oil paint which supplies a dull finish, are becoming more and more favored. It should be decided before the plastering is begun how the walls will be treated, as the rough or sand finished wall gives a much more satisfactory effect under the tint or paint than do those of smooth plaster. If, however, it is intended at a later day to use paper, the wall should have a smooth surface.

Where one fears the monotony of plain walls it may readily be varied by the introduction in one or more of the rooms of figured upper thirds or friezes of wall-paper, or by the application of appropriate stencil designs. These are often most helpful in supplying the livable look to a room, which is so desirable. Where the plain walls and plainly tinted ceiling are used, the ceiling tint should extend to the picture rail and show decided contrast with the side wall color.

Color in masses or broken effects may be introduced in the rugs and draperies as well as furniture covering used in such rooms.

CORRESPONDENCE

INEXPENSIVE WROUGHT IRON LANTERN FOR THE HALL

COULD HOUSE AND GARDEN recommend to me the kind of lighting fixture to use in a small entrance hall? The house is Craftsman in style and wired for electricity. I do not want the ordinary globe light attached to the ceiling. The fixture must be very cheap.

Answer: We are glad to send you the cut of a small lantern which may be purchased in wrought iron, with glass in dull yellow, which we are sure would prove suitable for your vestibule hall. The cost of this is but \$3.00.

COLONIAL FIXTURES ADAPTED TO ELECTRICITY

In remodeling my Colonial house, I am very anxious to retain the old Colonial chandeliers as well as the side lights in the form of sconces in which candles have been used. I would like to know if it is possible to do this acceptably and safely.

Answer: There is no question about the effectiveness of such lighting fixtures as you describe when wired for electricity. You should, however, consult

a competent electrician in regard to the proper wiring to avoid any danger from fire.

INEXPENSIVE COTTON CRÊPE DRAPERIES

Kindly send to the enclosed address samples of crinkled cotton crêpe. Make selections that will look well with Oriental rug, blue and red in deep shades on dull yellow ground. This will greatly oblige me.

Answer: In accordance with your request, we are sending you samples of the crêpes referred to. The designs sent show a stained glass pattern in rich red, crimson and blue, the conventional blossoms of moderate size strongly outlined with black. We also send a sample showing a dull yellow ground with soft Oriental colors, one in a Chêne tapestry design also an Oriental pattern. These make extremely effective draperies and we know of no better material of the same kind.

SIMPLE FURNITURE STAINED TO MATCH WOODWORK

I am sending a self-addressed envelope asking you the favor of the name and address of the maker of the furniture shown in the December number of HOUSE AND GARDEN in the article "Furnishing a Six Room House for \$1500." This interests me very much as it is exactly the type of furniture I would like to use. Will you kindly tell me if this is as heavy as the ordinary mission pieces offered for sale.

Answer: We are glad to send you the name and address of the maker of the furniture referred to, also to add our highest commendation of these goods. The pieces of furniture are not unusually heavy, although extremely well built and firmly put together. The advantage of having these stained to match the woodwork of any room or to harmonize or contrast with the same, is a very desirable one.

SELECTING FURNITURE

I am writing to ask if it is within the province of the Department of Decoration of HOUSE AND GARDEN to make selections of furniture for a subscriber. As I live in the far West and am quite out of touch with the shops in the East, this service would be a very great favor to me. If HOUSE AND GARDEN has no facilities for executing such orders, I would be glad if you would put me in touch with some one who can take charge of the matter for me.

Answer: We are very pleased to offer you the full service of the Department of Decoration as a subscriber to the magazine. This includes making selections and purchases for our subscribers. If you will send full information in regard to the character

of furniture you desire and the price you are willing to pay, we will take pleasure in making the selections and purchases for you.

Timely House Suggestions

LEILA MECHLIN

JANUARY has come to be regarded as the month of special sociability so at this time attention may well be directed to the drawing-room which now comes much into use. There are, of course, various kinds of drawing-rooms suited for varying needs, but the ideal one is unquestionably that which lends dignity and promotes ease. If the house is in the city, and the entertainment for which the drawing-room is purposed, chiefly formal, the furnishing must naturally be in keeping, but under normal conditions the English way is the best, of making this room not only serviceable but livable. In either case, however, it is equally possible to induce an air of geniality by arranging the furniture skillfully and not raising barriers with witless decorations. Keep the pictorial in mind and observe whether or not lingering is invited. The richness of an apartment has much less to do with the making of popularity than the manner of the hostess and the placing of the chairs. Then too the fact that the same room must be used both for large and small gatherings should be borne in mind, and while a certain stateliness is desirable so also is a suggestion of intimacy. The more formal the drawing-room the less furniture it should contain and the more uniform this should be in character. One may venture upon variety in furnishing a living-room but for a drawing-room never. Not that the traditional "parlor set" is recommended—this aberration, fortunately, belongs almost exclusively to the past—but that French and Dutch styles, for example, shall not be mixed, nor the furniture of one period placed with that of another.

The question of light may also well be considered as it, together with color are prime factors in every social equation. For evening receptions and large gatherings it is desirable to have a flood of light and have it come from above, that is, high on the walls or in the ceiling. If the direct source can be concealed so much the better, but if not then it should certainly be pleasantly screened. For teas and late afternoon entertainments low lights are preferable and in less profusion. Let there be an abundance at all times but never a glare. Candles alone make a beautiful illumination, and they also can be effectively used to supplement lamps and electroliers.

The hall, too, may well come in for a share of attention at this time, when it must occupy a prominent place. It should be more formal than the

drawing-room but hospitable in appearance. Never should it be furnished like a room, though it may well be provided with a fireplace, a table for card tray and the like, and seats for serving-men and messengers. The long mirror, decorated with the hat rack branches, has, happily indeed, gone out of style, and the carved chest and smaller glass have unpretentiously taken its place. These chests, if not permitted to become catchalls, are an excellent institution and will accommodate nicely the family supply of overshoes.

Get coat hangers for the hall closet if it is not already so supplied and see that a place is provided for wet umbrellas where they will neither do harm nor receive injury.

If, perchance, in the linen closet no long shelf has been built to hold the table-cloths after they have been laundered and rolled, make little covers of heavy gray linen for them like traveler's holdalls, put an eye screw in the end of each stick upon which the cloths are rolled, and hang them by these on hooks placed on the underside of the single high shelf which almost every upright closet affords. This is a makeshift, to be sure, but a good one.

It is at this time that the picture exhibitions and sales come, from which the householder may well add to his store. Never before have really good things been procurable for so little money, or has there been as small excuse for the ownership of inferior works. Beautiful reproductions of the world's declared masterpieces can be had for a song—excellent etchings are procurable for no more than ten dollars—and water-colors of very patent merit can be had for three and four times that amount. To be sure there are pictures which sell for many thousands and some are possessions greatly to be coveted, but it is questionable if one would obtain more genuine pleasure from them than from less sumptuous productions that make direct appeal. There are, of course, "fakes" in pictures as well as in all else, and one who desires to purchase does well to ask expert advice. It is best when possible to buy from the artist directly, or from current exhibitions, but when it is not, to go only to dealers of established reputation. In the matter of choice some few rules can be laid down, though personal taste must always be followed. Pictures that express violent or restless action are commonly not agreeable companions, and blatant color, unless it is peculiarly harmonious, frequently introduces into a room a discordant note. Be sure you like a picture first, and that you have not in one meeting exhausted its store of enjoyment—then buy it. For libraries, etchings and engravings are usually most appropriate, for drawing-rooms, pictures in color.

And this is a time when the floors may need looking to, if they are waxed and rug covered, bad walking without, meaning ashes, saw dust and sand being

Timely Garden Suggestions

tracked within. Constant rubbing with a weighted brush is the best remedy, though a flannel-covered broom is good, and a solution of parafine and gasoline not to be despised; this last, however, should only be used with the utmost caution.

Because of the extreme cold there is danger in midwinter of forgetting the necessity of fresh air and good ventilation. This is utterly disastrous to the health and wellbeing of the family—and cheaper by far is a large fuel bill than a case of serious illness. Have the windows opened and all the rooms aired thoroughly for a few minutes every day, and if a gas stove is used, either in the kitchen or any of the living-rooms, be sure to see that there is no obstruction in the ventilation. If windows are drafty, stuff up the cracks around the sashes with tissue paper or cotton, but always leave one to be opened widely. Drafts are not desirable but neither is lifeless air.

Timely Garden Suggestions

JOHN W. HALL

THERE is nothing which beats starting right in any undertaking of life. This applies as well to home gardening as anything else, and is especially applicable to the young gardener; an error at the beginning cannot be subsequently righted except at great cost.

Our Northern friends will find but little to do in the way of outside employment, but there are some matters that can and should be given attention. Be sure to have all vines and climbing roses well tied or else they will get injured by being pulled down by the weight of snows and ice formations. See that the bulb-beds are well mulched after the ground has frozen—that will prevent alternate freezing and thawing, conditions which, rather than the freezing, does the greatest damage. Walks and fences can be put in order at this time and then these requirements will not conflict with work which can be done later.

The reading of gardening books and periodicals will be found of vast benefit. Gardening cannot be learned as the mechanic or mason learns his trade; there must be study and thought, and love for the work. Reading of garden publications will stimulate and induce these essential requirements.

There is art in gardening; in the formation of effects in landscape work; in the grouping of plants to get uniformity of growth and color effects—the picture must be made pleasing to the eye to be satisfactory. There must be study of plant life. Manure and soil must be given attention. Drawing of plans and the laying out of gardens and walks are requisite matters for thought at this time. Couple practice

with the study of standard writings. There is no more opportune time than now to get right on all preliminary phases and conditions.

While the demands of the garden are imperative yet the returns are ample compensation for all thought and effort required. The garden itself will not suffer by lack of proper treatment; it is the owner upon whom the penalty is visited. The soil is just as content to produce weeds and worms for the birds to feed upon as to yield the choicest roses or chrysanthemums.

Get catalogues from the best nurserymen and see what they are offering for the year. It is not safe to patronize any but growers who are known to be entirely reliable—such as advertise their offerings in *HOUSE AND GARDEN*. Make notes of what is wanted during the year; make note of what will not thrive on the land you have at your disposal. Perhaps during the last year you had plants which did not thrive where it was possible for you to locate them. You may be able to find others which will give you the very best of results where those were comparative failures.

In the extreme Southern part of the country planting season is now at hand. As the ground thaws the trend of planting will be Northward until the uttermost rigid section has been reached. In the South sweet peas should be planted during January. Sweet violets are beginning to bloom in the open, and there are a number of varieties of this sweetest of all flowers that are entirely hardy, and can be grown in the open ground in almost all sections when given proper shelter and ample sun.

There is much stable manure allowed to go to waste about most homes. It should be now broadcast upon the land that is to be cultivated or else it should be heaped with such leaves and vegetable matter as may be at command, alternating a layer of manure and leaves with a layer of phosphate. In the spring the whole heap will be thoroughly rotted and well suited for application in the drill or near the plants. There is no question as to the beneficial results in the liberal use of manure on the garden, and much can be gathered about the place with a little care and effort.

The use of hot water for watering pot plants is not a new idea. It was largely practiced in Germany more than fifty years ago. It is claimed that by the use of hot water the soil in the pots is revived. Hot water with a temperature of 144 degrees F. can be used copiously by scarifying the surface of the soil. It should be applied until it runs in the hole in the bottom of the pot. After this washing, put the plants into a warmer situation. Plants which showed evidences of dying will be restored to their former health in twenty-four hours time; the soil will be refreshed, and it will not be necessary to repot.

This process should appeal to amateur gardeners.

After the warm bath, supplant the possible loss of food elements by mild application of fertilizer; either pulverized sheep manure or nitrate of soda in small quantities will do well. Hot water dissolves and washes out—cleanses—poisonous acids as well as the elements of plant food. Therefore an early application of fertilizer is necessary. It is much easier to treat potted plants with warm water than it is to repot.

part that is grafted on some upright growing form of the cherry.

THE BROKEN LEADER OF A SPRUCE TREE

Through an accident one half of the leader of a young Colorado blue spruce, has been broken off. Will it disfigure the tree as to shape? K. T.

No, let it alone until next spring. In the meantime the laterals just below from where the leader starts, will have made strong growth. Let the stump of the leader remain, and choose one of the laterals that seems best suited for the case and gently bend it upwards into a nearly upright position and tie it to the stump to hold in position. The following fall it will remain upright and the string may be removed and the stump of the old leader cut off.

Garden Correspondence

W. C. EGAN

GREEN FOR TABLE DECORATIONS

I OFTEN like to have some dainty green to lay on the white doilies at the base of a bouquet on the table when giving a luncheon. I sometimes use ferns but like a change. I have tried some foliage of different shrubs, but they curl up and wilt. Can you suggest anything in the shrub or tree line? We have quite a collection to select from. S. A. N.

HONEYSUCKLE GROWING SPINDLY

I have a Japanese honeysuckle that is inclined to run up spindly. How can I make it bushy? Will pinching out the tops do? S. H. P.

The handsome, leathery foliage of the maiden-hair fern tree, known botanically as the *Ginkgo biloba* (*Salisburia adiantifolia*), of Chinese origin, is most excellent for the purpose. They are aristocratic in appearance and keep fresh and bright for over twenty-four hours or even longer. This tree belongs to the yew family and by some is considered the connecting link between the evergreen and deciduous trees.

No, pinching out the top merely induces the buds near the top to break out. Wait until spring and then cut your vine back severely, say to within two feet of the ground. This will cause the lower adventitious buds to grow, each one of which will make a vine. These adventitious buds are supplied by Nature to be used if necessary, and remain dormant unless conditions exist where it is necessary that they be called into action.

JAPANESE WEEPING ROSE-FLOWERED CHERRY

On my neighbor's lawn is a small weeping tree which in May, last, was completely covered with white blooms. It looked like a cherry. I want to get one but cannot ascertain its name. E. C. O.

ELM ROOTS IN A DRAIN PIPE

In looking for the cause of a stoppage in a sewer pipe, we found it completely choked by the roots supposed to come from an elm some thirty feet away. Is that not unusual? D. H. C.

The tree is undoubtedly the Japanese Weeping Rose-flowered cherry, originally brought from Japan by Von Siebold. It is certainly one of the finest weeping trees for lawn decoration, but while considered hardy, has been known to suffer at the roots in unusually severe winters. As a precautionary measure it is well to mulch the roots heavily during the winter. Use fresh manure and thus have the tree and the grass under it receive the benefit of the leaching. Keep the sod away from the trunk at least one foot to lessen the chance of the lawn mower bumping it. Sometimes a warm spell, early in the spring starts the flower buds and if a heavy frost follows, some are injured and the tree does not bloom so freely. The botanical name is *Cerasus Japonica*, var *rosea pendula*, which is the weeping

No, elms and other trees instinctively send their roots a long distance for food or moisture. The Eucalyptus tree in California is quite troublesome on that account and one instance is related where a root climbed a low stone wall entering the soil again and invading a street sewer. Plants seem to possess, what in the absence of a better term, we will call instinct, which enables them to detect food or moisture at a distance and to induce them to send their roots in that direction, although those roots may have to travel some distance through barren soil to reach the prize.

Some fifteen years ago I planted an Empress tree, *Paulonia imperialis*, within ten feet of a perennial border. I had dug a hole four feet in diameter and two feet deep for the tree and filled it with good soil.

The native soil is a rather stiff sandy loam.

Some years later I noticed quite a number of very small feeding roots entering the perennial bed from the direction of the Empress tree and felt certain that it had sent its roots in there, but was surprised that it had done so in so short a time, as I naturally supposed that all the roots radiating from the trunk had spread out as much. A change in the arrangement of the grounds doomed the tree to destruction and when removing it I concluded to examine the roots carefully. With one exception I found that all the roots, which were at the time of planting not over an inch in diameter, had not grown in size, nor gone outside the hole more than eight to ten inches. One root, however, the exception, was as thick as my arm, and had headed straight for the rich soil in the perennial border and there sent out its feeders. The quantity of food found there employed a great number of feeders, necessitating an enlargement of the one root that carried the food to the tree. Something told that tree that there was a good supply of food in that direction, and it must have started after it at once. In ordinary cases the roots of a tree extend as far as the branches, the feeding ones generally being at the outer rim.

WHITE CLOVER FOR A LAWN

Is white clover good to have on a lawn? H. B. W.

In a dry loamy soil, yes, but it should be mixed with grass seeds.

HARDY CLIMBING ASPARAGUS

Is there any hardy climbing asparagus? J. H. S.

Yes, *Asparagus verticillatus*. It will grow ten feet in a season when established. If grown for single sprays, the strings it runs upon should be placed two feet apart. It makes a beautiful decoration when in berry.

THE SYCAMORE TREE

Is the buttonwood and the sycamore of commerce the same tree? I thought the sycamore was a maple.

N. O. P.

Yes, they are the same and the tree is also called the American plane tree and

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water beech. The common name sycamore is also applied to a maple, but by the rule of priority it rightfully belongs to a fig tree, *Ficus sycamoros*, commonly called by the ancients the sycamine tree. This is the tree that Zaccheus climbed up in order to be able to see our Lord pass by. During the middle ages when scenes from the life of our Lord were dramatized, a new tax collector had to perform the same feat, and as there were no fig trees at hand, a maple was chosen (*Acer Pseudo-Platanus*), as its leaves somewhat resemble those of a fig, and temporarily called a sycamine. This tree found its way into England where its common name was changed from sycamine to sycamore. So far there were but two sycamores, one a fig and one a maple. English emigrants settling on the Indiana river bottoms noticed the resemblance in foliage of our native buttonwood and gave it the name of sycamore which it bears commercially to this day. The English in Australia applied the name to still another tree, and in the extreme West is found the California sycamore tree, another excellent species.

SENTIMENT AND SYMBOLISMS ASSOCIATED WITH CHRISTMAS

(Continued from page 18.)

December, when the Christmas rose blooms and the holly ripens its berries.

"It is the old, old story
 That for ages bards have sung."

Dickens "the apostle of Christmas" and Washington Irving have given us the sentiment of the first Christmas carol, that according to the good Jeremy Taylor was "sung by the angels," and the spirit and observance of the ancient revels that have come to the new world from England, Germany and Holland. Sir Walter Scott in "Marmion" gives a graphic description of feasting and merrymaking in early English times under the Christmas greens, while Shakespeare in Hamlet relates the Norse and Scandinavian legend to describe the spell of Christmas "so hallowed and so gracious is the time." But beautiful and interesting as are all the associations connected with the history of Christmas, the spirit of "peace on earth, good will to man" is the one sentiment alone that in an unbroken line connects the pagan with the Christian festival.

BEAUTY IN FANS

REDOLENT of gallantry and the spirit of delicate old world romance was the exhibition of fans which was recently held in New York. In no single article of dress has woman contrived to express more coquetry or more of the sense of beauty than in the fan, which naturally enough reached its apogee in France in the period between *Le Roi Soleil* and the French Revolution. The possession of a finely decorated fan being one of the ambitions of every court beauty, famous artists did not disdain to decorate them, and masters in carving wrought the sticks elaborately, carving and piercing and gilding the ivory or tortoise-shell or mother-of-pearl of which they were formed.

Most notable of the exhibits in this collection was the Louis XV. fan supposed to have belonged once to Mme. du Barry and purchased at the Princess Mathilde sale. It is priced at \$800. As delicate as a bit of eggshell china are its sticks, which some unknown Chinese or Japanese master has carved to a paper-like thinness. The *feuille* or leaf is done in gouache (color mixed with white of egg) on paper and shows a Watteau-like painting of a shepherdess and dog. The fan is small, and light, and frivolous, and is said to be an absolutely pure example of Louis XV.

A Louis XVI. fan shows the slenderest of ivory sticks decorated with long straight lines of silver lacquer. This fan, one of the few in the collection signed—along one edge of the leaf in a microscopically fine hand one reads, *Peint et Monté par F. Sulzer au Rossignol, Winterthur*—is painted on white chicken skin. The picture shows a barnyard, with a turkey and a peacock in the foreground, while a pretty shepherdess and a peasant face each other in the side vignettes. Inset in the border of flowers and vines are baskets in lace work.

Dating from the Regency period is a fan whose mother-of-pearl sticks are carved like columns and garlanded with blue ribbons and with flowers painted in the natural colors. Here the scrolls of the Louis XV. period combine with the delicacy of the Louis XVI. The picture in deepest coloring of the Renaissance painters, shows two goddesses clipping the wings of a sleeping cupid. On the reverse is a vignette of Vesuvius in



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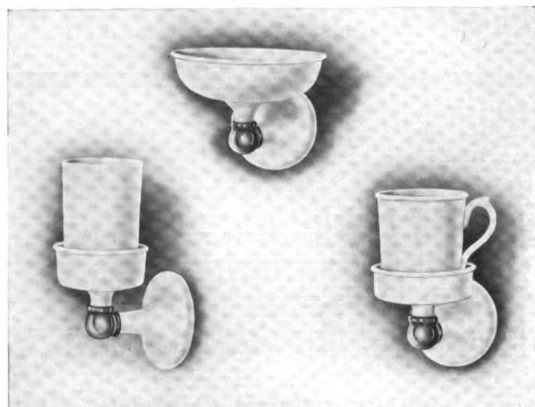


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eruption and the Bay of Naples, and the date August 8, 1779. Then there are other smaller pictures, one of Vesuvius in a comparatively tranquil state, the other of the Grotto of Pozzuoli.

How different from these dainty, useless, exquisite trifles in which French genius expressed itself is the sober-minded Dutch fan or the serious English fan engraved by Bartolozzi, with satin-wood sticks, and belonging to the Adam period.

After 1830 one finds no more delicate color or fine carving expended on the fan. Women no longer vied with one another in the possession of fans that were works of art, so that a curious fan of about 1835 shows instead of a lovely water-color merely a print retouched coarsely with a brush and color. A piece of wall-paper in blue, white and silver forms the *feuille* of another of uncertain nationality. From Spain comes a typically Spanish fan, which is said to belong to the end of the eighteenth century, and showing an arabesque of flowers in colored crochet applied on white crêpe with tinsel.

Besides these antiques, there were some modern fans in the exhibit which numbered some twenty or thirty specimens. The collection was ten years in the making.—*New York Tribune*.

ITEMS FROM AUTOMOBILE TOPICS

How seldom do people take the trouble to thoroughly empty out and wash the interior of gear boxes and crank cases, and yet heaps of metal is worn off the teeth of wheels sometimes. The particles that wear off the teeth of gears are glass hard, as a rule, and form an abrasive powder that, mingling with the oil or grease, attacks the bearings on axles, besides assisting to further demolish the teeth from which it has been detached. A systematic and frequent emptying and sluicing out of gear boxes, differentials and crank pits is a practice much to be commended, and it should be done before fresh lubricant is added, so as not to waste more than is necessary. It is possible where rigid economy is studied to utilize the oil or grease again by warming it sufficiently but gently until all dirt settles at the bottom. In the case of oil the clean portion can then be decanted and, as an extra precaution filtered, but it should be borne in mind that oil, however carefully cleansed, can-



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not be used to advantage indefinitely, for it loses its lubricating properties in a very noticeable degree, in fact, one can feel the difference between fresh oil and that which has been used some little time by merely rubbing it between the fingers.

Sometimes on removal of tires the rims are found to be a very long way from being in a healthy condition. Not only are they perhaps covered with a layer of rust, but they may also be corroded to a depth that makes them hardly strong enough to stand the strains they are subjected to. Besides the damage to the rims themselves, rust is an enemy to the fabric of the outer covers, and also deteriorates inner tubes if allowed to permeate through the division of the cover where it fits in the rim. When rims are attacked with rust in this manner, no time should be lost in attending to them, and in restoring them to a proper condition. Before attempting to paint rims with anything, it is first important to very thoroughly scrape and scour all the rust away, especially in the corners of the raised flanges where the beading of the cover is enconced when the tire is in position. Two coats of good black varnish should then be given taking care to work it properly into the surface of the metal which is pitted by the corrosion, and also to see that the first coat is nice and hard before applying the second. If this is done thoroughly and the operation repeated sufficiently often, the rust fiend will be kept at bay, but as an additional precaution it is not a bad plan to cover the bed of the rim with a layer of broad webbing as well.

Points of extreme importance are often neglected by the novice, who cares for his own machine, but in many cases there are minor points about the motor car which are neglected by the most expert, especially as relates to lubrication. One of these points is the spring links and bolts, particularly at the free end of the spring. When the car is in motion there is considerable wear upon the top and bottom halves of the link bolts, and sometimes these may wear down to less than half their original diameter in the course of a season's use. Considerable may be done to remedy this condition, especially if the bolts are regularly oiled around the links, and the eye at both ends of the spring.

Too much care cannot be taken in



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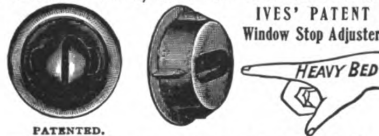
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seeing that no dirt or waste is put into the oil reservoir of a car, as one or more of the leads from the same may be clogged up, and before it is noticed a bearing may be ruined.

Most of the parts of automobiles are occasionally cleaned from necessity rather than choice, but the muffler is frequently entirely neglected. To the average driver the muffler is simply a sheet iron case, which by some means prevents the noise of the exhaust from becoming a nuisance. Consequently the interior of most exhaust boxes after a time resembles a coke oven and when eventually taken apart is far from a pleasant thing to handle. The deposits can sometimes be removed with a brush, but a scraper is needed in most cases. Most mufflers create some back pressure, which is due to the constricting of the stream of exhaust gases and to breaking them up. When a deposit lines the walls it becomes necessary after a while to use a cut-out. This is particularly true on small motors, where the power loss may be as great as thirty-five per cent in case of dirty mufflers. The remedy is obvious.

PYRUS JAPONICA AS A HEDGE PLANT

FOR ornamental and defensive purposes the *Pyrus Japonica* makes a good hedge. It is often seen in gardens where a hedge or a line of shrubs of some sort is desired. The flowers are what give it its attraction in spring, and its thorns form its defensive properties. There are many colors of the pyrus. The old scarlet has companions now in pink, red, white, and other shades; and in hedge planting the colors can be alternated or massed, used as fancy may dictate.—*Florists' Exchange*.

THE JUICE OF THE GRAPE

THE Arabs say that when the first grapevine was planted the demon Iblis sacrificed a peacock on the spot where the plant was set. As soon as it began to sprout forth he sacrificed an ape over it. When the grapes began to appear he slaughtered a lion, and when these were ripe he offered up a pig: hence it is that he who drinks wine feels at first as proud as a peacock and becomes subsequently as tricksome as an ape, as bold as a lion and at length as stupid as a swine.—*Exchange*.

House and Garden

THE SPRAYING SEASON

THE present state of usefulness to which spraying appliances have been raised after years of experimentation, stimulated by the competition of many intelligent manufacturers and inventors, we deem exceedingly fortunate for it is evident that conditions developing the past season will in the near future cause a demand for spraying outfits to the limit.

It is also fortunate that spray material, in various formulas, has been tested so that we have remedies for the greater portion of the insects and fungous diseases that confront us. It is reasonable to suppose that spraying appliances and spraying formulas will be improved, but the pressing necessity of the times is to secure a more general use of such facilities as are at hand to suppress the increasing hindrances to horticulture.

The season of 1908 promises to be a record one for reports of insect injury throughout New York. A study of the matter shows that every one of the cases reported was of insects that could have been largely suppressed if known sprays had been properly applied. On unsprayed trees the San José scale, codling moth, case bearer, oyster-shell scale, thrips, mites, curculio, bud moth, elm-leaf beetle and the tussock moth have seemingly done the maximum injury. The white-marked tussock moth caterpillars, which have rarely done much damage in orchards, appeared in many sections this year, attacking plum and apple trees and destroying much apple fruit, the skin of which they eat. All over the eastern portion of the state millions of white moths, the adult of a "measuring worm," have appeared. This insect was abundant in 1862, and was the cause of the first importation of the English sparrow. The sparrows are enjoying a long-delayed luxury, but the spray pumps must be ready to poison the caterpillars that will hatch out next season, possibly in great numbers.

The vineyardists report considerable injury to the vines from the root worm and to the fruit from bugs, moths, etc. Insect enemies are surely increasing in species and volume, while their parasites are slow—too slow to be of much apparent use, and altogether too slow to permit of delay in preparing the spray pump.

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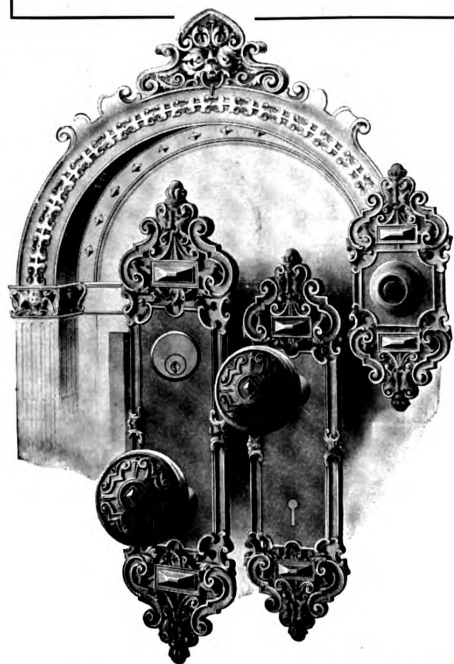
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made ready for the increasing damage to the fruit crops from fungous diseases, which seem on the increase, and which produce possibly as much loss as insects. Trees and plants can only produce best results when the foliage is kept clean. Most of the "blights" "and rusts" can be prevented by timely spraying. From all over the state we hear of leaf spots, leaf curl, brown rot, black rot, etc., and in some sections one would think it unknown that leaf curl of the peach, leaf spot and apple scab could be prevented.

It is a safe estimate that nine-tenths of the losses to the fruit crops of the state would be saved if general spraying with the right ingredients at the proper time were done.

There are other problems yet to be solved, among which are the yellows and little peach diseases, the fungus *cladosporium*, an old fungus but new in the hop yards, the chestnut fungus, which thrives under the bark, the fire blight of the pear in nursery stock and in bearing orchards, the San José scale fifty feet from the ground, and the New England white-pine disease, which is now known in four counties in New York.—*The Country Gentleman*.

DWARFING HERBACEOUS PLANTS

ONE of the objections made to the beautiful *Boltonias* as well as to some other herbaceous plants is they grow so tall that they are unable to sustain themselves without staking. This is true of these plants when strong ones are in mind and when they are let grow as they will. But this tallness can be overcome by topping their growth at any time before their flower buds show, as this both dwarfs them and makes them more bushy. Many catalogues say of *Boltonias* that they need no staking. This is true of headed-back plants or of small plants set out in spring. Spring planted stock does not make such tall growth as plants do that have been in position for some time. This can be noticed in the case of asters, phlox, *coreopsis*, and many similar plants.

No doubt all herbaceous plants that do not flower until after July could be headed back to their advantage in the way of bushiness, and with bushiness comes the ability to sustain themselves without any artificial aid in the way of staking.—*Florists' Exchange*.

GARDENERS

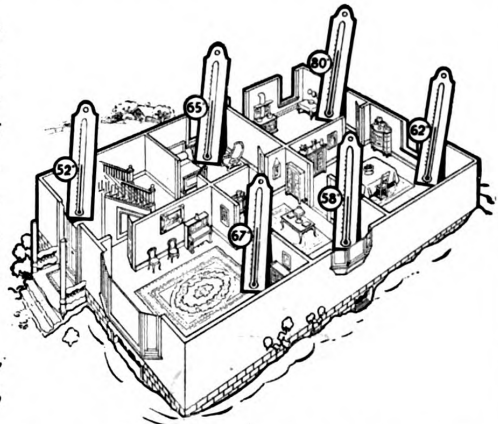
THERE are three kinds of gardeners or tillers of the soil,—the theoretical gardener, the man who plants, cultivates and harvests according to rules laid down in books and papers; the man who has no use for the experiences of others as related in books and papers, and the really practical man who reads the books and papers, who applies the principles that seem to him reasonable, and who uses his keen powers of observation and draws upon his fund of experience in his daily work. Manifestly, this is the man who attains greatest success. Not satisfied with results attained this year, he searches the experiences of others for better methods to apply next year. He has the greatest reverence for success attained by his elders, but at the same time he recognizes that this is an age of advancement.

In parts of Asia to-day all plowing is done by a crooked stick, the harvesting by a sickle, and threshing by animals treading on the grain. The progressive tiller of the soil mingles his thoughts with his labor, he employs the best tools and if he hasn't the particular tool to give him maximum results, he invents it. He follows the rules for pruning as laid down by practical men until he finds that climatic and soil conditions require different treatment. A thorough gardener, be he professional or amateur, must be an encyclopædia in himself. He must first know his soil. If it be a heavy soil, he must know what particular plants thrive therein, or he must devise ways to make the soil lighter. If the soil is a heavy adobe, flat and poorly drained, he underlays it with tiling, and applies a heavy dressing of strawy manure and sand. He notes the growth of his plants and by systematic pruning he brings them into symmetrical and well-balanced specimens. He is ever on the lookout for insect and fungous depredations, for many a plant and crop is ruined for want of a timely spraying.

Many a plant that should be straight and beautiful is made most unsightly because of the failure to tie to a stake at the proper time. Study your plants, give them a little love, and you will be surprised at the appreciation the plant will manifest. Do not let the harmful insects sap their strength and do not expect to continually take from the soil beautiful flowers and luscious fruits

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without proper feeding and watering. The faithful horse does the best he can, but you cannot expect him to keep sleek and ready for any emergency if you fail to properly care for him. A plant is like an animal, and requires food and water and attention as does the horse. —*The Pacific Garden.*

THE "NOBLE" ASTER

ONE of the most distinct and beautiful of the new asters is the "Noble" aster, introduced by Frederick Rømer, of Germany, who makes a specialty of asters, as well as of pansies.

The plants of this new race grow from fourteen to sixteen inches high, branch freely, and bear flowers on long, slender, leafy stems. The flowers are odd and beautiful, the type being pure white, measuring up to four and one-half inches in diameter, and very graceful, being formed somewhat after the manner of a double-flowered cactus dahlia. The long, narrow florets are rolled, and appear needle-shaped, but not closed, as in the true needle aster. They are set very densely, are regularly imbricated to the center.

This aster will doubtless become popular when better known. The plants are thrifty and of good habit, and make a fine display in a group or bed, being very free-blooming. They are also well adapted for pot culture. The beauty of the flowers, and the fact that they are borne on long, leafy stems, suggests their value for cutting. As stated, the type of this new race is pure white, but this season Mr. Rømer sparingly offers seeds of delicate rose, as well as white. It will be but a few years, doubtless, until all the choice shades and colors of the aster family will be represented.

The culture of asters is very simple. Any rich, porous garden soil will produce fine plants and flowers. Start the seeds in a window box, or else in a prepared seed bed in the garden; when the plants are large enough set them six or eight inches apart in the bed, where they are to bloom. For the root-aphis water liberally with hot tobacco tea. For the aster bug, dust with fresh hellebore from a porous sack.

The China asters have become very valuable garden flowers, from the fact

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that the varieties come into bloom from June until the outdoor autumn chrysanthemums appear, and they are quite as showy and beautiful as the chrysanthemums.—*Park's Floral Magazine.*

PROTECTING TREES FROM THE WIND

MANY fine trees are annually destroyed by severe windstorms. When there is no windbreak around the grounds, it is not easy to keep it intact. It is a good plan to drive stakes on the west side of trees, then with a piece of cord pull back the tree till it leans a little to the west or southwest or toward the prevailing winds and tie firmly to a stake. The same plan can be followed where any tree is liable to be blown about by the wind. Wrap several thicknesses of burlap or an old rubber hose around the trunk of the tree so the twine will not injure the bark. In transplanting large shade trees it's a good plan to protect them for a year or two with three such stays.—*Farm and Home.*

PLANT NOTES

Gloxinias in frames.—Many florists grow gloxinias for the flowers exclusively and those who do so will find less trouble in growing these plants for that purpose in frames than in pots continuously in greenhouses. When frame culture is decided upon for a certain number it will be well to select the required number of bulbs, picking out the largest and oldest from the stock, and keeping them back until it is absolutely necessary to start them. When that is the case proceed in the same way as if the plants were intended for pot culture finally. The plants may be placed in the soil prepared for them in the frames when the temperature outdoors can be relied upon to be warm enough to suit their requirements. Careful watering is fully as necessary for the successful cultivation of gloxinias in frames as it is in the case of pot culture indoors. The glass should be provided with movable shade for the protection of the plants from the direct sunlight during part of the day.

Dracæna indivisa.—One of the most useful plants for retail florists is *Dracæna indivisa*, there being almost endless purposes for which this graceful and accommodating plant can be successfully used. For filling tubs, vases, window



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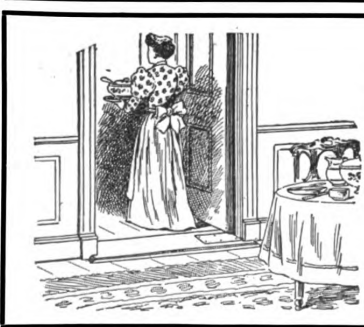
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N. & G.
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JOSEPH BARDSLEY

147-151 Baxter Street New York City

boxes and other like outdoor embellishments in summer it is almost indispensable; and again when something other than a fern, aspidistra, or palm is desired for indoors a well-grown *Dracena indivisa* will give about as much satisfaction as any other subject. It takes two years to make good specimen plants of *Dracena indivisa*. Seed should be sown early in the spring and the plants subsequently potted up as their growth requires it until the summer following, when they should be planted outdoors in the open ground and left there until it becomes necessary to remove them for safety.

Herbaceous calceolarias are now making growth rapidly and any check or hindrance will affect them greatly. It has been many times said of these plants that if kept cool and given plenty of room and enough to eat and drink they will get along all right; so they will, but if any one of these necessary conditions is absent the plants are quick to show resentment. In shifting calceolarias for the last time or into their flowering pots a compost of two-thirds good turfy loam and one-third of equal parts well rotted cow manure and leaf mold, with the addition of a sprinkling of sand, should be used.

Like all quick rooting and growing plants of this nature, it is not to their advantage to pot very hard, nor so loosely as to allow the water to run through too quickly. The plants should have plenty of light and a position as near the glass as circumstances permit.

After the roots are well through the soil in the flowering pots, liquid manure ought to be applied at regular and quite frequent intervals; there need be no fear of injuring them by overfeeding after the plants attain that stage of growth.

Jerusalem cherries.—Results out of proportion to the trouble involved will repay careful attention to the growing of a large lot of Jerusalem cherries. From seeds sown from now until a little later fully developed plants will be available for next Christmas. The seed should be sown in shallow pans two-thirds filled with loam and leaf mold, first providing good drainage. The pans should be placed in a gentle heat where the seedlings will soon make their

appearance. When sufficiently large to handle prick off the seedlings in flats, and, later, when they have grown and got well established in the flats, they should be potted singly into small pots and, if need be report them later; but plant them out in the field during the summer.

When the plants are growing vigorously, in their early stage of growth they should be frequently pinched in order that they will become stocky and bushy in habit. Jerusalem cherries are easily grown in standard form by simply tying the single stem plants to stakes and allowing them to grow until they have attained the desired height when they should be pinched to induce them to make heads. When planted out in rich soil Jerusalem cherries make rapid growth, but the plants will grow well in any fairly good garden soil.

Petunias are not only gaining rapidly in favor again for bedding outdoors, but they are also beginning to be made use of extensively for cutting from during the summer. For the latter purpose the plants set outdoors are available, but more satisfactory results follow when they are grown in good soil in frames. Seed of the best strains should now be sown, and when the seedlings are large enough they should be transplanted into flats and later into small pots, finally planting them in the frames. When once in possession of good double petunias it will be worth while to keep propagating by means of cuttings, whereby they are quite easily multiplied.

Adiantum Farleyense.—Good specimen plants of *Adiantum Farleyense* are well worth striving for, and the frequency with which such plants are seen nowadays indicates that after all a great deal of strife is not necessary in the work of producing such, rather that their simple requirements are more commonly understood, and once understood rigidly attended to. One of the very best growers of this beautiful fern adds not a particle of sand or leaf mold to the soil used in potting after the first shift, using instead nothing but the best fibrous loam, adding just a dash of lime. Drainage is of the utmost importance in the growing of *A. Farleyense*, and the best method of supplying drainage is that of placing a small pot inverted over the hole in the bottom of the larger one into

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THE unprecedented growth of our Correspondence Department has necessitated the opening of a new Department which will be devoted to the interest of those who are building, decorating or furnishing their homes. **House & Garden** now offers its readers a House Finishing, Decorating, Furnishing and Purchasing Service which is complete in detail, thoroughly practical and absolutely free. Full color suggestions for the exterior of the house will be supplied with recommendations of proper materials to obtain the results. For the interior, the treatment of standing woodwork and floors, the selection of tiles, hardware and fixtures will be considered and specifically recommended, with the addresses of firms from whom these goods may be obtained. Samples of wall coverings and drapery materials will be sent and selections of rugs and furniture made. When desired, the goods will be purchased and shipped to the inquirer; the lowest retail prices are quoted on all materials.

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House & Garden

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which the plant is to be put, then placing several pieces of broken pots around and over the one inverted, and over all a little dry sphagnum moss.

Alpinia Sanderæ makes a handsome specimen plant for use in conjunction with more sober and dull looking subjects, but otherwise it is not of itself a plant worthy of very much consideration. It is true that so long as it can be kept dwarf enough it can be used to advantage in filling baskets and in other kinds of made-up work by florists, but it has such a tendency to elongate that usually it is unsuitable for that kind of work. It is easily propagated from division of the rhizomes at this time of the year, or a little later. All that is required is to separate them and place those thus severed in heat, potting them subsequently either singly or placing a number in pots or pans.—*Florists' Exchange.*

COMMENTS ON NEW BOOKS

Children and Gardens

IT would appear that Gertrude Jekyll's book, *Children and Gardens** would have been better named had she called it "A Garden book for Children," which it really is. Fortunately, this does not detract from its value or interest. The author has in many ways, which will appeal to the child, pointed out the pleasure and healthful occupation to be derived in the planting and care of their own gardens. The illustrations have been selected from subjects to interest her young readers. Plans which are quite practical are also given, and the necessity for an understanding of botany has not been overlooked.

HOW BURBANK GRASPED OPPORTUNITY

LUTHER BURBANK'S early life in California was attended by many hard experiences. He was very poor, and was obliged to take any work that came to hand. He cleaned out chicken-coops, helped in market-gardens, got an odd job here and another there, passed through a severe illness, went "on the tramp" for work until finally he was able to start a little nursery on his own account. Then he was on his own ground with a

*Children and Gardens, by Gertrude Jekyll. London, Country Life Limited; Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Price \$2.00, net.

(Continued on page 8.)

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The March issue will be devoted largely to Garden Topics as will also the issue of April

A NORTH SHORE GARDEN

It rarely happens that environments so picturesque and in such marked contrast can be given to the setting of a formal garden as is shown in that of Mr. Dudley L. Pickman, situated on Hospital Point, Beverly Cove, Massachusetts. It is located on a bench of land made by cutting away part of a hillside, and is surrounded and partly shaded by the wide extending branches of the great trees which are growing just outside its limits on all sides. These great trees frame in the brilliant picture of the beds of many colored flowers and cast their shadows across the miniature lily pond in fantastic shapes. The description supplied by Mary H. Northend is illustrated by many beautiful photographs.

SHRUBS FOR THE AMATEUR

Another helpful paper by Mr. Eben E. Rexford will be welcomed by every garden maker, be he amateur or professional. Mr. Rexford has a way of emphasizing the salient points of the information he is conveying to his readers which appeals strongly to them and impresses them with the fact that the remarks are being addressed to them personally, as they seem to affect and apply to the conditions of their particular cases. To gain knowledge by experience alone requires not only much time, but much expense and disappointment in many cases. To profit by the experience of others should be the aim of the amateur in whatever line he may be operating.

REHABILITATING AN HOTEL APARTMENT

How a most unpromising and rather forbidding hotel apartment was transformed into an altogether attractive and most artistic one is related by Luella McElroy. What she accomplished at little cost by exercising originality in design coupled with her ability to see in her mind's eye the completed picture and then develop the picture into a reality is interestingly told by her. The result accomplished is shown by the photographs of the rooms after completion.

WHY AMATEUR GARDENERS FAIL

The second lot of letters from seedsmen and nurserymen, giving their views as to the causes which militate against so many amateur gardeners, will appear in the March issue. A variety of opinions exist among these men and the reader will find much truth in every letter, some of which may fit his particular case and put him at once on the right road to success in his plantings and garden work.

THE SMALL FLOWER BED

L. J. Doogue of the Boston Department of Public Grounds writes of the great possibilities of small flower beds if handled in the right way. He tells "What to plant in it"—"How to make a show from March until late fall"—"How to grow hardy plants at small cost"—"Combining hardy and tender plants with bulbs"—"The early use of window boxes"—"The small cost of it all." Mr. Doogue's suggestions are practical and may be relied upon.

AUGUSTE RODIN

The marvelous works of this most famous sculptor have long held the attention and interest of the world of art. With a pencil sketch of him from life by Mr. Boardman Robinson never before published, and with illustrations of three of his most interesting creations, we give an account of his life and incidents therein which have come under the notice of Marion Nall, who tells of them most entertainingly. Rodin's work is full of virility and vigor, yet possesses an imaginative quality so subtle that it grows upon one and continues to unfold long after the "view" has closed.

DECORATIVE VALUE OF FRUIT TREES

Because of the economic importance of the fruit of various members of the "genus prunus" their decorative value is somewhat neglected. Mr. W. R. Gilbert calls attention to the large number of species and forms of prunus and allied genera that are available for their floral decorativeness. The genus prunus is divided into several large groups, such as the plum, the almond, apricot, peach, cherry and laurel. In his paper Mr. Gilbert calls attention to the most interesting varieties and urges intending planters to include among their selections some of the trees named to enhance the beauty of the spring garden.

In addition to the attractive array above Adeline Thomson suggests "New Combinations for the Perennial Garden" the same being the result of her individual, satisfactory experiences along this line. Mr. E. P. Powell writes of his wonderful "Semi-Tropical Garden" in the heart of Florida, which breathes the tropical languor throughout. Flora Lewis Marble tells how to secure flowers from April to frost in "A Bed of Bulbs and Perennials" which she accomplishes by the use of bulbs and self-seeding perennials.

THE BOOKMAN FOR 1909

Of the several publications that three or four years ago made a specialty of literary matters and appealed directly to cultivated, book-loving men and women, **THE BOOKMAN** alone remains in the field. This means at once a responsibility and an opportunity. When we look forward to the year 1909 it is with the intention of assuming one and of grasping the other. We promise a magazine of unusual interest for 1909. Here are a few of the leading *new* features already planned.

In the January number begins

“DIAMOND CUT PASTE”

A new novel by Agnes and Egerton Castle. This story will run serially for the first few months of 1909.

Great Publishing Houses

1. The Great Publishers of England.
 2. The Great Publishers of France.
- Not only in the light of their history, but as they are to-day, will be the subjects of very fully illustrated articles that will appear during 1909.

Shop Talk

Articles on “The Musician as a Money Maker,” “The Painter and His Profits,” “The Actor and His Earnings,” etc.

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1. From the American point of view.
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The American Novel in England

Its readers and its critics. What do the English think of our fiction?

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fair start. To outsiders he seemed an honest, hard-working young fellow, who might make his living, but not much more. Then, all at once, he did something that made those who knew about it look at him. An order came for 20,000 young prune trees. Could he fill it in nine months? He had not a prune tree on his place, and how was he going to supply 20,000 in nine months? He got together all the men and boys he could find to plant almonds for him. They grow rapidly. When they were ready he had 20,000 prune buds ready for them and in a short time the prunes were budded into the growing almonds, and before the time was up the trees were delivered to the delighted ranchman. And I have seen those 20,000 prune trees. They are growing to-day, and it is one of the finest orchards in California.—*Circle.*

FLOWERING CURRANTS

ONE of the oldest known flowering shrubs of our gardens is the popular one known as flowering currant, *Ribes aureum*. It is no wonder it keeps in the lead of popularity, for one more beautiful than it would be hard to name. It is not one of the very earliest flowering shrubs of spring, while still an early one, blooming in May. Its beautiful clusters of yellow blossoms interest every one, the yellow is so deep and the flowers so numerous. When permitted to grow at will it is not as bushy as it becomes when pruned every spring. The pruning need not be heavy, just enough to bring the plant into shape; and if the ends of the growing shoots be nipped back in summer, this tends to promote bushiness.

The *Ribes sanguineum*, which does so well in England and is such a favorite there, does not thrive in our Northern States, although a native of Oregon and Washington; but this is common to other shrubs and trees from the Pacific States. There is a hybrid form, *Ribes Gordonianum*, which does fairly well. The flowers are of an orange red, showing something of the character of both its parents, which are supposed to be *R. sanguineum* and *R. aureum*.

Ribes floridum, known as the Missouri currant, has light colored flowers, of no great beauty, but those who are fond of black currant fruit may grow the Missouri sort for its berries, which are in taste not unlike those of the black currant.—*Florists' Exchange.*

House & Garden

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“THE NEST” AT DREAMWOLD, COVERED WITH DOROTHY PERKINS ROSES

House and Garden

VOL. XV

FEBRUARY, 1909

No. 2

The Home Garden at Dreamwold

BY MARY H. NORTHEND

WHILE to a botanist and a true lover of flowers, the home garden at Dreamwold, the summer estate of Mr. Thomas W. Lawson, Scituate, Mass., is a creation, yet even to one who knows little about floriculture its layout makes an appeal none the less inviting.

It is not a formal garden filled to repletion with marble fragments and geometrically shaped beds, but a simple home garden plot—a spot where old-fashioned and new specimens of the floral art blossom, side by side, chosen for their decorative features rather than for their monetary value. Roses are the predominant feature throughout this garden, nine acres in extent, hidden from the public gaze by a low white fence over which rambler roses clamber in profusion and lend a distinct charm. One can scarcely believe that this garden was once waste land, covered with rocks and sterile soil, now reclaimed by Mr. Lawson and transformed into "The Garden of Surprises," as one appreciative guest has aptly named it.

A wild garden, simplicity incarnate, and carried

out along old-fashioned lines, yet, a formal one in spots. Everywhere there is green, eternal green, broken and contrasted with a multitude of harmonious colors, afforded by the infinite variety of flowers and flowering-vines. Narrow, winding grass-paths lure one's feet in and out, revealing surprises of Art and Nature at every turn.

The garden adjoins the house at one side and to enter it, one passes through the white entrance-gate, which is a bower of Dorothy Perkins rambler roses, and follows a fascinating grass-path to the right, past

formal beds of solid colors—purple lobelia, pink geraniums, heliotrope, verbenas and other annuals. Rustic arches, covered with rambler roses in full bloom, break the formality, and one receives his first "surprise" in the way of a rustic bridge, over which one passes to a pergola buried in more ramblers. Still another bridge is irresistible, for, across it, lies a miniature pond, supplied with water by a natural spring flowing from the further end of the garden. On the surface float lilies and



THE ENTRANCE TO THE NEW ROSE GARDEN

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House and Garden



A RUSTIC BRIDGE COVERED WITH RAMBLER ROSES

its border is outlined by huge boulders over which grow, in all their vivid beauty, brilliant nasturtiums. Outside this pond, for a distance of fifteen feet or so, are planted Japanese irises, grasses, and bulbs. As a central ornament of the pond, Mr. Lawson has selected a revolving bear whose gestures suggest a possible symbol of the stock exchange.

Through vistas of gardens, thirty-three sections in all, intersected by pergolas, and rendered restful by rustic arbors and quaint seats placed beneath the many old apple trees, which are of special interest to Mr. Lawson, one is quite content to lose his way, while gazing upon such beauties of Nature—beauties which have been enhanced by Art to a very slight extent.

The flower-beds which would be a delight to any botanist, are interesting especially through the fact that Mr. Lawson has personally selected every flower and has himself planned the entire garden. Vine-covered tree-trunks, rich displays of begonias, fragrant groups of tuberoses, great beds of dahlias, gladioli, tulips, zinnias, marigolds, snapdragons, petunias, bittersweet, golden-glow, and trellises of sweet peas, trumpet vines and the like, intersect the grass-paths which slope to the center so slightly as to be scarcely detected. The beds are

rarely "set," but are a mixture of flowers, ferns and shrubbery, so planned that there is a constant succession of bloom, and, while apparently laid out without any thought, they have been carefully devised by the owner as to color scheme and to suit a particular niche or nook. Beds of the old-fashioned canna, *Robusta*, blaze in all their glory, surrounded by the brilliant *salvia* which, in turn, is bordered by scarlet geraniums—the whole a symphony in red. Of these geraniums, there is one variety of which Mr. Lawson has the exclusive possession, having purchased all the plants of it that were to be found. It is known as the *Fire Brand*, and is a semi-double species of geranium. There are attractive beds of the winsome pansy, which Mr. Lawson has imported and which are to be found nowhere else in this country.

Here and there among the beds of blossom, rise evergreen trees, and always and ever, gnarled apple trees, while shrubs from far Japan add much to the unusual appearance of this garden. Rockeries are to be seen quite frequently, in the middle of the beds, and in and out between the rocks are shown bright colored flowers and clambering vines.

Well along within the garden is a summer-house, almost obscured with its wealth of rambler roses, a

The Home Garden at Dreamwold

most inviting retreat to rest and observe the woodbine enclosed tepees, or wigwams, consisting of poles from six to eight feet in height, covered with wire netting, which are scattered about promiscuously. Inside their leafy exteriors are cockatoos and turtle doves. Rare bits of Italian marble rise informally from the depths of the green, while in out-of-the-way nooks, are ensconced heads of mythological significance, done in terra-cotta. Further on, one comes upon a cage containing two Texas squirrels, which are particular pets of their owner.

The old rose-garden, unconventional in arrangement and containing standard and climbing varieties of roses, is found at one side. In this garden are six hundred imported, standard roses, from which many thousand roses are picked in a season. Mr. Lawson's favorite flower is the rose, which predominates throughout the entire garden, one rose plot being



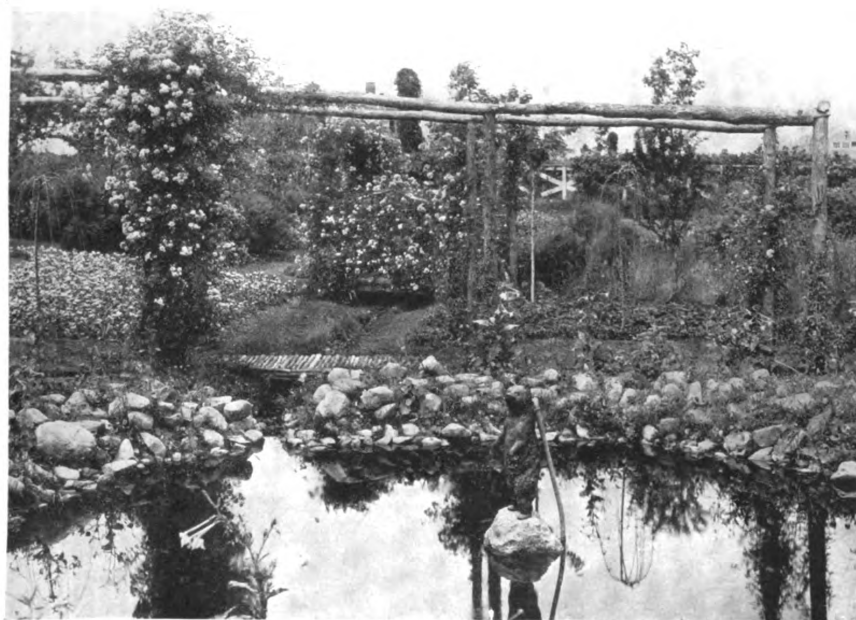
SHRUBBERY AND PERGOLA WITH RAMBLER ROSES

completely intersected by rose-pergolas, which feature is a masterpiece of horticulture in itself.

An ancient stone well, over which there has been erected a peaked roof, is covered with woodbine and forms a quaint and decorative addition to this fascinating

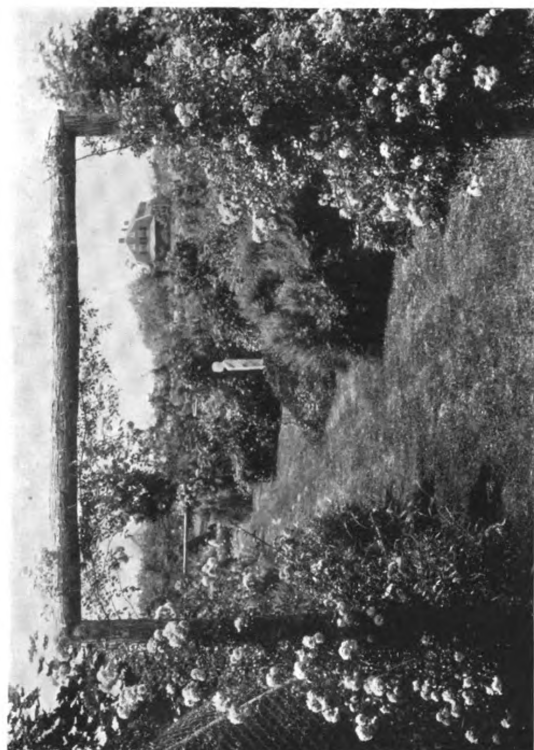
section of the garden. Near this old well is the sun-dial, without which no modern garden can now be considered complete. Constructed of terra-cotta, it occupies a position in the center of a grass plot, and bears the inscription, "I count no hours that are not bright."

In the heart of Dreamwold's garden is "The Nest," a bungalow built to represent a typical old-fashioned gambrel roofed cottage, picturesquely placed in the middle of a grass plot, its roof one mass of pink Dorothy Perkins ramblers, wistaria and trumpet-vines. From "The Nest," is obtained a view of the entire estate, home, lodges, stables, race-course, kennels, etc.,

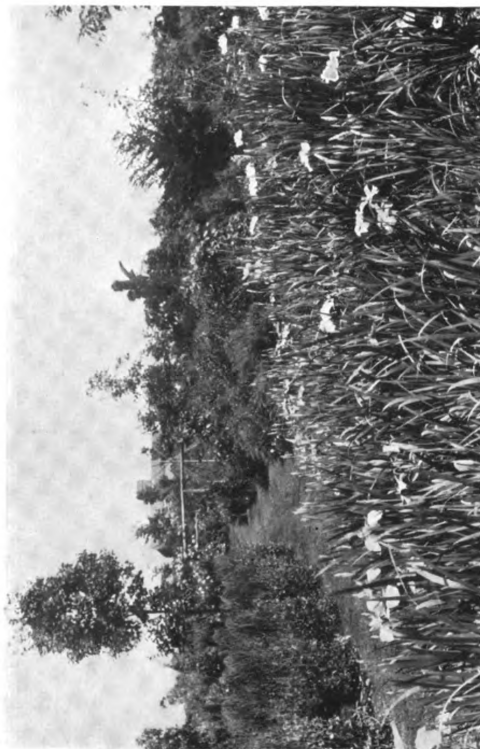


THE POND AND REVOLVING BEAR FOUNTAIN

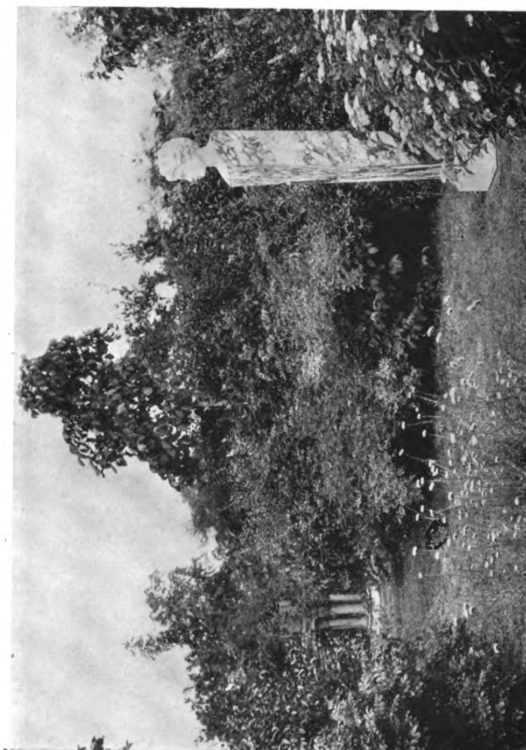
House and Garden



DOROTHY PERKINS ROSES AND VISTA OF GRASS-PATH



JAPANESE IRIS WITH VISTA OF GRASS-PATH



A BIT OF STATUARY SURROUNDED BY SHRUBBERY



ONE OF THE MANY GNARLED, OLD APPLE TREES

The Home Garden at Dreamwold

and all surrounded by a fourteen-mile picket fence over which grow rambler roses, making a beautiful outline in color.

The door is covered with woodbine and, on either side of the stone steps and over the door, stand roosters of Staffordshire ware. About the cottage is a hedge of barberry. Decorative Japanese stone lanterns and images of Chinese gods are placed here and there on the lawn, and lend a foreign atmosphere to the surroundings. The rear of the house is guarded by a white china elephant, which animal is a favorite one for Mr. Lawson to collect in various representations of ivory, bronze and other materials. Adjoining "The Nest," is a small garden, comprising about a sixteenth of an acre,



POST OFFICE AT THE ENTRANCE TO MR. LAWSON'S ESTATE



A LANTERN LIGHTED GRASS-PATH

labelled "Bunny's Garden" in letters carried out by means of cut box. "Bunny," is Mr. Lawson's youngest daughter and shares, equally with her father, the delights of gardening. This space is reserved for her special delight, and here, at her suggestion, and with her help, are grown the flowers most dear to her childish heart.

There is one path, in the heart of the garden, which has, on one side, a unique setting of vine-covered stumps of old trees, beside each of which there is growing a young sapling, as if it might, perchance, have been an offshoot of the dead tree. A profusion of flowers and shrubbery are mingled between these stumps and produce both an odd and an attractive border, while overhead, attached to rustic poles, hang rare Japanese stone lanterns, a pretty touch to enhance an already most seductive place. I fancy Mr. Lawson does not have to use his imagination to verify glimpses, now and then of Pan, within this wildwood tangle.

One feels almost inadequate to portray a picture which shall give to the reader an idea of the beauties of this garden or a comprehension of its formation and infinite variety of artistic colorings. This garden with its nine acres of Nature's handiwork, was the result of but four months' work, and the rapidity and the perfection of its accomplishment serve as one more example of the genius and scope of the owner's fertile brain. Fad, among other fads, it may be. But, as evidence of the great financier's genuine love and interest in his garden, nobody, except a lover of flowers, is ever invited within its sacred precincts.



PART III. THE SECOND FLOOR

BY A DECORATOR

AFTER the scheme for the living-rooms of the first floor was completed, there remained \$748.55 with which the two bedrooms, the nursery, the central hall and bath-room must be furnished.

The woodwork on the second floor, with the exception of the hall, had been treated with ivory white enamel. This, the Decorator considered, greatly simplified his scheme of decoration as it was much easier to find simple, inexpensive papers to harmonize with the standing woodwork so treated.

The only instructions he received, were that the rooms must be made suitable for the man of the house and for his wife and the sunny room of southeastern exposure reserved for the nursery. The maids' rooms were to be in the half storied attic and these he was not expected to consider.

He decided that the same wall covering employed for the living-room must be carried up the stairs into the upper hall. The frieze, however, was omitted.

The paper, yellow tan in color with the waving thread-like lines in brown upon it, together with the gray brown of the woodwork, made a good setting for wicker chairs of comfortable proportions, stained a light brown and upholstered with half cushions of brown arras cloth 50 inches wide, \$1.25 a yard. An oak table of medium size was found to occupy the center of the hall and hold the reading lamp, magazines, and the daily papers, thus furnishing a pleasing gathering place for the daytime and during the evening as well. The French door on the western side of the hall opened on an upper recessed veranda.

Ecreu net run on rods set at the top and bottom of each door, were the only curtains used here. The rug he found best suited was rich in color, a reproduction of an Oriental design, in tones of dull blue, red and occasional black on the ground of tan. This rug was in the best quality of body Brussels and in size eight feet three inches by ten feet six inches, cost but \$22.50.

For the two adjoining bedrooms, from one of which the bath opened and which were of southern exposure, he determined on blue as the dominating color.

"In my lady's chamber" a floral paper showing dull pink poppies and gray green foliage closely interwoven on a soft blue ground, was selected. This cost but thirty-six cents a roll of eight yards. The ceiling tint was ivory like the standing woodwork as was also the furniture he selected. This latter showed refined lines and attractive form. It consisted of bed, dressing table, chiffonier, two straight chairs and a bedside table.

The floor covering, (which after much research he found), was particularly well suited to the scheme. It was a Wilton rug having a dull blue background and a small palm pattern, the background showing deeper tone than the blue in the wall.

Blue silk and linen damask of similar tone and small design was used to upholster a white enameled wicker chair and also to cover the Chester winged chair which was placed beside the open fire. The tiles about the fireplace were of the same shade of blue.

For the windows next the glass, dotted muslin curtains, sill length and trimmed about with two and one-half inch frills, were chosen. These were to be caught back on either side and tied with smart crisp bows made from the material. With valanced overdraperies of the blue damask, these windows would be very attractive.

For the dressing table and chiffonier covers of the dotted muslin were made, carefully fitted to the top, trimmed about with little frills like the curtains and lined with dull pink sateen, bringing out again the color of the poppies in the wall-paper.

For the dressing table he also purchased crystal candlesticks holding pink candles and pretty little shades of silk trimmed with fringe in the same color. These were to be placed on either side of the mirror, and cost \$1.00 each.

The bed, he advised, should be kept purely white with Marseilles coverlid and monogramed linen slips for the plump pillows.

The adjoining room he treated quite simply as best suited to its masculine occupant. The walls he

A House of Six Rooms Furnished for \$1,500

covered with a two-toned blue fabric paper costing eighty-four cents a roll of eight yards. He allowed the ceiling tone of ivory to extend to the picture rail.

A white iron bed he had re-enameled to exactly reproduce the tone of the woodwork. For this he had made a coverlid showing at spaced intervals on a cream white ground, large disks in shades of blue and brown geometric design. The crinkled crêpey texture of the fabric together with the design it showed, was suggestive of the Japanese.

Valanced curtains extending to the window seat under the long bay were used and next the glass reaching only to the sill were placed sash curtains of thin, blue China silk. A Japanese jute rug in blue, brown and gray, covered the floor.

The furniture for this room was of birch, stained under the Decorator's supervision, the color given a soft nut brown with a waxed surface. These pieces consisted of a closed desk of heavy simple lines with straight chair to match it, a chiffonier with glass, a small shaving stand, two wicker chairs stained and upholstered in dull brown velveteen, a lounging chair with cushions covered with the same material. The window seat was also upholstered with the velveteen which clearly brought out the brown note of color in the room.

The floors in both bedrooms were stained a fairly dark shade of brown and given a semi-gloss finish.

This room when finished gave great satisfaction to its owner and contrasted agreeably with the dainty bedroom adjoining, each being distinctly characteristic of its occupant.

For the nursery, the details of the plans furnished showed two long window seats. The paneling of these was hinged, making doors, thus affording an excellent place for storing toys and books when not in use and quite low enough to be within reach of the little hands.

The Decorator decided that the walls here, should be painted in oil that they might be entirely sanitary and washable. The frieze reaching from ceiling line to the tops of the windows, illustrated well-known rhymes from Mother Goose, the figures being of sufficient size to be readily distinguished.

The color chosen for the walls was a delicate pale green. The floor covering was a rag rug in a mixture of green and white. The window draperies of white muslin embroidered in little green sprigs, were dainty and washable.

A tiny set of four chairs fashioned after the New England Windsor style and a little round table to match, were treated with white enamel and given a very high gloss and hard finish which made them more serviceable. A small winged chair, covered in cretonne showing a design of tiny pink rose buds and green leaves on a white ground was added; the same cretonne was used for cushions on the window seat.

A high brass wire screen was fitted to the fireplace and on the low mantel shelf was set a collection of china animals which delighted the child.

The cost of this room completed was but \$135.00. The table and four chairs cost \$15.00, done in the white enamel. The set of panels forming the frieze cost \$10.00. The small brass bed was added which cost \$35.00.

The following are the itemized lists of expenditure for the rooms on the second floor.

THE UPPER HALL

Wall covering,.....	\$ 8 00
Hall rug,.....	22 50
Library table,.....	18 00
Four wicker chairs, half back and seat cushions of floss, covered with arras cloth, @ \$6.00.....	24 00
Arabian net for curtains and making same,.....	4 50
Round oak stand for jardinière and fern,.....	3 75
Brass jardinière,.....	4 60
Morris lounging chair,.....	21 00

CHAMBER "A"

10 rolls poppy paper, @ 36 cents.....	\$ 3 60
Dotted muslin for curtains, bureau covers, etc., and making same,.....	15 00
Chester chair covered with damask,.....	23 00
Damask for over-draperies at casement windows, 5 yards @ \$2.00,.....	10 00
Rug,.....	35 00
Wicker chair enameled and upholstered,.....	10 00
Sateen for lining,.....	1 50
White enamel furniture, four pieces,.....	92 00

CHAMBER "B"

10 single rolls fabric paper @ 84 cents.....	\$ 8 40
8 yards blue china silk, @ 50 cents,.....	4 00
24 yards cotton crêpe @ 50 cents,.....	12 00
Small straight chair for desk,.....	3 75
Desk,.....	16 00
Reclining chair with cushions,.....	24 75
Japanese jute rug,.....	28 00
Chiffonier,.....	25 00
Two wicker chairs, upholstered,.....	16 00
White iron bed,.....	13 50

THE NURSERY

Set of panels forming frieze,.....	\$10 00
Small brass bed,.....	35 00
Table and chairs,.....	15 00
Cretonne upholstered winged chair,.....	22 00
Rug,.....	16 00
Window draperies, cushions, etc.,.....	12 00
Brass screen for fireplace,.....	12 00

When the rooms were practically decorated and furnished as shown in the estimate, there remained \$173.70 to be devoted to the outfitting of the kitchen and the purchase of the sanitary glass fixtures for the bath-room, etc. These included glass rollers for the towels, a medicine chest with glass shelves and nickel-plated racks and holders for brushes, sponges, etc.

The range was not included in the furnishings
(Continued on page 14, Advertising Section.)

The Martha Washington Garden

By JOHN W. HALL

ON the banks of the Potomac river, a few miles south of Washington City, is Mount Vernon the home and tomb of George Washington. At one time or another it is the Mecca of all Americans who visit the capital of the Nation. Those from foreign climes, especially rulers of distant countries and the representatives of those countries, who come to America seldom return home without first visiting this consecrated place.

The old home of General Washington, with his tomb hard by, is not more a memorial maintained by thoughtful, loving countrywomen than is the Martha Washington Garden. This yard, carefully kept and closely guarded, claims the admiration of all visitors, its beauties being equaled only by the memories of its associations.

In the Martha Washington Garden the "last rose of summer" does not appear until well-nigh the time when the crest of the hill on which it is located is covered by the frosts and snows of winter; and it is a noteworthy fact that the last rose in the garden is usually found on the Martha Washington bush. During last fall the final cluster hung late into November.

Even after the last rose has gone and the bushes have been stripped of their foliage by the changes of the season, pilgrim after pilgrim treads

lightly the graveled walks which permeate the entire grounds.

General Washington planted and named the Martha Washington rose bush in memory of his wife. It is therefore but natural that that particular bush should claim the first admiration of visitors, not even excepting the Nellie Custis rose. The two roses are of the same variety, a Noisette; the blooms come in clusters, the individual flowers are small, usually about an inch in diameter, and are white, with the exterior leaves tinged with pink. These bushes are pruned back generally to a height of about ten feet, and are, strictly speaking, clumps of single stems.

Doubtless General Washington planted the Martha Washington and Nellie Custis bushes at the same time, but as there is some doubt as to the latter, there

has grown up traditional romances in connection therewith. There is a tradition to the effect that it received its name by reason of the fact that Miss Custis received a proposal of marriage from Major Lewis while plucking flowers from the plant. Another version is that Washington planted it as near as possible to the spot in the garden where the tender episode between his step-granddaughter and Major Lewis took place. In earlier days there were a great many darkies about the Washington homestead and it was they who



Leet Brothers, Photographers

THE WALK THROUGH THE BOWLING GREEN, MOUNT VERNON

The Martha Washington Garden



THE BOXWOOD HEDGES IN THE MARTHA WASHINGTON GARDEN

Leet Brothers, Photographers

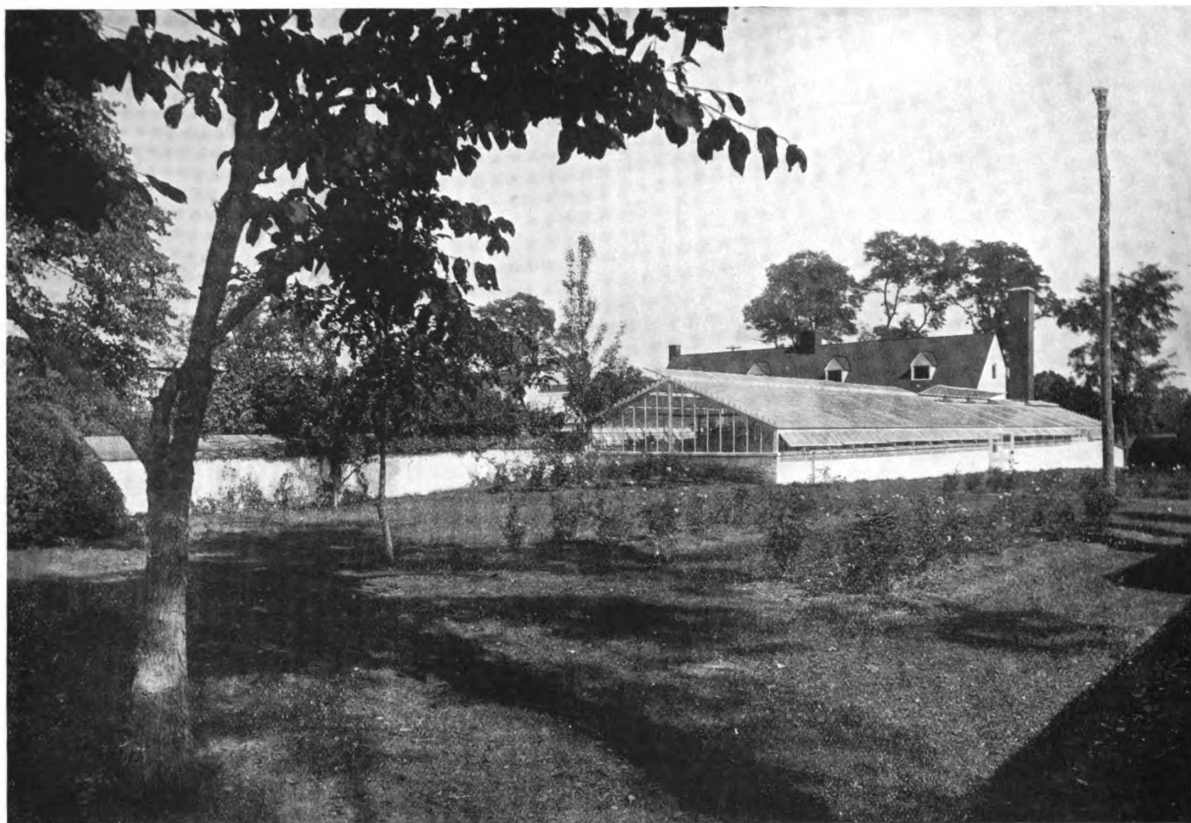
first associated with the Nellie Custis rose the story of magic power. Maidens who visit the garden may hear the story, which is told after this manner: "If a maiden will take a bloom or spray of leaves from the Nellie Custis bush, place it under her pillow and sleep on it, a proposal will be hers before the bush blooms the following year." Whether for the purpose of determining the truthfulness of the story or for souvenir purposes, the guards about the garden are asked thousands of times during the year for permission to pluck a bloom or leaf. To all the same declination, with regrets, is given.

General Washington laid out the Martha Washington Garden himself. In the garden there are now many plants and shrubs which he planted and many other evidences of his individual handiwork. A surveyor by occupation it is only to be expected that the general plans of the garden would show the work of a trained mind. There is a low brick wall that encloses the garden which was constructed under Washington's supervision. This wall is surmounted by a white picket fence—not the original—but a duplicate of the fence of his building. Opposite the garden gate there stands the same long building just as it was when the "General and his lady" strolled through the beauties of their surroundings.

Some portions of this building were there during the period of the hatchet and cherry tree episode, and when General Washington laid out the garden, as now designed, he connected these two sloping-roofed, gable-ended, and dormer-windowed buildings by a central one with a glass front. That he used as a greenhouse and it answers the same purpose in this day. In a remote corner of the garden there is a small pavilion. This usually escapes the notice of visitors. It is in circular form and is reached by a flight of steps. The supposition is that it was built for a tool house, but that on occasions it was converted into a study for the Custis children, especially on occasions when the home was full of company, as was often the case.

Besides the plants, walks, houses, etc., in the Martha Washington Garden with which General Washington was personally associated, there are others with histories dear to the whole people. There is to be seen a calycanthus, or strawberry shrub, which Thomas Jefferson sent from his Monticello home. In 1799, the year of his death, General Washington planted a *Magnolia grandiflora*, while near it stands another magnolia, the *purpurea*, which was planted by General LaFayette—the compatriot of Washington in the war of the revolution—in 1824,

House and Garden



THE ROSE GARDEN AT MOUNT VERNON

Leet Brothers, Photographers

while on a visit to the United States. At the same time General LaFayette planted two hydrangeas (*quercifolia*, or oak-leaved) which have thrived for nearly a century and have grown until the stems are like those of young trees of the forest. There may also be seen one greenhouse plant, a sago palm, in this historic garden, many years more than a century old; it has been more than a century since it received the nurturing care of Martha Washington.

Like all other gardens, the Martha Washington Garden is to be seen at its greatest beauty in the late spring and early summer when it is in full bloom and fresh from the gardener's hands. At those times the carefully designed patterns of box hedges are trimmed back to about the height of one's shoulder and they fail to show any evidence of their patriarchy, although some of them are more than 150 years old.

The Martha Washington Garden, as a part of Mount Vernon, is under the direction of the Mount Vernon Association; an incorporated association with a member from each of the several states of the Union who have it in their keeping. All visitors to Mount Vernon pay a fee of admission, but that is usually charged in the transportation. These fees go towards the maintenance of the place. Likewise,

at the proper seasons of the year, additional revenue is had from the garden. Young plants grown from the various historic ancestors are sold. In these sales the Martha Washington rose is easily a best seller. Cuttings from the bush are sold at from twenty-five to fifty cents each. Little boxwood plants from the 150 year old hedge may be obtained at from ten to fifty cents each, according to size. If you want a calycanthus, or strawberry shrub of the Jeffersonian school, the tax is fifty cents. The LaFayette hydrangea is as popular with the public as was the General himself. These are to be had in considerable numbers and at prices from twenty-five to fifty cents each.

The magnolias are limited, and whether from the Washington or the LaFayette planting, the cost is from fifty cents to one dollar. The descendants of the Martha Washington palm are but few, but when obtainable the price ranges from one to ten dollars each.

The Mount Vernon Association is not in the business as florists—the sale of plants and clippings from the gardens being a mere incident—but there are very few visitors who do not desire to take home some shrub, flower or plant from the Martha Washington Garden.

Japanese Gardens in America

II. MR. CHARLES J. PILLING'S GARDEN

By PHEBE WESTCOTT HUMPHREYS

THE engrossing and delightful occupation of creating a Japanese garden frequently extends over a period of several years, before the small area that has been converted into a miniature Japanese landscape is considered complete. But not even the years of fascinating garden building can compare with the charm of later development, when trout and gold fish multiply and flourish in their respective ponds, when trailing growths reach down their green draperies over the boulder outlines of creeks and ponds, when luxuriant vines, with long pendulous blooms, cover the wistaria arbors; when the luxuriant growths of brilliant Japanese maples and azaleas clothe the miniature mountainsides, and provide abundant excuse for the presence of the indispensable lanterns, supposed to light the secluded walks among these dense growths.

The Japanese garden at Lansdowne, Pa., which was designed and executed by the famous Japanese craftsman, S. Furukawa, for Mr. Charles J. Pilling, was considered practically complete when it first came to my notice through publication in 1906 in the August number of *HOUSE AND GARDEN*. Since then I have been repeatedly attracted to this alluring spot, to watch the process of development. Mr. Pilling designates this wonder-garden as a "wild garden," or a bit of "woodland garden," as no special stress has been laid upon the presence of characteristic bamboo enclosures, or the placing of symbolic stones, like the "worshipping stone," the "guardian stone," "view stone," "moon-shadow stone," etc., etc., and yet a study of its numerous attractions discloses the fact that it is one of the most complete bits of Japanese landscaping ever designed by a native craftsman.

The "wildness" of its approach is one of its chief attractions. Winding pathways of stepping stones, and rugged stone stairways leading down sharp inclines lead from the house and lawn, through luxuriant tangles of Japanese maples and dwarf evergreens, down to the lantern-guarded course of the water supply which forms one of the principal charms of the entire garden. From this spot one catches a glimpse of the whole expanse of streams and ponds, rustic and stone bridges, islands, hillocks and valleys, with the white gleam of stone lanterns here and there,



STEPS LEADING TO THE STONE LANTERN

but the "wildness" is intensified when one follows all the intricate pathways leading over the little mountain sides and crossing and recrossing the streams.

While in all Japanese gardens of any pretensions a little pond or sheet of water of irregular outline is considered an indispensable feature, in the Pilling garden there is not

only the usual pond or lake, but also a winding stream or "creek" connecting several ponds. In one, beautiful specimens of trout flourish; in a smaller section of the water-way, the gold fish dart and glisten among the luxuriant water growths; in another the various water lilies and lotus cover the entire water surface in summer with their dark green leaves and fragrant blooms. These streams and ponds are fed by a copious water supply gushing from natural springs, offering every advantage for the development of bog and water growths that will increase in beauty from year to year. The numerous clumps of Japanese iris planted on the borders of pond and stream during the period of garden building, have in their later development formed wide-reaching masses of beauty springing from rapidly increasing tubers; and during the period of early summer bloom these

House and Garden

many-hued, orchid-like blooms thrill the beholder with their exquisite beauty. A tropical species of calamus, *Calamus Palembangicus*, has continued to flourish in the moist places until extensive spaces are beautified by its finely feathered dark green foliage.

The wistaria arbors in the Pilling garden are among its most charming features; and the two years of vine development since the summer of 1906, has formed a delightful bit of old Japan that seemingly might have been transferred bodily from the famous wistaria garden of the flowery island. Only those who have traveled in Japan can realize the fascination of the wistaria arbors of Kameido. The garden is the enclosure of the temple of Tenjin, (God of Writing) who in this life was Sugiwara Michizane, the faithful prime minister of the Emperor Uda, and the hero-deity's admirers annually hold festivities at Kameido at the wistaria season. It is a queer, old place, adorned with a big stone tortoise *kame*, (whence its name) and quaint figures of the cow on which Michizane rode during his exile in Kiushiu. Fishponds and pretty winding streams half fill the place (as they do in the Pilling garden) and beside and over them are



THE GARDEN LOOKING TOWARD THE TROUT POND AT THE RIGHT



LILY POND WITH SMALL MOUNTAIN AS BACKGROUND



GENERAL VIEW SHOWING THE CURVED BRIDGE, LANTERNS AND WISTARIA

bamboo trellises, on which the gardeners have trained wistaria vines into a roof, making all the flowers grow on the inside, and the leaves on the top.

Instead of having short full bunches, like the wild vines on the mountains, the flowers trail down on long stems; and when the wind blows, all the stems sway

and tremble together like a wavering purple veil. Between the ponds, little paths and bridges lead from one pavilion to another, and matted platforms are built out over the water, where visitors sit and admire the vines and feed rice biscuit to the fat lazy carp, which seem to have just enough energy to stir up the water.

In the Pilling garden there are trout in the cool, spring-fed pools and streams, and brilliant sunfish in the quiet sunny pools; and the wistaria arbors show a distinctly Japanese feature in having the post supports on one side planted firmly upon the rocky bank of the stream, and those of the opposite side set in the bed of the stream, with the characteristic "splicing," about a foot above the water, for the purpose of readily replacing the submerged section when necessary.

Japanese Gardens in America

With the few years development since their planting by the native craftsman, the brilliant Japanese maples of this wonderful "wild garden" of Lansdowne, have become widely known as the most beautiful of any American-Japanese landscape.

When seated beside the inscribed lantern on the slope of the miniature mountain, crowned with maples, in the Pilling garden, the visitor might almost imagine himself in the midst of Oji's maple glory, when the place is even more celebrated than during the season of the cherry blossoms. November is the month of maples in Japan.

In the old calendar, when it was the ninth month of the year, it was called *momiji-dzuki*, "red-leaf month," or sometimes "time of branches" red ones, of course.

The rain of November, which comes seldom and sparingly in Japan, was called dew showers, or showers of red, because the autumn rains were supposed to dye the leaves. *Momiji* means any kind of red leaf, but as the maple is considered the choicest of all the changing leaves, it therefore carries off the honors of the name. The Oriental gardeners frequently plant the maples so that the sunset light shall brighten them; but at Oji the right hour is early morning, when the sun slants through the branches and turns the leaves blood crimson. Among the Oji maples a path winds along the edge of a narrow



TROUT POND OVER AND INTO WHICH A WISTERIA ARBOR IS BUILT



MAIN LANTERN AND EVERFLOWING SPRING

ravine clothed on both sides with the brilliant trees. Some are large forest trees, others slender graceful things ten feet high, or less; all apparently growing just as they please among the light underwood. Beyond the ravine a grove of bamboo soars far above the surrounding trees, the feathery tops always swaying a little, even in the still "maple-weather." A little further up the ravine a curving bridge crosses a stream and the whole scene "composes" like a picture—no rock, no branch out of place; yet with such an innocent air of having "just grown," that one can scarcely believe (though one knows it perfectly well) that every twig has been trimmed with the utmost care, and every device known to the Japanese gardener has been followed to complete the beautiful whole.

In like manner the Pilling garden has continued to increase its fascinations of rugged, alluring beauty without a suggestion of formality; yet with every evidence of a perfect knowledge of the habits of the plants, vines, shrubs and trees used, and of skillful craftsmanship in guiding the perfection of their development.

Although the wonderful woodland garden of half an acre or more had continued to grow through four years, to splendid completion, before it came to my notice (and has since added two years of new beauties), instead of satisfying its enthusiastic owner with

House and Garden



LOOKING OVER THE CREEK TOWARD THE ISLAND

work well accomplished, its increasing charms have served to create a desire for an enlargement of perfection. This could only be accomplished by increased area. Accordingly the garden has been

greatly enlarged during the past summer. Darby creek has again yielded an abundant supply of moss-covered, weather-worn rocks; rare bloomers and dwarf trees have been imported from Japan; another boulder-covered mountain has been formed, over which winding, rock-bound paths lead the visitor to fresh attractions at every turn. The crudeness of the newly constructed area—where the plants are too young to properly drape the boulders and give them their natural setting—serves to accentuate the wonder-working charm of development, as noted in the older sections of the garden. With its increased area this beautiful expanse of “natural woodland,” forms not only one of the most fascinating, but also one of the largest of American-Japanese gardens.



STONE STEPS OVER THE MOUNTAIN



VIEW FROM THE MAIN MOUNTAIN

The Garden of Annuals

By EBEN E. REXFORD

NINE out of ten flower-growers devote their entire attention, each season, to the cultivation of annuals. This is not as it should be, for we have many most desirable flowers in the hardy herbaceous perennial list, and these can be grown with less care than any other class of plants adapted to amateur culture. But because annuals bloom the first season and are so brilliant in coloring, as a general thing, and give such a profusion of flowers throughout the entire summer, and often late into fall they will always be favorites with the gardener who can have but a small garden and wants it to give the fullest possible returns, in all respects.

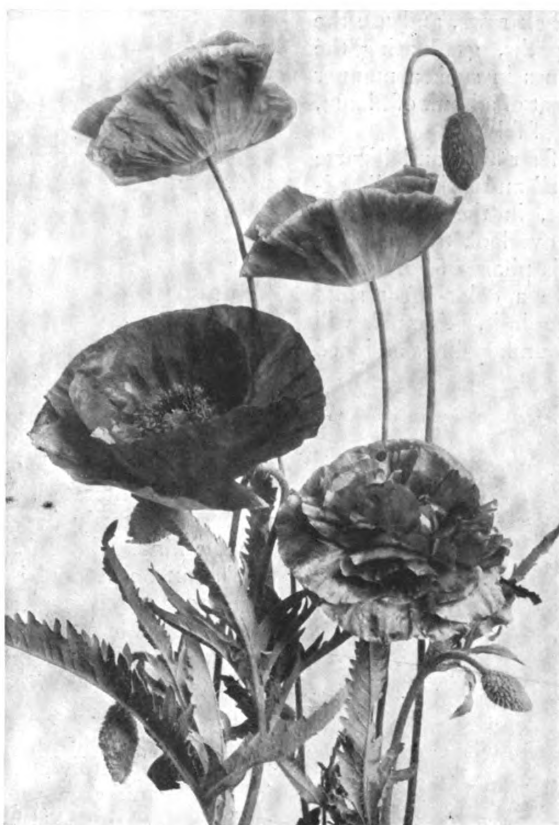
To grow annuals well you must have a good soil for them, and it must be put in the best possible condition before the seed is put into the ground. One of the commonest mistakes made by the amateur gardener is that this class of plants will flourish under unfavorable conditions. That it is so sturdy and vigorous that about all one has to do is to scatter the seed over the ground and the result will be a generous crop of fine flowers. This is not so. To have fine flowers,—and the true lover of flowers will be satisfied with nothing less—the soil must be spaded up well to the depth of at least a foot; it must be worked over and over, until fine and mellow, and a liberal amount of good fertilizer must be incorporated with it. If this is done, and good seed is sown, and weeds are kept down, anyone can have a garden of annuals that will afford unlimited pleasure to both owner and visitor.

The ground should be spaded up after the excessive moisture of early spring has drained out of it, and not before. If you attempt to work it while

heavy and wet the result will be anything but satisfactory. Wait, therefore, until it has had ample chance to get rid of surplus moisture. Then spade it up, but do not attempt to make it mellow until it has been exposed to the action of sun, air, and wind for several days. Let it lie as thrown up from the spade, until it is in a condition to crumble readily under the hoe. When it will do this, add to it what-

ever fertilizer you propose to make use of, and work it thoroughly into the soil. Hoe it over first, then use the iron rake on it, and keep at it until it is finely pulverized.

While barnyard manure is most excellent, I would not advise its use because of the weed seeds that will be found in it. If one does not object to weed-pulling, there is no reason why it should not be used, for it contains all the elements of plant-growth in admirable proportions. But most women do object to pulling weeds,—in fact, if there are a great many weeds, their gardens are generally suffered to fall into neglect—and they will be glad to use some fertilizer which is free from the obnoxious seed. I use bone meal in my annual garden exclusively, in the proportion of a teacupful to



SHIRLEY POPPIES

a yard square of soil. The finely ground article is what you should get, as this is prompt in effect. Coarse bone meal gives excellent results after a time, but in the annual garden we must plan for immediate benefit, for our plants must get a good beginning if we would have them do themselves justice.

I do not propose to give any directions about bed-making, in this paper. That is something every flower-grower likes to decide for himself. I would simply offer one suggestion: do not allow yourself to be led into the mistake of thinking the shape of a

House and Garden

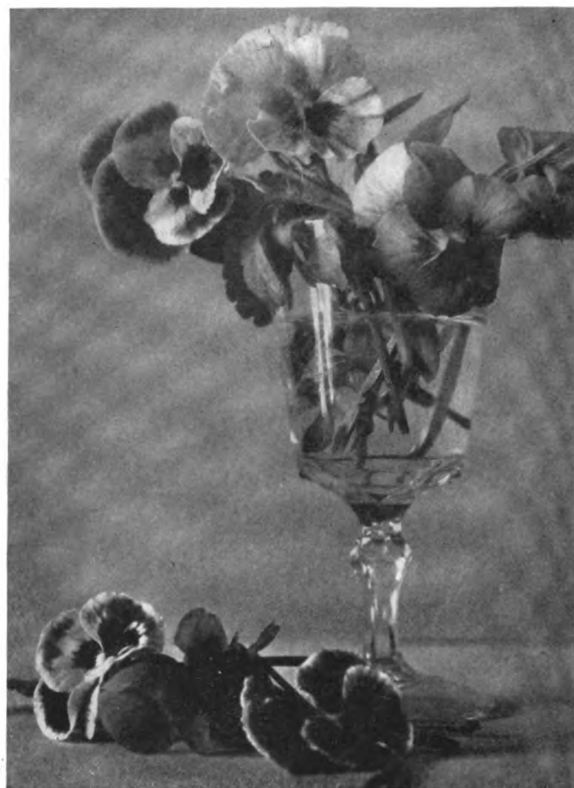
bed is very important. It is not. The important thing is—the flowers you grow in it. As a rule, the simpler the bed, the more satisfactory it will be.

The one thing of greatest importance is harmony of color. Too many of us forget about that, and plant our flowers in haphazard fashion, and by and by, when they come into bloom, we have a jumble of discordant hues that is a constant source of annoyance to the eye that is keen to appreciate harmonious combinations. Study up on every annual that goes into your garden,—the catalogues will give you an accurate idea of size and color—and so arrange each kind that there can be no conflict in this respect. Separate reds, and blues, and other quarrelsome colors, by the liberal use of white. Be careful to put the tall-growing sorts in the back rows, and use the low-growing ones near the paths, graduating the plants between the two extremes in such a manner that the general effect will be that of a bank of bloom, showing against a background of foliage.

Some gardeners are fond of striking and bizarre effects, and indulge in “carpet” and “ribbon” bedding to a considerable extent, in the planting of annuals. In doing this, they overlook the fact that annuals are not adapted to this phase of gardening. We have no flowers that give a color-effect solid enough to make a good showing in it. Annuals will straggle, and get beyond the boundary-lines assigned



STOCKS



PANSIES

them, and after a little our “pattern” is blurred, and by and by obliterated. The only plants that can be used satisfactorily in working out pattern-designs, are the kinds whose foliage furnish the color. Annuals can be planted in rows, or blocks, in such a manner as to secure pleasing color-contrasts, but it is never desirable to attempt working out a “pattern” with them. It is doing them an injustice to ask them to lend themselves to any such purpose, for it makes the flower itself secondary to a cheap trick of color arrangement. We ought to have too much respect for its individuality to ask any such thing of it. We should grow a flower for its beauty, first of all and that beauty should never be subordinated to anything less important than itself.

In sowing seed, scatter it on the surface of the soil, and press it into it with a smooth board. No covering will be needed, unless the seed is of considerable size. In that case, sift earth over it lightly. Do not be in too great a hurry to get your seed into the ground. At the North, we seldom have settled warm weather before the middle of May. Nothing is gained—and often everything is lost—by early planting. Let the ground get thoroughly warmed before seed is sown.

Weeding must begin as soon as you can distinguish weeds from flower-seedling. It will be necessary to

The Garden of Annuals

pull the weeds out of the row by hand, but all the rest of the bed can be gone over with the weeding-hook,—a little tool having several fingers or claws—with which more work can be done in ten minutes than you could do in an hour, by hand, and done a great deal better, too. This little, simple invention does away with the labor of hand-work in the garden to such an extent that no one need dread the war which must be waged against weeds. It not only uproots them, but it scarifies the soil to the depth of an inch or two, thus keeping it light and open, and in just the right condition to enable it to absorb all the moisture of dews and slight showers. Never allow the surface of your beds to become crusted over in a dry season.

What annuals shall we grow, do you ask?

That is not an easy question to answer satisfactorily, because tastes differ so widely. The flower that appeals strongly to me might not please you nearly as well as one that I do not care much about. The only way to make sure of what you want is to experiment by growing a number of kinds and selecting from them, year by year, those which you like best, or, by visiting other gardens and making notes of the kinds which your taste approves of.

For the benefit of those who have had little or no experience in growing flowers, I will make mention of a few of the standard kinds—the “stand-bys”—which are of easiest culture.

At the head of the list let me place the sweet pea. This is a flower everybody likes. It is extremely ornamental in the garden, it is excellent for cutting, and it will bloom during the entire season if you keep it from forming seed. Unlike nearly all other annuals, it should be planted very early in the season, in April, if possible. Sow it in trenches six inches deep, covering with an inch of soil at first, and drawing in more and more, from time to time, as the plants shoot up, until all the soil that was thrown out from the trench has been returned to it.

For beds where a brilliant show of color is desired, we have few annuals that surpass the Shirley poppy. Its petals have the sheen and shimmer of crumpled silk. Some flowers are double, some single—all are beautiful. In color, they range from purest white to scarlet. You cannot afford to overlook this plant.

Phlox Drummondii is a charming flower, especially the pure white, the soft, bright rose and the pale yellow varieties. It is a wonderfully floriferous plant, and it blooms until frost comes.



SWEET PEAS

The aster deserves a prominent place in every garden, for several reasons. It is a most lovely flower—it is a prolific bloomer—and it comes late in the season, after most annuals are in “the sere and yellow leaf,” and lasts until severe frost kills it. There are many kinds to select from, but the best kind of all, to my taste, is the “branching” variety. This has flowers quite as lovely as those of the chrysanthemum, which they so closely resemble that they are often sold for that popular flower. Each flower is borne on a long stalk, which makes them very useful for cutting. They last for days, if the water in

which they are placed is changed frequently. The most desirable varieties are the pure white, and the delicate rose-pink and lavender ones.

For low beds, near the path, the good old verbena is still one of our best plants. It is a profuse and constant bloomer. It comes in a wide range of rich and delicate colors. You will make a mistake if you do not include it in your list.

The nasturtium may be old, but it is none the worse for that. Indeed, it is all the better, because the fact that it has held its own so well against new-comers goes to prove that it has a great deal of merit to its credit. It is one of our best flowers for cutting.

Ten-week stock is another old favorite. Its pretty, rose-like flowers are borne in spikes of white, pink, carmine, dull purple, and pale yellow. It has a most delightful fragrance. This is a late bloomer. One often finds it bravely resisting the

early November snows, having withstood the frosts of fall so sturdily that it shows no sign of having been touched by them.

The pansy is, strictly speaking, not an annual, for it often survives our winters, and blooms well the second year. But most of us grow it as an annual, sowing the seed early in the season, and getting a crop of flowers in June, and a larger, better crop in October. No garden should be without this most lovely flower. If you have a liking for any particular color of it, it will be necessary for you to purchase plants of the florist, for you can never be sure of what you will get from seedlings, until they have blossomed. The florist always gets his plants started so early in the season that they will be coming into bloom by the time your garden is ready for them, and from his stock he can select just the colors you have an especial liking for.

Ageratum is a lovely plant for front rows, or for edging. Its dainty lavender blossoms harmonize charmingly with the soft pink of the phlox, and the rich yellows of pansies. Sweet alyssum is another excellent border plant, where white can be used.

Calliopsis will give you a brilliant bed, rich in shades of yellow and orange, marked with crimson and maroon. Cosmos would be one of our most popular flowers if it were not so late that we always run the risk of losing it by frost before we have had much satisfaction from it. It is an easy matter, however, to cover it on frosty nights. Where this is done, you can keep it flowering until November. It is a lovely plant to cut from.

Eschscholtzia, or California poppy, is the very flower you want for a bed that simulates sunshine. A clump of it brightens up everything about it.

For brilliant and constant show, no flower excels the petunia, and no flower is of easier culture.

Zinnias are large-growing plants, suitable for back rows, and hedges. They come in nearly all colors, bloom profusely and throughout the season, and succeed where more delicate plants would not flourish.

The candytufts are among our best white flowers for edgings, for bedding or massing, and for cut-

ting. Several of the varieties are fragrant, and all are profuse in bloom. Sow outdoors in May, where they are to bloom, and thin well when the plants grow about an inch. Sow again in a month, and late in July for fall flowers. Give rich soil and water freely.

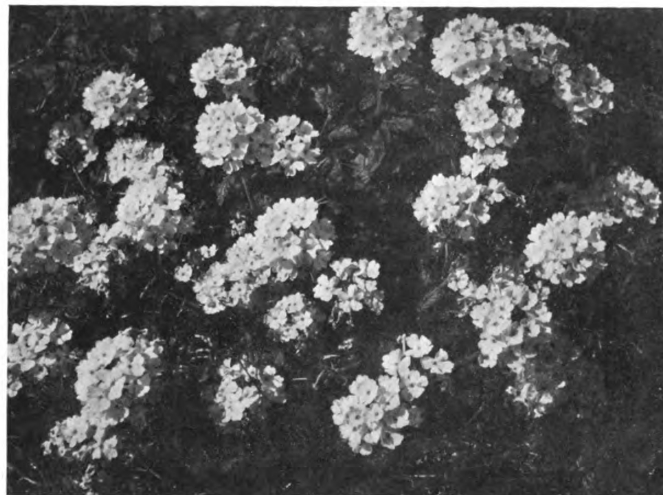
For low beds, in a very hot, sunny location, no other plant equals portulacca. Here it will bloom day after day, utterly oblivious to the fact that other plants about it are drooping in the intense heat.

Antirrhinum (snapdragon), are old garden favorites, with odd-shaped flowers of brilliant colorings. Of easiest culture, blooming the first season and thriving in any soil.

Scabiosa, salpiglossis, nemophila, gypsophila, celosia, centaurea, balsam, marigold, ricinus, amaranthus, — all these, and many more, deserve mention in this paper,

but space will not allow of special description. A careful study of the catalogues of our leading seedsmen will enable you to become familiar with their merits.

But let me speak a word of caution right here: Don't attempt too much! We let the enthusiasm of spring get the better of our good judgment, very frequently, and we plant ten times as many flowers as we can take care of well.



VERBENAS

Keep this in mind: a few flowers, well grown, will afford a hundred fold more pleasure than a great quantity of inferior ones. Quantity should not be aimed at. Quality should be considered the important thing, first, last, and always.

In purchasing seed, buy only of such dealers as have established a reputation for honesty. There are many unscrupulous seedsmen who offer their wares at low prices, claiming they are just as good as those of the dealers who have been growing seed for a lifetime. Do not be caught by the bait of low price. Our best seedsmen offer their seeds at as low a price as is consistent with good value, and when you purchase of them you can be sure that you are getting something that will grow, something that will prove true to name, and something that is worth all that is asked for it. And remember that in order to have fine flowers you must set your face like a flint against inferior seed, for on the quality of the seed you use, depends the quality of the flowers you hope to grow.

A Home Shrubbery

By E. P. POWELL

IT makes but little difference to what part of the country we turn, a little searching of the by-ways will show us that Nature has provided everywhere a remarkable variety of those plants which we group under the head of shrubs. Some of these are adaptable to moist lands, and others to hillsides. There are enough thoroughly hardy sorts to make a shrubbery delightful in Minnesota, and there are others that revel in the sand and sunshine of Florida. Many of those that are found in swamps will grow nearly as well when transferred to dry garden soil.

Small city lots, village yards, and larger country places are about equally in need of a collection of shrubs. These plants go farther to adorn a place, at least expense, than anything else that can be procured. Nature revels in blossoming shrubs from the first of April to the last of May, but she reserves some of the best for the autumn months.

A good list for succession, for a suburban or country home, would include, beginning the latter part of April, forsythia, none of the varieties of which are entirely hardy, but the intermedia is so nearly hardy that it will stand most of the winters as far north as Boston and central New York; Japan quince, in pink, white and red; *Prunus triloba*, a superb affair, growing into a small tree in the Southern States; *Spiræa prunifolia* and other sorts, especially Van Houttei; lilacs in variety, and one may get at a small outlay twenty new sorts, double and single; the viburnums, especially the high-bush cranberry; mahonia, which is the only ever-green shrub of the season; Tartarian or bush honey-

suckle; and then the peonies which carry you to June.

In June the deutzias, with some of the spiræas, are followed by the weigelias in variety. The later lilacs include Josikæa and the Japonica or tree lilac. Then come the syringas or mock oranges, and the variety is or may be endless. I have them covering not less than two months. These should be followed by rhododendrons; the common and the golden elder; and the double deutzia. July furnishes little beside the spiræas, but golden and purple-leaved plants enliven the lawn. Now for August and September we have mainly the altheas and hydrangeas. The altheas come in almost endless shades and combinations of color, while the hydrangeas, although not so numerous, include the superb paniculata, and a new sort recently discovered, a native, and not yet in the hands of all of our nurserymen. It begins to blossom in June and continues through until October. It is our grandest new shrub. The first I heard of it was in the hands of E. Y. Teas, the old veteran nurseryman, of Centerville, Indiana. He sent me a small sample, which has proved to be as hardy as an oak and superbly floriferous.

With this list of shrubs one may combine some of the smaller growing trees. Some of the best of these

are the Siberian maple, which can be trimmed low and is a mass of fire in autumn. The double scarlet thorns surpass everything in richness of color about the first of June. The Chinese magnolias, especially conspicua, are hardy and magnificent; at least they are hardy with me in central New York. The wild cherries, except the black



PRUNUS TRILOBA

fruited, can be grown in shrub form very effectively, so can the wild plums. I have one cherry that weeps more gracefully than any other tree. From the forest edge about, in New England and many of the Western States, you can collect barberries, hopple-bush, witch-hazel and elder—all of which are among our best ornamental plants. The azaleas, laurels, and rhododendrons have their own habitats, and where they are adapted, can be massed with great effect. The white fringe bush is extremely effective if it can have plenty of sunshine. The use of these small trees with shrubs can be judicious only where you have considerable space.



STANDARD SNOWBALL

Two or three of them in a city yard can be used in the rear, with shrubbery in front.

Massing shrubs is generally a blunder. Very few can achieve it so that the effect will be anything better than a thicket. Many of the shrubs show too much dead wood in the course of a year or two, and some of them will not blossom without plenty of sunshine. You will need an adviser also in order not to get your tall growing bushes in front. In city and village yards nothing of this kind should be attempted. The most pretentious and least beautiful grounds that I know are where the owner has undertaken in small space to crowd a mass of vegetation.



DEUTZIA LEMOINEI

A Home Shrubbery

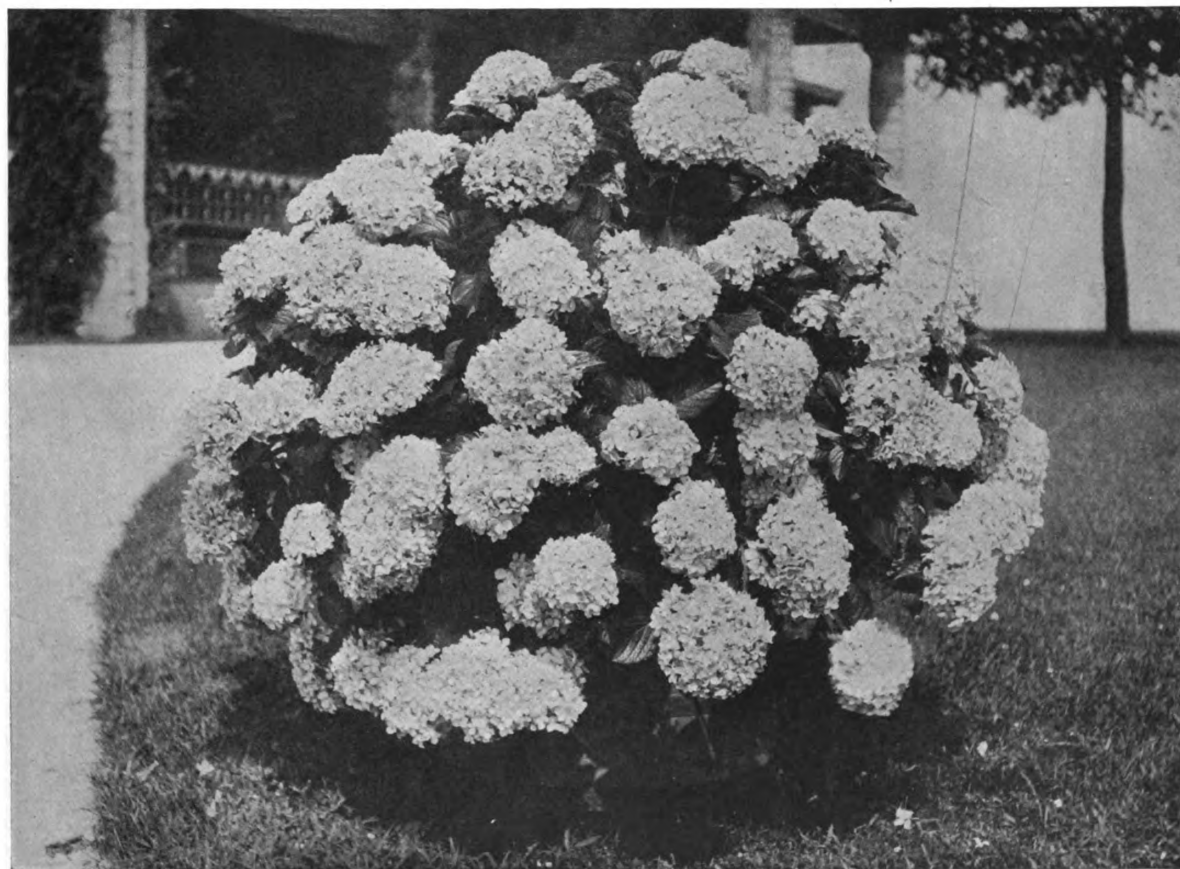
Whoever plants a shrubbery should plant it for the whole year round. He should not only undertake to enliven each of the summer months, but he should warm up winter. The best plants for this purpose are our common barberries, more especially the English sorts, the high-bush cranberry or *Viburnum opulus*, the red-barked dog-wood, the junipers and the mahonia. The barberries hold their brilliant scarlet seeds all winter, and in the spring these are eaten off during cold snaps by birds. The high-bush cranberry is loaded with yellow fruit during August and September, which gradually turns to scarlet for the winter. The cedar birds and pine grosbeaks—both beautiful birds—eat these in the snowy months. Mahonia is a creeper, blossoming with great golden clusters in May, but holding its brilliant evergreen foliage through the winter. It should be planted out of sight of the winter sun. The prostrate juniper and the savin are two elegant affairs, although a heavy snow will cover them.

A good many of our imported shrubs have become wild, and can be found in our forest edges and swamps. Among these are several thorn bushes,

barberries, and I can sometimes find the Tartarian honeysuckles taking care of themselves. For shade I would select mahonia, barberry, *Cornus mascula*, the deutzias and the rhododendrons. The Tartarian honeysuckles will stand trimming as well as any, and therefore make the best hedge. Untrimmed, this hedge will stand about ten feet high. It is covered in May with beautiful flowers, followed with loads of fruit which the birds delight in. There are three varieties, pink, white and red. Among my seedlings I have a very deep crimson.

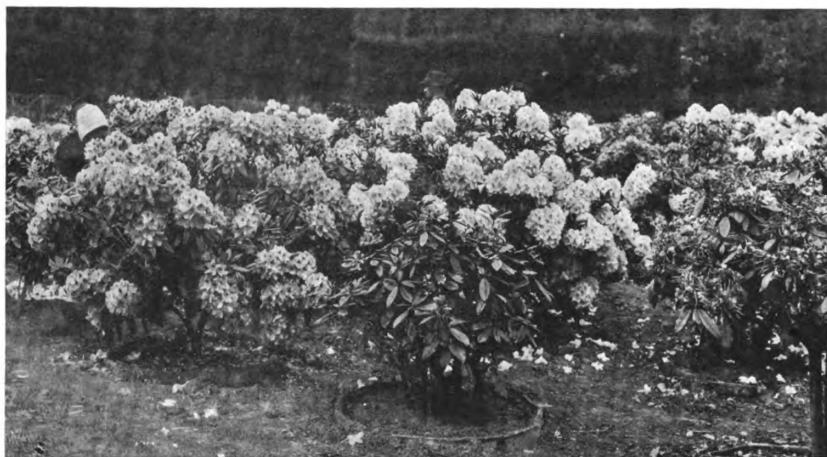
I recommend everyone who undertakes a shrubbery, to have a little nursery plat for growing seedlings. He will find great pleasure in finding that he can turn an ordinary shrub into a great variety of shrubs, both in style of blossoms and foliage. I have a double flowering syringa, growing two feet high, while close by it stand other varieties, semi-double, and single, and blossoming all the way from mid-May to July. Some of these seedlings are superb.

I have not named a few things which I consider of special value preferring to put them in a bunch by



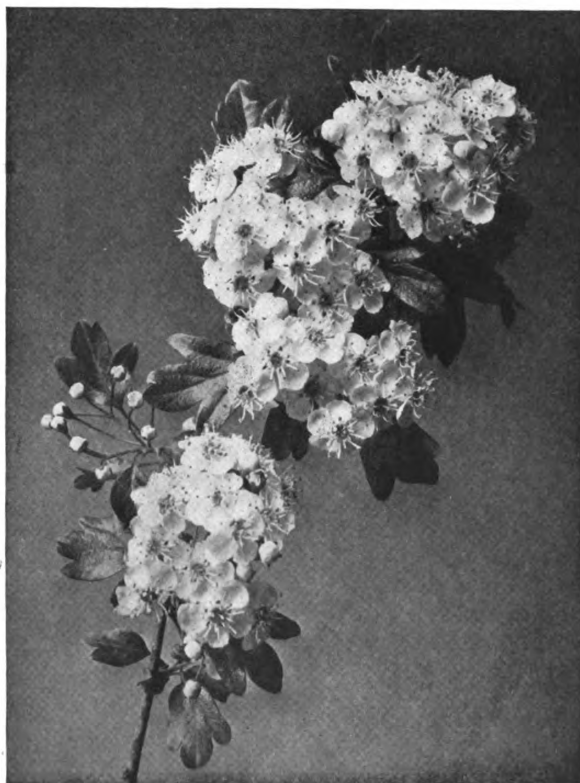
HYDRANGEAS

House and Garden



RHODODENDRONS IN TUBS

themselves. Among these the Judas tree can stand first. If trimmed to a single stem it will make a tree of fifteen or twenty feet. In the latter part of April it begins to show its lilac-colored flowers, which absolutely cover the limbs while still leafless. I would place this little tree at the very front. Close after this the Siberian pea tree should find its rank, covered with its yellow flowers, as beautiful as sweet peas.



ENGLISH HAWTHORN

Then you may select the *Xanthoceras*. This is sometimes called the Chinese chestnut. If allowed it will make quite a tree, and its flowers very strongly resemble those of the ordinary chestnut. The flowers are five petaled, white, red at the base, and hang in racemes five inches long. It can be kept in the shrub form by trimming. Now let me tell you that quite a number of our trees make beautiful shrubs with persistent cutting. This can be done with the basswood and the beech. In this group I would like to place the purple beech,

which can be grown most effectively about fifteen feet high, and limbs solid to the ground. But finest of all are the Teas' hybrid catalpas, some with purple leaves, some with golden, and all loaded in June and July with superb flowers. I do not know why this catalpa is not better known. Mr. Teas sent me samples thirty years ago. No two of them are exactly alike, and they are all as hardy as maples. These catalpas can be dwarfed and yet will blossom even more profusely than when in tree form.

I have given suggestions enough to help anyone who is gifted with a little individual culture, to establish a shrubbery. It will not cost half the trouble of an ordinary flower garden, and there it is for fifty years. Occasionally something will outgrow its space, and have to be cut. In fact the glory of a shrubbery is that it will of its own accord constantly present you new phases. I have left out all weeping trees, because as a rule they are monstrosities. An exception should be made of the Camperdown weeping elm. When this is fully grown it is unique, natural, and meets all the requirements of critical taste. There are half a dozen of the very best shrubs that are too tender to be planted north of New York; among them the Japan snowball, the Japan Judas tree, *Forsythia viridissima*, and the deutzia, *Pride of Rochester*. Some of the altheas are rather delicate when young, but most of them become hardy as they are grown. You will find this true of the magnolias and the Japan quince, or *Cydonia*. These will sometimes lose a part of their blossom buds even when full grown, but can generally be relied on for bloom when four or five years old. The farmer will find a shrubbery easily established, and full of comfort for himself, when formal flower beds are to him a discomfort and often a considerable annoyance, as they require constant attention.

Why Many Amateur Gardeners Fail

THE REASONS AND REMEDIES

BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN

SO many letters have been received from time to time at this office from amateur gardeners, complaining of their failure to obtain results anything like their anticipation had pictured, that we felt there must be some undisclosed reason for such widespread disappointment and determined if possible to get from expert and reliable houses and nurserymen an expression of their views as to the causes of this indifferent success.

To this end we sent the following circular letter to many such concerns:

DEAR SIR:—In many instances owners of country homes have in their employ practical gardeners who are able to accomplish satisfactory results with their flowers and shrubs, but in most instances this sort of thing is done by the owner who endeavors to achieve the results which he is led to believe possible by the printed matter issued by the various nurserymen and seedsmen. The fact that he does not always obtain the results expected does not, by any means, prove that he has been misled, but can be attributed more particularly to his lack of experience and knowledge.

This leads us to believe that letters from practical nurserymen stating just why, in their opinion, the majority of amateurs fail, and the best method to be followed to overcome these difficulties, would prove of distinct interest and value to our readers.

If you will, therefore, write us a letter on this subject, we shall be very glad to use it and publish your name in connection with it.

Hoping to hear from you favorably, and thanking you in advance for your anticipated co-operation, we are

Yours very truly,

HOUSE AND GARDEN,
The John C. Winston Co., Publishers.

Many replies have been received, some of which follow. They will be found to contain a wide range of ideas as to the reasons of the lack of success. The reader may find in some one or more of them the very suggestion needed to correct his errors. If a few of our friends are put in the path that leads them to a fuller realization of their anticipations with their garden work, the purposes and intentions of our efforts will be accomplished.

EARLY ENTHUSIASM LEADS TO TOO WIDELY DIVERSIFIED WORK

Gentlemen:—We have your kind inquiry of the 2d inst. and wish to say that we are only too glad to give you the desired information. We believe that gardening can be made more successful by individuals and unprofessionals if a few simple methods are applied.

The most important thing of all is an intimate knowledge of plants and herein lies the whole secret. The trouble is, lovers of flowers and gardens become

so enthusiastic in an extremely short time that they are willing to take up and experiment with, any and all subjects, while if they would go ahead in a more systematic way of gardening the result would be one which would be more profitable and pleasing to the average beginner.

The elementary stage of gardening should be done with common annuals such as nasturtiums, sweet peas, poppies, mignonette, phlox, zinnias, marigolds and their likes. This means all seeds that can be sown out-of-doors and merely thinned out, not even needing transplanting.

Then even here a few points are necessary to know in order to make the proper success, but with these flowers results are so quick and with a few points to observe during the time of growth, there can be no such a thing as a failure.

Then the second year seeds may be taken up which require planting in the house, then transplanting out doors, in addition to the ones used the first year.

From this, one may step to seeds of perennials, then plants of perennials may be taken up and incidentally varieties of small shrubs and trees afterwards. There can be no doubt if gardening is undertaken in this system that success will come.

Every person who has had two to three years thorough experience in gardening should be able to succeed with everything that will thrive in the climate where they live.

Experience is a wonderful teacher and it is really the only teacher that gardening requires. The beginner should bear in mind that all beginnings are hard and that only persistence and courage will finally land him at the door of success.

Again we wish to say that the general information supplied by nurserymen and seedsmen is one which is of very little use to the average beginner, for the information supplied is usually so abbreviated that it is incomprehensible to one who has never before done any gardening.

This we have long ago appreciated and we have issued booklets where we go into more lengthy details in regard to the culture of plants.

We are mailing you under separate cover a set of these booklets which we issued a year ago and which we intend to revise just as soon as there is sufficient material on hand to warrant doing so.

We shall be very glad at all times to write upon this subject, and remain,

Truly yours,
W. W. RAWSON & Co.

Boston, Mass., July 7, 1908.

House and Garden

ADVICE TO PLANTERS OF TREES AND SHRUBS

Dear Sirs:—In compliance with your request of the 15th, I submit below some of the reasons for failure in planting.

1. Trees are sometimes sent out from the nurseries with insufficient root system. Either the trees have not been transplanted or have not been carefully dug to preserve the roots intact.

2. Trees carefully grown and dug, are sometimes not carefully packed for long shipments so that the roots have become dry before planting.

3. Insufficient room is sometimes given the roots in planting. The hole should be made larger than the roots when spread out.

4. The soil is too poor or too rich. Many a tree is planted in hardpan where it cannot procure nourishment sufficient to sustain its life the first season. More frequently, however, the tree is killed by kindness. Many a tree is planted with a liberal allowance of manure which is a fruitful cause of burning or rotting the roots.

5. Trees often fail because planted too late. The purchaser waits until he gets to his country place in May before deciding what trees to order, and by the time they are planted, hot, dry weather causes the foliage to start before trees have had time to make any root growth, consequently the leaves wither.

6. But probably the cause of more failures than from all the preceding is that the earth is not tamped about the roots. Even planters who understand the necessity for this operation are often careless about the work. In transplanting in the nursery, this is the one operation to which we give eternal vigilance, and thus rarely lose a tree, even in planting several thousand. When planted, the tree should be as firm as a post, so that the planter could not easily pull it up. The last two or three inches of soil should not be tamped, but covered with a mulch of manure.

Trusting this will be satisfactory, I am

Yours very truly,

S. G. HARRIS,
Rosedale Nurseries.

Tarrytown, N. Y., December 23, 1908.

POOR RESULTS NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO POOR SEED AND STOCK

Gentlemen:—I have your letter of July 2nd and believe most heartily that the poor results often obtained from seeds and plants are due, not to the stock, but to the method of planting and caring for it.

In the case of plants they should be taken care of as soon as possible after their arrival. It will not do to have them lying around. The shipper, if a reliable dealer, packs them carefully to withstand all ordinary delays. I know of one case where plants were delayed more than a month, and yet when properly planted did as well as the second shipment which was

made to replace the supposedly lost cases. With an inexperienced hand they might all have died. The plants should be unpacked and either heeled in or planted at once. Great care should be taken that the roots do not dry out. They should be removed from the cases in a cool place such as a barn cellar or where sheltered, as the north side of a building. The roots should be kept covered with moss or bagging and not allowed to dry out. The holes should be dug before the plants are brought out if possible. Dip in a pail of water and quickly slip into the holes and fill in. They should not be again watered until after the planting is completed. Puddling in a plant as is often done, combined with carelessness and delay in planting, have more to do than anything else with the loss of so much newly planted stock. If the season is fairly normal no further water need be given. Thoroughly firm the soil, that is sufficient. If it is dry put a bucket or two of water on top of the ground and let it soak in.

With seeds they are apt to be planted too deep and not kept watered sufficiently. After they come up thinning out is neglected. How many ever think of reading the cultural directions given on the packets of seeds? To be sure they are all very much the same but they are simply driving in the few common sense facts that are so necessary with good plant culture.

When we can train the public in the few practical principles of plant growing we will have fewer failures. It is easier to make a customer take all sorts of foolish advice about plants than it is to make him carry out a few simple suggestions. These latter he would laugh at.

If the owners of country homes go to reliable nurserymen and seedsmen and use good common sense there is no reason why they should have failures. Reliable dealers do everything in their power to procure the best stock and deliver it in the best possible condition. They cannot, however, control treatment which is given their goods and if failure results the customers usually put the blame on the dealer, not on themselves. I certainly hope you will bring out information which will help to produce results which we all wish for.

Very truly yours,

HENRY SAXTON ADAMS.

Wellesley, Mass., July 9, 1908.

THE NOVICE ALWAYS EXPECTS TOO MUCH

Gentlemen:—An exhaustive book on how to grow plants, would be the most effective answer to your inquiry, "Why the inexperienced planter fails to make plants grow."

One fruitful source of failure is, that the novice always expects too much. He expects a plant to grow, to flower and to fruit just as surely as he expects

Why Many Amateur Gardeners Fail

a three-eighth-inch rivet to fit a three-eighth-inch hole.

The rivet can be made with absolute accuracy; the hole can be bored for it to an exact fit. The plant cannot be grown with such absolute accuracy as the rivet can be manufactured, though many landscape architects seem to expect this, but it can be and is grown by thousands of nurserymen with sufficient accuracy to answer all practical purposes. How about the hole for this plant to fit? The beginner, from any good book, can easily prepare his soil for planting well enough; with simple instructions for planting, carefully followed, he can plant as well as one who has done the work all his life.

The conditions after planting can be met with clean cultivation by a beginner as well as by an experienced man. The conditions after planting incident to the season can not be met either by the experienced or by the inexperienced man.

The experienced man puts the blame where it belongs. The inexperienced man as a rule blames the nurseryman or seedsman for the failure.

By the way, as experienced buyer from nurserymen in nearly every state in the Union, England, France, Holland, Germany and Japan, I find that the nurseryman is to blame for failures about once in one hundred times. Is there any nurseryman in the world who has not received this letter:

"Plants received. Planted by an experienced man on same day. Watered every day. Every plant has died. I shall expect you to make good."

And here comes up another cause of many failures.

Beginners should beware of the watering pot and of the hose. Men have spent their lives in learning how to irrigate and then have only made a beginning. Seedlings, grass, anything with roots close to the surface of the ground can be helped by watering, provided they are not washed out of the ground.

Shrubs, trees and plants with a root going down a foot or more into the ground are very easily and very often are killed by watering with a hose. The same thing often happens when a light shower comes after a long drought. The shower is enough to kill, but not enough to give life.

Great crops of potatoes are grown by irrigation. The ground is flooded and thoroughly saturated to make plowing and planting possible. Once at the proper time after planting the crop is flooded again and the ground thoroughly saturated and that is all. Two wettings make the crop.

Few beginners understand that deeply rooted plants are often injured and often killed by a sprinkling with a hose or a shower and that in a dry time the only way to help such plants is to saturate the ground for a foot or more *once* or to let them alone entirely. The seasons cannot be controlled by the most experienced man.

Many failures are due to insects, especially of seed. The seed come up beautifully and the little plants are swept out of existence before the novice finds out that they have come up.

Many, new to planting, try at the outset very difficult things. For instance, a friend recently came into a small place in the outskirts of a town. To plant was the first idea. He had a fancy for a red cedar (*Juniperus Virginiana*) grove. He found an attractive catalogue offering red cedar seed. Now it takes two seasons for red cedar to come up, often they never come up. At four to five years, twice transplanted, they should be three feet high. My friend recorded one failure before planting the seed. The beginner often, however, meets with surprising success. A good sample of this came to me recently. A young lady, with absolutely no experience with mushrooms, by simply following directions grew a most surprising crop. The crop far excelled anything that year of the many experienced gardeners in the vicinity.

The sequel is a good illustration of the chance of growing any plant. The same young lady, with her experience of one year, tried the second year to grow mushrooms on a much larger scale. The result—an absolute failure. With an experience of fifty years in planting almost every plant and seed, which can be grown in New England, I never expect anything of a perfect seed or a perfect plant until I get it.

Every season for fifty years has brought failure for something or other. This, of course, will continue for the inexperienced as well as for the experienced until we find some method to absolutely control conditions after planting. The beginner in planting, as a first lesson, must learn that he takes a big chance in planting any kind of a plant, if he can not control absolutely (and who can?) the conditions after planting.

Which is the greatest gamble? To go down into the country to plant or to go down into Wall Street to speculate.

Yours very truly,

T. R. WATSON,
Old Colony Nurseries.

Plymouth, Mass.

CULTURAL FAILURE MOST FREQUENTLY DUE TO CARELESSNESS

Dear Sirs:—In considering the causes of failure in accomplishing satisfactory results when using planting material recommended in circulars issued by nurserymen, it should be realized that these failures are of two kinds: cultural and esthetic.

Provided that the stock used is purchased from a reputable concern, that has not intentionally misled possible purchasers, it would seem that the lack of

House and Garden

success is usually esthetic rather than cultural. But when it is the latter, in the majority of instances it is due either to carelessness and lack of interest on the part of the planter, or absence of specific instructions and advice as to how to plant and care for the stock; or, in some instances to inexplicable reasons which may be termed bad luck. A poor streak in the soil, unprecedented drought or wet after planting, too early or too late planting, or a variety of causes, for which the nurseryman can be in no manner held responsible. Broadly speaking cultural failures are due nearly always to a lack of knowledge of planting craft.

The nurseryman is a business man, who, having something to sell, adapts the means of selling it, that seem to him most suitable and most likely to bring him good sales. One cannot blame him for not endeavoring to educate the public at large in planting knowledge; and in those cases when he is asked for advice on this subject he cannot properly advise unless he knows, and has studied for himself, the exposure, condition of soil and location where the stock is to be set out; and the prices he usually gets do not, as a rule, permit him to go to this expense of time to personally inspect and advise. The man or woman in whose hands a nursery catalogue or other literature falls, becomes interested in some of the stock therein set forth, and having purchased it, either considers himself or herself competent to properly prepare the ground and plant the material, without any knowledge of the subject; or else calls in the village florist or local "landscape gardener," who perhaps sees for the first time some of the particular varieties to be planted; or in some few cases he has a gardener himself who is more interested perhaps in growing greenhouse stock than hardy plants, or who perhaps is aggrieved because he has not done the ordering himself and hence takes no interest in the matter, or who is quite incompetent to fill the position he holds. It follows that if there are not cultural failures in such cases it is a piece of pure good luck.

Usually failures result, and the purchaser is disgusted and considers the particular nurseryman with whom he has dealt a liar and thief, and all in the business a bad lot. To avoid cultural mistakes let the purchaser employ the best possible skill he can get, if he himself is not a thorough plantsman, and retain some one who will take an interest in the matter and have an incentive to accomplish successful results.

Esthetic results are due also to lack of knowledge, lack of artistic feeling and the attempt to make a picture when one is not an artist.

Let us suppose a person wishes to make an old-fashioned garden. He reads up the subject in horticultural magazines, pores over nurserymen's literature and finally considers himself competent to

go ahead, and perhaps plants an *Azalea amana* with its magenta blooms against red brick-work; or commits other such crimes against beauty and good taste. The means of guarding against esthetic failures are easier to suggest than a preventive of cultural ones.

Let everyone who desires to accomplish certain results of which he has visions but not the knowledge to create, employ a landscape architect of standing and reputation and, after explaining in general what he desires to achieve, allow him to paint the picture for him.

Some nurserymen make a practice of conducting a landscape department, but I cannot believe that the policy is in the long run as satisfactory to seller and purchaser as is that adopted by certain firms; namely, to employ a landscape architect of highest possible standing for each particular piece of work. In this way a nurseryman can "deliver the goods" in every sense of the word, whereas the prices at which he sells his stock do not as a rule permit him to keep permanently in his employ a man of the same experience and training as he can retain from time to time as occasion demands. Let him say to his customers: "I have no man in my employ competent to advise and design the work you wish done, any more than a man who sells stone or brick has on his staff an architect, but I will retain for this particular piece of work a man who is competent to give you the best possible results and charge you accordingly, and become personally responsible to you."

In endeavoring to reach certain results in planting, there is no reason why a man should be his own adviser any more than he would think of being his own doctor or lawyer.

Some may raise the objection that to pursue the course above suggested would not be possible to those of moderate means. My answer is: save up, if necessary, and get good and satisfactory results rather than be content with poor ones: and if one cannot have something good, have nothing at all. The best is always the cheapest in the end.

To sum up: let the purchaser of planting material realize that he cannot hope for success in his planting without a knowledge of his subject—either of his own, or obtained from some reliable source—any more than he could hope for a decent coat if he should buy the material and make it himself, unless he was a tailor by trade; or a satisfactory portrait of his wife or children if he should buy canvas and paint—unless he was an artist by profession.

And therefore the reasons for unsatisfactory results are nearly always upon the heads of the purchasers themselves rather than to be laid at the door of the much abused nurseryman!

P. HAMILTON GOODSSELL.

200 Broadway, New York.

(To be continued in the March issue.)

Starting Seeds in the House

Cause of Failures—A Portable Greenhouse

By L. J. DOOGUE

HUNDREDS of anxious house gardeners make the attempt to get their stock of plants early, by starting the seeds in the house. Of the hundreds, it is safe to say that fully eighty-five per cent fail because of unfavorable conditions. It is common to find lengthy stories advocating this work, describing in detail the different kind of thrills you are apt to experience with a possibility of being laid up in bed with an excess of joy, when the marvelous results are unfolded.

This may be so. The results may be all that is claimed for them and the work may be the acme of simplicity, but from considerable experience in this line I feel safe in saying that, given the usual conditions to be found in a house, not one person in a hundred will be able to successfully start their seeds and bring their plants to maturity in the house. In the first place, the light comes through a side window and the plants and seedlings grow towards it. In a greenhouse the light comes from the top and the plants grow up to it, developing symmetrically. In the house when your seedlings have grown enough to be potted, they are not in a condition to stand the shift, being weak and leggy.

The air in the house is never the same, sometimes hot and again cold, and never moist as it should be. Moisture is absolutely necessary, but you cannot get it in the house. To be sure, you can cover your seeds with a sheet of glass, but you will have to remove it before you should and the resulting injury to the plants is inevitable.

Again, supposing that you have succeeded in potting off your seedlings, where are you going to

put them? In the window? If you do you will have giants. If you have a cold frame you can put them in that. If you can find room for a cold frame you will have a chance for success, but without it your house seeding joy will pay small dividends.

Why do you want to start your seeds before the snow is off the ground? For the commercial man who has to use his space over and over again it can easily be seen that an early start is necessary but for the needs of a house garden it is time and labor thrown away. The ground is never safe till about Decoration day and anything put in the ground before then has a very hard time of it.

The best way is to start your seeds in the cold frames out-of-doors. Sow your seeds in the frame itself or in boxes and afterwards prick off the seedlings into the frame or to their permanent location.

Practically, greenhouse conditions can be had by using the portable greenhouse shown in the pictures and the results with this arrangement will be satisfactory. You can grow a great number of plants with this and the expense will not be prohibitive as it can be put in place for not over five dollars, provided you can drive a nail yourself. If you have saved over any geraniums from last summer, put them up and start them going under this light and you will have good stocky plants by bedding time. These old geraniums that you have kept over should be cut back severely before being potted. This cutting makes them throw out new wood and shape up stocky plants. Old geraniums that are not cut back never look well.

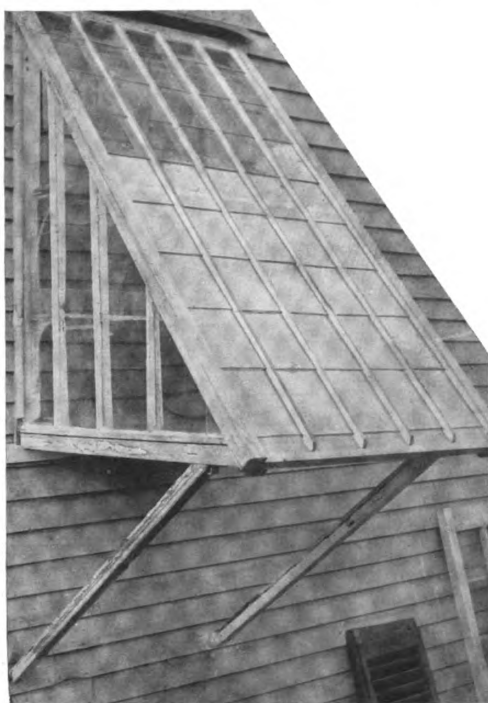


SOWING SEEDS

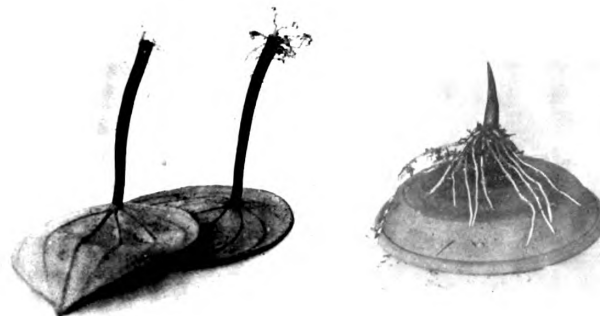


PICKING OFF SEEDLINGS

House and Garden



A WINDOW GREENHOUSE
showing both the outside and inside



LEAVES ROOTING

CALADIUM STARTING

If you should put up this little greenhouse it would be far more profitable for you to raise your stock from cuttings than from seeds: you can buy cuttings of geraniums, coleus, daisies, achyranthus, heliotrope and in fact most anything at a greenhouse for a small sum. With cuttings you will have less bother, you may increase the number of varieties of plants rapidly at small cost, you will have to provide space and care only for the number of plants you have use for and you will also have much better plants. Put up the little greenhouse and try it. It will prove a great convenience, and if it has been carefully put up it can be easily removed during the summer months and stored until wanted the following winter or spring.



STOCK GERANIUM
cut down and showing cuttings ready to be taken off

Propagating Plants from Cuttings

A YOUNG WOMAN'S SUCCESSFUL ENTERPRISE

BY T. CELESTINE CUMMINGS

A YOUNG floriculturist does a thriving business each spring with plants grown from slips and cuttings. She has a good stock of house plants from which to cut and this is done in January or February, so that by April the cuttings are well started and ready for sale. They always sell in preference to plants grown in the hothouse, for the reason that her patrons have found out that they are free from any kind of parasites, and having been grown under atmospheric conditions less calculated to force their growth, they are more sturdy and stocky and consequently, less apt to suffer from transplanting to the open garden beds. Every two weeks her plants from which the cuttings are taken are placed in the bath tub for a bath of lukewarm water. The bath tub is half filled with water and the plants are allowed to remain in it for three-quarters of an hour, covered with the water. They flourish finely and repay the intelligent care they have received with continued bloom.

No expense is incurred for propagating boxes as soap boxes are used, one sawed in two making two receptacles. As the box is heavy to lift when filled with soil it may be placed where it will receive the right amount of heat first. This spot will vary according to the way of living. It may suit some persons to set the boxes near the kitchen stove, raised slightly so that a warm current of air may circulate under it, or place the boxes near a radiator or register. My young florist has a very ingenious way to arrive at the desired result—moist heat. She has a wide board hung by stout wires from the ceiling, just back of the range, and three feet above the floor.

When suitably placed first put a layer of sphagnum moss in the bottom of the box, which will be found to be most useful in effecting desirable drainage and also in serving to maintain the correct proportion of heat and moisture. On top of the moss fill with sand to a depth of four inches. The sand must be fine and free from any admixture of clay, loam or soil. These boxes have deep enough sides to protect from currents of air and it is best to leave the box uncovered though some experimenters have covered propagating boxes with glass, thereby rendering the atmosphere so moist and close as to induce a cobweb-like fungous growth called "damp" which means the utter extinction of all plant life, especially that of tender slips.

If, therefore, glass is used at all, it should be so arranged that it may be raised at one side to permit the ventilation necessary.

Soft wooded plants, as azaleas, geraniums, verbenas, begonias and others are "slipped" by breaking off the top of a young shoot with two or three leaves on it, and inserting it in the sand. When the box is full of slips water well so that the sand will settle closely around the cuttings. With cactus a young shoot may be broken or cut off, but it must be left in the air for a day or two before placing it in the sand. With hard wooded plants such as roses, passion-flowers, jasmines, and the greater variety of flowers, a piece of the stem of a young shoot with a joint or "eye" in it must be cut off with a sharp knife and set upright in the sand. Rex begonias and a few other plants are propagated by laying pieces of the leaves on the sand and pinning them down, the roots forming at the edge of the leaves.

If the bottom heat is steadily maintained and the sand is never allowed to become dry, cuttings of geraniums and begonias will root in four to five days, but most plants require from two to three weeks. You will know when the plants are beginning to root by the brightening of the color in the leaves on the cuttings, and soon the leaf buds will begin to swell and unfold. If in doubt about the rooting process, the cutting may be examined without injury by taking it out of the sand to inspect it if the sand around it is first thoroughly soaked, and those which have made roots half an inch long should be potted in thumb pots, watered, and placed in the sunlight. Use fine soft soil for potting these tender growths and they will make vigorous growth and in another three weeks or so will need a larger pot. Water the soil thoroughly and an hour afterwards, by turning the pot upside down and striking the edge of it the earth will drop out in a ball into the hand and if the roots of the plant are coiling around the ball it is evidence that they require more room in which to grow.

With the handy little propagating box, bits of stems from many choice flowers may easily be converted into vigorous plants if the leaves have not wilted. Bouquets containing rare or desirable flowers, should be taken from their vases at night and the flowers placed loosely in water that will cover them. In this manner, choice flowers may be kept for a week or ten days as fresh as when cut. Many treasures may be obtained for the propagating box from this source and the amateur's collection of flowers will be rapidly increased. The cuttings should, of course, be taken while the flowers are still in their prime.

Helpful Hints on House Plants

By C. L. MELLER

HOUSE plants are at once the joy and the bug-bear of the housewife. Not a woman but would have windows filled with flowers and rooms decorated with palms, ferns, and other foliage plants if she had not long since given up in despair because her plants would not thrive as those of her more fortunate friend, fortunate only in that the latter has accidentally hit upon just the right treatment for her plants. There is no reason why a goodly number of plants bought at the florist's will not prosper under living-room conditions provided they receive rational care.

To help the patient housekeeper in her endeavors to grow good house plants will be the aim of this paper. As a preliminary let us start with the seemingly absurd statement that a plant is as much averse to dirt as the average human being. Rich, mellow, sweet-smelling soil cannot in this connection be regarded as dirt. Indeed right here we have a general test for a good potting soil, for if it does not leave the hands comparatively clean when pressed, and is repugnant to the nose, such a soil is not suitable for potting. Most plants are, however, bought in the pot so that this matter of potting is really of secondary importance, the supposition being that the florist has provided the plant with its most congenial soil.

Many a plant lover has poor plants because of the dust, which, if removed at all is not removed often enough from the foliage. A plant breathes through the many tiny pores on the surface of the leaves and dust will clog these. At least once a week the plants should be set in the bath tub or in the kitchen sink and thoroughly sprayed with water from which the chill has been removed. Where circumstances make this impracticable sponging the foliage might answer, or a wash-tub can be pressed into service. With palms, ferns, aspidistras, and other large leaved plants it is always good practice to sponge the leaves both above and beneath. It will likewise be beneficial to the plants if when the rooms are swept and it is inexpedient to remove them, they be covered with some light cloth or paper to keep the dust off.

Drainage is another factor of vital importance to the potted plant. In the greenhouse, where the conditions are at all times so regulated as to duplicate or even intensify the natural environment of the plant, drainage is not so important for if watered regularly and given proper care in every other respect poor drainage will not interfere very perceptibly with a plant's development. When, however, a greenhouse plant is brought into the living-room the conditions confronting it are markedly different and the

result of each little defect in its care is considerably augmented. Herein we find the cause of many a plant's failing though it receive all the attention loving care can bestow. Protect your plants against drafts, as sudden chills are more or less injurious to all vegetable life. Never water until this is actually necessary and then attend to it thoroughly, nor let your indolence induce you to use anything but lukewarm water. Where the pots are placed in jardinières it is essential to the welfare of the plant that the pot does not rest upon the bottom of the jardinière, but that it be slightly elevated with little blocks of wood, empty spools, or some such means, so as to obtain a free circulation of air around the pot at all times. Where a plant is forced to stand in stagnant water the soil soon becomes sour with a consequent injury to the plant.

Feeding the plant is a simple matter wherein the amateur is apt to err. A plant in a sufficiently large pot provided with soil adapted to its nature needs little if any additional food. The writer has found that the water in which the meat for the household has been washed produces a very beneficial effect upon the growth of any potted plant when applied about two to three times a month. A teaspoonful of ammonia added to the sprinkling water in which likewise a pinch of sugar has been dissolved freshens the plants up very much and should be applied about every other week. A pinch of sodium nitrate, to be bought at any druggist's, scattered over the top of the soil will sometimes rejuvenate an apparently dying plant. But on the whole where plants receive the proper amount of light, heat, and air and are otherwise well taken care of, there will be little occasion for the application of any fertilizers. Some of the preparations on the market are not bad, though perhaps a bit too expensive for the average purse.

There are very often nooks and corners in a room where a plant would have a very decorative effect, but the situation as to light, heat, and air is such that plants apparently cannot thrive there. In such instances failure is often traceable to the lack of familiarity on the part of the housewife with the habits and needs of the various species of plants commonly grown in pots. There are a few plants that will thrive under conditions seemingly so adverse as to make it appear almost incredible that a plant should live at all under the circumstances. The average household contains very few nooks or corners so unfavorably situated as not to afford some of the more rugged plants a chance for existence. As a solution for the decoration of such vexing

Root Pruning Fruit Trees

corners a list and short description of some of the plants that can really be recommended follows.

To begin with it is necessary to discard all flowering plants, as there are almost no flowers that do not demand an abundance of sunlight. The toughest house plant, one that for its hardiness and the decorative effect of its graceful leaves is adapted to any part of a room, is the aspidistra. It will endure any amount of neglect and thrive under the most unfavorable conditions, yet responds most gratefully to any little extra attention that may be bestowed upon it. If but its soil is well drained it will endure weeks of drought, while on the other hand it will endure equally well an excessive amount of water. It may literally be smothered with dust and be none the worse for it. Likewise it can endure extreme and sudden changes of temperature, anything short of actual freezing does not appear to injure it. Taken all in all an aspidistra may almost be called a providential dispensation for the house with the dismal and dust gathering corner.

Next to the aspidistra, if not equal to it in persistency under adverse conditions, is the English ivy, a house vine that lends itself prettily to various decorative arrangements in a room. The most marked, and for indoor use especially adaptive, characteristic is that its growing point can be trained

away from the light without any apparent inconvenience to the plant. In this particular it is unique among house plants. Shade is even more congenial to it than direct sunlight in whose absence its leaves assume a darker and somewhat richer shade of green. As to soil it is rather indifferent so that it be but well drained. It can be trained into any desired shape and where the ends are severely cut back it will make a very bushy plant. It is always ornamental. There is yet another vine, a veritable weed to be sure, that can often be used in a corner where little else will grow. It is indifferent as to soil or even drainage and so hardy that it will endure a very considerable amount of frost. True it possesses little of beauty to recommend it, yet if the vines are kept short the plant will be induced to branch freely and cover the pot or whatever else it may be growing in, and thus make quite a respectable showing. When established long enough it will bloom with a profusion of small white or blue flowers that are rather pretty. This is the tradescantia, often used in hanging baskets.

The above three plants can safely be recommended as reliable in the out-of-the-way corners of a room. There are some others that might do if given special treatment, but of these we may have an occasion to speak in another paper sometime in the near future.

Root Pruning Fruit Trees

By W. R. GILBERT

THE root pruning of fruit trees is a subject demanding immediate attention. The chief evil of exuberance in growth is with apples, pears, plums, cherries, apricots, and in a lesser degree of peaches and nectarines. Young trees of all these families in certain sorts grow too luxuriantly and must either be curtailed by amputation of root, or by lifting and transplanting. The root lopping should not be done carelessly with a spade, but with a knife. Of course, it is quite impossible to get the earth away from the roots without cutting and wounding, but the knife should be employed afterwards to cut properly. People should be quite as careful with pruning the roots that are hidden as they are to prune the branches that are exposed. Some are inclined to think that even with vines a moderate and judicious system of root pruning would be attended with advantage. And I do not in the least doubt it. It might be the means of keeping the roots within control, and prevent that shaking and ill coloring of berries which so often meet the eye. All these trees that I have named would be the better for either a periodical root

pruning, or a periodical lifting and planting again to check growth. I do not say that it should be annual, or that it should be biennial, but it might be practised triennially with the greatest good to the trees and bushes. We desire every fruit tree we have to be fruitful, in the same way as we desire every flowering plant we have in our gardens to flower; and why should we not have them so, if it be in the power of the culturist to control them. I would, therefore, impress upon all my readers who have fruit trees which are in need of root pruning to set about and carry out this important operation. The work should be performed in the following manner. Open a circular trench about three or four feet from the bole or stem of the tree according to size and age. The larger the bole the greater the distance should be taken. This trench should be deepened sufficiently to get under any lateral roots that may be entering the subsoil, all of which should be cut back, as well as every root met with in opening the trench. The latter should then be filled up with some good, fresh, loamy soil, united with a little well-rotted farmyard manure.



The Editor, Margaret Greenleaf, wishes to extend a personal invitation to all readers of *House and Garden* to send to the Correspondence Department, inquiries on any matter pertaining to house finishing and furnishing. Careful consideration is given each inquiry, the letter and answer being published in due time as matters of interest to other readers. Where an early reply is desired if a stamp and self-addressed envelope are enclosed, the answer will be sent. No charge whatever is made for any advice.

AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR READERS

THE year just passed has brought to us very many grateful and appreciative acknowledgments of the service we have supplied to our subscribers through our Department of Decoration, thus proving conclusively to us, the success of our experiments along this line of magazine service. We are desirous of maintaining this standard of practical helpfulness in all of the departments and pages of the magazine.

Therefore that we may be put more closely in touch with the needs of the subscriber and reader of *HOUSE AND GARDEN*, we invite your cooperation in obtaining some valuable information. We know of no better way of securing the desired facts than to ask that you send to us your honest criticism or sincere commendation (with equal frankness) regarding the general type of the articles which appeal most strongly to you.

With this information from the individual we will have it in the aggregate, and *HOUSE AND GARDEN* will be in a still better position to supply through its columns, only such matter as will be of vital interest and practical help to the men and women who are deeply interested in their respective houses and gardens and all that concerns them.

We have felt during the last year that our talks and correspondence have brought us closer each month to the great body of our readers. This fact has inclined us to believe that such a consensus of opinion would be valuable and we think, encouraging, hence we make this request. These letters should be addressed to the Editor and will receive personal and prompt attention.

Through the Departments of Decoration and Correspondence, we shall continue to offer the free service such as is unobtainable through any other medium.

Where plans of houses are sent to us, they are given careful study and the materials recommended for decorating, fitting and furnishing the house, are advised honestly and sincerely, from the several standpoints of quality, suitability and beauty.

Samples of fabrics, wall coverings, stencil designs, wood stains and enamels and all that goes to the complete fitting of the house will be sent upon request. The same consideration is given the tiny cottage or small flat as to the elaborate country house or expensive city residence.

Where addresses of manufacturers or trade name of materials are desired, a self-addressed and stamped envelope should be enclosed. This should be sent also when a prompt reply is requested.

It is our wish to make *HOUSE AND GARDEN* helpful to the layman, to make the advice given, simple and practical enough to be readily understood and executed by the amateur. Therefore, we make this request for the aid which you only can supply.

Beginning with the March number, we shall have a monthly page devoted to the offerings in the New York shops. Descriptions and prices with occasional illustrations of wall-papers, draperies, furniture, rugs, lighting fixtures, decorative ornaments, pictures, etc., will be found on this page.

Our readers may depend upon it that the goods described have merit both artistically and in point of quality, and are entirely new, this latter being a point which is of especial interest to the out-of-town reader.

CORRESPONDENCE

DOORS READY TO HANG

PLEASE give me definite information in regard to purchasing doors ready to hang which will be practical to use in a simple house, two stories, plaster and half timbered upper and shingled lower. I am not satisfied with the design executed by my architect.

Answer: We are sending you the address which you request and hope the information you will receive will prove helpful. We believe that this company will supply you with a collection of cuts from which you may select the style of door most suitable.

The Editor's Talks and Correspondence

CONCERNING STENCILS

Will you kindly give me some advice about stenciling, and the proper material to use and where to obtain the washable colors that are sometimes used. I would be glad if you could advise me of the goods to use for curtains on which I wish to apply the stencil. These curtains will be used in my living-room which is simply and inexpensively furnished, although I have some good pieces of mahogany. The walls are covered with two-toned green paper, woodwork ivory white. Should my curtains reach to the floor or stop at the window sill? I enclose a self-addressed envelope.

Answer: We are sending you the address of a firm from whom you can obtain full information and stencil dyes as well as designs. The colors made by this firm are beautiful and lasting.

There are fabrics which take the stencil well. We have recently seen a silk and cotton voile (dress goods) successfully used. This material retails for about fifty cents a yard and it is a yard wide. It can be obtained in a wide range of colors and drapes softly and effectively. Such curtains should reach only to the sill.

Where the situation of a room makes it necessary sash curtains of net can be used next the glass, otherwise the voile curtains are all that are required.

SHINGLE STAINS

We are about to build in Southern California, and I am anxious to have the shingles for the body and roof of my house show silver gray effect that weather produces on certain woods in New England. Could you tell me if it is possible to get such an effect?

Answer: There is a gray stain made for shingles which is applied by dipping and thoroughly coating the shingle before it is put in place. These stains improve decidedly with age. I am sending you the address of firms who will supply you with sample shingles that you may see the effect.

WATER FOR THE COUNTRY HOUSE

HOUSE AND GARDEN has proven so helpful and valuable to me in the several houses I have recently built, that I am encouraged to ask further assistance. The house I am now building is eight miles from the nearest town. As I am anxious to have this supplied with running water, I would be glad to have you suggest the best system to install. I have acted upon your advice in regard to the heating apparatus in two of my houses with satisfaction to myself and family.

Answer: We are glad to send you the requested addresses and feel quite safe in recommending to you this special system. As the danger of freezing is a very present one in many of the systems, the one sent should be of especial interest to you.

WILLOW AND WICKER FURNITURE

I am preparing to furnish a bungalow in the woods of Maine which I wish to occupy from the early spring until the end of October. Therefore, I wish to make it comfortable and livable at as moderate a cost as is practical.

The living-room is nineteen by twenty-four feet and must serve for dining-room as well. I have a round table and six chairs of plain oak which is to be stained to match the woodwork of the room. I would like to make some distinction in the furnishing of the end of the room which will serve as living-room and general sitting-room. What style of furniture would you advise?

Answer: For the very attractive room you describe, we would unhesitatingly advise that you use willow or wicker furniture. This can be left in the natural color or given a slight stain which will produce a soft golden brown shade. Half cushions in the back and cushioned seat add to the comfort as well as the beauty of these chairs. *Chaise-longue* couches, or davenports may be obtained in wicker or willow, also winged chairs as well as the ordinary easy chair and straight back chair we are familiar with. Very attractive round tables for lamps, books, etc., as well as tea tables are made in this material. We send you the address of firms from whom you can obtain cuts of this furniture together with prices.

RUGS FOR THE HOME

I have been informed by a friend that HOUSE AND GARDEN has been of great assistance to her in the selection of the rugs she has used in the first floor of her house. These are very beautiful in color and design and excellent reproductions of certain Oriental rugs with which I am familiar. The cost of these rugs she tells me, has been about \$3.75 a square yard. If this is correct, I will be greatly obliged to you if you would supply me with the name of the firms from whom these may be obtained. Also I would like to know if I am entitled as an old subscriber to the service of the Department of Decoration in making selections of rugs for me? I hope I am not trespassing in asking this.

Answer: We will be very pleased indeed to make any selections for you in rugs of any weave, domestic or Oriental. No charge is made for this service. The price of the rugs in question is \$3.75 a lineal yard, twenty-seven inches wide.

The firm making these rugs are especially successful in their reproductions of the Oriental designs and colors. It is very wise to have a careful selection made from the stock as a variety of coloring is offered as many admire stronger coloring and more vivid combinations than the original Oriental rug shows.

Timely House Suggestions

LEILA MECHLIN

AT this time of the year it is good to look ahead and devise the plans which are to be carried out later. There is nothing more delightful than to sit by a cheery living-room fire on a late winter evening and mentally picture the changes that should be made both in the house and in the garden, when eventually comes spring. Then it is that the books on building and the horticulturists' catalogues are most bewitching. Nor is time thus spent an idle waste. If any rebuilding is to be done or radical changes made, it should now be planned in order that there be no delay when the frosts cease and outdoor work begins. Do your own planning by all means, but don't fail to consult an architect before going to the contractor—the smallest alteration in a house signifies and it is invariably the wisest who avail themselves of expert advice.

It is usually at the end of winter that the library comes in for hardest use—and what a difference there is in libraries! Some are for use, but many, alas! to all intents and purposes are for ornament. Books are essentially decorative but that is not their prime purpose. One householder, however, was known to arrange his books according to the colors of their bindings, and many another has employed them to no better end. But this is a digression. It is true nothing furnishes better than books, well worn, lovingly cared for, and happily placed. Without doubt the open shelves are the more convenient and attractive but they are not as good as those guarded by glass, for the books. Built-in shelves and cases, such as the ordinary carpenter can construct, when stained and finished, will be found good in appearance and eminently satisfactory. Some years ago it was the fashion to have book shelves or cases almost as high as the ceiling, so that a step-ladder was required to reach the topmost books, but a more rational mode now prevails of restricting them to moderate height. One library, which the writer has in mind, built and furnished comparatively lately, has cases about four feet high against all its walls except on either side of the chimney, where seats are interposed beneath high glazed cupboards.

But aside from the books, the decoration of a library is no easy problem. The walls should be flatly tinted with a warm or cold color according to the quality and quantity of the light. If the windows are large and open south, then green or brown or metallic blue can be used, but otherwise a red, not too insistent, is best. And there should be a few good pictures—ones which improve upon acquaintance and lend themselves to various moods. Etch-

ings and engravings and even photographs of architectural subjects are very fitting and attractive. There should, of course, be very little ornament. The tops of the book shelves should not be allowed to become cluttered with bric-a-brac even of a good sort. Some brass jars, a few pieces of fine pottery, a cast or two, will suffice, and give untold pleasure.

One or more bronzes, also, will be effective and can be had at no unreasonable cost. It is remarkable how seldom one finds, even in the great houses of this country, small works in sculpture, considering how readily they can be had—not meaning, to be sure, the department store bronzes but the productions of some of the foremost American sculptors. Once in a while one sees in a richly furnished library a fine panel or a choice little bust, giving token of discriminating taste, but not often.

Nowadays a magazine rack is almost an indispensable adjunct of a library, corraling, as it were, the loose current literature, and preserving order and peace. A writing table, some easy chairs, and a good lamp or electrolier, are, beyond those already mentioned, the only other essentials.

There are a thousand and one little things that can be done at this time to make the house more livable and attractive, which, perchance, have been overlooked in busier seasons. Doors which catch can now be adjusted, hinges which squeak oiled. This is a good time, also, to look over the closets and to have the pantries ordered.

Some bright warm day (and such do come in February) have the rugs taken out of doors, well shaken and sunned—it will freshen them amazingly and prevent the ravages of a chance moth.

Be on the outlook, moreover, for frozen pipes and drains, for when danger seems to be over, vigilance often lapses with disastrous result.

Give heed also to the chimneys, see that they have not become soot clogged or otherwise impaired. The worst conflagrations occur at the beginning and end of the cold season.

And if at this time the carpet or furniture covering is beginning to show wear, resort to some of the expedients of the lowly to mend their appearance. Dye, well diluted, and applied carefully with a paint brush, will obliterate worn seams, and water-color so applied will sometimes hide lesser shabbiness. This is, to be sure, "premeditated poverty" but it is not to be despised.

It is in the late winter, moreover, that one hungers for flowers, and that the blossoming plant takes the place of the one having only ornamental foliage. A bunch of primroses, or violets, or even a handful of jonquils, will lend to any room, at this season, the utmost charm, and yield good interest, so have them if you can, and do not count it extravagance.

Timely Garden Suggestions

JOHN W. HALL

FEBRUARY will, in many sections of the country, mark the commencement of more or less activity in gardening, especially in its application to the vegetable department. Hotbeds can now be utilized for raising stock as well as for growing different varieties of vegetables, such as lettuce, radishes beets, etc.

If the hotbed is to be used for growing vegetables before beginning with the flower plants, get good clean manure, heap it, and let it heat. It should be thoroughly mixed and turned several times before going into the hotbed. If the manure is used without any previous preparation the heat will last but a short time; if it is given a thorough mixing and three or four turnings, it will, when used, create a uniform heat which will continue until a change of planting is desired. The bed should be well firmed, not packed. If the manure is dry when put in the bed it should be moistened.

Everything about the garden should be gotten in readiness for the earliest possible start with spring. There is much gained by early planting and that can be greatly facilitated by raising plants in a hotbed.

Definite plan of planting should be determined; there should be definite aim. A policy of drift will not end in satisfactory results in anything. Success may at times appear as due to what some people call "luck" but usually even that "luck" is the result of forethought and intelligence, coupled with persistent industry on the part of the gardener. So when a gardener is heard to complain that he or she cannot have any "luck" with this or that flower nine times out of ten the trouble is due to improper treatment of the plant.

It is well to remember that orders that are to be placed with nurserymen should be placed early. As is natural they give better attention to orders made before the season's rush-work begins; you get better stock and that has the best handling.

Procure seed for the season and test their vitality and germinating power. The weather conditions generally during the last fall were favorable and the quality of seed should run good, but it is just as well to know beforehand what the seed will do. Much time and annoyance will be saved.

The simplest and easiest method of testing seed, is to take two ordinary table plates and a piece of flannel cloth. Fold the flannel and lay it in one of the plates, placing the seed to be tested between the folds. The cloth should be moist. Cover with

the second plate inverted, and set in a warm place. If the weather is cold, put the testing outfit where the temperature does not fall much below fifty degrees at night, and where it will be about sixty-five degrees during the daytime.

The number of seed sprouting under this test will show the percentage of germination.

All gardeners love the chrysanthemum. It is one of the many flowers that the amateur gardener can grow most successfully. It is the easiest of all the flowering plants grown, and none other will give more satisfaction.

The chief difficulty which most lovers and growers of this flower have is in not getting their plants started early enough. They must be given time to form large bushes for choice flowers.

The best time to strike the cuttings is approximately the beginning of February, but the assistance of the hotbed will be required. Admittedly all will not have a hotbed available; such as have not should get their plants from reliable florists about the middle of March. They can then be handled in a cold frame where they can be well rooted in pots and grown to several inches in height. As the plants will have come from warmer quarters, they should be left in pots until inured to changed atmospheric conditions. As growth develops, they can be transplanted into larger pots, or set in the open ground.

There are so many varieties of the chrysanthemum, which are both magnificent and beautiful, that the matter of selection, where there is limited space for growing them, is very difficult; the suggestion which most appeals to common sense is to let the personal preference control, having in mind colors, sizes, etc.

Likewise morning glory seed should be now sown in the hotbed. The plants should be gradually hardened off before being set in the open. If given a warm, sunny location, vigorous growth and loads of beautiful flowers will result. Keep in mind, however, that this plant or vine requires very rich soil; if not naturally rich, supply the deficiency with a mixture of loam and well-rotted manure.

Gardening in this country is co-existent with the country itself. Our first settlers brought with them the love of the garden and that love has grown with the development of the country. In the journals of John Winthrop can be found recorded the statement that there came from the shore a scent "like the smell of a garden"—that was a welcome to the new land and was inviting as the scent from the garden to-day. As early as 1672 Josselyn made a list of the varieties of plants found in the New England country. The Mt. Vernon garden seen to-day is the same as laid out by General Washington.

Garden Correspondence

W. C. EGAN

PUSSY WILLOWS

WILL you please give me the name of the willow tree that has the prettiest pussy willows?

If you wish a lilac bush to flower plentifully, should it be pruned? H. A. J.

The true pussy willow is the *Salix discolor*. Its leaves are smooth, bright green above and whitish underneath. It is sometimes called the glaucous willow. The aments or catkins, so called from their resemblance to cats' tails, appear early in the spring enveloped in long silky hairs. It is a small tree or rather a large shrub thriving on dry ground and a native of the Northeastern United States.

In Europe, the twigs bearing the catkins of the goat willow, *Salix caprea*, gathered Palm Sunday, are called palm-branches.

You do not state age or conditions of your lilacs. It is not unusual for lilacs not to bloom until they gain some age, especially in a loose open soil. If your shrubs are thin and spindly, cut them back and induce a bushy growth and you may get a bloom spike to each shoot, but not until the second or third year.

Prune them in February or March. You will lose what spring bloom they intended to give you, but the strength required to develop those blooms will be applied to the new growth. You can wait until after the blooming period, which is the proper way to do for ordinary pruning. The bloom buds are formed during the summer and are carried over winter for spring flowering. If your plants are of some size and are growing freely, you might try root pruning. Dig a trench all around the shrub three feet away from the stems and refill at once and tamp the soil as hard as you can. Lilacs like a firm soil, and this method often induces them to form bloom buds for next season's flowers.

PLANTING CROCUS ON THE LAWN

Can the crocus be planted in the lawn so as to form the name of one's place when in bloom? If so, what is the easiest way to proceed? S. O. M.

Certainly, but they must be planted in the fall before the ground is frozen. A good way is to make large block letters out of cardboard or a stiff paper for a pattern. Have each part of the letter at least four inches wide. Lay them in position and cut out the sod with a sharp knife. Cut in sections and lay each piece beyond where taken from and in the form

of the letter they represent. This facilitates the returning of them to their proper position, and when tamped down, show but little evidence of disturbance. The sod should be moist when cut.

If the soil underneath is hard, loosen it up, say six inches deep and plant in the bulbs, placing them so that their tops are just covered. Plant in lines following the contour of the letters, getting the corners and angles perfect. Replace the sod and tamp it well, and water occasionally if the weather is dry. If the grass is not cut too early in the spring, thus allowing the foliage of the bulbs to ripen, they will last several years.

This style of planting looks better on the slope of a terrace than anywhere else. The writer induced one of the large parks in Chicago to plant the crocus on the slope of a large terrace where formal gardening was permissible, forming the words "Welcome Spring." It was in plain sight of the main driveway and being the first showy flower of spring it was much admired. To be effective one color only should be used.

COLORED SHRUBS AND TREES

What are the best colored shrubs and trees to use to enliven a landscape? W. F. S.

The best landscape gardeners wisely banish colored foliage from their work. Colored foliage attracts the eye and if several plants are used here and there, the effect is spotty and instead of a harmonious whole, where one shade of green blends with another, producing a quieting and soothing effect upon the senses, the use of colored foliage creates discord and eliminates dignity and grandeur from the scene. There are, however, a few forms that may be used with discretion, the Schwedler maple that throws out broad purple foliage in the spring is one of them. The foliage gradually changes to a bronze and finally to a deep green. In the spring the unfolding leaves of nearly all the trees are of a bright color so that the purple foliage of the Schwedler maple does not seem out of place.

The Worleii maple, a form of *Acer pseudo-platanus*, has a foliage of a lemon yellow in early spring, gradually fading as the season advances to a greenish yellow, so strongly green, however, as not to be discordant. Then there are the Geneva maple and the Reitenbach, forms of the Norway that reverse the program, the foliage coming out green and gradually turning a brownish purple towards fall, where we look for colored foliage in many trees.

Rivers' purple beech, standing alone, away from being included in the general mass-effect, will not "fight" much. There the list ends. For a yellow foliaged tree you could use Van-Geert's poplar,

the golden elm, var *Dampierreii*, and the golden catalpa.

Among the shrubs there are the purple barberry, several kinds of dogwoods having a variegated foliage, chiefly white and green, *Diervilla rosea* var *Sieboldi alba marginata*, the silver-leaved privet, the golden *Philadelphus*, the golden hop and the golden elder, which should be cut back often to induce a bushy effect and to induce good color, and then there is the purple plum *Prunus pissardi*.

EVERLASTING FLOWERS

What is the best everlasting flower to grow, ease of cultivation and attractiveness in a dried state considered?

I. C. M.

Helichrysum bracteatum, sown in heat in March and planted out in May in an open sunny situation will prove the most satisfactory of the straw flowers. For winter bouquets choose the lighter colors cutting long stemmed sprays, before the larger flowers open much, plucking the leaves, but allowing even the smallest buds to remain, as they will give bits of color when dried. Tie the stems tightly and hang them heads downwards in some shed or closet. This causes the stems to dry in a straightened position. If the flowers are too much opened when picked, the centers darken and often fluff out.

STOCKS AND SUNFLOWERS

What are the best stocks to grow for cutting and what sunflower? C. F.

Ten weeks stock are by far the best. The fall blooming varieties are shy bloomers.

The miniature sunflower, *Helianthus cucumerifolius*, in its variety Orion and others makes a splendid cut flower, free from the coarseness of the common one. For a succession of bloom make three sowings, one each March, May and June.

ANNUALS FOR A SHADY SITUATION

What annuals will do fairly well on the north side of a house? They will get a little sun morning and evening.

S. E. E.

Sweet alyssum, the dwarf blue lobelias and their white form, mimulus, marigolds, Chinese pinks, forget-me-nots, nemophila, poppies, pansies and Nicotianas.

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A HOUSE OF SIX ROOMS FURNISHED FOR \$1,500

(Continued from page 45.)

required for the kitchen as this was already in place. The scheme chosen was blue and white, the motif for this being the blue and white granite ware and inexpensive china made in imitation of the old Canton which filled the shelves.

The woodwork was treated with white paint and given a high gloss washable finish. This finish was guaranteed to withstand heat and moisture and was, therefore, serviceable.

The walls were tinted a shade of blue which, though much lighter, harmonized with the blue in granite ware and china. At the casement windows were hung curtains made from cross-barred linen toweling in blue and white. The floor was covered with a blue and white linoleum.

Tables and chairs of spotless deal and quaint form completed this very attractive portion of the house. With the remaining money, a lamp for the hall, candlesticks, china animals for the nursery mantel, bureau and table scarfs, bed spreads and bath rugs were purchased.

SUMACHS FOR PLANTING EFFECTS

THERE are two sumachs, *Rhus glabra* and *Rhus typhina*, the stag's-horn sumach, which are greatly prized and much planted by many landscape gardeners who know of their great value. For beautiful effects the whole year through there is no other tree or shrub of equal value in the way these are. Take them in their appearance in leaf in spring, and there is their beautiful display of large compound leaves, followed a little later by their prominent heads of greenish yellow flowers. Very soon the berries form, and by August what were heads of flowers become heads of scarlet seeds. The heads, setting among the bright green leaves, are highly ornamental. The chief glory of these sumachs, however, lies in their autumn foliage. By the close of September the leaves commence to change color and by October a bush of either one is a mass of orange scarlet color, in which shape it is the crowning glory of many landscapes. With the approach of winter the leaves fall, but even then there is interest in the bushes. The heads of scarlet seeds do not fall with the leaves but are in

position on the ends of the branches long after Christmas, until at last they fall apart one by one from the storms of winter.

In many parts of Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, both sumachs are natives, the *R. typhina* in most abundance. As this one, typhina, spreads from its roots to some extent it has in the course of time formed very large thickets, which, when in their glory of autumn color, attract lovers of the beautiful from long distances to admire them. So much have they done to cause the parts of the park they inhabit to be favorably known that plantings of them have been made to line other parts of the park, notably the comparatively new Lincoln Drive.

Rhus typhina, is one of a few that bear their seeds in a cone-like head, while many others bear the seeds in loose bunches, witness the poison vine, and the poison ash, so called, *Rhus venenata*.—*Florists' Exchange*.

SOME GOOD NEW LILIES

RECENT explorations in the far East have brought to light several meritorious liliiums, new both to botanical science and to horticulture. Chief of these is *L. Henryi*, the "yellow speciosum." Interest in this vigorous and handsome species is increasing, it being asked for in quantities as large as 25,000 bulbs for a single decorative planting. It is needless to say it is not on the market in such numbers. Planters must still content themselves with this fine species by the dozen or hundred at good round prices for even such limited quantities.

Lilium sutchuenense, from Western China, is a very bright and graceful species of the tiger lily type. The blooms are orange red, with black-purple spotting and have reflexed petals like our native swamp lilies. It grows tall and the stems are heavily clothed with very narrow leaves. It appears to be entirely hardy, our trial bulbs wintering perfectly with no protection but their earth covering. Though the blooms are perhaps not so large it is far more refined and decorative in growth and appearance than any tiger lily we know. It will doubtless become a great favorite when it can be had in quantity.

Lilium myriophyllum is still very

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scarce. The only bulbs we could procure were small and gave but two blooms each. It is a distinct species of the *L. Browni* type, and is also native to Western China. Our plants grew dwarf, scarcely rising more than a foot high, the stems being densely clothed with narrow, one-nerved leaves. The flowers were large, full-trumpet shaped, white and yellow inside with rosy-purple markings outside. They were very handsome and faintly fragrant. If *myriophyllum* turns out a good grower and as hardy as other fair Chinese species it will be extremely desirable.

Lilium Yoshaida.—This is a most interesting lily grown by Herr Max Leichtlin, of Germany, from seeds collected in the Philippine Islands by a Japanese botanist in Herr Leichtlin's employ. It appears closely allied to *L. myriophyllum* and the provisional name of Yoshaida has not yet been sanctioned by botanical usage. The plants appear to be fairly vigorous growers and hardy enough to endure frosting of the bulbs, but ours were not exposed over winter. The leaves are narrow and closely crowded, while the flowers are very elegant trumpets over five inches long, pure white inside, flushed with rose-pink outside, and quite fragrant. It is an elegant variation of the pleasing *Browni* type of Oriental lilies.—*Rural New Yorker*.

PLANTING TREES

IT is a loss of money to plant trees upon wet or undrained ground. If dry ground cannot be obtained the soil should be tile drained and put in good condition.

In setting out trees one should bear in mind the fact that you are not setting out a crop for a single year, but that it will remain for many years to come and that errors made cannot easily be corrected; and for that reason trees should never be set out in a hurry or without due forethought.

Spring and fall planting both have their advocates, each claiming a special advantage over the other. For fall planting, October is the best month in which to set the trees out as a later planting might suffer from a freeze, thereby doing permanent injury.

One strong argument in favor of fall planting is the fact that more time can usually be devoted to it. Better trees

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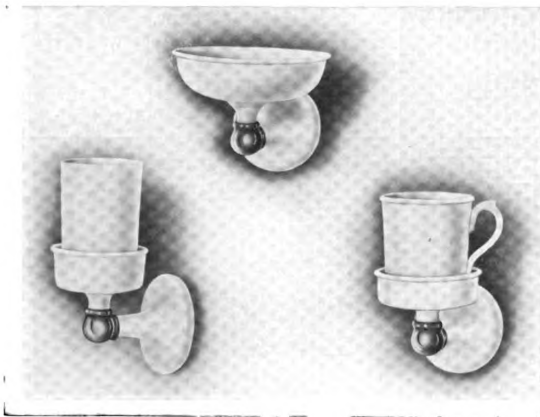


Plate 1610-K Plate 1620-K Plate 1615-K

These bone china toilet fixtures for fastening upon the wall are the very things needed to complete the refined toilet.

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may be obtained, as the nursery rows have not been culled so often. More time may be devoted to preparing the ground and also to planting and when everything is taken into consideration it will be found that, generally speaking, autumn planting will give the best results.—*Journal of Agriculture.*

A FILLING FOR CRACKS IN FLOORS

MAKE a thick paste by boiling blotting paper or other paper of similar nature in water until it becomes pulpy. Add to it some glue previously dissolved in hot water. Mix these well together and then stir in enough whiting to stiffen the paste and give it a little body. Work the materials over and over until they are perfectly incorporated with each other. If the wood of the floor is colored, add some coloring matter that will make the paste as nearly the color of the floor as possible. Apply the mixture to the cracks while soft, crowding it in solidly with a putty knife and smoothing it even with the wood. As the whiting will cause the mixture to "set" quite rapidly, it is advisable to prepare a small quantity at a time. This paste will not shrink, nor cleave away from the wood, as putty will, nor is it affected by heat or cold. If a careful job is done, the old floor can be made very satisfactory. If there are knotholes or other defective places, fill with the paste the same as if they were cracks. This filling will take paint as well as wood.—*Eben E. Rexford in The Outing Magazine.*

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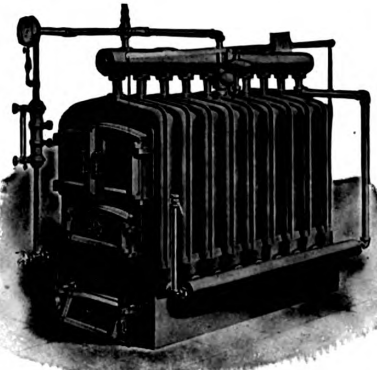
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South and West were adapted only to the production of cotton and corn. In the South cotton was raised to the exclusion of everything else because it was a money crop, one which was not perishable and for which there was always a ready cash market. The Western States relied solely upon corn and wheat, and when these crops failed or prices were low there was suffering among the people.

Now, however, an entirely new system of farming prevails. It has been found that these lands are capable of producing for those who till them fortunes in fruit and vegetables as well as the staple crops.

Where but a few years ago the farmer raised less than sufficient vegetables to supply his own family table, vegetables are now being supplied by the carload and trainload. The old shacks of houses have made way for comfortable and commodious dwellings. The stock is of a better grade, the barns are what they should be and on all sides there are evidences of prosperity, all of it due to diversification. In these same sections one may see the one-crop farmer. He is generally the one-gallus farmer, also. Insects or bad seasons have knocked him out and, as he had but one reliance, he succumbed. His stock and wagons be-tokened poverty; he is in debt and mortgaged and is ready to pull up stakes and move on to some other country, there to go through his same sad experience over again. He does not believe in progress. He is of a class which has a prototype in town and city—the mossback who opposes all innovations to his own financial loss and to the annoyance of his neighbors.

The farmer of to-day who keeps abreast of the times is in the truly independent class. He is free from debt and on his place there is always "something coming on," whether it be the product of the soil or stock, as many up-to-date agriculturists combine stock raising and farming. Much of the credit of this changed condition of affairs in the rural districts must be given to the department of agriculture, with its numerous experiment stations, and to the agricultural colleges throughout the country. Through these sources invaluable information gained by practical experience has been disseminated. The progressive farmer reads the agricultural papers and frequently secures the government and state bulletins which give the results

House and Garden

of experiments made in all the different branches of stock raising, farming, arboriculture and trucking. In the Southwest the result of the experiments made by practical and scientific men have resulted in a revolution in the methods of farming.

Land that was considered unproductive for some one crop has been found to produce abundantly of another. Worn-out lands, that were about to be abandoned, have been rejuvenated and are now yielding their owners handsome returns.

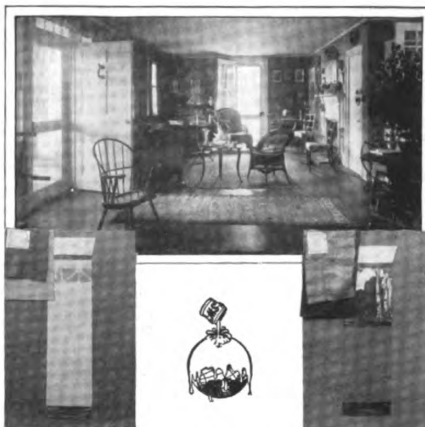
The farmer who has diversified has also bettered his conditions. He has telephone service and rural free delivery and is able to live the ideal life—one of independence. He sees that his labor is rewarded and he finds plenty to enjoy in life.—*Journal of Agriculture.*

ITEMS FROM AUTOMOBILE TOPICS

If a car has to be thoroughly cleaned it must be washed, and before being washed it must be allowed to get quite cold, otherwise the cold water will splash over and stain the bonnet and dashboard—which are always somewhat heated from the engine. A car that is much washed has to be well lubricated in the matter of springs, shackles, bolts, etc., or the water will work its way in and cause rust and rapid wear. Some people's idea of dusting is a sort of polishing with the road grit that is found deposited on the varnish.

And if, as is often the case, the cloth used has kerosene oil on it, because it causes a temporary brightness, there is no doubt that the surface of the varnish will quickly dull. But if a car is as carefully dusted as, say, a china closet would be, there is no doubt that it is just a trifle more suited to the amateur than hosing down the car-body. But there is no handier way of cleaning the wings and under-body than the hose carefully directed so as to avoid splashing as much as possible and as carefully followed by wiping down with a wash leather or a cloth on which a tablespoonful of kerosene has been poured. Some people do not dream of cleaning the outside of crank-case, gear-box, differential, etc.

Yet they require it quite as much as the paint work. A small tinful of stale gasoline and a stiff paint brush will quickly clean and brighten up the dirtiest



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engine and chassis and often enable the driver to oil up without himself getting oiled in the process. In the careful cleaning of a car one often comes across small matters requiring attention which would otherwise escape and cause inconvenience if nothing else, and so the process is not quite the stable helper's job that many people make it. When a car is hosed down the water should not be permitted to dry on the paint work. The latter should be lathered down with a chamois cloth and then polished with a perfectly clean cloth when dry.

When springs have become rusted up, the only cure is to take them down and remove the rust. This will necessitate jacking up the frame and supporting it while the spring shackles are released and the running gear detached. The springs will then have to be dismantled, each individual leaf cleaned with emery cloth, well lubricated with grease and re-mounted. Do one spring at a time so that the leaves, bolts, etc., may not become mixed. Even in modern cars entirely insufficient facilities are provided for lubricating the leaves of suspension springs. It is generally necessary, once in a while, to jack up the frame and body so that the springs are entirely freed from all weight and hang slack. While in this condition it is possible, by considerable and messy work, to induce some lubricant to find its way in between the shorter leaves. A very thin knife blade, a stiff brush and a thin oil—sometimes only kerosene will get in—are the materials.

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THE india rubber tree is easily cared for. It will bear considerable frost, but it is always well to keep it in a frost-proof room. Good potting soil, such as you use for geraniums will suit it, and if you wish a free growth shift into a larger pot each spring. If a tree-like top is desired cut the top back to the preferred height and encourage branching. Water freely while growing, but sparingly while resting. If a plant becomes frozen or sickly at the top cut it back to the live and healthy wood. Severe cutting back will not injure a rubber tree. Like any other tree, a dead or sickly branch or top only hinders the growth and vigor of the tree. Do not hesitate to cut such wood away.—*Park's Floral Magazine.*

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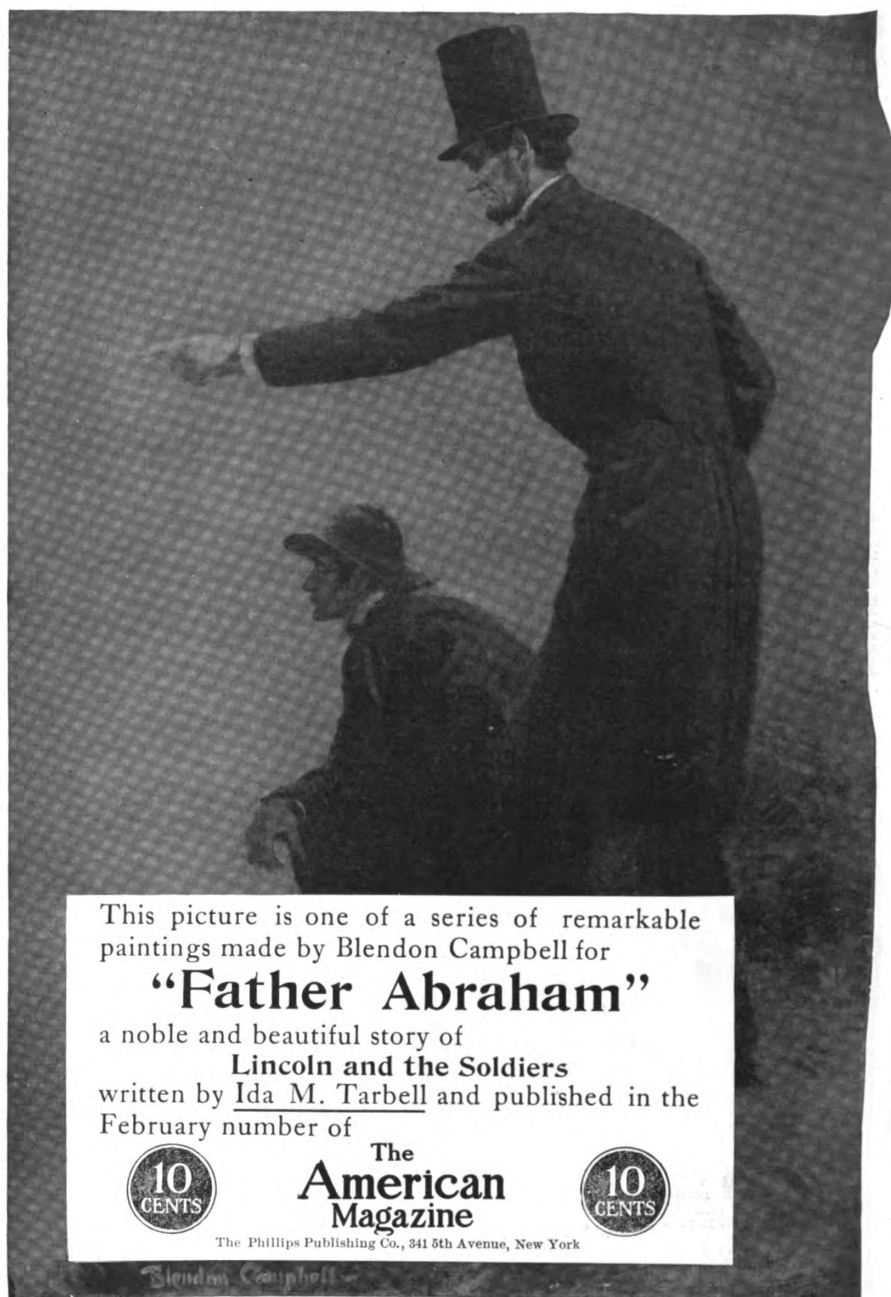
FOREST PRESERVATION

THE recent report on "The Waning Hardwood Supply" issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture bears most significantly upon the proposed legislation to create national forests in the southern Appalachians, particularly, and the White Mountains. The pamphlet in question offers as a key to the solution of the problem of hardwood supply, that the Appalachian ranges from Maine to Alabama should be so farmed in the future as to be made to produce, in connection with other districts of the country, sufficient lumber to fill the demand for the purposes for which hardwood is essential in our manufacturing industries.

The timber resources, even of our immense country, have been simply ruthlessly wasted, in spite of the examples and government actions of other countries, until to-day students of the situation look with alarm to the future, and experts in forest reproduction and maintenance are bending every energy to introduce changes in our laws and business rapacity, to, at least, mitigate the pending calamity. The forest reservation laws and management are already showing such promising results that Congress should not hesitate to pass the necessary legislation and provide very liberal appropriations for well-considered projects of forestry rejuvenation, and no more delay should be permitted in passing the bills for the preservation of the forests under the Appalachian and White Mountain projects. To delay longer in the face of the evidence is to encourage popular indignation and distrust in the wisdom of our representatives.—*Park and Cemetery.*

INSTRUCTION IN TEXTILE WORK

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young men who by reason of the breadth of their training have been enabled to enter all fields of the work, and to-day they are well and favorably known in every textile section of any importance. They are in the mill, the dye house, the commission house and the machine buildings, and wherever found they are proving themselves capable men and an honor to their alma mater."

Specialization, which is the trend of all modern activity, has been carried into the textile industry. Specialization of production is the policy even of the larger factories, and it has been carried so far "it is impossible for a general and comprehensive knowledge of the business as a whole to be obtained in the typical modern mill, and the young man who aspires to the possession of such knowledge must seek it elsewhere." This "elsewhere" problem is met by the Philadelphia Textile School, which enjoys the co-operation and support of prominent members of the Philadelphia Textile Association.

Aiming to make the instruction as practical as possible without losing sight of fundamental principles, the instruction consists of lectures, investigation and experiment by individuals and, finally, in the actual production in commercial size—an important, practical factor—of textiles in great variety. These textiles are brought out by the student according to his own ideas and specifications, originality and direct research along practical lines always receiving encouragement.

It is claimed for the institution that it possesses an extensive equipment unsurpassed by that of any similar institution in the world. It consists of the latest machinery for the manufacture of yarns, for weaving, finishing and dyeing. All of these machines are of commercial proportions, not mere working models, and they turn out work such as is met with in the best markets of the day. In addition to this practical equipment the different departments are provided with the apparatus necessary for conducting scientific tests and examination of fibres, yarns, fabrics, dyestuffs, oils, waters, etc., with a view to locating the cause of possible defects. The buildings in which the school is housed are well suited to its purposes, the top floors being skylighted throughout. The breadth of the school's scope is indicated by the fact that silk, cotton, wool and worsted

are studied exhaustively, and while some of the courses of study are so arranged that a student may confine his attention to the particular fibre in which he is most interested, the regular or diploma course includes work in all of the materials mentioned above, allowing the student to specialize to a certain extent in the third year.

The importance of artistic effect in textile products has not been overlooked. It is appreciated that it is this quality which first attracts the purchaser's attention. The school's association with the School of Applied Art affords an exceptional opportunity for training in this important branch of the work. The buildings of the schools are situated on the same plot of ground, so that the student easily can arrange for more or less artistic training, in accordance with the requirements of his course of study. In any event he works in an artistic atmosphere and profits by the influence it exerts.

Scholarships that have been established show the interest taken in the school. These are awarded as prizes for meritorious work by students who have already spent at least one year in the school.

Many of the Philadelphia textile manufacturers and merchants are on the Advisory Committee of the school. The president is Mr. Theodore C. Search; Vice Presidents, Messrs. John Story Jenks and Isaac H. Clothier; Treasurer, James Butterworth, and Assistant Treasurer, Mr. James L. Allan. Mr. L. W. Miller is principal of the School of Industrial Art as a whole, and Mr. E. W. France director of the Textile School. —*New York Herald.*

BEGONIAS FROM SEEDS

BEAGONIA seeds are very small, and require care in sowing and in treating the young plants. Sow in a box or pot in April or May, and keep in an east window. The surface soil should be of sifted wood's earth, or a fine soil that will not bake or get hard. Press it firm with a piece of board, then water it well and sow the seeds over the surface. Avoid watering after sowing the seeds. If the soil should become dry set the pot in a basin of water until the soil is moistened. Place a pane of glass over the pot or box to prevent rapid evaporation. Shade from direct sunlight. Lift the glass to let in air and prevent damping off, but avoid

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McCLURE'S FOR MARCH

"VERDICT OF SCIENCE AGAINST ALCOHOL"

By M. A. ROSANOFF

Few recent articles have attracted so much attention as did Dr. Henry Smith Williams' statement of the results of recent scientific investigation concerning the effects of alcohol upon the individual, published in the October McClure's. There is naturally much interest in the kind of demonstration which can be used in proof of the facts which he stated. In the March number Dr. M. A. Rosanoff, Professor of Organic Chemistry at Clark University, and Dr. J. A. Rosanoff will describe one by one the experiments made by scientists of international reputation, which show, with the exactness of mathematics, the effects of alcohol on all human activities from the lowest to the highest.

"A PORTRAIT OF LINCOLN"

By T. S. CONANT

Most articles on Lincoln are entirely colored by *ex post facto* evidence. To-day there is only one opinion about Lincoln; it is difficult for us to understand how there could ever have been two.

The painter T. S. Conant was commissioned to go to Springfield after Lincoln's nomination and paint a portrait of him. Mr. Conant first met his sitter full of anti-abolition prejudices; he believed Lincoln to be the vulgarian, the story-telling, whisky-dealing, practical joker his enemies had made him out to be. The story of these sittings and how Mr. Conant came to know the real Lincoln makes a very vivid and vital footnote to history.

MR. PARKER'S CLEVELAND PAPERS

"THE RETURN TO THE WHITE HOUSE"

These are some of the interesting features of George F. Parker's second article:

The Snap Convention at Albany and the Anti-Snappers.

William C. Whitney's Generalship in the Campaign of 1892.

The Important Conference at Whitney's home Twelve Days before the Chicago Convention, Campaign and Election. "Sir, it is a solemn thing to be President of the United States."

Forming of the Second Cabinet.

The "Lone Plowman" Letter.

The Venezuela Cloud and the Shakespeare Dinner.

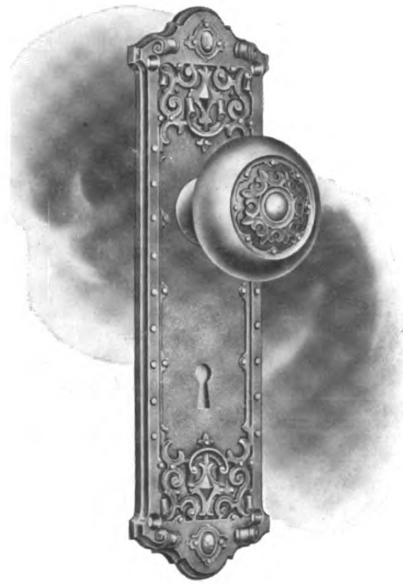
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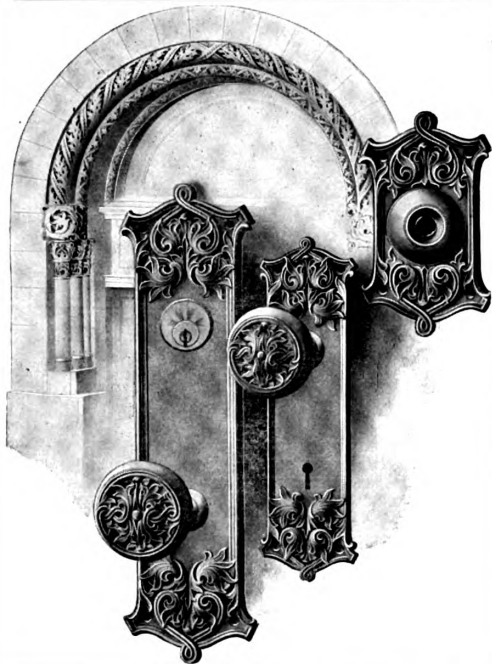
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a draught. When the plants are large enough transplant them to a box of fine soil, picking them out with the small blade of a pocket knife. Give only morning and evening sun, and water only when the soil seems dry. As the plants grow and begin crowding lift and pot them, using three-inch pots with good drainage. Plants started in the spring will begin to bloom in late summer or early autumn. Plants of *Begonia gracilis* started from seeds in the spring will bloom freely throughout the following winter. Begonia seeds germinate readily, and it is not difficult to get a fine lot of plants for winter-blooming by starting them in this way. The seeds are generally satisfactory in the hands of the ordinary amateur, and their use should be more popular.—*Park's Floral Magazine*.

FEED THE FRUIT TREES

FERTILIZE the orchard in winter. Spread coarse manure or litter underneath, taking care not to get nearer than two or three feet from the trunk. This serves not only as fertilizer, but acts as a mulch. It keeps the ground from severe freezing, also prevents too sudden thawing around the roots—a condition which is likely to start the buds too soon.

Do not be lavish in the use of concentrated stable manure. It is better not to use any hog manure at all. The trees need much potash and phosphorus. Stable manure has these elements in a smaller proportion than some other kinds of fertilizer. Wood ashes are probably the most perfect fertilizer known for fruit trees and plants.—*Farm and Home*.

TREE HYDRANGEAS

WHEN a hardy tree hydrangea fails to grow freely or bloom, and is apparently almost in a dormant state, dig around it, apply well-rotted manure liberally and prune back the branches severely. Some recommend pruning after the method of cutting back grape vines, doing the work early in spring, and leaving only one or two eyes to each branch. By this method a vigorous annual growth is secured, and splendid terminal panicles of bloom. This method is especially recommended where a handsome, dense border is desired, or where a fine low specimen is wanted for lawn or cemetery decoration.—*Park's Floral Guide*.

TREE PLANTING

THE planting of a tree requires but a few minutes and yet the result may mean much to someone, if not to the one who does the planting. There was a certain forest in North Britain that was noted for the number and size of the trees which it contained. It was owned by a nobleman. His father had an innate love for planting trees. He was accustomed at the proper season to carry a supply of nuts in his pockets as he walked over the estate. He also carried with him a small garden trowel. When he came to a suitable place he would plant a nut in the soil and in this way the place came to be stocked with the unusually beautiful trees. It brings true pleasure to look upon a tree which the individual has planted, and it brings gain in due time to some future owner. Do not hesitate to plant trees. This country wants many more trees.—*American Agriculturist.*

INSECTS TO DESTROY INSECTS

AT intervals the department of agriculture imports from Europe or some other continent a species of bug that is warranted to destroy some other insect or parasite that is damaging the farm or the orchard. The latest importation in this line is a bug whose job will be to wage war on the elm beetle. This fellow is about the size of a pinhead, and the bugologists assure us he is worth his weight in gold many times over. The claim is made that his descendants will be numerous and they will soon clean out the elm bugs. The question arises what will these newfangled European bugs feed on after they have devoured all the elm bugs?

American farmers lose millions of dollars annually from the damage wrought by bugs and insect pests generally. What is known as the Mexican boll weevil has spread over a large area of Texas and parts of Louisiana. The annual loss attributed to the boll weevil has been estimated at \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000. At great expense the department of agriculture imported from Guatemala colonies of ants which were guaranteed to clean out all the boll weevil in the world. They were to make short shrift of the great enemy of the cotton planter. These Guatemalan insects were placed on one of the experiment farms in South Texas and there

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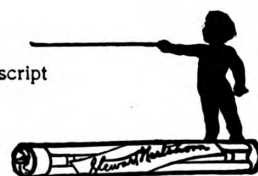
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they were to be cultivated. The press of the cotton States printed columns upon columns telling what great things were to be expected of these ants. In order to give the Guatemalans an opportunity to see what they would do to the Mexicans a colony was placed in a Texas cotton patch.

Now, it has always been claimed by the entomologists that the boll weevil will not molest anything except cotton, but when the ants were turned into the field with the weevil they became the prey of the cotton pest. Instead of the ants eating the weevils the weevils are said to have fairly gorged themselves on the nice, fat, juicy Guatemalan ants. Meantime the boll weevil continues to enlarge his field of operations by taking in more territory each year.—*Journal of Agriculture*.

MR. JUSTICE CAVE ON ARCHITECTS

IN the case of Jalland v. Tyler and Hind, before Mr. Justice Cave at Nottingham, the learned judge, in summing up, thus delivered himself on the value of expert evidence given by architects: "This was one of those unfortunate cases in which they had to listen to what architects came and told them.

There were no such unsatisfactory men as architects, for they were always at the opposite poles to one another. All other scientific men tried to come to some sort of an agreement; but architects, on the other hand, tried to contradict each other entirely. That might be due to three causes, and three causes only. Which of these causes was the correct one was not for him to say. It might be that architecture had no science whatever about it. Secondly, there might be science in architecture, but the witnesses who had been called knew nothing about it. Thirdly, there might be science in architecture, and these men might possess that science, but not have the honesty to tell them truly what it was.

One or other of these things must be true, or the architects would not be found differing so widely as they always did. In point of fact, they helped the jury very little indeed, and they had, so far as they could, to come to a decision with as little regard to the architects as possible.—*Journal of the Royal Institute*.

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A SIDE VIEW OF THE FOUNTAIN IN MR. PICKMAN'S GARDEN, BEVERLY COVE, MASSACHUSETTS

House and Garden

VOL. XV

MARCH, 1909

No. 3

A North Shore Garden

Mr. Dudley L. Pickman's Formal Garden at Beverly Cove, Mass.

By MARY H. NORTHEND

WHILE the grounds which surround the charming summer home of Mr. Dudley L. Pickman, situated on Hospital Point at Beverly Cove, are not extensive compared with those surrounding many other residences along the North Shore of Massachusetts Bay, yet they comprise many acres of field and woodland which slope at the rear to the water's edge, and thus afford a magnificent view of old ocean and the opposite shore.

Through the entrance gate one passes along a wide, tree shaded avenue, lined on either side with beds of dainty wild flowers, which winds between two wooded hills until it opens upon an expanse of velvety lawn,

in the midst of which stands the homestead, flanked on the right by a large, well-appointed tennis court, a spot much enjoyed by the younger members of the family during the season, and the scene of many an exciting contest.

The house itself is of the Colonial type of architecture, with broad verandas extending around three sides which display to advantage the wealth of flowers, ferns and palms that thrive there during the summer. The flowers are planted in large garden pots and urns, which are arranged all about the veranda, and are changed as their season of bloom ends, and others substituted, so as to continue a



THE GARDEN FROM THE VERANDA STEPS

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House and Garden



THE FOUNTAIN AND TERRACE



A SIDE OF THE GARDEN WITH STEPS TO TERRACE

constant succession of bloom, and thus render the veranda a retreat of beauty from early summer until late in the fall.

Through the wide front door one enters the great hallway and is struck with admiration at the beauty of its furnishings. Fine old Chippendale chairs, beautiful Italian sofas, and cabinets of the time of James I. of England, are placed about, and vie for attention with the magnificent landscape paintings, set in panels in the wall over the daintily carved mantel, as well as the old Dutch clock, which stands in one corner, and faithfully ticks the hours away as it has done for many years.

Passing on to the right, the drawing-room is reached, and here one pauses again to examine the exquisitely designed mantel and mirror above, with its delicate columns and garlands of flowers, beautifully carved by a master hand. To the right is a great Dutch cabinet, filled with an abundance of rare old Delft, the finest collection of this ware to be found in all New England. Beautiful old mahogany furniture lends charm and distinction to the room, and the fine old mirrors that hang on the walls are especially attractive, being heirlooms from the Pickman homestead at Salem, and accordingly cherished not alone for their beauty, but for their association with the past, and the old social life of the Witch City.

The dining-room is a large, handsomely finished apartment, fitted with rare Colonial furnishings, with which the house abounds. It ends at the rear in long French windows, which open on to the veranda, from which is obtained a fine view of the charming formal garden which lies just below, and which contains many interesting features not generally found in a garden of its size.

It is located at one side of the house, and laid out on land which originally sloped to a bank overlooking the valley. The ingenuity of the architects, Messrs. Little & Brown, of Boston, was taxed to the utmost to devise an attractive garden space out of such unpromising material, but they hopefully set to work, and the result has been most successful. One side of the bank was filled in, and a high brick

veranda was built, and a high brick

A North Shore Garden

wall with limestone copings and a semicircular recess was built at the rear to serve as protection from the high winds which blow even in summer along the Massachusetts coast. Within the recess was arranged the upper terrace and just below the lily pond, with a quaint little marble fountain in the center. The formal garden was laid out to the right of the pond, and extends on either side of a central path to an archway from which a short flight of steps leads to a second and smaller terrace, which marks the end of the garden space.

The garden is entered from two opposite points of the estate. One entrance is from the lawn at the rear end of the garden, where a quaint, little latticed doorway opens directly upon the smaller terrace, and the other is by way of the veranda, at a point just outside the reception-room, from which a short flight of marble steps descends to the central path.

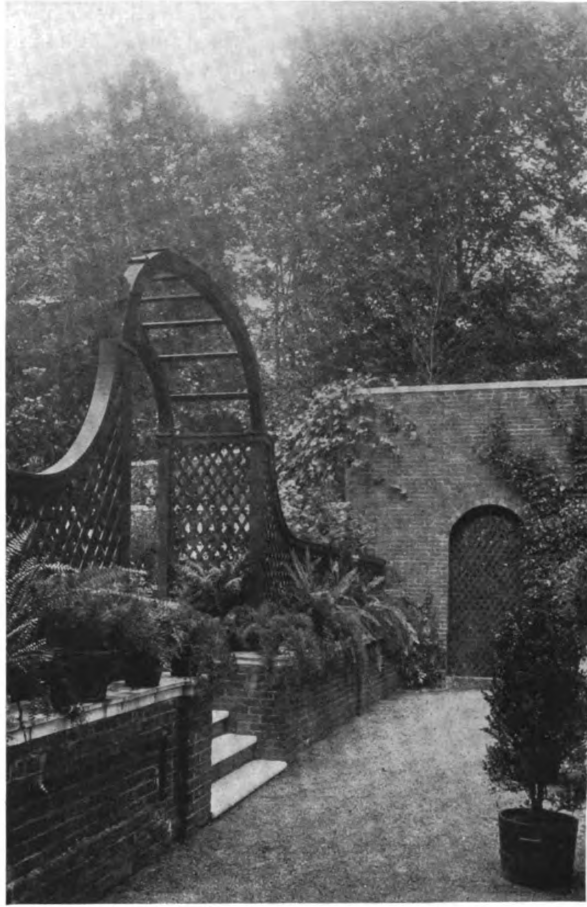
A low terrace wall, constructed of brick with copings of limestone, surrounds the entire garden, and just outside stand tall, stately trees, which are special features of this fine estate. Their great overhanging branches lend a welcome amount of shade to an otherwise sunny space, and at the same time form an effective framing for the very pretty picture made by the vari-colored blossoms that thrive within the enclosure.

Over the high terrace wall at the rear of the garden, pretty flowering vines have been trained to clamber, and the delicate tints of their blooms contrast prettily with the dark green of the leaves of the great old trees which stand just beyond, and lend a touch of dignity to a very charming whole.

The central path is some eight feet in width, and is outlined on either side by delicate flowering plants, which vary as the season progresses.

Undoubtedly the most beautiful bordering of all is the dainty Easter lily with its pure white blossoms and dark green leaves, which make a very attractive edging during the season of bloom.

To the right and left of this path are arranged the flower beds, which are delightful combinations of old and new gems of floriculture. Gravel paths, five



THE TERRACE PATH WITH ARCHWAY AND GATE



THE CENTRAL PATH IN THE GARDEN

House and Garden

feet wide, intersect the beds, and allow inspection of all the flowers at close range. A stone curbing outlines the plots, and takes the place of the prim, old-time box hedge. The flowers vary from month to month, the planting being carefully thought out to make a succession of bloom. The garden reaches its highest state of perfection during the month of August, when it presents a spectacle of beauty unrivaled in any garden along the shore.

The sweet-scented heliotrope mingles its delicate perfume with the delightful fragrance of the mignonne; phlox of every shade and color vie for attention with mallows delicately tinged in pink and white; campanulas nod their dainty cups in the breeze, and extend a friendly greeting to great beds of waving larkspur, while the magnificent Japanese iris, and poppies of gaudy hue command well-deserved admiration.

These are but a few of the many beautiful specimens that thrive in this delightful garden, which comprises all the charm of the old-time Puritan type



TERRACE AND MASS OF BLOOM



A SIDE PATH IN THE GARDEN

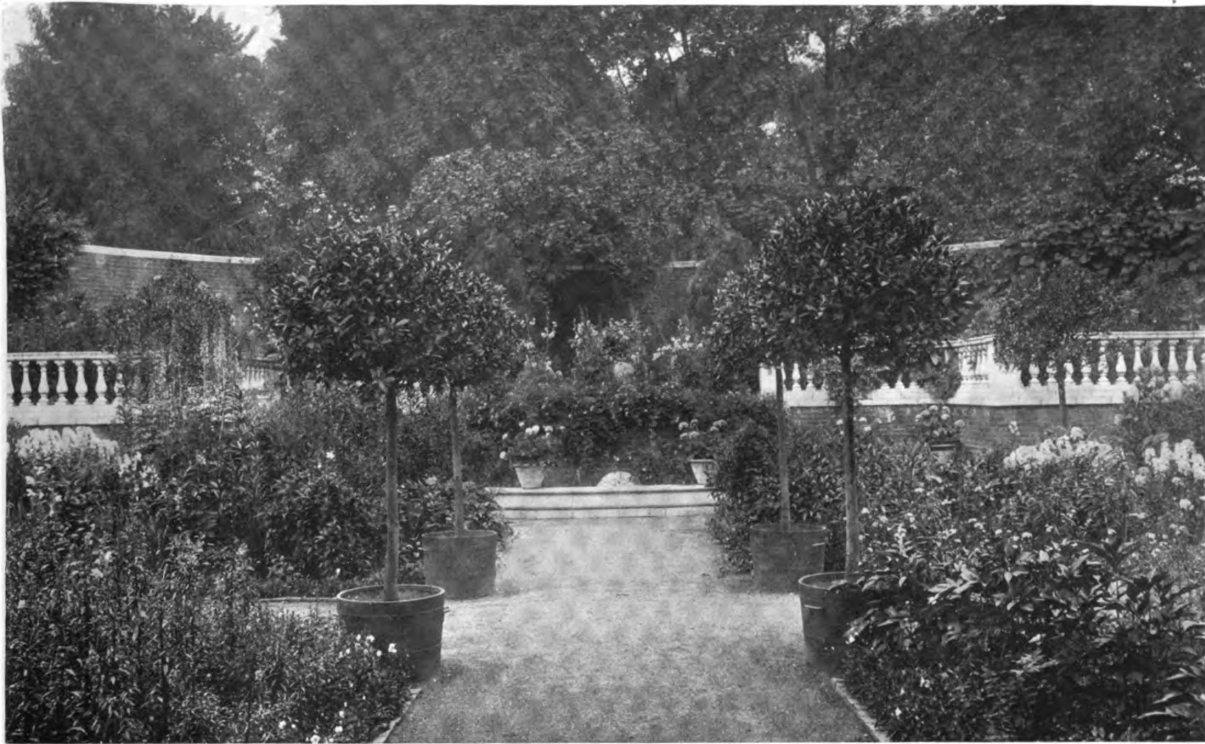
of New England, combined with the ideas of French and Italian gardeners.

The great arch that marks the end of the central path, is made bright and attractive by the rich crimson of the rambler rose, during the season of blossoming, and later, by the delicate, feathery white of the clematis.

Passing through this archway and down a short flight of steps one enters the lower terrace, hidden from view on the garden side by a high lattice wall, and outlined on the opposite side by a low white balustrade. Pots of delicate ferns ornament the low wall beneath the lattice screening, while great vases containing ornamental bay trees decorate the balustrade. An attractive tea table with accompanying chairs occupy one end of the terrace, and from this vantage point, superb views of the ocean and surrounding territory can be enjoyed.

Re-entering the central path and turning to the right, one comes to a flight of steps, ascending which he reaches the upper terrace, half hidden by beds of blossoming flowers, arranged on either side, and

A North Shore Garden



THE GARDEN PATH LEADING TO THE FOUNTAIN

connected by means of a semicircular pathway with another flight of steps at the opposite end. Against the high terrace wall is a four foot border of low growing white roses mingled with the lavender of the dainty heliotrope, which combination is most effective.

The terrace is broadened in the center into a semicircle, outlined by a border of free growing, flowering vines, which trail to the edge of the lily pond, just below, and make an attractive background for the white of the lily petals.

In the center of this semicircle is a large ornamental vase filled with shrubs, and just

beyond is a tiny tea table, with four chairs placed around it, suggesting the idea of frequent afternoon teas in the midst of the sweet-smelling flowers.

Just below the center of the terrace is found the gem of the garden, the lily pond, surrounded by a

white limestone coping, ornamented by pots of bright red geraniums.

The white blossoms and large leaves of the water lily float on the surface of the pond and gold fishes dart here and there below, while water hyacinths and other aquatic plants are arranged in triangles at either end. It is truly a most delightful garden.



THE FOUNTAIN AND LILY POND

Rehabilitating a Hotel Apartment

By LUELLA McELROY

AFTER returning from Europe and searching New York for an apartment which could be made comfortable with such things as I possessed, I decided to take one in an apartment hotel, one of the first of its kind erected. It seemed anything but homelike when I looked at it for the first time, the large living-room having four bare walls with a window at one end and a stone floor. However it appealed to me because it was so barren and I could do more with it than I could with the modern apartments and their cheap decorations. There was a living-room, three bedrooms, a bath and a hall.

The woodwork in the living-room was in red mahogany with an ugly mantel and gas log. Having been built at the time when wrought iron was used so extensively, the chandeliers, side brackets, and the mantel trimmings were of this metal which I at once dispensed with. Being unable to convert the gas log into a fireplace, which I very much desired, I was obliged to disguise it as best I could. Through the kindness of the proprietor I was allowed to make many changes. I stained the woodwork in this room a soft moss green, and on the wall I put a reseda

shade of plain cartridge paper and the floor I covered with moss green filling. The outlook from the window was very unpleasant and I treated it as the photograph will show; then the doors being too high, I lowered them with shelves and fretwork, the latter of original design.

Having completed the background I placed a black oak chest of English origin at the end of the room. The central part of this is very unusual and interesting, and the massive base has one long carved panel into which are worked the initials Z. S. H., after the English custom of the olden times. This can be seen in the photograph under the wooden sconces which were taken from a Spanish church, and which I placed against a tapestry in old rose tints woven in the same country.

The Welsh cabinet is also of English origin and is beautifully carved in low relief. It originally had ball feet and a canopy top, and in the center of what is now the top part or cornice it is marked L. E. 1674. These Welsh cabinets were dining-room pieces as the size of the compartments would indicate. The wood is all old oak and extremely hard.



THE LIVING-ROOM LOOKING TOWARD THE WINDOW

Rehabilitating a Hotel Apartment



THE REAR OF THE LIVING-ROOM

Before the gas log, so difficult to disguise, I placed a church seat of dark oak very simply but heavily carved. This is two of a series of choir seats taken from an old French church. The shelf that one sits on is hinged at the back and when lifted up has what is known as a *miséricorde* attached to it, which is nothing more than a small bracket that one can rest on while in a standing position. The object of this was to help out the priests during their long services.

Opposite this in the corner I placed a wine cabinet of Flemish origin. It has a compartment for bottles and glasses and a drawer for spoons underneath. The design is very architectural and the carving rich and in high relief.

Believing that the room should have an air of comfort I had a couch made to fit in the space at the side of the room. At the end of this couch stands an Italian cabinet of dark oak very elaborately carved. The upper part is divided into five panels, the carving representing Gothic windows, while the separating ribs are in imitation of buttresses. Immediately under the middle panel or door is a very ornate coat of arms containing three Italian words. The lower part is open except the back which is divided into three panels of the "folded linen" design.

The door hangings in this room are of moss green silk with tapestry borders, and the rugs are of antique cashmere and soumaks in soft coloring. The effect

of all this is lost in the picture as the best feature of the room is its color scheme.

Living in this hotel apartment and not caring to take our meals in the public dining-room, we sacrificed one of our small bedrooms, making it into a dining-room large enough for two, where we have our meals served. In the small alcove where the bed would stand, we had some shelves arranged, and here behind a screen I keep my dishes, chafing-dish, etc. The china, which is mostly foreign, is all antique, one piece being a fountain of Brittany ware of the Louis XIV. period, in use before the days of finger bowls. The woodwork in this room is the same as that in the living-room, and the wall coloring is of Pompeian red canvas cloth, while the rug on the floor is soumak in red and green. The chandelier and side brackets are of Russian brass, and the room is well lighted by a window through which we get the welcome sunlight.

I have never believed in an antique bedroom, and for this reason I have made mine as near like a country room as one could make in the city. The room is of very good size with one large window at the end, and one oval window in an alcove through which I get the morning sun and a view of Central Park. This window is one of the best features of the room, as I have made it over into a casement window, with a long low seat beneath. The woodwork is all



THE DINING-ROOM

white enamel and the paper a reseda shade of green like that in the living-room. The floor is covered by moss green filling which I do not approve of, but which stone floors make a necessity. Furniture is all white enamel. Windows are curtained with swiss muslin and the overhangings are of washable English chintz, the color being a delicate pink. The

same material is used for covering the window seat, chairs, bed-covers and door hangings. Owing to limited space I have had boxes made and covered with this English chintz to be utilized for hats and shoes. In addition I have had placed on the closet door a full length mirror.

The third and smallest bedroom has been converted into a den in white enamel with reseda shade of green on the wall, and a deep fringe of English chintz in yellow and green. The general tone of the room is continued by the use of this same material for couch cover, cushions, window and door hangings. One interesting feature of this room is a wine closet which I had built in one corner. Also have an English antique secretary which I use as a combination bookcase and writing desk.

The hall from which this room leads is continued in the same tone, and I have placed here an old mahogany table and mirror and a cashmere rug. On the walls are engravings and colored English prints.

This completes an apartment which to us has been so pleasing and satisfactory that we have been content to remain here for a number of years.

Propagating the Begonia

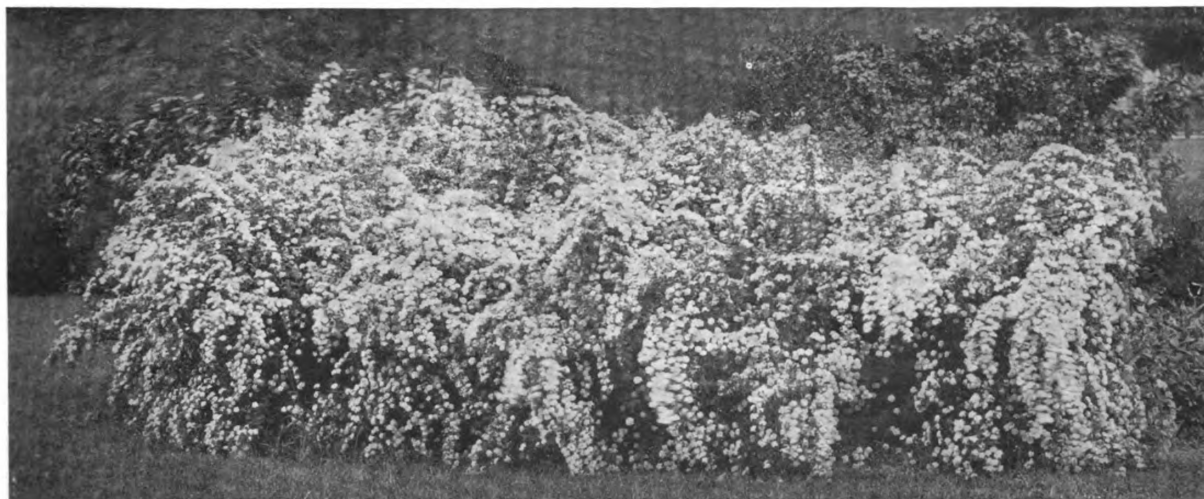
By L. J. DOOGUE

NO decorative flowering plant has had the deserved vogue of the begonia, Gloire de Lorraine. A well-flowered plant is wonderfully beautiful but such a well-flowered plant costs a goodly sum if purchased at the florists. In explanation of the necessity of charging so much the florist will tell you how difficult it is to grow the plant, the expert knowledge required etc., etc., but under his breath he will say that he needs the money.

While you cannot treat them as roughly as you do your geraniums and such plants, it is still possible to propagate a stock with considerable ease. They can be grown from cuttings or from the leaves. The latter method is very interesting and successful and insures a big stock from very little. Well ripened leaves should be taken from the plant and the end of the stem stuck into coarse sand. With the sand moist, not soggy, in the course of a few weeks little corms will form around the part in the sand and the

new plant will push up from this. Don't remove them until the plants are showing good growth. Pot them into a soil with liberal mixture of leaf mold. Put them into a heat of about sixty-five degrees and keep them well shaded when the sun is hot. If given full exposure to the sun they will quickly wither and dry out. During the summer they make slow growth but towards the fall they make rapid progress.

In carrying over old plants it is well to remember that they need a rest in the spring, during which time water should be sparingly given to allow the plants to get into a resting state. If this is done most of the great difficulties in getting up a stock of these begonias will vanish. Of course, these plants are not suitable for household cultivation but need the overhead light that is only found under glass. It may be possible to successfully grow them in the house but the chances are greatly against success.



The Bridal Wreath Spiraea

Shrubs for the Amateur

BY EBEN E. REXFORD

NO home-grounds ought to be without shrubs. There should be trees, also, if the grounds are large enough to afford them ample accommodations when fully developed; there should be vines about the house, and a collection of hardy garden plants, as well as a space devoted to the culture of annuals. But, if one only of these several features of attraction can be realized because of lack of room, or lack of time to plant and care for them, I would advise that the choice be given to shrubs. For the following reasons: They are not expensive. They are easily planted. They will begin to give satisfaction the second year from planting, as a general thing, and increase in attractiveness rapidly thereafter, until fully developed. Properly cared for, they are good for an indefinite period. They require very little attention, and this of a kind any one can give. They are quite as beautiful as any other class of flowers we might select, and, last, but not least, they are admirable substitutes for trees. Not as large, of course, nor as stately, but giving us the "happy medium" between the low-growing plant and the tall tree, and, on this account, are better adapted to the needs of the small home-lot than any but the very smallest trees are.

By making a judicious selection of varieties, one may have flowers from shrubs during the entire season. Very early comes the Japan quince—catalogued as *cydonia*—with its fiery scarlet flowers. Close after it follows the forsythia, and the almond, the flowering peach, plum, and blackberry. It seems rather inconsistent to designate the three latter

plants as "flowering," since all the members of the family produce blossoms, but the adjective has been pressed into use by the florists to apply to the ornamental sorts, which have large flowers, for the most part double. The lilac is an early bloomer, and so is the flowering currant. Later on, we have the deutzias, the spiræas, the halesias, the syringas, the weigelias, the snowball, and in the fall the hydrangea, and the hybrid perpetual roses. There is plenty of material to work with.

A correspondent writes: "I hope you will tell us about a few shrubs suitable for amateur cultivation. I cannot have many. Those I do have I want to bloom freely. I want them to be hardy, and kinds that don't need coaxing. I don't care whether they are new or old ones, if they are beautiful. I think there are many other young home-makers who would be glad of information along this line."

This correspondent is wise in her decision to have but few shrubs, if her accommodations for them are limited. One of the common mistakes of most amateurs is to plant about four times as many as they have room for. They do this because, in their untrained enthusiasm, they want about all the desirable kinds and also because they do not stop to think what the difference is between the tiny shrub we plant to-day and the fully developed one of four or five years from now.

To be most effective, a shrub must be given ample room, in which to display its individuality. Crowd half a dozen specimens into a space only about large enough for one, and none of them are satisfactory.

They cannot be, because each is apparently trying to elbow its neighbor out of the way, and the natural consequence is that each is continually getting in the way. They interfere with each other to such an extent that it is impossible for any of them to do themselves anything like justice. One shrub would be vastly more pleasing than several, under such circumstances.

Under certain conditions, however, close planting is not only allowable, but advisable. This is where it is desired to produce a strong and massive effect. Our illustration of the bridal wreath spiræa shows what I mean by this, better than it can be put in words.

Here several plants of spiræa are set so close together that, when well developed, they have almost the effect of one plant. The result, as will be seen, is most delightful. This is what we call grouping, and it can be practiced very satisfactorily with nearly all shrubs of spreading and somewhat drooping habit. The effort is often made to combine several kinds, but it is not satisfactory, as a general thing.

The result is very much the same as that I had in mind when I spoke of crowding. It is only by putting a good deal of study on the matter, and knowing just what you can expect of each plant used, that success can be attained in grouping shrubs of different kinds. It is well for the amateur who wants to try her skill at this phase of gardening to use only one kind of shrub in a group. Crowding doesn't much matter, then, since the individuality of one is the common individuality of all, therefore, there will be no struggling for first place in the display, as is the case where several shrubs of varying color and habit are used.

The Japan quince, already referred to, is of low and spreading habit and can be made quite effective by training it as a sort of hedge. Its foliage is of a rich, dark, glossy green, almost as attractive as its flowers, and

makes the plant very pleasing after the flowering period is past.

I am a great lover of the lilac. I think it would be my first choice among all shrubs, if I could have but one. It has the merit of being entirely hardy. It blooms early, and profusely, and it is deliciously fragrant. It is of rapid growth, and does well in almost any kind of a soil, and in nearly all locations. We have both double and single varieties, ranging in color from purest white to dark purple-red, and almost blue. Some sorts are so strong in habit as to almost deserve the title of tree—indeed, by training them to one stem they can be made trees on a small scale—while some, like the Persian, are slender and graceful, and produce so many spreading branches that they form great masses of symmetrical growth without any attention in the way of training. Among them all, the white variety is my especial favorite. It has smaller spikes of bloom than the colored sorts, but it is all the more graceful on this account, especially when used for cut-flower decoration. The double varieties are exquisite, at short range, but are no more effective than the single kinds when seen at a distance.

Syringa, or mock orange, is a large shrub, producing enormous quantities of white flowers, early in the season. It is hard to determine whether it is most popular because of its beauty, or for its rich, powerful fragrance. Both qualities, no doubt combine to make it one of our favorite shrubs. Those who are not familiar with it can form but a slight idea of the effect produced by a large shrub, loaded with blossoms from the ground up.

The snowball is one of our old standbys, and deserves a place in every yard. When well grown, its balls of bloom have the appearance, at a little distance, of double roses. Our illustration shows a specimen trained as a standard. It is commonly grown, however, in bush form, but those who have a fondness for novelty may



BLUE HYDRANGEAS

Shrubs for the Amateur



DEUTZIAS

take pleasure in making a little tree of it. This is easily done by allowing but one stalk to grow from the root. Keep all side-branches rubbed off until the stalk has reached the height where you would like to have the head form. Then allow half a dozen or more branches to develop and train these horizontally by tying them to strips of wood, supported by posts. After the first year, these branches will have taken on the spread you want them to, and no further support will be needed for them. With very little trouble, you can secure a head seven or eight feet across. Of late, complaint has been general from all over the country, that the aphid has seriously injured this plant. It attacks the leaves, when about half developed, and causes them to curl, as if scorched, and the flowers are dwarfed, and sometimes wholly spoiled. My plants have been attacked, each season, but I have applied my favorite insecticide promptly, and saved them from disastrous consequences. This insecticide I make by melting about six ounces of ivory soap, and adding to it, while hot, a teacupful of kerosene. By agitating the oil and soap rapidly, a union will take place. I use one part of this mixture to eight parts water, and spray my snowball bushes so thoroughly with it that not a leaf escapes. I am very careful to see that it gets to the underside of the leaves, where the aphid lurks.

The spiræas are lovely shrubs. So are the deutzias and the weigelias. Of all we grow, they are probably the most prolific bloomers. Each bush can count its blossoms by the thousands. In habit of growth, the spiræa excels almost all other shrubs. Its spreading branches bend to the ground beneath the wonderful profusion of its lovely flowers. There are double sorts, and single ones, and which are most beautiful is a matter of individual taste.

The flowering currant is an early bloomer. It has great quantities of small yellow flowers, possessing a delightfully spicy fragrance. It is quite as attractive in fall, as in spring, for its foliage takes on rich yellows and reds more brilliant than its flowers.

Daphne cneorum is a favorite of mine.

It is of low, spreading habit, therefore admirably adapted to locations near the path. Its foliage is evergreen. Its flowers are produced in clusters. They are a soft pink in color, and very fragrant, and are borne throughout the season. A charming little shrub that everyone ought to grow.

Forsythias bloom in April. Their flowers are a rich yellow. Halesia, better known as "silver bell," has a pendant, bell-shaped flower of pure white. This is one of our most desirable shrubs.

The barberry is an old plant, but none the worse for that. It is beautiful with its many clusters of crimson fruit, and still more so with its richly colored foliage. If you want a fine hedge between your own and your neighbor's grounds, this is the very plant to make it of. Set about eighteen inches apart. Prune it back sharply, each season, until the bushes are thick and compact. After that, let it alone. You will be delighted with it, grown in this way.

Perhaps the best late-flowering shrub we have is *Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora*. It blooms in August, as a general thing, but its flowers are so persistent that they remain until after frost. At first, they are a cream or ivory white. By and by, they take on a pink tinge, and later a greenish brown color. This is a shrub that groups well. Set five or six plants together, and make them develop a bushy, spreading form, by allowing no branches to grow more than two feet high before you nip off their top.

It must not be understood that the kinds I have mentioned include all our desirable shrubs. By no means. There are many others having merit nearly

House and Garden



SNOWBALL

equal to those I have spoken of. But the kinds I have touched on are those which will be most likely to give the largest degree of satisfaction, under all conditions. I would advise the beginner in shrub-growing to not go outside the list, at present.

In planting shrubs, see that the ground is worked over until it is fine and mellow. Make it quite rich with old, decomposed cow-manure, if it is possible to obtain this fertilizer. If it is not available, use bone meal. The man of whom you buy it will tell you in what proportion to apply it to your soil.

Never dig a little hole in the ground and crowd the roots of your shrubs into it. Make it large enough to admit of spreading out their roots naturally. Cover them with fine soil, and press it down firmly about them, applying a pailful of water to each plant.

The impression prevails, to a considerable extent, that it is necessary to give all shrubs an annual pruning. Not so. When they have attained symmetrical shape, let them alone. If they out-grow it, cut away the rampant growth, and let that be the limit of your pruning. Of course, it will be well to go over the bushes and thin them out, if they get too thick, also to cut out weak or diseased growth. But this is not pruning in the sense of the term as it appeals to many amateurs. What some of them

have in mind is a shortening here, a cutting away there, and a general hacking and hewing, which, in the majority of cases is wholly unnecessary, and very harmful, not only to the health of the bushes but to their symmetrical appearance. Prune only so much as is absolutely necessary, and let the shrub do the rest.



AN ATTRACTIVE GROUPING OF SHRUBS

A Semi-Tropical Garden

BY E. P. POWELL

I AM writing not far from the equatorial line of plant life, where one crosses from pines to palms.

It is a wonderful land—just down through the heart of Florida; about one hundred miles long and fifty miles wide. It is the garden of the world. On one side of my home I look into a rich orange orchard; on the other side is a forest of pine—fifty feet to the first limbs. Behind my house I have an orchard of cherries, plums, pears, apples, apricots, and Japanese persimmons. I look across the lake at a yard of bananas and lemons, protected by boxing it is true, while guavas and grape fruit and lemons also stand in the shade of the basswoods and magnolias. Where else in the world is there such a combination? Kumquats make hedges, in sight of the holly and the hardy Tartarian honeysuckle. Loquats are in speaking distance of currants, raspberries and blackberries. Not far away I can find you a pineapple shed, and another shed for growing cucumbers under canvas. These sheds cost from six to eight hundred dollars an acre, but they pay at that.

So the North and the South shake hands just here in Central Florida; and while we are not quite able to grow the mangoes and some other of the most tender tropical fruits, without protection, we also cannot succeed with a few of the Northern fruits without equal care. The key in the latter case, as well as in the former, is mulching, and not too much stimulating into rapid and tender growth. Encourage cherries and apples and pears to grow slowly, but steadily, and keep the trees clean of suckers and of moss and all other parasites. Tropicals, even more than Northern fruits, need wind breaks; but curiously enough one of the best of all trees for this purpose is the camphor tree. The Government assures us that in less than five years we shall be manufacturing camphor for sale, while making cider from our home-grown apples in the same building. Right beside

the camphor, the live-oak is another superior wind-break. The native persimmon has some fine varieties, hardy as far north as Central New York; but here it is just as abundant as the oaks, in the pine openings. Most of these we graft to Japanese sorts, yet there is no question but that there is in our native persimmon, the possibility of vast improvement—making a much better fruit than we have imported. The Government also reports that agents, sent out by the Agricultural Department, have found a persimmon in Northern China, four inches in diameter, and hardy as far north as Boston—while equally well suited to Florida. We are growing the new American wonder lemon out of doors here; and it is a sight to be seen when in bloom. While the lemons weigh from one to two pounds each, we can grow them so freely as to make a marketable fruit of great value. I believe that this dwarf tree, with its huge and superb fruit, was originated not far from Philadelphia.

The Irish potato grows as readily as the sweet potato and here we plant it in January, if we wish to reach the Northern market just in time. Corn and cassava will divide between them other fields. It takes two hills of cassava to equal six of corn for horse feed. I can see one field of oats and another of barley from my windows; but Bermuda grass and beggar grass are far more than good rivals. The Northern grains are used more as stimulants, to make a perfect ration with the more Southern products. Burbank says that all weeds are only undeveloped plants of value, and that they will, all of them, come to have values in the future. This

beggar grass is an illustration; not long since a pest of the cotton growers, and hated, it was only recently found to be a magnificent fodder plant and hay-maker. About ten years ago the velvet bean was introduced as a flowering vine; it has developed into the greatest of all legumes for hay and fodder; the best



PINEAPPLES IN THE MAKING

House and Garden



IN AN ORANGE GROVE

to bring nitrogen into the soil, and increase the humus. If left alone, it will grow over fifty feet in a season; but it may be cut several times for hay, then used for pasturage and a cover crop, and finally be plowed under to fatten the soil. The vetches and cow peas must be added to these wonderful legumes, as they are found here in all their glory. Yet even these do not begin to cover the careful list that Nature has prepared for an up-to-date farmer, in this wonderful garden. Not a square foot of the most barren sand but may be made fat; only you must add one ingredient—common sense.

I am only touching the border of my garden. Why dig the clay of New England, and in winter eat up all that you have provided through the summer, while here, in January, we plow and plant, or dig our vegetables as we please? Many gardens are made in November, and from these we are now pulling our carrots and beets, and eating our cabbages. The first sowing of lettuce is in November, to be harvested in January. Another crop is immediately sowed, and is ready to be crated for the North in March. Celery follows the

lettuce, and is shipped in July. This truck gardening is, however, more appropriate to the border counties. The better part of what I have called the garden of Florida is given over to fruit growing, while in its gardens we find for market mainly melons, potatoes, carrots, and such vegetables as can be most easily shipped without damage. Our station master assures me that he ships carloads of melons annually, which "average over forty pounds to each melon." Here the bees are at work winter, as well as all summer; and the hens do not need special provision against zero weather. They are out, picking their grub, in February, with the thermometer at seventy, and in July when it is eighty.

The phase of this question which most interests thinking farmers is the possibility of doing seven months of farm work in the North, and afterward doing a profitable five months gardening or orcharding or truck growing here in Florida. This is already being done by so many that I am not in the least venturesome in saying that it will become a peculiar feature of American gardening, in the not distant future. The chief difficulty is in the fact that our railroads are not yet awake to the fact that it would be better for them to encourage this annual migration, with reasonable fares, rather than to prevent its development by demanding five cents a mile for passage. However, the lines of boats running from New York and Philadelphia, to Jacksonville and Brunswick and Savannah, are doing a much better thing, in giving fare, meals, and berths at about half the railroad fare alone.

The poetry of this life is, of course, a large factor. The Central part of the State, of which I have



LAKE VIRGINIA

A Sunflower Hedge



UNDER PALMS AND PINES

spoken, is unqualifiedly the most healthy section I have ever found; and I have lived in four or five of the States—East and West and Southwest. There is no malaria; there are no mosquitoes, and what pests there are can be easily mastered. The land is high and rolling, and in every hollow is a beautiful lake—from half a mile across to five or ten. Some of these are stocked with fish; and everywhere there is good hunting, within easy distance. The pine groves cover all the land that is not brought under tillage. These trees stand about like a Northern park, and we drive under them from village to village, and from orchard to orchard.

The *rosaceæ* family is almost as much at home here as in New York or Pennsylvania; but there are new sorts—not exactly new species, but very new developments of apples, pears, plums, cherries

and peaches, from the old Asiatic stocks. These new peaches and pears are not only unlike our old sorts in quality, but they constitute new classes, being developed from the old original Chinese stock, from which our Persian peaches and European pears began to develop two or three thousand years ago.

These new sorts are already crossing with the older sorts, so that there is hardly a conceivable end to the development. You may bring along your Bartlett pear, and here you can plant beside it the magnolia pear, and you will find that you have doubled the glory of your pear orchard. The angel peach, the honey peach, the Bidwell and the Waldo stand here ready to welcome, not all but many of those varieties which we have learned to admire and value from the Michigan and the Georgia orchards.

A Sunflower Hedge

IF you have an unsightly spot on your grounds, or you want to hide your vegetable garden, you will find a sunflower hedge a most excellent screen. The tall sunflowers known as giant-flowered are both graceful and profitable. The seeds can be sold to chicken fanciers for a good price.

If you plant two rows of seeds and thin out the plants to about two feet apart, alternating in the

rows, it will make a good foundation for a hedge. The plants need scarcely any care and reward one abundantly. Such a hedge in my garden was much admired with the great yellow disks turned toward the sun, besides yielding several bushels of nutritious seeds. In some parts of South Dakota, the Russians are so fond of these seeds that they are facetiously called "Russian peanuts." J. V. ROACH.

Auguste Rodin

By MARION NALL

A cablegram dated Paris, Dec. 11th, 1908, announced the serious illness of Auguste Rodin. A few weeks later news was received of his complete recovery. These two news items aroused more general attention than they might have done a few years ago, for to-day even those who have not seen the work of this Master in his own land have come to realize something at least of his wonderful art, since the Metropolitan Museum of Art has had on exhibition "The Hand of God," which is one of the most characteristic examples of Rodin's work. Other pieces of his sculpture have also been exhibited in New York recently, and the following account of his life and work, written by one who knows him well, will be found of extreme interest. The very characteristic sketch made from life by Mr. Boardman Robinson which is here reproduced for the first time, assists largely in placing before us the individuality of the man.

THE EDITOR.

RODIN was born in Paris in 1840. He was of humble birth, son of a concierge (janitor). His whole life has been devoted to the study of his art. So earnestly did he enter into the study of anatomy and so keen his interest in the dissecting rooms of Paris, that he almost abandoned modeling for the practice of medicine.

So accurate and marvelous is this quality in his work that in the early part of his career he was accused of moulding from the human form; measures were taken and it was, of course, proven that this was not true. He is indisputably considered the greatest living sculptor, none greater since Donatello. In him one can trace the influence of the old Greeks. Everything is beautiful to Rodin; he represents life, vital life, in all its phases with a strength and force that is truly marvelous. He understood how, with great simplicity, to transmit to indifferent material, the sacred fire. His most important life work is the "Porte d'Enfer;" he has been working at it for twenty years. It is not completed yet. This work is being done in a studio supplied by the state, rue de l'Université, Paris.

One of his most remarkable works has just been purchased by the Metropolitan Museum of Art; "La Main de Dieu," it is called, and symbolizes human life. In the palm of a hand nestles two human forms, that of a man and a woman, exquisitely modeled.

Other famous works are the statue of Balzac first repudiated and then accepted by the French government, "Le Baiser," "Celle qui fut Heaulmière" in the Luxembourg, Paris, and perhaps one of his loveliest is "Le Printemps." But these are only a very few of

the great mass of work which he has accomplished; it is almost superhuman. He worked hard and reached with difficulty the world-wide renown he finally so proudly acquired.

Without at all disdaining the life about him, he feels the need of solitude. It is only in seclusion that his thoughts fully expand, and for this reason he has chosen for his workshops such places as a little old house of the eighteenth century, half buried in tall

grass and trees on the Boulevard d'Italie, where he created "Les Bourgeois de Calais;" again a little house in Sèvres, hidden away from the gaze of the curious, where no one dared disturb him. This house once belonged to Scribe. In the upstairs rooms on every piece of furniture, bureau, table or chair were to be seen indications of Rodin's work, detached pieces or small groups, a head or a Greek urn.

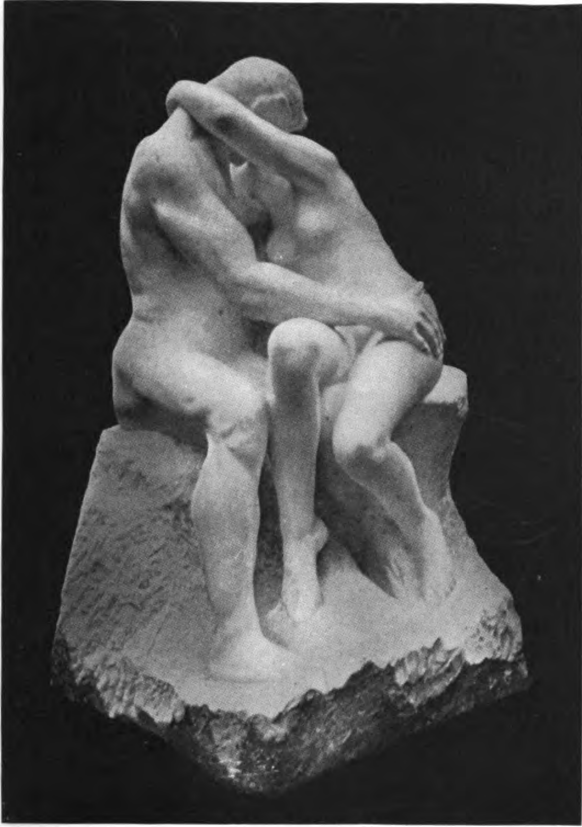
At present he lives in a house in Meudon, not far from Paris, where he made all his studies of the famous Balzac statue and where he has a wonderful collection of his works; he calls it his museum.

An interesting anecdote is told of Rodin. One summer, several years ago, his friends and admirers gave him a fête champêtre, organized by the famous artist Thaulow. They assembled in some woods in the outskirts of Paris, where Rodin was accustomed to wander, and with a good orchestra whiled away the time with song and dance. Miss Duncan, then not famous, was of the party, and carried away by the beauty of the scene and the exquisite melodies of Chopin, threw off her shoes and stockings and danced on the green grass under the trees and delighted Rodin and her audience. Those who have

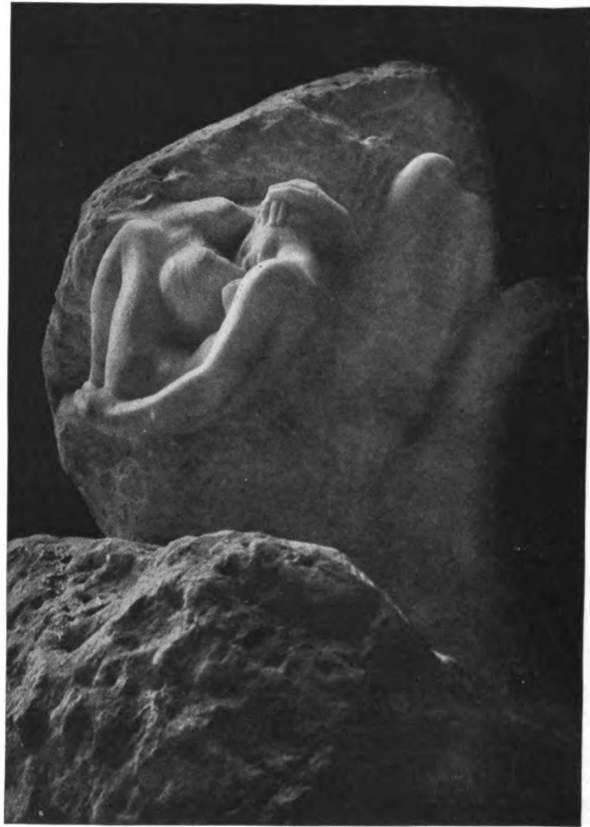


AUGUSTE RODIN
Pencil sketch from life by Boardman Robinson

Auguste Rodin



“LE BAISER”



“LA MAIN DE DIEU”



“LE PRINTEMPS”

this season witnessed the classic performances of Miss Duncan can well understand the effect such a scene would produce upon an artistic nature like Rodin's. Amid environments so beautifully sylvan and conditions so entirely satisfying, intense admiration only could be evoked. The charm of it all has remained a delightful memory to those who saw it. Arthur Symons has written perhaps one of the most complete and interesting criticisms of Rodin's works, which are so great and so subtle that it takes a master mind and hand to describe them. Mr. Symons calls him the Wagner of Sculpture.

Wild Plants in Perennial Gardens

By ADELINE THOMSON

THERE is a certain charm and delicate beauty surrounding our American wild flowers, which is distinctively their own. On all the large estates and summer places, these plants are being naturalized by the thousands, lining closely their winding drives, artificial lakes or shady paths. They bring to one, not only the spirit of the woods, but the impression also, that they are alone of Nature's planting.

That these native plants hold an especial charm is demonstrated by the fact that all of our leading nurserymen now carry an immense stock to supply the market, propagating them entirely on their own grounds. This latter fact is especially commendable for it ensures the protection of these flowers of Nature in their native haunts.

There are, however, a number of these wild plants which adapt themselves more readily to cultivation than others and produce striking color effects for the hardy border when they are used in connection with perennial plants. I have found several combinations which are exceedingly effective.

The grouping of wild spiderwort, or Job's tears,

as it is sometimes called, with that older combination of larkspurs and madonna lilies, is especially fine. The addition of the wild plant is a great improvement. The dazzling beauty of this planting can scarcely be imagined. The intense blue of the spiderwort is the exact counterpart of that of the larkspur. No artist could have matched his colors with so true an eye—a blue that is outrivaled only by the sky itself. These plants, too, are identical in height and in time of bloom, characteristics which make them ideal companions.

Spiderwort is one of our best known native plants. In early June the deep azure blue of the blossom makes it easily recognized along the roadsides or in among the tall grass of the fields. It is exceedingly hardy and transplants most readily.

The delicate lavender sweet william—or wild phlox—is another valuable addition to the perennial garden. A combination which invariably calls forth exclamations of delight from visitors to my own garden is the massing of this plant with white *Arabis albida* and perennial candytuft. The soft, delicate color tone of the lavender and white is especially



A garden where wild flowers and perennial plants grow in combination

Wild Plants in Perennial Gardens



Hepaticas, wild phlox, violets and a host of other flowers from the woods and fields grow here among the perennial plants

restful and harmonious. These plants, again, are identical in habits.

Sweet william is a great lover of shade. In its native haunts it thrives in the woods and among the thickets. It adapts itself, however, perfectly, to full sunshine in the garden and it improves greatly under cultivation. The flowering season of this plant is in early May, and at this time it is easily the glory of the garden,—a time when its more cultivated sisters are just beginning to put forth buds. Another valuable point in its favor is the length of its flowering season which is of several weeks' duration.

The familiar black-eyed susans of the prairie, make fine companion plants for perennial gallardias and Shasta daisies. In early July these plants break forth into a perfect riot of bloom. After a single year of cultivation the blossom becomes almost twice the size of those in the fields.

The last two weeks in July is the acknowledged dull season, in the perennial garden. The host of plants which have blossomed from the beginning of spring, are then using their every effort to develop seed.

Yellow coreopsis, gallardias and tall hollyhocks are almost alone in their glory. For this especial dull time in the garden, there is a beautiful plant of the woods—the starry campion. It supplies to it also that great harmonizer of all colors—white.

Long, graceful stems bear the fringed, gloxinia-like blossoms and masses of this plant among the golden coreopsis are extremely effective.

The cardinal flower or lobelia, which flourishes so luxuriantly in the low, marshy places of the woods and fields should be in every garden. It grows as rampantly in a dry sunny situation as in its cool, wet retreat of the wood. The plant is most hardy and prolific. The flowers are a deep, rich, velvety crimson and are borne on tall stately spikes, similar to those of the foxglove and larkspur.

Then, too, there are the myriad host of starry-eyed wild asters. These may be used in such a pleasing combination with perennial phlox. Bordering the garden paths, or driveways, or planted in great masses among the shrubbery, these truly beautiful plants of Nature, produce a wonderful effect.

Hepaticas, blood-root, shooting-stars, Jacob's-ladder, bluebells, dutchman's-breeches and liatris also thrive splendidly in the home garden, adapting themselves at once to their new surroundings.

There are countless other varieties of these wild plants, no doubt, which are worthy of cultivation for the woods and fields have been planted with a lavish hand, but the foregoing varieties have all been grown in my own home garden and have proved themselves to be all that they are represented.

The Small Flower Bed

How and what to plant to make a show from spring to fall. How to grow hardy plants cheaply. Combining hardy and tender plants with bulbs. The small cost of all. Early use of window boxes.

By L. J. DOOGUE

THERE are great possibilities in planting small beds if they are handled in the right way. A small space, or a border of great length, can be made to yield a show of bloom from the very early spring until long after the black frosts in the fall, and it can be done at very little expense, which is the particularly attractive part of the proposition.

Small planting spaces about city homes have, unfortunately, never been regarded as anything more than makeshifts, that is, they have been looked upon as places without possibilities. Each season they have been filled with something, anything, in fact, to save them from being left empty. Under such treatment they showed no particularly attractive features, but great chances were lost by this neglect to make the unattractive attractive and incidentally to lengthen the season of flowers by several weeks.

The uppermost desire of every gardener, be he amateur or professional, is to secure the most constant and attractive display of flowers. Where this can be made in the same identical bed, something of a floral feat has been accomplished, and various the methods employed to encompass it.

To have a display from very early till very late in the year, necessitates the employment of bulbs, hardy plants and annuals in the same bed; merging one show into the other according to the time of flowering of the particular kinds, making the plan one of substitution and using successively the plants named above. The bulbs first, then the hardy plants and lastly the combination of the hardy plants and annuals, the latter coming at a time when something flowering is necessary in flowers to keep the bed from looking ragged.

As an example for illustration, let us take a border bed along the side of a house, about fifteen feet long and four or

five feet wide. I suggest this size as I have just such a bed near my house in which I have proved the proposition that I am making. What follows in this story is simply a recital of the work as done and the results of the season's planting. Unfortunately a very attractive series of pictures taken at varying periods, were destroyed, thus eliminating a convincing proof for doubters and visitors from Missouri.

Before telling the story let us plant this bed in a few different ways and then contrast them with the plan I am suggesting.

Planting with Hardy Plants.—Suppose this bed should be planted permanently with hardy plants, what would be the result? Most unsatisfactory, for the reason that because of its size there would be insufficient room to mass plants in numbers enough and varieties to perfect a succession of bloom through the season. Such a bed in the spring would look well and even well towards the summer it would be attractive, but after that the condition would be a ragged one, some parts of it being little better than a heap of weeds. In a large border, of course, this could be partially overcome, but it is the small bed that is under discussion at present.

Another Planting.—Another time let us use annuals, etc. This would mean that nothing could be safely put out of doors before the end of May, and it would also mean that any time after the tenth of

September it was liable to be cut down by the frost. This bed would be pretty while it lasted and when looking its best, would be destroyed.

Combination of Hardy and Tender.—A combination of bulbs, hardy plants and annuals will give bloom in abundance from late in March until late in the fall. Such a suggestion will, without doubt, disturb many sensitive beings whose souls



THIS SMALL PLOT WAS TREATED AS SUGGESTED WITH HARDY AND TENDER PLANTS

The Small Flower Bed



THE SPIDER PLANT



THE QUEEN ALEXANDRA DAISY

are so delicately attuned to the harmony of this and that and several other things too numerous to enumerate, but the fact of the matter is that the combination of these plants is the proper caper for a small bed, and without this combination no satisfactory results can be arrived at. Some people claim to see beauty in a withered weed. Happy mortals!

To Work out the Combination.—Early in the fall pot up what hardy plants you have, digitalis, campanulas, *Lobelia cardinalis*, hollyhocks, *Arabis Alpina*,

Phlox subulata, phlox, *Viola pedata*. Store these in a frame for the winter, covering well. Fill the bed with tulips in October using, say white for center and pink for border. At the time you put in the tulips pot up hyacinths and narcissus and store these out of doors covered with ashes to the depth of several inches.

In the Spring.—Early in the spring, before the tulips have pushed much above the ground, take the covering off the hyacinths and put a sash over the frame. This will in the course of a short time force



A POTTED CANNA



HYACINTHS AND NARCISSUS



CAMPANULAS READY FOR BEDDING

them into flower. When sufficiently in bloom plunge them, in pots, between the tulips in the bed. Remove at the same time the covering from the narcissus and force them as was done with the hyacinths. Uncover the hardy plants. As soon as the hyacinths show signs of passing remove them and put the narcissus, already in flower, in their places. This gives the first show of hyacinths, the second of narcissus and the tulips coming shortly afterwards, the third, almost before the frost is gone.

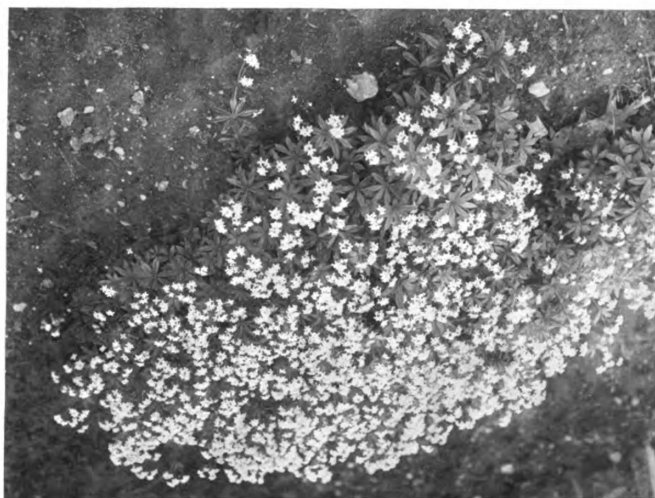
Starting the Annuals.—The empty bed where the bulbs were stored can be used at this time to start the annuals. Just spade it deep, work in a little old manure, work the ground to a fine and smooth surface on top and sow seeds thinly, covering lightly with sifted loam. Sow asters, plenty of white, snapdragons, French marigolds, African marigolds, a few, cosmos and phlox.

Using the Hardy Plants.—After the narcissus have been removed put *Arabis Alpina* between the tulips or *Phlox subulata*. *Arabis* will make a solid mass of creamy white that will completely cover the tulip leaves after the flowers have been removed and this gives the bulbs plenty of time to ripen before being taken out of the ground, a most important consideration for the tulip bulbs. The phlox is almost as effective.

At this period the campanulas, foxgloves and *Lobelia cardinalis* will be rushing to flower and must be used. With the foxgloves make as great a mass as possible in the bed and soak with water. Then work in afterwards whatever plants that are very



FOXGLOVES IN POTS PLANTED AMONG AZALEAS
LATER THEY ARE TAKEN OUT



A BED OF ASPERULA ODORATA LIKE THIS
COSTS TEN CENTS

forward, massing as much as possible, for any dotting about will not be effective. Put some plants of Queen Charlotte at the back of the bed, some cosmos, castor beans, spider plants out of pots at the back and also some of them in pots well towards the front. Those out of pots will grow tall while the others will flower well but very dwarf. Sweet alyssum with French marigolds for border with *Campanula carpatica* behind. A little *Salvia splendens*, plenty of white asters and an assortment of pompon chrysanthemums for late flowering.

This may sound like a hodgepodge and it may make some people wish that they were color blind, but whatever the opinions it is a fact that it means flowers and lots of them from first to last. Of course a little gray matter must be mixed with the work.

The Cost.—Hardy plants are expensive if bought in pots and would make the proposition of the small bed unattractive. On the other hand, if a stock is started from seed the expense is insignificant. Annuals can be grown easily and the seed is cheap. Bulbs are somewhat expensive, but with the tulips it is possible to keep up a new stock by propagating the offsets from the old bulbs. Propagation of hyacinths is more difficult. A cold frame is easily made and a sash or two, with care, will last for many years.

Window Boxes.—Window boxes can be given this same treatment and are very effective when so planted. If these are used pot enough tulips to fill them, also hyacinths and narcissus. Plant successively as in the bed. Don't put your bulbs in the box and leave them out all winter.

A Year in a Bulb and Perennial Bed

FLOWERS FROM APRIL UNTIL FROST

By FLORA LEWIS MARBLE

IF a new garden is being planned this spring, don't fail to make provision for the bulb beds which will, of course, not be planted until next fall. By locating them now where they will have the best of soil and drainage, and the greatest amount of sunshine, the results next year will abundantly repay the forethought.

If a permanent bulb bed is contemplated, one must be careful to choose bulbs that thrive best under the same conditions. For instance, poet narcissus demands a light, dry, thoroughly drained soil. It will not bloom in other situations.

Our bulb bed was to have a border of poet narcissus, so the bed was made considerably higher than the garden paths. The soil was rich and light, with a layer of sand about six inches below the surface where the narcissus bulbs were set. They were placed about four inches apart, and formed a circling border a foot wide. Outside of the

narcissus came a row of scillas set only four inches deep and as far apart. The center of the bed was planted with the great tulip, *Gesneriana*. These bulbs were set with four inches of soil over them. Sand was used freely close to all the bulbs to prevent any inclination to decay during an unusually wet season. Crocuses were tucked in an inch or so below the level of the soil everywhere, as they did not interfere with the other bulbs set lower. Now we considered the bed finished. This was done during the last week of October, and the bed covered lightly with leaves.

The next spring the question arose, what to do with the bed after the bulbs stopped blooming? The soil could not be disturbed by setting out bedding plants

of any size, for it was too thickly planted. After thinking the matter over we put in seeds of purple and white pansies and verbenas, and sowed seeds in spots to establish clumps of false dragon's head and hardy white carnations. The perennials are large clumps now, for the bed is four years old, and every year since the pansies and verbenas have self-sown because the top soil is never disturbed.

The following notes taken from my garden book for 1907 will show the progress for one year in this particular bulb bed:

April Sixth—Crocuses in bloom, brilliant blue and white. Scillas in bud. Tulips and narcissus well up. It is cold now, after the hot week of March. The early growth in the garden is almost stunted. Photographed crocuses to-day.

April Thirtieth—Crocuses still pretty. Scillas in full bloom.

May Eighth—Crocuses gone, except pretty leaves. Self-sown pansy

and verberna plants coming up everywhere. Hardy carnations showing green stalks. False dragon's head beginning to grow.

May Sixteenth—Narcissus in bloom. Seen across the lawn, it is like a great white crown in the center of the garden. Planted four seeds of bright yellow nasturtiums about bird's bath tub in center of bed.

May Thirty-first—In spite of the hot week in March, it has been a cold, late spring. Red tulips in bloom now, and narcissus still pretty.

June Fifth—Tulips in prime, forming a red center with green leaves of narcissus for border.

June Twelfth—Tulips gone. Pansies, verbenas, carnations beginning to bloom and cover bulbs.



A BED OF CROCUSES

House and Garden



NARCISSUS

July Tenth—A hail storm almost ruined the garden, cutting nasturtiums back to the ground.

August Seventh—Bed white with false dragon's head. Nasturtiums recovering from storm and blooming freely though they are still stubby. Took photograph today.

September First—Nasturtiums are clambering over bird's bath tub and trailing over center of bed. Carnations, pansies and verbenas are blooming freely as weather begins to be cooler.

The notes show that the blooming from April to frost is brought about from permanent bulbs or self-sown seeds, with the excep-

tion of the seeds of yellow nasturtiums planted in May. The bulbs of crocus, tulips and narcissus constituted the bulbous section, while scillas, verbenas and carnations supplied to the bed a continuous color display through their contribution of self-sown seeds. From these notes we see that the color scheme works out as follows:

April, white and blue—crocuses and scillas.

May, June, white and red—Narcissus and tulips.

July, white and purple—pansies, verbenas and carnations.

August, white and yellow—nasturtiums and false dragon's heads.

September, to frost, yellow, purple, white—nasturtiums, pansies, verbenas and carnations.



NASTURTIIUMS AND FALSE DRAGON'S HEAD

The Decorative Value of Fruit Trees

Genus *Prunus*

By W. R. GILBERT

THE economic importance of the fruit of various members of the genus *Prunus* is so high that their decorative value is somewhat neglected. Most people who are interested in horticulture are acquainted with the merits of this or that variety of peach, plum, cherry, or apricot, but few appear to be aware of the large number of species and forms of *Prunus* and allied genera that are available for the floral decoration of the garden. Here and there a few are used, such as the almond, purple-leaved plum, and the double-flowered cherry, but there are many more that might be grown in the same way, as they are every bit as hardy, and in some instances more beautiful than those named.

The genus *Prunus* is divided into several large groups, such as *Prunus* proper or the true plums, *Amygdalus* or almond, *Armeniaca* or apricot, *Cerasus* or cherry, *Padus* or bird cherry, and *Laurocerasus* or laurel. The first of these groups, the true plum, *P. cerasifera*, forms a large-headed tree and blossoms with the greatest freedom. Occasionally the flowers are followed by a fair crop of showy, scarlet fruit. A near relative of the cherry plum is *P. divaricata*, which differs in having yellow fruits. Both trees bloom during May. The wild sloe or black thorn (*P. spinosa*) is a pretty, spring-flowering bush, and there is in gardens a doubled-flowered variety of it, and another with purple leaves.

The almond group includes several very desirable trees and shrubs in addition to *P. Amygdalus*, the common almond. It forms a tree anything between ten feet and forty feet in height. It is very floriferous and never fails to bear a profusion of pretty rosy-lilac flowers early in the year. Closely allied to it is the Chinese pink flowered *P. Davidiana*, which blossoms very early, sometimes being in full bloom in early spring. There is a variety of it with white flowers which is quite as lovely. *P. jacquemontii* is a dwarf tree or shrub from Afghanistan, which bears small pink flowers in April and May. It is suitable to form a bed or group on a lawn in a large garden or park. *P. nana*, the "dwarf or Russian almond," grows only twelve or thirteen feet high and flowers with the greatest freedom. The type is rose-colored; there is also a variety with white flowers and another called *P. gessleriana*, which is bright red.

Prunus Persica, the peach, is one of the most beautiful of all spring flowering trees, and yet, although quite as hardy as the almond, it is not grown anything like so extensively. The flowers of the

type are single and pink, but there are numerous varieties with double white, pink and red blooms, some of which are one and one-half inches across. They all bloom early, and with exceptional freedom. As single specimens in shrubberies they are also very effective. They are to be obtained now in quantity from tree nurserymen, and we may yet hope to see them as shades of color forming a fine contrast.

In the apricot group there are some really good garden trees, the best being the double pink and white forms of *P. Mume*, the Japanese apricot; *P. tomentosa*, a dwarf species from China, conspicuous in early April, when it is covered with white, pink-tinted flowers; and *P. triloba*, also Chinese, with bright pink blossoms.

The single-flowered type is pretty, but it is quite overshadowed by the double-flowered variety, which has flowers about one inch across, quite double and of the most charming shade of pink. To have it at its best it is necessary to prune the flowering branches back to within an eye or two of their base as soon as the flowers are over, that is toward the end of May. It then forms long shoots which, the following spring, are clothed from base to tip with flowers. Grown against a wall the main branches only should be secured, the others being allowed to hang away from the support.

The cherry group contains a large number of beautiful flowering trees and shrubs. *P. acida*, a dwarf European species, is very floriferous, the flowers being pure white. It forms short jointed wood with many spurs, and blooms well when but two or three feet high; *globosa*, *dumosa*, *umbraculifera* and *marasca* are handsome, single-flowered forms of it and *ranunculiflora*, and *flore-pleno* doubled flowered; *semperflorens*, the All Saints' cherry, is another form of this species; it is peculiar in that it flowers throughout the greater part of summer. The native gean (*P. Avium*) is represented in gardens by a beautiful double-flowered tree of rapid growth, with first rate flowering qualities. A large tree of it bearing its countless pure white pendulous blossoms in May is a beautiful picture, especially when standing out on a lawn or with a setting of evergreens. Other distinct varieties of it are *asplenifolia*, with cut leaves; *Decumana*, with very large leaves; and *pendula*, with weeping branches.

The wild or Morello cherry, *P. Cerasus*, both single and double flowered forms, bloom very freely and are good garden trees. *P. Japonica* is best known by its free double-flowered varieties, one of which

has white, the other deep rose-colored flowers. They usually grow three to four feet high and form shapely bushes for which hard pruning every second year is necessary to insure good growth and plenty of bloom. *P. pendula*, the rose-bud cherry from Japan is said to attain a height of forty feet in that country. The branches are always pendulous, and in early May are clothed with deep rose-colored blossoms. *P. Pseudo-Cerasus* is one of the glories of the genus, and should be found in every garden. It is of vigorous habit forming long, rambling branches, sparingly clothed with branchlets but thickly studded with short spurs, from which a profusion of flowers is produced. These are single in the type, pink, and one and one-half to two inches across; but there are varieties with double flowers, which vary in color, and in size, some being as much as two and one-half inches in width. The most showy of these are James H. Veitch, with deep rose or red blossoms; *flore-pleno*, with rose flowers and *flore luteo pleno* with yellowish-white blossoms. *P. serrulata*, like the last mentioned species, is of Chinese origin, and, like it also, it deserves to be popular in gardens. In some respects these two species bear a striking resemblance to each other as both form long rambling branches thickly clothed with flower spurs, but whilst the flowers of *P. Pseudo-Cerasus* are more or less upright those of *P. serrulata* are spread out horizontally. These flowers are of the same size and are double white. A well-grown tree of *P. serrulata* never fails to win admiration, even from people who have no special knowledge of trees. *P. subhirtella*, one of the newer Japanese cherries, is a small growing tree which bears pretty, rose-colored flowers freely during May and June.

Prunus Padus, the bird cherry, is represented by numerous varieties, of which *flore-pleno*, with racemes six inches long of double white flowers and *Alberti*, an extremely free flowering tree, are the best. *P. Mahaleb*, the St. Lucie cherry, belongs to the same group. It forms a very large headed tree, bearing during May a profusion of small white flowers, when it is very ornamental. The variety with weeping branches, called *pendula*, is a striking tree; it should be given plenty of room when first planted, as it develops rapidly.

The cherry laurels, *P. laurocerasus*, include the common laurel, a really fine evergreen when allowed to develop freely, but it is too often spoiled by close cropping and mutilation. A bush of it twelve to eighteen feet high and twenty to thirty feet across is a really magnificent evergreen. There are many varieties, a few of the best being *camelliaefolia*, *colchica*, *latifolia*, *otinii*, and *rotundifolia*. The Portugal laurel, *P. Lusitanica*, enjoys the distinction of being one of the worst possible shrubs to transplant, young specimens one and one-half to two feet high being much more likely to succeed than those of larger dimensions. There are several varieties, the one called *myrtifolia*, with small and narrow leaves, being the most distinct. Both the cherry and Portugal laurels are handsome flowering bushes when they are allowed to grow naturally. It is not possible in these notes to do more than call attention to the most beautiful species and varieties. Intending planters would do well to pay an occasional visit to some of the nurseries where a specialty is made of prunuses and other hardy flowering trees and see for themselves what a wealth of material there is to select from for the beautifying of the garden in the spring.

An Economy in Suburban Building

IN these days every attention has to be given to all means of producing a given building most economically. Now besides the selection of materials, there is an opportunity of economy that is not apparent to every one.

The suburban contractor, when he receives a big bunch of plans and a specification as long as a dictionary, from a city architect whom he does not know, looks through the plans and bids "safe," that is, he does not bid as close as he would were he to receive the same thing from an architect with whom he has had favorable relations previously. He argues thus: "I am reasonably busy with work for people I know well, and this new structure is for people I do not know and under the supervision of an utter stranger. If I am given the contract at my figure, I surely will lose nothing, whereas if I am not awarded the contract, I am as well off as before."

If all the invited bidders are of the same mind, the bids will be ten to twenty-five per cent higher than need be.

Here then is one of the important duties of an architect who does suburban work: He must give the contractor, from whom he is inviting estimates, an opportunity to know and converse with him, clearing his mind of uncertainties, and make him feel at ease with the man under whose supervision six months or more of his work is to be carried on.

On this account it is incumbent on all architects who are searching for the most economical results for their clients that they give the contractor, whom they ask to bid, an opportunity of becoming acquainted before the bid has been made. This is a source of economy that is well to call to our readers attention, for there are few, except those with quite wide experience, who would fully realize its value.

Why Many Amateur Gardeners Fail

THE REASONS AND REMEDIES

BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN

(Continued from the February Issue.)

SIMPLE RULES TO BE FOLLOWED BY AMATEURS IN PLANTING

Dear Sirs:—The majority of planters purchase nursery stock with the idea that all should grow, and there really is no reason why it should not, if the plants are good, the roots carefully packed so as not to dry out in transit, and ordinary precautions taken in preparing the soil, in the preparation of the plants, and also in the planting itself.

The first, most important requisite is that the ground be well prepared. That is, it must be trenched or spaded deep and well enriched. It is advisable to do this some time in advance of the receipt of the plants. As soon as the goods have been received they should be taken out of the package and in the case of trees, shrubs, hardy roses, and other hard wooded plants, should be "heeled in." That is, the plants laid down in a slanting position and the roots covered with earth. This will keep them in a fresh condition until ready to plant and they may be left this way for several days. It also has a tendency to revive any that may have become dried out by reason of being too long on the road. As a general thing, trees, etc., are sent from the nursery in the same condition as when taken from the nursery rows. The roots and tops are often bruised and broken to some extent which should be remedied by proper pruning, and in the case of fruit trees and some other things, the branches should be shortened or cut back.

In planting care should be taken to have the holes sufficiently large so that the roots can be spread out in their natural position and without crowding. The finest top soil should be used to place around the roots and in the case of small plants, this should be pressed in carefully with the hands. A mulch or covering of rough manure on top of the ground will be beneficial and help to retain moisture. If very dry weather should follow after the planting, it will be necessary to water the things occasionally. Many nurserymen now print in their catalogues—"Directions for planting" which if followed carefully will lead to satisfactory results. By the proper observance of a few simple rules, satisfactory results will usually be obtained, but it will also be at the expense of some labor and trouble.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
Mount Hope Nurseries.

Rochester, N. Y.

THE USE OF VARIETIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ADAPTABILITY FOR PURPOSE OR LOCATION

Gentlemen:—Referring to your letter under date of the 7th, asking for suggestions as to why many owners of country places fail to get satisfactory results with their plantings, we would suggest one reason that has seemed to us to be responsible for very many unsatisfactory plantings. That is, the using of varieties without considering their adaptability for the purpose and location. A great majority of planters, when it comes to filling a problem, plant without considering carefully the effect, soil and location, simply using trees or shrubs that they have seen doing well on a friend's place.

We have known of blue spruce being placed in heavy, wet, clay soils where there was not one chance in a thousand for them to make satisfactory growth. We have seen English ivy planted under old trees where the soil was washed off, thin and dry, with no possible chance of the plants securing moisture, and the plantation made simply because English ivy had been seen making an excellent ground cover under a tree in a similar position, but in which they failed to note that preparation by a supply of top soil and careful watering had been used to supply the nourishment and moisture so necessary to establish the plants.

It is this lack of studying out the situation and the requirements of the plants that leads in such a large number of cases to unsatisfactory plantings. Very often, when it is left to the gardener, results are no better. If the gardener is a first-class, practical man, these problems are the first that appear to him and he considers them of first importance, and selects his planting material accordingly. On the other hand, there are a great number of men in charge of places who are not gardeners, but who, simply having the ability to cut the grass and trim flower beds, presume to select planting material for different problems with exactly the same results as the one who gives the subject little consideration. We would suggest that aside from purchasing the tree or shrub, he should consider first the purpose for which the plant is required, and second, the soil in which the plant must grow, and then either select plants suitable for such a location or renew the soil and by fertilization prepare such places to receive the plants.

Yours truly,

J. H. HUMPHREYS,
Andorra Nurseries.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1908.

House and Garden

MUCH NURSERY STOCK IS LOST BY LATE PLANTING

Dear Sirs:—We have your valued letter of the 1st to hand, asking for a statement explaining the causes of failure in transplanting nursery stock.

With experienced labor there is but little complaint about stock not growing; and nursery stock as a rule is not difficult to get to grow if conditions are at least half-way right. Yet many people do not have the least idea as to either the planting or the care of stock.

When it is received it must be borne in mind primarily that nursery stock is perishable and whenever exposed to the sun and wind it is losing vitality. It may not be exposed sufficiently to kill it outright, but the vitality is impaired just in proportion to the time and manner of exposure.

We believe that more stock is lost by late planting than any other one cause as nursery stock, to succeed, must be planted early in season when the ground is cool and full of moisture. It then becomes established and new root system formed, and when the dry hot weather comes on it is in position to take care of itself, as a proper circulation has already set in and the proper relation between root and top established.

The majority of people do not place their order for stock until the time of planting is at hand. This brings their order to the nursery at the very busiest time of the year, and some little delay is often necessary in order to get the shipment under way. Then there is the delay in transit; all of which could have been avoided if the order had been placed earlier in season. Too much importance cannot be placed on this point, and prospective buyers should be urged to place their order as early in season as they can determine what stock is wanted.

Another cause of failure is planting in soil not at all suitable for the stock. All small fruit plants should be planted on soil that was in some cultivated crop the year previous, such as corn, potatoes or other garden produce, as planting in newly broken sod is sure to result in failure, as the soil is full of insects which prey upon the newly set plants. The sod likewise cuts off capillary attraction and robs the plants of moisture, which is so essential for their growth at this early stage.

Trees and hardy shrubs, of course, may be planted in sod if large, ample holes are dug for the accommodation of the roots, and the soil kept well worked or by using a good heavy mulch about each tree or shrub planted. This holds the moisture and keeps the ground in the best possible condition. But, to crowd a tree into a small hole on a city lawn, filling in with broken sod and coarse dirt, is almost sure to result in failure; and we are sorry to say that this is the way that a large percentage of the trees are planted annually.

We advise cutting off all mangled roots, and

likewise any impaired branches as well as heading in the top to correspond with the root system, so that a perfect relation is established between the root and branch.

In planting trees we advise using a few gallons of water when the hole is about one half filled; this settles the dirt about the roots better than it can be done in any other way. Then filling in the remainder of the soil without wetting, as water thrown on the surface soil is inclined to cause the soil to bake, which results disastrously to the tree planted.

If the ground is not prepared when the stock arrives, it should be immediately heeled in the ground, being careful that the soil is brought in contact with all of the roots of the plants so as to keep out the air and to keep the plants from drying. Or the stock may be kept a few days in a cool, moist cellar in the package they were shipped in; for if the goods come from an experienced nurseryman they are so packed that the air is excluded, and sufficient moss used about the roots to keep them in good condition for a week or ten days.

Thousands of strawberry plants are lost annually by throwing water over the tops of the plants when they are received. This should not be done as this will rot the crowns of the plants in twenty-four hours. If they are to be wet at all the roots only should be dipped in water, being careful to keep the tops dry.

In planting all kinds of nursery stock it should not be exposed in the field and dropped ahead of the planter. Keep it carefully heeled in or protected, and plant immediately after removing from the ground or from the package in which it was shipped, as a few minutes' exposure to a hot drying wind is sufficient to kill such tender plants as strawberries, blackcap raspberries, blackberries, etc.

There are, of course, other causes of failure, but if above instructions are followed the loss will be reduced to a minimum. Very respectfully,

W. N. SCARFF.

New Carlisle, Ohio, July 9, 1908.

FAILURE OFTEN CAUSED BY ACTUAL NEGLECT

HOUSE AND GARDEN:—I believe that a very large majority of planters of roses, shrubs, bedding plants and other flowers have good success with their plants, but many do meet with failure which is quite often caused by actual neglect. Plants are often neglected by people who know what care they should have, and also by people who do not seem to realize that they require any care whatever after planting, and these are the ones who are most likely to attribute their failure to the nurseryman who sold them the plants.

Many failures are caused by planting too near large trees. In small yards it is sometimes almost impossible to plant far enough from shade trees. Many people think that if tender plants are placed

Why Many Amateur Gardeners Fail

on the south side of such trees or far enough away to avoid actual shade there will be no trouble and such planting is often attended by partial or fairly good success, but the only safe rule in such cases is to plant nothing nearer a tree than a distance equal to the height of the tree.

Many planters of roses make a serious mistake in the preparation of the soil, using quantities of sand, woods earth and other light material. Roses will not do well in such soil as they require a rather heavy clay loam and in no case should sand or any light material, except well-rotted manure, be used unless the soil is a very heavy clay. A small quantity of sand and woods earth is often beneficial to tender plants, other than roses, though if the soil has been properly enriched beforehand it is usually in a light friable condition which is all that is necessary. A mistake is often made in construction of beds for cannas, geraniums and other plants by raising them above the surrounding level; such beds are very hard to keep moist, and are often so dry that the plants will not do well, even in the best of soil.

Grass and weeds should never be allowed to grow nearer than two feet from any plant and the soil in this space should always be kept loose with the hoe. Neglect of this simple rule is very often the cause of failure.

W. R. GRAY.

Oakton, Fairfax Co., Va.

LARGELY OWING TO LACK OF PREPARATORY EXPERIENCE

Gentlemen:—From an extended observation I am confident that the comparatively few failures in garden building and landscape architecture are largely owing to the lack of preparatory experience by those undertaking this work. Because a man can build a dog house it does not follow that he can plan or construct a beautiful residence. And in gardening matters one may be most successful in business and abundantly able to own a country estate yet be wholly incompetent to effectively deal with the landscape and planting improvements. A florist or untrained gardener who produces sweet peas to perfection unless he be skilled in the gardening art generally, not infrequently makes an unattractive mess of attempting the location and planting of trees and hardy plants.

The descriptions in the catalogues of most nursery establishments are accurate and trustworthy. The recommendations equally reliable. This is especially the fact with the publications of established companies or concerns who have built up a prosperous and successful business. It could not be otherwise; for accuracy and reliability have been for a decade one of the most valuable assets any one in the nursery business could possess. In our own catalogues the greatest care possible is exercised to avoid both

exaggeration and technical errors. This rule we believe is now generally followed by responsible houses all over the country.

No catalogue or other printed matter can, however, supply the missing link between incompetency or inexperience, and the best results in gardening. The remedy for failure in these matters is not far to seek. Where the grounds of a new estate are to be laid out or important changes are desired in well-planted estates, it is always well to consult a landscape architect or specialist in such work. The degree of success is likely to be enhanced in choosing a man or firm where the artistic sense and practical qualities are united. The owner's wishes as to the style of landscape treatment can then be economically worked out and the chance of error or failure largely eliminated. Moreover in this way, and by a suitably made plan, the end can be seen from the beginning,—not only as to the plan of treatment but approximately the cost as well.

For smaller grounds and more simple planting the owner's desire for improvement can frequently be successfully carried out and at small cost by direct consultation with the nursery concern meriting his or her confidence. While our company does not make a business of preparing landscape plans, we are frequently consulted in such matters and undertake the furnishing of everything required for successful planting at reasonable cost.

Nor if undertaken in the right way is there any difficulty in obtaining faithful and competent gardeners to execute planting plans and take charge of suburban and country places for permanently successful results. During the past few years this country has developed a vast number of efficient, reliable men, who are thoroughly grounded in every principle of successful gardening, and capable of assuming entire charge of the most extensive landscape and garden developments. This is manifest from the perfect condition in which many fine country seats and public parks and smaller suburban places are now kept and the number of well-planted and well-cared-for country places and other attractive ornamental grounds is being rapidly augmented every year.

The registers of good gardeners now in use by some of the leading nursery establishments are a great convenience to those requiring skilled and reliable men. Several years ago we adopted here a system of personal reference inquiry, from which the record as to character and competency of any gardeners who make application to be placed on the register of men available, are thoroughly investigated. In this way men only who can "make good" are recommended.

In a word: if those contemplating lawn, garden, or glass construction improvements go about these matters in securing competent assistants as they do

House and Garden

if successful in other affairs, the day of failures will soon have passed, and the country will enter upon the most successful decade of landscape and garden embellishments yet known.

FREDERICK W. KELSEY, President,
American Nursery Company.
150 Broadway, New York.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PLANTING TREES AND SHRUBS

Gentlemen:—The one thing most often omitted by planters of trees, shrubs and vines, is the pruning or cutting back of the branches. Even when the purchaser comes to the nursery and buys a few trees or vines and is told about the necessity of cutting the branches to correspond with the necessary cutting back of the roots in digging, the nurseryman may find later that this buyer has not done as he was advised to do, and as a result some of the trees have died and he thinks the nurseryman should replace them, whereas, if he had cut back the branches as he had been told to do, he would not have lost a single tree, vine or shrub.

Particularly is this cutting back of branches necessary in transplanting peach trees and rose bushes. The experienced orchard planter of peach trees cuts off every branch close to the trunk and cuts back the top, leaving simply a stub two to three feet high. This severe pruning seems to the inexperienced man to be scarcely less than murderous, but it is the proper thing to do, the only thing in planting peach trees.

In transplanting the rose bush the branches should be cut back, leaving each one not over four inches to six inches long.

Another necessary suggestion for planting is, that the soil be made firm over the roots as fast as it is thrown in. There is scarcely any danger of making the earth too firm in transplanting but the last shovel of earth after the hole is nearly filled should be left loose to act as a mulch.

I have known inexperienced planters to place manure in contact with the roots in planting. Such treatment causes the death of many newly planted trees. The roots of many plants, trees and vines are often allowed to dry out, owing to exposure before planting. If nursery products are properly protected and properly planted not one in a hundred should die.

CHARLES A. GREEN.
Rochester, New York.

BEGINNERS IMPATIENT FOR RESULTS

Dear Sirs:—Replying to your inquiry why some fail in securing the best results with their flowers we wish to say: It is an easy task even for the beginner to be successful in growing flowers as well as the proper arrangement of them if a little study is given regarding the nature of the various plants to be grown and some judgment is used at the outstart. Invaluable

information on floriculture and landscape gardening can now be secured from the conservatories and nurserymen that advertise giving such information in their catalogues. Success is almost sure after having acquired some knowledge as to the preparation of soil, proper season to plant, selection of plants best adapted for the various locations. For instance, one must know roses require considerable sun and must not be planted under trees while with rhododendrons a location just the opposite is required. We believe there are more failures from planting in the wrong locations than from any other cause. Persons not having the proper location for rhododendrons or certain plants should not attempt to grow them, but in place of them select such plants as are recommended for the kind of a place they may have at their disposal for plants. Many also fail on account of attempting to grow too many untried plants or exotics rather than the good old standbys that ought to be grown more extensively because they are known to succeed under almost all conditions. Better results and finer effects will be had if more hardy plants and shrubbery is used, for with these beautiful foliage and blossoms may be had from early spring until even after frost. They do not require annual replacing but grow more attractive every year and when once established all expense as well as labor is practically at an end.

Some, and especially over-ambitious beginners, sometimes become impatient waiting for results, but it must be remembered that it took time to create the beautiful effects of Nature or the attractively planted parks. A little patience until hardy plants become well established is always repaid with an annual dividend in an abundance of the most interesting flowers Nature and culture has given us. If success does not come the first time, the beginners should not become discouraged. At the second attempt they will all be the wiser and will profit by the experience. There are always some difficulties encountered in bad weather or other things that are unavoidable. After disappointment of failure, success when gained, will be all the more enjoyed.

We trust that this information may be of some assistance and encourage those that have not entirely succeeded in their efforts to grow flowers.

Yours respectfully,
WAGNER PARK CONSERVATORIES.
Sidney, Ohio, July 27, 1908.

SELECTION OF WRONG VARIETIES AND IMPROPER CARE

Dear Sirs:—We have found that failure with nursery stock is frequently due to improper selection of varieties or to neglect and improper care.

It is true that sometimes the plants used may be
(Continued on page 3, Advertising Section.)

THE EDITOR'S TALKS AND CORRESPONDENCE



The Editor, Margaret Greenleaf, wishes to extend a personal invitation to all readers of *House and Garden* to send to the Correspondence Department, inquiries on any matter pertaining to house finishing and furnishing. Careful consideration is given each inquiry, the letter and answer being published in due time as matters of interest to other readers. Where an early reply is desired if a stamp and self-addressed envelope are enclosed, the answer will be sent. No charge whatever is made for any advice.

CORRESPONDENCE

FINISHING AND FURNISHING A BUNGALOW

I AM building a shingle bungalow, one and a half stories high, stained a dark red, trimmed in cream. Can *HOUSE AND GARDEN* suggest a pretty mantel for living-room? I wish to carry out somewhat the craftsman style throughout the house. The fireplace is to be large, and I want it all brick with just a pretty mantel shelf of wood or brick,—the style you consider the most artistic. I don't care for any of the manufactured goods on the market, with mirrors, etc.

Can you suggest pretty lighting fixtures for this room, parlor, and dining-room? I wish to have the lantern on newel post similar to the one shown in your October number of *HOUSE AND GARDEN*.

There is a very tiny den or nook opening out from the living-room. In here I wish to use the wrought iron lantern like cut. How can I use it if used with electricity? I have used it with the lamp. I would not want the wiring to show, and it would be too high to suspend it from the ceiling with the chain they send.

Please give me the name of furniture renovating material you recommend to a correspondent for brightening walnut furniture, the style of fifty years ago. Would this produce the same effect on the golden oak of this day? I have several pieces that show use and many scratches.

I have samples of paper you suggested for parlor, living-room, and dining-room. The parlor is a light green paper with the ivory *fleur de lis* figure and foliage, and is to have the ivory woodwork. I will use several pieces of green furniture in this room, the rest will be of mahogany, and the pictures framed in gold. What kind of curtains will be pretty in this room? I cannot afford very expensive ones.

You suggested green fish net and Arabian net for the living-room curtains, ecru net and green silk for the dining-room. Please tell me just how these curtains are to be made and hung.

Would something on the stencil style be prettier than these and less expensive? Is there any material

you can buy and make the curtains from, that will produce that effect? I could not stencil them myself.

Would any of the pretty effects in scrim be pretty for the leaded glass windows in the tiny den, provided the colors harmonized with the colors in the living-room? My hall upstairs and back hall downstairs are for use only. What would be a good floor covering for them? Do not want carpet or anything that will hold the dirt and dust when it is swept out of the other rooms. Would it be all right for me to put the inlaid linoleum in wood effects on them?

Are the vacuum cleaners satisfactory and will they do all that is claimed for them. Can you dust bric-a-brac, etc. with them? Would you advise one who has great trouble in getting servants to get one? What do you think of the — company?

Can your paper give me some design for a small summer house? It will be down below the terrace upon which the bungalow is built. In fact, it will be on the lowest part of the grounds.

Please quote me price on a sun-dial. The lighting fixtures, etc. I wish you to suggest must be of moderate cost.

Answer: A mantel shelf of wood like the standing woodwork of the room can be set above a brick mantel. We are sending you cuts showing an excellent selection of brick mantels. Some of these show the shelf; to others it may be added. We would suggest that you select the Roman brick showing the yellow tan color, as a mass of this color is easily reconciled with other furnishings.

Fixtures of smoked brass, which is dark in color and resembles Japanese bronze, would be effective throughout. For your living-room, side lights and plugs for table lights conveniently placed would give you the most attractive lighting. The squared globes of ground glass should be used on these lights. We are sending you cuts of fixtures.

The lantern shown on the newel post in the October number of *HOUSE AND GARDEN* to which you refer costs \$13.00. We are sending you the

(Continued on page 3, Advertising Section.)

IN THE CITIES' MARTS

[Addresses of the retail shops carrying the goods mentioned in this department, will be sent upon receipt of request enclosing a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Inquiries should be sent to the Special Service Bureau of HOUSE AND GARDEN, 345 Fifth Avenue, New York City.]

ONE of the New York shops is showing some beautiful individual breakfast sets in Royal Doulton. The set consists of a tray, two plates, cup and saucer, cereal dish, egg-cup, sugar and cream holders, and individual tea, coffee or chocolate pots. The designs are exquisite, those in little Dresden figures and clover designs being particularly attractive. The prices range from \$17.50 to \$25.00.

Jardinières are to be found in soft green unglazed pottery. These offer fine settings for ferns and range in size from small fern dishes to those holding a fourteen inch jar. A very good sized one can be purchased for \$4.00.

While on the subject of jardinières a word must be said about the large assortment of brass ones. These may be had in either the dull or bright finish. The bright finished ones are more serviceable.

Beautiful cut glass lamps may be purchased in either high or low models. Used in some dark corner of the room, these lamps give a very cheerful note to the furnishings.

A charming lamp shade seen in one of the shops was made of Japanese grass-cloth. Many of these show landscape design painted on in the free way that is so characteristic of Japanese art.

Another handsome shade was of green leaded glass. From the lower edge brown eyed Susans sprang in natural growth. The shade was mounted on a lamp of dull green metal, the combination being very beautiful.

The openwork wicker shades lined with silk are very much in favor. These range in price from \$3.00 to \$4.50. The large ones are very effective used in dining-rooms, where the art glass shade is barred on account of expense. It is, of course, better to use a shade of this character over electricity, but it is possible to use them over gas if the proper burner and mantel are adjusted.

Slender candlesticks in rock crystal glass are shown. The glass is beautifully clear and perfect and makes a dainty accessory for the table.

Vases in this rock crystal glass are also offered. Flat bowls for violets and tall slender vases for roses are found in sets of five. A large one for the center of the table and smaller ones for the corners furnish a charming table decoration.

The display of linens for the table is unusually attractive this spring. The breakfast sets consisting of a cloth and a dozen napkins each having a colored border are very tempting. One seasonable cloth has a border about ten inches deep, composed of green

lines both horizontal and vertical. At intervals appeared an orange dot, perhaps an inch across. The borders appeared on a smaller scale on the napkins. This set complete is \$15.00. Borders of this character may be found in a variety of colors.

Some very attractive pillow slips are shown in the white embroidery. Some have a scalloped edge, others a hemstitched hem while above this may be a scroll of embroidery or a wreath encircling a monogram. Others have monograms placed in the center of the slip. Sheet shams come to match these slips. Sheets also come with embroidered tops. Others show a hemstitched hem and below this three inch band of inserted needle work. Some of the new Marseilles counterpanes show a cluster of flowers in color so placed that they come at each corner of the bed. They may be obtained in colors to harmonize with the scheme of the room.

Many beautiful blankets are shown this spring. They are, of course, found in all weights and suited to all pocket books. Very pretty ones are shown in white with an all over pattern of scrolls in dainty color. The large checkerboard patterns are also very popular.

Each succeeding year finds the shops offering more examples of Japanese art. In one of the shops some beautiful, high, four-fold screens of green silk, embroidered in chrysanthemums, storks and other typical Japanese subjects are offered at \$65.00.

For the hospitable woman whose table cannot accommodate all guests, the nest of tables helps to solve the problem. One handsome nest of four is of mahogany showing a narrow inlay of satin wood on the top of each.

Manufacturers of furniture are now making bedroom sets of hazel. The wood is left in the natural color and given a soft rubbed finish, the effect is very similar to birch. Where it is necessary to economize on bedroom furnishings, one should seek furniture of this character as it is artistic in design and inexpensive in price. The suite complete is \$220.00.

An inexpensive material offered for inside draperies is Russian crash. This fabric is very well suited for stenciling purposes. The stencil patterns and colors can now be purchased ready for application. With them comes full directions for applying the colors. One lovely design is a peacock in which the blues and greens can be beautifully blended. Floral patterns suitable for bedrooms are offered in a variety of designs. A great number of animal designs especially adapted for the nursery are also found in stock. These stencils may be applied to the walls as friezes and the scheme carried out in the curtains.

Candle shades giving a very real effect of leaded glass can be purchased for \$1.00 a pair. These are made of paper and can be found in a variety of colors.

THE GARDEN

Suggestions, Queries and Answers

JOHN W. HALL

SEED of the summer variety of carnations should be sown early in March in a hot frame. Transplant into the bed early in May. The bed should be of a good loamy soil and the plants should be set from twelve to eighteen inches apart. For the best results the bed should be fully exposed to the sun. Be sure to pinch out the top of the plant at the time of transplanting. During growth keep the bed well weeded.

In the make-up of the garden native wild flowers and ferns should be given consideration. As a general proposition they are easy to transplant and should find place in the beds, among the shrubbery and borders. If you will consult the catalogue of any responsible nurseryman you will find many plants listed at high prices, under botanical names, which are known as wild flowers and which grow in most sections of the country. It would be well to try any variety of wild flower which may be found growing wild in any given locality as it would be certain to thrive in that climate and soil.

The *Gaultheria procumbens* (checkerberry, winter-green) makes a fine ground covering for the rhododendron bed. When well established its evergreen leaves look well and constitute a beautiful green mat.

The common blue violet is one of the best to grow in quantity. It is equally at its proper place in any part of the garden. Its propagation is easy, either from the root or from seed.

The false Solomon's seal is useful either for massing in the border or to be used as a cut-flower. When cut and placed in water it remains fresh for several days.

Conditions must necessarily control the selection of a list of the best roses for any individual garden. Where the temperature rarely falls below ten degrees variation of a few degrees is of little consequence in growing the hybrid perpetual class. With teas, hybrid teas, Noisettes, and Bourbons it is different. These will not endure long continued exposure to below zero weather.

Where the winters are severe the hybrid perpetual class is the only rose with which it is worth while to consume space. Where the winters are moderately mild such as are usual in Eastern New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey the hybrid teas do quite well, live out doors all winter with little protection, and bloom profusely in summer. This is a very popular rose for amateurs in garden work. It is not unreasonable to count on cutting roses from it from May to November. But not all hybrid teas are

continuous bloomers, notably the Gloire Lyonnaise and Her Majesty.

Any responsible nurseryman will furnish catalogue giving names of roses in all classes together with description of each individual rose. By all means keep your roses by name. There is much pleasure in this method, yet there are but few, where any variety is grown, do this. For fear of losing the labels it is a good plan to make a record with a chart of each bed at the time of planting out. By this means more intimate knowledge of the habits, growth and appearance of every rose can be had.

Now is the time when the seed of plants named below should be sown in hot beds, the plants to be transplanted when warm weather sets in:

Alyssum, sweet; aster; begonia, fibrous; canna; carnation, Marguerite; celosia, cockscomb; chrysanthemum, annual; coleus; cornflower; datura, trumpet flower; dianthus, pinks; euphorbia; gladiolus; helianthus, annuals; heliotrope; ipomoea, morning glory; Japanese iris; Maurandia; mimulus, monkey flower; nasturtium; oxalis; petunia; *Phlox Drummondii*; Polyantha rose; scabiosa, mourning bride; stock; sunflower; torenia; verbena, and others which will be found mentioned in the catalogues of the season.

Mignonette seed should now be sown in small pots. Put some half dozen seed to the pot and thin to two or three plants when up. When the third leaf has formed transfer to cold frame for flowering in June. If the plants are held in the pots until about the middle of May and then set in the open, flowers will be had in July. For later blooming sow the seed in beds or borders during the last days in May.

The poppy bed is very attractive in any garden. About the best treatment of the poppy is to sow the seed broadcast in the shrubbery and among the herbaceous plants during May. It is not necessary to cover the seed; the rains will take them into the soil. This method will give bloom all during the summer months. Earlier bloom can be had but it is doubtful if the results warrant the effort. The Shirley (mixed single) is the best variety for early bloom. The seed should now be sown in the hot bed and the plants removed to the open in May.

Tuberous begonias can be started now in pots for bedding purposes. A three-inch pot is sufficiently large for each bulb. Proper soil for the bulbs is made of equal parts of good loam, sand, and pulverized sheep-manure or shredded cow-manure. The bulb should be placed in the pot on edge so that the water will drain off, thus preventing the bulb from rotting. Place the pots in a box and fill in between them with sand. Set the box in a bright sunny place where it will be protected from the wind. Water about every other day but do not keep them soaked. About the middle of May they will be in condition to transplant to the bed.

House and Garden

GROWING WATER LILIES FROM SEED

Can you tell me how to grow water lilies from the seed? I have examined several catalogues issued by seedsmen, but while the water lily seed are listed, I have been unable to find directions for propagating them.

Lancaster, Pa.

It is an easy matter to grow water lilies from the seed and it can be done in any garden. Get fresh seed and sow out of doors in either natural or artificial ponds in March, not later than April 15th. The water should be six or eight inches deep on a good soil bottom. The location of the pond should be sunny yet protected. Press the seed into the soil about a quarter of an inch. The seed may be sown in boxes and the boxes sunk in the water. The seed will germinate in the warm days of spring and early summer. Where there is neither natural nor artificial pond in the garden heavy, large tubs may be made to give good results. Fill the tub two-thirds with good soil and water and plant as indicated for the pond.

SOD FOR A TERRACE

I have a terrace in my front yard on which I have twice failed to get a solid, smooth sod as it is constantly washed off by the rains. Can you suggest any means by which I can accomplish that in which I have failed?

H. E. C.

Niagara, N. Y.

Your difficulty is a common one, but it can be overcome. Measure the terrace carefully to determine the surface dimensions. Then for each square rod use one pound of approved lawn grass seed thoroughly mixed with six cubic feet of good dry loam to which add ten or fifteen pounds of pulverized sheep-manure. Place this mixture in a vat and add water stirring until you have brought the whole to the consistency of a mason's mortar. Having previously made the terrace perfectly smooth and firmed by rolling and watering (sprinkling) cover the surface with the mortar. While this method entails some labor and patience it appears to be the only way by which an even velvety sod can be had and maintained on very steep terraces.

THE SEASON FOR PLANTING ASTERS

When should asters be planted, and what are the best varieties for early and late blooming?

Dayton, Ohio.

H. W. J.

It is assumed that the annual aster is referred to as distinguished from the hardy aster. Of the former variety the Victoria and Comet strain are the best and the seed should be sown in March. Prick them into flats and put into cold frame about the end of April. By this means blooms should be had by the first of June. Semple's giant is a good aster for the

main blooming in August and September. For September and October blooming the ostrich plume is well adapted. Annual asters are much used by florists for cut-flowers.

There are some rare varieties of hardy asters being offered by the nurserymen that can be had from fifteen to twenty-five cents each. They are among the showiest of late blooming hardy plants coming to their best after most hardy plants have been exhausted.

FAILURE WITH SWEET PEAS

I made a complete failure with sweet peas last year. Can you tell me why, and how I may succeed with them this year?

Danville, Va.

NELLIE V. B.

It is impossible to say why you failed with sweet peas last year as you do not state the conditions under which your trial was made. Every gardener should have little difficulty in succeeding with this exquisite flower.

It is best to prepare and thoroughly fertilize the ground in the fall of the year. Then as soon as the surface dries off in the spring the seed can be planted without re-digging the ground. But if that was not done in the fall it should be done as soon as the frost is out of the ground. In the locality of Danville, doubtless the ground will be fit to work by the first of March. Put the soil in good condition, working in a liberal supply of well rotted or pulverized manure. Get the seed into the ground at the very earliest opportunity. The vine is naturally quite hardy and slight freezes after the seed are planted will do no harm. To secure the earliest germination, plant the seed about two inches deep covering to a level with rich fine soil. As growth develops the earth can be gradually worked to the plants until they are hilled about four inches.

Be sure to plant enough seed. Some of them will not germinate and it is better to thin them out than not to have a good stand. An ounce of seed to sixteen feet of row space is sufficient. If the plants are left too thick they will grow up weak and slender. Before the vines are too high, when they are from four to six inches in height, give them support. Use brush or poultry wire to which they will readily and naturally take hold. Keep the plants well cultivated by constantly raking the surface of the soil. Blooming may be prolonged by keeping the blooms cut off, but in doing this disturb the vines as little as possible.

The matter of variety as it affects colors is one of personal choice. However the dark or brown skinned seed, indicating the darker colors of the flowers, are better for the earliest planting. The white skinned seed indicate white or light shades of colors in the flowers. They are more tender than the darker shades and do not germinate so well while the soil is still damp and cold.

WHY MANY AMATEUR GARDENERS FAIL

(Continued from page 106.)

lacking in vitality. Sometimes they may have been carelessly dug, poorly packed or subjected to undue exposure while out of the ground and again they may have been improperly planted. While these are all causes that may account for individual losses, they are not the most frequent causes of failure.

One very frequent reason that we find for plants doing unsatisfactorily is due to the selection of wrong varieties for the place and purpose for which they are intended. The owner has somewhere admired a handsome specimen and without any thought or regard of the fitness of the plant to his requirements, obtains one. It fails and he wonders why. The reason may be that the plant he so much admired is not hardy in his locality; it may have required shade and he gave it sun; it may have needed dry clayey soil and he gave it moist loamy earth. These and kindred causes are frequent reasons for failure.

Probably the most common cause lies in the treatment the plant receives. Up to and during the planting there is no lack of interest and no pains that will help the success of the planting are spared. Soon, however, the planting becomes a care; weeding and cultivation are too often neglected; dry periods come and quantities of the young stock dies or suffers for want of watering.

The full penalty for neglect to give new plantings their proper care is not always apparent the first year; for it may be so stunted that even though they may live they will never give the pleasing results the owner so eagerly longs for and confidently expected when his planting was done.

THE WM. H. MOON CO.,
Glenwood Nurseries.

Morrisville, Pa.

THE EDITOR'S TALKS AND CORRESPONDENCE

(Continued from page 107.)

address of a firm from whom you can obtain this.

The wrought iron lantern like the cut you sent can be wired for electricity. You should consult your electrician in regard to this. It would be very easy to drop the wire holding the bulb through the top of this lantern.

(Trade **“Standard”** Mark)

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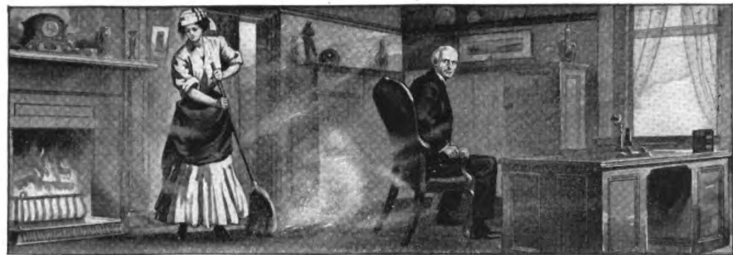
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Why stir up the Dust Demon to Frenzy like this?



**Which Do You Do In Your House—
PACK DIRT IN? OR LIFT IT OUT?**

When you use broom or carpet-sweeper, you scatter a large part of the dirt over a wider area, to be rehandled again and again; but that is not all of the evil.

Another large part of the dirt you work deep down into the carpet, there to decompose and putrify, to become the breeding place of germs and insects and to fill the house with musty and sour odors.

With such primitive implements, you simply can't help it; for that is their **constant tendency**, the absolutely necessary result of the **downward pressure** exerted by their every stroke.

Every time you use broom or carpet-sweeper, your every effort drives dirt down into the carpet deeper and deeper, and steadily adds new layers, until the fabric is **packed**.

And that is why you have to renovate.

It is true that the Vacuum System of cleaning is the only absolutely dustless system; but a large part of its remarkable efficiency is due to the fact that its **constant tendency is exactly opposite** to that of broom and carpet-sweeper.

Whereas broom and carpet-sweeper pack in the dirt even more solidly, the Ideal Vacuum Cleaner **lifts out**, by its suction force, more and more dirt from lower and lower depths. This it does constantly and always.

In other words, Ideal Vacuum Cleaning removes all the dirt that has been ground into the fabric as well as that which lies loosely on the surface, undoing with every application the evil of broom and carpet-sweeper.

And that is why the Ideal Vacuum Cleaner renovates every time it cleans.

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"It Eats Up the Dirt"

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For your parlor we note you will use the light green paper with the ivory or yellow *fleur de lis* design. This will be very harmonious with the ivory wood-work.

For curtains in this room we would suggest *point d'esprit* used next the glass, these to be made with three inch frills down the front edge and across the lower edges. They may be caught back on either side or hang straight, as you desire. They must be run on small brass rods set close to the glass without heading, using a small casing at the top. Over-draperies of pale yellow silk, showing a slight figure the same coloring as the *fleur de lis*, would finish these attractively. These curtains should be made to hang straight, outlining the window on either side, without heading at the top and reach only to the sill. We are sending you samples from which to make a selection.

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Stencil can be effectively used on curtains of linen crash, voile, scrim, or even cheese-cloth. We are sending you the address of a firm who manufacture the stencil designs and colors and who will supply you with full directions for their application. You will not find it difficult to do this work yourself.

For your leaded glass windows in the den, we would advise either the ecru net or scrim without figure, as the leaded panes will provide sufficient design.

We would advise you to finish the floors of your upstairs and back hall with a durable floor varnish,—one that can be washed and does not require constant polishing. We will send you the name of the material we would advocate and feel sure this will give you better satisfaction than the linoleum.

A few rugs made from Brussels carpeting or the rag style carpeting would be adequate.

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Both of these shrubs are difficult to transplant, and should be purchased in the spring as pot plants, then set where they are to grow, and well heeled in, watering and shading the first year or longer, until well established. At the North it is well to set the plants where they will receive the protection of a wall or building, the south or east side being preferable.—*Park's Floral Magazine.*

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so much as its resemblance to the trademark of the Prudential Insurance Company. This was my feeling when I first saw Gibraltar four years ago, and it remains my feeling after having last seen it four weeks ago. The eye seeks the bold familiar legend and one suffers a certain disappointment in its absence."

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SUPPRESSING CITY STREET DUST

IN a paper before the American Society of Municipal Improvements in 1906, T. Chalkey Hatton stated that careful investigation in a number of cities showed that, in each of these where accurate figures were obtainable, street sweeping by hand was cheaper than by machine.

This statement, although contrary to the general belief at that time, aroused little discussion and received less general notice than might have been expected. In its report the New York refuse and street cleaning commission arrived at the same conclusion with respect to New York; hand sweeping being estimated to cost 28.1 cents per 1,000 square yards, as compared with 31.7 cents by machine sweeping, neither of these including fixed expenses nor removal by carts. Hatton's figures were 75.3 by machine, 24.5 by hand and 31.8 by flushing, these being the averages of thirteen cities. Even if these figures be accepted there remains the considerable advantage attached to machine sweeping that cleaning large areas at night is more practicable by it than by hand sweeping.

Perhaps the most interesting part of this report is the recommendation, with reasons therefore, that flushing at night be adopted as the standard method of

House and Garden


street cleaning in New York, accompanied by patrol hand sweeping during the day. This, they believe, is the only way in which the fine dirt which is scattered by the wind can be removed from the streets.

In this connection the effect of modern ideas concerning sanitation and disease prevention in various and unanticipated ways is interesting to note. Mosquitoes have ever been recognized nuisances, but any proposition to exterminate them was ridiculed as visionary until their agency in spreading yellow fever, malaria and possibly other diseases was recognized. The chances of their extermination in several States now appear favorable. Dust has long been an almost intolerable but unsuppressed nuisance in our cities, but now that it is recognized as a bearer of tuberculosis germs it seems probable that city life will be largely relieved of the almost universal dust nuisance.

It does not follow, of course, that the recommendations for New York are equally applicable elsewhere. Nor is flushing possible on all the streets of that city. It can be employed only on such pavements as are not disintegrated by water jets, which bars macadam and similar roads.—*Municipal Journal and Engineer.*

TREE PLANTING

NATIONAL Forester Pinchot spoke at the New England Conference of Governors recently on the "Cultivation of Forest Trees." He said that there are at least two and a half million acres in New England which could be devoted to forest planting. The earliest work in forest planting was in 1780, when a successful attempt was made to raise ship timber. Between 1820 and 1850 there were probably 10,000 acres of pine planted in Massachusetts. The purposes of this planting have been very definite, and older plantations—many of which have been harvested—show that the undertaking has been practicable and profitable. Not including old plantations that have been cut, approximately 25,200 acres of forest have been planted in New England. It is estimated that 5,000,000 board feet could be harvested to-day; 200,000,000 feet is a conservative estimate of what may be cut in twenty-five or thirty years. From trees planted in 1908 it is safe to estimate



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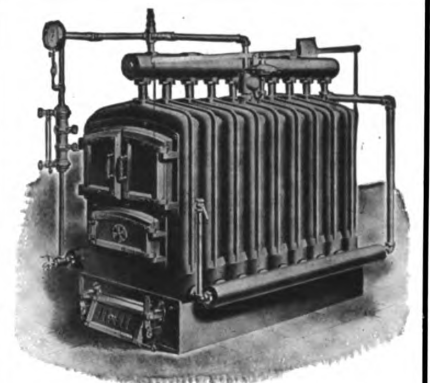
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a product of 60,000,000 feet when marketable. If the 2,500,000 acres fit for forest planting, and not fit for much of anything else, were all planted, the final product would be fifty billion feet, worth many million dollars. With such a report on the outlook for profit, it would seem that young men of this generation will miss a great opportunity if they do not act on the suggestion of starting a forest planting on some of the cheap lands of the Eastern States. Twenty-five years to wait for a crop seems a long time, but it is soon past. To get a crop and its returns a beginning must be made.

The investment at first is small and the care of a forest plantation, including taxes and interest, is quite inexpensive. Look at the waste places on nearly all farms and estimate what fine returns could now be secured, if only a few years ago some one had planted some little trees or seeds. A little attention at the right times may be required in the enterprise of forest planting which could be easily spared from other regular occupations. Old men would not handle the profit, but young men would realize a sure competency.—*The Country Gentleman*.

NEW FOWLS AND DUCKS

SOME time within the past few years we have written of the Ancona fowl, the new variety of Leghorns, a fowl with broken white and black plumage much like the Houdan. The origin of the Ancona has been shrouded in more or less obscurity. Within the past six months some English poultrymen have made a thorough investigation as to the origin of this variety of the Mediterranean family, which shows that this black-and-white mottled Mediterranean came from Northern Italy.

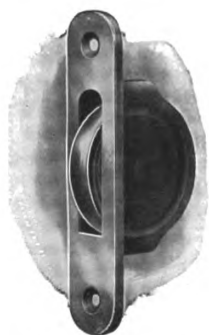
Correspondence with the consul at Cherbourg tells that the Ancona originated through the crossing of one pure Black Italian fowl, known as the Valdado, with the barn-door mottled fowl of the district. We imagine from this that the pure Black Leghorn from Italy was introduced into Germany, crossed with the mottled, egg-producing fowl of that locality, and the result was the production of the Ancona as we now have it. The facts most interesting are the changes made in plumage marking, and the information that a rose-combed

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variety of the Ancona family has been produced having the same type and characteristics as the single-combed specimens.

The color of the Ancona as now demanded is: Beak, yellow with dark shadings—a complete yellow beak undesirable; eyes, orange red; comb, face and wattles, bright red; face absolutely free from white; ear-lobes, white; shanks, yellow-mottled—the evenner the mottles the better. Plumage the more evenly V-mottled throughout with beetle-green and white the better, provided the ground color is beetle-green. In other words, the white markings should be V-shaped, even, distinct and clear. Some of the most attractive fowls shown in recent years at the Crystal Palace Show have been the beautifully marked Anconas.

Another kind of Mediterranean is the Exchequer, recently produced in Scotland. These were introduced a year ago in England. They are said to be of great beauty and splendid laying qualities—in fact, the best winter-laying Leghorns yet produced. Their plumage is a broken black and white,—in other words, the body color white with V-shaped black markings at the end of the feathers. The appearance of the fowls show a white Ancona with black markings, that has the size, shape and general make-up of the Minorca.

Investigation shows that the new Khaki ducks resemble the Buff Orpington ducks in many ways, except that they retain considerable of the Rouen characteristics, having been produced through the crossing of Rouen and Indian Runner ducks. The Khaki duck, the Buff Orpington and the laying strain of Indian Runner, produced in Australia, have been heralded as the wonders of the world. There is no doubting the fact that the Buff Orpington makes a good general-purpose duck. Undoubtedly the Khaki will prove fully equal to the other variety. The Indian Runner seems to be the most bred of all these. Undoubtedly many of the ducks seen in this country and called Indian Runner are of the Khaki tribe, showing, as they do, the indisputable markings of the Rouen females and often the greenish head of the males. The pure Indian Runner duck should not have a single mark or blemish in its feathers; it should be pure fawn and

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PACIFIC MILLS BOSTON

white, with no stripes, lacing or penciling on the plumage; it should be pure, clean, unmixed fawn where the fawn occurs, and white where the plumage is white. The Indian Runner has a strikingly upright appearance. The Buff Orpington, Khaki and Rouen ducks have the downward, lean-forward carriage that furnishes a large amount of breast meat, producing the finest roasting ducks.

Leghorns also are receiving unusual attention on the other side. The Leghorns as grown in England are one and one-half to two pounds heavier than they are in this country. It is said that they do not produce as many eggs as do the smaller Leghorns of America. Australia has the same type of Leghorn. The records, as shown by the yearly tests in Australia, prove conclusively that the large-sized English type of Leghorn produces as many eggs as any other fowl yet placed in competition for a yearly demonstration.

It has been demonstrated beyond peradventure that Brahmans can be bred, fed and trained into producing almost 200 eggs a hen in a year. Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes have done equally well.

Leghorns of the American type, the English and the Australian type, have all produced an equal number of eggs in well-authenticated tests. Orpingtons and Langshans have come into line, a few of them with equally good egg records, proving beyond question that breed or variety, size or weight, has very little to do with the matter in comparison to selection, mating and feeding. —*The Country Gentleman.*

A GOOD HOT-BED

TO make a hot-bed select a protected site with a southern exposure. Excavate the soil to the depth of a foot, the place being well drained, and free from incoming water. Line the inside with boards, and extend the frame about a foot above in front, and two feet at the rear. Into this put well-mixed manure from the horse-stable, till within a few inches of the top in front, treading it firmly and watering it till fairly moistened; then put on a layer of soil. Now cover the frame with a sash, with the glass lapped so as to turn the water, the sash sloping toward the south or east, and so

PENNSYLVANIA

THIS FOR ABILITY

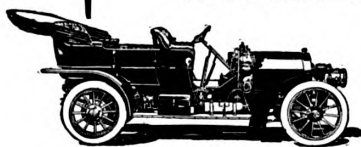
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arranged that it can be lifted for ventilation. After standing for a few days, until the rank heat from the manure decreases, put on an additional layer of sifted soil, such as woods earth, that will not bake when moistened. Level and press this firmly, then sow the seeds, and after placing a piece of cheese-cloth over the soil, water over the cloth with a fine rose until the soil is moderately saturated. Place the sash on, and if cold, cloudy days or severe nights come, throw a mat or old carpet over. If the sun shines brightly ventilate or shade, or both. Avoid too much heat inside, and avoid watering too liberally, to prevent damping off. Sometimes big fungous plants (toadstools) will push up and spoil the bed. To prevent this put some old wire mosquito netting in the unsifted soil, say an inch above the manure. Start your seeds about the time the early red-flowering maple buds swell and begin to show their red color.—*Park's Floral Magazine.*

ITEMS FROM AUTOMOBILE TOPICS

"The American people are too poor to build good roads, but in the course of a few years they pay the price of a good road several times over in repair of their vehicles," a wealthy Milwaukee man is quoted as saying.

Acid can be prevented from leaking out of the vents of accumulators by various forms of valve vents and by care in properly fixing the accumulator in the car. The acid can also be made unspillable by making it into a jelly with silicate of soda, but this reduces the capacity in time.

The Zust car of the New York-Paris race was burned between London and Folkestone, following a *panne*. After being towed to Bromley Station, it caught fire while the gasoline tank was being emptied, and, through a resulting explosion, which injured the mechanic so badly that he had to be sent to the hospital, was damaged beyond repair.

Moving the steering wheel while the car is at rest tends to unduly strain the joints between the wheel and the front road wheels. Of course, there may be times when it is difficult to avoid moving the steering gear while the car is at rest, especially when turning in narrow roads;

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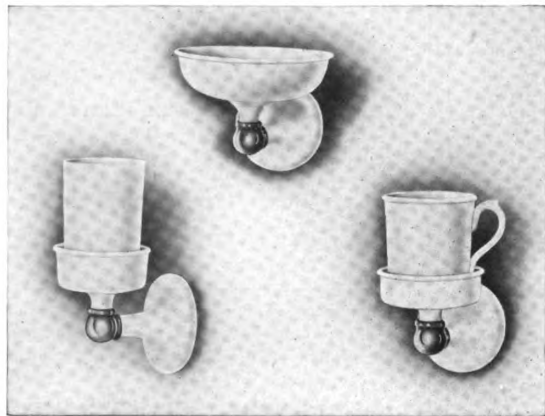
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but as far as possible the rule should be adhered to, of never forcing round the steering until the road wheels are moving.

FAIRY LILY

THIS is the common name for *Amaryllis Atamasco*, which has long, narrow leaves, and bears an exquisite, tubular flower upon a stem six or seven inches high. They stand erect and are of a rose-pink with yellow center. The bulbs are about the size of a small paper-white narcissus, and a row of them set in the garden will show a fine lot of pretty flowers throughout the summer and autumn. They are also excellent as window flowers when potted in the fall or winter. Their culture is simple, and the most inexperienced gardener succeeds with them. In the South they can remain in the ground from season to season, but at the North the bulbs must be lifted, dried and stored away as you would store gladioli bulbs.—*Park's Floral Guide.*

CARING FOR HOUSE FERNS

FERNS generally do well in north windows, as they want plenty of light and air, but do not require the direct rays of the sun. In their natural condition they usually grow in the shade, in spongy, well-drained and well-fertilized soil (leaf mold), which is always supplied with sufficient moisture. Imitate the natural conditions as nearly as possible, and you will have more success with your indoor gardening.—*Farm and Home.*

PLAN FOREST CONSERVATION

AT a conference of forty experts representing Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, recently held in Madison, Wis., resolutions were adopted for procuring uniform legislation for forest conservation in the three states. The plan provides for compulsory burning of debris within a year after timber has been cut, for state forest patrol during dry periods, for fire wardens and a special tax on land benefited to defray expense of protection. A law will also be asked for prosecution of persons guilty of negligently setting forest fires in forest districts during dry periods. The rate of taxation will be about two cents per



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acre of land benefited. Members of forestry commission and State foresters of three States attended the conference. Charles W. Garfield of Grand Rapids, Mich., was elected president.—*Orange Judd Farmer*.

THE BOSTON IVY

THE Kansas City Star, speaking of the *Ampelopsis Veitchii*, often called "Boston ivy," notes that the ancestral vine is growing in a corner of the National Botanic Garden at Washington, D. C. Supt. Wm. R. Smith obtained it fifty years ago as a small cutting from Slough, Buckinghamshire, England.

Packages of its seed are sent out from year to year under frank of the congressmen to their constituents. It is estimated that four million of these packages have been sent out in the past half century. Dissemination of the seed is now in charge of Assistant Superintendent John Clark. — *The Country Gentleman*.

PASTEURIZING MILK

IN order to keep bacteria out of milk, keep the dirt out, say the writers. "The dirt content of different samples of milk usually increases quite uniformly with the increase in the number of bacteria, or, in other words, that the dirtiest milk is usually highest in germs. Consequently, the germ content of milk may be used as an indication of the care used in its production."

For killing bacteria, heat is the only agency permissible, as any substance which will destroy all of the germs present in milk will destroy the usefulness of the milk as food. Sterilization, which means heating milk to such a temperature that all germs and spores (seeds) are destroyed, is seldom employed on account of the high temperature required and the fact that milk so treated has a boiled or cooked taste and is changed in color, due to the burning of the milk sugar. Pasteurization means heating to such a temperature, usually about 158 degrees F., that most of the germs including disease germs, are destroyed.

The milk is afterwards cooled rapidly. Such a process insures milk practically free from germs, and at the same time gives milk which is palatable and digesti-

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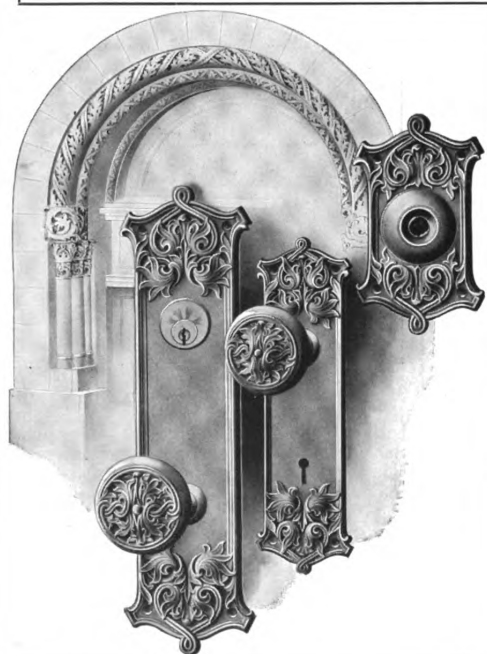
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ble. This method of killing bacteria is now followed quite extensively in many places, and is probably the safest way to treat the milk as ordinarily supplied for household use.

Sanitary or certified milk is to be preferred, but in many cases the price of such milk makes it prohibitive for the ordinary household.—*Farm Press*.

POTTING SOIL

WHEN begonias and geraniums are grown in stiff, tenacious soil the drainage is liable to clog, causing the leaves to drop and the plants to assume a sickly appearance. To avoid this use potting soil made up of half-rotted sods, manure and sharp sand, about equal parts. Such soil will be porous and with a layer of charcoal or potsherds at the bottom of the pots, covered with a little sphagnum moss before filling in the soil, you will be assured of good drainage, which will overcome many evils that result from stagnant soil. The compost heap should be prepared in summer. All refuse leaves and sods and seedless weeds should be added to it, together with the scrapings of walks. After lying in a heap for a few weeks you will be surprised at the loose, rich material you have for potting use and wonder that you were not previously aware of its value.—*Park's Floral Magazine*.

DO TREES INCREASE THE RAINFALL

THE opinion is very prevalent that the relation is close between the presence or absence of trees and rainfall. It may be that such is the fact, but the evidence is not so clear on the whole on this question as could be desired. Take, for instance, the story told by the weather records kept at Bismarck, N. D. For the ten years commencing with and including 1875, the annual precipitation was six inches more than it was during the ten years following. During the first period almost none of the soil had been broken up. During the second period, quite a proportion had been broken up. The trees in the locality were about the same as during the first period. During the third period the trees had increased through the planting of groves and yet the average increase in the rainfall was only six inches.

During the first period referred to, the lakes in the Dakotas were filled to overflowing. The water in Devil's lake at

that time came up to the site of the present town. The water in the lake bed is now at least five miles from the town. Is it not easily supposable that a period may come again when the rainfall will again be as great as it was in the ten-year period commencing with 1875. If this were to happen, doubtless Devil's lake would fill its banks again.

The same line of reasoning may be applied to Minnesota. In 1894 and one or two of the years following, the weather was so dry that many of the shallow lakes went dry. On every hand the statements were made that dry seasons had come because the Minnesota forests were being cut away. But what happened? During seasons following these lakes refilled. The present season the greatest flood took place in the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers that has occurred for many a day. It is well to look for further data with reference to the relation between forests and rainfall.

—Orange Judd Farmer.

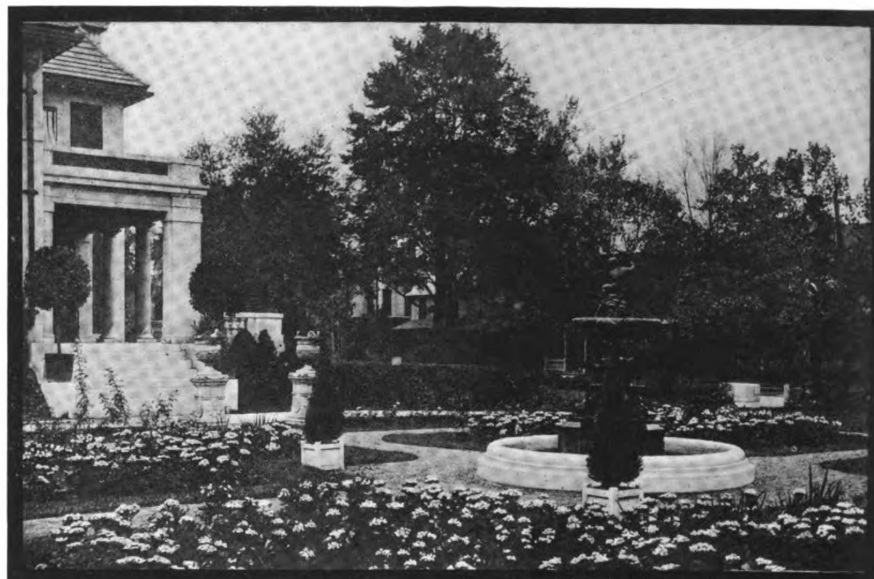
POINSETTIA

POINSETTIA can be readily grown from cuttings taken with a heel or portion of the old wood. It also starts well from seeds sown in a soil of loam and leaf-mould, covering a half inch deep, the box or pot kept in a rather warm place and moderately watered until germination takes place. The seeds are usually about three weeks in starting.—*Park's Floral Guide.*

GIFTS TO THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

THE Frederick Cooper Hewitt bequest of \$1,500,000 to the Metropolitan Museum of Art which is also made the residuary legatee, ranks second only to the Rogers donation. It was equally unexpected, for while he was known as a collector of paintings of the Barbizon and contemporary modern schools, his interest in New York's art museum had been as undemonstrative as that of the wealthy locomotive manufacturer.

The income from the Rogers fund is restricted to the purchase of new acquisitions. The exact conditions of the Hewitt bequest have not been published, but presumably the income will be used for the same purpose. With the regular revenues from all these millions at their



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disposal the trustees will be most advantageously situated in extending the various collections along lines where they are most lacking. The great progress made in this direction during the last two years under Sir Casper Purdon Clarke's management is familiar to those accustomed to visiting the rooms where the new acquisitions are temporarily exhibited and following the monthly bulletins.

At the same time never before have private collectors done so much toward enriching the galleries either with paintings such as George A. Hearn's gifts, or carvings, tapestries and ecclesiastical art works such as J. Pierpont Morgan's many additions. The good fortune of the museum in being provided with a large supply of ready money for purchases has rather encouraged than checked the flow of private donations.

This rapid growth in the museum's accumulation of valuable works has been accompanied by a steady increase in popular interest. The annual attendance is now almost 1,000,000 visitors. Special attractions such as the Saint-Gaudens memorial exhibition and the Hoentschel collection now on view have had much to do with stimulating the kind of public support which is the best reward individual benefactors like Mr. Rogers and Mr. Hewitt could have desired.—*Exchange.*

USE SAWDUST IN MORTAR

SAWDUST is now sometimes used in mortar, where it forms an excellent substitute for sand. In some localities it is impossible to obtain good, clear, sharp sand suitable for use in the composition of mortar. The latter has the advantage of being lighter, and renders the mortar not only easier for the laborers to carry, but, being only one-half the weight of that mixed with sand, is much better for ceiling, as it is less apt to fall off. Mortar made of quicklime and sawdust in place of sand, and mixed with a proper proportion of cement, makes an excellent mortar for brick or stone work. Sawdust enters largely into the patent plasters.

By the use of these new inventions in plaster rapid building is greatly facilitated, as there is no waiting for mortar to season; the composition, being all

(Continued on page 18.)



House & Garden for April

AN OLD-FASHIONED HOUSE

THERE is always a fascination about the century-old farmhouse. In almost all of them may be found some unique treatment of design or detail. One such on the shores of Cape Cod has been restored and enlarged to meet new conditions by Harry B. Russell, Architect, who describes the methods employed in remodeling so as to preserve the original exterior outlines of the building and retain the quaintness of its several rooms. The photographs of the interior suggest the proper environment for old mahogany and antique china, while those of the garden hint at beds of sweet william and mignonne and rows of the stately hollyhocks.

A REPORTER'S INTERVIEW

Mr. Tudor Jenks tells in verse of the assignment of a reporter to "See what Taraxacums have to say" and in a bright way tells of these "scions of an ancient race," the Dent de Lions, of their aerial voyage from a far off Land of Clover to the pleasant harbor in the lee of the Old Stone Wall. The cheerfulness of the story which he makes them relate is but a reflex of the smiling happiness these bright flowers shed in the early springtime.

SEACOAST GARDENS

Wind-swept and wave-beaten points are often the most picturesque adjuncts of seaside estates. How to make these rocky points blossom, is not easy. Our contributor's experience is wide and the suggestions may be relied upon.

EARLY POISONOUS WILD FLOWERS

The first of a series of short sketches on Poisonous Plants and Wild Flowers will appear in the April issue. Annie Oakes Huntington, who contributes this series, is a recognized authority on this and kindred subjects. The series will form a valuable adjunct to the libraries of all those persons who love to get close to nature.

INEXPENSIVE LITTLE HOUSES

Southern California has developed a unique form of investment for persons owning properties in that section. Helen Lukens Gaut enters into an analysis of it and presents the money-making possibilities of the practice very seductively. Climatic conditions make the form of house construction described possible and the influx of visitors keeps the demand always in advance of the supply.

GENEALOGIES FOUND IN A GARDEN

Strange relationships exist between many plants, shrubs and trees of our gardens. Marie von Tschudi traces some curious "family trees" of nature's social fabric.

BUYING TREES

Mr. L. J. Doogue gives some very practical advice upon the selection of trees. Of the kind *not* to buy he gives warning. He tells also the proper quality to purchase, the price to pay, how to plant and care for them.

THE PERFUME GARDEN

If the eye fails to appreciate the color combinations of a flower garden their fragrance can scarcely fail to charm and fascinate. Evelyn Prince Cahoon gives a list of flowers the odors of which are most agreeable and which will appeal to the most sensitive nerves.

THE WAR AGAINST UGLINESS

In the work of beautifying surroundings, by a municipality, a corporation or a private individual, plant life furnishes the most readily available means for the purpose, producing the finest effects with least expenditure of time, labor or money. Eva Ryman-Gaillard discusses the subject with much intelligence and illustrates her text with interesting photographs.

A NATIONAL APPLE EXHIBITION

A unique exhibit of *apples* with entries not only from nearly every State in the Union, but from England, British Columbia, Japan and Norway, was recently held at Spokane, Washington. It is probably the first time that carload lots of fruit were entered in competition. Mr. August Wolf writes of the salient features, and photographs are reproduced, showing some of the prize exhibits.

APPEARANCE OF THE CAR

Fred D. Taylor gives some good advice relative to the care, handling and embellishing of an automobile.

THE ROSE—ITS CARE AND CULTURE

Under the above caption Mr. Eben E. Rexford gives valuable and timely advice to amateur growers of this most noble flower. His explicit directions are so worded that success must follow their complete observance.

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prepared, has only to be mixed with water, when it is ready for use. There is also no delay in waiting for the plaster to dry, as it dries immediately and soon becomes as hard as stone; the plasterer can, therefore, be directly followed by the inside finishers.

Previous to the introduction of the new varieties of plaster came improvements in the styles of lathing, and there are now many excellent kinds of metal lathing upon the market, each laying claim to some special advantage over all others.

With the new styles of plaster and metal lathing and by encasing floor beams and posts in fireproof cement, and filling all interstices between walls and floors with "mineral wool," it is possible to-day to make even a frame house practically fireproof; particularly if in addition to other precautions the roof be of slate or metal, preferably the latter, as slate is apt to crack and break if subjected to intense heat.

The above should be taken with several grains of salt. Perhaps there are places where it can be used advantageously. It is lighter, but, take it all around, old-fashioned mortar of good lime and absolutely clean sand, mixed in proper proportions and tempered with age, is a first-class mixture.—*Western Architect and Builder.*

"OLD DRURY"

THE rebuilding of Drury Lane Theater after the fire was recently completed. The new stage, which is said to have cost £20,000, is 100 feet wide, 100 feet deep and 100 feet high—nearly half as large again as the old structure. The Drury Lane floor has used up 10,000 feet of teak, specially imported from Burmah. The new roof is twenty feet higher than its predecessor, and is constructed of steel trusses ten feet high and ninety feet long. A glass roof surmounting the "grid" avoids the necessity of artificial light for the day work. The old timber roof has stood for a century, and was as sound at the end as at the beginning. An improved electric lighting installation gives an illumination equal to 150,000 candle power. Fly galleries, from which the scenery is worked, have a total length of 150 feet, and are constructed of steel. The limelight galleries are nearly 200 feet long.—*Canadian Architect.*

TRANSPLANTING TREES AT NIGHT

IT has long been known that budding trees, when transplanted in the evening, are more likely to thrive than those moved in the daytime, says "The Garden." A French expert has gone a step further and claims that distinctly beneficial results follow the transplanting in the dead of night.

Budding trees or plants of any kind in leaf are better set in the evening than at any other hour of the day, because there is less transpiration in darkness than in light; and if given water when transplanted there is some recovery from the check, which always follows a transplanting, before daylight returns. Vegetable growers are aware of this as well as florists, and all who have to do with transplanting seedlings while in their growing state. This is why the shading of plants is called for. The greater the light, the greater the loss of moisture, hence the utility of transplanting in the evening allowing of some recuperation of the plants during the time of darkness.

As to the "expert's" hour of midnight for the work, the hour of sunset would be the choice of those who have had to do with such things. Such work done then, with plenty of water given to the plants, would be the very best time of the day for the operation.—*Florists' Exchange.*

JAPANESE CARPENTERING

NEARLY all the customs and methods of the Western world are reversed by the Chinese. This is a matter of world-wide notoriety, and has been the cause of no end of wonder and mild amusement. Few, however, understand that the same peculiarity, though to a less marked extent, is found in the Japanese, something scarcely to be expected when one remembers the remarkable advancement scored by them during the past half century.

The modes pursued by the Japanese carpenter are being practically illustrated at the Commercial Museum, in Philadelphia, where a Jap has been installed, and attracts much attention by the peculiar manner in which he employs the plane, ax, adze and other ordinary carpenter's tools. His methods are those universally employed by his countrymen, who, for the most part, work with tools that reverse the operation of those employed in this country and Europe. He draws a plane toward

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him instead of pushing it from him, chips upward instead of downward with an axe, and uses a saw by drawing it towards him. He does remarkably good work and quite as rapidly as though employing our methods. He has had many arguments with American carpenters, stoutly maintaining that his modes are natural, correct and effective. Recently he was forced to secure some new tools, and, there being none of Japanese make for sale in this country, was compelled to purchase those made in Philadelphia, a city famous for its saws.

Our saws are the best in the world—so we say and think—but not for the Jap, who could do nothing with them. He, however, demonstrated that those of his nation are not, as is generally believed, mere imitations, intimating that the Japanese possessed no powers of invention. He adapted the saws to Oriental modes by removing the handles and attaching them to the other end of the blade, and went cheerfully to work, drawing the saw towards him. With this change made, he willingly conceded that American saws were a fairly good substitute for those made in Japan.—*American Contractor.*

GROWING LILACS FOR FORCING

THE French and German florists grow lilacs extensively for forcing into bloom in winter. Formerly the Germans imported their stock from France, but finding they could grow the plants just as well, they turned their attention to the work, and now grow their own, as well as many plants for export. The plants are placed in forcing houses the latter part of November to bloom during the holidays. One German florist makes a specialty of forcing lilacs, and annually flowers over 100,000 plants.—*Park's Floral Guide.*

WOOD STILL PRINCIPAL MATERIAL USED IN BUILDING

GREAT as the advance in fire-proof construction has been during the last ten years, there has been no let up in the use of lumber, and both architects and builders find themselves so dependent on wood to-day that they are compelled to admit that the forests of the country are likely to be the chief source of building material for many years to come.

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"The use of cement, terra-cotta, brick and stone, with a framework of steel, will make it possible soon to do away with wood entirely," is a remark often heard, and, indeed, when one stands on lower Broadway, in New York, and looks up at the towering skyscrapers, the statement seems to contain much truth. As a matter of fact, however, the popular idea that fire-proof materials will do away with the need of using lumber in a comparatively few years is a very erroneous one. All of the various fire-proof materials going into the approved construction of the more substantial buildings are used in greater quantities now than the world dreamed of a few years ago, yet the heavy demand for lumber continues.

That wood predominates is shown by the annual building records. Of the permits used for buildings erected last year, approximately sixty-one per cent were constructed of wood, and the remaining thirty-nine per cent of fire-resisting material, according to a report issued by the Geological Survey on operations in forty-nine leading cities of the country. These figures are the more significant when it is realized that they only represent the building activities in the largest cities; they do not take into account the construction of dwellings, stores and other buildings in the thousands of small cities and towns scattered over and not included in the forty-nine cities on which the reckoning is made.

In towns and small cities wood is usually the predominating building material, and it is safe to say that if the statistics had included figures for all places of whatever size, the percentage of wooden construction would have been much greater. These figures, as a rule, are only for the corporate limits, and the suburbs of these cities have each very large amounts to be added. The cost, also, is relatively higher in these cities than in towns nearer the base of the supply.—*Government Report.*

BLACK SMOKE IS WASTE

A VERY good illustration of waste is the pall of black smoke which overhangs Montreal, which is a disgrace to modern civilization; there is no necessity for it, and the coal should be burned under such conditions that there would be no smoke, and then we should get the heat without all that waste.

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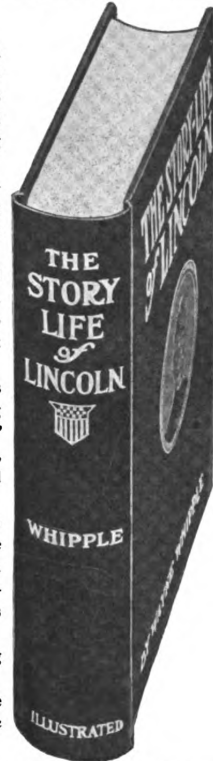
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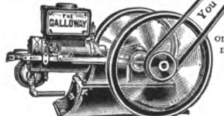
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CLEVELAND'S OPINIONS OF MEN

By GEORGE F. PARKER

In this article are set forth at length Cleveland's opinions of some of his great contemporaries, among them:

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Cleveland's account of his conference with J. P. Morgan in reference to the Government's bond issue is a strikingly forceful and dramatic picture—a vivid glimpse of unwritten history.

YOUNG CLEVELAND AS A TEACHER IN THE BLIND INSTITUTE

A letter from Fanny Crosby, the



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J. PIERPONT MORGAN

blind hymn-writer, describes her acquaintance with Cleveland, when, as a boy of seventeen, he became one of her fellow teachers in the New York Institution for the Blind.

GROVER CLEVELAND AS A LAWYER

An estimate by Wilson S. Bissell, Cleveland's former law partner in Buffalo.

Some years ago Professor Chandler, of London, took up the question and estimated that in the smoke that overhung London there were something like fifty tons of solid carbon and 250 tons of carbon in the form of various gases, and said a smoke committee had investigated the matter, establishing the actual value of the waste at \$10,000,000, which, with the expense and damage resulting from the nuisance, brought the total waste to some \$20,000,000, and, in a lesser degree we have the same thing to contend with here. (Dr. Harrington, McGill University, lecturing on "Waste.")—Contract Record, Toronto, Canada.

We all believe that "black smoke is waste," and also "that coal should be burned under such conditions that there would be no smoke." But give us a reasonable method, that the ordinary man can run and that will justify itself on economic lines.—*Western Architect and Builder*.

MORE AND BETTER FARM TOOLS

It is now being generally admitted that the best solution of the help problem is the use of more and better farm machinery. A good tool greatly increases the amount of work which a man can do, and the interest on the investment in these tools, as well as cost of deterioration and repairs, is often less than the cost of an extra hand.—*New England Homestead*.

JAPANESE CEMENT

A JAPANESE company is promoting the use of volcanic ash in combination with Portland cement, especially for construction of work in salt water. The advantages claimed for this volcanic ash are that in combination with Portland cement it gives a greater tensile strength than cement mortar alone. It is also claimed that the mortar is denser than cement mortar, and does not permit the percolation of water, thus obviating the injurious action of sea water salts. This density gives it a superior quality for construction of water reservoirs and reinforced concrete for the protection of iron from oxidation.

If the Japanese cement has the advantages claimed for it, it is a valuable asset. It seems to have properties that will fill a long-felt want in the lines of cement.—*Western Architect and Builder*.

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RESTORING AN ANCIENT MISSION

FOR nearly twenty years an aged priest, Father O'Keefe, of the Franciscan Order, has been laboring to effect the restoration of San Luis Rey, perhaps the greatest and richest of all that wonderful chain of missions established in California more than a century ago. When Father O'Keefe came to the mission it was little more than a ruin, having been subjected to vandalism for nearly half a century. The tiles from the roofs were sold, arches were blown up with dynamite to secure the bricks they contained, even the graveyard was robbed of its headstones. The church was unroofed; almost a third of the wonderful system of archways which once formed a quadrangle about the mission was destroyed, and the entire structure rendered unfit for human habitation.

The priest undertook the heavy task of restoration with enthusiasm, but, owing to a sad lack of funds, the work proceeded very slowly, until about a year ago, when increased funds became available. At present a force of more than twenty men, some of whom were among the first to undertake the work, are engaged in raising up the grand old structure to its former strength and beauty.

The only section practically complete is that portion of the mission formerly used as dormitories for monks, instructors and travelers. The corridor leading from the church westward through one that faces the south has a length of 170 feet. The corridor leading north, in the west wing, is of almost equal length. Opening from the corridor, on both floors, are rooms fourteen by fifteen feet, with fourteen-foot ceilings, all of which have four-inch cement floors. Twenty-two of these rooms have been completed.

The building is massive, the outer walls being three feet in thickness, while the inner walls are twelve inches thick. Two arches and the lattice brick work along the front have been restored for a distance of 186 feet. Back of these arches are the dormitories referred to, forming the south wing. These are practically complete, as is also the west wing, 183 feet in length.

The open court is to be 225 feet square. Its eastern side is formed by the massive walls of the church; its southern side by the restored wing, with its fourteen arches, and a portion of the western side

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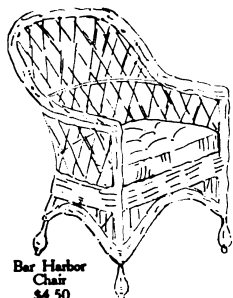
THE unprecedented growth of our Correspondence Department has necessitated the opening of a new Department which will be devoted to the interest of those who are building, decorating or furnishing their homes. **House & Garden** now offers its readers a House Finishing, Decorating, Furnishing and Purchasing Service which is complete in detail, thoroughly practical and absolutely free. Full color suggestions for the exterior of the house will be supplied with recommendations of proper materials to obtain the results. For the interior, the treatment of standing woodwork and floors, the selection of tiles, hardware and fixtures will be considered and specifically recommended, with the addresses of firms from whom these goods may be obtained. Samples of wall coverings and drapery materials will be sent and selections of rugs and furniture made. When desired, the goods will be purchased and shipped to the inquirer; the lowest retail prices are quoted on all materials.

This Department of Decoration is under the direction of MARGARET GREENLEAF, whose successful work as an interior Designer and Decorator is well known.

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by the western wing of the reinhabited structure. The northern wall is in the process of construction, as well as a portion of the western wall. The latter is of adobe. The inner tier of arches on the south side of the court has been restored and the corridor formed by them re-roofed. The arches supporting the dome of the church in the northern end of the mission have been restored and have only to be plastered in order to conform with the other portions of the building.

In its halcyon days San Luis Rey was a magnificent structure, covering fully six acres. Its southern façade was 600 feet long, that to the north being 400 feet. The inner court was 240 feet square, and contained eighty-eight immense cloister arches.

At the southeast quarter of this quadrilateral structure the church is located. Save that it is unroofed, this edifice is practically intact. Its walls are fifty-six inches in thickness, built of burnt brick and adobe. Both the inner and outer walls were plastered with white cement, much of which has fallen off, but this can easily be replaced, giving the structure a slightly appearance. The nave is one hundred and sixty by thirty feet, and has a ceiling sixty feet high. The work of Father O'Keefe will restore and give permanency to one of the finest structures in Southern California.—*American Contractor.*

THE SUEZ CANAL

ON June 2, 1908, the annual report of the canal was submitted to the stockholders. The gross receipts were \$24,023,700, it being an increase over the year 1906 of \$1,725,880. The commerce of the world is increasing, and the Suez Canal is the pulse of the commerce whose throb measures its growth. The Panama Canal, as important and grand a work as the present century has projected, will not compare with the Suez Canal in usefulness, unless the population of the world shall be changed in its base.

From New York to India, China, etc., is less mileage via the Suez Canal than it will be by the Panama and across the Pacific. But to this will come the opportunity of holding the entire Pacific coast line from the Straits of Magellan to Bering Strait.—*Western Architect and Builder.*

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House & Garden

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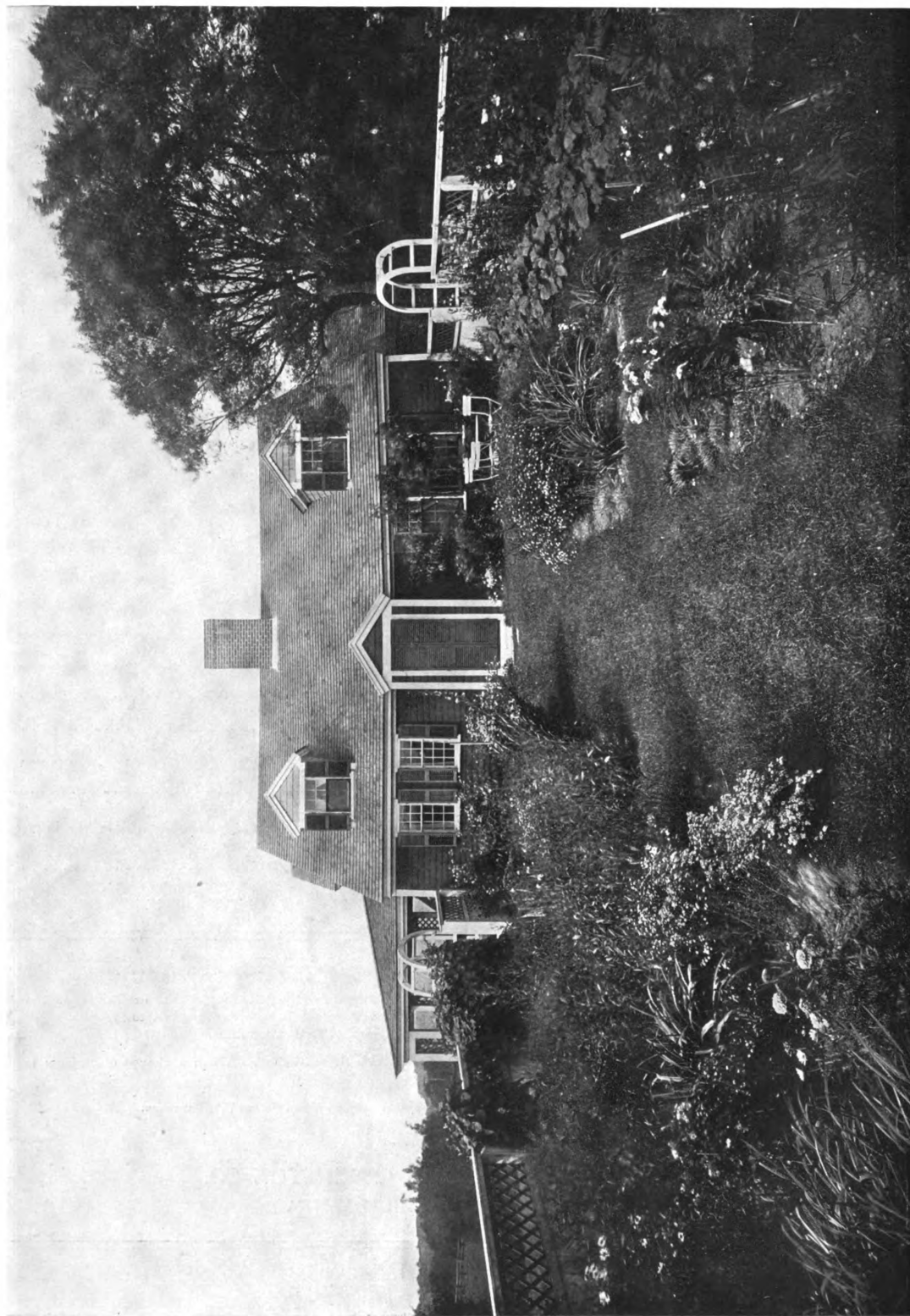
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WILLOWDALE, THE COUNTRY HOME OF MR. HARRY B. RUSSELL, ARCHITECT

House and Garden

Vol. XV

APRIL, 1909

No. 4

Willowdale—An Old-Fashioned House

THE COUNTRY HOME OF HARRY B. RUSSELL, ARCHITECT

Photographs by Leon Dadmun

THERE is always a certain fascination about the century-old farmhouse, which type abounds in all the seaport towns of New England, and is found in large numbers along the shores of Cape Cod. The house which is illustrated here is said to date back to the early time of the colonies, and was built by the first settlers in Pocasset, who migrated there from Plymouth. The date, however, is not known exactly, yet it is supposed to be about 1700. During the past decade or so, it had become quite unoccupied, so that when the present owner purchased it, it had the air of the "deserted farm," yet at once its many possibilities suggested themselves.

The effect to be realized was to keep the house "old-fashioned" and not to destroy any of the old-time feeling by the addition of the wings, which were necessary to make it habitable and convenient. One of these ells was added to the east end and contains three bedrooms and bath, while the other holds the service portion. Modern plumbing was installed in these additions, but not allowed to enter the old house, so that the old effect might not be marred. After these sections were completed, came the work of restoring the old part, yet this word could hardly be applied except as to paper and paint, which had previously been applied by ruthless hands. The fine



THE PARLOR—WILLOWDALE

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House and Garden

old paneling had been painted green in one room and brown in another, and the papers were not the quaint kind needed for such rooms. Two of the sills were found to be rotten, and the dining-room had to have a new floor laid, and, of course, several mouldings were lost in sections which needs must be supplemented. After the country carpenter had spent much time "fixing up" what he thought to be an abode hardly worth expending a cent upon, the painter took his turn and it was then that the transformation seemed to take place.

Nearly a hundred years ago the highway running through the village was changed from the front of the house to the back, so a splendid opportunity was given to establish the garden on the secluded south side, upon which give the windows of the living-rooms. This space, as the photograph shows, is enclosed with a fence, painted white, having green lattice panels at the top. The summer-house was placed at the rear of the garden, having its axis on the central path leading to the front door, and having its outer three sides beyond the fence, so that a very interesting view

is obtained of the fields, with the hills and woods beyond. The garden is very simply laid out, being divided by means of a wide central walk of grass and a narrow cross path into four large flower beds. The scheme for the planting was carried out on old-fashioned lines, keeping, as far as possible, the taller plants in the centers of the beds, with the lower ones on the edges. Yet no special color effect has been produced, and there is no attempt at formality in planting. The inside of the fence is quite hidden with a growth of running vines, while a line of hollyhocks borders the interior with masses of golden glow at the lower corners. The grassy walks are kept mown and clipped about the edges, yet the grass grows up between the flat stepping stones of random shape that form the walk to the front door. These add to the delightfully natural effect of the garden, which is not over-ornamented nor over-tended, yet one cannot enter without feeling a certain order and symmetry, although the old-fashioned flowers seem to vie with each other in their charm of wild entanglement. Scattered about the garden are some old



THE DINING-ROOM—WILLOWDALE

Willowdale—An Old-Fashioned House

jars that give it scale, and a table and three chairs where tea can be served in the open. The summer-house serves as the out-of-door living-room and is made very comfortable with hammocks, numerous chairs and tables.

Upon entering the house, one passes through a small entry, the walls of which are covered with landscape paper, which is a reproduction of an old pattern, to the parlor. The charm of this room is the paneling, with its crude mouldings and the small chimney cupboard, placed at the top of the room, quite hidden behind the heavy beam which extends across the ceiling. The windows are very small and are set with deep recesses, having seats which are extremely quaint and interesting. The paper has a gray ground with small pink roses set symmetrically at intervals, and the pink curtains and cushions match in tone. In the corner is an open buffet filled with old pink Bristol cups and saucers which help to carry out the color scheme of the room.

The dining-room was formerly the old kitchen, extending nearly across the entire back of the house,

and has a very large fireplace, the sides of which are stone, but the old oven has disappeared. The beams are hewn and the rough and jagged appearance adds a decidedly homely feeling to the interior, which has its walls painted white, and the woodwork gray, and the whole brightened with gay flowered chintz curtains at the windows. As the illustration shows, this room contains several old pieces, which are quite unique, although not especially rare, but in keeping with the setting. This plain white wall with the gray makes a decidedly favorable background for the old pewter and glass used in the decorative scheme. The floor is painted a stronger gray than the dado, and the ceiling between the beams is softened in tone to show the effect of age.

The bedroom is also paneled on the side toward the chimney and has a dado and heavy beam running across the ceiling. The paper is very old-fashioned, with its design of a slender vine of green ivy running vertically to the cornice. On the floor is a large rug in dull tones, and the hangings on



ONE OF THE BEDROOMS—WILLOWDALE

House and Garden



THE GARDEN FROM THE PARLOR WINDOWS—WILLOWDALE

the bed and at the windows are a light figured stuff. A very narrow and steep stairway leads to the open garret through which runs the big, stone chimney and where repose old chests, with the usual supply of spinning wheels and looms. On either end of the

garret is a bedroom, furnished similar to that below stairs. Within and without the place holds together with a decided unity, the effect being simple to a most satisfying degree. Consistency has been the keynote and harmony prevails everywhere.

A Reporter's Interview

By TUDOR JENKS

SOME recent arrivals in our land
Are the scions of a noble band—
The Dent-de-Lions, an ancient race
Famed for their brilliancy and grace.

A prominent Editor ever alert
To render to each his true desert,
Despatched a Reporter to Open Air
With this *carte blanche* (and railroad fare):
"See what *Taraxacums* have to say,
And write it out in your own bright way."
(For kindly words do not cost a cent
To editors.)

The Reporter went.
There was no need afield to roam—
The Dent-de-Lions lodged near his home.
At first it seemed hard to select a group,
But he found, not far from his own front stoop,
A cluster of Dandelions gay
Who nodded and beckoned as if to say:
"Come chat with us!" His pen in hand,
The bright Reporter approached the band,

Who at once replied "he did *not* intrude,"
And said they'd not mind being "interviewed."

The Scribe began, "I should like to know
About your voyage. Did the breezes blow?"
"Well, yes," they said; "the winds were strong,
But the trip seemed anything but long.
We came last year. We floated over
From the opposite meadow—Land of Clover.
We landed in less than half an hour
From the time we left the parent flower.
The breeze died down, and let us fall
Just in the lee of this old stone-wall—
A pleasant harbor in which to rest,
So we settled down to do our best.
Why did we come? It is our delight
To make the dullest spots look bright.
Grass, of course, is a worthy plant,
But as for Art—you know it *can't*
Produce what belongs to a higher state.
Grass may be useful, but never great.
You don't see why? Then I'll explain.

A Reporter's Interview

Even the duller, human, brain
Must see that grass is too democratic
For the graces of the aristocratic."

The Reporter asked, "You claim for your race
A nobler and a higher place?"
"We do. Indeed, there's no mystery
As to our earlier history.

In our ancient annals, as in your own,
Our separate states each lived alone.
But we found, to wage a winning fight,
We must be composite—that is, unite.
Our plants thrived best who formed a nation
In a commonwealth of coöperation.
But not like the Grass, which runs to blades;
We love arts as well as trades,
And strive together as best we can
In furtherance of a common plan.
The Daisy family, as you see,
Makes rich an aristocracy—
They favor with special privilege
The floret-clan around the edge,—
These alone can wear 'the strap,'
A sort of feather in the cap.
The Thistles, too, made a federation,
But seek use rather than decoration.
The Thistle-floret avoids display
And remains a tube, in the ancient way.
They do not seek to attract the eye
But prefer outsiders should pass them by.
In fact, no one but a donkey loves
To handle the Thistle without gloves!"

The Reporter laughed, as in duty bound,
But a neighboring Thistle darkly frowned.

"We believe," the Dandelion confessed,
"That each should do what he does the best:
The roots should mine the nourishing earth,
Selecting whatever is of worth;
The stem transports with proper speed
To every part what it may need;
The leaves are lungs and chemists too—"

The Reporter broke in: "Oh,—very true!"
(For much he feared, before he got any
News, he'd be swamped in floods of Botany.)
"Yes, yes; I know. And the flower's station
Is to rear the younger generation.
But would I be right if I should state
That you think the young should emigrate?"

"Undoubtedly! Exhausted soil
In spite of youth and patient toil
Can never bring up hardy plants.
Our youths are natural emigrants;
Equipped alike for earth or sky,
When once mature, abroad they fly

In a golden ring around the world
Our banners greet the sun, unfurled!"

"That's very good!" the Reporter said,
While thoughts of Webster filled his head.
"But the world is wide, and when fleets set sail,
There are storms and rocks, and many fail."

"No doubt. But though a hundred fall,
And but one lives, it pays for all.
Wherever fertile soil is found
The little miner seeks the ground.
'No step backward,' is his cry;
Examine the seed and you'll see why.
It's as hard for our seed to retreat, you know,—
As it is for a fish-hook to let go.
And, once well planted, a seed that tries
Can always find the means to rise.
It sprouts, it buds, displays its gold,
Behold the flower! My story's told."

"But please explain," protests the Scribe,
"The benefactions of your tribe."
"We advertise, perhaps obtrusively,
We work in gold, in gold exclusively.
But children learn our stems to take
And best of wreaths and chains to make.
While certain tubes that sturdy grow
Will sound like trumpets if you blow."

"I've heard it said that in your prime,
You also serve to tell the time?"

"Well, well!" the Dandelion replied,
"Our clocks are not our chiefest pride.
No doubt they tell the children so,
And goldsmiths *do* keep clocks, you know.
Indeed, you'll think, I am afraid,
That we are Jacks of many a trade:
We serve the cook with salad-leaves,
The druggist in our juice believes,
And, sometimes, clever little girls
Bedeck themselves with our green curls—
But these are follies of the day.
I have a serious word to say:
Please warn your readers to beware
Of immigrants who seek their care—
Chrysanthemums, those Japanese
Who strive with Orient arts to please;
And Orchids, plants that have, in short,
No means of visible support;
Mere vagabonds who do not know
How native plants must toil to grow.
Excuse me!—it is growing late,
The shutters must be up at eight!"

And, just as the Reporter rose,
He saw the Dandelions close.

Seacoast Gardens

What to Plant in Them

IT is a wide subject because of the varying conditions of climate and situation. The first necessity, of course, is to establish a protection against the devastating and pitiless sea winds. Once this is accomplished, almost everything that grows in an inland garden, will grow and flourish in a garden by the sea. Some of the most famous old-world gardens are by the sea. If Nature has not done something in the way of trees, shrubs or rocks for protection, then artificial windbreaks must be constructed. There are many hardy shrubs and trees that are useful for this purpose: the tamarisks, the Austrian pines, the white and yellow spruces, many of the willows, the sea-buckthorn, which though of slow growth is of compact foliage and invaluable. The *Rosa rugosa* is most useful, with handsome enduring foliage and its freedom from insects. The ailanthus, though not valuable as a tree, fills so many useful offices in a plantation, as it grows fast and yields readily to the wind without breaking that its rather annoying habit of sending up suckers all about it, is not objectionable in a rough plantation, these young growths making good trees for planting elsewhere when in their second and third years. Ailanthus trees when planted closely together, and trimmed severely each year, form a fine clump of graceful foliage. A plantation composed of many of the above trees and shrubs, will, in a few years, make such a protection, that anything not too tender for the climate will grow and flourish. A great deal depends upon this first planting, the selection of the trees, their good condition, care in planting, etc.

Perhaps instead of generalizing about seacoast gardens, it would be more instructive if I described a garden on the southern coast of Rhode Island, which I have known for years, since its beginning, in fact. The place consisted of about ten acres of bare meadow land of coarse grass, without a shrub or bush or protecting rock. It was directly on the coast, facing south and west, and blown upon by all the winds of heaven. It seemed a bold thing to face the very discouraging opinions of others, and to insist a garden could be made out of such material. Now, after twelve years of effort, this bare meadow has been transformed into a stretch of really charming woodland—hedges, perfect lawns, flower borders and fruit and vegetable gardens. The first effort was to establish all along the north line of the land a plantation of white spruces and Austrian pines. The soil, which was naturally light and sandy, was deeply ploughed and enriched in a broad belt—thirty to fifty feet wide—the broadest part near the

sea. Five furrows were then ploughed, six feet between each furrow, and in these furrows the pines and spruces were planted, the trees being three to four feet high, each kind more or less grouped. These trees were carefully cultivated, no weeds or grass being allowed to grow about them for three or four years, then they were allowed to take care of themselves. Gradually a wild garden grew up amongst them, which has formed one of the most effective and interesting features of the place. When it became necessary to thin this plantation from time to time, the trees were removed to other parts of the place, where they were wanted, so that this plantation did good service as a nursery.

To the east, the place was protected against the cruel winds by the gardener's cottage and stable, working sheds, greenhouses, hedges, and a high stone wall, which supported the lean-to fruit houses. Two or three years after the planting of the pines and spruces on the north line, an irregular copse-like plantation was formed starting from the broadest part of the pines and spruces, and running diagonally across the meadow to the stone boundary wall on the south side. This consisted principally of silver birches, but among them were locust trees, poplars, thorns and sycamores. The locusts and poplars had finally to be dug up and discarded, because they harbored "borers"—and the thorns, because they became the home of the "scale." In places of these more silver birches were planted with white pines—and that most satisfactory *Crataegus Crugalli*. Through this copse an irregular little path runs, and the whole plantation has become one of the delightful features of the place, sheltered from all winds, and the home of robins and song sparrows. In it only native plants find a place, and the most delicate of our wild flowers. In the most shaded parts among the ferns and Solomon's seals our lovely *Cypripedium* finds a home, the partridge berry, the trailing arbutus and ground pine, have settled themselves, and a welcome has been given to the English primroses. Outside this copse there is a protective planting of *Rosa rugosa*, tamarisk, privet, etc., for the full force of the destructive southwest wind is felt here. Beyond this lies the open meadow land, divided from the sea by the high road. This large open meadow has been planted in irregular belts and masses of gorse, broom and heather, now thoroughly established, though they are sometimes winter killed, but revive vigorously in the spring. But what gardener worth the name would be discouraged by failures! His

(Continued on page 3, Advertising Section.)

Inexpensive Little Houses

Small Investments that Pay Big Interest

By HELEN LUKENS GAUT

Photographs by the Author

“TENDERFEET” visiting Southern California, often note with surprise and wonder, great numbers of attractive and oftentimes artistic little houses that cuddle in side and back yards, close beside large imposing residences, like children hiding bashfully in their mothers’ petticoats. Sometimes in appearance, they seem to be little more than doll houses.

They are for practical use, however, and not for play. Astonishing as it may seem, they are the best of income property, yielding from twenty to one hundred per cent on the money invested. For safe and sure and permanent returns they are a “joy forever” to their owners in the south-land, where renting propositions are in constant demand. They are popular with, and are sought by all classes, rich and poor alike. The working-man who cannot afford a large establishment finds his happiness and “Home, Sweet Home”, in a little dovecote that just escapes contamination with his landlord’s back stoop, while Easterners, many of whom enjoy elegance and style at home (when they discover the tiny houses are really intended for habitation by grown folks instead of children and fairies) eagerly rent one of these back yard bungalows, the modest lines of which may not compare with the architectural splendor of their wood-sheds at home, and have a glorious outing, free from all household responsibilities and cares. Neither do they lose social prestige because of their back yard environment, for they are only doing in Rome, as the other Romans do.

Residence lots in Southern California average

fifty by one hundred and fifty feet in size. After a house is erected on the front half, and a small barn or garage on the rear, there yet remains a considerable space, and it is on this surplus area, that would otherwise be used for pleasant, but financially unprofitable garden or lawn, that these little bungalows are built. The price of construction ranges from two hundred dollars up, and if simply furnished, they rent for from ten to one hundred dollars per month, according to location. A bungalow built on one side of a lot, facing a flower-bordered path or driveway

that leads to the main street, rents to better advantage than a cottage with an outlook into a kitchen window or cellarway. Sometimes there are several cottages in one yard, forming a settlement or colony, the rentals from which afford the owner a substantial living. He has sowed his seeds of investment wisely. He is rewarded by a continuous



Cost \$1,200. Five rooms and bath. Brick fireplace. Panel finish inside. Shakes outside. Rents unfurnished for \$25 per month by the year

crop that harvests itself, and drops the gold into his hand.

Imagine a three-room bungalow, plainly furnished, which cost, furniture and all, not to exceed six hundred dollars, that rents for seventy-five dollars a month. Money easily earned, you will say. An exceptional location among the homes of millionaires, however, makes this seemingly exorbitant rent possible. I have in mind another example of income property—an eight by twelve wood-shed. Before the transformation it was old and rickety, and in an unpromising back yard. In it a clever housewife discovered possibilities, and turned it into a cozy housekeeping apartment. She scared away the long resident rats and spiders, covered the walls with

House and Garden



This house cost about \$700

cheap burlap, hung dainty white curtains at the tiny windows, and added a bright rug and a few pieces of second-hand furniture. She next polished up the back yard, planted a rose bush and a geranium or two, and with brave anticipation hung out a sign bearing the tempting inscription "Room to Rent." A tenant came at once, almost as swiftly as the bee that scents honey, and for many months has paid six dollars a month for living in miladi's wood-shed.

Many of the little bungalows are so cozy and compact, and best of all, inexpensive, that some hints regarding their construction may be of help to small home-builders, as well as those wishing to put up cottages to rent. A good many people have the mistaken idea that conventional rules must be followed in building, that boards and shingles and plaster must be just so, that there must be exactly one teaspoonful of baking powder to every quart of flour. In Southern California, however, one discovers abundant, and sometimes startling originality in style of architecture. Unprepossessing barns, shacks and wood-sheds are, as if by magic, transformed into charming and comfortable quarters. After going through the evolutionary process



The cost of this house was about \$500

they are as changed in appearance as is the hobo who suddenly comes into fortune, and changes his rags for broadcloth. Again a heap of old lumber of every conceivable dimension, may, by ingenious hands, be used in building a dear little house, which when completed and freshly painted, is as crisp and inviting as a new bank note.

The tent house is cheapest and easiest to build. Sidings may be entirely of canvas stretched over the framework, or there may be a wainscot of boards three or four feet high, above which canvas extends under the eaves. Striped canvas is often used, but the stripes are bold and tormentingly monotonous. The happiest plan is to stretch white canvas over the frame and stain it some uniform color. Dark green or red is both

restful and effective. If there is to be no inside finish, the framework should be of planed lumber, for a tent house is so thin the "bones" are much in evidence. If stained black, or a rich oak color, the studding appears like a series of frames holding the canvas. Sometimes flowered cretonne or burlap is used for finishing the interior, but is not popular. The tent house idea is for abundance



Exceptionally well built tent house. Two rooms and shower bath. Cost \$300

Inexpensive Little Houses

of fresh air, and health. The manner of outside construction can best be obtained from the illustrations. A cheap and simple style of cottage or bungalow and the one most popular, is that known as "box house." The sidings are of foot wide boards running perpendicularly around the foundation. Before the roof is added, the appearance is that of a great dry-goods box. The outer surface of these boards should be rough, and unplanned battens used to cover the cracks. The inner surface of these boards should be planed, and the cracks covered with planed battens. This gives an attractive panel finish to the interior. A plate shelf, five feet from the floor adds materially to the appearance. Ceilings may be fashioned like the walls, though instead of using battens, a more effective result may be obtained by substituting with two by sixes, and having what is termed a beamed ceiling. Walls and ceiling may be stained any color desired, or torched. The latter is perhaps, the richest and most popular finish. For rough surfaced exteriors, woodstain, in place of paint, is used exclusively, and is both durable and inexpensive.

A striking interior may be obtained by staining the



A neat little house which cost about \$800



Not for rent. The owner lives in the house



An attractive tent house

boards black, rubbing off the stain immediately after applying, thus bringing out the grain in the wood; and covering the cracks between the boards with split bamboo in the natural color. If two rooms are connected by a wide doorless arch, a grille of bamboo at the top of this opening adds another glad touch to the decorative scheme. Put in these rooms a fire-

place of cobblestones or clinker brick, and you have a home that is unique and altogether pleasing.

Perhaps the most popular way of finishing interiors is to have a panel effect extending five feet from the floor, then a plate shelf, and from that to the ceiling a frieze of burlap, either plain or figured. With dark paneling, scrolled or flowered burlap in reds, greens and tans, is especially striking. Bedrooms are dainty if the pine paneling is varnished and left in its own natural color of pale yellow, and a delicate flowered pattern of burlap used for a frieze.

Homes built in this way are separated from the world by but one thickness of board, and are not adaptable to cold climates, except as summer homes, but in medium climates they give happy satisfaction.

House and Garden

If one prefers plastered walls to those of paneling or burlap, lath may be nailed diagonally and flat to the siding boards, and the plaster applied. It is generally supposed that lath must be nailed to the studding, so that the plaster may crawl back, finding room to adhere, but I can say from experience, that in small bungalows with low ceilings, plaster is perfectly satisfactory if put on as above described. By following this plan, studding, as well as considerable labor, is dispensed with. The secret of success lies in nailing the lath diagonally to the boards, and using first-grade Alpine plaster. Shakes are frequently used for roofing, but as they are apt to curl and leak, it is economy to use shingles.

Houses a trifle more expensive than the box cottages, but exceedingly attractive, are those entirely covered with shingles or shakes. To build these, a substantial framework is necessary, and the extra labor required to put them on counts up rapidly when figured at four and five dollars a day. Beveled siding, both planed and rough, is used considerably by builders, and makes a conventional genteel cottage.

For these small houses, lattice windows are most appropriate, or large



Cost \$1,000. Five rooms and bath. Panel finish throughout. Rents unfurnished for \$25 per month, by the year



Cost \$800. Four rooms and bath. Rents unfurnished for \$18 per month

panes of glass with lattice panels on top and sides. A front door of lattice glass is also preferable to any other style. Window boxes filled with gay flowers, add much to the outward appearance of these little nests, and are pleasant for the housewife to look out upon as she sits at her sewing.

In these days, everyone strives for condensation. Beds are built in the walls,

so that in the daytime a sleeping-room may be turned into a parlor or living-room. Window seats are boxed and fitted with covers, making convenient receptacles for storing bedding or clothing. There are built-in sideboards and bookcases, and shelves galore, and oftentimes the arrangement is so complete and compact, that housekeeping is a pastime instead of an agony. There is no running up a long flight of stairs for a pair of scissors or a forgotten duster. The home-keeper has only to spin on her heel, reach out her hand, and grasp the entire situation.

For comfort on summer evenings, the rest-time of the weary, a wide porch with easy chairs is indispensable. Porches with cemented floors and walled with cobblestones,

(Continued on page 4, Advertising Section.)



Cost \$1,300. Six rooms and bath. Rents for \$25 per month by the year, unfurnished

The Rose—Its Care and Culture

By EBEN E. REXFORD

EVERY woman who has a garden tries to grow roses in it, but where one succeeds, ten fail. One does not have far to seek in looking for the reason of failure. The plant is not understood, and therefore does not get the right kind of treatment. When you come to know its requirements and give it proper care, you can grow fine roses, but not till then. Those who form an opinion of the possibilities of the plant from the specimens of it which they see growing in the average garden, have yet to find out what a really fine rose is.

The rose is the flower of romance and sentiment, but, for all that, it is not a sentimental flower in many respects. It is a vegetable epicure. It likes rich food, and great quantities of it. Unless it can be gratified in this respect it will refuse to grow you large, fine flowers, and its annual crop of them will be small and short-lived. But feed it according to its liking and it will give you great, fragrant, perfect flowers in enormous quantities, and then you will know what the plant can do when it sets about doing itself justice.

It is a plant that will live on indefinitely in almost any soil, and under almost any conditions. But it will only do its best in a soil that is rather heavy with clay or a tenacious loam. It is a plant that likes to feel the earth firm about its roots. In light, loose soils it never does well. Some varieties make vigorous growth in a soil of clay and gravel, but they do not bloom as well as those which have a more compact soil to spread their roots in.

The ideal fertilizer for the rose is old, well-rotted cow-manure,—so old that it is black, and so rotten that it will crumble at the touch of the hoe. You

can use it safely in the proportion of a third to the bulk of earth in which you plant your roses. Work it well into the soil, and make the ground so fine, before you set out your plants, that it will settle firmly about their roots when you have them in place. Avoid lumpy soil, for that will leave some of the roots loose, and this is just what you should guard against.

Because roses are so beautiful, we naturally like to plant them where their beauty can be seen to the best advantage. But I would not advise giving them a place on the lawn, or in the front yard. When they are in bloom, people will look only at their flowers but after the flowering period is over, they will have to look at the bushes, and then they will discover that a rose-bush without blossoms is not half as attractive as most other shrubs. We prune them back so sharply, in our effort to get fine flowers, that there is never any luxuriance of branches, and as ornamental shrubs, they are simply failures. This being the case, it is better to locate the rose-bed where it will not be very prominent to the visitor, or the passer-by, after the flowering season is ended. But try to have it where its glories can be enjoyed

by the occupants of the home,—not under, or close to, the living-room windows,—but where it will be in full view. If possible, give it a shelter of evergreens, or a wall, on north and west.

Very few of our roses are really hardy, though most of the catalogues speak of nearly all the leading varieties as being so. Most of the kinds we grow will lose the greater share of their branches during the winter, at the North, unless given protection. Their roots, however, are seldom injured so severely that they will not send up a rank growth during the



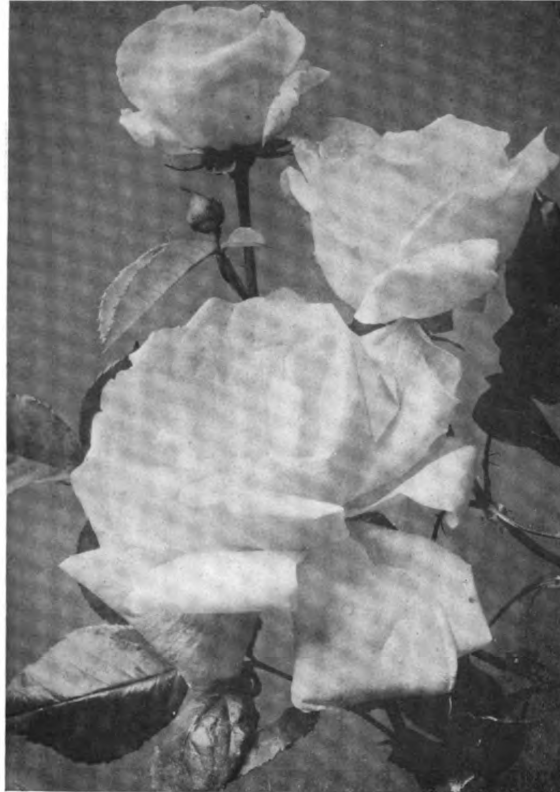
HYBRID PERPETUAL ROSE, CAPTAIN CHRISTY

House and Garden

season, but this is not what we want. We want roses, lots of them, and in order to have them we must contrive, in some way, to save as many of the branches of last year's growth as possible. This can be done without much trouble. Bend the bushes to the ground, late in fall, when winter seems about to set in, and cover them with dry earth, leaves, litter from the barn, or evergreen branches. In doing this you are not aiming to keep frost away from the plants, but, rather, to prevent the sun from getting at them and thawing the frost out after it has penetrated their covering. For scientific investigation has discovered that a plant, though comparatively tender, is not injured by freezing, if you can keep it frozen until the frost is extracted gradually and according to natural processes. It is the frequent alternation of freezing and thawing which does the harm. Therefore, if you can keep a tender variety of rose from thawing out until spring, after it freezes in the fall, the chances are that you will have but little difficulty in wintering it safely. The object of covering our roses, then, is to shade them, rather than to keep them warm. If earth is used

as a covering, it should be dry, and after it is put on, boards, or something that will turn away rain, should be put over it. If leaves are used—and these make an ideal covering, if you can get enough of them—they can be kept in place by laying coarse wire netting over them. Or evergreen branches can be used to keep the wind from blowing them away. These branches, alone, will be sufficient protection for the hardier roses, such as Harrison's Yellow, Provence, Cabbage, and the mosses. Teas and the Bourbon and Bengal section of so-called ever-bloomers, are most satisfactorily wintered in the open ground by making a pen of boards about them, eight or ten inches deep, and packing it firmly with dry leaves, first laying the bushes flat upon the ground. Then cover with something to shed rain. These

very tender sorts cannot always be depended on to come through the winter safely, at the North, with the best of protection, but where one has a bed of them that has been set out for summer bloom, he naturally hates to think of losing them if it is possible to save them, and he will be willing to make an effort to carry them through the winter. Even if only a few are saved, he will feel amply repaid for all his trouble. Generally all the old top will have to be cut away, but this class sends up vigorous shoots, early in the season, if its roots survive, and no great harm is done by the loss of old wood.



PROVENCE ROSE

The best roses to plant are those grown by reliable dealers, who understand how to grow strong, vigorous stock, and who are too honest to give a plant a wrong name. Some unscrupulous dealers, whose supply of plants is limited to a few of the sorts easiest to grow, will fill any order you send them, and your plants will come to you properly labelled. But, when they come into bloom, you will find that you did not get what you asked for. The honest dealer will never play this trick on his customers. If he hasn't the kinds they order, he will tell them

so. Therefore, before ordering, try to find out who the honest dealers are, and give no order to any firm which is not well recommended by persons in whose opinion you have entire confidence. We have scores of such firms, but they do not advertise as extensively as the newer ones, because they have so many old customers who advertise for them by "speaking a good word" to their friends who may want anything in their line.

I would advise purchasing two-year old plants, always. They have stronger roots than one-year old plants, and will give a fairly good crop of flowers the first season.

Always buy plants on their own roots. It is claimed, by many growers, that some varieties of the rose do better when grafted on vigorous stock, than

The Rose—Its Care and Culture

they do on their own roots, and this is doubtless true. But it is also true that the stock of this plant can be propagated more rapidly by grafting than by root-division, and, because of this, many dealers resort to this method of increasing their supply. It is money in their pockets to do so. But it is an objectionable plan, because the scion grafted on to roots of an inferior sort is quite likely to die off, and, if that happens, you have a worthless plant. The roots will send up a strong, vigorous growth of branches, but from them you will get no flowers, because the stock upon which most varieties are grafted is that of a non-flowering sort. Many persons cannot understand why it is that their luxuriant plants fail to bloom, but when they find that this growth comes from the roots below where the graft was inserted, they will no longer wonder at the absence of flowers. Even if the graft does not die off, the plant will fail, after a little, because the excessive production of shoots from the roots of the variety upon which it was "worked" will rob the graft of vitality, and render it worthless. All this risk is avoided by planting only those roses which grow on their own roots. In planting roses, make the hole in which they are to be set large enough to admit of spreading out their roots evenly and naturally. Let it be deep enough to bring the roots about as far below the surface as the plant shows them to have been before it was taken from the nursery row. When the roots are properly straightened out, fill in about them with fine soil, and firm it down well. Then cover to the depth of two or three inches, and apply at least a pailful of water, after which fill up about the plant, pressing the soil down with the foot.

We have several classes or divisions of roses adapted to culture at the North. The June roses are those which give a bountiful crop of flowers at the beginning of summer, but none thereafter. This class

includes the Provence, the mosses, the climbers, Harrison's Yellow and the Scotch and Austrian kinds. The hybrid perpetual bloom profusely in early summer, and sparingly thereafter, at intervals, until the coming of cold weather. The ever-bloomers are made up of Bengal, Bourbon, tea and noisette varieties. These are small in habit of growth but they are exquisitely beautiful in form and color, so

delightfully fragrant and so free flowering from June to November, that no garden should be without a bed of them. The rugosa roses are a recent acquisition. They are single, for the most part, but very bright in color, or of the purest white, and have attractive foliage.

The hybrid perpetual and ever-blooming classes must have special treatment in order to secure flowers from them throughout the season. Their blossoms are always produced on new growth. Therefore, in order to get flowers from them, you must give such treatment as will keep them growing. This is done by feeding the plants liberally, and cutting back the branches which have borne flowers, to some strong bud. This will generally result in the de-

velopment of a new branch, on which flowers will be borne. In this way we keep the plant constantly renewing itself, and in the process we are likely to get a good many flowers where we would get few, or none, if we let it take care of itself. The ever-bloomers are especially adapted to such treatment, and can be depended on to give entire satisfaction throughout the season.

The ramblers, now so popular, constitute a class almost by themselves in many respects. They are of wonderfully vigorous habit, have a dozen, or perhaps a score, of flowers where the ordinary varieties would have but one, bloom early in the season, and produce a wonderful show of color. The individual blossoms are so small that they do not please the exacting rose-grower, but there are so many in a



TEA ROSE, PERLE DES JARDINS

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cluster, and these clusters are so numerous, that the general effect is very charming. The chief difficulty in growing this class is found in properly protecting it, in the fall. There will be scores of canes, from eight to ten and twelve feet in length. These will be stiff and hard to manage, and many of them will be cracked or broken in the attempt to lay them down, but it must be done, if you want a great crop of flowers next year.

Provide yourself with some thick leather gloves before you begin work. Then go at it carefully, and bend down a cane at a time, placing on it something heavy enough to hold it in place, when you have it flat on the ground. Avoid sharp and abrupt bends. These break or crack the stalk. When you have all the canes spread out on the ground, cover them with earth, litter, or leaves, and heap a generous quantity about the base of the plant. In spring it may be found necessary to cut away about one third of the length of each cane, as the later growth of the season may not have been sufficiently mature to survive the winter. Half ripened wood almost always dies away, thus necessitating a severe cutting back of the branches of nearly all varieties in general cultivation, in spring. It is a good plan to go over each plant and thin out all weak wood, and cut away its branches in such a manner that there will be a free circulation of air.

Roses have their enemies, and it would seem as if there must be some kind of an understanding among them, as to their date of attack, because nearly all of them come at about the same time. The aphid I find no difficulty in keeping down with an infusion of the ordinary ivory soap of household use,—half a five cent cake, melted, and added to a pailful of water. This should be applied all over the plant, with a sprayer. For the worm that does so much damage at the time when our roses are just getting ready to bloom, I use a kerosene emulsion which I make by adding two parts oil to one part

of the soap mentioned above, while the latter is hot. Agitate the two together until they unite. Then use one part of this emulsion to five parts water, spraying it all over the plants. In rose culture as in every branch of horticulture, the price of success is constant vigilance. By the persistent use of home-made, cheap, safe and easily prepared insecticides, I keep my bushes free from the pests

which will ruin their flowers if they are not interfered with.

The hardy climbing roses in general seem to be particularly susceptible to disease, especially to that scourge known as white mildew. Mildew is a fungous growth most frequently appearing in the damp weather of spring and fall. It gives the leaves a whitish appearance and causes them to curl up. By dusting flowers of sulphur over the affected parts while still wet with dew in the early morning its ravages may be checked; or a spray made of one-half ounce of potassium sulphide to two gallons of water is another good remedy. The Crimson Ramblers are troubled seriously with red spiders. This enemy is most active in dry weather. Use the garden hose with a small stream thrown with good force liberally on



RUGOSA ROSE

the bushes. If this is not effective spray with a weak kerosene emulsion. The illustrations which accompany this article will give the reader an excellent idea of each class of roses of which mention has been made, with the exception of the ramblers. These have been so freely illustrated in all the leading catalogues, for the last five or six years, that everybody is familiar with their appearance. Our first illustration is from a photograph of Captain Christy, a most worthy representative of the great hybrid perpetual branch of the rose-family. The second is the Provence, perhaps the most beautiful of all the June roses. The third illustration is Perle des jardins, an old tea rose, but still one of the best, and the fourth is a faithful representation of the rugosa section.

The War Against Ugliness

BY EVA RYMAN-GAILLARD

IN the work of beautifying surroundings the things that produce finest effects with least expenditure of time, strength, or money are the things that appeal to most people and, for this reason, we turn to plants of one kind or another.

Plant life furnishes the most readily available means for making any place beautiful because it furnishes varieties suited to every possible place and purpose, and when the quest is for something quickly and lastingly effective the hardy shrubs and vines meet every requirement. The fact that they may be planted in either the spring or fall months is another factor that makes for their value.

After a shrub is once planted it needs but a yearly pruning, fertilizing, and forking around the roots to keep it in condition to become more beautiful each year, and if no other plants were obtainable there are forms enough in this one class to meet every need.

When considering the question of size suited to a given spot we have a range of choice varying from the foot-high dwarfs to the ten-foot specimens that are veritable trees, while the foliage ranges from the simple leaf to the decomposed form that is as

gracefully beautiful as a fern, and from green to purple, red, yellow, and other colors.

If the question of blooming qualities comes up for consideration we find an even wider range of form, color, and season to choose from. For April we may have the silvery-gray catkins of the willow, the golden bells of the forsythia and after these come the gorgeous flame-red Japanese quince, the dainty pink flowering-almond, the purple and white lilacs, spiræas and snowballs—something, constantly, until frost spoils the hardy hydrangeas.

Even after the flowers are gone such shrubs as the sumac, the barberry, the snowberry, the bitter-sweet and others hold their fruits to give a touch of beauty to the winter landscape while still others have a vivid colored bark that gives them a beauty all their own.

Among hardy vines there is almost as much diversity of form, color and habit of growth as among the shrubs, and the grandest home ever built is made more beautiful by the addition of even one fine specimen, while the tumble-down hut, the old fence, or other unsightly object may be hidden

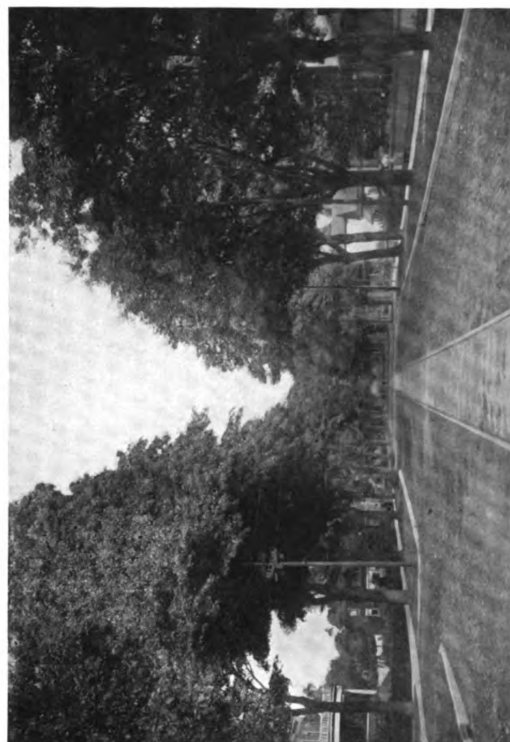


THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SHRUBS, VINES AND WELL-KEPT GRAVEL WALKS AND DRIVES

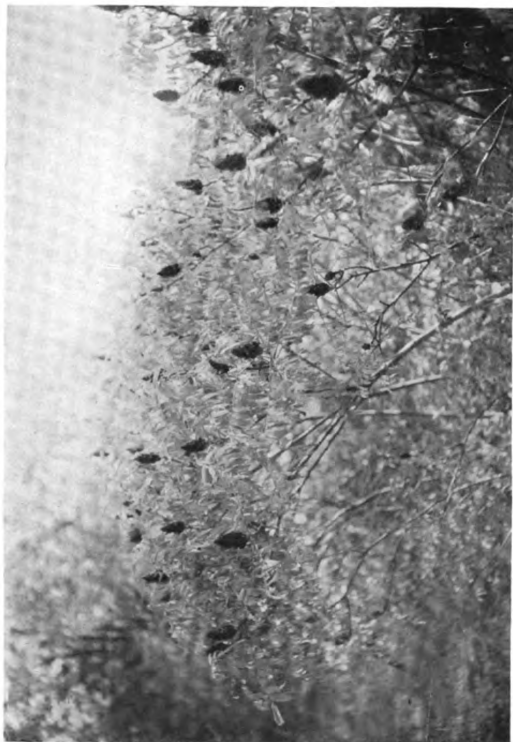
House and Garden



GRASSES SURROUNDING A SMALL FOUNTAIN



THE BEAUTY OF SHADE TREES ON THE STREET



A HEDGE OF SUMAC VERY LATE IN THE FALL



SHOWING THE BEAUTIFYING POWER OF VINES ON HOMES

The War Against Ugliness

and transformed by a generous use of them. If possible to go to the woods, or along country roadsides, many entirely desirable shrubs and vines may be found and this fact makes bleak and un-beautiful surroundings seem the sign of carelessness.

Don't "sniff" at these native wildings as "common" for many a wealthy man gladly pays a high price for the same kinds, and in many city parks they are given the place of honor.

The window or veranda that lacks shade or privacy may be quickly provided with both by the use of the rapid-growing sorts while a few posts or poles and a little wire netting will furnish support for vines that will furnish pleasant little loafing-nooks and at the same time produce beautiful decorative effects.

Perennials are another class of plants that give good returns for a minimum amount of labor expended on them and the beautiful perennial grasses, ranging from a few inches to six or eight feet in height, are well worth a place in any home grounds. Among them will be found varieties suited for use as hedges, for screen work, or for large specimen clumps on an open lawn.

Annuals, as a class, are smaller and less showy and so require more work to secure equal effects but, fortunately, this rule like others has its exceptions and the grandly effective castor-bean is one of them. The plant which, grown from seed, will attain a height of twelve feet and flaunt its immense leaves to the breeze is worthy of place among the "quickly effective" class.

The improved sunflower and several other large growing sorts are comparatively well known, but the list is all too short and should be increased at every opportunity. The writer read of the Japanese *Zea* (some catalogs called it maize) and decided to see what it was worth. The result was a cornstalk bearing ears of corn like any ordinary sort, but the

foliage and husks on the ear were beautifully striped with creamy-white and pink.

In effect it was a tropical grass of great beauty, and of all the people who saw it not one had ever known of it before—yet it was listed in several catalogs.

In most cities and towns street fences are being done away with very rapidly, and in many instances the line-fence shares a like fate and their removal gives an appearance of increased size that is of itself an added beauty. More than this, it gives a chance for co-operation among neighbors in the carrying out of plans that would be impossible with the old-style fenced-in yards, or to the individual working alone.

In the warfare against ugliness, cleanliness is an all-important factor and no amount of ornamentation can make a beautiful place of one where the walks are left overgrown with weeds, and with edges untrimmed. A well-kept, straight walk is more pleasing in effect than a neglected one of more graceful outline but, when equally well cared for there is more real beauty in a curved walk than a straight one and even where grounds are small, the arrangement may be made more effective by their use.

Withal, do not forget that the war against ugliness must be carried on outside the grounds as well as in, and ornamental planting need not be confined by the limits of the home-acre.

If your neighbor does not see it as you do, at first, he will be enlisted under your banner without realizing it, for this sort of warfare seems to gather recruits without trouble. To prove that statement one has but to look around and compare present conditions in both urban and suburban communities with those existing a few years ago. The old homes were neat, but they were selfishly so, while the work done to-day is done with a double purpose—the satisfying of a self-respecting pride in our homes and the desire to make the world more beautiful for every person that travels the highway, even the stranger within our gates.



A FARM HOME WHERE SHRUBS AND FLOWERS ABOUND

Genealogies Found in a Garden

BY MARIE VON TSCHUDI

"Slight not a dwarf for his size
For he may have a giant for a friend."

THE casual visitor to a garden is apt to be impressed by its external appearance and to criticise perhaps not only its lack of artistic and formal arrangement, according to fixed rules for formal gardens, but also its riot of many colors that "jump at the eyes" and leave them bewildered and unsatisfied. Nevertheless any garden is interesting when one regards it with eager well-trained eyes, for there family trees can be found and pedigrees traced of Nature's great society, interesting and absorbing enough to occupy one a lifetime. If one never had a grandmother, when he was young, who had a garden where trees and flowers, shrubs, vines, vegetables and even weeds grew in opulent profusion then he has missed some delightful memories and experiences. I was doubly fortunate, for I had a grandmother who also had possessed a grandmother who owned a garden from which they had gathered wisdom as well as fruits and flowers and so I fell heir to many a bit of ancient and now almost forgotten garden lore connected with the things that "just grew" there. I learned that among the trees and plants, there was an aristocracy as high and mighty, as blue-blooded, so to speak, as that which once separated king from swineherd, Bramin from Pariah.

I also learned that Time's democracy had connected the lowly shrubs and vines with the lordly trees in many curious unions, though nevertheless the parents and children, cousins, uncles and aunts even of collateral branches of the same family lived in harmonious accord. Here in the world of nature was a genealogical record of ancient families more extended than the "Doomsday Book" of the first great William of England, more intricate than "Burke's Peerage" and far more interesting reading than the record of families in the book of Genesis, for in the Garden's book even he who runs may read. I remember a climbing vine that particularly interested me. It twined around one of the posts of the rustic fence and I watched it at first with no little solicitude, tacking little slips of cloth across the vine to hold it in place. From the time that its yellowish flowers appeared, until its ripe fruit fell or burst in the hand, my attention and interest never flagged and I was taught to call it the balsam-apple and that it was related to the gourd vine, not far off, to the water-melons, muskmelons, pumpkins and squashes, to the jewel-weed in the meadow and remotely to the lady-slipper and touch-me-not in the garden.

The ovate fruit, tapering towards each extremity,

when ripe was from eight to ten inches long, not unlike a cucumber in shape. It was of a gorgeous scarlet and orange color and was covered with little nodes or warts, an annual climbing plant, a native of the East Indies it was prized for its fruit and esteemed for its vulnerary qualities, but in its wild state, before it came to grow in this mild-mannered grow-if-you-please garden, these nodes were prickles resembling, though not so formidable, the prickly coat of that true American citizen, the cactus, the wild gooseberry and other unshaven fruit. The balsam-apple was heavy for the small vine to carry, the straps holding it none too firmly, but I paid it childhood's greatest compliment, thinking it looked "good enough to eat." Appetite was "whetted by the bare imagination" of what a feast it would make, but as I was forbidden to eat of all the fruits of the garden, without permission, I was told that its attractive appearance did not make it an edible factor of a feast, any more than its glittering yellow made it gold. It was opened in due time and revealed an exterior soft as a cushion, holding large red seeds that were covered with a sticky substance having an aromatic odor. These were put into a wide-mouthed bottle containing alcohol, that their balsamic properties might be extracted and which they soon turned to a golden amber color, a glowing tribute to the warm sunshine that had perfected them, and the first time anyone of the household was hurt or bruised or had a cold he was rubbed vigorously with this magic fluid, thus demonstrating its power to relieve pain. Compared with the more powerful balsam remedies known to the present *Materia Medica* its curative properties were not very active, but I can recall the sweet odor of that aromatic liniment even now, that true to the name given it, soothed and healed and one somehow never regards the hurts much when the cure is found for the plucking. It is a long genealogical record to search in order to find all the different genera, species and families connected directly and indirectly with this little vine whose real name is *Momordica balsamina*. It belongs to the *balsaminaceæ* family of balsam-bearing trees, shrubs, vines and flowers—and also to the cucurbita and cucumis divisions of the gourd family.

One of the many vines in the garden growing near the balsam-apple was one called Queen Anne's pocket-melon. It produced a gourd-like fruit, highly and delightfully perfumed, of the size and shape of a large lemon, somewhat flattened at the ends, with

Genealogies Found in a Garden

cinnamon-brown spots on its shiny yellow face resembling large moles or patches. In removing the warts that have been a characteristic distinction on the faces of many of its relatives in the melon families, Nature's dermatologist had left the sweet gourd these spots, which might be called facial blemishes by some and by others *grains-de-beauté*, as a physical legacy, a reminder of its race and it wore them with the seeming grace of a seventeenth century belle bedecked with patches and redolent with sweet odors. When ripe this fruit, sometimes also called pomegranate gourd, was placed in the house for ornament and fragrance. Closely allied to the balsam-apple through its relatives in the *cucurbitaceæ* family is the *cassabanana*, a very quick-growing perennial vine, that will climb from thirty to fifty feet in its native country, South America, and in Mexico and the West Indies it is planted for ornament and its fruit made into preserves. The fruit is slender, smooth, long and nearly cylindrical, resembling vegetable marrow, its relative among the squashes. It is of an orange crimson color, and has a strong, aromatic odor. The *cassabanana* is called the curuba of the tropics, and grown for its ornamental fruit which is said to make an edible preserve. It is well worth cultivating for it grows luxuriantly under proper conditions, and flourishes under glass if one has room for it. Another vine relative in the garden, connected on the melon side to the gourd family was the Chito (pronounced keeto), also known as the orange, mango or garden lemon, the melon-apple, vine-peach or vegetable-orange.

It is less robust than the muskmelon, with smaller leaves and bears a fruit the size, color and shape of an orange or lemon. The fruit has no muskmelon odor and although the flesh is like the cucumber it was not used except to make preserves, or mango-pickles and was pulled before it ripened. The seeds of the watermelon (*Cucurbita citrullus*) have been employed as a domestic remedy in many countries. In the shells and kernels of the seeds taken from the pumpkin (*Cucurbita pepo*) have been found a resin and a dark reddish oil—the seeds have a sweet aromatic smell and taste and dried or parched are very palatable and are eaten with a relish by the poor of Southern Europe. The cucumber (*Cucumis sativus*) was cultivated and eaten as a vegetable before little Moses was found in the bulrushes. Its seed, together with the seeds of the pumpkin, the muskmelon (*Cucumis Melo*) and the gourd (*Cucurbita Lagenaria*) are known as the greater cold seeds and kept among officinal remedies by apothecaries and are prescribed for many different affections. Pliny tells of a discovery to preserve the cucumber in vinegar. He might have added another volume to his "Natural History" describing the pickling and preserving of the various members of the cucumber family if he had lived in the twentieth century.

But a more remarkable plant than any I have mentioned is the squirting cucumber of the species, *Momordica elaterium*. A native of Southern Europe it is cultivated in England for its medicinal qualities and yields about one half ounce of a substance known as *elaterium* from a bushel of its fruit. In appearance and habit it resembles the different vines I have referred to, trailing on the ground but without tendrils. It has yellow flowers and produces a small cucumber-shaped fruit an inch and a half long and an inch thick, of a greenish color and covered with stiff hairs or prickles. If one were to touch it when ripe and before it falls, it would separate immediately from the stalk and eject with considerable force a number of seeds and a quantity of poisonous juice to a distance of two or three and sometimes twenty yards. It flies to pieces in this way, when it separates naturally from the peduncle and in this choleric, *noli-me-tangere* characteristic it resembles the lady-slipper and touch-me-not of the *Impatiens Balsamina* family. Our garden had a variety of this balsam family now considered by botanists as related to the geraniums, called the camelia-flowered balsam. This plant bears flowers that range in colors from white to dark scarlet and yellow. They are of easy culture and, germinating quickly, if started in May, should yield flowers by July and bloom then until frost. If service is more to be praised than beauty I must not omit to mention the garden's prickly-fruited or gooseberry gherkin, known as the Jerusalem cucumber of the West Indies. The fruit resembles diminutive sea-urchins offered for sale on the quays of Marseilles or like little green hedgehogs, headless and tailless, swinging on the vines for sport. After describing so many relatives of the little balsam vine and leaving out so many rare and curious ones for want of space, one finds himself interested in its tree connections, whose family name is *Balsamodendron*, from *balsamon*, balsam, and *dendron*, tree.

It is not the purpose of these articles on genealogies in a garden, to study too deeply the various characteristics that separate genera into species and species into families, but to trace the history of many seemingly insignificant plants to their original habitation and from their names find their kindred among others greater and more celebrated.

The name *balsamina* applied to a group of vines and shrubs, indicates that they have some physical distinction, however slight, some balsamic odor or healing quality, similar, though less powerful, to the gums and juices yielded by the balsam trees and in studying the members of this extended family group, giants when compared to their smaller and humbler relatives and renowned for their beauty as well as for their utilitarian qualities, one realizes that even in a garden it is not well to slight a dwarf for his size, "for he may have a giant for a friend."

Buying Trees

How to Buy—How to Plant—How to Care For

By L. J. DOOGUE

IN purchasing a tree, due regard should be given to the importance of making the tree fit the place for which it is intended. That is, the situation for planting should be suitable as to soil, exposure and character of neighboring plantings. All trees do not thrive on the same treatment and we should be sure that the kind we are to plant will be given as good a start as possible. After deciding on the kind we prefer, and being sure of its suitability, the next step is to get the best specimen of the desired variety.

Making the Purchase.—For the man not very familiar with nursery stock, the work of getting a tree is not the simplest. It's more or less of a pig in a poke, with a corresponding amount of dissatisfaction and worry, even before the results to judge by have evidenced themselves, that is, before the tree has leaved out and shown that it is healthy. Catalogues all advertise the best trees in the world for the lowest prices. They are all superlatively good. To prove this, all that is necessary to do is to look at the pictures and read the testimonials. It is singular, but the point of emphasis in all the catalogues is, that—"we sell lower than anyone else."

Sure, and there's where the colored gentleman is hiding in the wood pile. The spirit of commercialism runs riot from the ten cent counter to the nursery. The everlasting looking for bargains!

The Kind not to Buy.—Nurseries have many grades of trees for many prices. All sized purses can be accommodated, but in reality there is more profit in selling a bulk of cheap trees than there is in selling the more expensive ones. Trees sold for a very low price have had but little care. They have cared for

themselves from the time of planting in the nursery, until sold. When such trees are sold a plough is run down the row and they are turned out and packed up in short order. It stands to reason that during the time these trees have been in the nursery, they have made roots that have run to considerable distances and when the plough comes along these roots are destroyed. That does not mean that the

tree will die when placed in the ground in its new location, but it does mean that its chances for making a vigorous tree are many times smaller than a tree that has been cared for during its nursery stay.

The Kind to Buy.—Compare the roots of a tree as described above and one that has been properly grown and for which a good price has been paid. No better or more convincing argument can be offered. No words of explanation will be necessary. The roots of a tree are its life. The tiny little fibrous bunched mass of feeders are what mean successful growth.

A tree with these is what you want. To get this root system, means that the tree has been

the subject of much attention while in the nursery. It has been grown for seasons, it has been trained as to growth and it has been shifted many times. This shifting induces a growth of feeders close to the tree. When such a tree is dug up and shipped, even to very great distances, no anxiety need be felt for its safety. Such a tree will grow when again planted. Such a tree is not ploughed out like potatoes in the nursery, but it is carefully dug around and, as carefully, wrapping is put about the roots when about to be shipped. Five thousand field grown trees can be turned out as soon as one hundred of these. To reach this condition of perfection means that money has been spent



DUTCH ELM

Buying Trees



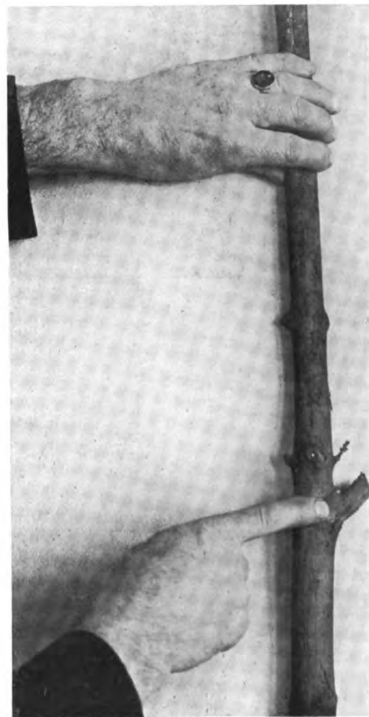
Vigorous roots should be fibrous like these and must not be injured in spreading



Prune the roots carefully, making a smooth cut wherever an injury or a broken root is found



Spread the roots out and work the loam well in about them



Make cuts close to trunk. This stump rots into the tree

House and Garden

on the labor required for the work. This is the kind of a tree to buy.

The Price to Pay.—If a person is sure they want a tree the price should be a second consideration. If you should apply to a first class nurseryman,—note the “first class,”—you should ask him if he has a tree such as you want. Then engage the tree, or trees, and afterwards ask the price. Following this line of procedure you will receive better treatment than if you followed the usual way of asking the price first and quality last. A nurseryman would rather sell you a good tree than a poor one. They are great advertisers and there is no advertisement like a pleased customer.

How to Plant your Tree.—When your trees reach you from the nursery get them into the ground without any delay; plant them the same day. If this is not possible heel them in, that is, pile loam over their roots. Don't plant too deep. Look for the earth mark and go by that. If the loam where you intend to plant is not up to the standard dig it out and fill up with the kind needed.

Use the best of loam. Make the hole large. If a small amount is put in at first, subsequent enlargement of loam area may be profitably made.

In unpacking a tree, use care to guard the roots. In planting make the hole, and in it stand the tree, afterwards spreading out the roots without tearing them. Work the loam well in about these roots and gradually fill in to the proper height. Water poured

on will help wonderfully as it carries the loam to every part, filling the spaces compactly. As a further protection to the roots after unpacking, they might be puddled, that is, they may be dipped in a mud puddle. This is recommended. You cannot afford to neglect any little attention in this matter.

After it is Planted.—When you have succeeded in getting the tree safely in the ground make a little basin about it and for a few weeks give occasional waterings. During the heat of the summer this will be very necessary and the beneficial effects of such care will later manifest themselves. Nothing is ever lost by care with young trees. A strong stake should be driven well into the ground close to the trunk and the tree tied to it. A piece of rubber hose cut into two inch pieces and placed between the tree trunk and the stake will save the bark from injury. This stake must be firm enough in the ground to prevent any great oscillation until the roots have taken hold firmly.

Tree Guards.—Chicken wire makes a slightly and practical tree guard in most cases. Of course

where there is liability of accident from teams, a heavier guard must be used. Don't delay putting up some sort of protection. The wire mentioned can be put about the tree leaving a space of a couple of inches all around; the guard to be steadied by bands from the guard to the tree and back to the guard. The bands to be placed opposite each other.



HEELING IN TREES IN NURSERY

The Old Fence Row

There change has never set its seal;
And squirrels as in days of yore,
Along the worm-fence panels steal,
To find their winter store.

—Alonzo L. Rice

Early Poisonous Wild Flowers

By ANNIE OAKES HUNTINGTON

IN the succession of wild flowers which enhances the beauty of our fields and woods, through the spring and early summer, we find a rich and varied flora. In it are included many plants with fatal poisonous qualities, when taken internally, although comparatively few of them are injurious to the skin when they are handled.

One of the first of these poisonous plants to appear in early spring, in remote, wet woods and thickets is the Jack-in-the-Pulpit, *Arisæma triphyllum*. The leaves are three-foliolate, and the flowers are most curious, with a brown spadix, —or fleshy spike of flowers, —covered by a loose, curving, green spathe, striped with purple and brown. The fruit, which matures in late summer, is a cluster of brilliant, scarlet berries. The large, flat tubers are acrid, and poisonous, and with some persons produce inflammation of the skin, if they are dug up and handled.

Another early moisture-loving plant, and one which, unlike the retiring Jack-in-the-Pulpit, forces itself upon our attention is the marsh-marigold, *Caltha palustris*. It blooms in April and May and spreads like a cloth of gold across wet meadows. It is a stout, smooth plant, with broad, glossy heart-shaped leaves, hollow stems, and conspicuous yellow flowers. They are much sought after by children, who should be warned not to put the stems in their mouths, for the plant contains two poisonous principles, jervine, and helleborin, which act on the system as purgatives, and cause discomfort and pain.

Closely allied to the marsh-marigold, and another member of the same crowfoot family, is the little, white windflower, or wood anemone, *Anemone quinquefolia*. It is a small, low-growing plant, with a frail, solitary flower of rare beauty, —white, faintly

touched with pink,—and with leaves divided into three, or five leaflets. It grows on the margins of woods, and blooms in April, before the foliage of the trees shade the ground. To certain people the acrid juice of this plant is somewhat irritating to the skin, and like other species of the family it contains the toxic principle anemonin, although in a less degree. The *Ranunculaceæ*, or crowfoot family, besides including the marsh-marigold, and wood anemone contains a large genus of dangerously poison-



MARSH-MARIGOLDS

ous plants,—that of the familiar yellow buttercup. All the buttercups are poisonous in varying degrees, and contain in all parts an acrid juice, and a yellow oil, which can be extracted from every species. The celery-leaved, or ditch crowfoot, *Ranunculus sceleratus*, is the most virulently poisonous member of the family.

It is a stout, freely branching buttercup, with thick, deeply lobed leaves, and flowers comprised of pale yellow petals which scarcely exceed the green calyx. It is found in swamps and wet ditches from New Brunswick to Florida, and westward, and it also grows in Europe and Asia. Death comes from taking the plant internally, and the juice blisters, and causes itching between the fingers of many persons, when the plant is handled. The small, green, spiked fruit is very acid and sharp, and should be kept from children, who seem to enjoy its peppery taste.

The tall, or meadow buttercup, *Ranunculus acris*, is another well-recognized poisonous species. It is found in fields and meadows, and is a tall, hairy plant, distinguished from the celery-leaved crowfoot by the flowers, which have petals two or three times as long as the calyx. The bulbous buttercup, *Ranunculus bulbosus*, the creeping buttercup, *Ranunculus repens*, both naturalized from Europe, are, like the tall buttercup, other poisonous varieties.

The Perfume Garden

BY EVELYN PRINCE CAHOON

The cows of old-time picture books were usually painted grazing in flowery meads of yellow buttercups. As a matter of fact, however, cows do not eat buttercups; and if under rare and peculiar conditions they are forced to accept them for food, their mouths straightway become sore and blistered with ulcers, as any farm-hand can testify. The poisonous principle is dissipated by drying and heat, and the plant is consequently harmless to cattle when it is cut, and dried in with the hay.

Not long after the marsh-marigolds have withdrawn their resplendent gold from the low meadows, they become beautiful again with the royal purple of the wild blue flag. This iris, *Iris versicolor*, is found growing on the borders of swamps, and in wet places from Newfoundland to Florida, and westward. It is a strong, vigorous plant with long, sword-shaped, grayish-green leaves, and violet-blue flowers, variegated with yellow on the claw, and delicately veined with purple. They make their appearance in early summer, and are not only one of our most familiar native wild flowers, but they are also one of the loveliest and most decorative blue flowers in existence. The Japanese delight in the unrestrained, wide-spreading flare of the iris flower, and employ it constantly in various forms of conventionalized design. The perennial, fleshy roots have a nauseous, acrid taste and like forms of the cultivated iris, contain the poisonous principle iridin, which possesses cathartic and emetic properties.



THE BULBOUS BUTTERCUP

MANY a person, not appreciative of the beauty of flowers, is very fond of the fragrance of them, and to the true lover the fragrance of flowers is always an additional and supreme charm. Some of us will have nothing in our gardens that does not contribute a distinct and pleasing odor.

There are flowers bearing fragrance that is strong yet seems confined close to the flower itself, so that the act of deliberately smelling is necessary to get at the odor. The carnation is one of these, and the pansy has a strong, peculiar and wonderfully refined fragrance that is not detected a little distance from the flower.

There is the other class containing the petunia, Nicotiana and the mignonette whose odor seems more volatile and is diffused, especially at evening when the cool air settles, over the entire garden.

There is a great group of starry white Nicotianas on each side of my garden gate, which in the evening perfumes the air for half a block around.

It is an easy step,—perhaps in the scale of perfumes only half a step—to the great central bed of double, white petunias beyond. But best is the atmosphere of mignonette near the veranda, it is not so obtrusive, and harmonizes better with the occasional odors wafted in from the other flowers. A bed of ten-weeks stock is sweet and soothing.

Lilies-of-the-valley and narcissus we have together down by the garden fence, in a long fragrant bed; but closer to the fence is a heavy growth of sweet peas, and so—from summer's beginning to its end—that is a place where a fragrant nosegay may be found.

During the summer we gather quart of petals of various fragrant flowers, drying them slowly, which are destined to fill various pillows and sachets for Christmas. Each morning, as soon as the dew is off, we make it a rule to pick every blossom that is a day old, leaving only the current morning's blooms.

The blossoms are not the only part of the plant we want. There are plants and plants, and plants of rose and skeleton leaved geranium; there are lemon verbenas, southernwood, sweet-fennel, sweet-fern, and a great bank of rosemary with its aromatic leaves.

And so with Nicotiana, petunia and mignonette, with pansy, carnation and rose, with narcissus, lily-of-the-valley, lemon lily, tuberose and sweet pea, ten-weeks stock and plenty of sweet alyssum and verbena, with the white honeysuckle over the porch and grape bloom in the arbor in June, and always an abundance of the aromatic leaves, sweet-fennel and fern, southernwood, lemon verbena, and the geraniums, our garden is a delight to more than the sense of sight, and truly a garden of perfume.

A Great National Apple Show

By AUGUST WOLF

AN orchardist, stock-grower and banker, Michael Horan, of Wenatchee, Washington, is the apple king of America, having gained that distinction by capturing the chief prize of \$1,000 for the best carload exhibit at the National Apple Show in Spokane, December 7 to 12, when \$35,000 in premiums was awarded to competitors from various parts of the United States. Washington

growers took fifty-eight first prizes, Canada captured fifteen, eleven went to Idaho, one to Montana and the rest were scattered. Much to the disappointment of the management and the thousands of visitors, representing every State and province on the continent, practically all the fruit sent from the States east and south of the Rocky Mountains was spoiled in transit. The apples had been taken out of cold storage and were sent to Spokane in heated cars, thus making them unrepresentable. To show the displays would have been manifestly unjust to the districts, hence, it was decided not to place them in competition or on

exhibition, though prize moneys, medals and diplomas were forwarded to the growers from every State entered in the district contests. Although England, Norway, Germany and Japan all entered exhibits, none of them arrived in time. British Columbia was the only foreign country represented, and outside of Washington won more prizes than any other State.

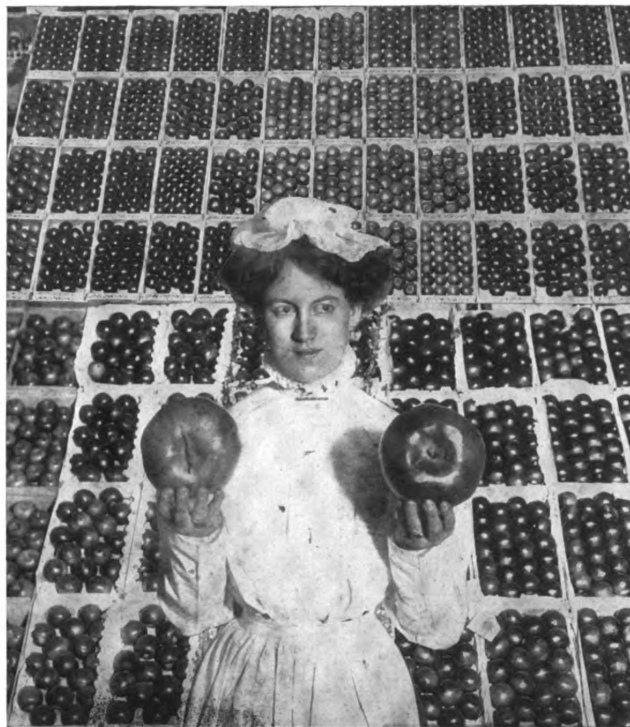
Oregon had seventy boxes of fruit on exhibition. These apples had been shown at the Hood River fair and the fruit fair of the Oregon Horticultural

Association at Portland, where some of them won first and second prizes. The exhibit included Ortle, Spitzenburg, Yellow Newtowns, a favorite of the Hood River Valley; the Red Cheek, and several others of the favorite varieties. The display was awarded a silver cup, although it was not entered in competition. A special prize and diploma were awarded to Luther Burbank of Santa Rosa, California, for a display of thornless cactus, passion fruit and rhubarb.

Records at the stiles showed 102,762 paid admission tickets, 4,000 season tickets and several hundred press and complimentary tickets, bringing the total attendance to 107,000 for the week. Apples of all sizes and varieties were exhibited in the highest state of perfection and with all the advantages which expert packing can produce. There was one carload of fruit covering 1,500 square feet of space, in which 70,000 dark red apples of uniform size and shade spread out in an expansive slope. On another was seen the bizarre effects of brilliant yellows

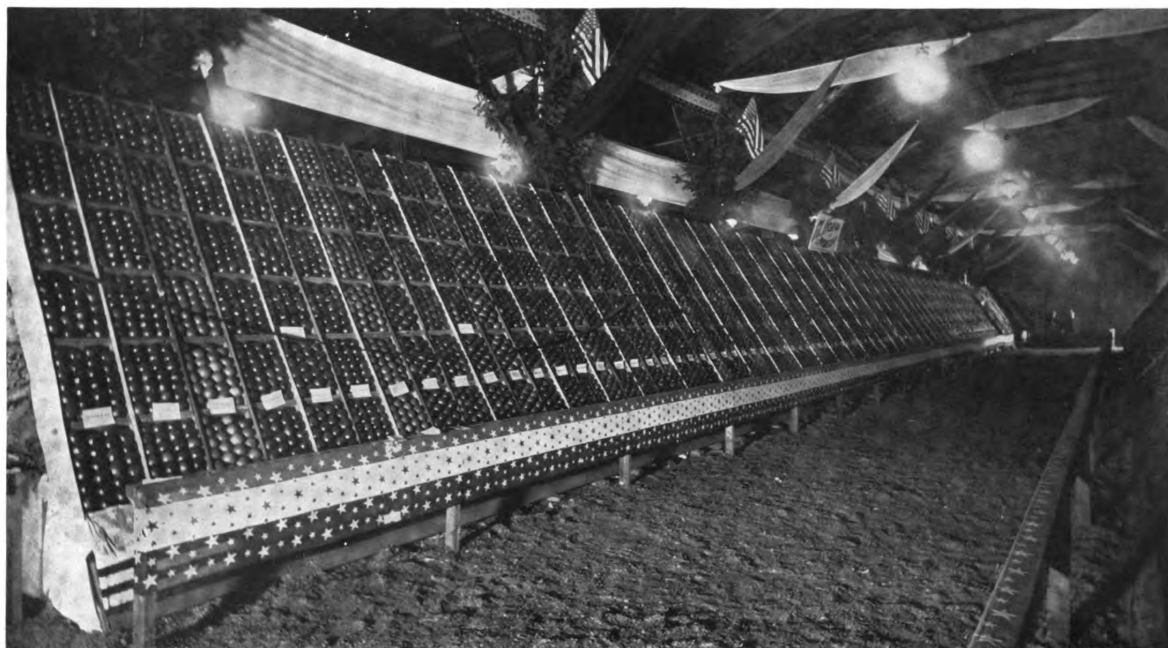
and bright reds alternating in five box lots, while in other places the rich Arkansas Blacks burned with a dull purple fire against a background of lighter shades.

There were State, district, county and individual exhibits by the hundreds, and it is likely that never before has man's genius contrived so many ways of utilizing a single fruit in such a diversity of designs. There was the Stars and Stripes in three colors of apples, a white salmon of true form and almost natural color and figures and devices, jars, baskets,



Wolf River apples grown by W. R. Mar, of Wenatchee, Washington, who received the chief prize for the largest fruit. The apple on the left side of the photograph weighed thirty ounces, and measured seventeen and a half inches in circumference. The one on the right side weighed thirty-four ounces and measured twenty inches, but was disqualified by a bruise

House and Garden



Mixed carload exhibit of Jonathans, Winesaps and Spitzenburgs which received chief prize of \$1,000 at the National Apple Show, and won the title of Apple King of America for Michael Horan of Wenatchee, Washington

barrels and boxes of apples, and just heaps of apples piled up in plentiful confusion. There were 940 plate exhibits.

The show was one of surprises and charm. It was more than an entertainment; it was more than educational; it was inspirational. As an observant visitor remarked: "It comes with clearness and force to the mind that apple growing is a delightful and profitable industry, capable of many-fold and speedy development. Here is the product from orchards already in bearing, but young orchards many times larger than the bearing orchards are now in the soil and under cultivation.

"We know that the product will be greater next year than this year, and greater every year thereafter for the next decade, even though not another apple tree should be planted. But more of them will be planted every year, and the expectations held out in their addresses by the speakers at the opening exercises of a coming product that will exceed in value the present returns from wheat-growing, mining and lumbering are not fanciful or improbable."

In addition to the barrel, box, basket and plate exhibits, demonstrations by spraying, packing and measuring machine concerns and exhibits of apple parers, cider presses and nursery stocks, seventeen young women of the domestic science department of Washington State College, were in attendance the entire week and taught housewives how to prepare apples in 125 different ways. The young women occupied an entire floor of an auxiliary building and

instructed 10,000 persons during the week. The receipts go toward equipping a new laboratory at the college. Oregon Agricultural College had Professor C. A. Cole and two assistants demonstrating the various methods of apple packing and dust and liquid spraying.

There was keen rivalry in the carload competition. The entries were: M. Horan, Wenatchee, Washington; H. M. Gilbert, North Yakima, Washington; Kress & Carey, Hamilton, Montana; C. C. Georgeson, Prosser, Washington; H. S. Simmons, Wenatchee, Washington; T. R. Tannatt, Farmington, Washington. The latter had three carloads.

Mr. Horan's exhibit was a mixed car of 630 boxes or 50,000 apples with which he scored ninety-six and one-quarter out of a possible 100 points. H. M. Gilbert, of North Yakima, Washington, formerly president of the Washington Horticultural Association, was second with a car of 70,560 Winesap apples, scoring ninety-three and three-quarter points and winning \$500, and Messrs. Kress & Carey, of Hamilton, Montana, were third with a car of McIntosh Reds, scoring eighty-five points and winning \$200 and 1,000 standard apple trees. In addition to the foregoing the judges distributed premiums amounting to \$33,300 in other competitions, representing practically every apple belt in the country.

Mr. Horan's fruit netted him approximately \$7,000, as in addition to the chief award he received prizes of \$200 offered by W. T. Clark, president of the Wenatchee Canal Company, and \$22 from a

A Great National Apple Show

spraying company, and sold his fruit for \$10 a box. James J. Hill, chairman of the board of directors of the Great Northern Railway Company, and his son, Louis W. Hill, president of the system and head of the National Apple Show, paid \$1,500 for 150 boxes, which were sent to England after being exhibited in New York, Boston and Eastern points. The Hills will present some of the fruit to the royal family and other friends in England.

Mr. Horan is a native of Stockbridge, Massachusetts, which he left in 1876 to engage in breaking horses in California. He came to Washington in 1888, where he grazed cattle on the present site of Wenatchee and the valley, buying thousands of acres of land at fifty cents an acre. He set out an orchard of fifty acres in 1900. It contains 7,000 pear trees, 1,500 peach trees and 1,340 apple trees. His crop in 1908 amounted to 8,000 boxes of apples, 7,000 boxes of peaches and 7,000 boxes of pears. The apples were picked by George Drinkwater and packed by George Cruikshank, to whom Mr. Horan gives all the credit, adding:

"This is the first time I ever exhibited fruit. The apples were picked by one man and were packed by another. Our average was ten boxes a day, requiring two months to prepare the exhibit. Every care was taken to pack without blemish, bruise or scratch. Before the award was made I would not have taken \$5 a box for the apples. My orchard should yield 14,000 boxes of pears, 14,000 boxes of peaches and

16,000 boxes of apples in 1909. I had no practical knowledge of scientific fruit growing until a few years ago. At that time the land was worth \$100 an acre. That was in 1900 when the first trees were set out. I have refused an offer of \$2,000 an acre or \$100,000 for the tract. I would not take \$250,000 for the orchard to-day."

Mr. Gilbert, winner of the second prize in the carload competition said he entered a straight exhibit of Winesaps, running four to a tier or 112 in a box for the purpose of showing visiting Easterners what a carload looked like. He had more than a car of four and one-half tier, but chose the largest and best. Of his orchard at North Yakima he said:

"The orchard is set out where ten years ago sage brush was growing. At that time I cleared twenty acres and set out a portion of it to apple trees, growing garden truck between the rows. In the third year I finished setting out trees and put in apricot, peach and pears as fillers. This year, however, I cut out all the peach trees. The orchard consists principally of Winesaps, because this is one of our best commercial apples, but there are also Arkansas Black, Spitzenburg, Missouri Pippin, Jonathan and Ben Davis. In the last six years the peaches have yielded \$1,000 an acre. The entire orchard this year yielded 800 boxes of pears, 3,500 boxes of peaches, 300 boxes of apricots, 7,000 boxes of apples and some cherries. The exhibit at the show represented

(Continued on page 5, Advertising Section.)

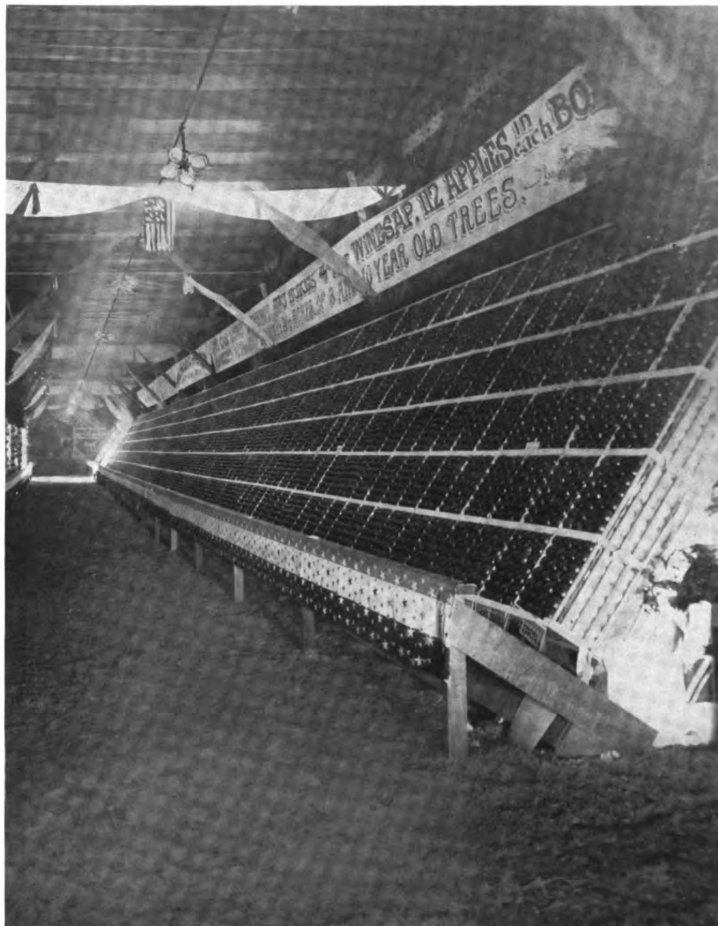
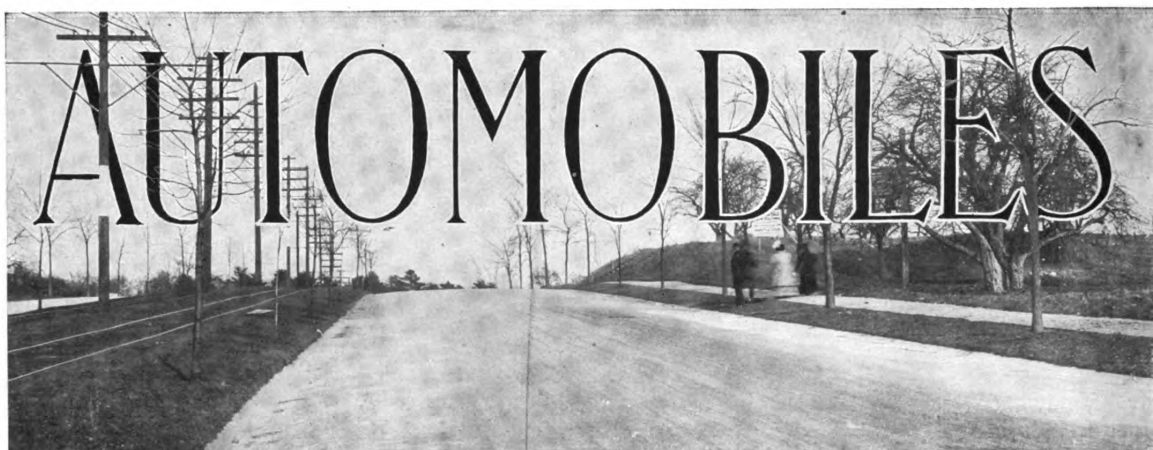


Exhibit of 70,560 Winesaps by H. M. Gilbert, of North Yakima, Washington, who was awarded the second prize of \$500 in the carload competition
Note the uniformity in size

ished setting out trees and put in apricot, peach and pears as fillers. This year, however, I cut out all the peach trees. The orchard consists principally of Winesaps, because this is one of our best commercial apples, but there are also Arkansas Black, Spitzenburg, Missouri Pippin, Jonathan and Ben Davis. In the last six years the peaches have yielded \$1,000 an acre. The entire orchard this year yielded 800 boxes of pears, 3,500 boxes of peaches, 300 boxes of apricots, 7,000 boxes of apples and some cherries. The exhibit at the show represented



The Appearance of the Car

Notes on its Care, Handling and Embellishment

By FRED D. TAYLOR

MANY motorists having made a run in wet weather and who bring the car in plastered with the sticky wet mud of the macadam road seem to think that all that is necessary is to "wash it off," so after directing the general handy man to wash it when he has time, turn their attention to more "important" and interesting things.

Cold shivers would run down the backs of lovers of horses and fine carriages could they see the manner in which motor cars are cleaned. They have lived in a sphere where customs have become fixed and where trained stablemen are available. Many motorists never have had horses or never became interested in them. They also seem to have become indifferent in seeing finely finished bodies scratched and marred, an inevitable result of the rapid pace which is taken on long runs. The devices of a machinist for cleaning a vehicle are quite foreign to those practiced by men who have been brought up to preserve paint and varnish.

The machinist will clean a dusty or even muddy body with cotton waste without "turning a hair," as the saying is, but let anyone assisting him put a stilson wrench on a nut or union of his beloved engine and the offence is unpardonable.

The men belong to different schools and the motor car to both, often causing the predicament of stableman running a thousand dollar machine or a machinist caring for a body equally costly each with great confidence in his dogmatic knowledge of how it should be done.

As many cars are used in the work formerly done

by station wagon or brougham, where appearances and smartness are considered, I submit, though, with some hesitation, that the care of paint and varnish on a car should receive some attention.

If the car, instead of being left till the mud dries, be immediately sprayed with a hose, using the hand to flatten the stream, thus preventing the solid stream hitting the mud with force, most of the mud will come off and the rest be left in a condition in which the sponge will take it off without harm to the finish. After spraying the car, starting with the upper body and using the sponge frequently, with a slow stream flowing from the hose held in one hand for that purpose, the hood or top, body, bonnet, and top of fenders should be cleaned, touching lightly and squeezing the full sponge on the mud rather than rubbing the dirt across the surface.

Glass should not be touched except by water from the hose for fear of carrying grease on it which should at all times be avoided and in fact grease should be kept from the body also. Next dry these parts completely with a chamois, rinsing it thoroughly in clear water and wringing it out now and then to remove any grit, after which the running parts below may receive the same attention using separate sponge and chamois on account of the unavoidable grease here met with. Jacking up the wheels will be quite a convenience in washing them, allowing them to turn as each spoke is cleaned and swinging, to get back of the front ones.

Anything except cold water is harmful to varnish and should not be used in washing. A temperature

The Appearance of the Car

of about sixty degrees Fahrenheit is about as low as is considered good for varnish and as cold as the garage should be allowed for the best storage. Washing in the sun is not a good plan nor the use of a hose with a metal nozzle which sooner or later will strike and injure the finish.

When such a proceeding seems hopeless, as after a run over a freshly oiled road which is still damp, a good wagon soap may be tolerated on the chassis and under body, washing a part and immediately rinsing the soap off before going on. Gasoline should not be used for this. To clean off grease running out of the hub or where grease is on varnish, generally on the rear axle structure, a damp sponge of turpentine will do no harm.

A clean sponge, dampened in warm water, will clean the windows and a paste of whiting allowed to dry on the glass will leave a fine polish on being rubbed off with chamois. The chamois should never be put in hot water; wet slippery elm is the nearest approach to the result. All brass work should be dried and polished immediately. After polishing the brass on a car one often wonders what it is all for.

This part of motoring if attempted by an enthusiast will supply all the benefits of a gymnasium; a pair of rubber boots and a long rubber apron covering the chest will keep him quite dry while soapsuds and water will restore him to his former proud position of expert on motor vagaries with an appetite. One notices many things about the construction of the car while cleaning it, the brakes and drag links and knuckles of the steering gear (two of the most important parts of the car, involving its safety), receiving attention among others.

Motoring parties are always conspicuous even though now so numerous and having become used to this some are inclined to become careless of appearances and indifferent of what the audience think. The impossibility of keeping neat on long fast runs associates carelessness of appearances with motoring but the suggestion that the privacy of open country be taken advantage of in which to be comfortable and happy may be worth considering.

In town a certain dignity might be attempted, no toes peeping over the body of the tonneau or feet resting on the dashboard or arms or wraps hanging over the sides, smoking limited to one person, preferably not the driver. The driver, even the professional, need not sit stiffly as in a carriage with horses but should not have the position of sinking in his seat, which is so good on a tour for change of position, but an erect, comfortable position denoting easy confidence and alertness without intensifying the latter by leaning forward over the wheel.

The left hand should hold the wheel and a good custom for the novice to follow is to associate the steering with the left hand.

A fifty horse-power touring car running with the muffler cutout, on a smooth level road is ludicrous and should it be in a speed trap, anywhere from ten to twenty miles is added to what the constable would otherwise estimate the pace to be. The cutout is useful when listening to the exhaust of the cylinders, indicating whether all are firing—by retarding the spark this is made more distinct—and as a warning at crowded crossings it is effective. The standard honk of the automobile horn readily associated with timely warning is, however, much more practical, not causing the panic unusual noises are apt to create in the "mere pedestrian." The recollection of innocently running a car up to a crowd of people about to board a street car, and stopping near them to wait till there was room to pass, suggests this, as the releasing of the clutch and resulting speeding up of the engine and imperfect muffler of an earlier design sounded to one man directly in front as though a machine at high speed was close upon him. Of course his dodging backward and forward while the car was at rest was funny and it was hard not to laugh, especially as he became angry and threatening immediately afterwards. But sometimes people have no doubt noticed a face looking sternly over the wheel when they have blocked the way, and mistaken for impatience what was an effort to keep from laughing.

Therefore the novice should practice facial control, as frequently the situation, while amusing to him may be very trying to others. A smile is particularly annoying on the face of the victor in those little tests of speed which add spice to a run now and then. Retaliation is sometimes indulged in by the vanquished—and that time-honored joke of "reversing the wires on the timer"—is perpetrated on the victor, which, he discovers on the road after a satisfying lunch. While not attended with serious consequences, the replacement is accomplished at the expense of time and some display of temper.

Whistles, bells, quacking novelties and sirens seem out of place in town although in the country they may be used to advantage, but even there the well-known honk has the conventionality of years of use to recommend it to the owner of a fine car.

Among the purely ornamental novelties of motor-dom the small gilt figure of an eagle has almost entirely monopolized the place on top of the radiator and if made part of the cap to the opening makes a very good handle. This is a very pretty custom if the figure be small, and quite patriotic where the bill holds a narrow ribbon of the national colors. There are also some delicate looking glasses for holding flowers, made in graceful designs with metal attachments, to be used in closed cars which are all very pretty, though many would prefer to carry that extra weight in tools.



The Editor, Margaret Greenleaf, wishes to extend a personal invitation to all readers of *House and Garden* to send to the Correspondence Department, inquiries on any matter pertaining to house finishing and furnishing. Careful consideration is given each inquiry, the letter and answer being published in due time as matters of interest to other readers. Where an early reply is desired if a stamp and self-addressed envelope are enclosed, the answer will be sent. No charge whatever is made for any advice.

THE number of inquiries we have received in regard to the use of stencils in the decoration of side walls and fabrics has suggested our talk for this month.

There seems a very general impression that stencilling is a difficult art, and to employ it successfully one must have had training and experience. This is entirely an erroneous idea and it is the amateur who often achieves the greatest success. Where one has a good eye for color combination one should plan original effects in the color treatment of the design selected. If, however, one lacks the confidence for this it is possible to obtain color designs which may be followed closely with the most satisfying results.

One of the largest companies manufacturing paints, varnishes, etc., are now making an especially interesting line of stencil designs for their customers. These are applicable to side walls, frieze and fabrics. The same company manufactures a full line of washable stencil colors, and supply full and comprehensive directions for their proper use, thus enabling anyone to follow them.

The stencil designs made by this company are practically and easily put together and are intended to cover all requirements of stencilling. They are made of extra heavy paper and finished ready for immediate use. The colors which they make are put up in small tubes which sell at ten or fifteen cents a tube, and larger sizes at proportionate rates. They also sell a medium with which the color must be mixed before applying.

In addition to the wall decoration it is possible to use these patterns successfully on curtains, pillow covers, portières, etc.

The best method to use in stencilling a fabric is to stretch the material smoothly over blotting paper and fasten firmly to a table top or drawing board. The stencil should be fastened in the same way, using thumb tacks. The blotting paper is advocated as it absorbs all extra color and prevents it from creeping under the stencil. After

the design has been selected careful measurements should be taken to insure the repeat of the stencil meeting properly at the corners and fitting in the design to the best advantage.

In the patterns referred to, the proper guide for the repeats are cut clearly on the stencil. A pencil line will serve as a guide on the border patterns. Smaller brushes should be used in stencilling fabrics than are used for wall decoration, and in putting on the color it is best not to brush it on, but to tap the brush allowing the color to spread easily. The color should always be tried out on a waste piece of fabric before beginning. The back of the stencil pattern should be cleaned occasionally to prevent the color running under. It is a very easy matter to reverse a pattern, where it seems desirable and the stencil should be cleaned on both sides. It is best to use a separate brush for the different colors.

These general suggestions will be found of service to the amateur worker with stencils, and as long as she is satisfied to confine herself to simple patterns there will be no difficulty in obtaining results which will be gratifying.

There is no form of decoration which for the same cost in time and money will give such satisfying results as this. Years ago stencilling stood wholly for the stiff and uncompromising geometric designs, scroll, twists and funeral wreaths of the house painter-decorator. These found their places on upper walls and ceilings and were perhaps worked out in salmon pink and terra-cotta with strongly gilt lines. To most minds this style of decoration is closely allied to the dado of Lincrusta, the patent rocker and onyx and brass lamp tables of the same period.

To-day, however, it has taken a new dignity and meaning. It is the decoration most favored for walls and draperies in the house of craftsman suggestion where the severely plain lines and perfection of design and construction in wood and furniture speak of hand work and artistic simplicity.

Where walls are of rough or sand finished plaster and painted in dull tones, the stencil frieze used

The Editor's Talks and Correspondence

about the upper wall may show again on a reduced scale as a border to window draperies and on table covers and cushions.

A very charming dining-room we recall, in a tiny seaside cottage, the decoration of which was largely the handiwork of the mistress of the house. The room was almost square—about sixteen feet—and had a simple paneled wainscot reaching to the height of six feet. Above this prepared canvas had been stretched on the unplastered wall, reaching to the ceiling line and finished by a picture mould,—the height of the ceiling being only nine feet.

The wainscot and all woodwork of the room was treated with a clear white paint, and upon the oyster-white background of the canvas a stencil design of windmills was applied and the suggested landscape broadly touched in afterward. The color used was the various shades of Delft blue.

Oyster-white linen homespun curtains outlined the wide casement windows; stencil decoration was also used upon these, the two lower corners showing a repetition of the windmill design. The ceiling of the room was purely white like the standing woodwork, and the floor stained walnut brown. A quaint drugget in blue and white, made after the old-fashioned rag carpet, seemed well suited to the room.

The furniture, however, was the finishing touch, and for this also the housewife was responsible. She had purchased an ordinary square kitchen table and kitchen chairs of deal in unfinished state, that is, in the natural wood. These she treated with several coats of white paint exactly matching the white of the woodwork.

The top of the back of each chair was delicately lined with blue, and in the center of the panel again the stencil windmill motif was used.

"I should be almost ashamed to tell you," the artist of this room said, "how very little money it has cost and, indeed, the comparatively small amount of time required."

One of the chief claims to distinction of the little room was that it was wholly washable—curtains, woodwork, walls and even rugs. The stenciled canvas had been treated with a coat of thin varnish which showed a surface like glass and was as readily cleansed. The same finish had been given to the furniture. "In the city," the housewife continued, "I go in for dull soft surfaces and dim colors, but here I want my little dining-room to be as clear and shining as a choice bit of Delft pottery."

CORRESPONDENCE

HARD WOOD FLOORS

I AM considering the building of a residence and desire to have your suggestions as to the most suitable and prettiest, light colored, hard wood

floors. For the parlor, reception-hall and dining-room, would you advise different woods for each room? Is ash a hard or semi-hard wood? What is the most desirable finish for the hard wood floors, waxed or polished?

Answer: We would recommend if your rooms open well together that you use the same flooring throughout. Oak is an excellent selection. If a parquetry border is desired for one or all of these rooms it could be introduced. We are sending you the addresses of firms who will give you information in regard to the cost, etc.

Ash is a hard wood. For the finish of hard wood floors we would recommend some one of the various products the names of which we are sending you by post. Any of these will supply a good durable finish and an effect closely resembling wax.

ADVICE ON DECORATION

Kindly send your free advice on decoration, also samples of wall coverings and draperies as offered in HOUSE AND GARDEN.

Answer: We will be glad to supply you with advice and samples as requested, but to do this practically we should have further information in regard to your house. Send us a rough draft of your floor plans giving exposure and dimensions of the rooms, the character and finish of the standing woodwork and we can help you intelligently.

PIPING WATER INTO THE HOUSE

I have a farmhouse in New Hampshire to which I wish to carry water from a spring which is about 300 yards from the house and a little below the level of the house.

I want to use the water in the kitchen, bath, etc., all on the first floor. Kindly suggest the easiest method to accomplish my wishes in this matter.

Answer: We are sending you the addresses of a company who can supply you with full information as to the best method to employ and the cost of same.

STAIN FOR THE EXTERIOR OF THE HOUSE

I am building a shingle house in Arizona and am anxious to use a stain which will not fade in the strong sunlight of this country. Is it possible to obtain a gray stain on shingle which will last? If such is used for the house what stain should I use for the roof? I am enclosing a self-addressed envelope.

Answer: We take pleasure in sending you the addresses of firms who will supply you with samples showing the shingle stain. You will find the gray stain particularly well adapted to your section of country. This improves decidedly with age, and the climatic conditions of Arizona will effect the improvement rapidly. If gray is used for the side walls, moss green should be selected for the roof.

IN THE CITIES' MARTS

[To all inquiries desiring the addresses of the retail shops carrying the goods mentioned in this department, these will be sent promptly upon receipt of request enclosing a self-addressed and stamped envelope. All communications should be sent to the Special Service Bureau of HOUSE AND GARDEN, 345 Fifth Avenue, New York City.]

AS the spring season draws near one naturally turns her thoughts to the furnishing of the country cottage. If this is to be done inexpensively and successfully it is necessary to thoroughly canvass the shops before making a definite decision, as one is very apt to form ideas that are impossible to carry out at a moderate cost and she is, therefore, not satisfied with what the shops have to offer from their regular stock. While, on the other hand, if she visits the shops first she will be able to find combinations that are charming and the prices within reach of the most limited pocketbook.

This year's importation of wall-papers shows a variety of designs in two tones which are particularly attractive for living-rooms, the price being ninety cents a roll of eight yards. These papers are of English make and the texture is rather rough. The same design is reproduced in three different colorings, old rose, sage green and a beautiful tan. There are also two tone fabric design papers of domestic make for forty cents a roll of eight yards, the soft brown being the most attractive color. This makes an excellent wall covering, and one can find in a New York shop a cretonne to combine with this which is a good imitation of the expensive linen taffetas. The background is linen color, the design wrought out in greens, dull reds and soft browns. It is forty-five cents a yard, thirty inches wide and will give a very desirable touch of color to the room if used as over-draperies at the windows.

The most appropriate floor covering for the living-room in a cottage is the bungalow rug. These are made in two tones, the center being plain with the border in a darker tone. These are reversible, and there is practically no nap. The price is \$3.00 a square yard, and it is possible to purchase one in a beautiful shade of brown that will harmonize with the paper and cretonne mentioned. Wicker furniture stained a soft brown with the chair cushions covered with cretonne will complete the furnishings of an inexpensive but attractive living-room. Wicker arm chairs can be purchased in the natural color from \$5.00 up, the staining is \$2.00 extra.

Wicker tables have generally been made with the top of wood and the wicker woven over this. This method of construction made the table very heavy and until recently it has seemed impossible to design them otherwise. A manufacturer of wicker furniture has just succeeded in making the top of split wicker and of course this makes the table extremely

light in weight. The surface is very flat and they are no more expensive than the regulation wooden tops covered with wicker. Bookcases, writing desks, flower stands and hanging flower baskets of wicker can be purchased at a moderate price.

If one wishes to furnish a room in Japanese style, she can find a very attractive Japanese frieze for \$6.00 a roll of eight yards. The design and colors are suggestive of a Japanese garden at twilight. The soft gray blue of the background tones in perfectly with the colors of the Japanese lanterns and kimonos worn by the maidens, while the almost black tree trunks and branches give character to the design. Although there are a variety of colors shown they are all in the soft subdued tones so characteristic of the Japanese art, and which are so seldom reproduced in the modern wall-papers.

An attractive wall covering for a bedroom shows a design of poppies, grass and leaves against a dull turquoise blue background. The poppies are a delicate shade of pink, the grasses and leaves are a soft tan shading into a greenish gray. The price of this paper is but thirty-six cents a roll of eight yards. One can purchase a plain blue Wilton carpet in exactly the shade of blue shown in the background of the paper for \$1.75 a yard. For window curtains there is a white muslin showing a dainty design embroidered in pink and green to be bought for forty cents a yard. A plain pink fabric matching the poppies in color may be used for over-draperies at the windows, this is fifty-four inches wide and costs ninety cents a yard. This same fabric comes in a variety of colors and is very serviceable for window curtains as it is guaranteed not to fade. The stencil design of the poppy and grass may be used as a decorative border on such curtains, or arranged as corner motifs.

Some of the chintz papers for bedrooms are very inexpensive but effective in color and design; for a bedroom where paper of this kind has been used, a plain drapery material repeating some one of the colors shown in the paper should be chosen. It is always possible to find in the shops a cretonne from which flowers may be cut and applied on the material in the form of a border, or flowers applied on the inside corner of each curtain will be found very attractive. The flowers should of course match those shown on the paper.

It is almost impossible to find in the shops the desired combinations ready applied on the curtain. There is, however, a firm that makes a specialty of doing just this kind of work. One may purchase her own materials, cut out the flowers and arrange them to suit her own fancy simply leaving the applique for other hands to accomplish. If she desires this same firm will cut out flowers and arrange them artistically on the curtains as they have competent designers for this kind of work.

THE GARDEN

Suggestions, Queries and Answers

JOHN W. HALL

AN essential to pleasing effect is the proper selection of places in the garden for the different annuals. This must be determined in advance, or at the time of transplanting to their permanent abodes. Not only must the bloom color effect be taken into consideration but the general habits of the plants must be regarded.

Thus mignonette should be put near the house that its refreshing odor while in bloom may enter through the open windows. The chrysanthemums should be set in such place as will best carry for a long season a showy bed of green. If there is a dull spot in the garden it can be lightened by the common marigold. The blooms last late into the season and are rich yellow and orange in color. China asters do well in places where the bloom is desired in late fall. Petunias are ever beautiful and bloom all season. If the flowers are kept picked off the bloom is almost limitless. They are also admirable for window boxes, hanging baskets or for beds. *Salvia* will give a brilliant and delightful red far into the fall of the year.

While these are mostly regarded as common flowers, yet they, and hundreds of others similar, are almost indispensable in the garden. It will be a dull garden if undertaken without them.

The lathyrus, perennial pea, will prove a charming permanent addition to any garden. The flower lacks the fragrance but for beauty it even surpasses the sweet pea. It will bloom in the spring long before the others. Year after year it can be depended upon to bear magnificent clusters of flowers. It is perfectly hardy and with ordinary care will grow from eight to ten feet high. The vine can be grown from the seed and can be obtained in colors or shades as the sweet pea.

For a border plant try the *Platycodon (grandiflorum pumilum)* as it is one of the finest now offered. It comes quite true from the seed, flowers freely the first year and is perfectly hardy. In growth it is so compact as not to require support. The flowers are handsome, bright deep blue and of extra large size.

The summer flowering oxalis is another extremely fine border plant. It is equally desirable for pot culture, for the hanging basket, and the vase.

The pictures in the seedsmen's catalogues will prove alluring. But the essential thing to remember is that good results cannot be obtained without thorough preparation of the garden in the beginning.

Dahlia roots may now be planted in all sections of the country south of Washington City. In the

Northern and Eastern sections nothing can be gained by this early planting. Better flowering results can be had if planting is deferred a month or six weeks.

Plant life requires persistent attention. The vegetation for which there has been a longing during the winter months is beginning to show up. The gardener must get busy among the plant growth. It is necessary to begin early. Cut out all dead plants or limbs. Such if left are breeding places for fungi or insects and sources of infection to healthy plants.

Keep injurious insects off of the plants by spraying. Besides their own injuries they are likely to introduce the spores of fungi to plants not affected. Bordeaux mixture is a standard fungicide. Keep plants in healthful condition by proper pruning, fertilization and cultivation.

The nasturtium is one of the most popular flowers of the day. It is constantly growing in favor, whether for decorating the table, grown in boxes on the porch, or in beds on the lawn. Then it is such an easy grower, can be grown in so many places and with a little attention will bloom until frost. The yard can hardly be said to be complete without the nasturtium. Either the climbing or the dwarf variety does well on most any soil; in fact the flowers of the dwarf variety are more brilliant if the soil is not over rich. There are a great variety of shades of flowers, some very rich and showy; delicate shades with threads of yellow, white, black, green and maroon.

Protection that was put about the rose bushes should be removed before the buds begin to swell. When this protection is removed it is a good time to prune. The best results are obtained from severe pruning, especially if strong long stems and fine blooms are obtained. The soil about the roots of the plants should be stirred at the time of pruning—that will cause it to warm up.

USE OF FERTILIZERS

At what stage of plant growth is it best to use fertilizers? I have heard so much contention as to the proper time that I am seeking information that I may act intelligently. ADA C. C.

Worcester, Mass.

The question implies that the plants to be fertilized are already in the ground. If not, however, it would be well to use a good compost, one-third compost to two-thirds of good soil in filling-in around the roots of the plant at time of setting out. As to the use of fertilizers for plants in general, it should be applied while the roots are young. Unless fertilized then and pushed along the roots attain only a small growth and become hardened. After

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the roots have hardened but little plant growth will be developed during the season. As Nature is always busy and impatient give the rootlets nourishment and give them aid in the shortest cut towards early growth.



An example of severe pruning for the purpose of getting choice, long stem blooms

PRUNING ROSE BUSHES

Should rose bushes be pruned every year? If so, when, and to what extent? I want choice blooms rather than numbers.

IRENE C. D.

Altoona, Pa.

By all means prune the rose bushes every year. Now is the time, before new growth starts up. As you desire superior quality instead of numbers of blooms the plants should be cut back severely. The illustration shows rose bushes pruned for choice long stem flowers.

ROSES FROM FLOWERING WOOD SHOOTS

In a catalogue just received I see it stated that the rose bushes offered for sale are from "flowering wood" shoots. What is meant by that expression?

R. M. D.

Lancaster, Pa.

The term used by the florist is intended to express the difference between "flowering wood" and "blind wood" shoots. Plants grown from what the florists call "flowering wood" shoots give about three times the number of blooms per plant as do those grown from "blind wood" shoots.

If you desire to propagate stock for next season it is best to take the cuttings from shoots that have bloomed. The "flowering wood" shoots are usually

much longer than those of the "blind wood," and if the flowers are cut with reasonably short stems there will remain sufficient length of stem for propagation purposes. The wood near the base of the flowering shoot is harder and more mature than it is near the base of the flower.

The "blind wood" shoot is generally of very slender growth, usually terminated by a leaf; the "flowering wood" shoot is larger and more vigorous and is terminated by a flower bud. It is more economical for the florist to produce stock from the "blind wood," but to the disadvantage of the grower.

CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS

What kind of chemical fertilizer should I use, and what proportion to produce the flower of the violet as well as long stems and rich foliage? H. B. T.

Lafayette, Ind.

If you have to purchase fertilizer why not cut out the commercial and supply yourself with pulverized sheep-manure? The violet fed moderately on this manure will give you ample supply of very fine blooms on long stems. Consult the advertising columns of HOUSE AND GARDEN for the name and address of the manufacturers of pulverized sheep-manure. I have used the product with the greatest success in all phases of gardening. It would be best to mix the sheep-manure one part to four of good loam; the violet will not stand too quick action of any fertilizer.

VINES AND SHRUBBERY FOR A NEW HOUSE

I have just gone into a new house and there is neither shade nor shrubbery about the place. There is a front porch fully exposed to the morning sun that I want to shade with vines. How can I best treat the yard this year and what vines shall I put to the porch?

K. L. O.

Norwalk, Ohio.

Your surroundings are not unusual at this season of the year. While you cannot hope to do a great deal with a new place the first year of tenancy yet it is possible to have a fairly respectable garden.

First, give the lawn attention; remove litter of all description. Procure of a florist a few plants of California privet standing three or four feet high and put them in clumps, two or three plants together. Well fertilized they will grow nicely and maintain a rich green during the year. You can also get in a few beds of annuals which will do well.

For the porch there are a number of vines which will give good account of themselves with proper care. An old favorite is the morning glory. Planted in a loose bed well fertilized and the ground stirred about the roots occasionally it will grow from

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twenty to twenty-five feet during the season. The foliage is from light to dark green while the flowers are of manifold shades—blue, purple, red, pink and white. Perhaps the Japanese varieties are handsomest and the vines make a very comfortable shade.

The cobæa is another desirable vine for emergency growth and is worth giving a trial. The foliage is beautiful, the buds light green and as they open change through violet to purple.

Through summer, fall and until killed by the frosts it is a daily bloomer. The annual growth is about equal to that of the morning glory. It is a great spreader, putting out many side shoots.

Be sure to give the wild cucumber a wide berth should any of your friends be so unwise as to suggest it for your porch.

A KNOWLEDGE OF BOTANY NOT ESSENTIAL FOR GARDENING

Is a knowledge of botany necessary for me to succeed with my garden?

FLORA B. R.

Kensington, Md.

Not at all. Knowledge of botany is desirable just as is a knowledge of any science. The botanist is a man of science; it rarely occurs that he makes even a good amateur gardener. About the only service the botanist can render about the garden is to give names to plants. The nurseryman might find such a person useful. If you understood botany like the botanist doubtless your time would be occupied with plant mummies instead of getting life and pleasure out of the garden. It is for the enjoyment derived that the gardener cultivates flowers.

SEACOAST GARDENS

(Continued from page 118.)

hopes like his flowers are perennial; and the failures of the present only add zest to the hoped for successes of the coming year.

And so this garden grew year by year, without any formal plan—suggesting itself in fact—and a grass path would start away here and there—little surprise enclosures of hedge or wall for the cultivation of special plants, or development of color effects, would arrange themselves—certain trees and bushes would complain of their neighbors and ask to be removed to more

Why stir up the Dust Demon to Frenzy like this?



WHY THIS \$25 VACUUM CLEANER DOES THE WORK OF A LARGE POWER PLANT

Many persons think of Vacuum Cleaning only in connection with a big gas engine hauled around on a wagon or a big stationary power plant costing \$500, \$1,000 and upwards.

Therefore they are astonished when told that the IDEAL VACUUM CLEANER, which weighs only 20 pounds and is operated either by hand or a little electric motor, is the perfection of the Vacuum Cleaning principle.

For this astonishment there is no need. Here are the facts:

Every Vacuum Cleaning system consists of four essential parts: (1) Motor Force; (2) Suction Pump (3) Filtering Tank or Separator; (4) Hose with Nozzle.

The Motor Force operates the Pump. The Pump sucks the air from the Tank or Separator so as to create in it a Vacuum. To fill this Vacuum, air whirls in through Nozzle and Hose, carrying with it dirt, dust, grit, germs and all other foreign matter.

Why heretofore has there been need of a Motor Force of great power? Simply because the Pump and Separator have been far from the spot where the actual cleaning is done—out in the street or down in the cellar—so that the Force has had to operate through pipes and tubing over long distances and around sharp angles.

Only that and nothing more.

The Ideal Vacuum Cleaner

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—right on the spot. In this strong, compact, portable machine, all the parts of the most efficient Vacuum Cleaning system are for the first time scientifically and economically concentrated.

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All the power of the Ideal Vacuum Cleaner is right where it is wanted. No surplus power has to be developed to take it there, and all its power being directly applied to cleaning purposes, none is wasted. Order at once so as to have your Ideal before house-cleaning time.

You can't keep your carpets, rugs, curtains, upholstery, wall decorations, etc., clean with broom and brush, and least of all with carpet-sweeper. Vacuum Cleaning is the only right means, and with the IDEAL VACUUM CLEANER at your service, there is no longer any excuse for your being without its benefits.

Everybody can afford the IDEAL. No skill needed to operate it. Compared with sweeping, it is no work at all. Every machine guaranteed.

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That you may safely place your confidence in it and order a machine now, is shown by the large book of enthusiastic testimonials sent us by many of the nearly 12,500 purchasers of the machines, sold in less than nine months. This proves its merits and is your protection.

Let us tell you how you can get one of these wonderful machines promptly. Also send for our Free Illustrated Booklet. It tells an interesting story of a remarkable saving in money, time, labor, health and strength. Send for it to-day.

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There is a craving in the heart of woman to have a REAL RUG. They believe that the possession of one Oriental Rug is the beginning of happiness. Now, "HARTFORD SAXONY" RUGS are real rugs, with the tone, the quality and the character of an ORIENTAL. That they cost one-third the price of real Orientals is all in their favor, too; but if you would know more of them, write for illustrated booklet that W. SAXONY tells the story in colors.

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Guaranteed speed 75 miles an hour.

This model approaches finality in motor car construction, possessing as it does, tremendous power, speed and hill climbing ability, coupled with extreme silence and luxurious riding qualities; at the same time having that splendid dependability of the famous 4-cylinder type "C."

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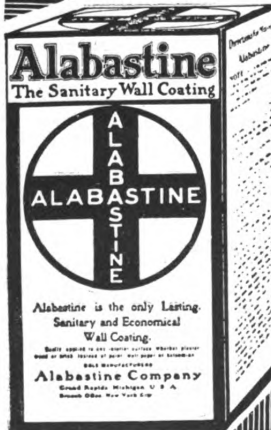
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congenial companions and conditions. And I think a garden of this kind must be much more interesting than one formally planned by even the most skilled of landscape gardeners. There is an element of companionship about it, and the owner's sense of responsibility makes him more persistent and thorough in his study of its needs, and he can give delighted assent to what Mr. Rider Haggard calls, "this most gentle, fragrant and wholesome of arts." And much as we may complain of the narrow necessities of seacoast planting, and feel irritated that so little individual effect can be had, where everything must lean up against every other thing for protection and support, the observant eye must rejoice in the restrained beauty of the softly rounded and moulded forms of vegetation, and of closely planted trees and shrubs, which give to the low-lying coasts of New England, a beauty of their own caused by the constant cruel pruning of ceaseless winds.

INEXPENSIVE LITTLE HOUSES

(Continued from page 122.)

are suitable for these small cottages, and can be made with little expense. They give style, and break what might otherwise be monotony of woodwork. Best of all are tiny fireplaces, where, about the cheering crackle and glow and warmth, the family can sit when nights are chill with whisperings of winter. A small fireplace can be built for \$25.00 and for considerably less, if the home-builder is familiar with masonry, and does the work himself. Chimneys are, for some reason, usually placed at one end of a house, practically out of sight from the street, "hiding their light under a bushel" as it were, instead of taking a stand in the front row and letting their "light shine before men." A wide stone chimney, if well placed, will change a meek, timid little house, into one of confident dignity. A pleasing plan is that of building a chimney against the front of a house, letting it extend through the porch roof or pergola.

Aster incisus, formerly called *Calimeris incisus*, is a capital early flowering species. Botanical works say of it that it blooms in August and September, but with us it flowers in July.

A GREAT NATIONAL APPLE SHOW

(Continued from page 139.)

one-fifth of the crop grown on three and one-half acres of eight and ten year old apple trees."

The officiating judges were: Maxwell Smith, dominion fruit inspector, British Columbia; Professor John Craig, head of the Department of Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; H. M. Dunlap, Savoy, Illinois, president National Apple Growers' Association; R. W. Fisher, professor of agriculture, Montana Agricultural College; S. A. Beach, horticulturist, Iowa Agricultural College; Claude I. Lewis, professor of general agriculture and pomology, Oregon Agricultural College; Professor J. R. Shinn, horticulturist, University of Idaho, and Professor W. S. Thornber, horticulturist, Washington State College.

ATTENTION TO DETAILS

EVERY part of an architect's profession requires careful attention, as, for instance, the character and finish of stone in the different parts of a building. As an illustration, a little observation will show that the bases, pedestals and all portions of the stone work that are near the pavement should be as hard as can be afforded. We are familiar with a fine structure that probably cost over \$100,000, and it is not ten years of age, and the first-story piers finished with pedestals with molded caps and bases, and almost every one is broken and spalled, and the building looks like a ruin.

All the molded parts are finished with square angles, and were easily broken. Had a hard limestone or granite been used, or had the square angles been rounded, very few, if any, would have been marred and broken; or, had the stone work of that character been higher up, all would be well.—*Western Architect and Builder.*

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AN old Roman road was lately unearthed in Hertfordshire, England. From certain evidence it is considered to be a military road, extending over a considerable region and connecting the many military posts of the Romans. The road had apparently suffered but little damage, and the wheel tracks could be clearly made out. The road was thirteen feet wide. The wheel tracks show a gauge of four feet six inches. The tracks are not in the center, but on each side, leaving a walking way between them. Lying on the road were some Roman nails, a fragment of a horse shoe and what appeared to be a heavy linch pin.—*Western Architect and Builder.*

TREES AND SHRUBS THAT ARE IN FLOWER IN APRIL

THE month of April may be said to be the first one of the season in which trees and shrubs flower in the Middle States. Should March be warm a few shrubs flower then, but they are not to be relied on before April. The following list contains the greater number of those that may be looked for in April:

Dirca palustris, *Jasminum nudiflorum*, *Chimonanthus fragrans*, *Daphne Mezereum*, *Cornus Mas*, *Lindera Benzoin*, *Lonicera Standishi*, *Magnolia stellata*, *Corylopsis spicata*, *Forsythia* in variety, *Rhus aromatica*, *amelanchier*, in variety, *Amygdalus nana*, and *Azalea amana*.

Magnolia stellata is sometimes called *M. Halleana*. It is a species every one looks for in a collection, as it is the first of all to flower, and its habit is so bush-like. The flowers are white, of a light

(Continued on page 8.)



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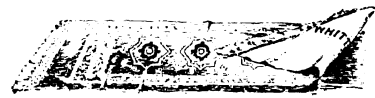
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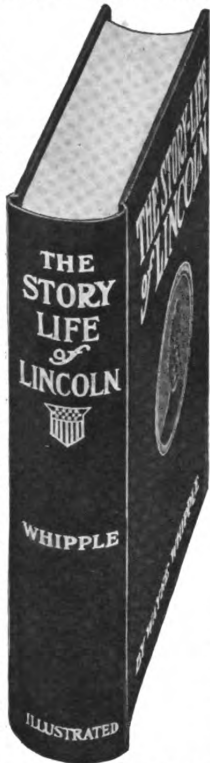
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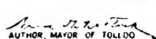
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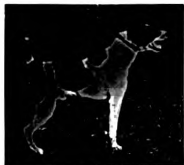
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pink in the bud, semi-double and fragrant. Magnolias produce a flower bud on the end of every shoot, as a rule, and as the stellata makes innumerable twigs, there are thousands of flowers on a bush.

Cornus Mas is another early and beautiful flowering shrub, a native of Europe. Just as soon as the last freezings are over—and before sometimes—the flowers expand. They are not large, but are numerous, and altogether make a fine display. The flowers are yellow and, as may be surmised, a large, handsome bush is a great attraction in the first days of spring.

A few brief notes on the other trees and shrubs named will be in order. *Dirca palustris* is called leatherwood, because its branches may be twisted like a leather string without injury. It has small yellow flowers, before its leaves, and red berries follow. *Jasminum nudiflorum* is the well known hardy jasmine. It will flower in March in a warm spot when a few warm days meet it. It is best to plant it on a northern exposure, to retard its flowering. *Chimonanthus fragrans* has whitish yellow flowers. They are extremely impatient to expand. Their fragrance is delightful. This shrub should also have a northern exposure, but it is not hardy in the very cold States. *Daphne Mezereum* is early and sweet. The flowers are open in the first few early days of spring, and after them pretty berries adorn the bushes.

Lindera Benzoin is the old *Laurus Benzoin*, the spice bush of our woods. Its small yellow flowers are produced early, and in great abundance. All parts of the bush, leaves, berries, twigs and roots, possess a pleasant odor. *Lonicera Standishi* belongs to the bush honeysuckle class. Its flowers are white, with a faint pink tinge, and they expand among the earliest of all in April. *Corylopsis* is a shrub having light yellow flowers, produced in drooping racemes, appearing before the leaves, as is the case with the greater number of those mentioned. Forsythia is the golden bell, and exists in more than one species. *F. viridissima* is the oldest known. It has a stiff growth. Another, *F. suspensa* is of a drooping habit. Both have yellow flowers, the last named one having them a shade lighter in color than those of the *viridissima*.

Rhus aromatica is the early flowering sumach, a somewhat trailing bush, having yellow flowers which are followed

by red berries. Amelanchier has for common names, Indian cherry, snowy mespilus, shad bush and others. Some varieties are dwarf and very floriferous, their sprays of white flowers being greatly admired. *Amygdalus nana* is the flowering almond, pink and white, well known in all collections. *Azalea amana* is the evergreen azalea. It opens late in April, and when its numerous claret colored flowers expand, it is greatly admired.

Regarding the hardiness of the subjects named, in Pennsylvania every one mentioned is perfectly hardy, the hardest winters never hurting them at all. In the colder parts of Canada, Wisconsin and Minnesota the Amelanchier, Forsythia and *Cornus Mas* are reported quite hardy; the flowering almond and *Lindera* fairly so when deep snows help them. *Corylopsis*, *Daphne Mezereum*, *Dirca*, *Rhus aromatica* and *Magnolia stellata* are believed to be hardy to Chicago at least. Some of our native magnolias are quite hardy at Waukegan, Ill., and this Japanese one, *stellata*, appears very hardy.

Jasminum nudiflorum and *Lonicera Standishi* are fairly hardy all over the Middle States; perhaps the least hardy of all is *Chimonanthus fragrans*.—*Park and Cemetery*.

THE RURAL TELEPHONE

GOOD roads, rural free delivery and the rural telephone as benefits to the farmer, can hardly in equity be compared as they are not in competition with each other. Good roads have always been a benefit. Rural free delivery from its start in 1897 has been a great help to the farmers and in eleven years according to the report of the auditor for the Post Office, has grown to a total of 40,000 carriers. But the rural telephone starting since that time is already outstripping both of these in the number of farmers it is reaching and the ways in which it is benefitting them.

The rural free delivery carrier's route rarely exceeds twenty-four miles in length and serves on an average about seventy farms. A rural telephone will operate as far as forty miles with as many as thirty or forty telephones on the line. Of course in the well settled states the farmers have both but in the vast sections of open country, it is

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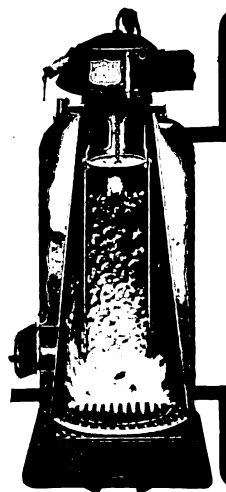
obvious that it will be some time before rural free delivery can reach as many farms as the rural telephone.

The low first cost of the rural telephone puts it within the reach of all. On lines less than twelve miles long the cost is \$4.94 per mile not including poles—the latter to be cut and furnished by the farmer himself. On lines over twelve miles long the cost is but \$6.87 per mile; same arrangement about the poles. In either case, the cost of his telephone set complete is \$13.00. The above figures represent standard "ground" one wire construction and long distance telephones. It is a simple matter to build the line and no operator is required. The annual maintenance expense is not over seventy-five cents—the renewal of the dry batteries in the farmer's telephone. In addition the farmer can run the line to a neighboring town and there connect with the town exchange and long distance service to the rest of the country.

The rural telephone in sickness or emergency enables the farmer to summon immediate aid. It enables him to learn the latest market prices and so get more money for his products. It removes the isolation of country life; it improves the conditions surrounding the farmer's wife. During the day and evening it is used a great deal for social intercourse—everybody being able to "get in" on the line at the same time if they desire.

In many sections of the United States where rural telephone lines exist, it is customary to furnish weather bureau reports over them each morning. For instance at 9 o'clock in the morning the telephone company in town will give three long rings over each rural line entering its exchange and those who desire may, on taking the receiver off the hook, hear the operator read the weather bureau report. The companies often also give out at the same time, the prevailing market quotations.

The rural telephone certainly is the farmer's greatest servant. In using it to do errands, it saves him time. In dry seasons, he may be promptly notified of the approach of prairie or forest fires, of not infrequent occurrence if his farm adjoins a railroad, or in case of fire in his own home he can summon aid without leaving the farm himself. It is hard to say in what way it helps him the most



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on the various things mentioned above. Wherever he is, ask him if he would be willing to do without it and his answer is "No!"

In the vast sections of open country away from schools, churches and other conditions improving country life, the rural telephone is fast reaching out and removing one of the greatest disadvantages of living in the country; namely, that one must travel a considerable distance to reach a market or talk with a neighbor.

It is estimated that there are about seven million farmers' families in the United States to-day, taking the word farmer in its broadest sense and including all families living in the open country. Of those it is estimated that in the few years since the rural telephone has been considered seriously, more than two million have adopted it and it is rapidly being extended.

The rural telephone born of necessity and of vital benefits to the farmer has as its further recommendation, its accessibility to the entire population of farmers, many of whom cannot be reached by rural free delivery or good roads for generations to come.

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

AT the January meeting of the Chapter routine business was transacted and addresses and discussions were given and participated in by various members on the following interesting subjects, amongst others: A Code of Ethics, The Institute Finances, Contractors and Specifications, Competitions, Mr. Totten's Report on the International Congress at Vienna, the Report on Affiliated Societies, The Advocacy of a Student Membership, a National Bureau of the Fine Arts, Schedule of Charges and Endowment Fund.

ABOUT ORCHARD TREATMENT

THERE is considerable interest in the minds of fruit growers about the question regarding the comparative value of the two systems of orchard treatment, clean culture and sod culture. Some very careful experiments under the supervision of the State stations, especially in Ohio and New York, have been conducted. And there are some practical fruit growers giving these plans the

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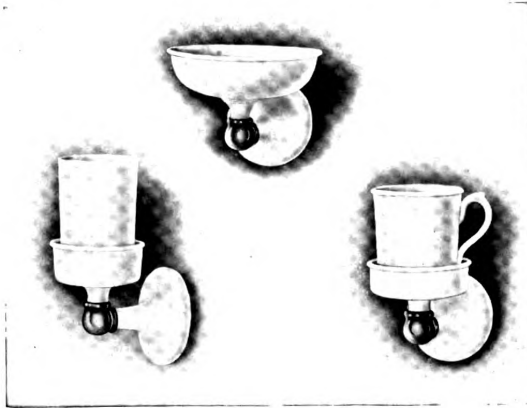


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test of actual trial in a business way. So far there have been some rather conclusive results that others would do well to observe.

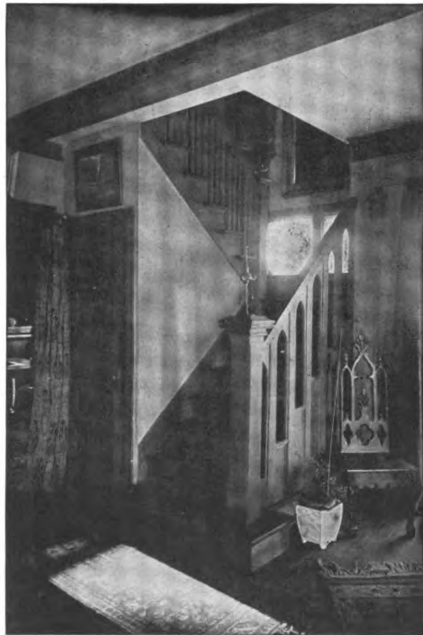
One of these is that on steep land it is very hazardous and often very wasteful of the fertility of the soil to practice clean culture. The waste by wash is too great. In such cases there can and should be some method of culture used that will prevent the soil waste, and only strips should be cultivated at most. These can be alternated so as to have the soil loose from tillage between rows running parallel with the slope, and in the rows a grass mulch. By this I mean that the grass, weeds, etc. be mowed and forked under the branches of the trees to serve as a mulch. By growing cowpeas in the interspaces and letting the crop rot on the ground, or pasturing it down by hogs, much fertility (nitrogen) may be added to the soil at almost no expense. If potash in the form of muriate or sulphate, and phosphorus in some of the preparations of bone or rock phosphate, are applied liberally, there should be no difficulty in keeping the soil rich.—*The Farmer.*

WHITE CEDAR FUNGUS

FOR the last fifty years students of plant diseases have been searching for the parasitic destroyer of the white cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*). Finally, this has been discovered in the coastal swamps of New Jersey by William H. Ballou of New York. After years of search, Mr. Ballou began climbing the cedars, and, as a result of this difficult work, at last found the golden-yellow fungus that does the damage. It proved to be a *hydnum*, and was examined by Dr. H. J. Banker, an expert on this class of fungi, who pronounced it to be a new species and named it *Steecherinum Ballouii*. The next step will be to find some means of combating this destructive fungus.—*Exchange.*

BERRIES, BIRDS AND BEES

THE relation between berries and birds and bees seems to me more close the more I observe it. The rose-family fruits came into existence geologically at the same time with the fruit-loving singers; all of the older birds were flesh eaters. Monkeys, squirrels, robins and parrots, as well as you and I, opened our eyes about the same time as



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the cherries, apples and pears. We have moved on together, and now civilization means a very decided mutual understanding with each other, and interdependence. Imagine all the rose-family suddenly obliterated, and you would have to give up nearly all our familiar birds as well.

The tie has become intellectual as well as material. The berry garden is a library by itself. Our boys and girls ought to be taught to study what is said and done there by Nature. The story of evolution is the story of life, and life forms the one all-important study of living beings. The strawberry is a sort of freak in the family, for it is a swelling of a receptacle of seeds, retaining its seeds lightly all over the surface. There was no object whatever in this swelling but to tempt birds to eat them and so carry the seed about for sowing. Now that man has come and likes big fruit, the little strawberries have to pass away, and the big ones are puffing out with importance. The raspberry is an enlargement of the separate seed sacks, until a cap of these sits on the receptacle or fruity stem. This cap we pull off for eating, leaving the receptacle on the bush; but in the case of the blackberry the receptacle also is sweet and eatable, and it comes off with the rest of the berry. The seeds of all these berries are simply kinds of nuts, with the shell surrounded by attractive sacks of juice. It was a shrewd piece of business on the part of Nature, for otherwise there would not have been the least chance for any protracted survival or any general spread of such delicate fruits. You will note that it is those things everywhere that tempt the birds that get the best chance to be propagated and sowed everywhere. When wings were only fins in the water there was a poor showing for this rose-family. Rodents like the fruit well enough, but they eat the seeds and throw away the pulp. We are obliged to kill red squirrels because, besides killing young birds, they will strip a tree of pears inside of three or four days, leaving only a mass of gnawed refuse. This puts an end to their usefulness in that direction.

We join with the birds in rejecting the seeds and scattering them about the soil. Evolution has not, so far, got any good grip on the wild cherries and haws and sloes, yet they serve as food for birds, and they get sowed, but so far without acquiring any useful development.

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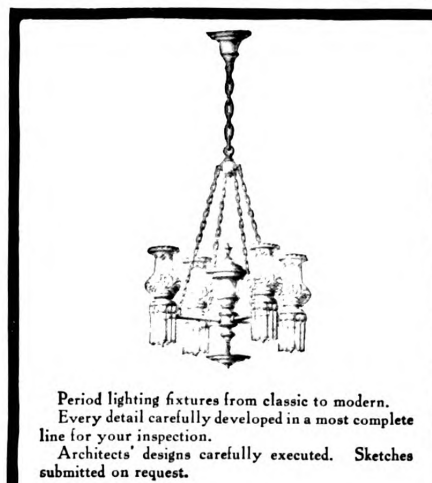


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They probably will at some time get a start, after which they will be of value to ourselves, and under tutelage will be made over into valuable fruits. At any rate you can hardly get a prettier small tree on your lawn than a red-fruited wild cherry. I have also a very rare yellow-fruited specimen. So far only one member of this family has rejected the sack and become a nut—that is the almond. Others may follow on the same line and occasionally a peach comes very near to it.—*Journal of Agriculture.*

ITEMS FROM AUTOMOBILE TOPICS

PREVENTIVES AND REMEDIES

When the work that tires are called upon to perform and the care which they receive from the average operator is considered, it is wonderful that service of any kind is obtained from them. The following list of hints has been issued by a prominent manufacturer of tires, and motorists will do well to put them into practice:

First, see that the brakes of your car work correctly, evenly and easily. Never jam on the brakes too suddenly. Instant locking of the wheels not only injures the tires, but may produce excessive strain of the driving and braking mechanism of the car itself. A car can always be stopped in a shorter distance by putting the brakes on firmly but gradually.

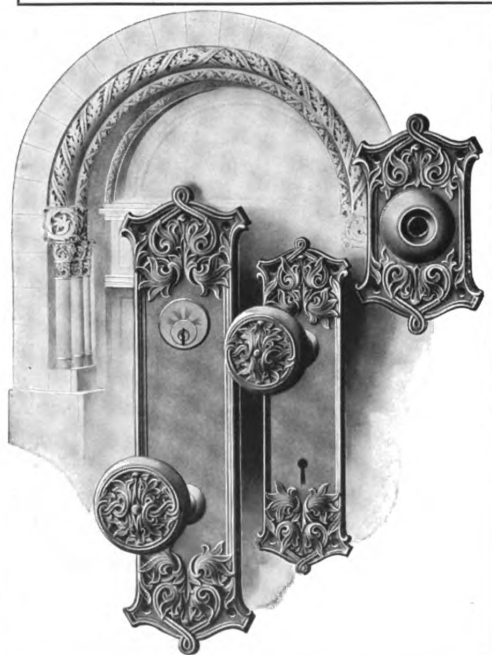
Do not round curves at too great a speed. It is playing with fate to attempt to round corners on two tires—besides it is bad for the tires themselves.

See that the wheels always run true. The unequal planes of some wheels will cause unusual strains which wear out the tires very quickly. Keep away from the curb, as jamming the wheels against the resisting stone will often chafe the tires very much as well as straining the wheels out of alignment.

Avoid overloading your machine. It is reasonable to assume that the manufacturer has not allowed any great factor of safety in equipping his machine with tires, whereas he may have allowed about 500 per cent more strength than was required in the mechanism which he is responsible for. Tires will not stand up under a greater strain than they are designed to carry.

Keep all oil or grease away from your tires. See that the garage floors are as

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clean as possible, and wipe off oil from tires as soon as seen. It is a good precaution to see that all oily rags, cans, syringes, candles, etc., are kept away from the inner tubes in the tool box, or better still, have them in separate oil-proof enamel cloth bags, which are inexpensive and useful. Keep inner tubes well covered with powdered talc, and keep from warm places.

Never expose your tires to too great warmth or cold for any length of time and it is a wise plan to stop on the shady side of the street in summer time.

Start your machine in a straight line if possible, and do not twist around on your steering wheel before you get started. Not only the tires, but the steering mechanism as well, will suffer if this practice is continued. Do not run your motor car along in the car tracks, as this grinds down one edge of the tire.

In touring choose the "softest" part of the road. Many prominent drivers always run with one side of their car on the edge of the road in the soft dirt. Avoid all obstacles and irregularities, cross car tracks preferably at a wide angle. A little judgment and care in following these rules may mean dollars in your pocket at the end of the year.

Experiments with jets of various sizes should be carried out carefully, as only a slight difference in size will produce a marked difference in the running of the engine.

A good rule is to use the largest accumulators convenient to carry.

If heavy gasolene is used, some slight adjustment to the carburetter becomes necessary. The needle valve should be packed to raise the level in the float chamber, and more air should be admitted, preferably below the jet.

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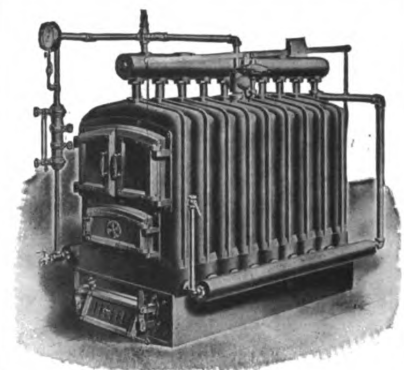
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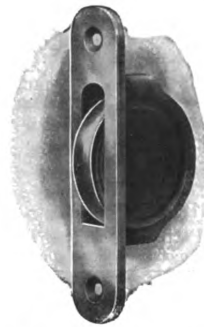
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809F Penn Street, Reading, Pa.

The great trouble with country boys is that they are not aware of the circumstances under which the city boy is compelled to live and work if he has to earn his living by the sweat of his brow. The idea held up to the country boy is to go to town and get a nice, easy, soft snap such as so-and-so has. How many of them do it? Not one in a thousand. Far more go there to find work in some close, stagnant mill, to sweat amid the fumes of steam or tobacco smoke; or perhaps in some iron mill or foundry, surrounded by the curses of their fellowmen, toil out a weary day of eleven or thirteen hours at night, and after the day is over go home—and to such a home!

Up some little back street in a band box built of brick and named a house, more than likely our workman has his home, there to pass away the weary hours of the night amid the heat and stagnation of probably a filthy street, only a few feet wide, hot, close and dirty. In any large city on some sultry night one may see the workmen and their families in these little narrow city streets stretched about the steps and pavements in all conditions. These are not slums either, but fairly respectable neighborhoods. To such a condition of life many of our country boys have gone, and many more are to-day preparing to go. Fat pay and big pay envelopes? Not in these times; if our city laborer averages \$12 a week he is a lucky man. Tens of thousands get less rather than more.

Country boy, before you make the change, in the name of that country you have been taught to hold in reverence, look and do not leap! If you understand farming there are just as many chances on the land to be worked out as there are in the city. This is a great country, and if you do not like the kind of farming you are working at, there are many others. If you belong to a family that follows the grind, grind, system of all work and no play, when you reach your majority and start for yourself, follow out an easier system. Do not condemn country life just because you have been unfortunate enough to be brought up in the home of a man who knows nothing but grind. Do not overlook the fact that if such a man was your boss in the city he would grind your life away; long, long before you were twenty-one years old you would be

occupying some six feet of green turf, where at last you would not hear the dreaded call and curse of the boss. Country life may not be, and probably is not, what many would like to color it; but all things being equal, it is far preferable to city life. That is just where it comes in. City life is never compared with country life on an equal plane. Remember that if you must work in the country for a living you will have to work in the city for one too, and if you possess the ability in yourself to rise above the ordinary workman in the city that same ability will carve out a home for you in the country. Look before you leap, consider all things, and if you are sure you can better yourself in the city, go; if not, stay on the old farm.—*The Country Gentleman.*

SMILAX

WITHOUT question the smilax is still the most useful as well as the easiest grown of decorative greens. Nor is there any doubt as to the profitableness of its culture, whether raised extensively for the wholesale market or in small batches by the retail florist. And that the making of a new plantation every year with young, thrifty stock is by far the best plan, seems also settled.

The first two weeks in July, after the rushing flood of spring business has subsided and when the florist is anxiously looking about him in search of some more hard labor to prevent a break in the enjoyment of healthful perspiration, is the time to start in anew with smilax. In selecting the spot for a bed to be made he must bear in mind that smilax, to do well, wants at least sixty degrees of heat in the winter and that it requires sufficient room overhead for the vines as well as under foot for the roots. Therefore, a solid bed on the bare floor of a pretty warm house, at least seven feet below the rafters, would be the proper place for a smilax bed. Digging and manuring will prepare the ground for the reception of the top layer, which should be six inches in thickness, held in place by a neatly constructed planking all around, and be a compost made up of heavy garden loam and barnyard manure in equal parts. Vigorous seedlings, coming out of three-inch pots, are now planted, and not until they have made a fair start will any great amount of watering be necessary.—*Florists' Exchange.*

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House & Garden for May

A PICTURESQUE ACRE

A LITTLE knoll crowned by great gray boulders, from which a picture of unusual diversity can be enjoyed, is the site chosen for the unostentatious home of Mr. Chas. P. Austin.

Looking across the slope, a comprehensive view of the Old Spanish Mission Church rises in the foreground; beyond this the town of Santa Barbara stretches out, while still further on the placid waters of the Pacific Ocean glisten in the setting sun, while from its bosom rise the rugged mountain peaks of the several channel islands, all tinged with the brilliant hues of a perfect sunset. Catharine Robertson Hamlin contributes a graphic pen picture of the site and describes the modest home which Mr. Austin and his artistic wife have erected on the western boundary of the continent.

THE MAGNOLIA TREE

Georgia Torrey Drennan, that enthusiastic floriculturist and writer of the South, presents a short paper on the family of *Magnoliaceæ*. The trees and shrubs of this family are particularly ornamental and beautiful. The various members of the family are scattered over a wide range of latitude and are both evergreen and deciduous in habit according to location. Perhaps no more magnificent blossom is grown on any forest tree than that of the *Magnolia grandiflora*, the best known member of this rather extensive family, and to it Mrs. Drennan devotes the greater part of her description and illustrations.

AN ARTIST'S HOUSE

Trained as artists have been in the laws of proportion, the harmony of design in both line and color, and an accurate knowledge of the value and possibilities of materials, they often achieve results in their own houses which are unusual and effective, and this, too, at a comparatively small cost. Such a house is that of Dr. and Mrs. Bushnell near Mayfield, California. Debora Otis describes it, and the photographs illustrating the text indicate how much may be secured in that favored climate for the sum of \$2,500.

GERMAN IRISES

Mr. Clarence M. Weed of the State Normal School at Lowell, Mass., writing on the above subject, urges the desirability of extending the number of varieties of these "Rainbow Blossoms" beyond the three or four so long known and so generally distributed throughout our gardens. Mr. Weed goes into detail as regards the structure of this flower and points out the individual parts so that they may be readily seen and comprehended by any one. Golden Flag, a yellow sort; Bridesmaid, a white and lavender combination; Florentina Alba, a pure white; Montspur, a soft violet; Sappho, a blue and indigo and Silver King, a silvery white are a few he recommends, which indicate the wide and varying range of colors to be obtained.

THE SMALL HOUSE WHICH IS GOOD

Two charming examples of cottage art by Joy Wheeler Dow are described and illustrated by him under the sub-title of "The Art of a Cottage as Exemplified in Two Recent Designs." These cottages are frankly new ones, only they were "thought out" in the vernacular of other days, and developed with extreme conservatism. The low ceilings, the high window sills, the small and numerous panes of glass in the windows, the carefully moulded interior woodwork painted white all tend to create the impression of that earlier period some eighty or a hun-

dred years ago, when such effects in design were the rule and were appreciated for their intrinsic value.

THE SUBURBS BEAUTIFUL

Down in Alabama near the city of Birmingham, a Suburb Beautiful has been developed. While Nature has been very kind, it is the use and adaptation to which she has been put by the cultured residents of that residential section that has produced the results, so satisfactory, so artistic. The illustrations in every instance show the building sites "before and after" the improvements. What to some would mean very discouraging conditions have been turned to most artistic account. Prospective builders can derive much inspiration from this article. It is from the pen of Sumter Mays Ball.

THE SPRING RENOVATING

We are glad to announce a timely and most practical article from Louise King, for the May number, under the title given above. She takes up many questions of vital interest to the housewife. Wall coverings, draperies and general refitting of the rooms of the home are considered.

HORSE CHESTNUTS—POISONOUS BUCKEYES

The second sketch in the series on Poisonous Plants and Wild Flowers by Annie Oakes Huntington will appear in the May issue of HOUSE AND GARDEN under the above caption. Their blossoms come in May and are most beautiful. The fruit and bark produce a bitter poisonous principle, known as esculin, which is occasionally employed in medicine. Read carefully and make the children familiar with the danger which lurks in the attractive nuts of both the above trees.

AN IDEAL SUBURBAN HOUSE

A few miles from New York City in the Borough of Rutherford, New Jersey, nestling among the trees of a shaded street, stands a snug, compact little house, its Dutch gambrel roof silver gray in color and its white first story walls and trim, partly hidden by the shrubs and trees, presenting a graphic demonstration of the successful combination of practicability and art. It is the home of Mr. Robert Barrons, an architect and a designer. Mr. Geo. B. Mitchell describes it in detail and with plans and photographs profusely illustrates the descriptive text.

GARDEN FOES AND HOW TO COMBAT THEM

Plant life in the garden is beset by foes of three classes: Insects that chew, such as caterpillars, beetles, grasshoppers, slugs, etc. The sucking insects, such as lice, aphids and scale; and last, mildew or blight, which is a disease within the plant. Ellen P. Williams enumerates the most approved methods of destroying and preventing the ravages of these foes and gives the several formulæ best suited for use in dealing with the various insect enemies or diseases. This article is of value to amateur gardeners everywhere.

THE MEDICINE CHEST IN THE GARDEN

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." The truth of this old adage remains undisputed through the lapse of years. Prevention of many of our bodily ills, says Evelyn Prince Cahoon, may be secured through the use of the common vegetables in our gardens. She tells of the medicinal qualities of a long list of them and advises us to "cheat the doctor" by keeping well through their intelligent use. Concisely written yet full of food for thought.

FLOWERING OF RHODODENDRONS

WHEN rhododendrons are young and have flowered freely it helps them to pick off the decaying flower heads as soon as blooming is over. It works on the same principle as the cutting off of decaying flowers on all plants. The support that these heads would demand in the way of developing seeds is diverted into growth channels, to the advantage of the bushes or plants. As will be understood, it is aiding the growth by permitting no seed formation at all. It was the practice of gardeners years ago, as it is to-day, to divest a plant of its flowers, even when future growth was of more importance. When they grew fuchsias for exhibition purposes all flower buds that appeared were picked off until those that were coming would be in flower at the time wanted.—*Florists' Exchange.*

TREES FOR FORESTRY PURPOSES

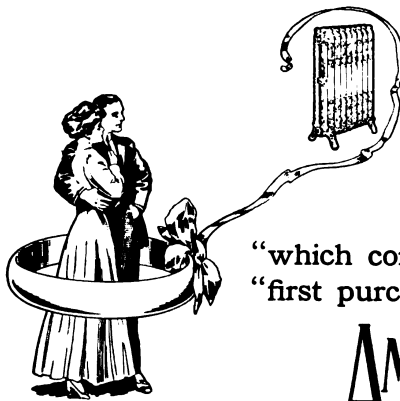
NURSERYMEN who have the facilities for raising seedlings of forest trees would find the subject of forestry one well worth looking into at this time. The Government officials, State officials, colleges, as well as numerous individuals have all become alive to the importance of setting out seedlings for a future forest supply, and are preparing to get land in condition for the purpose. Already those concerned are looking forward to the procuring of seedlings, and there is no doubt whatever that the future will see an ever increasing demand for the young trees.

It is very likely that the demand will find a short supply, as so many fail to anticipate a boom in trade, but wait until it comes.

At the present time calls for seeds show what is coming. Many of those asking for them know nothing of the raising of trees from seeds, and a disappointment is in store for many of these people. The raising of the seedlings will have to be done largely by nurserymen or those qualified to undertake it on contracts, for it needs more experience than amateurs possess.

Just now white pine leads all other kinds in the demand for seedlings. But oaks, hickories, catalpa, ash, tulip tree, chestnut, and every other kind of useful tree are being called for, while inquiries concerning seeds and seedlings are numerous. It will be for those who

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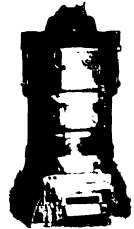


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House & Garden

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think they can undertake to raise such seedlings to interest themselves in forestry matters and get in touch with State officials and others who may be expecting to plant the seedlings, and in this way a contract could be made, probably to grow in advance some of the thousands that will be required. If the raising of seedling trees is anticipated the coming season the seeds of many kinds should be secured now. Of the sorts named catalpa would need no preparation, but could be kept as it is until spring and then sown. All the others require to be kept damp through the winter, or they would not grow sown in spring. They need to take up a little moisture all winter to make safe their sprouting when sown in the spring.—*Florists' Exchange.*

EUROPEAN CITIES ABANDON FILTRATION

DR. H. A. McCALLUM and Dr. Wm. J. Tillmann, of London, Ont., have written the following interesting letter to the London Advertiser: "Berlin and Hamburg are always cited by filtration adherents, and yesterday we determined to investigate the filtration work of Berlin.

"If river and lake water could be freed from bacteria, it surely would be in Berlin, the home of bacteriology.

"Surrounded by a flat country, this immense city seemingly had no other water supply than her rivers and lakes.

"In keeping with German customs, we were required to obtain a permit from the head office before being allowed to inspect her water plant. We were fortunate in meeting the head director, who spoke excellent English. Imagine our amazement on being informed that Berlin had found that filtration of river and lake water could not be satisfactorily done in practice, and that now, with one insignificant lake course, all water in Berlin is obtained from wells.

"This same gentleman informed us that Hamburg was abandoning her river source for deep wells. The well water obtained in Berlin contains an excess of iron. Of this it is freed by oxidation, and, secondly, passing the water through an ordinary sand filter.

"Of the following cities, Paris, Strassburg, Lucerne, Genoa, Rome, Florence, Venice and Vienna, Paris alone offered her citizens filtered river water."—*Western Architect and Builder.*



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House & Garden

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THE VIEW FROM THE RUSTIC PERGOLA—CHARLES PERCY AUSTIN'S HOUSE, SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

House and Garden

VOL. XV

MAY, 1909

No. 5

A Picturesque Acre in Santa Barbara

By CATHARINE ROBERTSON HAMLIN

THE finding of a local habitation has ever been most absorbing, and it is said that the longer one lives in a place of any natural beauty the harder it is to decide on just the spot of all others for a home. Santa Barbara has long been counted one of the most ideal of the many lovely places in which to live in that "land where it is always afternoon," and when Charles Percy Austin set forth to buy a piece of hill or dale it proved a long pilgrimage, and the quest was finished at last by a curious incident.

Standing in the deep shelter of the old Mission one rainy day, waiting for a shower to pass, his eye was caught by a bright spot on the hill beyond, where

the sun touched a little knoll crowned by some fine gray boulders and separated from the rest of the slope.

It was only a short walk, through a creek and over barbed wire fences to the coveted spot and the view was reward enough for the exertion. First of all it commanded the full length of the majestic old Mission lying below, then the mountains and on the other side a tiny oak-rimmed canyon, with a glimpse of the town and still beyond the fair Pacific and its channel islands, Santa Cruz, Santa Barbara, Santa Rosa and San Miguel.

Who could resist such discovery? Surely not the Austins. A private road soon solved the question



THE FRONT OF CHARLES PERCY AUSTIN'S SANTA BARBARA HOUSE

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House and Garden



THE LIVING-ROOM

of highways and, within a year after that showery morning, there rose on the sunny hillside one of the newer homes of Santa Barbara.

The house is shingled and of simple lines, for nothing in the way of "gingerbread" would suit the owners, nor would it be in keeping with the adjacent domes of the old Mission towers, from whose depths mellow chimes issue many times in the twenty-four hours; and the bells, whose message is all unheeded in the day, lend a sense of companionship at night when wakeful ones hark to their voices and know that within bowshot others keep vigil.

Although of a California bungalow type, the house was not patterned after any other, but was drawn to suit the tastes of the master and mistress. The result was to produce a home as charming as it is individual. Doors open at the most unexpected places and whenever there is a door there is some reason for its being, usually a magnificent picture fresh from the brush of Nature. Now it is the superb stretch of hills at the rear; again it is the wide Pacific, its blue-green waters dimpling and sparkling as the sun strikes them or purple in evening's enveloping haze.

From this eminence the rugged line of islands, twenty-two miles out in the channel, show at times clearly, each bearing the name of a saint that, when

the rocky islands were discovered, was a household name of Spain. The ships that pass up and down the coast between San Francisco and San Diego, are also discernible for miles before they come to dock in Santa Barbara, and a pretty sight it is at night, when the war fleet is at anchor in the channel, the different ships outlined with strings of lights. Between the ocean and the house is the city, nestled under the shadow of the old Mission and, had the Austins looked the country over, they could not have selected a fairer spot nor one more capable of picturesque treatment.

A massive door opening from the tiled porch in front leads to a wide hall, extending through the main body of the house. Pergolas of eucalyptus logs from which the bark is not stripped extend clear across the front and on the left side. When the roses, that are already sending forth strong shoots and vigorous branches, shall have had a year in Santa Barbara's sunshine and balmy air, the light will filter scantily through the green leaves to form intricate patterns on the tiles below, and heavy-headed blossoms will nod sleepily from each post. The grounds, which are also in the transition period, show that the hand of the artist-gardener is busy with them, directing but not radically changing excepting to aid Mother Nature. Rocks taken from

A Picturesque Acre in Santa Barbara

the soil border the pathways, not primly but as rocks crop up, here a boulder, there a sharp shoulder thrust rebelliously forth. Vines are to be coaxed to do their part in clothing a portion of these gray stones, and what could look better than a golden, star-like blossom, with delicate green leaves against a cold gray background! There are such possibilities in this diversified home acre that the mind pictures the place as it will be a year or two hence when the long, shingled house is burnt brown by the sun and when only glimpses of it are caught here and there through the wealth of flowers and vines, palms and feathery bamboo. It is planned that window boxes shall be on the ledges and on the balconies of the up-stairs.

At the left side of the wide hall as one enters is the dining-room, which is one of the most pleasing in the house. Three large windows give a flood of light, while a glass-paneled door opens upon the pergola at the side of the house and when thrown wide gives a magnificent vista of the Mission and of the low hills behind it, green in winter and spring, gold and russet in summer and fall, but always with an air of mystery hanging like a cloud over their furrowed sides and sharp summits.

In the dining-room, as throughout the house, the floors are dark hardwood, and with Oriental rugs. The furniture is of antique mahogany, and an old brass samovar has a place of honor on a side table.



THE DINING-ROOM



A BEDROOM

Like English and European people, the Austins have their living-rooms on the second floor where, through building on a side hill, the apartments all open on a patio or court, and pergolas, which before another year will give a grateful shade, extend over each door. The large living-room is delightful with its brick fireplace, choice old-world furniture and its comfortable and inviting easy chairs and couches.

The sleeping apartments, too, are charming and each is distinct and unlike the others. In each the dresser, tables and chairs are of rich woods and the beds are either of white enamel, brass or mahogany, one suite being in white mahogany, that king of woods, with a surface like an egg-shell and a color that can never be imitated.

The kitchen and servants' quarters are separated by a court from the main portion of the house. This court or passage is a covered one, provided with movable glazed sash, which may be used on the most exposed side in the season when rain and wind may be expected.

This arrangement, which isolates the servants' quarters from the main portion of the house, is fast growing in favor in California, and other Pacific Coast States, where Chinese and Japanese servants are the mainstay of the housekeeper, and proves quite satisfactory.

The Magnolia Tree

By GEORGIA T. DRENNAN

THERE are fifteen species of the *Magnoliaceae* family. Several are natives of subtropical Asia, but the most interesting species are *Magnolia glauca* and *Magnolia grandiflora*, indigenous to the United States. Magnol, the French botanist, has his memory perpetuated by the trees called after his name.

The native North American species have a wide eastern and southern coast range. *M. glauca*, locally "sweet bay," "white bay" and "laurel magnolia," grows in swamps from New Jersey and Massachusetts through the Southern States, around the coast to Galveston, Texas, and all through Southern California. The growth varies from medium to small sized tree form.

The foliage, shining green on the upper surface and velvety white or glaucous, beneath, is of a much smaller size than that of *M. grandiflora*. The flowers are creamy white, cup-shaped and about the size of an egg, freely produced in early spring and well on into summer. Although a forest tree, *M. glauca* occupies a prominent place in the arboretum, the park and private garden.

All magnolias make cones, after the blooms, and have scarlet seeds attached to the cones by red filaments. It is an accepted belief among horticulturists that unless the seeds are planted before the red thread withers they will not germinate. As a rule wild seedling magnolias are rare. It is accounted for by the fact, that the trees shed the cones entire, and the seeds dry and lose the vital filament before getting into the soil. Seeds fresh from the ripe cones, removed by hand, and planted in friable

loam, vegetate readily, and for evergreens, the seedlings make rapid growth.

M. glauca is a self-propagating tree. A side shoot or scion can be taken off, with a piece of root, and will make a fine tree. It is much more rapid in propagation than *M. grandiflora*. The pride and the glory of the forests of the South is *M. grandiflora*. It exceeds all other trees in size and grandeur, except some of the oaks, notably the live oak, which has few rivals. *M. grandiflora* is hardy as far north as Baltimore, but by no means ever attains its gigantic size, except in the lower Southern States.

Flowering trees are among the world-wonders of the coast range and from the Atlantic seaboard to Galveston on the Gulf coast. With all its phenomenal tree growth, Southern California fails to rival the coast range in the magical gardens of bloom, upheld by gigantic, wide-spreading trees. Among the flowering trees, *M. grandiflora* stands forth without a peer.

Strictly evergreen, the foliage dark, shining green above, and velvety russet beneath, beautiful at all seasons, is yet more striking in the spring time when the light green of the new leaves is in contrast to the rich, dark hue of the main body of foliage. The height of the tree is from seventy to ninety feet on an average, with size of trunk and spread of branches proportionate. The flowers, creamy-white, like goblets, fit to hold the nectar of the gods, are borne up and all along, over the tops of the trees.

The scenic effect of magnolia groves, in full bloom, from the car window, the deck of the steamboat, or



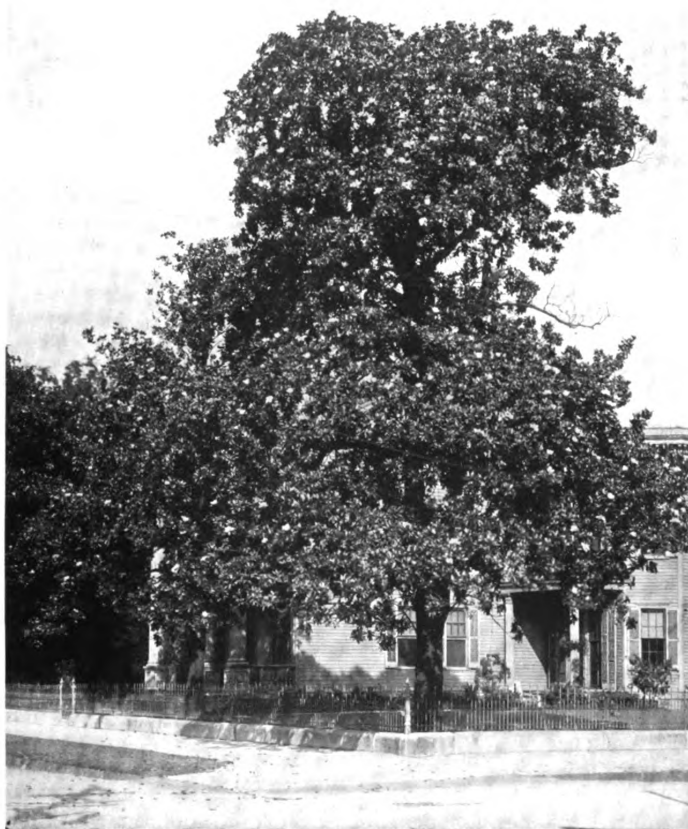
BLOOM OF MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA

The Magnolia Tree

viewed from any elevated point is grand. Isolated trees embellish a forest view like jewels, and in parks where atmospheric pressure is equal on every side of a tree, preserving perfect symmetry, there is a grandeur about the *Magnolia grandiflora* impossible to describe. Its beautiful best is in scenic effect. For the home grounds it is open to the objection of shedding its thick, leathery leaves all through the year. Evergreen trees have this peculiarity, but it is hardly



MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA TREES
Used for shade on Streets and Avenues of Southern Cities



MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA IN BLOOM

observed with the light leaves of the conifers. Cedar, cypress and pine carpet the earth beneath the trees with close lying leaves and needles, a few at a time, all the year. The fallen leaves of these conifers are never objectionable.

On the other hand magnolia leaves are large and tough, and upon the walk or lawn, extremely unsightly.

For this reason, the magnolia is preferable, as a tree of culture, for public, rather than private grounds.

The cones, with their bright red seeds, fall at one time of the year, and are of economic value. The teal ducks feed upon the seeds. Birds flock to the trees and convert every tree into an aviary, particularly vocal from daybreak to sunrise.

When the seeds have been eaten by birds and water fowls, turkeys and chickens, and collected for planting, the dry cones, which always have a stem attached, are used for kindling fires.

An aromatic and highly agreeable odor emanates from the resinous cones, on a winter fire. The fragrance of the flower is rather too pungent to be pleasant, except upon the tree, in the open air.

Magnolia grandiflora is equally the finest flowering evergreen tree of Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas. It has been adopted as the State Flower by both Mississippi and Louisiana.

The House of an Artist

By DEBORA OTIS

PERHAPS no class of people are more satisfactorily housed than the successful artist. Trained as they have been in the laws of proportion, the harmony of design in line and coloring, the possibilities of materials, they are able to carry out their ideas by selecting what is best suited to their needs and often obtaining charming effects with comparatively little outlay. A house in which this certainly holds true is the home of Dr. and Mrs. Bushnell which has recently been built on the San Francisco Road, near Mayfield, California.

Mrs. Bushnell is a graduate of the Mark Hopkins Institute of Art, an affiliated College of the University of California, having obtained a diploma for the entire course. Thus qualified, she undertook the task of planning to the minutest detail a house which should meet several definite requirements as well as be an expression of the artistic principles she had so thoroughly mastered. The requirements were that the cost should be kept within a certain limit, it should contain a studio adapted to her work; stipulations from her husband were that every room should have the greatest possible exposure of its walls to sun and air, and from the third member of the family that the claims of a housekeeper should be considered and her work lightened by convenient arrangement.

To combine these requirements was no small task and when her very unique design was evolved she met, at first, with little encouragement from her advisors but by continued faith in it herself she finally was able to carry out the plan and complete the house for the very moderate sum of \$2,500.

The starting point in the plan was the large living-room in the form of an irregular hexagon and from this two wings extended at nearly right angles. Thus as much outer wall as possible was secured and although it gives unusual length the lines fall

harmoniously and the effect is pleasing from many points of view. The two wings are only one story in height but they gather at their angle into a hexagonal roof beneath which is the studio on the second floor. This commodious room is lighted by a single window a little east of north in its exposure.

Both roof and sides of the house are covered with shingles of unstained white cedar, a wood which the weather will soon tone to a soft gray, harmonizing well with the chimneys of rough field stone.

The front presents a somewhat blank appearance—artists are not road-worshippers—and only high

windows for light and air are placed on the side which faces a dull landscape even though a much frequented highway be slighted. From the back, one gazes on overlapping ridges of the beautiful Santa Cruz mountains, and it is toward this side the life of the house tends. Here a fine screened-in porch, wide



THE DINING-ROOM AND VESTIBULE FROM THE LIVING-ROOM

enough to admit the tea table, gives opportunity for reveling in sun, air and a glorious vision nearly the entire year.

The arrangement of rooms may almost be discerned from an examination of the exterior. The porch which cuts across the triangle opens into a vestibule. The living-room occupies the angle, the first room in the wing to the right is the dining-room with pantry, kitchen and laundry beyond. A corridor from the left of the vestibule runs down the other wing to the bedroom across the end, bath-room and a second bedroom opening from its side. Both bedrooms are supplied with commodious closets.

The foundation is of rough concrete and a cool concrete cellar is under the kitchen end of the wing. The finish of the rooms is exceedingly simple. The wood is all Oregon pine stained a bronze green, the floor the same with an oil finish. The battens on the panels are three-eighths of an inch in thickness. There is no stock moulding, the inch thick

The House of an Artist

plate-shelf which runs around the wainscoting is supported by a plain two by three piece. The ceiling is broken by box-beams.

The windows have been made a special study both in construction and distribution. Casement windows were chosen as being easily kept clean from the inside. There is a large window in both living-room and dining-room on the sunny side besides small, high windows. The advantages of the high windows are, they do not interfere with the furnishings and, being on both sides of the rooms, perfect ventilation can be secured. Each middle window in the groups of three is covered with a screen on the outside.

Curtains are the same throughout the house. A cream net with simple hem hangs first and is covered by a hemstitched curtain of green burlap drawn on a rod. This same green burlap is stretched on screens to be used in living-room and dining-room. Large rugs in which the prevailing color is green are all the necessary floor covering.

Hard Alpine plaster is used on the walls, the surface, not too smooth, taking the tint well. The chimney is well built by iron braces being imbedded in the stonework and the fireplace is of the same rough stones surmounted by a simple, high mantel.

Green, it will be seen, is the prevailing tint everywhere; the walls from wainscot to ceiling are tinted a soft shade and the plaster between the boxed beams is also a delicate tint of the same. Together they were chosen as being what was needed to bring



THE LIVING-ROOM AND DINING-ROOM FROM THE VESTIBULE

out the desired tint in the wood work. The studio is ceiled both sides and above, but the wood is covered with the green burlap as far up as the slant of the roof, the remainder is in the ecru.

As will be seen in the photographs, a feature of the design which adds much to the roomy appearance is that the vestibule, living-room and dining-room are divided only as high as the wainscoting. The partition walls between living-room and vestibule are made the center of built-in furniture, one side developing into seats the other into bookcases. There is a built-in sideboard and cabinet for dishes on the wall of the dining-room next the kitchen, but no pass-closet as it was thought the odors from the kitchen would be more effectually shut out in this way.

It will be noted there is no *chambre à donner* (spare bedroom) but comfortable cot lounges in several rooms make it possible to arrange for extending hospitality to a guest.

We cannot finish the description without alluding to the furniture, which is the result of a happy mingling of the craftsman's idea with that of the artist and is mostly the work of Dr. Bushnell's own hands. Nothing could fall in better with the simplicity of the rooms than the substantial dark mission chairs, tables, seats and cabinets. On the front door, a smooth single panel, he has placed handsome strap hinges and a monogram over the knocker, both of them studded with large wrought iron nails. The knocker as well as the other hardware furnishings are in gun-metal.



THE COBBLESTONE CHIMNEYPIECE IN THE LIVING-ROOM

The Spring Renovating

Practical Aids and Suggestions

By LOUISE KING

WITH the swelling of the buds upon the trees and the delicate hint of green on the sunny slopes of the lawn, there comes to the well-regulated household, the usual spring upheaval and doing over, which is so variously regarded by the different members of the household. There is, however, a general feeling of satisfaction when the work is finished; and settled and refreshed—the daily life runs happily on in its uninterrupted course.

It is upon the housewife that the real work of this time falls and yet by a strange paradox, it is usually only she who extracts from it any pleasure.

Long before the time for the actual work has arrived, she has been deciding upon which rooms shall have new draperies, how the old curtains worn upon the lower edge may be cut and devised into sash curtains for other rooms or how the living-room carpet may be turned to good use and give renewed service as a dining-room rug. However, when the question of new paper for some of the rooms arises, her wise method is to consult with the various members of her household.

One particularly clever woman has agreeably solved this often trying question and evolved a means by which often discussion and some time, dissatisfaction, is almost eliminated. After carefully looking over various wall-papers within her price, and having found two or three designs which she admired and felt would be suitable to the furnishings of the rooms under consideration, she borrowed from her dealer, a roll of each. If new curtains were to be

used with the new paper, a generous sample of the material best suited to the paper was secured. Selecting a well lighted and exposed part of the wall, she arranged a panel of the paper, placing against it the drapery material—and invited her family to inspect it and “I never asked more than two to see it at the same time” she said. The three papers were looked over in turn and the opinions gathered. The greatest number of votes carried the day.

Wall-papers this year are unusually attractive and

also remarkably low in price. For bedrooms, really artistic effects showing excellent designs and beautiful coloring, may be bought for twenty-five cents a roll of eight yards.

Where it is deemed advisable to cover the ceiling of the bedroom, a paper showing quaint floral design in garlands or single flowers against a clear background, may be selected. The paper should extend to the picture rail



AN ATTRACTIVE DINING-ROOM

of the room, that is, covering the ceiling and from the ceiling angle may drop from eight to eighteen inches in a room not more than nine and one half feet in height. Where the room has greater height, it is often desirable to allow the papers to extend down further, covering the upper third of the wall as well as the ceiling with the figured paper. The picture rail can be placed at the joining of this paper and the lower wall covering which may be of a two-toned stripe or a plain paper. Two figured papers should never be put together. One attractive combination shows loose branches of yellow roses and green foliage on a cream colored ground, the lower wall covered

The Spring Renovating

with a two-toned paper of very narrow stripe in shades of yellow exactly matching those in the roses.

Where a flowered side-wall is desired, the ceiling may be tinted in some pale tone or ivory white, and if the height of the room will allow of it, this tint should extend to the picture rail. Where figured wall coverings are chosen, plain colored materials should be used for draperies. A border may be introduced showing a floral design similar in color and character of flower to that in the wall-paper.

Very effective curtains are made from chambray gingham. These come in beautiful pastel colors, green, blue and pink. Curtains made from these may be trimmed about the edge with a tiny linen tape braid, two or three rows forming a border. Curtains of embroidered muslin may be used in connection with the chambray curtains described. Muslin of sheer quality showing small polka dots of yellow, dull blue, green or pink, may be bought for about thirty cents a yard, thirty-six inches in width. Linen in plain colors and of coarse weave is also favored for draperies in rooms where the plain color is desirable for the hangings. One weave of this fabric is designated as flax and comes in fifty inch widths at \$1.10 a yard and in a large selection of colors. Where the floral ceiling described above is used in the room with the two-toned or plain sidewall, flowered cretonne or cotton print showing color and design similar to the ceiling paper may be successfully employed in the same room for over-draperies, cushion covers, etc.

There are many inexpensive ways of curtaining windows of which the woman interested in beautifying her home is not slow to avail herself. The possibilities of stenciling are more or less known to most people and the variety of treatment one may evolve by this method is inexhaustible. The illustration shows curtains in a bedroom where the windows were full length. These curtains are of cheese cloth, ivory in tone and the stencil application is of blue in two shades. The design is taken from the wall-paper which covers the upper third of the room, the lower wall being covered with a plain paper in the lightest shade of blue. The woodwork is ivory white and the ceiling the same shade of cream, making a combination of color which is very charming. The same design is carried out upon the valance used for the bed



A VERY COSY ATTIC BEDROOM

and the narrow portion of the border is reproduced on the edge of the bed spread which is also of the cheese cloth or scrim.

It is perhaps not known to all women that the most satisfactory way to make a valance for a bed is to take heavy muslin, or an old sheet the size of the mattress and set about the three edges a flounce of sufficient depth to fairly escape the floor. When the sheet is spread over the spring or wire mattress it insures a perfectly even edge and a valance which will set well. Where a valance is made of so thin a material as cheese cloth, a straight under lining of the muslin is used. The top coverlid or spread should reach to the upper edge of the valance and slightly overlie it.

With the inexpensive wall-papers which the shops are showing this season and the possibilities which lie in the stencil and cheese cloth, the woman who can wield a paint brush or retouch the white furniture for her bedrooms, can depend upon securing gratifying results.

In many homes there are attic rooms which perhaps have been used as storerooms until the growing needs of the family make it necessary to utilize this portion of the house as bedrooms. Partitions may be put in and charming and livable rooms evolved. Where the ceiling slopes with the pitch of the roof, it may be so treated as to make it a decorative feature of the room. Great care must be exercised in choosing the paper for such a room as the same must be used on ceiling and wall as shown in the illustration.

This room is worthy of careful study and may be safely taken as a model room of its kind. It is comfortable and consistent in treatment. The color of

the wall is charming and furnishes an effective background for the quaint old pieces of mahogany with which it is fitted. Clusters of blue flowers, green leaves and an occasional daisy, makes up the design of the wall-paper shown against a creamy ground. The covering for the wing chair is of glazed chintz showing similar color and pattern. The window curtains, bed cover, valance and drapery, are made of old-fashioned white dimity, a reproduction of the hand-woven kind made by our grandmothers. There is no single piece of furniture nor shade of color introduced in this room which is unnecessary, inappropriate or inharmonious and therefore, it is entirely successful.

There is the true essence of art displayed in working out a scheme of decoration in a room which turns a difficult or unattractive feature into one of the decided elements of its success.

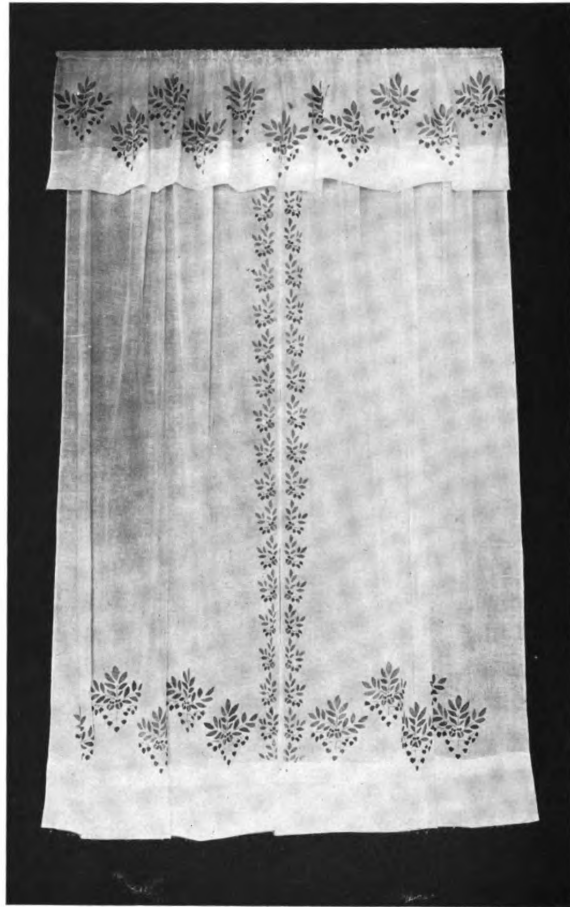
Here, the slope of the ceiling has been so treated. A room of ordinary proportion would not show the quaint charm that is found here.

Where one is afflicted by a set of golden oak furniture of the kind favored some twenty years ago, it takes some ingenuity as well as courage to build about this a room which will be artistic and pleasing. One woman however, has recently succeeded in featuring—as she designates it—her furniture of this kind and rendering its color the dominant note of the room.

This room is of southern exposure and she has covered her walls with a two-toned paper, the shade of brown she has chosen is almost bronze and has an underlying hint of golden yellow which brings it entirely in touch with the golden oak furniture. The woodwork is of yellow pine and stained a medium brown less deep in tone than the wall-paper and darker than the golden oak of the furniture. The ceiling tint is of ecru which approaches yellow. Next the glass of the windows are hung raw silk curtains in a shade of yellow, repeating the yellow tone in the furniture. The floor is stained dark brown and given a soft polish while the center is covered with a two-toned brown rug of body Brussels. Much dull brass is used decoratively in the room and the fixtures and hardware show a finish known as Japanese brass. This is brownish in color and dull.

The china is displayed on the shelves of the cupboard and some pieces are placed against the wall as well. This china is all blue and white and of quaint design. The finished room has been pronounced an entire success both in point of beauty and livableness.

In the dining-room of a house where the standing woodwork includes much paneling or wainscot an excellent selection for the upper wall treatment is found in the quaint picture papers made after the old designs. Many of these show groups of tall trees and occasional church spires against a softly toned



CURTAINS FOR BEDROOM, FULL LENGTH WINDOWS

skyline with glimpses of a winding road below, or the foliage tapestry papers which come in beautiful dull green, blue-green and brown tones in harmonious combinations, can be effectively used as a frieze. These latter papers may be bought as low as forty cents a roll and are extremely effective as will be seen in the photograph shown where paper of such design is used above the panel wainscot.

Where the standing woodwork is of dark oak it will be found to harmonize well with the upper wall treatment above suggested, or if for any reason it is desirable to change the tone of the wood it may be thoroughly cleansed from the varnish and stain and treated as new wood. This is not a difficult thing to do as there are several excellent varnish removers made which do the work perfectly. No scraping or burning is necessary and if the dining-room furniture is of mahogany and the standing wood work of oak, it will be found effective to stain the oak with a dark dull green stain, if the tapestry paper or upper wall treatment shows this shade.

(Continued on page 4, Advertising Section.)

German Irises

By CLARENCE M. WEED

OF all the rainbow blossoms of the beautiful genus iris which are now grown, the various sorts grouped under the name German iris are the most popular. This is probably due primarily to the fact that these sorts are on the whole the easiest to grow under ordinary garden conditions, and have been known so long that they are very generally distributed from garden to garden without the intervention of the nurseryman. To this method of distribution is probably due the fact that we seldom see more than three or four varieties out of the host of those now available. It is extremely desirable that more of these sorts should be generally introduced so that we may have a greater beauty in our home gardens.

It is a well known fact that a large proportion of the flowers commonly called German iris do not belong to the original *Iris Germanica* but have been developed from various related species.

There is a fullness and richness in the form and color of the German iris blossom that is particularly satisfying. While the structure of the flower is similar to that of the other members of the iris group the individual parts are so large that they are readily seen and comprehended by anyone. The names of the various parts are marked upon the accompanying photograph in such a way that one who will take a flower in hand should have no difficulty in making them all out. At the base of the blossom there are two clasping parts which form the spathe. They cover the undeveloped buds and generally enclose the ovary or fruit pod at the base of the flower. This ovary is easily seen by pulling one of the valves of the spathe to one side, it being more or less longitudinally ribbed and furrowed. Arising from the top of the ovary, as we see it from the outside, is the perianth tube, which is a little less than an inch long and gives rise at its upper end to the showy parts of the flower. These consist of three large sepals having enlarged outer

ends curving downward. Each of these downward parts is called by the florists a "Fall." Arising from between the bases of these sepals are very slender petals which curve upward and inward, rather than outward and downward. These are commonly called the "Standards." The combination of the downward-curving falls and the upward-curving standards offers opportunity for an infinite variation in the display of colors, and in the scores of varieties of the German iris some of the most beautiful and delicate colors conceivable are displayed on these surfaces. The space above the sepals and between the petals is occupied by a curious modification of the central pistil of the flower, which covers and protects the stamens and which projects upward at the end to form what the florists call the "Crest." Just below the crest is a stigmatic surface upon which pollen must be left if the ovules in the seed pod are to develop into seeds.

This whole curious device of the structure of the iris serves, in the conditions of Nature, to bring about the cross-pollination of the blossoms by means of bees, especially bumble-bees, that alight upon the fall and crawl down beneath the crest to get the nectar secreted in the base of the blossom. As they thus go downward their backs are rubbed first against the curious flap of the stigma, leaving upon it any pollen that may have been placed there during a previous visit to another flower. This supply of pollen is immediately replenished from the stamen with which the back of the bee next comes in contact.

In addition to the glorious display of color made by the showy parts of the flower, the attention of the bee presumably is attracted by the sweetish odor which the blossoms give off.

The German irises have for the average man the great advantage that they may be planted under the ordinary conditions as to soil and moisture and yet yield excellent results. This gives them a great



GERMAN IRIS

House and Garden

value for the border garden where they become permanent, yielding every summer a lovely show of blossoms and presenting throughout the season an attractive display of leafage. Whether the border garden be against the house or the wall or along the walk it makes little difference in the attractiveness of these irises.

Of course it is a great advantage to set the plants in a good rich loamy soil that will hold moisture tenaciously. And during dry weather it is also of great advantage to water the beds freely, taking care to give a real soaking that shall penetrate deeply at occasional intervals rather than a superficial spraying every day, although in dusty seasons such a spraying is helpful in keeping the appearance of the plants fresh.

After the plants have been established three or four years the root-stocks become so thick that they rob each other of food and moisture. Consequently the clumps should be broken up every few years and each lot be given a fair chance to do its best. On account of this multiplication one can rapidly increase his planting of these irises.

There are a great many varieties of the German iris now listed in the catalogues at a price so moderate that anyone can afford to have a collection of the leading color variations. Good plants may be obtained at from fifteen to twenty-five cents each. Golden Flag or Aurea is a pop-



YELLOW GERMAN IRIS



GERMAN IRIS IN IRIS JAR

ular yellow sort; while Bridesmaid is a beautiful combination of white and lavender;

Florentina alba is pure white; Gracchus is an extra early sort, crimson reticulated with white; Montspur is soft violet blue; Sappho is blue and indigo, while Silver King is a beautiful silvery white. These are only suggestive of the varying colors one can get from any first class nursery.

All of the irises are particularly desirable for indoor use as cut flowers because of their decorative beauty and the fact that a cut stalk in water will continue to develop new flowers from buds for a long time. If a stalk on which the lower flowers are just ready to open is cut and placed in water it will open up these lower flowers and when these go by will develop those next higher and therefore so continue until perhaps all the buds have fully blossomed.

It is particularly easy to make beautiful decorative combinations of these irises by placing them in Japanese flower jars with the iris as the motif of their adornment. The iris is a favorite with the Japanese and as the leaves, buds, and blossoms lend themselves readily to artistic use a great number of flower jars have been made with these as the decoration. Such vases of simple form, especially the cylindrical jars, make very beautiful combinations when the leaves and flower stalks of irises are placed in them.

Horse-Chestnuts—Poisonous Buckeyes

BY ANNIE OAKES HUNTINGTON

FEW American trees, and certainly no foreign ones, bear a more familiar aspect in our semi-urban, semi-rural surroundings, than the well-beloved horse-chestnut tree. It is too rigid in outline to be graceful, its framework is too compact and thick-set to be pleasing, and its foliage is too dense to give the play of light and shade which delights us in trees of less substantial leafage; but for the magnificence of its floral beauty, it has been planted by successive generations ever since it was first introduced from Asia into Europe, about the middle of the sixteenth century.

The horse-chestnut, *Æsculus Hippocastanum*, is a large tree, with an erect trunk, and a head which is somewhat pyramidal in shape. It has stout branches, and strong shoots, tipped by large buds and when bare it shows a total absence of the fine network of twigs, and small branches which makes the outline of the elm, for instance, so beautiful against a winter sky. The large leaves are set on long foot-stalks, and are composed of seven leaflets radiating from a common center; they are abruptly pointed, the margins are serrated, and they are a handsome shade of dark green in color. Anyone who has watched them first unfold early in spring, from the gummy buds of the recent shoots will recognize the accuracy of Lowell's description from "Sunthin' in the Pastoral Line," when he said:

" . . . gray hossches' nuts lettle hands unfold
Softer'n a baby's be at three days old."

The flowers appear in May, after the leaves, in the form of large, showy, upright panicles which have been likened in appearance to gigantic hyacinths. They have five white petals flecked with yellow spots, which change to crimson, and then to purple as the flowers mature. The chestnut-brown, glossy fruit is enclosed in a green, leathery-coated capsule roughened by prickles. A variety, *Æsculus rubicunda*, with bright, rose-red flowers is frequently cultivated. It is a compact, round-headed tree, and like the common horse-chestnut it was brought to this country from Europe.

The horse-chestnut has few economical uses. The wood is soft, of poor quality, and generally unfit for use where strength and durability are required. The fruit and bark are occasionally employed in medicine, and yield a bitter poisonous principle known as esculin, which at one time was found efficacious in the treatment of intermittent fever. During the prolonged war between France and England, in 1807, when the Continental ports were closed to commerce, the French physicians, unable to procure cinchona, made a powder of horse-chestnut bark, which they used as a substitute in the treatment of fevers. The details were afterwards published by various French pharmacologists in which they praised the new medicine.

The nuts are poisonous, and it is curious to find that when the tree first became known in England, Parkinson planted it in his orchard as a fruit tree, among his walnuts and mulberries, and described the nuts as being of as sweet a taste, roasted and eaten, as the ordinary sort. They abound in starch, but are unfit for food unless especially made ready in an alkaline solution to destroy the bitterness, and afterwards washed and boiled. Prepared in this manner they have been used in Europe with success for fattening farm animals.

We have in the United States several species of *Æsculus*,—the various native buckeyes, which grow wild in the West and South. The most poisonous of these is the red buckeye, *Æsculus Pavia*, a shrub which grows from eight to twelve feet high. It has loose panicles of bright red flowers, long stemmed leaves, and smooth fruit. It is found growing in the rich soil of fertile valleys from Virginia to Florida, and throughout the Gulf States to Louisiana and in Arkansas. The knowledge of its poisonous character is perhaps most familiar through its use as a means of procuring fish. A quantity of the bruised fruit and young twigs are thrown into small ponds, and the stupefied fish are gathered in by hand, when they rise to the surface. After being thoroughly cooked the fish are perfectly wholesome to eat.

(Continued on page 5, Advertising Section.)



THE HORSE-CHESTNUT BLOSSOM

The Small House Which is Good

The Art of a Cottage as Exemplified in two Recent Designs

By JOY WHEELER DOW, *Architect*

AT the present time there is a strong, underlying conviction among architects, that it is the horizontal line which makes for home atmosphere. And consequently, long, low elevations and bungalows are in favor, very much as we say a fashion in clothes is in favor which may be for long coats or short ones. But the conviction is misleading. Lines, by themselves, never produce the successful house design. There must be the personal element lurking behind them or the lines have but a very limited value.

Illustrators of books and magazines know this, but, as a general rule, architects do not. Illustrators such as Howard Pyle and Elizabeth Shippen Green, for example, know that the key-note of their success in their compositions is the personal element, and they turn on the faucet of personal reminiscence with such power that we marvel how they could have gotten it all—gotten the very haze of the atmosphere which we are made to feel is part of a morning's sunshine in the early decades of the last century, which neither they nor ourselves could, by any possibility, have witnessed.

We might cite Howard Pyle's recent drawing illustrating Clive and Ethel Newcomb. The architectural feature—the doorway—seen at the end of the entrancing vista, may be a little crude in its detail, which no architect would tolerate, for an instant, in a composition sketch of his own profession, yet it, nevertheless, embodies the germ of life that a more academic rendition might wholly lack. And we may not spare this personal element which caused a certain young woman to covet the *escritoire* of Marie Antoinette in the South Kensington Museum more than anything else she saw in that wonderful collection. It was not, indeed, because of any lines in the make-up of the writing-desk, for these expressed a lingering sympathy for rococo disquietude, but, almost entirely, because the writing-desk had once belonged to, and had actually been used, by the historic personage with whose memoirs we are so familiar.

Now, whatever architectural excellence there may be in the two cottages herewith presented, it is not on account of their lines. You may think it is, but it is not. Like the Marie Antoinette desk, their success depends mainly upon the personal element and reminiscence the architect has made them reflect and express, and which links them up properly in historical succession. Only, our honored grandsires, in this case, are the French queen. For in spite of

all our sins, moral defections, our divorces, etc., it is family devotion, sacrifice and *bienséance* (there is no English word which quite fills the part), these are the things, after all, that make life worth living.

To restore an ancient homestead where generations of our ancestors have passed their lives, however, is not part of the good fortune of everybody. But have we not a vicarious satisfaction, almost as good, in making believe that our new cottage was really inherited, and not purchased or erected by ourselves?

Our two cottages are still, frankly *new* cottages, only they were thought-out in the vernacular of other days, and developed with extreme conservatism. The ceilings are low, the window-sills are high, and the panes of glass in the windows, are historically small and numerous—more work to clean, but how they furnish! The interior woodwork is in soft wood, moulded with distinct refinement, and painted white, i. e., the casings, the wainscots, the cornices and chimney-pieces are painted. The doors are of gulf-cypress, with a natural wax finish. The floors are of oak and simply waxed, and there are a few mahogany hand-rails, mantel shelves, etc.

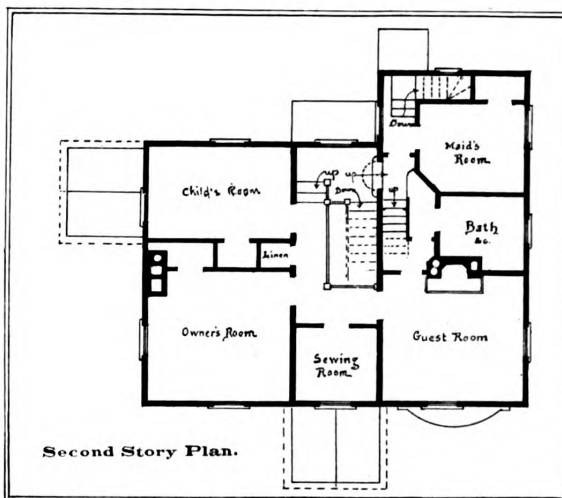
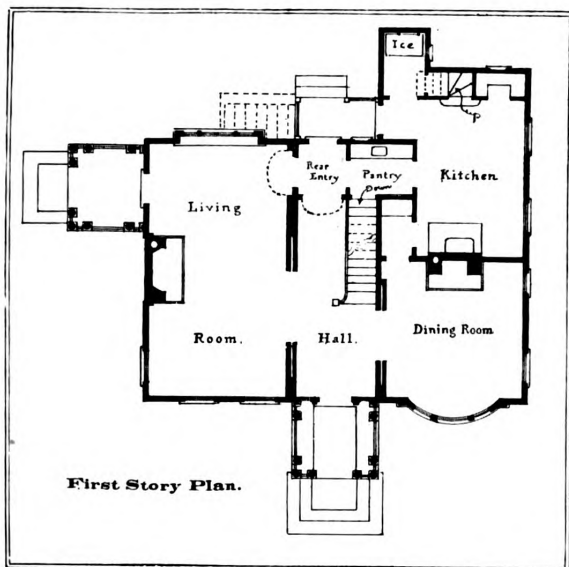
Both cottages are heated with a hot-water heating apparatus and are lighted by oil lamps—not new-art oil lamps with taffy-pulled motives, and mosaic Pompeian shades, but historical oil lamps improved somewhat by modern burners.

Upon the staircase of "Witchwood" a secret closet is still preserved, let us say, which helps the personal note, and does no harm if in this day of cheap safe-deposit vaults, it is not especially useful, while overhead is the traditional attic in each case, the attic of "Witchwood" having a servant's bed-chamber finished in the south gable.

Both cottages are shingled with long rift shingles, which have been painted white in one case, and brown, in the other. The charm and historic value of brown paint upon a witch house with the overhang and moulded drops, cannot be over-estimated.

As time goes on these cottages will be better understood and appreciated than at present. It may require many years perhaps, before all their subtleties are manifest to the majority with torpid imaginations; but, since science has at last demonstrated that the cause of all pathology lies in a very much alive germ, and not in an inanimate influence with no more volition than mechanical lines drawn upon paper, may we not hope for a parallel demonstration in architecture before we, who are most interested, are too superannuated to care.

The Small House Which is Good



Plans, Views and Details of
The Mitchell Cottage,
 East Orange, New Jersey,
 Joy Wheeler Dow, Architect



Side and Rear View



Detail of Entrance



Front View of the Cottage

House and Garden

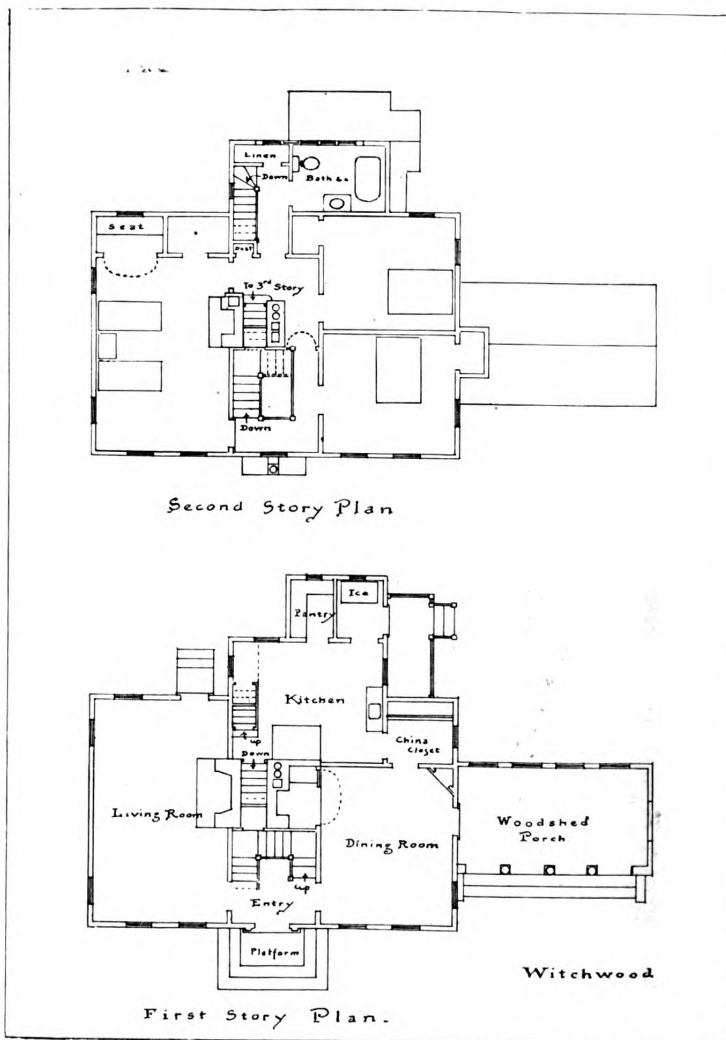
Floor Plans, Views and Details of
"Witchwood,"
Highland Mills, New York
Joy Wheeler Dow, Architect



The Front View of "Witchwood"



Detail of Entrance



First Story Plan.

Floor Plans—"Witchwood"

The Small House Which is Good



1. The Fireplace—"Witchwood"
2. Detail—"Witchwood"
3. A Bedroom—"Witchwood"



The Living-Room—"Witchwood"

The Suburbs Beautiful

The "Before and After" of a Progressive Idea

BY S. MAYS BALL

ON an elevated ridge some five to six miles long, namely the foothills of Red Mountain, ranging in distance from the city of Birmingham, Alabama, anywhere from two to five miles—well built-up, is one of the most beautiful suburban, country residential sections in the South. About three hundred to five hundred feet above the city are these foothills upon which live all the people of the city who can afford to get out of the grime and dirt of a steel, iron and coal metropolis, such as Birmingham, "The Magic City" has become.

Highland Avenue, a broad thoroughfare with an average width of over 200 feet—a carriage way on both sides of "neutral ground" in the center upon which the trolley lines operate, winds itself for miles and miles through the foothills with a sharp turn here and almost a "switchback" there—has now on both sides of the street as many beautiful country places as one can find within the same limits in America.

Birmingham proper lies in Jones Valley. On both north and south are "highlands," so-called by the direction city-wards, but it is upon South Highlands beginning some two miles from the city proper that most of the beautiful home construction and landscape gardening has been done. Highland Avenue is the main driveway in this lovely section of the country, from which streets, avenues, and boulevards lead in many directions to parks, places, terraces, etc. Originally in the "boom days" of Birmingham, Highland Avenue was simply the roadbed of the "dummy line" built by the famous Elyton Land Co., by which to reach, via two routes, the "long" and the "short," Lakeview Park with its small pond-lake and amusement places. But as Birmingham grew and people with much money came there to invest in coal, iron and steel, the "dummy line" was abolished and electric-traction on the "neutral ground" was established. This "neutral ground" in the center of the avenue, with wide driveways on both sides, bedded and sodded, forms a very pretty vista on the broad Highland Avenue.

Nature has been very good to the highlands of Birmingham's suburbs. And, it is to the use and adaptation to which Nature has been put by the cultured householders of that section, that this article will treat.

As stated, all the people of Birmingham who can possibly afford it do not live in the city proper at all. Birmingham is a city of country homes. Those who have only heard of Birmingham as the "Pittsburg of

the South" have no idea of the beautiful residence section just outside the city:—it is a revelation when first seen.

The city proper, into which the highlands are now incorporated, has been most fortunate for the past two years in the personality of its young mayor. Hon. George B. Ward, a gentleman of birth, breeding and culture, a lover of the beautiful has, among other good things, inaugurated during his most successful administration, what he tersely calls "The City Beautiful" idea, which in his case really means particularly the "Suburbs Beautiful," although he has extended this idea to include the residences, factories, mills, business houses, etc., through his endeavor to get the business men to beautify as much as possible by use of evergreens, ivy, etc., all shops and buildings—in and out of the city proper.

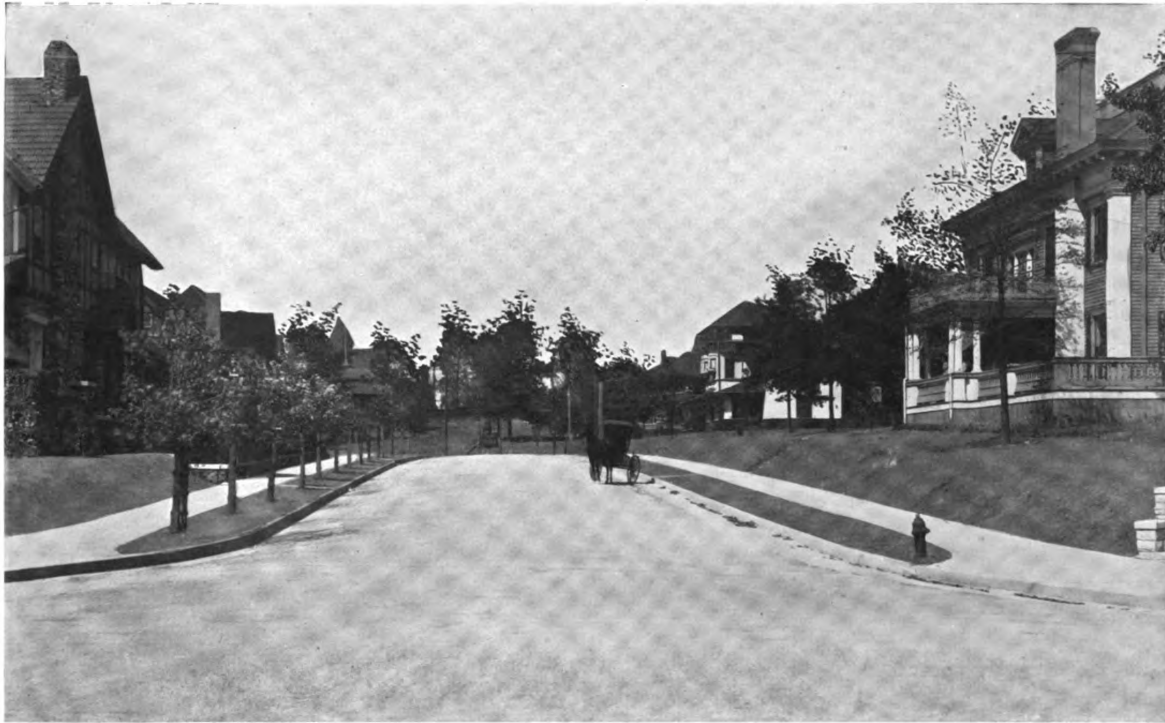
It is intended that this article may show more by photographs taken "before and after" the inauguration of Mr. Ward's idea, than by the text. Thus in calling attention to Picture No. 1, the reader will be able to see just what Mr. Ward and his enthusiastic citizens had to contend with and overcome, in Iroquois Street, leading from Highland Avenue into Rhodes Circle. Picture No. 1 shows the top of the country-home of Gen. Rufus N. Rhodes, Editor of *The Birmingham News* and the surroundings before any "suburb beautiful" thought and execution took root and effect. Picture No. 2 will show the beginning of the new era. Picture No. 3 shows the present condition of the same scene, handled under the "suburbs beautiful" idea and further along, the writer attempts to show what Mr. Ward, under rules and suggestions given, will do further with Iroquois Street and others, under his scheme.

Mr. Carl Seals' purchase of a lot in Mountain Terrace, just off Highland Avenue, in picture No. 4, does not appear very promising as to landscape results, but note what he did with that same lot, rocks, etc., in picture No. 5.

Picture No. 6 will give an idea as to what Mrs. Harrington had to contend with. In picture No. 7 will be seen the result of her use of the corner lot in question, with terrace and zigzag steps.

In pictures Nos. 4 and 5, before mentioned, can be seen how Mr. Seals used the rocks on *his* place with which to add to the natural beauty of his home. In picture No. 8, Mr. T. C. Walters, had quite as many rocks in the same locality, Mountain Terrace, as did Mr. Seals, but one can note from picture No. 9 an entirely different treatment; namely the hiding of

The Suburbs Beautiful



3. Present Appearance of Iroquois Street leading from Highland Avenue to Rhodes Circle



1. Iroquois St. before "Suburbs Beautiful" began operations



2. Iroquois St. soon after "Suburbs Beautiful" began operations

House and Garden

most of them by terraces and the uprooting of others—simply a matter of personal taste of the owner.

Pictures Nos. 10 and 11 show the before and after effects of the suburb beautiful idea as applied to the grounds and residence of Mr. W. P. G. Harding in "Glen Iris," off Highland Avenue.

It is believed that these photographs "will speak louder than words" and give to the reader a fair idea of the work being done in the lovely suburbs of Birmingham, where nature has to be adapted and sometimes overcome.

Mr. Ward's first idea when he began this work was the removal of the unsightly fences; this he has accomplished to a great extent. Next, he took up the planting idea and in answer to the mayor's call to the Birmingham florists as to the best things to plant in that section on the theory to "keep something growing all the time," he was able to issue an open letter to householders. Then came a terrible drought which destroyed all the plants and the seeds failed to germinate. Then, the mayor, nothing daunted,—when a heavy refreshing rain came, issued another call to the florists who gathered together a list of the proper shrubs, seeds, bulbs, plants and fertilizers to be used in beautifying. Not only were these listed, but an excellent paper prepared giving suggestions as to the planting of bulbs, the making of



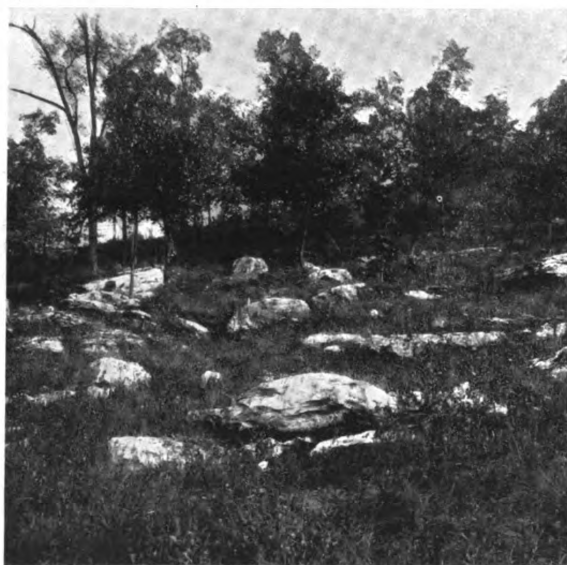
5. Residence and grounds of Mr. Carl Seals, Mountain Terrace

winter lawns, preparation of the soil and best methods of using all kinds of fertilizers. This paper was published in the daily press and copies of it were sent to every householder in the city and out of it in the suburbs. September, October and November are the months in that section of the South for the planting of hyacinths, narcissus, crocus, tulips and other outside bulbs. Many residents were busily engaged in planting in the fall and one of the Birmingham florists recently said that the demand for bulbs far exceeded that of any previous year. Window boxes are among the most decorative methods of planting among the Birmingham women.

Many who sacrificed rear fences in the interest of the mayor's idea felt that they must have something in their places, so after the first frost which occurred early last year, the planting of hedges began. These hedges are thin and scraggy at first, but will be very helpful to the places later on. One Birmingham woman has planned to arrange differently her large yard with a desire to create new beauties. The rear fence went with the mayor's edict last July. In its place has been planted a hedge of California privet; in front of this was planted shrubbery in an irregular or zig-zag line and at the edge the owner placed a variety of bulbs which will show tulip blossoms in the spring—a mass of profuse color.

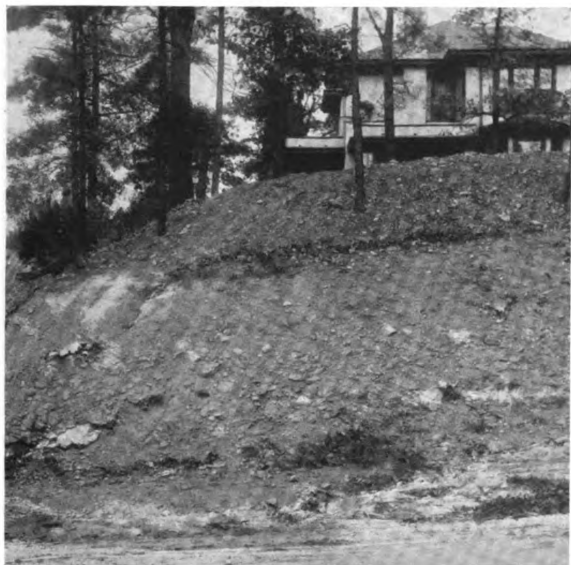
The mayor had a difficult time of it at first securing the consent of the householders to remove the fences, but this is continually being gained; the fences continue to go.

"Keep something growing all the time"—that is the motto of the mayor of Birmingham's idea. He has issued a booklet which has been sent to every householder in the city and suburbs which



4. Ground beautified by Mr. Seals in Mountain Terrace

The Suburbs Beautiful



6. Ground on Highland Avenue beautified by Mrs. Harrington

explains just how the city and suburbs surrounding it can and will be made a beauty to the eye, a pleasure to the owner and passer-by, but the keynote therein, is the motto aforesaid.

Forty-four prizes will be given by the city of Birmingham this spring for the best kept lawns or most attractive front yards. The prizes will be distributed: first, to the most attractive window garden and boxes; second, to premises large and small kept by renters; third, to premises fronting less than 100 feet kept by owners; fourth, to premises fronting more than 100 feet kept by owners. This plan will be applied to the suburbs as well as to each of the eleven wards of the city proper, in which the "Highlands" are now incorporated, thereby making a better opportunity for householders to win at least one of the forty-four prizes. The distinction of winning such a prize will be a tribute, not to wealth but to artistic devotion to one's own home, to love of the beautiful and desire to help others.

The little booklet sent out by Mayor Ward,—contains all sorts of rules and suggestions as to lawns,—for instance as to Bermuda grass—advising that after years of trial and much opposition, this grass has become established as the lawn grass of the South in the spring, summer and early fall. In the fall, anywhere from October 15th to December

1st, Bermuda sod must be supplemented by sowing seeds of other grasses for the winter lawn, for nothing can be done successfully with Bermuda grass in winter. There are suggestions as to planting and growing pansies, sweet peas, hardy perennials, hardy vines, hardy memorial roses, hardy shrubs, hedge plants, ornamental trees, bulbs, roses (standard and climbing), with a list of the best trees available, etc., for that section of the country. Directions are given, also, as to method of making a successful lawn, the fertilizing, mowing, cutting, etc., thereof and a short dissertation on window gardening.

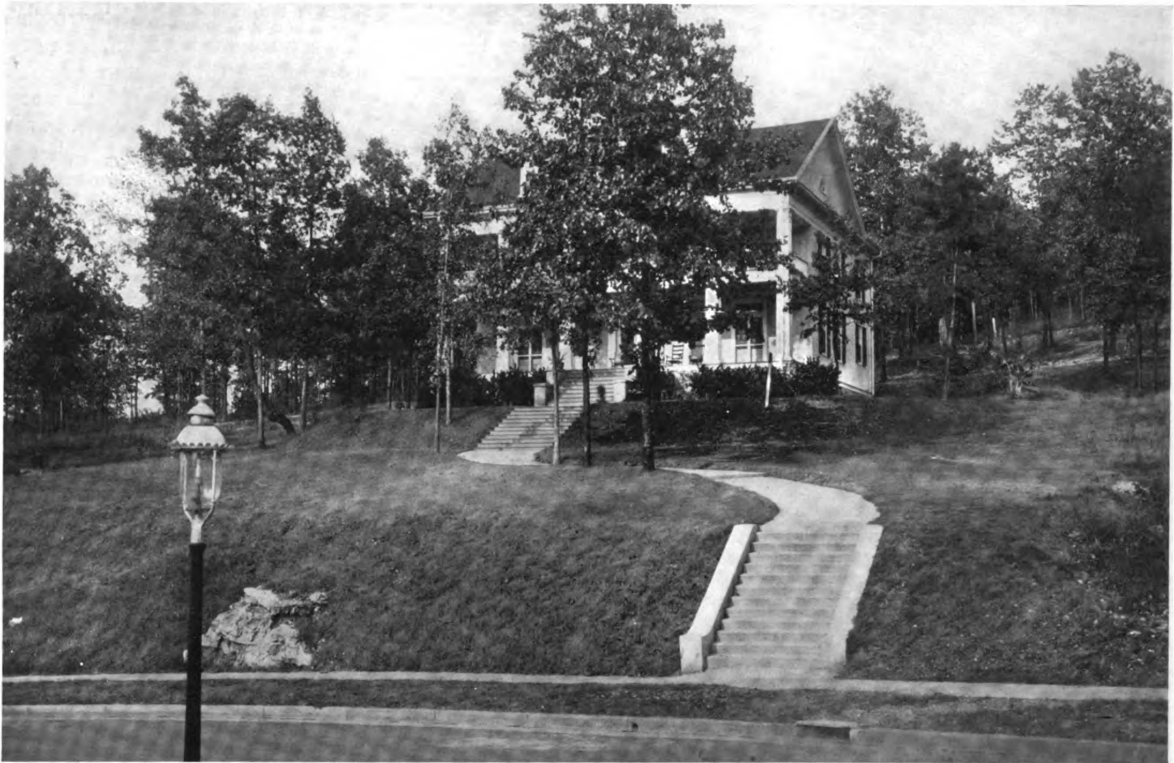
Under "do it now" Mayor Ward gives the following rules—good anywhere:

"Pull down your fence. The city will haul it away and keep off the cows. If you can't be induced to part with it, fix it up and paint it.—Exercise the same supervision over your sidewalk as over your front yard. Sidewalks are the index of the people inside.—Plant a strip of green in bare places along sidewalk. The city will furnish street sweepings, if haul is not too long.—Plant lawns, flowers and trees. Wherever the ground shows bare, plant something green in it.—Cut weeds always while young and tender. It will save you money and please everybody.—Trim up trees which are too low and which overhang sidewalks.—If there are any dead trees around, pull them up and start new ones.—Don't let your dog bark all night. Think of your neighbor.—Sweet peas, climbing nasturtiums, castor beans, hollyhocks or even sunflowers make an effective screen to hide old sheds or other unsightly views. For permanent screens, use hardy shrubs or the quickly growing vines.—You may have a window box filled with geraniums, if you cannot have a grand yard filled with choice

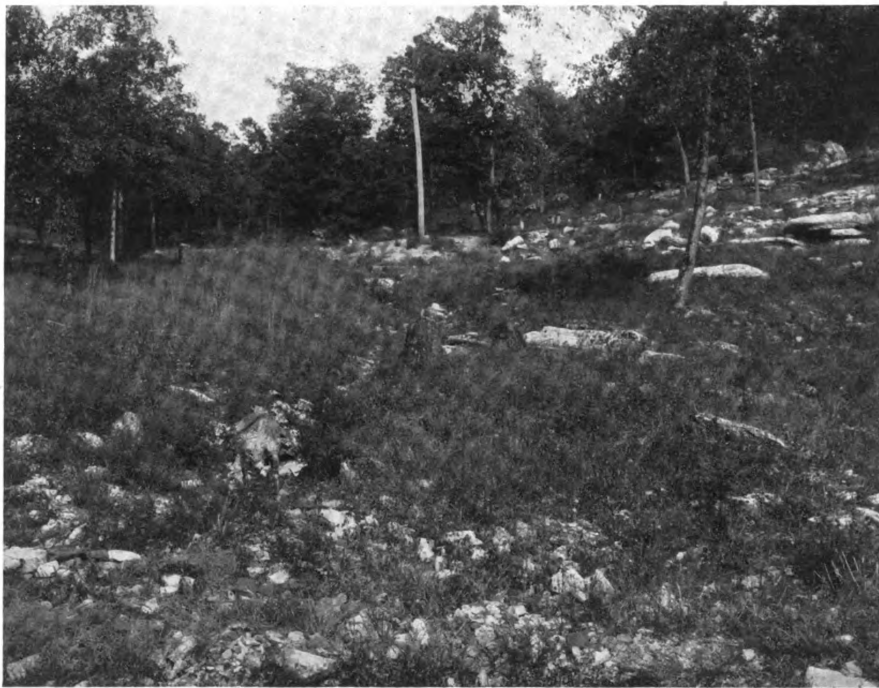


7. Residence and grounds of Mrs. Harrington on Highland Avenue

House and Garden



9. Residence of Mr. T. W. Walters, Mountain Terrace



8. Plot of ground beautified by Mr. T. W. Walters

roses. The window box can be made at small cost. The flowers will not cost you twenty-five cents.—Encourage your children to help the good work along by training them to pick up papers, sticks and other rubbish wherever found.—When street or sidewalk is torn up and is not properly repaired, call up the mayor's office and give the name of the party responsible.—A few dimes and a lot of enthusiasm and determination will transform an unsightly back yard into a spot of beauty.—Report anybody who mutilates or ties a horse to a tree. You get half the fine on

The Suburbs Beautiful



11. Residence of Mr. W. P. G. Harding, in "Glen Iris," after beautifying



10. Plot of ground beautified by Mr. W. P. G. Harding

conviction.—Report any unsightly object in your neighborhood. If possible it will be remedied.—Call attention of all you meet to the idea of a 'City Beautiful.'—Whitewash everything you can't

visitor and resident, one of the most beautiful residential sections in the United States to-day.

"Go make thy garden fair, thou worketh not alone;
He whose plot is next to thine will note and mend his own."

paint."—Surely the creation of such a spirit as Mayor Ward, alone, has done must be the source of great pride to him, as it is even now a public benefit to his city. For even after only a few months of the "City and Suburbs Beautiful" idea discussed and worked out to completion, the results which are apparent even to the most casual observer show to a

An Ideal Suburban House

By GEORGE B. MITCHELL

A COTTAGE house may have a picturesque exterior, numerous well lighted, well ventilated rooms and yet be far from complete.

First of all, there are the individual needs of the occupants to take into consideration. The house must be in every sense their home, to be worn, as some one has said, with the ease and comfort that one would wear a well fitted suit of clothes.

And in the combination of these things, the ornamental and the practical, we will find qualities that invite renewed inspection, disclose points of interest and reveal charms, apparently hidden.

There will be as in the beautiful picture or finely modelled statue, a reserve force that is held in abeyance.

Unfortunately, we still hear from this source or that, the theory, happily long since exploded, that a country home to be practical, and marketable too

if necessary, cannot be constructed on picturesque lines or built to harmonize with some especial surrounding.

The unpretentious two story cottage house, shown in the accompanying photographs, is located in the borough of Rutherford, a few miles from New York City on the Jersey side of the North river.

Nestled among the trees of a delightfully shaded street, its Dutch gambrel roof a silver gray, white first story walls and trim, partly hidden by shrubs and foliage, it might almost escape our notice.

This snug, compact little home with its spacious porch, white pillars, its casement windows and great exposed chimney of stone and brick is to our mind a successful demonstration of combined art and practicability.

The house was designed and is occupied by Mr.

Robert Y. Barrows. Professionally an architect and designer, he was better fitted, certainly, than could possibly be the average layman in the planning of an ideal home, yet it still required a certain degree of courage to carry out to the completion, views that five years ago were less conventional than to-day and it required an ever watchful eye to see that the details were followed in every way. The result was all that could be desired and the test has been that after several years' occupation, while a few things

might suggest themselves, no radical change would be required to meet the present day needs of the occupants. What could one wish for more. "Nothing is absolutely perfect but Allah," as the Mohammedans say.

The main entrance to the house is from the roomy porch, which, extending out beyond the house proper to the south and the east

sides, invites the summer breezes from the four points of the compass. A Colonial front door has deep panels, knobs and knockers of shining brass and opens into a well lighted vestibule, the woodwork in white and the walls a soft yellow.

From here, two doors lead, one to a reception or music-room and the other at the right to the living-room—the latter door stands ajar and the attractive interior invites our inspection.

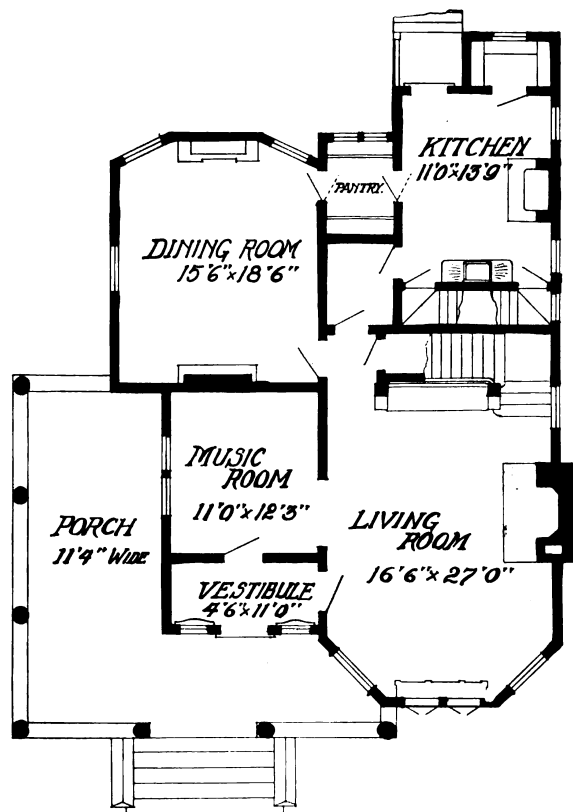
As we enter the living-room we are impressed at once with the apparent motive of the architect owner to conceal from the outside the magnitude of space within.

It is hardly possible to realize that a house of so seemingly small exterior could be made to contain a room of such ample proportions, twenty-seven feet in length and about two thirds that in width. The



THE LIVING-ROOM

An Ideal Suburban House



First Floor Plan

trim of doors, staircase and windows and the exposed second floor timbers that have been boxed in, the spaces between, neatly panelled, suggest the Dutch Gothic period.

All the woodwork is stained a warm Flemish brown while the roughly finished plaster of the walls has been tinted a rich red.

In the center of the wall opposite the entrance, we note the great fireplace with its face built of selected gray field stones. About four and a half feet above the wide hearth is set a heavy oak mantel-shelf, nine feet in length, its corners slightly rounding and running back to the wall.

Above this, the exposed plastered chimney breast tapers back to the ceiling. This is toned a neutral gray and forms an excellent background for bits of bronze, antique plaques of hammered brass, porcelains, water-color sketches, cloisonné vases and a very graceful ivory toned reproduction of the Cupid Triumphant that stands in the center of the mantel.

An old bronze-green Grecian lamp swings by heavy chains from the ceiling, a little higher than the Cupid's head and from each side of the chimney breast are dark toned gargoyles that emerge from the upper wall, their grotesque jaws gripping the chains

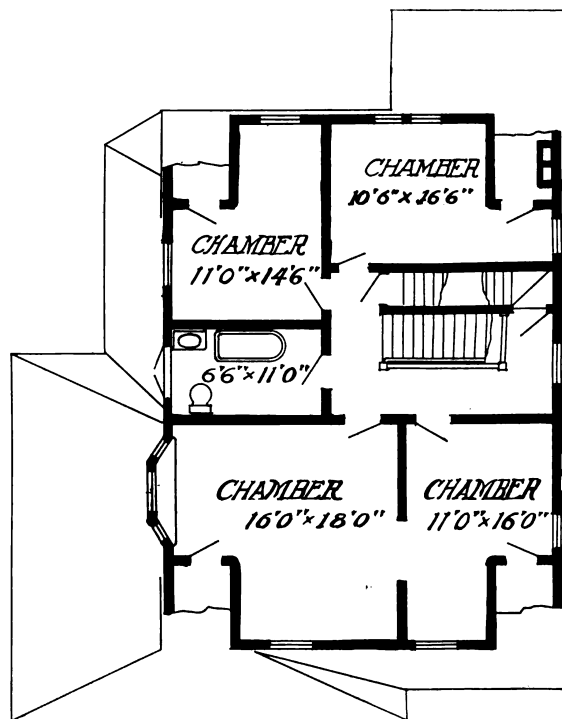
of the pendant smoke bells that protect the wrought iron gas brackets below.

This heavy spotting of lamp, brackets and gargoyles is counter-balanced by massive brass andirons on the hearth and the metal escutcheon that covers the keystone of the arched opening to the fireplace.

But the fireplace and its accessories is only one of the many architectural features in this room. In the center of the front or east end, and high above the floor, a group of four casement windows with panes of intersected circular formation, break the wall space. Underneath is a long bookcase of carved weathered oak, its top the resting place for numerous *objets-d'art*, smoking utensils and bronze statuettes. Windows cut the corners of the room at this end and give a view of the street and porch.

Especially worthy of note is the staircase. This occupies nearly the entire width of the west end. Four steps lead up beyond the fireplace to a landing wide enough to make room for a grandfather's clock. The newel post is a heavy square pillar that rises to the ceiling, giving the effect of a supporting column—this is again repeated to the left where a passageway leads out to the dining-room and kitchen. Between, the space under the steps is cased in and panelled to the top of a wooden seat that runs along the base.

The square pillars, of dark Flemish stain, with their finely carved capitals, the severely plain white



Second Floor Plan

House and Garden

painted balusters, three to a step, the crimson red of the wall showing beyond, and the panelled casing and seat with carelessly arranged cushions and shelf above for sketches, form a striking ensemble of dignified line and pleasing color scheme.

In the center of the room, a long table of solid oak designed by Mr. Barrows, supports an Egyptian reading lamp of green bronze with Tiffany glass shade—also an original by the owner. This lamp has a round base with circle of caryatids which support the burner and shade.

Suspended from the ceiling is a splendid antique Flemish candelabra of old brass.

Numerous easy chairs and rockers of weathered oak, their seats and backs of dull red or russet leather, odd wicker and one or two Colonial arm chairs tempt the guest or visitor to their luxurious depths and comfortable cushions.

The floor stained somewhat darker than the woodwork is covered with a rag pattern square in soft reds, yellows and dark browns which give the finishing notes to the Oriental richness of color harmony in this room.

An arched entrance, directly opposite the fireplace, hung with dark red curtains allows a vista of the reception and music-room.

In this room, of much lighter scheme with ivory white trim and walls of soft yellow, are gathered various musical instruments. A small grand piano stands in the corner, its case of rosewood, as are



THE DINING-ROOM

likewise the other furnishings. The chairs have backs and seats upholstered in old rose, dull green and ivory tapestry. Above the flat tone of the walls is a frieze showing clusters of roses in bright yellow and green on a white background. The effect of this floral pattern is rather too heavy for an otherwise color symphony. The same pale tone of the ceiling would have given the room greater height and more delicacy.

The afternoon sun floods this room from the two windows on the south and its rays are caught and reflected in prismatic splendor by the crystal chains and pendants of the chandelier.

We have mentioned before that at the left of the stairway in the living-room there is a passageway leading to the dining-room. On the way step carefully lest you disarrange the little willow rocker with its sleeping "Teddy Bears" and "Billy Possums."

The dining-room which has also a square arched entrance, is at once cheerful and well lighted by windows on the south and west. The woodwork, the built-in sideboard and mantel is Colonial and has a highly finished enamel surface. A round mahogany table stands on a rug of domestic weave with unusually good blending of dull red, yellow, blue, and ivory white. The dining chairs have high graceful backs and rush seats.

The walls, originally tinted a neutral blue-gray, have been recently covered with a paper showing a faint design of a trellis and clusters of grapes and leaves in faint reds and



THE LIVING-ROOM FIREPLACE

An Ideal Suburban House

greens on light buff background. The side board is shown in an accompanying photograph and is an original pattern. It has a cabinet at the top with shelves and leaded glass doors. It fills the space between the west windows that, as in the living-room, cut the corners of the room at the end and on its wide

shelf are displayed a few choice pieces of silver and cut glass. Several water-colors and prints break the wall spaces between the windows and doors. A mantel on the inner wall has a fireplace with tiled hearth and fire screen. Above it is a long panelled mirror with antique gilt frame.

Even the suspended lamp with ground glass, bell shaped shade and crystal prisms, helps to carry out the extreme simplicity for which the owner has striven in this room, and the carefully chosen brass candlesticks and pieces of pewter on the mantel lend their support in marking a distinct historic period in the room.

A good sized butler's pantry connects with the kitchen and at the rear at one side of the back porch is still another pantry.

The kitchen has an excellent arrangement of exposed brick facing into which the range partly sets. This removes all danger of scorched woodwork and plaster.

A small square hall connects with the living-room passage. This also leads to the cellar where a laundry has been finished off with raised wooden floor and plastered walls and ceiling. Ample provision is made for fuel for the furnace and for logs and cannel coal for the fireplace.

The second floor also suggests amazing dimensions. The red tinted plaster is continued in the upper hall and the staircase opening, enclosed by a mahogany rail with the same square, white balusters as below is simple and agreeable.

The entire front end of the house is given up to a large bedroom with square arched alcove—and is lighted from the east by a wide double window dormer.



A DEMONSTRATION OF PRACTICABILITY AND ART COMBINED

On the south side an extended bay window has a boxed, hinged seat giving space beneath for shirt-waists and linen.

With the window thus planned the sunlight may enter from the time of its rising to its setting. The white enamel of the woodwork, and flat gray-green tone of

the plaster is so bright and cheerful, and the room being so well ventilated all suggest unrestricted freedom and perfect hygienic conditions.

The bed, dresser and chairs in the larger room are mahogany, the alcove being furnished in maple. Closets fill the space at each side of the dormer windows and square up the walls under the gambrel roof.

But the luxurious size of the bath-room might well fill the occupant of a city apartment with a spirit of envy. The hard finished plaster is ruled to suggest tiling and enameled to some five or six feet from the floor. Leaded casement windows are placed high on the south side that there may be no dangerous draughts of cold air. Three other sleeping rooms open out of the hall, their walls and plaster of the same color as the front chamber. One room is used as a nursery while another forms a study for desk, drawing-boards, and files of plans and manuscripts.

The practical side of this establishment is shown in the amount of closet space in all the second floor rooms, in the hall, and the storing space of the attic. Here a comfortable room is finished off for a domestic and sooner or later a part of this third floor will be utilized as an architectural studio. We have described at length the interior of this house of ten rooms that stands on a double city lot of fifty feet frontage.

From every-point of view whether from front, north, south, or rear elevation, it is symmetrical, has no superfluous ornamentation and no wasted roof or floor space. Except for the grading of the grass plot in front no effort has been made to depart from the rustic natural arrangement of ground and shade trees. There is room for kitchen garden and beds for flowering plants and hardy shrubs in the rear with a background of hedge and great oaks and chestnut trees beyond.

Garden Foes—How to Combat Them

BY ELLEN P. WILLIAMS

THE subject may be divided into three classes: Insects that chew. The sucking insects, and blight or mildew.

For the first, or insects that chew, such as caterpillars, beetles, grasshoppers, snails and slugs, a poison which will kill by being eaten, such as Paris green, arsenate of lead, hellebore and slug shot, must be used.

The second, or sucking insects, such as lice, aphids and scale, one must use an insecticide that will penetrate their skin or clog their breathing, like tobacco, oils or soapy emulsions. Bordeaux will sometimes act as a repellent to sucking insects.

The third, blight or mildew, which is easier and better to prevent than cure, is a disease within the plant. The pores of the stems are clogged or diseased, which prevents the plant from growing. Sulphur and dry Bordeaux mixture well sifted on after a rain or early dew will make the plant start new growth and finally cure it.

Carbon bisulphide, a liquid of evil smell, will kill all insects within the ground. By pouring a few drops or so into a hole near the plant, and covering with earth, the fumes of the carbon penetrate the earth around, without harming the plant.

Beetles are kept from asters, cut-worms and borers from plants and whole hills of ants depart.

Wood and coal ashes are cheap, and your friends and helpers in the garden. Any soft insect hates to cross the ashes. Spreading the coal ashes around the base of a plant such as larkspur, will keep the white worm away from the roots.

Wood ashes may be used to keep beetles away from asters, but do not let wood ashes and manure come in contact with each other, as they make lye.

Arsenate of lead rarely burns the most delicate foliage and sticks better than Paris green—four ounces of lead to four gallons of water. But both are bad to use if one has pets.

Hellebore, four ounces to one gallon of water for rose slugs and green fly, but the slug shot is cheaper and the best powder for all insects. It is fifteen cents a pound. One-half pound to one gallon water or dusted on dry after a rain or heavy dew. If used the latter part of April and two or three times in May, it will keep the roses comparatively clear of insects.

Tobacco stems spread on the lawn and beds will keep away moles and are a good fertilizer as well.

Tobacco water, made by filling a pail loosely with tobacco stems and pouring in as much water as a pail will hold and allowed to stand two or three hours, will kill black lice on the stems of chrysanthemums and green aphids on any plant. Also if plants, such

as verbenas, petunias and centaureas begin to droop, soak the earth with the tobacco water, for it is a sign the blue or ground aphids are at the roots. Tobacco water will also kill the red lice on golden glow.

Tobacco soap is an easy remedy for aphids and lice on house plants.

Kerosene emulsion may be made of any soap, one-half pound dissolved in one gallon of hot water. Add two gallons kerosene. For spraying, use one quart of this to fourteen quarts of water. Be sure it is well mixed. Use it in the evening for the sun shining on the foliage after a severe bath will burn the leaves. It may be used for green aphids or fly on roses, also the bark louse or white scale found on old wood. This latter is best removed by scrubbing with a brush.

The mealy bug or white and brown scale found on tropical house plants looks like a soft white fuzz and a brown scale. It must be washed off or removed with a pointed stick, as only a thing strong enough to kill the plant will kill the mealy bug.

The thrips, an insect varying in color from light yellow to dark brown, is more active than the green fly and is difficult to destroy. It luxuriates in shaded situations and must be treated the same as the aphids.

The red spider comes on dry plants and is apt to attack the winter house azalea when put out in the garden during the summer. Keep the leaves well washed and syringed with water, by turning the hose on them.

Tar black balls put around the cucumber and squash vines will keep away the striped cucumber beetle.

Bordeaux can be used for all blights, such as shrivelled up foliage or leaves with black or brown spots, often on phlox when in shady places and the rust or yellow spots on hollyhocks.

Mildew or a gray yellow on rose leaves may be avoided by keeping the plants well covered with Bordeaux mixture. The dry is much easier to shake on than carrying gallons of the liquid about the garden.

These diseases are often caused by damp weather. Begin early in the spring to keep the plants dusted with Bordeaux, as a preventive is better than a cure.

The brown flea beetle, like a small brown flea, hops when approached and eats holes in small low growing plants. It can be killed with the Bordeaux.

Flowers of sulphur may be used on mildewed rose bushes, and also to dust your new lily bulbs before planting, to keep the enemies from attacking them.

The borers and cut-worms are the hardest to fight. And this is the year for them as all insects have their

The Medicine Chest in the Garden

seasons in numbers. By putting a paper collar three quarters to one inch below the surface and two inches above and around the plant, it will prevent them getting at the stem of the plant.

As before mentioned, the borers and cut-worms can be almost always reached by using carbon bisulphide around each plant. Keep your plants growing vigorously for insects attack the weak ones.

Encourage in your garden large black and yellow spiders who eat grasshoppers, and the ground beetle

who eats the cut-worm (but do not mistake the large beetle borer for the ground beetle, note the latter's pointed tail and nose and long feelers), the lady bug which eats the San José scale and all other injurious insects, all two-winged insects or true flies and the syrphus-flies, the latter eating plant lice, and the toads that eat hundreds of insects in a day.

Don't get discouraged yet, for there will be many more insects to fight than there are now. For they increase faster than the new and rare plants do.

The Medicine Chest in the Garden

By EVELYN PRINCE CAHOON

HARD though it might be on the doctors, it is true that if we would pay more attention to the medicine growing in our gardens, we would have less need of professional calls from the learned gentlemen.

Nature must have known something of the wayward stupidity of her human children when she invented vegetables. She certainly must have realized for instance, that we were going to over-eat of more or less rich food all winter, move around as little as possible, and get our livers clogged up, or else she might not have planted dandelions so freely.

And do you know the dandelion does not grow where there are no people? The first settlers out West everywhere, so far as I know, found no dandelions. But after four or five years, up sprang the country dandy along the fences, and in a year or two there were millions,—and no wonder for the people needed them.

Dandelion greens eaten two or three times each week during the spring, will set a bad liver to working quite cheerily. All forms of "greens," cultivated or wild, are likewise beneficial.

But before the arrival of dandelions or greens the perennial onion was poking up through the snow, and from now on we shall have them in all forms. They are helpful in many ways. They absorb from the body many of its impurities, and so relieve the organs. They are so soothing to the nerves that they afford relief from insomnia if eaten freely, either cooked or raw.

Better plant plenty of tomatoes this year for they carry minute quantities of calomel which in this mild form has a salutary effect, but in the concentrated form of the drug store, is terrible.

How often in the spring we go to the drug store or the doctor for iron? Why not eat freely of spinach instead? Especially when we stop to think that the mineral element cannot really enter the blood, and be assimilated unless we get it from some organic

product, as in vegetables. If we are not fond of spinach,—why then the asparagus bed stands ready with its quota of iron. A bed of asparagus ten feet square and well-fertilized, each year will supply plenty of this delicious vegetable for a family of three, for six weeks each spring.

Cabbage contains iron and a good deal too. If you are in a hurry and cannot wait for the cabbage to grow, sow a lot of the seed broadcast, and pull the young plants when about eight inches high,—long before they think of heading—and cook as one does spinach or greens.

Dandelions, apples, cherries and carrots, carry a great deal of iron. There is said to be some sort of connection between iron in the blood and red hair. I cannot vouch for this, however.

There is no reason why one should fail to sleep well, granted of course a clear conscience, if one has plenty of lettuce and onions growing in the back yard.

These vegetables tend to give comfortable nerves as each contains a narcotic. Celery has a reputation for soothing the nerves. This reputation is thought by some to be greatly overworked. Turnips, radishes and cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, and brussels sprouts are, very likely, what gives to the Dutchman his steady nerves.

Everyone knows the cleansing qualities of rhubarb on the digestive tract, and it is a fact that cranberries (which do not, however, usually grow in the garden) are almost as good.

The fruit from a few blackberry bushes may ward off a case of intestinal congestion, and any sort of fresh salad is especially good for the stomach.

Mother Nature has provided well for us. The preventive and remedial agencies placed within our reach in simple, pleasant forms would, if judiciously used, absolutely insure freedom from many of the bodily ills to which we are heir. Let us live closer to Nature and learn her truths and follow her precepts.

THE EDITOR'S TALKS AND CORRESPONDENCE



The Editor, Margaret Greenleaf, wishes to extend a personal invitation to all readers of *House and Garden* to send to the Correspondence Department, inquiries on any matter pertaining to house finishing and furnishing. Careful consideration is given each inquiry, the letter and answer being published in due time as matters of interest to other readers. Where an early reply is desired, if a stamp and self-addressed envelope are enclosed, the answer will be sent. No charge whatever is made for any advice.

IN our talk this month we shall begin the consideration of such problems in house building and furnishing as constantly confront the very numerous body of householders of ambition, good taste, and moderate means. To recommend for the furnishing of these homes rich damask and dainty brocades, velour or silk velvet hangings, rare Oriental rugs, and Ormulu and Verne Martin furniture would be wholly unsuitable and impractical, and the results, were such suggestions made and followed would, therefore, be unbeautiful. However, the materials and furnishing we will suggest—will, in their line, be as attractive as the more costly ones, and will make for harmony of color, for comfort, and for beauty in the interiors.

We wish to address ourselves chiefly to those who, while knowing the right thing in house furnishing when they see it, doubt their own ability to decide in advance the many important questions which arise in regard to the plan and the furnishing.

To many such who live in the city, on the farm, or in the small town, we feel sure from past correspondence this assistance will be equally acceptable.

To-day is pre-eminently the day of the small house. The careful planning of the interior and the artistic beauty of the exterior of the best of these is beyond criticism. Among the many homes of the very rich man one comparatively small house is usually included, and in it the beauty of simplicity is carefully preserved. This may be a bungalow by the sea or a lodge in the mountains built from the natural materials at hand, the logs and field stone of the exterior complemented by the simple lines and undecorated surfaces of the standing woodwork and walls of the interior.

The charm which lies in the simple furnishings of such a house is felt where these are embodied (as they should be) in any home where the expenditure must be modest. In the city apartment as well as in the country cottage, domestic cotton prints, dimities, chintz, cretonne, linen crash, unbleached cotton, and cheese cloth may be found not only suitable but decorative materials from which to curtain the windows. The

most expensive of these costs but sixty-five cents a yard, and the unbleached cotton and cheese cloth sell for five or six cents. These latter fabrics lend themselves well to stencil treatment, and by the careful selection of design and color may be made appropriate to the various rooms of the house.

Where heavier materials are required for door curtains and furniture covering, these can as readily be found of good quality and color in prices ranging from \$1.25 a yard for fifty inch goods, down to twenty cents for thirty-six inch goods.

In floor coverings we are to-day offered a wide choice in excellent domestic goods. These may be reproductions of the most beautiful designs in Oriental rugs and in quality, color, and durability are found most serviceable. Also two toned rugs of the same weave or of a less expensive make are procurable in excellent colors. The most costly of the rugs mentioned in the nine by twelve size is \$50.00; other qualities of the same size may be had as low as \$14.50. It is not at all a difficult matter to select quality in such rugs but the greatest care must be given to the choice of design and color.

Simple, sturdily built and well finished furniture, suitable for such homes, can be found at reasonable prices.

Other considerations in the finish and fitting of the house, such as the selection of tiles and mantels, the hardware and fixtures, the color and treatment of the standing woodwork and floors, the paper or tint for ceilings and side walls, are all of equal importance to the completed room.

The necessity of perfect harmony between the architectural detail of the interior and the character and finish of the standing woodwork and wall treatment is readily realized.

There are stains and finishes now made showing such natural tones and surfaces that there is no feeling of artifice about them. The rich dark brown as well as the lighter tones of this color which show on very old oak in greater or less degree, the dull moss and silvery gray which long exposure to weather induces, reproduces especially well.

The Editor's Talks and Correspondence

The day of high gloss varnish fortunately is passing, and either the dull natural surface is given the woodwork, or a soft polish showing the effect of rubbed wax is used. This latter finish is particularly favored over mahogany stain.

The manufacture of these stains and varnishes has reached so high a state of perfection in durability of color and finish as to leave little to be desired. The ivory or pure white enamels now made are beautiful, and especially are these suited to such houses as suggest the Colonial type, or where mahogany furniture will be extensively used.

In building a house there are many places where one can wisely economize; this, however, should not extend to the materials employed in treating and finishing the woodwork. It is much more satisfactory to leave the wood in the natural state, giving it a coat of rubbing oil, than to use cheap paints or varnishes. This matter of treating the wood with oil frequently proves artistic and pleasing, bringing out as it does the grain of the wood effectively, but it does little to soften the often crude color of the natural wood, and for that reason is not always acceptable.

CORRESPONDENCE

REMODELED COTTAGE INTERIOR

HAVING noted the assistance you give to other correspondents, I am writing to ask if you will help me with some suggestions, as I am remodeling the interior of my cottage. I would be glad of advice regarding wood finish, wall treatment, and general fittings of the rooms. I send you a rough draft of the floor plans, showing exposure and dimensions of the rooms.

The woodwork in hall, parlor, and dining-room is painted white; that in the library is oak, and I purpose putting in oak floors throughout. The ceilings are extremely high—thirteen feet—and all openings reach to within four feet of the ceilings.

Please suggest some treatment for the walls that will apparently lower the ceiling. The walls are now plastered and painted. Also let me know if the white woodwork of the dining-room can be changed to mahogany, and give color scheme for hall, parlor, library, and dining-room.

Assuring you that your suggestions will be greatly appreciated, I thank you in advance.

Answer: We would suggest that you keep to the ivory white woodwork in the various rooms of your house. If, however, you particularly incline toward mahogany, it will be possible to cleanse the present paint and finish from your wood, using a varnish remover to do the work as this is much more readily accomplished by this medium than where the paint

is burnt and scraped from the surface. Then stain the wood with a rich dark mahogany stain, and give it a finish which has a semi-gloss. If you will inform us in regard to the character of the wood, we will have a sample panel treated and finished as recommended, sent you. However, if you are using mahogany furniture in this room, we can sincerely advise your retaining the ivory white finish for the woodwork.

In order to apparently lower the ceilings in the various rooms an upper third wall treatment can be introduced throughout, with the exception of the hall. Use a figured paper for the parlor, which is of western and northern exposure. This paper should show a mingling of yellow fleur-de-lis blossoms with pale green leaves; the cost of this is but thirty-six cents a roll of eight yards. It is excellent in color and design, the lower wall to be covered with the pale green two toned striped paper harmonizing with the green of the floral paper. The price of this paper is fifty cents a roll of eight yards. I send you sample showing it. The over-draperies at your windows should be of thin, yellow, crinkled silk finished with narrow moss fringe in the same color; the price of this silk is ninety cents a yard, thirty inches wide. Next the glass of your windows hang figured net draperies. All curtains should extend only to the sill and hang straight.

For the hall a yellow-tan paper is sent, harmonizing with the darker tone in the fleur-de-lis. This is two tone in effect, showing a small bird's-eye pattern.

For the library the upper wall treatment should be in tones of bronze brown, dull blue and green tapestry effect; the cost of this paper is fifty cents a roll of eight yards, the lower wall to be covered with plain paper, bronze brown in color; the draperies to be of the same crinkled silk, in color matching the dull blue in the tapestry paper. These should be made and hung as recommended for the parlor.

For the dining-room of southern and western exposure, a foliage paper showing blue and green effects against a gray ground is recommended for the upper wall treatment—this to be six feet in depth and finished with a plate rail—the lower wall to be dull blue in color. The suggestion for this room may be carried out with the mahogany woodwork or the ivory white. The selection of drapery materials will be somewhat affected by the choice of finish, and will be recommended later.

WILLOW FURNITURE

I am furnishing my summer cottage and wish to make it as attractive as possible at reasonable cost. I have been told that willow or wicker furniture would look well in a room of this kind. My walls are plain in color, and I have as yet purchased no draperies or furniture. I would be pleased to have your

(Continued on page 5, Advertising Section.)

IN THE CITIES' MARTS

[Addresses of the retail shops carrying the goods mentioned in this department will be sent upon receipt of request enclosing a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Inquiries should be sent to the Special Service Bureau of HOUSE AND GARDEN, 345 Fifth Avenue, New York City.]

THE furnishing of the porch is an item to be taken into consideration early in the season in order that the occupants of the house may spend the warm summer afternoons and evenings in comfort. Gray green should be chosen as the predominating color of the furnishings because it is restful as well as cool looking. The grass rugs make excellent covering for porch floors. The size eight feet by ten feet costs \$6.00. The bamboo rolling screens to give seclusion and shut out the direct rays of the sun are almost indispensable. These are five feet wide by eight feet long and sell for seventy-five cents. Furniture made of wicker is perhaps the best for porch use as it is not affected by dampness. Wicker swings five feet six inches long, hung with chains, cost \$20.00. A wicker *chaise longue* costs \$15.00. These as well as the wicker chairs should be supplied with cushions. If the chairs are stained green the cushions would be attractive covered with a cretonne showing a design of purple grapes and green leaves against a gray ground. This can be purchased for thirty cents a yard and it is thirty-one inches wide. Lunch cloths of gray crash, hemstitched with coarse green thread cost \$2.50. The tea sets of soft green pottery are very cool looking and appropriate for porch use.

A novel device in the way of hanging flower holders is now being shown. These are made of porcelain, beautifully decorated, are crescent shaped and hang by chains which are attached to each tip; the price asked is \$2.00. Tulips, daffodils or any of the stiff stemmed flowers adapt themselves admirably to this style of holder. There are also side wall brackets made for holding flowers. The designs are very similar to sconces only where the candles are placed there is a ring through which the glass flower holder is slipped. The brackets are generally made of plaster and finished in a number of different ways. Those delicately tinted to harmonize with the wall treatment are perhaps the most attractive. These are often designed to be placed at either side of a long mirror. When used in this manner they should be treated the same as the mirror frame.

Unusual holders are now being made for the large brass jardinières. These holders are made of mahogany. The tops which are mounted on a slender pedestal, are bowl shaped, the curved surface being lattice work of mahogany. The bright brass of the jardinières shining through this lattice work is very effective; the price including the jar is \$30.00.

The Japanese turtle is a most convenient little article

for arranging long-stemmed flowers in low dishes. The turtle, in several sizes, is made of lead and divided into several sections, each section being large enough to hold four or five stems. As it is only one inch high, it is possible even in very low dishes to have it well covered with water, and it is, therefore, not noticeable. Those about three inches long by two inches wide cost fifty cents.

This season's stock of wall-papers shows a variety of artistic floral borders especially adapted to bedrooms. These are often used with tinted walls as they take away the monotony of a perfectly plain surface and add much to the decorations of a room. These can be purchased from fifty cents a roll, of eight yards, up. Cretonnes are made which combine beautifully with these borders, costing from sixty-five to eighty-five cents a yard.

Well selected stencil patterns make a very effective wall treatment. These may be purchased in sets,—large designs for the wall treatment and the same motif used in a smaller design for stenciling curtains. One particularly charming design uses the rose as a motif. Starting at the baseboard the green stems and leaves rise almost to the ceiling, giving a paneled effect to the side walls. About eighteen inches from the ceiling angle the design branches out, both leaves and flowers being used in a crown effect. For the curtains the same idea was used, the design being proportionately smaller. By judicious selection of colors for the stenciling, the pattern may be very effectively employed in sleeping rooms. Another pattern uses a flight of birds as a frieze. Another design, for the nursery, pictures water on which small boats ride. In the boats a baby holds the sail while birds are seen flying about overhead.

The imported fiber rugs provide an excellent floor covering for the bedroom. These are made in two tones and the colors are unusually soft. The size six feet three inches by ten feet four inches costs \$17.50.

Prints of all the old masters and classic subjects come in a beautiful brown tone. These range in size and price from eight inches by ten inches at \$2.00 to thirty-six inches by fifty-four inches at \$80.00.

The decorative value of mirrors placed in a room is great when the frames are of appropriate design. For rooms of Colonial feeling there are many quaint styles to be procured which add to the characteristic charm of the room in which they may be hung.

There is a well-established firm in New York from whom suitably framed mirrors for space in a room of any character may be ordered. Designs will be submitted upon request.

It is not always easy to find pieces of garden furniture suited to the restricted space of the city lot transformed into a formal garden. Wall benches, vases, sun-dials and small fountains, all desirable, are found in some of the studios where such goods are carried. Most reasonable prices are quoted.

THE GARDEN

Suggestions, Queries and Answers

JOHN W. HALL

THE gladiolus is one of the most attractive of the summer-flowering bulbs. While it requires a sunny position, it does equally well in a light sandy loam or heavy soil well drained. Pulverized sheep-manure is the best fertilizer to use.

Begin planting in May and make a succession of plantings, two weeks apart, to the end of June. By this method of planting blooms will be had from July to October. Plant the bulbs from four to six inches apart each way; plant small bulbs about three inches and large ones about six inches deep. It can be effectively planted among roses, pæonies, or shrubbery.

The gladiolus makes an excellent cut flower. Cut as soon as the first one or two flowers open and permit the remainder to open in the house. By cutting a little off of the stem and changing the water daily, a spike will keep in bloom and fresh for a week or ten days.

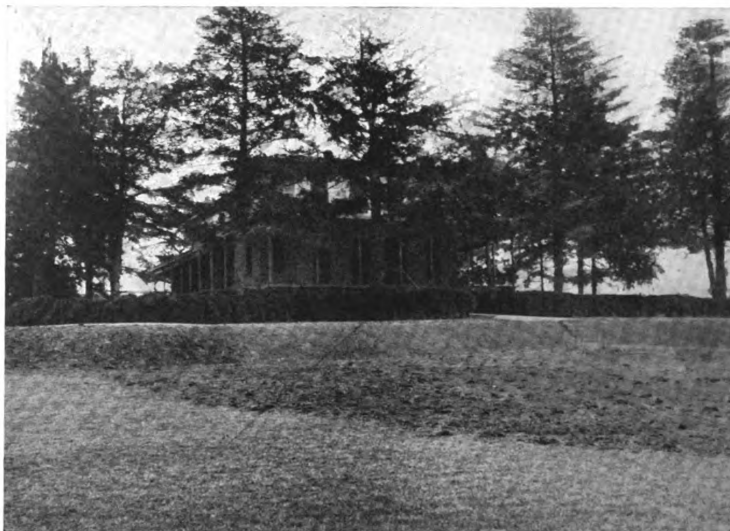
Bulb beds may be protected on cold nights by spreading an old quilt or other covering over them. It would be well to first stick up a few sticks on the outer edges of the beds to prevent the covering from crushing the shoots. Do not remove the covering in the morning until the sun has well warmed the atmosphere.

Interest in chrysanthemum growing was never greater than now. Good qualities in the plant are that it is adapted to almost any soil and can be grown under ordinary conditions, not requiring special skill to bring it to perfection. It will do better, however, in a light loam than in a heavy soil; in a heavy soil leaf spots are likely to appear during rainy spells. For a good quality of bloom the plants should be set not closer together than twelve inches.

The plants should be kept well cultivated; the

surface of the soil be often well broken to admit air and warmth. So long as the plants keep a dark green and are making large foliage, they are doing well and do not need any additional nourishment. About the first of August pushing should be begun. A top dressing of well-rotted barn manure followed by frequent applications of liquid manure give the best results. Personally I prefer the pulverized sheep-manure for making the liquid fertilizer. For permanent cultivation it is time to put the plants out—they are naturally cool hardy growing. A good chrysanthemum bed will furnish a wealth of flowers after the dahlias and other tender flowers are cut by the frost.

A bed of cannas will give as good results as any other bedding plant. There are numberless varieties, all good, and they succeed in almost any soil



A part of the lawn here shown is rendered unsightly by a top dressing of rough barnyard manure. A dressing of pulverized sheep-manure is used on the other portion to show contrast

if given a sunny location. There is one essential that must be kept in mind and that is this: to get the best effect one color must be planted in mass, letting the plants stand eighteen inches apart. A bed six feet in diameter will require seven plants if set eighteen inches apart, while a bed eight feet in diameter will require twelve plants set the same distance. In planting begin with the outside row, setting the

plants nine inches from the edge of the bed. A square bed will contain about an equal number of plants.

In preparing the bed, spade it to a depth of eighteen or twenty inches, at the same time incorporating a liberal portion of well-rotted manure. Cannas require frequent applications of water.

The lawn-mower should be by this time in first-class condition and it should be frequently used. A top dressing of pulverized sheep-manure at this time will materially aid young growth where patching was necessary and it will stimulate the old sod that has lain practically dormant during the winter. In using the pulverized sheep-manure, sow broadcast from sixty to 100 pounds for each 1,000 square feet of surface.

By no means make an application of rough stable

House and Garden

manure. Not only is it unsightly but following its use there will appear foul weeds and wild grasses that are next to impossible to get rid of. The illustration herewith shows how disfigured an otherwise attractive lawn can be made by using rough manure. On only a portion of the lawn has this rough manure been used, and it was used only for the purpose of securing this illustration to demonstrate the contrast with pulverized sheep-manure.

Dahlia roots may be planted this month but as a general proposition better results are had from moderately late rather than from very early planting. The time of putting the roots in the ground may be permitted to depend somewhat on their condition. If entirely dormant they can be planted earlier than if green. Green or growing roots should not be put out until near the end of the month; the 15th of June is not too late.

The position where dahlias are planted should be well drained and fully exposed to the sun for the longest possible time during each day. While they thrive in almost any soil it is necessary that it be loose, and if not naturally so use coarse sand or anything that will make it friable. If stable manure is thoroughly decomposed it will make a good fertilizer. If that is not at hand, use sheep-manure. Either is sufficiently rich in phosphoric acid and ammonia to produce good results. The fertilizer should be spaded into the ground which should be broken to a depth of eighteen inches.

Plants should not be crowded. A distance of three feet apart is not too great. When the shoots appear remove all but two of the most robust. Most gardeners make the fatal mistake of over-crowding their plants.

There are many varieties of this superb flower and the question of a selection is a matter of personal choice.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING A LILY POND

Will you kindly give through HOUSE AND GARDEN information for making a small lily pond, say six or eight feet in diameter, of irregular outline, to be composed of cement, and built with especial reference to preventing the breaking of the walls by freezing ice. Please indicate depth, and to whom I may appeal for literature on the subject of concrete walls.

J. A. S.

Lincoln, Kansas.

Make excavation thirty inches deep size of pond desired. Pack the bottom with a six inch layer of cinders or puddled clay until it is brought into a solid mass. This will no doubt make the bottom of the pond sufficiently retentive; if not it can be used as a base on which to lay a cement or concrete bottom. The side walls can be constructed of rough

stone and plastered inside with cement, or they can be constructed of concrete. If you build the pond below the level of the ground the top of the wall should be plastered smooth with cement, both inside and out, and finished in wedge shape to prevent the frost from heaving it.

The thirty inch excavation will give six inches for the base of pond, one foot for soil, and one foot for water. Construct with an outflow so that the pond can be entirely drained or the water held at any desired level.

For information on the use of cement, etc., write to the cement manufacturer whose advertisement appears in this issue. This company can furnish you literature on the subject of cement walls.

VINES FOR A COTTAGE PORCH

I wish to do some planting in front of my cottage and apply to you for a few suggestions or advice in doing so.

I would like very much to place Wistaria where indicated on the plan, to be trained to climb upon lattice between the columns. The eaves of the porch project two feet and six inches. The porch floor is brick on concrete foundation.

According to the points of the compass, and conditions, is it possible to place vines close to porch floor, say twelve inches from edge of floor, and arrange to have vines climb on lattice? If so, how many vines would be necessary to plant and how far apart for this scheme?

I also intend to place flower boxes where marked between or alongside of columns as shown on plans. What would you suggest for planting in the boxes? Also what would you advise placing along east side of porch where marked?

I have been taking HOUSE AND GARDEN for some time and feel confident you will help me out with these few suggestions.

J. S.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Instead of the Wistaria I would use for each space indicated for front porch one *Clematis Jackmanni*. This is a rare and beautiful hardy climbing vine of slender twining growth, and bearing great wreaths and clusters of splendid purple flowers. It can be planted close to the wall, and I am sure would give good account of itself during the year. Wistaria is too large for the space allotted. It would cover the entire entrance and shut out the sunlight.

On the east side of the porch, where indicated, I would use one *Clematis paniculata* (Japanese virgin's bower). This is a new clematis and one of the finest of climbing vines. Its growth is rapid; it is entirely hardy and one of the easiest to grow. The flowers are rich, creamy-white and are borne in beautiful clusters, completely covering the vine with star-shaped blooms which are very fragrant. The

nurserymen whose advertisements appear in HOUSE AND GARDEN can supply the vines.

In boxes, placed as indicated by you, I would put one President McKinley canna in the center. The bloom of this canna is bright red. For the edges of the boxes I would use either dwarf nasturtiums or mixed double petunias.

PLANNING A GARDEN

I am writing to you for advice on planning my back garden. I have drawn a rough sketch and have marked what I thought I should like to plant there. What I wish to know is, how many of the shrubs named to plant in this space. One or two of each of the shrubs named?

About how many perennial plants will I need for the east border? About how many roses for border on the west side? Hedge runs from front to the back of the lot on both sides.

I should like Virginia creeper to run all over the house, which is stucco on the lower half and shingles on the upper half. How close together shall I plant these vines? I would like quick results.

This is new work for me, and I do not like to make too many mistakes.

Mrs. J. S.

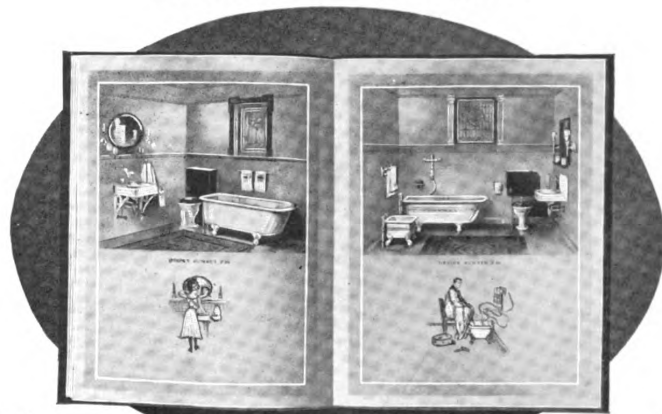
Bay Ridge, N. Y.

In the place designated for dahlia in the northwest and in the northeast corners of your garden I would suggest that you substitute the *Yucca Filamentosa*, commonly called Adam's Needle or Spanish Bayonet. It is a low growing tropical looking plant, and is perfectly hardy. The flower stalk is from two to four feet high and it bears enormous clusters of creamy-white, bell-shaped flowers, blooming in August and continuing for a long season. One yucca plant in each position will be sufficient.

Eight or ten rose bushes should be put in the twenty-five foot space indicated by you on the west side of the garden. Gladioli can be put to advantage in front of and among the rose bushes.

For the east bed I would suggest three rows. The back row, and even the second, should be planted with one dozen of either foxglove, columbine, or larkspur. Ten dahlias with annuals be-

Every Homebuilder should have a copy of
THIS BOOK



“Standard”
Modern Bathrooms

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of suitable size and quality are almost obsolete to-day. The sleazy, poor, torn pieces of recent importation, being worse than useless. In the place of these, however, one may obtain rug runners of American manufacture, 27", 36", 54" and 72" wide, the “**Hartford Saxony**” Rug, woven at the famous **Hartford Carpet Company’s** mills. These rugs have the character and wear of an Oriental. For colored illustrated booklet, address

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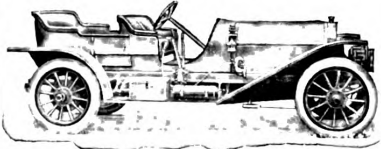
House and Garden

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is a richly printed and profusely illustrated book. The illustrations are in colors on heavy plated paper, beautifully bound with an embossed cover in colors, and contains new designs for decorating every room in the home. If you are planning decorating or re-decorating any apartment in your home, send 10 cents in silver or U. S. stamps for this useful and beautiful book. It is a complete course in wall decoration.

Alabastine is a dry powder and is to be mixed with cold water. It comes in 16 beautiful tints and in pure white. Alabastine is carefully packed in sealed packages—it sells for 55 cents for any of the 16 tints, and 50 cents for a pure brilliant white. The best dealers sell Alabastine.

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You remember reading this advertisement last month, don't you?

Once again let us remind you of the necessity of looking for the name "Whittall," as indicated above, woven in the back of every rug or yard of carpet you buy.

Look carefully—the name does not show prominently in some colors—but once you see it you may rest assured of absolute perfection—not even the slightest defect to develop later and make you dissatisfied with your purchase.

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HOUSE AND GARDEN

1006 Arch Street, Philadelphia

tween the plants should occupy the third or front row.

Across the garden, between the flower and vegetable garden, there should be planted a row of currant or gooseberry bushes, about ten of either or five of each. Either makes an ornamental as well as useful plant.

If you use Virginia creeper do not set the vines closer than three feet.

PLANTING FOR A SUCCESSION OF BLOOM

In October I planted a bed of tulips and hyacinths. As they will not last all summer I want to make a bed of asters and scarlet sage with a filling in front of them. Should I take the tulips and asters up and replant or shall I leave them? Should I have to, tell me how to replant and at what stage of the growing time.

E. A. N.

Philadelphia, Pa.

I would not disturb the tulips and hyacinths. Both are very early bloomers and short lived. After their bloom the bed can be utilized for asters and scarlet sage. The seed of the asters and scarlet sage should be sown in cold frame or boxes during May. When the plants are two or three inches high they can be transplanted to the bed now occupied by the tulips and hyacinths. The growing of the two crops, as it were, on the same bed will not conflict.

Asters and scarlet sage treated as indicated will come in bloom in August and later.

THE SPRING RENOVATING

(Continued from page 158.)

The woodwork then becomes a part of the side wall treatment and supplies an excellent setting for furniture of any wood. If the paneling in the dining-room is of Southern pine, white wood or birch it can be effectively treated with a mahogany stain, choosing a dark brownish tone rather than the strong yellow red mahogany one sees so frequently used on the woodwork in apartment houses and on cheap furniture. To select a stain of the right color adds greatly to the artistic value of the woodwork and yet the cost is the same. In selecting the upper wall-paper or frieze to use with mahogany it is very easy to find a design in which the boles of the trees or some portion of the foliage

shows a mahogany brown tone rather than the dull brown which should be selected where brown oak is used. It is in the careful treatment of such small detail that the way to success lies. The ceiling treatment is also an important feature to consider. Where the wood-work is enameled in a light shade, or in ivory or pure white the ceiling should show the same tone. Where the wood-work and wall-paper are rich and dark some harmonious tone in a light tint should be selected. Ecru or a pale shade of tan are colors which harmonize with the greatest number of wall-papers. However, the ceiling color should be tried out with the wall-paper and wood-work before finally determining its selection.

HORSE-CHESTNUTS—POISONOUS BUCKEYES

(Continued from page 161.)

The Ohio buckeye, *Æsculus glabra*, a species with yellow flowers, which grows wild in the woods of Pennsylvania, Alabama, Michigan, Nebraska, and the Indian Territory, contains poison, and is placed between the red buckeye and the horse-chestnut in its poisonous qualities.

The fruit of the California buckeye, *Æsculus California*, is said to be made into soup, and a kind of bread, by the Round Valley Indians, who remove the poison by roasting and leaching the nuts.

THE EDITOR'S TALKS AND CORRESPONDENCE

(Continued from page 179.)

advice in an early number of HOUSE AND GARDEN.

Answer: There is no furniture made which is better suited to a summer cottage than the willow or wicker. This furniture comes in a variety of forms. One may find tables, couches, chairs, settles, window seats, window boxes, tea carts, and hanging flower baskets. There are also bridge tables with sets of chairs which fit under the table which are in many cases desirable, as they may be utilized for other purposes than cards, and where space counts the advantage of so disposing of the chairs may be an important item.

In purchasing furniture of this kind a

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 5 lb. Sealed Boxes Only! Best Sugar for Tea and Coffee! • By Grocers Everywhere!

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 but recently were considered luxuries which only the well-to-do could afford. In the light of our growing knowledge of what sanitation prevents, they have become a necessary safeguard, and by virtue of JAP-A-LAC, possible in every home.
 A floor covered with JAP-A-LAC sets hard as adamant over night. No need to make special preparations. Apply to-night and tomorrow have a floor with a beautiful glossy surface, in any shade or color you can think of, that has all the virtues of parquetry work—Dustless—No Cracks—Easy to keep Clean. JAP-A-LAC renews everything from cellar to garret, and "Wears Like Iron."
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 Write for illustrated booklet containing interesting information and beautiful color card. Free on request.
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- KLATT-HIRSCH & Co., 113 Front St., San Francisco, Cal.
- W. W. LAWRENCE & Co., Pittsburg, Pa.

very careful selection of the pieces should be made. Those used in the same room should be designed along the same general lines. Any unnecessary ornament or unusual shapes should be wholly avoided, choosing only such as suggest comfort and stability, with a certain elegance of form.

The finish for willow and wicker furniture is another most important point to consider. There are rooms where, owing to the uses to which they will be put and the general character of decoration, it seems necessary to enamel the chairs, tables, etc., which furnish them, in some soft color or ivory white tone.

The chairs used in the living or the reception-room should be fitted with half back and seat cushions, caught in with buttons and covered with chintz, cretonne, linen taffeta, or any of the other exquisite linen and cotton fabrics which are now offered. Where it seems desirable to leave the willow unpainted or enameled, a stain showing a soft light brown color or silver-gray tone is effective. The stain chosen should be of a kind to sink well into the fibre of the willow, and when given a dull flat finish, should be impervious to moisture.

Curtains of the fabric chosen for the cushions should be used as over-draperies at the windows, and the door curtains should repeat the plain color of the wall though in a deeper tone. If you will send us a small sample showing the exact color of your walls, we will be glad to submit samples of materials for draperies and chair cushions.

DECORATIVE MIRROR

We have a small space between two large windows where I have placed a Colonial mahogany table. The exposed wall space between the curtains is not more than a foot in width. What treatment would you suggest for this? I have thought I would like a mirror there but fear I cannot find one which is narrow enough, or I might use some plaster medallions, one above the other.

Answer: Your first idea of using the mirror is best, and we are glad to suggest to you a style which will be adaptable to the space. There are very quaint and attractive reproductions of the old-fashioned picture mirrors now made. The mirror with frame does not exceed

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rare combinations of the best prize-winning blood of England and America. The results of thousands of dollars expense and years of waiting. At Stud. The Imported International Winner, Belvidere Adam Bede; Sire Eng. ch. Adam Bede, by Donnington, ch. Dominic, by ch. Pitcher; Dam, Asterisk, by Eng. ch Tosse, by ch. Veracity, by ch. Visto. Fee, \$15. The noted winner Sabine Rebel, by Imp. ch. Sabine Result, ex. Imp. ch. Sabine Sunbeam. Fee, \$15. The prize-winning Norfolk Craftsman, by ch. Norfolk Richmond, ex. ch. Norfolk Handicraft. **ELBERT E. GOWEY, Braceville, Ill.**

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Finest Flavored and Largest Asparagus Known
\$3.00 per 100; \$5.00 for 200; \$10.00 for 500. Planting direction free. Also California Privet. **S. L. de FABRY, Grower, Little Silver, N. J.**

THE BEST SASH CORD MADE



EVERY FOOT IS STAMPED "SILVER LAKE A"

a foot in width and is about thirty inches in height. The upper section of the frame holds a quaint engraving lightly tinted. The frame is of dull gold and Colonial design.

These are most attractive and decorative pieces, and sell for the very reasonable price of \$7.00.

HEDGES OF LIGUSTRUM JAPONICUM

THE wish that the California privet was entirely evergreen is so often expressed that it is certain there would be a good demand for a species, that is *Ligustrum japonicum*, were it better known. Having in mind the latitude of Philadelphia, the California privet is evergreen only in well sheltered places, where free from the severest cold and from cutting winds. In the same locality, *L. japonicum* is evergreen through the entire winter. Its foliage will be scorched when the weather freezes hard and the sun shines on the plant throughout the day, just as happens to rhododendrons under similar circumstances, but it is nevertheless a good evergreen. Were it used in a hedge, as the California privet is, one would protect the other and in this way a beautiful evergreen hedge would be the result.

How far north this evergreen privet will endure the winter remains to be seen. It has been in collections here for several years, and in a few instances hedges of it have been set out which were satisfactory and attractive.

While it has withstood the severity of our winters when standing alone, it has preserved the bright green of its foliage better when in a hedge, as it naturally would.—*Park and Cemetery.*

DECIDUOUS HOLLIES

BESIDES three native hollies of an evergreen character, there are three deciduous ones, *Ilex decidua*, *I. monticola* (ambigua) and *I. verticillata*. Two of these grow North as well as South, to some extent, *monticola* and *verticillata*, but the *decidua* is more decidedly a Southern species, though it succeeds in the Middle States when in a sheltered situation.

These hollies are very attractive when well set with their berries in late summer, autumn and winter, for some of

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A SIMPLE way of introducing beautiful, economical Sanitas into your home is to begin by redecorating your hall this spring with one of the new superb patterns.

You will then appreciate through actual experience the decorative beauty of dull finished Sanitas unequalled by any other material, and what it means to have a wall covering that is proof against fading, cracking, staining or tearing—that is instantly cleaned as bright as new with a damp cloth.

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"You choose the colors—"

Thread & Thrum Rugs

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Thread and Thrum RUGS

Different from all other rugs, made in colorings to match your decorations. Special styles to go with Mission or Fumed Oak Furniture. Wool welt, seamless, heavy, reversible and durable. All sizes up to 12 feet wide and any length. Sold by best shops in principal cities. If your dealer does not keep them, write Arnold, Constable & Co., New York, for Color Line and Price List.

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Nothing equals them for hanging doors either in

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We have established a department of artists, designers and decorators, expressly for the purpose of helping you decorate your house in the most satisfactory manner.

WHETHER you are building a new house, or are doing over an old house, or even a single room, it will pay you to write first to us, telling us what the conditions are.

This department will be glad to supply you with practical suggestions for obtaining any results you desire. We furnish color schemes, drawings, samples of hangings and curtains, and tell just the kind of treatment that will produce the results you desire on floors, walls, ceilings and woodwork.

This service is free. It costs you nothing to write and find out about this department. You incur no obligation. We are able to give you information on any paint or varnish subject and glad to do so at any time.



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A right down practical, profitable, pleasure giving greenhouse? One that will have no expensive repairs—one easy to heat—one that is as attractive as it is useful. Send for our printed matter.

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1170 Broadway New York

them, *verticillata* for one, are usually much more crowded with berries than are the twigs of the common evergreen one, *I. opaca*.

In the North, the berries do not lose their bright red color until heavy freezing weather comes, while in the South the display is undiminished even at the close of winter.

In the forming of festoons and wreaths for Christmas the berries of *I. verticillata* are often used when those of the evergreen one are scarce, and only experts can tell the difference in the berries; and then the one used is a true holly, anyway.

Ilex verticillata is a pretty bush in autumn. At that time its foliage is still perfect, but this feature does not count in its use when cut, as the foliage of these deciduous hollies quickly dries up when the branches are cut from the bush.

In the same way as evergreen hollies, not every bush of these deciduous ones are berry-bearing. In a lot of seedlings the risk is run of whether they may be fertile or not, so in nurseries where propagation is practiced berry-bearing ones are grafted on common seedlings, not to run the risk of what the seedlings might be.

Not every one knows this deciduous holly under the name of *ilex*—nor even under its older one of *prinos*, for among collectors and dealers it is better known under the title of red winter berry. It is abundant in Michigan and adjacent States.—*Florists' Exchange*.

GAS POISONING IN WASHINGTON

THE press of Washington, D. C., has given much space to a consideration of the poisonous nature of the water gas furnished there, the immediate cause of the agitation being the death of three persons due to a leaky gas stove. Analyses of Washington gas showed that it contained carbon monoxide in percentages which varied within ten days between 21.9 and 30.5 per cent.

In Massachusetts, during the fourteen years following the introduction of water gas, there were 459 deaths from gas poisoning as compared with eight deaths in the previous thirteen years; and in 1885 the Massachusetts Legislature enacted a law against distributing gas containing more than ten per cent

House and Garden

of carbon monoxide. Congress has been requested to enact a similar law for Washington. The Massachusetts law was, however, repealed in 1890, and about one-half of the gas plants of that State now furnish enriched water gas. Coal gas is poisonous, although not quite so much so as water gas, and it would seem even more desirable to enforce laws against defective gas appliances than against the manufacture of water gas. —*Municipal Journal and Engineer.*

COMMERCIAL GARDENING

WHO is better fitted to become the commercial gardener of the world to-day than the commercial fruit grower? These two departments of horticulture go hand in hand, and the two can, and should be made one.

If we include gardening in our operations, we ask, what crops shall we grow? This depends mainly on one's location and markets. But if we will consider the general conditions, as they exist to-day, it will, to a large extent, answer the question. The tendency for gardening is creating a demand for smaller farms; it follows, then, that farming will be more intensive. Growers will tend to produce less amounts and greater varieties. This being true we may naturally expect that there will be an increase in the supply of such vegetables as peas, beans, radishes, lettuce, beets, cucumbers and the like. On the other hand, on these small farms there will be a decrease in the acreage of such vegetables as potatoes, cabbage, tomatoes, sweet corn, horse-radish and vegetables of this character. The last named vegetables belong to what we may class as heavy and bulky. The former we may class as light and more easily handled.

Up to the maturing of the crop the work has been easy and delightful; we are now confronted with the most difficult task of the whole business, that of disposing of our product. Remember that your reputation for the production of choice vegetables is just as vital as your reputation for fancy fruit.

If you are located near a city where you can market product from the wagon, you will find that if you prepare vegetables with the same care that you do fruits, and be honest all the way



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The cost of maintaining your automobile and the amount of service it gives you depends to a great extent on the use of the proper oil. No matter what the make of your car, its type or purpose, the right grade of Vacuum MOBIL-OIL will give it perfect lubrication at all times and under all conditions.

VACUUM MOBIL-OIL

is made in six different grades. One of these grades is prepared especially for the perfect lubrication of your car. By the use of this one grade you will save time and trouble and avoid expensive experiment.

Send for booklet listing every automobile made and the grade of MOBIL-OIL prepared for it. Thereafter you need only watch the label on the can; the car will take care of itself. The book is free: its facts on the science of lubrication are invaluable. Gives track records to date, and other potent motor pointers.

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THE CUSHION RUBBER BUTTON

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WEBS FRESH FROM THE LOOMS
METAL PARTS HEAVY NICKEL PLATE

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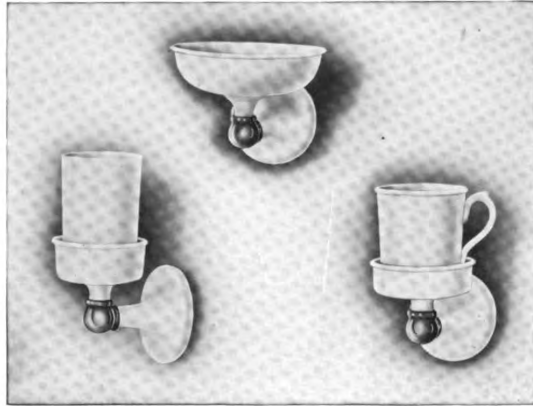
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On account of the purity of the material and neatness of pattern and workmanship, they are a necessity in the toilet of discriminating persons, being easy of installation and of the proper durability for the uses to which toilet articles are subject.

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down to the bottom of the basket, you will have a trade that no one can take from you, and your produce will bring a premium over the average market. The same rule holds true if you are shipping to other markets. A package rightly packed is half sold, and is an invitation to buy another. It is always advisable, before planting your crop, to know to some extent where and how you will dispose of it. Make all preparation before the time of harvest. What might be serious losses are often avoided by looking ahead.

To some, a good outlet for this vegetable is found in the canning factories. While prices paid by these factories are not nearly so inviting, as that received from other sources, yet there is some advantage in growing crops for them. If the factories are near at hand not much care will be needed in packing or handling the crop.

The main point is to produce the greatest bulk at the least expense and as very little is needed in the way of packages, many items of expense are saved the grower.

To be profitable, the acreage should be as large as possible, so that when the gathering comes it will require steady hauling to the factories. In this way the extra help can be fully employed. There then will be no loss of time or crops in having to stop and hunt for help when needed, or take chances on getting them just when wanted.—*Orange Judd Farmer.*

ITEMS FROM AUTOMOBILE TOPICS

Whenever, for any reason, it is difficult to observe the rate of flow through sight-feed oilers mounted on the dash, it is a good plan to slip a bit of white paper behind the tubes, thus giving a light back ground against which the contents of the glasses will show with considerable distinctness, even in a poor light. If it is desired to make a permanent arrangement of this nature, the paper should be neatly cut to a convenient size and varnished to the dash.

While it is common knowledge that acetylene lamps must be kept scrupulously clean, motorists often imagine that an oil lamp ought to run a whole year without an internal cleaning. One of the commonest reasons for oil lamps going out is the choking of the draught



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holes in the cap of the lamp by heavy deposits of carbon. These should be looked for and removed before any lengthy drive by night. The other essentials are a good lamp, good oil and a clean, dry wick.

A few common-sense don'ts that motorists will do well in adhering to are as follows:

Don't lose your temper if you drop a nut in the undershield. Remember there are others there, probably the one you were replacing.

Don't, because a policeman smiles imagine him to be an old friend, although you may have cause to remember him later.

Don't treat your chauffeur as an accessory. Remember he will last longer than your car, if used properly.

Don't give your chauffeur twenty minutes to catch a train twenty miles away, and then complain of \$25 and costs.

Don't, after you have paid the fine, think that you are entitled to drive any faster.

Don't think that it is the brightness of your car that dazzles the pedestrians as you pass. That is not so. It's simply the dust in their eyes.

Don't splash the mud over the dress of the lady who is walking. Dresses are very expensive; besides it might be your own wife.

Don't laugh at a small car's efforts when you pass it; remember the tortoise and the hare.

OLDEST ORCHARD IN AMERICA

THE oldest apple orchard in America, if not in the world, is in the center of the ancient town of Manzano, eighteen miles southwest of Estancia, Terrance county, New Mexico. Many of the trees are more than six feet in circumference, but all are still fruitful and vigorous although neglected for generations. Little is known of the history of this orchard, but the oldest inhabitants of the valley of the Rio Grande remember the orchard from childhood and say that the trees have not changed in appearance since then. Venerable Mexicans and Pueblo Indians tell of visiting the orchard as far back as they can remember and finding apples on the ground in all stages of decomposition at least two feet deep.

The Estancia Valley has been peopled for ages, probably by the kinsmen of the

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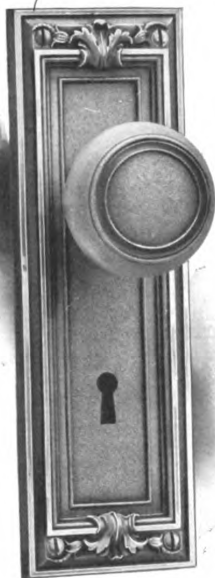
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natives found by the Spanish explorers at Gran Quivira, Abo and other ancient cities. Probably in the early days of the Spanish occupation some Franciscan monk found his way to Manzano and there planted the seeds that have developed into these venerable trees. They are no doubt fully three hundred years old.

Close by the orchard is a little lake fed by a large spring. A short distance away is a grove of pines and cedars, making an ideal place for picnic and camping parties.—*Exchange.*

PROTECTING WINDOW CURTAINS

TO protect window curtains from rain try this simple device, which not only shields the curtains but also serves as a good ventilator:—Secure a half-inch board about twelve or fourteen inches wide and as long as is required to fit snugly between the side casings of the window. In the upper corners of the board have screw-eyes, one on each end. On each side of the window casing put a screw-eye, in which tie cords about two feet long, and on the ends of the cords tie small hooks. Ordinarily these cords hang down by the side of the window and are concealed by the curtains. The board may be kept out of sight also. When ready for use the hooks on the cords fit into the screw-eyes on the sides of the board and the board is tilted back from the window. The window may then be opened as wide as the board is high. The slanting of the board pushes back the curtains, and, while allowing air to enter, prevents the rain or snow from coming into the room.—*Ladies' Home Journal.*

SPREADING SAND ON SLIPPERY PAVEMENTS

IT is the practice in Germany to spread sand over asphalt and other smooth pavements when these are slippery because of being wet or frozen, and this is done almost exclusively by hand. The street cleaning department of Magdeburg has recently adopted, after a series of experiments, a new sand strewing wagon devised by Hermann Fricke of that city. The wagon spreads rapidly an even layer of sand or gravel over a width of from twenty to fifty feet, the amount and width being under the control of the driver.—*Municipal Journal and Engineer.*

CAMPHOR PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES

THE Agricultural News, of Barbados, West Indies, has this to say of camphor production in the United States:

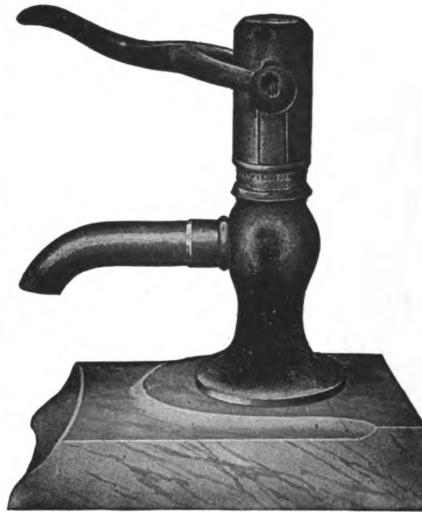
"The experimental work toward the production of camphor that is being carried out in the United States was recently described by Mr. James Wilson of the Department of Agriculture. Through the Department, camphor seeds have been distributed for years past, and trees are growing in large numbers throughout the Southern and Western States. A large manufacturing concern, which uses camphor to the value of \$500,000 every year, is building up a camphor grove of 2,000 acres in Florida, from which it hopes later to derive a good supply. It is stated that satisfactory results have attended the preliminary trials which have already been made in the extraction of the camphor."

There is no apparent reason why camphor trees would not thrive in many of our most Southern States, but the extract from the Agricultural News makes a mistake, or some one does, in saying the trees are growing in large numbers in the Western States. The tree will not grow in any Western State, nor in any other where more than ten to fifteen degrees of frost occurs; it might not endure that much cold with a dry air about it. It is not hurt by such cold when near the seacoast, as it endures it along the south coast of England at times; but many Australian trees flourish there, the temperature of the sea and the moist air rendering that possible.

Our country is such a large one, embracing all kinds of climate and soils, that but few plants could be named that would not be at home in some part of it.—*Florists' Exchange.*

DESTROYING THE CODLING-MOTH

A CORRESPONDENT in California writing of the beauty of the golden oak, *Quercus chrysolepis*, has this to say of worm-eaten acorns and an anticipated remedy for the evil: "Worms have eaten all acorns again this year. The horticultural commission have and will provide orchardists with an insect, *caliephialtes*, which feeds upon the larvæ of the codling-moth. We find them doing good work among the apples, and as these worms among the oaks resemble closely these apple worms, I have



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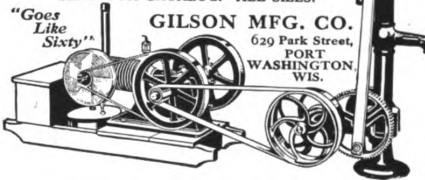
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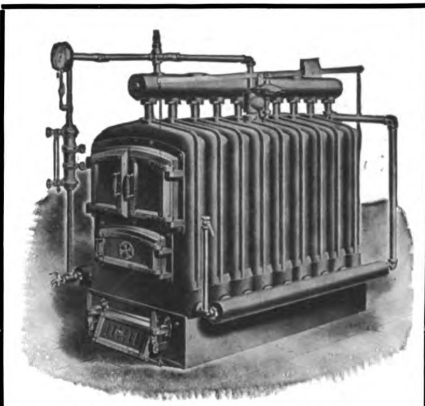
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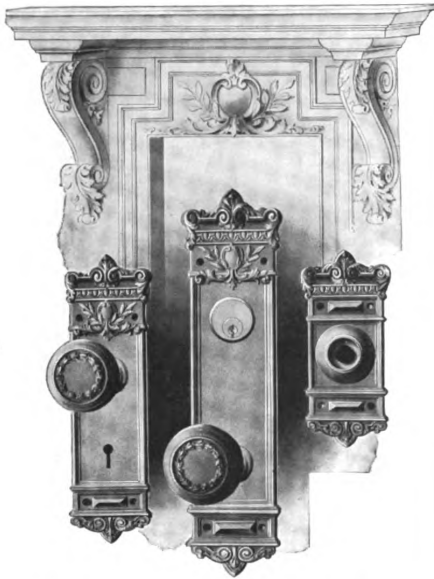


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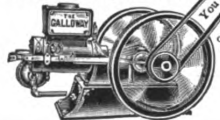
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hopes the new insect will be able, in time, to help us with our acorns."

This will be interesting news to both the nurseryman and the fruit grower. Nurserymen already experience difficulty in collecting sound acorns, and as to apples, between the codling-moth and the San José scale, this fruit is becoming scarce and high priced.

If this insect proves satisfactory on the Pacific Coast and our climate would suit it, it would be a Godsend to us to have it.—*Florists' Exchange.*

REMOVING OLD PAINT

THE ordinary process of scraping old paint, or burning it off, is hardly expeditious enough for general purposes, and is also laborious. Soda and quicklime are far more thorough, and the paint is more quickly removed. The solution of half soda and half quicklime is thus made: The soda is dissolved in water, the lime is then added, and the solution can be applied with a brush to the old paint. A few minutes is sufficient to remove the coat of paint, which may be washed off with hot water. Many preparations are sold for the removal of paint, all of them having some basis of alkali. A paste of potash and strong lime is far more effectual in operation, and the oldest paint can be removed by it. Afterward a coating of vinegar or acid should be used to cleanse the surface before repainting. One authority on the subject recommends gasoline lamp, a quart of oil being sufficient to last three and one-half hours. The method is considered superior to gas, as the flame is stronger and the cost less, besides which, the lamp can be carried to any part, which can not be done conveniently with a gas jet. But the use of flame of either is dangerous, and to be avoided when possible. Many a house has been burned to the ground from using jets of flame. For removing varnish, spirits of ammonia is used, but it is a slow process, and several applications are necessary. Scraping and sandpapering can be employed, but it must be done carefully by experienced hands, or the surface of wood will be injured. The chemical process of removal has the advantage of leaving the surface in a better condition than burning off or scraping, and for large surfaces of paint work is to be preferred—*The Western Architect and Builder.*

A CUT GLASS STAIRCASE

A CABLEGRAM from London, under date of January 16, is to the effect that the Sultan of Turkey has ordered a complete cut glass staircase for his palace. The London dispatch reads as follows:

"The diplomatic understanding between Turkey and Great Britain has resulted in an immense number of commercial orders reaching London firms from the notabilities of Constantinople. Never before have English goods and Englishmen been so popular in Turkey, and members of the 'Young Turk Party' in London are acting as agents in the exportation of all sorts of leather, silver and woolen goods. The Sultan himself has led the movement. Abdul Hamid still clings to his old ideas of gorgeous Oriental luxury, and he has ordered a complete staircase of cut glass for his palace. It will be the most dazzling staircase ever seen outside a fairy story. The 'treads' of the stairs are to be beveled and cut with Turkish inscriptions. The staircase will be twenty-five feet wide, and colored electric lights will illuminate it on state occasions."—*The Western Architect and Builder.*

THE TRUE SWEET SHRUB

UNLESS in some old garden, it is almost impossible to procure the true sweet shrub, *Calycanthus floridus*. The one common everywhere nowadays, which has been and still is sold by many for the true sweet shrub, is *Calycanthus laevigatus*. Were it not that it lacks the odor of the true sort it would make no difference, for it forms a shapely shrub, blooms freely and is hardy. But the odor of the flowers, though not lacking, is not nearly as pronounced as in those of the true *floridus*. When one is offered a lot of *calycanthus* seed or seedlings as *C. floridus* he may be sure it is not true, for the latter rarely seeds, while the less worthy one, *C. laevigatus*, seeds freely.

The true one is propagated by root cuttings and by layers, chiefly; and it is such a desirable shrub that it would be well worth increasing largely by those to whom a quantity of roots is accessible. Cut into small lengths and placed in bottom heat in a greenhouse in late winter should see a supply of young plants by the time to set out stock in spring.—*The Florists' Exchange.*

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House & Garden for June

AN ATTRACTIVE HILLSIDE HOME

IN the pretty town of Manchester on the north shore of Massachusetts Bay is the summer home of Dr. Benjamin Tenney of Boston. It is located upon a steep hillside which faces the sun and sea, and affords a superb view of Salem Harbor and the quaint old town of Marblehead. The house is low and rambling, finely proportioned and designed to fit its environment with a charming simplicity. The exterior of the house carries a finish of cement stucco. The uncovered veranda facing down the hill is a charming lounging place. The interior wood finish for the most part is of cypress, carefully selected for its beauty of grain. It is toned down with oil. The doctor's office, which has its separate entrance, as well as his reception-room and laboratory are finished in white paint. The architects, Messrs. Dwight & Chandler of Boston have designed in this house a most successful one and Miss Northend in illustrating and describing it leaves little to be desired.

BURBANK'S THORNLESS CACTUS

Much has been written concerning the astonishing feats of Luther Burbank, performed by him in the vegetable world in the interest of science and humanity. The term "wizard" has been applied to him, but while the results accomplished are apparently magical, they are in fact simply the natural sequence of following well known methods for a score or more of years, and keeping accurate records of every step for future reference. In the Spineless Cactus he has developed a plant whose economic value it is hardly possible to estimate and after once it is established on the great Southwestern desert, it will remove from that arid plain much of the horror it now holds for both man and beast. Georgia T. Drennen presents photographs of the plant in all stages and gives some interesting data concerning it.

FRENCH ARTICHOKE

William S. Rice presents for our consideration that delicious vegetable, the French Artichoke. Aside from its value for culinary purposes, its plant and blossoms are most ornamental and attract attention even where they are familiar objects. The illustrations accompanying the article show the fruit, the blossom and the plant.

THE REVIVAL OF COTTON MOSAIC QUILTS

The revival of this old time home industry fits in well with the tendency of the times to a return in a measure to a simpler life. Among the old patterns which Miss Evelyn Prince Cahoon describes many will be familiar to only a few of us, and others there are which have almost passed away even from memory. The "Basket," "Log-Cabin," "Friendship" and "Charm" quilts all find a place in the list. The creative spirit displayed in originating patterns for a quilt were quite as marked as that exhibited by designers of patterns used in the more important industrial arts of to-day.

THE SMALL HOUSE WHICH IS GOOD

Two examples of Colonial design are shown, both charming but wholly different in characteristics. One, a Colonial house in a New England village, is a frame structure with the columns extending to the cornice line. It was designed by Mr. Harry B. Russell, Architect. The other one is a brick house with steep pitched roof and satisfying detail. It is located in the suburbs of Philadelphia and was designed by Mr. George E. Savage, Architect.

JAPANESE IRISES

These delightful plants, yielding exquisite bloom, should be seen in every garden. Thyrsa F. Hamilton describes the most successful method of cultivation and gives many hints of how to select from the fifty or more varieties which are put on the market under a multiplicity of names. Some of these she has made produce as many as fifteen blossoms to a plant, the blossoms frequently measuring twelve inches across.

MODERN FIREPLACES

The value of fireplaces in our homes cannot be estimated alone by their utility as heat producers. They may become artistic, decorative and furnishing features in any home, possessing marked values, or may be discordant notes in an otherwise harmonious room, in the same ratio as the skill of the designer is for the good or bad in art. The wide range of the possibilities in this line are treated of by Charles Alma Byers. The photographs illustrating the article show some exceedingly good fireplace mantels and some with less merit.

POISONOUS WILD FLOWERS

The third of the series under the above caption by Annie Oakes Hunt-ington will appear in the June issue. The showy Ladies' Slipper is dealt with, and we are told that in the fine glandular hairs of the plant a poisonous oil is found which acts upon the skin in very much the same way as that of poison ivy. To know how to avoid the unpleasant features of the wild woods and at the same time be able to enjoy their beauties without fear, doubles the pleasure one may derive therefrom.

CONCRETE BUILDING BLOCKS

The manner in which many men have rushed into cement block making, and the very "queer" looking houses built therefrom makes one stop and take a second look and then some more—when a house built with the "two piece system" is seen. This system is fully described by H. H. Rice. The substantial structural quality of buildings erected under this system and the artistic effects produced are exceedingly pleasant to contemplate after so much that is without merit has been foisted upon an unsuspecting public.

AN OLD NEW ENGLAND HOUSE RESTORED

The joy of possessing a cottage and a patch of ground which one may call his own, of breathing the fresh country air, planting beds of flowers, or vegetables, and live and dress free from the dictates of fashion, are all demonstrated by Mr. Bertrand George in a sketch under the above caption. How it was found, what changes were made and how the entire restoration to its original beauty was accomplished, are cleverly set out. The old furniture of mahogany, the square piano, the tables, what-not, and rocking chairs, all bespeak the spirit of the past rising to assert itself. The delightful detail of these old houses in their finish is always fascinating and the wonder is how such work can be allowed to decay and fall to pieces to such extent as to need restoring.

SIMPLE CURTAINS FOR THE MODEST HOME

An article from Louise King under the caption of "Simple Curtains for the Modest Home" is timely and full of adaptable and practical suggestions. Her descriptions of the possibilities which lie in cotton prints, chintz, cheese cloth and stencil are not only inspiring to the amateur house decorator, but materials are so modest in price that they interest the householder from the economical standpoint as well.

House & Garden

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DR. BENJAMIN TENNEY'S HOUSE, MANCHESTER BY THE SEA, MASSACHUSETTS

House and Garden

Vol. XV

JUNE, 1909

No. 6

An Attractive Hillside Home

By MARY H. NORTHEND

ALONG the North Shore of Massachusetts Bay, at a point nearly opposite Coolidge Point, in the pretty town of Manchester, which is a charming combination of shore and country, rocky headlands and wooded hills, its houses situated near enough to the shore for their occupants to catch the dull murmur of old ocean, and yet at the same time set in the midst of lawns and gaily blooming flower beds, shadowed by wide-spreading trees, is situated the summer home of Dr. Benjamin Tenney, of Boston and Manchester. It was designed by Messrs. Dwight & Chandler, Architects, of Boston, and is located upon a steep hillside, which faces the sun and sea, and affords a superb view of Salem Harbor and the quaint old seaport town of Marblehead, while to the left is obtained a fine glimpse of the lighthouse on Baker's Island, and the numerous small bungalows that are scattered over the surface of Misery Island, as well as the rugged coastline of the opposite shore in the distance.

In front, and some distance below its pretty latticed windows, is the main traveled highway, from which the house is almost entirely concealed by means of low trees and great clumps of shrubbery bearing dense foliage that have been planted at the front, and which form a most effective screening.

The main entrance to the estate is opposite the highway side, and is reached by a long winding driveway, outlined on either side by pretty flowering shrubs and huge old trees, which ends in an open space, to the left of which is the low, rambling house, finely proportioned, and designed to fit into its surroundings with a charming simplicity which renders it most attractive.

The exterior of the house is finished in cement plaster left in its natural tint, and its picturesqueness is further

increased by the substitution of heavily leaded casement windows, in place of the more conventional window form, which swing outward upon their hinges and allow the bracing sea air to enter unobstructed.

The heavy beams that jut out under the overhanging sections, and also from beneath the eaves, are of cypress thoroughly

oiled, and this same treatment is employed in the finish of the porch roofs, the pergola top of the veranda at the rear of the house, the frames of the casement windows, and, in fact, in all the exterior woodwork. The shingled roof is stained a deep tile red, which contrasts prettily with the soft gray tints of the walls and the varying greens of the trees and shrubbery. Four broad, low steps lead to the entrance porch, with its quaint, gable roof, supported by four massive



THE FIREPLACE AND MANTEL IN THE LIVING-ROOM

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House and Garden

columns, and flanked on either side by a long, wide seat, for which the high side railings serve as backs. The great entrance door, constructed of cypress with an upper panel of leaded glass, gives directly upon a diminutive hallway, to the left of which is the staircase which rises by low treads to a landing on the second story.

The tiny hall is raised higher than the main portion of the house, and three low steps descend from it to the main hallway, which has been designed as a living-room. This is a most attractive apartment, finished like the entrance hall and stairway, in cypress with wainscots of broad molded siding left in the soft natural colors of the wood, without oil or stain of any sort. A narrow frieze, of conventional design, extends from the wainscot to the edge of the ceiling, which is most artistically designed of spruce girders and cross-beams, left exposed, their color being



THE ENTRANCE PORCH OF THE TENNEY HOUSE



A VERANDA AT THE TENNEY HOUSE

slightly toned down with oil to render them harmonious with the rest of the woodwork.

At one end of the room is a great open fireplace, constructed of glazed tiles, above which extends an ornamental cypress mantel, finished in the same manner as the woodwork, but very beautifully carved. Numerous bookcases of various sizes, also constructed of cypress, have been inserted around the sides of the room, and also underneath the windows at one end, and they contain many of the owner's favorite volumes.

Large arm-chairs, softly cushioned in dark plush, are scattered about the room; and a low, broad window-seat, also cushioned in plush in harmonious tones and piled high with downy sofa pillows, extends underneath the windows at the rear of the room, that swing outward upon the pergola veranda, and afford tantalizing glimpses of the cool woodland

An Attractive Hillside Home



THE MAIN HALL OF THE TENNEY HOUSE

depth just beyond. This room opens on to the veranda by means of two narrow, heavily leaded glass doors, which when thrown open in conjunction with the casement windows makes the veranda and living-room practically one apartment, and allows a free circulation of cool, fresh air.

The floor is constructed of hard pine wood, as are most of the floors found throughout the house, and several small rugs, in bright, rich tints, are scattered over the polished surface.

To the left of the living-room is the dining-room, most attractive in its simplicity of design and detail. The woodwork is of cypress, and a wainscot, some six feet in height, extends around the walls of the room, in the same manner as the wainscot found in the living-room. A plain field rises from the top of this wainscot to the edge of the ceiling, where it is finished by a narrow molding of cypress. The ceiling is finished like the ceiling of the living-room, and the floor is likewise constructed of hard pine wood, highly polished.

At the left hand side of the room is a very beautiful fireplace constructed of stone, above which extends a narrow mantel, very simple in design, and slightly carved. A panel of cypress, simply carved, rises from the rear edge of this mantel to the ceiling and adds an artistic touch to a very pretty whole. On either side of the fireplace, above the wainscot, is a little

casement window, shaded by simple cretonne curtains, in dainty tints of pink and white.

The furniture is of the simple Mission type, and the few rugs scattered over the surface of the floor are of pleasing variety and harmonious coloring.

The small porch at the right of the main porch is the doctor's entrance, and leads into his reception-room, office, and laboratory. These rooms, unlike the other rooms found on the first floor, are painted white, and the ceilings are plastered. The office and reception-room open on to the veranda, and the window in the laboratory affords a glimpse of the main highway some little distance below.

On the second floor of the house are found several fine bedrooms, finished similar to the rooms on the first floor, and also two bath-rooms. The walls of the bath-rooms are shellacked and varnished, as are the walls of the rooms in the service department, which is located in a wing separate from the main portion of the house, and so arranged as to be lighted from all sides and open to a cross draught, most refreshing on sultry summer days.

The veranda, at the rear of the house, is a most inviting spot, fitted with comfortable chairs and hammocks, wherein one may lounge, while he enjoys the cool breezes wafted in from the ocean, which is just discernible through the long vista of trees.

The Spineless Cactus

By GEORGIA TORREY DRENNAN

MR. LUTHER BURBANK is one of the great benefactors of the world. He has conferred upon mankind a priceless gift. His spineless cactus in economic value has no rival except the date palm of the desert.

The juices are refreshing and the meaty substance nutritious. The fruit is luscious; the plant in flower is unique and highly ornamental in the garden.

The redemption of the cacti from their spiny, prickly-coated thalli or leaves has been one of the unsolved problems of the world. Flourishing under the sun that burns and destroys other forms of vegetation, the cacti have been regarded as plants of great incipient value. Until Mr. Burbank made them subjects of close study and scientific treatment, the sole effort of naturalists had been to discover a spineless cactus.

Eliminating the spines from the thalli or leaves had been coveted, but not attempted. There are probably not more than twenty genera of cacti, and of that number only five occur in the United States; these species, however, vary indefinitely, so that one thousand and recognized varieties are common to America. Vast areas of arid lands are grown over with cacti, many of them of generous proportions.

All heavy-built cactus plants are more or less filled with nutritious and refreshing juices, and many of them bear fruit. Naturally travelers, upon barren, sunburnt plains are attracted by green growth of any kind. They are tempted to eat of the prickly pears of the opuntias, and other fruits of various cacti. Horses and mules

can scarcely be restrained from feasting upon the plants. Until Mr. Burbank created the spineless cactus, man and beast were confronted with danger; many a traveler has been left riderless by these plants of the desert tempting his horse to a feast.

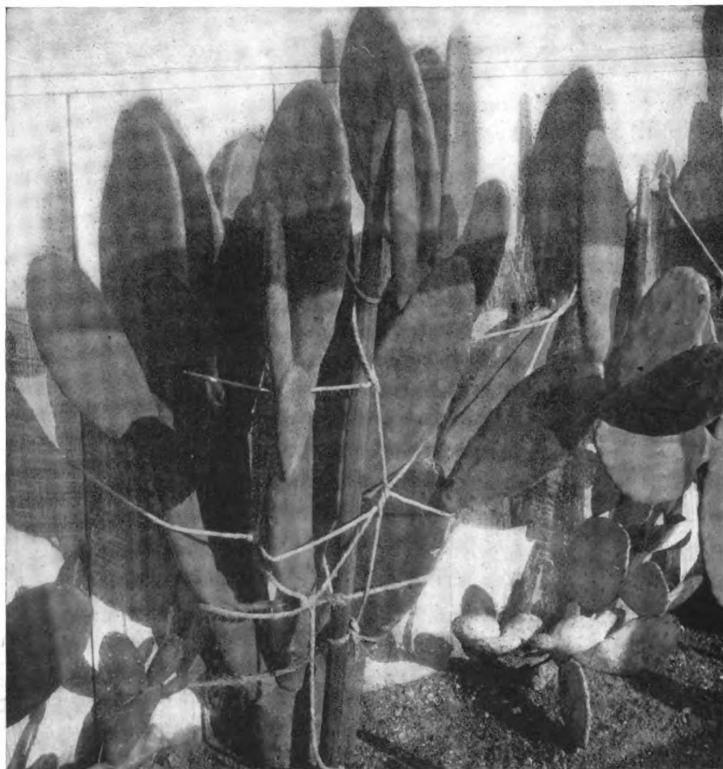
Every cactus naturally has its coat of mail. The cereus and opuntia have fine, hair-like spines, in tufts. They enter the pores of the skin, and the action of nature must be depended upon to remove them. The tongue, palate and intestines of animals are fatally affected by these spines.

Varieties of the same species differ in the size, form, and color of the spines. Some of the Echinocactus have spines like barbed-wire and some like fish hooks. Only Indians and men of the plains, acquainted with the dangers of the spiny cactus, know how to gather the fruit, or cut into the plants allowing the water to collect in the hollowed out trunk as with *Cereus giganteus* and some other sorts. The broad, fleshy leaves of the prickly pear have the spines burnt off by the cattlemen, who feed them to their cows.

The rapid propagation of the spineless cactus proceeding at Santa Rosa, under Mr. Burbank's management and care, will soon make an orchard of the desert, and every garden in America can have its fruit-bearing spineless cactus. It is hardy North and South.

From Nova Scotia to Florida Keys, from Canada to Southern California it can be relied upon for luxuriant growth.

The gentle breeding that has resulted in the most remarkable plant of the nineteenth century, was from cactus



ONE-YEAR-OLD THORNLESS OPUNTIA—WEIGHT ABOUT 140 POUNDS
Mr. Burbank's Santa Rosa, California, Experimental Station

The Spineless Cactus

of different kinds, with favorable tendencies. Some for one good quality, and some for another, were crossed and recrossed, with the opuntia as the basis. This common *Opuntia vulgaris* has a hardy and indestructible constitution (and is a cosmopolitan) which has been transmitted to the new plant. In vastly improved form it has inherited the opuntia's fruit-bearing properties.

Seeds from the most promising new plants were sown, on and on, for ten years, until from among ten thousand new plants one giant, smooth skinned cactus reared its head eight feet high, with thalli or leaves ten inches in length and six or eight in width. About an inch in thickness, the leaves are not unlike a smooth, dark green cucumber, flattened out. The fruit varies in red and yellow color, like the yellow early harvest and the red June apples.

The size of the fruit is about three inches in diameter and four in length.

Though the colors differ, the taste is the same. Everybody says the fruit is delicious. Some think it has the flavor of the peach; others the pineapple and strawberry. A new and well-flavored fresh fruit, it is also valuable, like the plantain, for culinary purposes. Fried and broiled it is more excellent than the plantain, and baked is like the Bartlett pear.

The plants are propagated from seeds and

cuttings. There has been no tendency, under the severe test of years, to revert to the spiny coat and tough, woody fiber of the types from which this wonderful plant descended.

The spineless cactus bids fair to become the most universally popular plant in the world. Aside from its useful properties and heroic constitution, it is

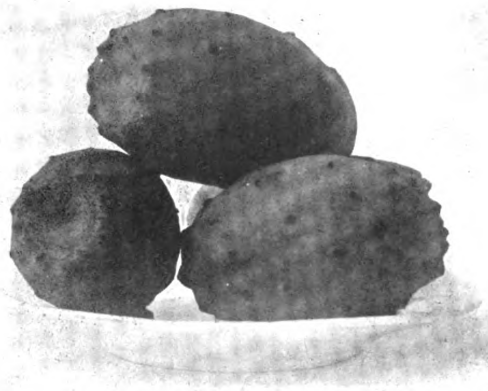
highly ornamental, and in flower gardens pliant and responsive. With all its rare qualities it is easily cultivated by amateurs.

Botanical authorities have seldom shown more lively interest in any plant upon which science has wrought material change.

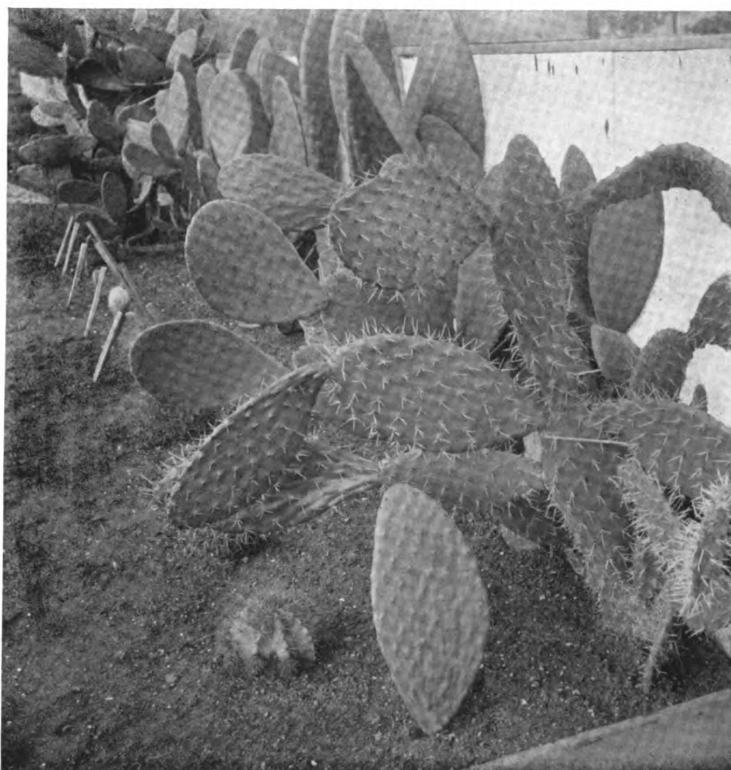
One of the prominent physicians of Los Angeles, California, has been aiding the botanists by tests of the spineless cactus as food. He lived several weeks upon an almost exclusive diet of cactus. His health was good; he gained in flesh and was

so well assured of the dietetic value of the plant that at the end of three weeks he gave a cactus dinner and invited a party of well-known physicians.

The menu consisted of celery and cactus soup, omelette with chopped cactus and green peppers, fried cactus, salad made of the cactus fruit, lettuce, celery, sherbet flavored with the fruit of the cactus and the juice of the cactus fruit as a drink. The guests declared themselves delighted.

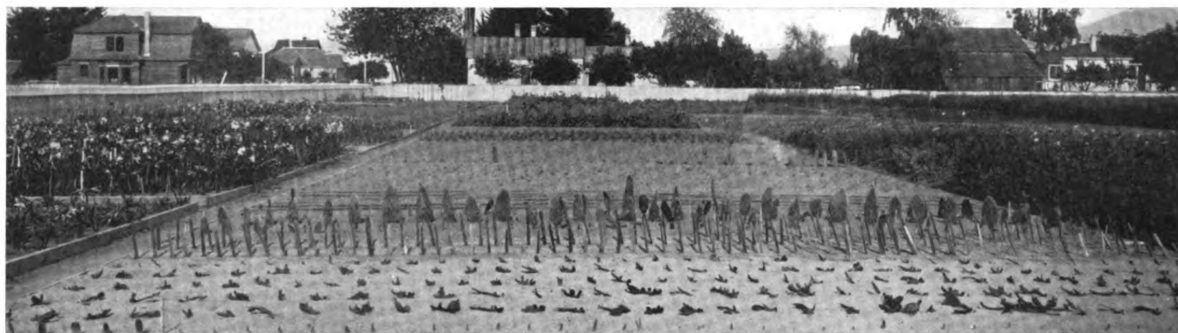


FRUIT OF THE SPINELESS CACTUS



YOUNG THORNY AND THORNLESS OPUNTIAS

House and Garden



BEDS OF SEEDLING SPINELESS CACTUS, MR. BURBANK'S SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA, EXPERIMENTAL STATION

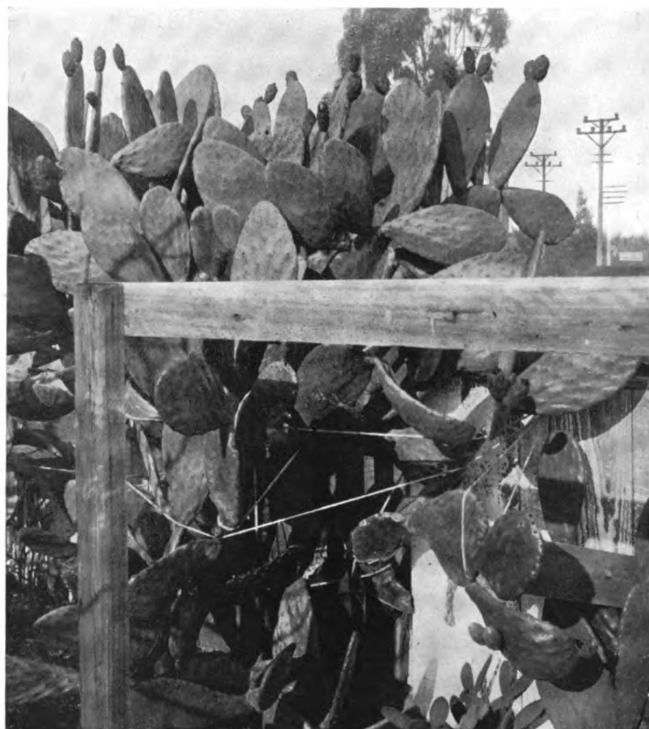
"Not only did my strength continue unimpaired by my experimental diet," said the doctor, "but I gained half a pound in weight."

The guests were enthusiastic in praising the excellence of the repast.

All this is suggestive; any new and wholesome vegetable is valuable, and particularly one that can be so much varied in cookery.

The main interest extends further.

It is more in the relation to the sustenance of horses and cattle. There seems to be no dispute about the value of the plant; but



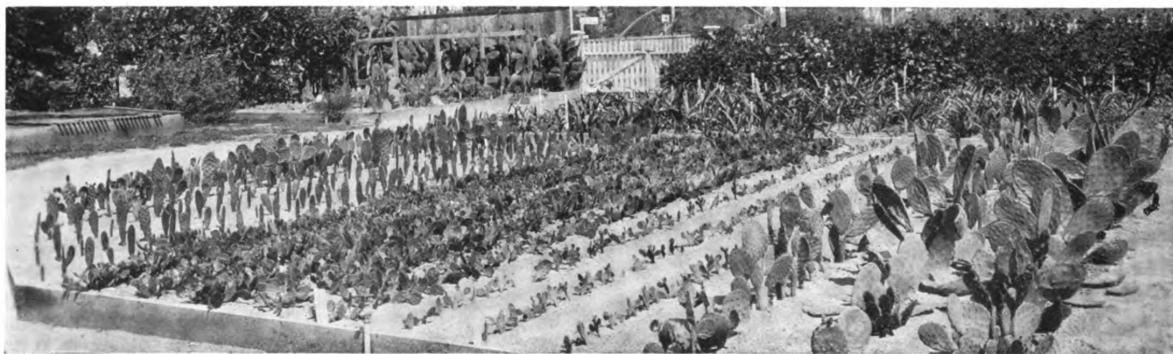
A FOUR-YEAR-OLD THORNLESS OPUNTIA, WEIGHT 2,500 LBS.

the difficulty is, that if grown upon the desert where stock have free access to it, and where no other juicy, thirst-allaying plant exists, the destruction might be more rapid than the ability to establish desert plantations, and its early extinction may result.

Practical experiment alone can demonstrate fully whether the commercial value of the plant justifies its extensive cultivation.

The recent incorporation of a company with large capital for the extensive

(Continued on page 5, Advertising Section.)



OTHER BEDS OF SPINELESS CACTUS AT MR. BURBANK'S SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA, EXPERIMENTAL STATION

The Small House Which is Good

Two Examples of Colonial Designs

A Colonial House in a New England Village

HARRY B. RUSSELL, *Architect*

WHEN building a country house in which one intends to live the entire year, it is well to adhere to some authentic type of design, and yet modify this type to meet local and personal conditions. In the old-fashioned New England villages which are so full of sentiment, the colonial style of dwelling seems quite the most appropriate. However, one would not care to see too many houses of this type which are so often devoid of the feeling of comfort and ease in their barren exteriors.

The dwelling illustrated is situated in one of these old towns, and is most beautifully located in its setting of old trees, surrounding for years an old house which was removed to make way for the present one. The approach is by a broad walk which enters the grounds from the street beneath an arch formed by two beautiful maples, and extends straight to the main entrance in the center of the two-storied portico.

The rooms on either side of the entrance hall carry out the colonial feeling, each having fireplaces with the windows at the sides in alcoves with broad pilaster treatment. At the rear of the broad hall is the staircase with the wide landing, lighted by a high semicircular window. Beneath the staircase and reached by several descending steps is the garden room which gives directly upon one of the garden walks through glazed doors. There are bookcases here, and the room forms a delightfully informal retreat. The second story contains three chambers with dressing-room and baths, and a sewing-room at the front of the hall.

The upper hall is separated by means of a series of three arches, which form a very attractive feature at the side of the staircase as one ascends to the second floor, and also forms an admirable means of lighting the smaller part of the hall, which connects with the service staircase.

The garden is very simply laid out, and has its major axis on a line with the axis of the living-room from which an entrance is given by means of a few steps. The central path is crossed by a lateral pathway where a fountain is located and terminates in an exedra where a sun-dial is located. The side and rear are enclosed by a wall of which the plain surface wall of the garage forms a part, and which is charmingly covered by means of ornamental trellises.

The space between the service wing and the garage is given over to the service yard which is slightly sunken and completely closed in by the garden wall on one side and a fence on the other. The gate to this yard is quaintly arborescent.

This estate has a particularly aristocratic atmosphere, and the design of the house was wonderfully well conceived in harmony with the environment. The colonial feeling is everywhere apparent, whether in the principal façade with the portico, the detail of the interior with its furnishings, or in the quaint layout of the garden.

The architect of the house was Mr. Harry B. Russell, of Boston.

A Colonial Home of Moderate Cost

GEORGE E. SAVAGE, *Architect*

SELDOM has an architect the opportunity to build a house with such beautiful surroundings as this one. Located in the beautiful suburb of Merion, Pennsylvania, six miles from the center of Philadelphia, in the midst of towering oak, chestnut and beech trees, a better background could not be secured for a colonial home of modest cost, without any fussy ornamentation.

The exterior is of red brick, with black headers laid in Flemish bond in white mortar. The trimmings are white marble and wood, all woodwork being painted a white ivory tint with the outside blinds a colonial green. The roof is of shingles.

The interior is finished entirely in white. The stairs and living-room are finished in birch, stained an old mahogany color, and in white. Emphasis has been placed on the living-room and the den. They are divided by columns and a wood entablature with bookcases about four feet high between the columns. The effect is very pleasing and does not destroy the spacious atmosphere of the room as one enters the main door.

The rooms are all of ample size, large closets being provided for all the chambers. The third story contains two large chambers and a storeroom.

The house is heated by hot water. The entire cost of this house, including architect's fees, grading, papering, gas and electric fixtures, etc., was \$7,000.

The house was designed and the erection supervised by Mr. George E. Savage, Philadelphia. The owners are Misses Mary de S. and Beatrice S. Bond.

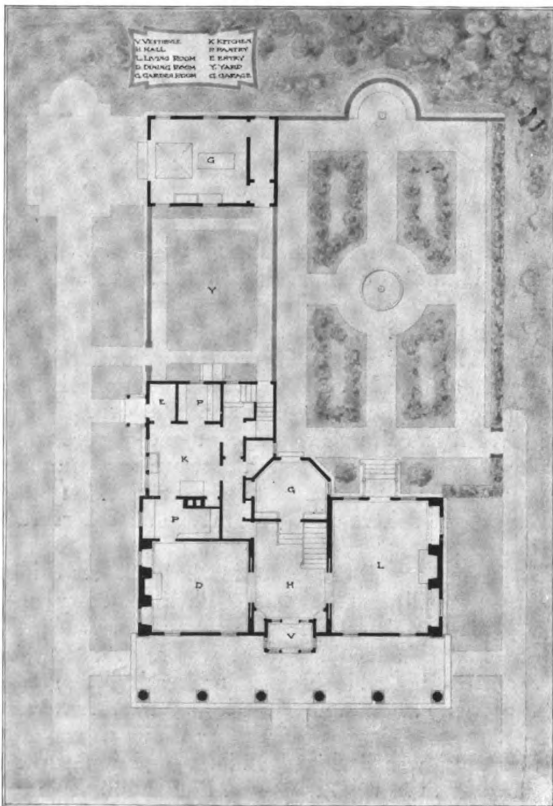
House and Garden



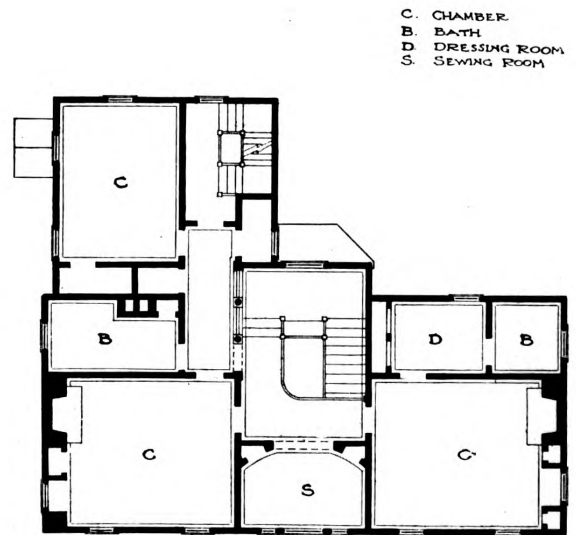
THE HOUSE FROM THE FRONT

A Colonial House in a New England Village

HARRY B. RUSSELL, *Architect*



PLAN OF HOUSE AND LOT LAYOUT



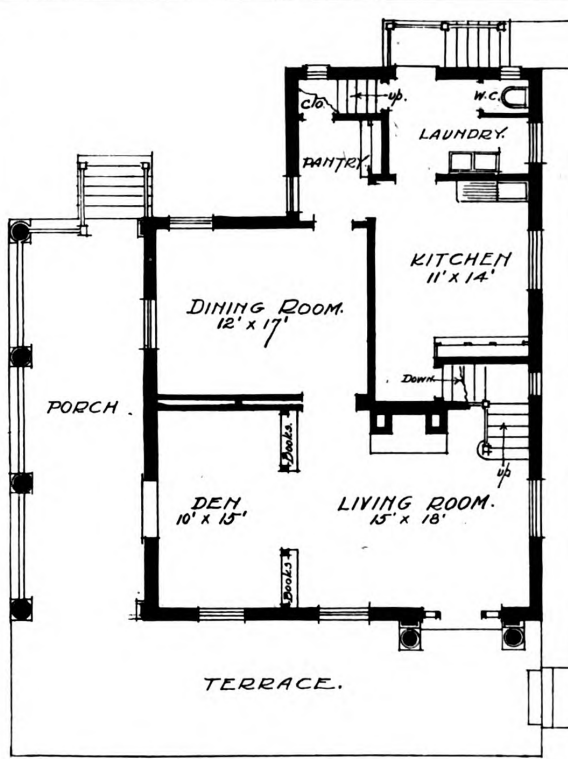
C. CHAMBER
 B. BATH
 D. DRESSING ROOM
 S. SEWING ROOM

THE SECOND FLOOR PLAN

The Small House Which is Good



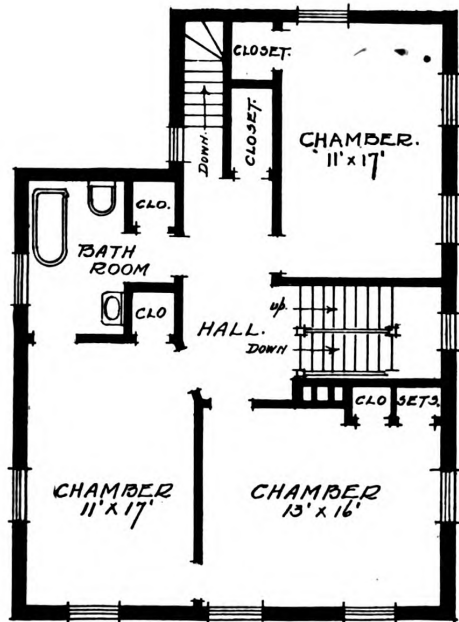
A COLONIAL HOUSE WITHOUT FUSSY ORNAMENTATION



THE FIRST FLOOR PLAN

A Colonial Home of Moderate Cost

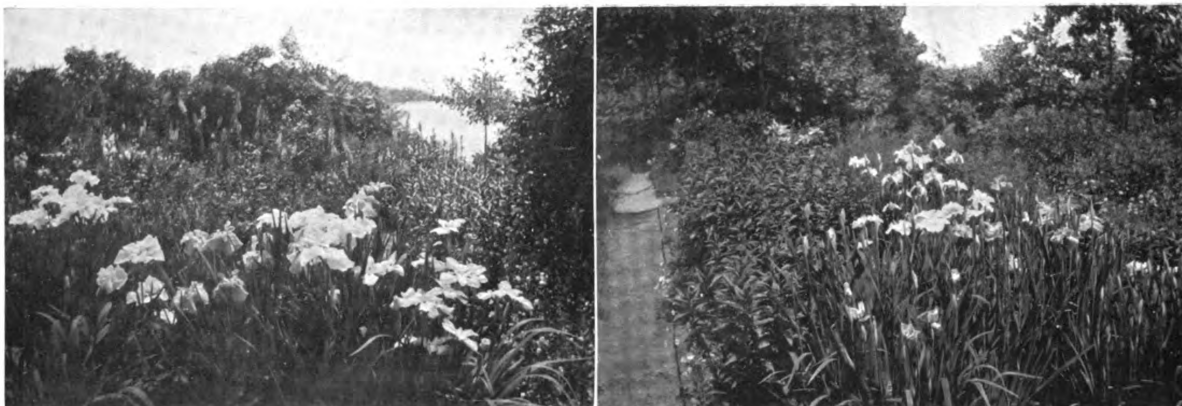
GEORGE E. SAVAGE, *Architect*



THE SECOND FLOOR PLAN



THE LIVING-ROOM



A Mass of Color and Exquisite Bloom

Japanese Irises

By THYRZA F. HAMILTON

SIX years ago I brought fifty clumps of Japanese iris from Japan. At that time the clumps were larger than the ones now sent, but as they arrived in January we had them heeled in where the manure pile made digging possible. This gave me better results than leaving them in the boxes until spring, a method we tried later. In Japan the iris is grown in full sun in ditches, the paths in the iris gardens being two feet above the beds, and the beds are inundated in the spring. As they use the sewage for this purpose, the odor is unspeakable, but by the last of June those gardens are a mass of color, and as you look down on them from the paths there is nothing to be seen but exquisite bloom. I have tried to treat the iris in respect to its cultivation as near the Japanese method as our mixed gardens and sanitary laws allow.

I find a bed somewhat lower in the center is a help during the flooding season. Plant as early as the ground can be worked, the late frost will not hurt them, and put manure below the roots. They like a well-drained soil, and where it is sandy add manure, where it is clayey use half sand to lighten it. Cut away in the very early spring the old leaves. They like their protection in winter, but start up through the mass so early as to be cut off with last year's chaff, if this cutting is put off. From then until four weeks before they bloom I do nothing but an occasional weeding. Then I put two inches of sheep-manure around each plant or over the bed, cultivate twice a week, always leaving a rim around each plant to keep the water around the roots, and water, not sprinkle, but soak. If you can let the water run in the bed gently so much the better. The roots cannot get too much. The more food and

drink you give in the last month or six weeks the larger your flowers will be.

In my garden on the north shore of Massachusetts the irises bloom on the first of July, inland about two weeks earlier, and during the six years they have bloomed within four days of July 1st, and this treatment has given fifteen blossoms to a plant and often twelve inches across each flower. There seem to be fifty standard varieties under an infinite variety of names, and in ordering, a larger selection or preponderance of light colors is best, for those that are not true to name are always dark.

The flower in full bloom is too fragile to pack, but picked in bud, or just before it opens, will ship perfectly and keep for days, every bud opening in water, though not quite so large as in the garden. There are from two to four buds on each stalk and sometimes the second flower will droop, its throat not being strong enough to hold the big flat petals. This never happens to the first blossom, and I have not been able to find or hear of a reason or a remedy. Fifty plants which take a space about four by twenty feet will blossom for a month.

I do not find it satisfactory to grow other plants among the iris, but there are some plants that like the same treatment and do well to border an iris bed, *Spiraea Japonica*, trollius in variety, and still lower growing, *Campanula carpatica* and *Phlox subulata*. From the appearance of the first blossom they have only the usual garden care, occasional weeding and watering if the season is a dry one until they are covered with the rest of the garden after the ground freezes. I have never seen an iris garden in this country, but with this treatment see no reason why one should not rival those of Japan.

Simple Curtains for the Modest Home

By LOUISE KING

THE proper curtaining for the windows of a cottage home, or the shore or mountain bungalow, is a question of great importance to the completed success of the house, affecting as it does both the exterior and interior appearance.

Even where the cost of the material must be considered the selection is varied. Linen scrim, self-colored or white, cheese-cloth, or unbleached cotton are materials which may be used with good effect; when treated with stenciled decoration, and where one has the ability and time to give to such work, the results are usually satisfactory. Stencils of appropriate design and of good color arrangement are charmingly decorative. The same motif should be used for frieze, or upper wall treatment, as in the border or corner of the curtain. However, where time is an object, or for any reason figured drapery material is preferred, one can obtain most attractive fabrics from the shops.

Particularly pleasing is a semi-transparent cotton crêpe material, which hangs well and comes in many excellent designs and colors which lend themselves perfectly to simple decorative effects. This material has the additional value of washing perfectly and retaining its crêpy appearance. It should not be ironed. In a dainty bedroom having ivory white enameled woodwork and furniture, and walls treated in a soft pale shade of green oil paint with a dull finish, this fabric showing—on a cream colored ground—a design of clusters of delicate pink roses and buds set in the foliage of the rose, is most attractive.

From it valanced over-draperies for the diamond paned casement windows are made, and cushion

covers for the couch and chairs; also a ruffled bed-spread can be fashioned from the material and aid greatly in the completed beauty of the room. In such a room the ceiling tint of deep old ivory should extend to the picture-rail contrasting with the soft green of the wall. The floor, being of light hard wood, should have several small rugs in two tones of green repeating the color of the foliage of the

roses or, if the floor must be covered, plain matting would be in keeping with the other fittings.

In a room so decorated almost any style of simple furniture, which is not too heavy in form, can be used.

Another especially artistic design of the same fabric suggests itself for the living or dining-room of the bungalow or cottage. This may be had in several different colorings, the pattern showing a conventionalized poppy, bud and foliage. The one showing clear beautiful blue in the flowers and soft green in the foliage, outlined with black against a pure white ground, supplies the motif for the entire scheme of the dining-room in a bungalow by the sea. The walls are left in the soft natural

gray of the plaster; the woodwork of chestnut stained so dark a green that it seems almost black is effective in outlining and accentuating the furnishing and decoration of the room. The space between the tops of doors and windows, and the ceiling angle (about eighteen inches) is covered by the material, forming a frieze around the room and finished by the picture-rail of dark wood at the lower edge, and a small mould at the ceiling line treated with the light gray of the ceiling.

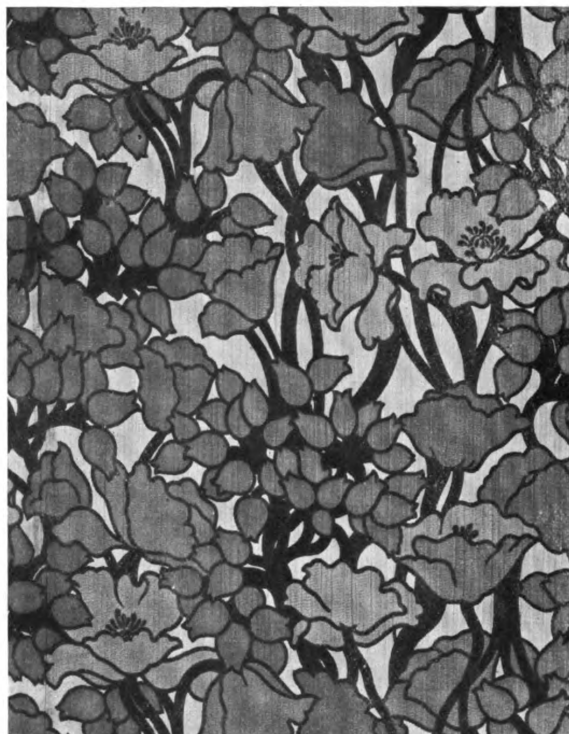
The windows are hung with the crêpe over white



I. VERY APPROPRIATE FOR A DAINTY BEDROOM



2. FOR A JAPANESE BREAKFAST-ROOM



3. FRIEZE AND CURTAINS ARE MADE FROM THIS

fish-net curtains next the glass. The long window-seat upholstered in a heavy blue cotton fabric harmonizes with the blue of the poppy, and on it are placed pillows covered with the crêpe.

The square, deal table and sturdy kitchen chairs were treated with white enamel of the very best quality, which gave them a beautiful hard finish. The panels in the backs of the chairs were outlined lightly with narrow blue lines. On the top panel of each chair—in its center—was broadly painted a single poppy and leaf in the colors shown in the design of the fabric.

On the floor a blue and white jute rug was used. The margin of the pine floor has been stained with the same dark stain as the woodwork and given a soft polish.

Other designs in this fabric are suggestive of the Japanese. The soft

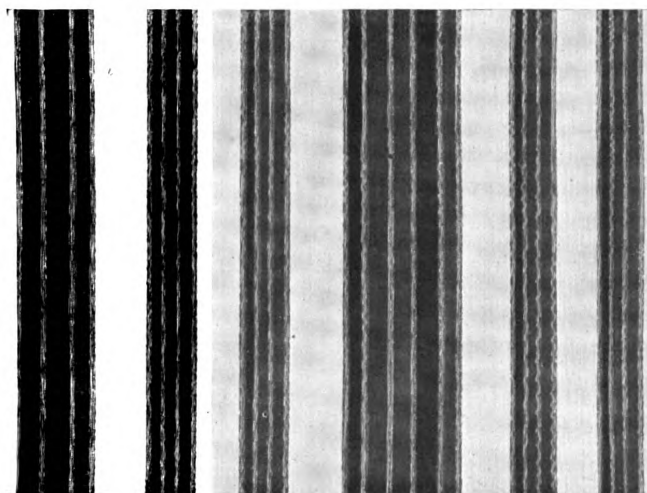
mingling of blue-gray and green in illustration No. 2 makes attractive curtaining for a little breakfast-room in which bamboo furniture is used; or in a blue and white, or white and green bath-room this design may be used for the window curtains.

In the living-room of a bachelor's bungalow where rich dark colors and furniture of the mission type prevail the Roman stripe pattern supplied suitable and attractive curtains and cushion covers. The

wall in this room was covered with yellow-tan paper the background of the drapery material matching this color.

Ready made, inexpensive curtains, are rarely satisfactory. The ruffles are likely to be scant and too wide, insertions or corner motifs of lace are badly put in, and will not withstand washing. The materials from which the cheap

(Continued on page 5, Advertising Section.)



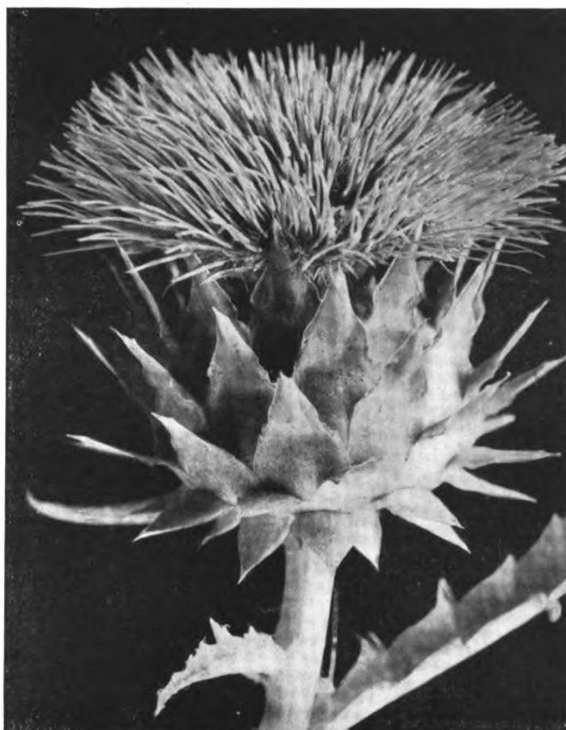
4. WELL SUITED TO A DEN

The French Artichoke

A Delicious Vegetable and an Ornamental Plant

By WILLIAM S. RICE

THE French Artichoke is not only one of the most picturesque, but also one of the most delicious and toothsome of the less familiar vegetables of our gardens. It has appeared self-evident that this plant is worthy of cultivation as a purely decorative motif aside from its value as a food product, because it possesses sufficient beauty to justify its addition to our ornamental garden plants. This plant is a member of the great Composite family and is closely related to the thistle. The edible portion of the plant is the unopened flower head, or bud, cut just prior to its unfolding. The scales, or bracts enclosing the true flowers which are clustered in a dense head at the center, contain a small portion of edible matter which one obtains by drawing each bract, or leaf, between the closed teeth. The most delicious portion, however, is the heart composed of the compound



BLOSSOM OF THE FRENCH ARTICHOKE



LARGE FRENCH ARTICHOKE PLANTS IN THE GARDEN

blossoms, which has a flavor similar to that of asparagus tips. The flower heads, or artichokes, are prepared for the table by boiling them in salt water for some hours until tender. They are then ready to be served either hot or cold as one prefers. A mayonnaise dressing or browned butter served in a side dish usually accompanies the toothsome vegetable. The scales are removed and dipped, one at a time, into the dressing and the tender portions thereof eaten before the soft, delicious disc at the heart of the bud is removed.

The artichoke is a biennial, that is, it requires one season to form a rosette and another to spring up and form a spike of bloom. The rosettes of this plant are truly decorative. Its leaves resemble enormous fern fronds and radiate from the center like a huge, five-pointed star. Unlike most of its thistle relatives, it is almost entirely devoid of prickles. The stems are fluted and are a light,

House and Garden

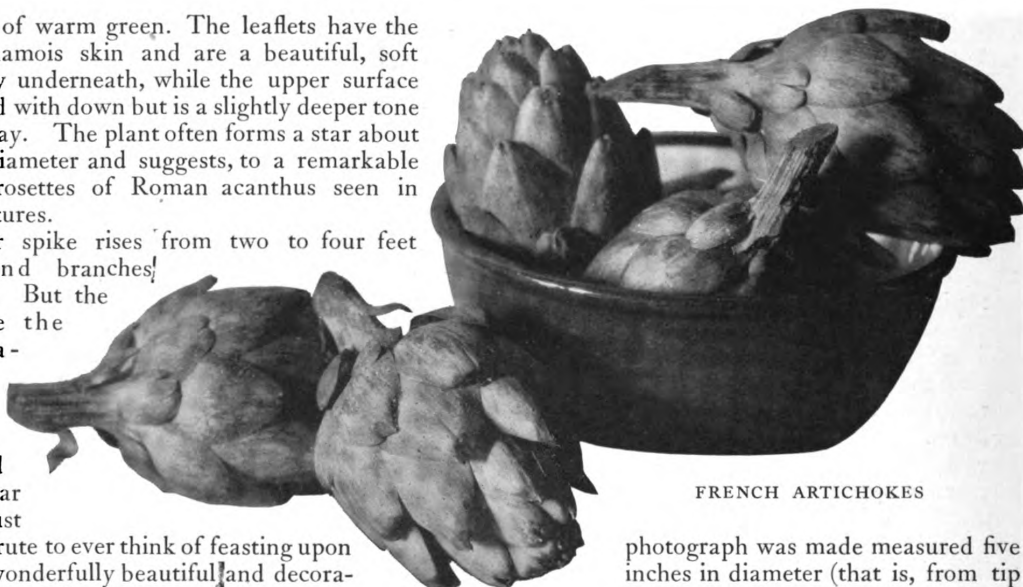
delicate tone of warm green. The leaflets have the texture of chamois skin and are a beautiful, soft shade of gray underneath, while the upper surface is also covered with down but is a slightly deeper tone of greenish gray. The plant often forms a star about four feet in diameter and suggests, to a remarkable degree, the rosettes of Roman acanthus seen in ancient sculptures.

The flower spike rises from two to four feet in height and branches considerably. But the blossoms are the crowning feature of the entire plant; and to the esthetic mind it would appear that man must

indeed be a brute to ever think of feasting upon blossoms so wonderfully beautiful and decorative. However, after one has acquired a taste for this toothsome morsel, he may well be pardoned the offense of sacrificing beauty to utilitarian purposes.

In color, the huge blossoms are a rich, rose-purple similar to those of the common pasture thistle. The stiff, gray green bracts are touched with a lighter and warmer green and edged with a dull purplish crimson. This latter color intensifies as the bracts reach the little colored quills of bloom at the top of the blossom proper.

The single specimen from which the accompanying



FRENCH ARTICHOKES

photograph was made measured five inches in diameter (that is, from tip to tip) and four inches from stem to top of blossom. The unopened heads when gathered for eating often measure the same size.

The artichoke has a tendency to run away from the confines of cultivation and stray into pastures and by the margins of water-courses where it often degenerates, and, in this wild state takes unto itself a protecting armor of spines, which although not detracting from its appearance render it unsafe for table use.

Some specimens of runaways that the writer has observed near his home in Stockton, California, are more prickly than others. This condition, evidently, is due to the effects of cross fertilization with the native, wild species of pasture thistles which are common in the vicinity.

As a plant for the jardinière, or for the border beds, or for informal massing in gardens, this plant is really aristocratic and, besides, being uncommon, it appeals to lovers of the beautiful for such purposes. This plant thrives in great perfection in the Southern States and in California. In the Eastern States the plant does best in deep, rich soil, well drained. The crowns should be covered with coal ashes in winter to shed water, and over these a good covering of leaves. Remove the leaves in the spring but do not disturb the ashes until signs of growth appear. The plants make good growth the first year, and some

(Continued on page 7, Advertising Section.)



A YOUNG FRENCH ARTICHOKE PLANT



A Residence the Walls and Partitions of which are of the "Two-Piece" Hollow Concrete System

An Ideal Concrete Building Block

By H. H. RICE

DURING the past five years a great many people have been persuaded to build of concrete blocks and the result of their trial, spread throughout the land and viewed from the car windows, convinces one that a reasonable investigation of the subject might save prospective owners some embarrassment.

Not all concrete block buildings are subject to condemnation, and such condemnation is most unjust and unfair to the maker of blocks which are properly proportioned, properly pressed, properly cured and properly bonded in a wall which becomes as strong as iron, and as durable as the Pyramids, and of appearance equal to hand-cut stone.

The illustrations shown in connection with this article have been loaned at our request by a

company of Denver, commonly known as the "Two-piece people," because their system, which they introduced in 1903, possesses the peculiarity of having no block extending through the wall. Indeed, no block on the inner side comes in contact with a block on the outer side of the wall, but a continuous horizontal air-space exists throughout the wall, absolutely preventing the passage of moisture, eliminating the

necessity for any water-proofing compound and affording an average air-space of fifty per cent, which makes a building comfortable during the heated season and saves twenty-five per cent of the winter's fuel bill. Plaster or decorations may be safely applied to the inner wall.

It is claimed this header bond hollow wall is the strongest masonry construction that can be



A DWELLING CONSTRUCTED UNDER OUR SYSTEM
Contract Price, \$3,900, Including Interior Finish in Natural Woods
and Weathered Oak. W. E. Fisher, Architect

House and Garden

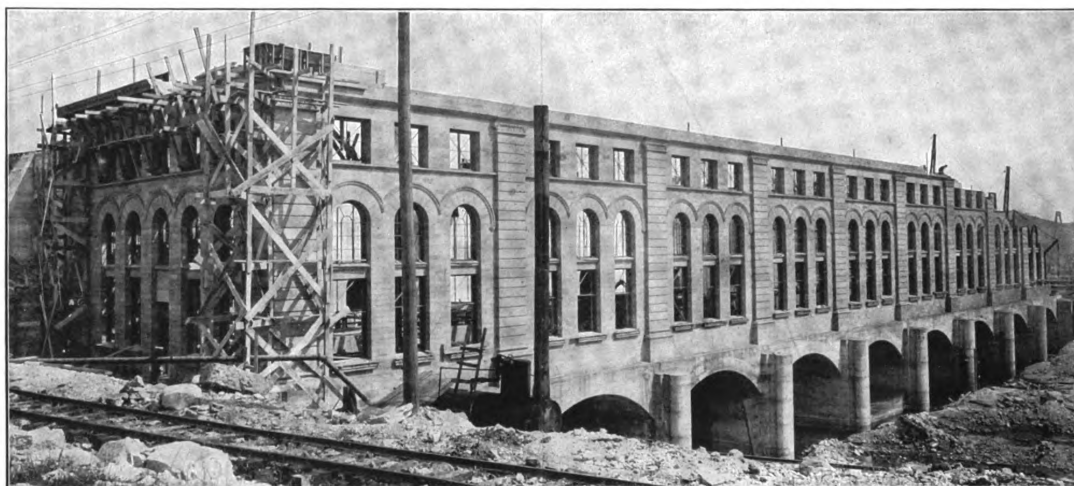
built, bonded every nine inches by an over-lapping of projecting arms or webs, the arms from either side of the wall alternately over-lapping those extending from the opposite side—laid in cement mortar.

One of the finest things that has been shown in residence construction of concrete blocks is Mr. Taylor's home at New London, Conn. It has given great satisfaction and reflects credit on everyone connected with it.

A more modest house of pleasing architecture is one situated at the corner of Eighth Avenue and Ogden Street, Denver. Contract price was \$3,900. This house was constructed in 1904. It is built of the smooth face bevel edge blocks except one course of rock face below the water table. The appearance is equal to hand-rubbed Bedford stone.

principles from the time the Portland cement and gravel or broken stone are brought into the plant. Very little fine sand is used, the effort being to use as large a percentage as possible of coarse gravel or broken stone, as engineers agree that this is the way to secure strong and durable concrete. At the same time a sufficient quantity of smaller material is incorporated to fill the voids and afford a dense and impervious mass. This is mixed with a percentage of water which it is impossible to use under any process in which the concrete is tamped or rammed.

The advantage in using a large percentage of water is in the thorough crystallization of the cement and this is the very life of the whole process as it is the crystallization or "setting" of the cement



POWER HOUSE OF THE CHICAGO DRAINAGE CANAL
Designed to House and Withstand Vibration of 30,000 Horsepower. Built with this System. No Reinforcement

Illustrating the great strength of these walls an illustration is shown of the Chicago Drainage Canal Power House. This building is 386 feet long, sixty-four feet wide and forty-six feet from foundation to roof plate. Trusses and roof are carried on the walls, which are fifty per cent hollow and contain no metal reinforcement. The Board of Engineers of Chicago, after the most rigid tests, specified this material to the exclusion of brick or natural stone. The walls withstand vibration caused by 30,000 horsepower. The contract price, including monolithic concrete foundations, was \$292,000.

In order to give a clearer idea of the construction of these walls, a cut is shown of a section of wall as it would appear in a partially completed building and the machinery used in manufacturing the blocks is shown in the foreground.

The merit of this system is not merely in the construction of the wall, ingenious as that is. Its excellence is obtained by careful observance of scientific

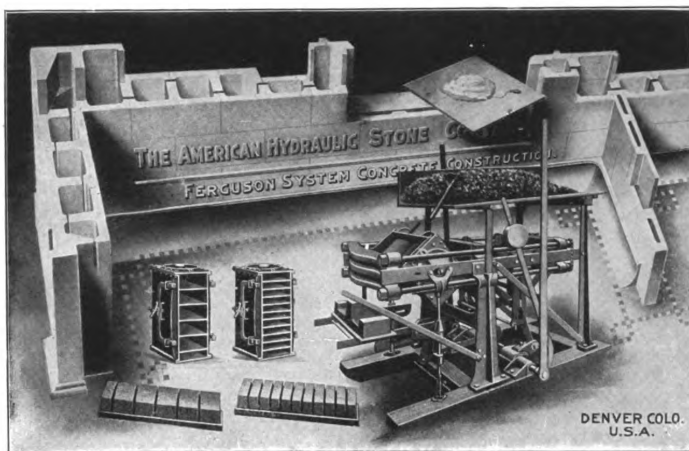
which changes a mass of loose sand, gravel, stone and cement into true concrete.

As indicated above, the method of compression is not by tamping or ramming but by the instantaneous application to each block of 100,000 pounds pressure. The arrangement of cores and fillers in the mold (each having an independent motion) is such that this pressure is mathematically proportioned to the amount of concrete subject to compression in each section of the block, and the result is a block which, independent of the operator's skill or negligence, has no weak place, but is strong throughout.

The matter of facing has been thoroughly covered in the production of the machinery. The mixture usually used in making blocks under this process is one part of cement to seven parts of properly proportioned gravel or broken stone and sand, but if a block is to be faced a gauge is used raking from the top of the mold one-quarter or three-eighths of an inch and this space is filled with a finer mixture of one

Poisonous Wild Flowers

part of cement to two and one-half parts of white sand, marble dust, or whatever material is desired for the face. The pressing plate is then applied and pressure is made, the entire block (both body and face) being manufactured at one simultaneous process, obviating all danger of separation in years to come. The design of the face is governed by the pressing plate and may be smooth with or



SECTION OF WALL, ALSO MACHINE FOR MAKING THE BLOCKS

without bevel edge, horizontally or vertically tooled or rock face. Of course, it is now generally understood that the architects will not specify rock face for the entire building, but it is a very useful design for producing contrast and is especially useful in the lower courses, below the water table, for belt courses, etc. This system undoubtedly stands alone in the number and merit of its unusual points.

Poisonous Wild Flowers

The Ladies' Slipper

BY ANNIE OAKES HUNTINGTON

IN the rich, black earth of bogs, and in low, wet woods heavily shaded by trees, a beautiful orchid is found which Asa Gray describes as "one of the handsomest and most interesting of all wild flowers." This orchid, the showy ladies' slipper, *Cypripedium reginae*, has a stout stem from one to two feet high, large, showy pink and white flowers, and broad leaves somewhat resembling those of the lily-of-the-valley. The flowers number from one to two, rarely three and are curiously shaped, with a large, upper, inflated, sac-like lip, variegated with white and purplish-pink, and with clear white lateral petals. The plant has fine glandular hairs, containing a poisonous oil

which acts upon the skin in very much the same way as that of the poison ivy.



THE SMALL YELLOW LADIES' SLIPPER

A well-known botanist, some years ago, had occasion to collect five hundred roots of this orchid, and immediately afterwards his hands became much inflamed, and the poison even extended to the face and eyes. It was thought to be a case of ivy poison at the time, but according to the recent, and interesting investigation of Dr. MacDougal of the University of Minnesota, it has been proven that this orchid possesses well-defined poisonous qualities, and was undoubtedly the origin of discomfort in this particular instance.

The large yellow ladies' slipper, *Cypripedium hirsutum*, and

House and Garden

the small yellow ladies' slipper, *Cypripedium parviflorum*, like their sister, the showy ladies' slipper, are both poisonous to some people when handled in large quantities. The flower of larger species is less attractive than that of the smaller orchid; it has a pale, greenish-yellow sac, and no perfume, whereas that of the smaller ladies' slipper is a beautiful, bright yellow, with twisted, brown sepals, and a slight but pleasing fragrance. The root of the large ladies' slipper furnishes a medicine which is a gentle, nervous stimulant, and which at one time was employed for various nervous disorders.

In low, rich woods like those frequented by the showy ladies' slipper, but blossoming earlier in the season, we find the wild mandrake, or May apple, *Podophyllum peltatum*. This plant is an erect herb, about a foot high, with very large, rounded, dark green leaves divided into five or seven lobes, and a solitary, broad, white, nodding flower, with a somewhat unpleasant perfume. The fruit, or "apple," is a yellowish, egg-shaped, large, fleshy, edible berry, with a rather mawkish taste. The fruit may be eaten freely, and is perfectly harmless, but the leaves and roots contain an active poison known as podophyllin. The roots are frequently employed in medicine on account of their drastic, purgative properties; they are gathered after the leaves have fallen in the autumn, when they are said to contain the most podophyllin.

As the season advances towards midsummer the borders of meadow brooks, and shallow pools in wet pastures are transformed by the brilliant, blood-red blossoms of the cardinal flower, *Lobelia cardinalis*. This plant is a tall perennial, with thin oval leaves, and elongated racemes of somewhat ragged looking flowers, which are inclined to grow on one side of the

stem. They are a curious shape, with a long corolla-like tube, which stands erect above the cleft lobes of the flower; and from an esthetical point of view, they are certainly more remarkable for their beautiful color, than for pleasing shapeliness of form. The cardinal flower contains the toxic principle lobeline, an irritant, narcotic poison; but in a less degree than that of the Indian tobacco, *Lobelia inflata*.

This species is a very acrid annual, with leafy stems

covered with coarse, stiff hairs, with sessile leaves, and inconspicuous pale-blue flowers. It grows in poor soil, in fields along roadsides, and in thickets; and is found commonly in the Northeastern States—from Georgia in the South, as far as Labrador in the North, and westward to Nebraska. The seeds contain at least twice as much lobeline in proportion as the whole plant, although in all parts it yields this highly poisonous principle. If the leaves or capsules are masticated they produce giddiness, headache and nausea, and when taken in the form of medicine the plant has been known to cause death from overdoses. At one time



THE SHOWY LADIES' SLIPPER

it was much used by the Indians, for various ailments.

A third species the great lobelia, *Lobelia siphilitica*, with bright blue, or occasionally white flowers, in dense racemes, should also be included among the poisonous members of the lobelia family.

Among other summer wild flowers which contain more or less poisonous underground parts may be mentioned the birthroot, or wake-robin, *Trillium erectum*; the various meadow rues, *Thalictrum*, with greenish-white flowers in gossamer, fringe-like balls; and the familiar clematis vine, or virgin's bower, *Clematis Virginiana*, which hangs in lovely festoons over walls, and covers roadside thickets with its graceful clusters of little white flowers.

Cotton Mosaic Quilts

The Revival of an Old-Time Home Industry

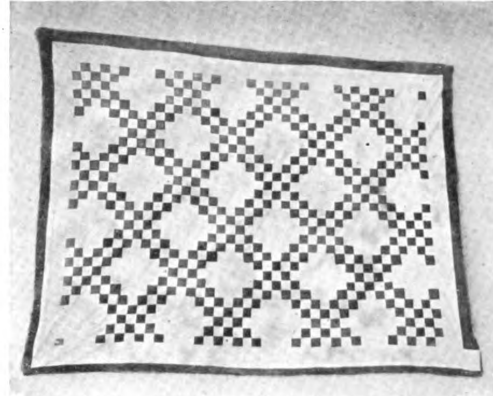
By EVELYN PRINCE CAHOON

“YOU ought to be learning to sew, you’re old enough,” said the old-fashioned grandmother. “I guess I’ll cut you out some squares to overhand.”

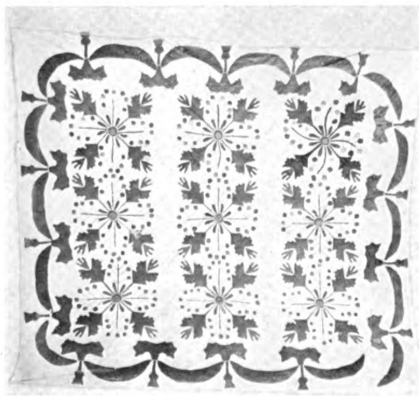
That was the beginning for the little “sandy-haired” girl of five who was called in out of the sunshine, lest she become tanned, and seated on a “cricket” at her grandmother’s feet to learn to sew a “stint” of “squares” each day lest she become lazy—the bugbear of New England life.

The beginning was the same for most little girls of the last generation, and some there were who grew up with such a hatred of sewing in consequence, that they never afterward came to really like it.

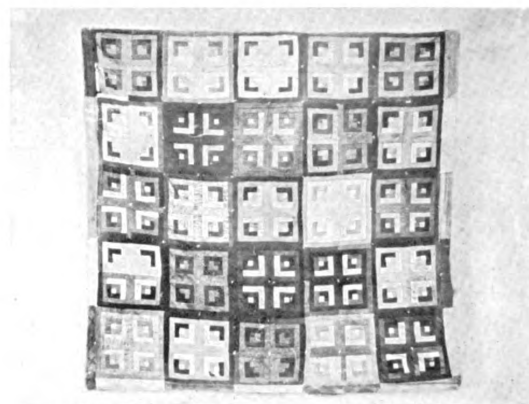
Yet more there were who, in youth hating the daily sewing over and over of exactly so many pieces of calico,



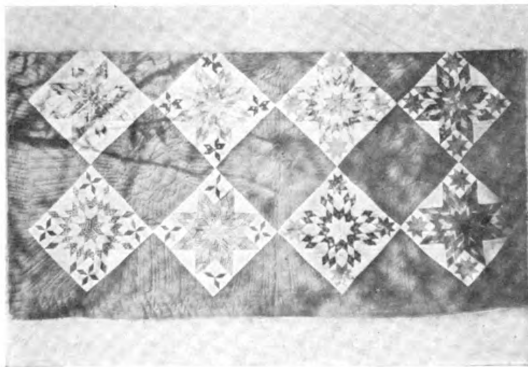
One of the patterns which are classics. A repetition of squares. This design was called the “Irish Chain.”



A fine old quilt made by painstakingly applying carefully cut figures of colored cotton to a ground of white cotton



One arrangement of the old-fashioned “Log Cabin” pattern. This one is of woolen pieces



The fantastic and very elaborate “Star” design
Each square contains exactly one hundred and forty pieces

after marriage and the new home brought the pride of possession, thanked their stars that they had early learned to handle the needle deftly, and found every day the value of that patience that sewing a “stint” had cultivated.

Quilt making of small bits of print, once an economy, is now nothing of the sort. But the creative spirit will out in spite of everything, and the woman who admires the symmetrical arrangement of exact geometrical figures of blue and white in her tiled bath-room wall, need not sneer at the woman who, having no tiles, works out the blue and white design in the print quilt of her child’s bed.

More, the quilt-maker works out the design herself, thereby cultivating in herself the love of beauty and the

House and Garden

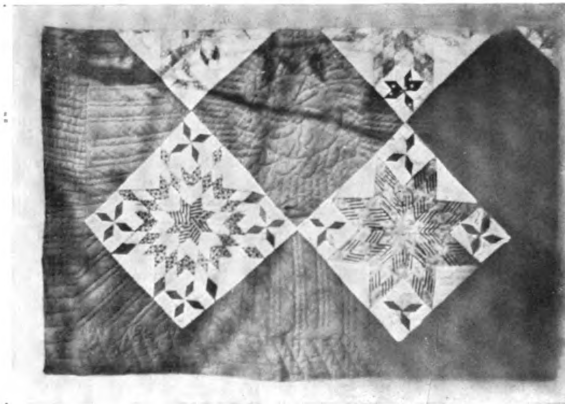
ability to create it and is likely therefore to bequeath to her child that ability. Most of those whom we recognize as artists to-day are, if the truth were known, children of mothers who in the last generation had only meager materials with which to express themselves. And commonest of those meager materials was the cotton cloth with which they worked out pleasing designs in their quilts.

The clothes-lines in a small town, during house-cleaning time, often reveal real treasures in the form of mosaics in cotton; and the prettiest are often the simplest designs, a repetition, for instance, of small squares of only two colors in various positions. Many of these patterns are classics, being the ones still used in technical schools and in factories for goods turned out to the trade, so beautiful that

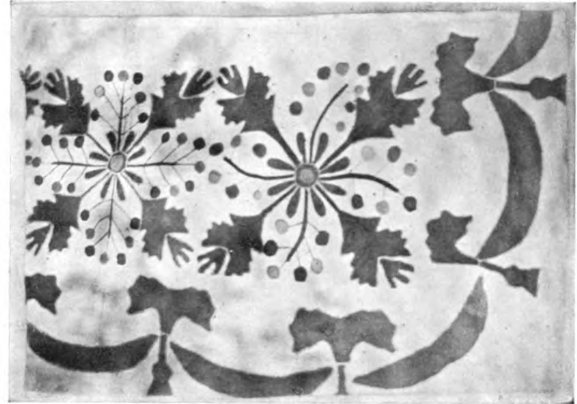
the world will never drop them, apparently never grow tired of them.

These fine old designs were most often suggested to the artist by some natural object, as a flower or a star, though this idea may be wonderfully elaborated as is shown in the enlarged detail of a star given. Observe on this quilt the pretty design the quilting makes.

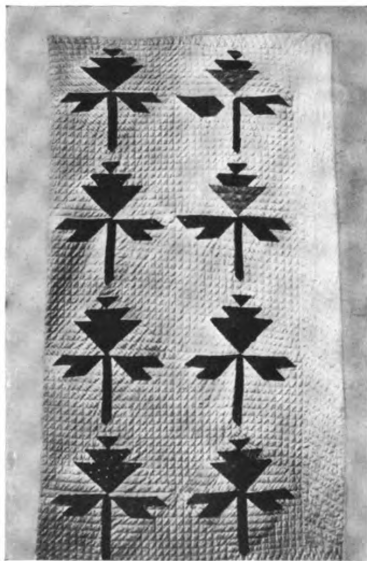
Children were generally set to sew "over and over" (it is not clear why this stitch was used as it was not one likely to be much used in ordinary sewing) after their elders had carefully basted the work for them. The older people themselves, when they made patchwork, used the common running stitch. Certain patterns were lent from hand to hand, and used over and over,



Enlarged detail of the "Star"



Detail of appliqued quilt



The "Tree" pattern. Observe the accuracy of the quilting

for instance, the "basket," and the "log cabin." "Friendship" quilts used to be made by all the young ladies. Each of her friends made a "square" or "block" of bits of the maker's own gowns, and in the middle sewed a white piece of cambric on which the maker's name was written with indelible ink, with occasionally the address and the date added. These were frequently made for young ladies about to be married, and served the same purpose as an expression of good will as the various "showers" of linen, tinware and so on now frequently given.

"Charm" quilts were queer things in which only one piece of each kind of cloth was used. Beauty they could hardly have, but interest, always, to the



A silk "Crazy" quilt. Many of the pieces are beautifully painted or embroidered

Apple Blossoms



A "Charm" quilt of wool containing two thousand pieces, most of them not larger than two by three inches



The village clothes-line during house-cleaning time often reveals many treasures in quilts

maker and to the convalescent from sickness who had nothing absorbing to occupy his mind.

The latest, perhaps *last*, development was the "crazy" quilt, more often than not made of silk or wool, and when made of silk ornamented with a flounce of oriental or silk lace, lined with silk, tied like a comfort, rather than quilted, with ribbon.

These quilts were, as a rule, made in squares of about fourteen or sixteen inches and these squares set together. The squares themselves were pieces of strong cotton cloth covered with pieces of silk in patches of any possible form, either making a fragmentary design or without rhyme or reason.

The joinings of the pieces were covered with fancy stitches of embroidery silk. There were crazy quilts and crazy quilts. Irregular bits of widely different colors may be put together so as to be extremely ugly, or if harmoniously arranged may be really effective.

The quilting itself was a fine art. Four sticks, called quilting frames, each about eight feet long were fastened near the ends so as to form a square. Tightly stretched on this square the lining was fastened. Over this sheet wadding was spread and over this the patchwork "cover" was stretched.

The whole rested at the corners upon trestles or upon a table or chair backs, in a horizontal position, and the women sat around this frame, with the left hand under the work to guide it, and the right one on the upper surface sewing the lining and cover together through the wadding. The beauty of the quilting was in the evenness of touch which made the tiny stitches exactly regular, and in the accuracy shown in following the pattern which had first been outlined on the surface with chalk. Every community had certain women who were known as "good quilters"—and these quilters were certain of being in great demand, particularly so when a trousseau was being prepared, for young ladies then never thought of entering the married state without a good supply of all household needs in the fabric line, and the more the family felt itself worthy of respect, the more carefully was this supply prepared. An acquaintance who lives in the rather cramped quarters of a modern flat, keeps in storage, trunks containing the thirty-five quilts given her by her grandmother at her wedding. Now, with the trend toward a simpler life, the making of quilts and quiltings seems to be coming into style again.

Apple Blossoms

THE Alpine peaks with crystal hoods of snow,
The ruins crowning heights along the Rhine,
Are views both beautiful and grand, I know;
But there's another closer home—and mine!
'Tis where a brown old homestead nestles soft
Against a hill where broad fields stretch away,
And in the swaying branches, high aloft,
The robin gives to all his sweetest lay;
The scene is one of rapture and of bliss,
When breezes of the early summer blow,
And the red lips of the apple blossoms kiss
The blue eyes of the violets below!

Let others fare to far-off distant climes,
Enraptured by each castle, crag and scaur,
The wonders of the olden, vanished times,
Or sunny scenes that sleep in isles afar;
Home-biding, let me wander here where swell
The flowered fields whose scented billows roll
With white caps of the daisies; winds that tell
The secret of the rose whose heart they stole;
That I for just one season may not miss
The beauties of the scene I cherish so;
When the red lips of the apple blossoms kiss
The blue eyes of the violets below! —A. L. Rice

The Best Fungicides

By JOHN W. HALL

THE question as to whether it will pay to spray fruit trees, vineyards, and plants in general about the yard and garden, has long since been answered in the affirmative; nor is it necessary to go into the question of the relation of spraying to hygiene. Suffice it to say that if the fungicide is properly used no danger to health need be apprehended.

Many tests and experiments have been made with a view of determining the most economical, effective, and practical preventives of fungous parasites, but none have been found which fill so many requirements as bordeaux mixture and the ammoniacal solution of copper carbonate. Of the two preparations, bordeaux mixture has long been recognized as possessing the most valuable qualities, and it is probably more generally used to-day than all other fungicides combined. The chief points in its favor are, (1) its thorough effectiveness as a fungicide, (2) its cheapness, (3) its safety from a hygienic standpoint, (4) its harmlessness to the sprayed plant, and (5) its beneficial effects on plants other than those resulting from the mere prevention of the attacks of parasites.

Therefore it becomes necessary to consider only the two fungicides in question. All things considered the best results will be obtained from the bordeaux mixture made on what is known as the fifty gallon formula.

BORDEAUX MIXTURE

This contains—water, fifty gallons; copper sulphate, six pounds, and unslaked lime, four pounds.

The method of combining the ingredients has an important bearing on both the chemical composition and physical structure of the mixture. For example, if the copper sulphate is dissolved in a small quantity of water and the lime milk diluted to a limited extent only, there results, when these materials are brought together, a thick mixture, having strikingly different characters from one made by pouring together weak solutions of lime and copper sulphate. It is true, furthermore, that if the copper sulphate solution and lime milk are poured together while the latter or both are warm, different effects are obtained than if both solutions are cool at the moment of mixing. Where the mixture has been properly made there is scarcely any settling after an hour, while the improperly made mixture has settled more than half.

The best results have been obtained from the use of the bordeaux mixture made in accordance with the following directions: In a barrel or other suitable vessel place twenty-five gallons of water. Weigh out

six pounds of copper sulphate, then tie the same in a piece of coarse gunny sack and suspend it just beneath the surface of the water. By tying the bag to a stick laid across the top of the barrel no further attention will be required. In another vessel slake four pounds of lime, using care in order to obtain a smooth paste, free from grit and small lumps. To accomplish this it is best to place the lime in an ordinary water pail and add only a small quantity of water at first, say a quart or a quart and a half. When the lime begins to crack and crumble and the water to disappear add another quart or more, exercising care that the lime at no time gets too dry. Toward the last considerable water will be required, but if added carefully and slowly a perfectly smooth paste will be obtained, provided, of course, the lime is of good quality. When the lime is slaked add sufficient water to the paste to bring the whole up to twenty-five gallons. When the copper sulphate is entirely dissolved and the lime is cool, pour the lime milk and copper sulphate solution slowly together into a barrel holding fifty gallons. The milk of lime should be thoroughly stirred before pouring. This method insures good mixing, but to complete this work the barrel of liquid should receive a final stirring, for at least five minutes, with a broad wooden paddle.

It is necessary to determine whether the mixture is perfect—that is, if it will be safe to apply it to tender foliage. To accomplish this, a simple test may be used. Insert the blade of a penknife in the mixture, allowing it to remain there for at least one minute. If metallic copper forms on the blade, or, in other words, if the polished surface of the steel assumes the color of copper plate, the mixture is unsafe and more lime must be added. If, on the other hand, the blade of the knife remains unchanged, it is safe to conclude that the mixture is as perfect as it can be made.

AMMONIACAL SOLUTION OF COPPER CARBONATE

This preparation, as now used with the best results, contains—water, forty-five gallons; strong aqua ammonia, three pints, and copper carbonate, five ounces.

The copper carbonate is first made into a thin paste by adding a pint and a half of water. The ammonia water is then slowly added, and if of the proper strength, i. e., twenty-six degrees, a clear, deep-blue solution is obtained, and it does not become cloudy when diluted to forty-five gallons.

The ammoniacal solution of copper carbonate

(Continued on page 7, Advertising Section.)

EDITOR'S TALKS AND CORRESPONDENCE



The Editor, Margaret Greenleaf, wishes to extend a personal invitation to all readers of *House and Garden* to send to the Correspondence Department, inquiries on any matter pertaining to house finishing and furnishing. Careful consideration is given each inquiry, the letter and answer being published in due time as matters of interest to other readers. Where an early reply is desired, if a stamp and self-addressed envelope are enclosed, the answer will be sent. No charge whatever is made for any advice.

CORRESPONDENCE

PARTITION BOARDS

I AM anxious to utilize the third story of my house. There are no partitions and I wish to make two rooms. Could you tell me if it will be possible to do this at small cost? I have heard of some kind of composition board which may be used in this way. If you would tell me your sincere opinion in regard to this, I would appreciate it. I am enclosing a self-addressed envelope.

Answer: We feel confident in recommending to you the material for partitions of which we have sent you by post the name and address of the makers. Full directions for putting this in place accompany it, we believe.

DESIGN FOR AN IRON GATE

I am very anxious to have a low iron fence with a simple dignified design for the gate. My place is in the suburbs. The frontage is 160 feet. I would be glad if you could supply me with some suggestions for the style of fence and gate you would recommend.

Answer: There are several points to be considered in making the selection of design for your iron fence and entrance gate, namely; the type of fence used about the neighboring places; whether the entrance will be to a driveway or merely open into the walk, etc. We are sending you by post the addresses of several firms from whom you can probably obtain designs and estimates which will be satisfactory.

SECTIONAL FURNITURE

I have seen advertised in a number of magazines furniture which is shipped to the purchaser in sections and can be put together by the amateur. I have looked through the old copies of *HOUSE AND GARDEN* but did not find any such advertisement. Can you tell me anything of these goods and if they are practical?

Answer: We have had no personal experience

with the furniture referred to, but believe it is entirely practical and can be purchased at comparatively low rates. Instructions for putting the pieces together are supplied. We are glad to send you the names of manufacturers making this.

STENCILS FOR THE SIDE WALL

I have noted in your correspondence that you have recommended certain stencil designs to the readers of *HOUSE AND GARDEN*. I would be glad to know if I can obtain a suitable design for an all-over wall treatment to be applied to prepared burlap. I enclose a self-addressed envelope for reply.

Answer: We are sending you the addresses of firms from whom you can obtain stencil designs. Some of these companies get out loose sheets of designs and you may make your selection from these. Full directions for application accompany the materials.

FURNITURE FOR A FORMAL GARDEN

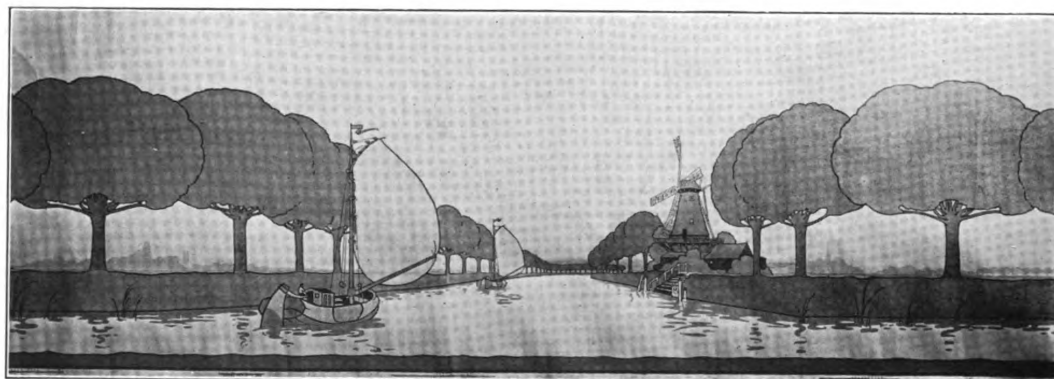
I have a small formal garden at the rear of my city house. The center of the plot holds a fountain which is decorative, though simple in design. I am anxious to secure suitable vases or jars to hold ornamental plants, also seats to be placed against the high bricked wall. I enclose a self-addressed envelope.

Answer: We are pleased to send you the requested addresses, and from these firms you can undoubtedly make suitable selections. *HOUSE AND GARDEN* is particularly interested in the beautifying of the city backyard, and our July number will contain some excellent articles along this line.

ROOF GARDEN OF AN APARTMENT HOUSE

We occupy the top floor of a city apartment house and the owner has allowed me the privilege of using the roof as a summer garden. I am very anxious to have some practical suggestions for its treatment, and if *HOUSE AND GARDEN* would be kind enough

(Continued on page 7, Advertising Section.)



IN THE CITIES' MARTS

[Addresses of the retail shops carrying the goods mentioned in this department will be sent upon receipt of request enclosing a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Inquiries should be sent to the Special Service Bureau of HOUSE AND GARDEN, 345 Fifth Avenue, New York City.]

JAPANESE rice-paper lamp shades are now very much in vogue. While many of the shops show shades upon which are very beautiful Japanese designs, it is rarely that one finds in stock, shades decorated with the particular flower or colors one desires. To meet such demands a shop in New York employs a Japanese artist who makes a specialty of decorating these shades to harmonize with the room in which they are to be used. If samples of the coloring or wall-paper used in the room are furnished, he will work out a design in a strikingly Japanese style. These, specially designed, are to be had at the reasonable price of \$4.50.

A most appropriate frieze for a dining-room or den, furnished in the mission style, is the Dutch canal design, shown above. This comes in two colorings. The most attractive one shows a yellow background, green trees and the sails of the boat, rich brown. This can be used above a high wainscot or the lower wall covered with a light brown fabric paper. The frieze is thirty inches wide and costs \$8.00 a roll of eight yards. The other coloring is in tones of delft blue.

For a child's bedroom a bird frieze in soft pastel tones of blue and blue-gray is particularly fascinating and as delightful in drawing as in color. Frequently in the up-to-date hygienic nursery the walls are treated with oil paint and given a perfectly flat finish which is washable and sanitary. Under these conditions a frieze such as this could be used from the ceiling angle to the picture rail and relieve the monotony of plain walls and give charm to the room. This frieze costs \$2.80 a roll of eight yards.

The riot of exquisite color and the mingling of many blossoms in the designs of the new cretonnes, linen taffetas, and quaint glazed chintz, seem to

breathe of spring-time and summer. While the designs are much more beautiful and varied this season than those offered any previous year, the prices of many of the choicest are extremely moderate.

A wardrobe of diminutive lines covered with cretonne is very useful in the small bedroom. The framework is painted white and all four sides and top covered with cretonne. The lower part of the interior consists of four drawers and across the top above these a rod is placed from which coat hangers are suspended. The case is about five feet high by two feet square and costs \$40.50. While this has the advantage of taking up little space, it is very useful for holding hats and bodices.

Very artistic ferneries are made of grass and given a dull gold finish. Many of these are ornamented with sprays or festoons of flowers which are given the same finish as the body of the fernery. The size most used for the table decoration sells for \$2.50. These baskets are also made in sizes suitable for large potted plants.

Where one is interested in steins the extensive collection offered by a downtown importer is attractive. Many of these show the colored stone-clay inlay which is made only in certain parts of Germany. The strong yet harmonious coloring and quaint designs of these make them very desirable.

To obtain really good and correct reproductions of old furniture at reasonable rates is the desire of many householders. Such furniture which is made entirely by hand in the shops of the firm offering it for sale gladdens the heart of the buyer. Excellent reproductions of wing chairs, old Hepplewhite card tables, bedside tables and mahogany chairs of Sheraton lines are to be found at most reasonable prices in a Southern city.

The demand for the really quaint Russian brasses is constantly increasing. Nevertheless at many of the little Russian shops these may be purchased for very little money. Candelabra, candlesticks, round and oval trays, tea caddies and loving cups, all stamped with the Russian coat of arms, make very acceptable wedding gifts.

THE GARDEN
SUGGESTIONS, QUERIES AND ANSWERS
JOHN W HALL

CHINA asters are among the best of all the annual garden flowers. They are easy of cultivation, free of bloom, and comprise many forms and colors. They are adapted for profuse and generous effect in schemes of planting. They can be grown to perfection without the use of glass. When many of the annuals and a large portion of the perennials are exhausted, they attain their best; they are most attractive in the decline of the season, from late August to frost. Usually an aster border will be in bloom until the snows of November. They are especially effective in borders; do well in almost any soil, but preferably rich and moderately moist.

The long-stemmed single china asters are coming much in vogue at the present time with persons of esthetic taste, who see in them a beautiful simplicity. They are extremely decorative, and are, in a measure, supplanting the double varieties.

As cut flowers they are almost indispensable. By gathering them with long stems, then cutting a little off the stems and renewing the water each day they can be kept fresh and bright for two or three weeks.

Start your own plants from the seed, which can be sown as late as June. They are more liable to be true to name when grown from the seed. Work into the bed a liberal supply of pulverized sheep-manure; well-rotted barnyard manure can be used.

Dahlias will be unusually popular this year. There is only one secret in dahlia culture to get early and excellent bloom, and that is late and moderately deep planting. From June 15th to July 15th is the best time for planting the roots. If grown from the seed the plants should now be put in the bed or border. Those who insist upon earlier planting do injustice to the popularity of the flower.

Aim at high culture in all undertakings in the garden, including perfect cleanliness and the best enrichment of the soil. From meager feeding and slovenly care good results cannot be expected in the garden any more than in other phases of plant life.

To get the greatest returns should be the object of every gardener, and every foot of available space should be occupied but not necessarily crowded.

All shrubs, trees and flowers have their enemies and usually in the form of worm, bug, or blight of some kind that retards growth and fruition. A good sprayer with a liberal use of bordeaux mixture will go a long way towards destroying insects and fungi, and keeping plant life healthy and thrifty.

Look after the matter of fertilization. There are but very few plants but what will do much better if given judicious feeding about this time of their development. Pulverized sheep-manure, in small quantity, sprinkled over the surface and then raked into the soil, will add greatly to the density and color of the foliage at the same time bringing out the full development of the bloom.

The lawn must be looked after and the grass kept in growing condition that it will the better stand the hot days of the summer months. The oftener it is mowed the better it will withstand dry and hot weather, but do not mow when the grass is wet. When necessary to use the hose apply enough water so that the ground below the sod becomes thoroughly soaked; that will attract the roots downward.

Try using a fertilizer on the lawn at intervals during the summer and you will be surprised at the result. Only a slight dressing at a time is best. Pulverized sheep-manure, or a commercial fertilizer, manufactured for lawn purposes, is best. Either is more efficacious than stable manure, more cleanly and more sanitary.

It is very important to look closely after the rose bushes at this time of the year. Rose bugs, caterpillars and other insects will more than likely show their presence, and if allowed to take possession of the plants, perfect roses or buds will be out of the question. Hand picking is about the only reliable method of getting rid of the rose bug and caterpillar. Sprinkling the plants with a moderately strong tobacco water will usually destroy all other insects.

Do not permit the blooms to dry up on the bushes. It is better for the plants to cut them, and even with a generous stem. New growth will immediately follow the cutting of blooms and it is the new growth that must be depended upon for additional flowers.

The *Bessera elegans* and *Milla biflora* are two Mexican flowers that deserve places in the garden. The *Bessera elegans* is a charming summer flowering plant, grown from the bulb. It will bloom very shortly after being put in the open ground and keep on blooming until cut down by the frost. The foliage is from ten to twelve inches long, thin and rush-like. The flower stems are from twelve to twenty-four inches long, supporting a dozen or more bell-shaped flowers of a bright coral-scarlet with white cups and dark blue anthers. The flowers are very useful in making bouquets and contrast well with *Milla biflora*. The best effect is obtained by planting the bulbs in groups of from twelve to twenty-four.

Flowers of the *Milla biflora* are produced in pairs of a pure waxy white, measuring nearly two and a half inches in diameter. The petals are thick and leathery, of great substance, and will keep for days when cut and placed in water. The foliage is slender, resembling somewhat that of the rush-leaved narcissus.

House and Garden

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

I am going to make a Martha Washington garden. Will you please give me the names and addresses of reliable nurserymen and of dealers in the best fertilizers for my purpose?

E. C. H.

Newport, R. I.

Consult the advertising columns of HOUSE AND GARDEN. The products of patrons of this magazine may be relied upon as being the best obtainable. If you do not find through that channel what you desire the information will be furnished you by personal letter.

This department of the magazine is always glad to furnish information along the lines of your inquiry.

GROWING PLANTS IN A ROOM NOT INJURIOUS FOR PIANOS

Will the growing or keeping of plants in my drawing room injure my piano?

V. W. X.

Cleveland, Ohio.

No. On the contrary the moisture afforded by the plants will keep the piano from drying out with the excessive heat of the houses either in summer or winter.

It is not a bad idea to have Chinese lilies and hyacinths in glass bowls and jars standing on or near the piano. A big rose jar or a large glass pitcher filled with a dozen or more vines of Tradescantia growing in water is beneficial. This vine comes in the plain green and in variegated leaves, and is a charming addition to a room as well as making the air more moist. The vines root readily in water and require comparatively little light.

About once a week the plants should be carefully removed, the vessels washed and refilled with pure water. A small lump of charcoal placed in the water will keep it from becoming impure.

MAKING AND STOCKING A ROCKERY

Please tell me how I can most effectively make use of a large mound of stone, some three feet across, a collection from blasting. Also can I use the droppings from hens and pigeons for my flower beds?

Providence, R. I.

R. L. K.

You can cover the mound of stone with winter ivy and that will give you nice foliage, practically all the year. A mound in a yard the size of yours covered with ivy, with an urn placed on top and in which nasturtiums and petunias are planted, will give a very pleasing effect.

If the size of the stones composing the rockery will permit, are sufficiently large and jagged to lie well apart, the crevices can be filled with rich soil

and the seed of a number of annuals planted therein. Verbena, sweet alyssum, petunia, and nasturtium all do well under such conditions.

If the size of the stones is small it is an easy matter to form pockets by the use of cement in which a great variety of plants may be grown. The pockets should be formed in irregular shapes and sizes. This treatment gives a very artistic effect.

I would not advise the use of droppings from fowls for flower beds. When the weather warms up and just when you are expecting your plants to do their best they will more than likely burn if you use the manure from the fowl houses. I know of no fertilizer better adapted to all purposes about the garden than pulverized sheep-manure. It is easy to handle, is not unsightly, and supplies all the essential elements of plant food.

GROWING THE OYSTER PLANT

Please tell me something about the oyster plant and how to grow it. Is it too late to grow the plant this year?

R. S. I.

Cambridge, Mass.

It is not too late to grow the oyster plant in your climate provided you get busy about it. The plant does best in a deep, rich soil that is somewhat sandy. Do not use fresh manure for fertilizing, as it produces too many lateral roots, but bone meal or pulverized sheep-manure may be used to good effect.

Get the seed into the ground as soon as possible, making drills one foot apart and covering the seed with about an inch of soil. When the plants are large enough to facilitate rapid and careful handling, thin out, leaving a plant every five or six inches.

The crop may be dug in the fall and stored in the cellar, covered with sand, or the roots may be left in the ground until spring. As the roots are hardy there will be no loss if they are left in the ground.

VINES AND SHRUBS FOR COVERING FENCES

I live on a corner and have a fence I wish to cover with a vine or shrubs. Will you kindly tell me what is best for conditions. It is impossible to keep people from walking over the lawn.

C. F. H.

Syracuse, N. Y.

People who do not have lawns of their own cannot see any reason why other people should have them and manifest their ideas by doing just what you complain of, and wish to avoid. As you have to disfigure your lawn with a fence as a means of protection, the idea of covering it is a good one.

Evergreen sweet-scented honeysuckle will make a good fence covering. It is a vigorous grower; blooms

(Continued on page 5, Advertising Section.)

The Piano as a Decorative Feature of a Room

How it is now Possible to have the Instrument Perfectly
Complement the Scheme of Furnishing

IN many of the handsome and beautiful residences designed to-day the music-room is as much a component part of the plan as is the library. Splendid and elaborate, or dignified and stately decorative effects are carried out in some of these rooms, which are perfect in every detail.

Where the exquisitely paneled walls and decorative plaster ornament, after the time of Marie Antoinette, are used it is possible to have a piano case designed in complete harmony with these surroundings. Where somber Gothic effects in dark oak and tapestried walls furnish the setting, a piano conforming in every respect to the characteristics of the room may be procured. It is only within the past few years that this has been possible and now Chickering & Sons have so perfected this branch of their work that the architect and decorator depend largely upon them to supply this most important feature of the music-room.

In the more simple home as well as in many handsome residences the piano must find its place in the living-room of the house, or in the individual suite. Here again is noticeable the great advance in the art of designing the piano case to suit the room in which it is placed. Supplied with accurate measurements of the room, the maker will design the piano to fit the space best adapted to its several requirements—the sounding properties, and its harmony with the general fittings of the room.

The quaintly beautiful old case of the piano of the Empire period shown in the room illustrated, seems fallen from its high estate. It becomes merely an

ornamental piece of furniture and a receptacle for bric-a-brac. "Its music stilled, its Soul has flown."

It is quite possible, however, to procure a piano which is the product of the best makers in an equally beautiful case and designed after the Empire, or any of the other periods.

In a residence built in the far West, the work of a well-known architect, there is a living-room thirty-two by forty-five feet which in every sense fills the requirements of its name. Directly opposite the chief entrance door the chimney piece and

open fireplace—of heroic dimensions—is set. In one end of the room a billiard table is placed, and at the other end a very beautiful piano, designed especially for this room. Circassian walnut is the wood used for the standing woodwork of the room which includes high paneled wainscot reaching to within three feet of the ceiling line.

Heavy beams

of the same beautiful wood give balance to the room. Between the wainscot and ceiling the wall space is covered with a Gobelin and ceiling, yellow tan and brown tapestry which harmonizes perfectly with the tones of the woodwork. The ceiling between the beams is tinted the same shade of soft tan. Much of the furniture in the room is covered with the tapestry. The draperies are of rough raw silk, Gobelin blue in tone. The door curtains of plain velvet show the same color.

The case of the piano is of the Circassian walnut as is the large central table which complements it. Many ferns and palms on teak-wood stands introduce the strong green of the billiard cloth in the far end



SUPERB PIANO IN SATINWOOD AND GOLD, STYLE LOUIS XVI.
Courtesy of Chickering & Sons

House and Garden



THE PIANO MUST FIND ITS PLACE IN THE LIVING-ROOM OF THE HOME

of the room. The Oriental rugs used upon the dark hard wood floor were chosen for the tones of soft tan, blue and dull green which they show. The billiard table also is of the 'Circassian walnut' completing a most unusual [and beautiful room] of which the superb piano is its most noticeable feature.

The pianos made by Chickering & Sons have long held a high place in the musical world, the tone and excellence of construction of these instruments being unexcelled. Now, however, they are becoming quite as well known to the architect, the decorator, and their interested clients, as the

cases made for these are particularly beautiful and of decorative value. This company has in their employ a number of recognized artists who have made special and careful study in foreign countries of the line of work they follow. These artists design the

cases to suit the rooms in which the pianos will be placed.

Preliminary sketches are made and submitted to the architect or purchaser. The superb piano shown in the illustration of the Louis XVI. style is incased in satinwood with gold ornamentation. The photograph was furnished us through the courtesy of Messrs. Chickering & Sons.



"ITS MUSIC STILLED, ITS SOUL HAS FLOWN"

THE GARDEN

(Continued from page 218.)

nearly the whole season; deliciously sweet, and the flowers are buff, yellow and white. This variety will retain foliage all winter.

Sweet-scented Japan clematis is a very fine climbing vine. The flowers are rich, creamy white and come in clusters, completely covering the vine.

Personally I would prefer the climbing rose to any vine for the purpose you have in mind. There are a number of varieties that are good. By setting the bushes four feet apart, using a wire to facilitate training, you can get a good covering with one year's growth.

There is a rose commonly called Memorial, and sometimes called Wichuraiana, especially adapted. It climbs just where trained and makes a dense mat of shiny dark green foliage. The leaves are of leathery texture, almost insect proof and remain green nearly all winter. It blooms in profusion in June and July. To get immediate effect buy three or four year old bushes.

THE SPINELESS CACTUS

(Continued from page 190.)

exploitation, commercially, of this and other achievements of Mr. Burbank, would seem to indicate that a very definite and carefully considered plan of development work is about to be inaugurated the scientific value of which can scarcely be foretold. It is not improbable that the spineless cactus may ere long take a leading place in the list of the valuable food plants of the world.

SIMPLE CURTAINS FOR THE MODEST HOME

(Continued from page 200.)

curtain is made, is often of such poor quality, that they prove an extravagance at any price.

It is, therefore, decidedly best to have curtains, especially made for each window. For such curtains select material that will launder well; as dainty freshness is half the charm of such draperies. There are many materials which can be bought at very low prices, but the quality is often unsatisfactory. The cotton crêpe material above described comes well within the possibilities of the

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effectively assure to the bathroom in which they are installed the highest degree of sanitation, thorough working efficiency and permanent beauty.


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Coulter & Westhoff, Architects, Saranac Lake.

DEXTER BROTHERS' ENGLISH SHINGLE STAINS


The average stain will not hold its color at the seaside; ours will. This is perhaps the hardest test for a stain. Ours gives no offensive odor, will not wash off nor turn black. It gives a wealth of artistic beauty at a lower cost than paint. Samples and particulars on request.

DEXTER BROTHERS COMPANY, 206 Broad St., BOSTON

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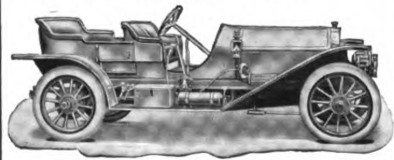
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Pennsylvania cars are satisfying cars, because of their extraordinary ability and unfailing dependability.

There has never been an unsuccessful Pennsylvania Model.



Type F, 6-cylinder, 75 H. P.
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NOTE: If there is no "Pennsylvania" representative in your territory, we shall be pleased to supply you direct from the factory.

The Next Time You Select a Rug, Turn Up the End and Look for the Name Whittall's Woven in the Back.



It is your guarantee that the details you cannot see—the real worth that means long wear and satisfaction—are in every rug or yard of carpet bearing the name Whittall's.

A Whittall rug or carpet is of better material, better dye, better design, better woven, will hold its beauty longer and will give you better service and better satisfaction than any other you can possibly buy for the same money.

Then there is such a wide variety to select from. The line comprises 497 selections, in 11 qualities, offering a wide range of styles to fit any decorative scheme.

So you may rest assured that when you buy a Whittall rug or carpet there will not be the slightest defect to develop later and make you dissatisfied with your purchase.


Tell your dealer you want to see Whittall rugs and carpets. If he cannot supply you write to us direct, giving his name.

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 Is our free booklet, Series I, which we want you to write for today.

It tells you about the details you cannot see for yourself—that count for durability and satisfaction—full of helpful suggestions.

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Bungalows and American Homes



Design No. 2, Built in California and Iowa—Cost \$2,200

Our handsome 100 page, 8x11 book of Bungalows, Mission, Colonial, English timbered and concrete houses for 1929 shows interiors, exteriors, and floor plans and actual cost to build. **Figures that you can rely upon.** These designs are photos of structures we have built in California and throughout the country—not theoretical pen pictures. Bungalows rent and sell at sight, and are an excellent investment. Price of book \$1.00, P. O. or express order, prepaid. Sample folder free.

Brown Bros., Architects, 917 Security Bank Bldg., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

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Thread & Thrum Rugs

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 Different from all other rugs, made in colorings to match your decorations. Special styles to go with Mission or Fumed Oak Furniture. Wool welt, seamless, heavy, reversible and durable. All sizes up to 12 feet wide and any length. Sold by best shops in principal cities. If your dealer does not keep them, write Arnold, Constable & Co., New York, for Color Line and Price List.

THREAD AND THRUM WORKSHOP,
 Auburn, N. Y.

most modest purse, and while holding its color will launder satisfactorily without shrinking.

Also for the cottage windows printed muslins (to be found at the dress counter in the department stores) often give more attractive results than where regulation curtain material is employed. These fabrics may be bought from twelve and one-half to twenty-five cents a yard, and when properly made and hung, trimmed about with three inch frills and tied back on either side of the window with smart bows of the same material the effect is very pleasing.

The selection of dotted, striped, embroidered, and figured muslin shown this season is large, and the prices range from fifteen to thirty-five cents a yard, thirty-four inches in width. The color scheme of a room may be daintily completed by introducing this muslin for window curtains, bedspreads, bureau and chiffonier covers; or an entire dressing table may be draped with the muslin. Such a table is extremely attractive and in certain rooms more effective than any style of bureau or dresser which could be used.

A cheap kitchen table makes the best foundation; in size one about three feet six inches should be selected. A plain colored sateen or percaline of the dominating color of the room may be used for the under cover. This should be tacked smoothly over the top of the table and a deep, slightly full flounce fastened securely and closely to the table edge should reach to the floor line. The muslin flounce falling over this should be run on a cord without heading, allowing one and a half of the material for fullness. This should be finished by a three inch hem at the bottom. The top of the table to be covered by a width of the muslin finished with a frill one and one-half inches in width extending slightly over the edge of the table. The mirror used above may be a triple glass or a plain mirror. Where the latter is selected an extension bracket may be placed above the center of the mirror and over this a length of muslin, trimmed on either side and across the lower edge with two and one-half inch ruffles, should be thrown extending to the top of the dressing table. This gives a quaint and decorative effect. Such a table may be kept constantly fresh by having two sets of the muslin draperies as these may be readily removed and laundered.

Hartford are Real rugs. They satisfy the desire for oriental weaves, and make good—nothing else can do. There is only one grade of "Hartford Saxony," neither can you be deceived, for "HARTFORD SAXONY" is woven into every rug, even as the weavers of old wove their own personality into every rug. For colored illustrated booklet address **W. SAXONY, 41 Union Square, New York.**

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THE FRENCH ARTICHOKE

(Continued from page 202.)

blossoms may appear in August and September. The second year, however, all plants will flower and continue to do so for years. The plants should be set in rows about four feet apart, and about three feet apart in the rows.

THE BEST FUNGICIDES

(Continued from page 214.)

being a clear liquid, its presence on the leaves, fruit, and other parts of the treated plants is not so noticeable as where the preparations containing lime are used.

APPLYING FUNGICIDES

To obtain the best results from the use of either the bordeaux mixture or the ammoniacal solution of copper carbonate, it is necessary that the fungicide should reach all parts of the plant subject to the attacks of the fungous parasites. Therefore a sprayer, the knapsack pump, hand pump, or horse-power sprayer, should be used for making the applications. It must be borne in mind that these treatments are preventive, rather than curative, and for this reason it is important that the sprayings should be made at the proper time and in a thorough manner.

EDITOR'S TALKS AND CORRESPONDENCE

(Continued from page 215.)

to supply me with the address of a firm who specializes on this I would appreciate it, also where I can obtain wicker furniture suitable for use here, and what finish would be best to give the chairs, etc.

Answer: We are very glad to send you the requested address, and interested to note the growth of the idea among the city people of utilizing the roofs of apartment houses and other residences. These can be very simply arranged and at comparatively little cost. We send you the address of a new firm from whom you can obtain willow furniture at very reasonable rates. There is an enamel made which is impervious to heat and moisture, and is a very effective finish for such furniture where it seems desirable to enamel it. A heavy spar varnish also protects the willow

THE Velvet Grip

THE CUSHION RUBBER BUTTON

THE BUTTONS ARE MOULDED FROM BEST GRADE RUBBER

HOSE SUPPORTERS

WORN ALL OVER THE WORLD

DURABLE STYLISH COMFORTABLE

WEBS FRESH FROM THE LOOMS

METAL PARTS HEAVY NICKEL PLATE

THIS GUARANTY COUPON-In Yellow IS ATTACHED THIS WAY TO EVERY PAIR OF THE GENUINE—BE SURE IT'S THERE.

Sample Pair, Mercerized 25c., Silk 50c. Mailed on receipt of price

GEORGE FROST COMPANY, Makers BOSTON

WEAR LONGER THAN OTHERS

THE VELVET GRIP HOSE SUPPORTER IS GUARANTEED TO DEALER AND USER AGAINST IMPERFECTIONS

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Steam and Hot Water Heating Systems

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Nothing equals them for hanging doors either in

Big Public Buildings or Private Dwellings

Two will frequently take the place of three ordinary hinges, and their action is noiseless and perfect. Made in Wrought Bronze and Steel.

THE STANLEY WORKS

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New York Office: 79 Chambers Street



Fire

— the greatest danger that menaces your factory

You can insure your factory against fire loss, but that does not prevent fires or protect you in consequent losses. The safe, sensible thing is to have a factory that is in itself a protection against fire—a factory of reinforced concrete.

Reinforced concrete is fireproof—not "slow-burning" or near fireproof, but unburnable. Actual fires prove it.

Such a factory will stand off fire from surrounding buildings; prevent the spread of an inside fire or damage by water, and secure the lowest rate of insurance given to buildings.

If you are interested in a factory, or consider building, send for and read our book:

"Reinforced Concrete in Factory Construction"

It isn't a book about ourselves or our product; it is a work by an expert engineer on factories, warehouses and shops built of concrete, with illustrations and detailed descriptions. Our interest in your factory lies in the fact that we make the brand of cement that you will unquestionably use if you investigate the various brands of Portland Cement and learn (as you will) that

ATLAS PORTLAND CEMENT

is the standard in cements—the brand that is always pure and always uniform; the brand the Government bought to the extent of 4,500,000 barrels, for use in building the Panama Canal.

The book will be sent on receipt of 10 cents to pay delivery charges. Other books:

- "Concrete Country Residences" (delivery charges 25c.)
- "Concrete Cottages" (sent free)
- "Concrete Construction about the Home and on the Farm" (sent free)

If your dealer cannot supply you with Atlas, write to

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INFORMATION DEPT. 30 BROADST., NEW YORK

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Garden Hose That's Built To Wear

Ordinary garden hose wears out from the inside. The least water pressure tends to unwrap it. (You know how it's made—wrapped with canvas—like a rag around a sore finger.) Kinks crack it and then come the leaks.

ELECTRIC GARDEN HOSE

Wears twice as long as ordinary hose. It will stand a higher water pressure than any other rubber hose. We guarantee it for 200 lbs. to the square inch. 400 lbs. won't burst it. It can't kink.

In brief this is Electric building. A series of woven jackets (in one piece) of high-test cotton fabric alternating with layers of fine grade rubber. The whole vulcanized into a solid seamless piece. You can buy any length up to 500 feet. Although Electric is the finest hose ever made, it costs only a cent or two more than common. If you are in the market for hose, no matter how little. Electric is worth looking for. Electric trademark is on the hose. First-class seedsmen and dealers sell it. If yours doesn't keep it, write to

ELECTRIC HOSE AND RUBBER COMPANY
WILMINGTON, DEL.

successfully and slightly deepens the color. We shall be pleased to hear from you further in regard to this, and supply you with any additional suggestions you may require.

SELECTING ORIENTAL RUGS

This letter is in the nature of an appreciation to the Department of Decoration of HOUSE AND GARDEN. Through this I have obtained a number of very beautiful Oriental rugs, excellent in quality and design and in color wholly suited to the rooms in which they are used; furthermore the prices obtained for me on these rugs were very much less than I could have secured myself. Each rug seems as if it had been made for the particular place in which it is put, and they are, indeed, a joy forever to me. I hope that you will be able to publish this letter as I know there are very many people who are out of touch with the larger cities, and do not realize the opportunities for purchasing rugs which HOUSE AND GARDEN offers them.

Answer: We thank the writer very heartily for her appreciative words and are pleased, indeed, that her rugs have proven satisfactory.

SMALL FARMS THAT PAY

FARM lands are steadily advancing in value. Vast areas are being reclaimed by irrigation and big ranches are being cut up into small farms with stock raising one of the principal features. During the panic of 1907-08, while prices of real estate declined in the cities, farm lands more than held their own. Prices of manufactured products declined while everything raised on the farm, or nearly everything, commanded advanced prices.

Small farms pay well when properly managed and cultivated. Near Philadelphia, Rev. Mr. Dedrich purchased fifteen acres, incurring a debt of several thousand dollars. By operating a dairy with his small farm he liquidated the mortgage and demonstrated that small farms intelligently managed are ample to support large families and leave a surplus.


Near Des Moines, Iowa, Francis Sestier owns what is said to be the best farm west of the Mississippi River. In seven years, free of incumbrance, he has put \$18,000 worth of improvements on



STAR-SAFETY RAZOR

Reputation from accomplished facts and not promises has carried the Star Safety Razor through thirty successful years. The advertising space prohibits going into detail in regard to the Star Safety Razor. You get value in this article, and are not paying for the advertisement. Men who have used this Razor for many years, and who have also tried numerous thin blade Safety Razors state that there is but one Safety Razor that gives entire satisfaction—and that is the "Star." We wish to send you a catalogue which tells the good points of our Razor, as compared with all others. They are sold by dealers all over the world in sets from \$1.50 up to \$35.00.

KAMPFE BROS., 6 Reade St., N. Y.



25 Cts.

LOW-COST SUBURBAN HOMES

A book of 90 plans and photographs of houses that have been built at costs ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Designed by Leading Architects

Each plan is of a house actually built and is accompanied by photographs of the finished house. In most cases the cost is given. Houses of frame, stone, brick, cement, shingle, stucco of many kinds, and on many sorts of lots, are included.

The book is beautifully printed on coated paper and sold at the following prices:

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Publishers of "House and Garden," the Illustrated Monthly Magazine

House and Garden

thirty-two acres of land. Sestier is a son of a Des Moines stonecutter, who died seven years ago, leaving a small tract of fine land. The son turned the homestead into a truck garden, and during all these years he has not spent more than fifty cents an acre for fertilizer. Sestier has built an \$8,000 house, a modern cold storage plant, a steam pumping plant that draws water from the river half a mile distant and lifts it 145 feet into a large reservoir, and has also constructed eight greenhouses. He makes his land yield from \$300 to \$400 an acre, his favorite crop being tomatoes. By raising them on poles he gets as many as 750 bushels of tomatoes per acre, his plants numbering 3,000 per acre. Mr. Sestier makes \$2,500 a year on lettuce.—*Journal of Agriculture*.

INDIVIDUAL EFFORT AT TREE PLANTING

AS a slight evidence of the awakening of the public to the necessity of renewing the growth of forest trees is the fact that many of the schools, towns, villages and cemetery corporations are planting trees. The trees are not planted for use as lumber but as shade and ornament. Owners of suburban property and of lands adjacent to large and growing towns and cities are planting shade trees with a view to enhancing the value of the lands when the time comes to cut the lands up into town lots. Even this kind of tree planting is commendable, for it adds beauty to the landscape and sweetness and purity to the breezes, but it adds nothing to the timber wealth of the country.

Trees planted along the public roadways should be set outside the right of way of the roads, otherwise they become the property of the public and subject to be used for the repair of the roads, and to be mutilated by the corporations using wires and poles.

Tree planting as an investment and for furnishing a future supply of lumber has not yet attracted the attention the subject deserves. On most of the farms too remote from transportation to justify the use of coal for fuel, the natural use of the wild forest growth is ample for many years to come.

The trees most suitable for shade and ornament are not the kind that are usually best for lumber purposes.



When Ben Franklin published the Saturday Evening Post in 1728, he was the whole shop from editor-in-chief to printer's devil.

Everywhere things are more "specialized" now-a-days—in painting as well as in publishing.

The progressive master painter *can* mix paints—but doesn't. He prefers Lowe Brothers "High Standard" Paint—machine made.

The oil and pigments are blended with a thoroughness impossible to secure in the laborious hand mixing—even when the painter has had 40 years of experience—which is what Lowe Brothers have had.

Besides, every can of "High Standard" Paint is uniform, because machinery is precise. The hand never mixes twice alike.

Then "High Standard" Paint is ready for the brush. Hand mixed paints must be thinned and thickened, tested and tried—which means extra hours for you to pay for without any actual service rendered—all saved by using "High Standard"—and you get a paint that flows on easily, covers 100 to 150 square feet per gallon more than ordinary paints, dries readily with a rich permanent lustre and leaves a smooth surface for re-painting when necessary.

The "Little Blue Flag" insures Quality, Economy and Satisfaction all around. "Little Blue Flag" Varnishes and Household Finishes for interior are just as sure to satisfy.

Ask for color cards and combinations.

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Heat and Hot Water Anywhere Anytime
at greatest saving of time, labor and fuel, with a Wilks Self-Feeding Heater, only heater with a coal magazine that regulates itself, keeping an even fire for 10 hours.

Wilks Self-Feeding Heaters
for farm buildings, green-houses, brooders, poultry houses, bowling alleys, etc., have been on the market successfully for over 50 years. Made of best steel, no sections to crack, no bolts to loosen, no leaks to fear. Tested to 100 pounds pressure.

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adapts itself to any style of architecture

It is the only building material that has no limitations and no disadvantages.

It is economical, durable, sanitary, fire-resisting, damp-proof, warm in winter and cool in summer.

Learn about concrete before you build; get the experience of those who have used it; study plans and costs of houses so built.

Then look into cement and particularly

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You will find that this brand is the standard; that its purity and uniform quality make it the best for concrete purposes. There is but one grade of Atlas—the best—and the same for everybody. Atlas Portland Cement costs no more than other brands. The largest order ever placed for cement was for Atlas, 4,500,000 barrels being purchased by the Government for use in building the Panama Canal.

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CHEAP SOFT WOODS MADE FINELY ARTISTIC

What Can Be Done with cheap Open-Grain Soft Woods, such as Butternut and Chestnut?

The *Murphy Finishing System* for such woods makes them almost as Effective as the Rich Hard Woods.

The Materials in *The System* are Chemically Adapted to the Wood and to Each Other.

First put on *Natural Wood Stain*. We make a Stain for Each Wood. It has a chemical reaction with the Sap in that Tree

Second: Use the right *Murphy Filler*, with Exact Tint of Stain. It Fills and Seals the Pores—makes a Solid Transparent Foundation for the Varnish.

Third: *Transparent Wood Finish*, 2 or 3 coats, Completes the System.

With this *Scientific Varnishing* a Cheap Trim is Peculiarly Beautiful. The *Murphy System Finish* Lasts Many Years, and grows richer with age.

Our Decoration Department would like to answer questions.

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Rheumatism, gout and nervous diseases cured. Complete hydrotherapeutic apparatus. Japanese Tea Room. Golf, swimming pool, fine livery and all outdoor pastimes.

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Excursion tickets at offices C. & O. Ry. and connecting lines. FRED STERRY, Manager Hot Springs, Va.



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Your Country Cottage

should be made to harmonize with nature and fit into the landscape, by staining it with the soft, artistic colors of

Cabot's Shingle Stains

Cheap, handsome, preservative and lasting, as proved by over twenty years' use from Bar Harbor to San Diego, from Jamaica to Hawaii.

Samples of stained wood and color chart sent free on request

SAMUEL CABOT, Inc., Sole Manufacturers,

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Cabot's Sheathing Quilt—for warm houses



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Have a Greenhouse

But by all means build it up-to-date. This is the kind you want—it is our new Curved Eave Construction. Decidedly practical, durable and exceedingly attractive, both outside and in. Right now is building time. Write.

Hitchings & Company

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Those mostly preferred are the quick-growing soft maples. These are not well suited for lumber for any purpose, even at full maturity, and very few of the soft maples ever reach full maturity.

They are so soft and brittle, and carry such a wide and heavy spread of foliage, that their branches cannot withstand even the ordinary summer thunder storms.

When tree planting is undertaken in earnest as a matter of long investment for profit, the soft, rapid-growth trees will be abandoned for the hard and sturdy nut bearers. The oaks, hickories, walnuts, pecans and others are slow to reach maturity, but they are durable, not likely to be blown down, as most of them have a large central tap-root, and large lateral roots. An acorn dropped in an out-of-the-way place in good soil may make a tree that will last for a thousand years. Four centuries, however, is sufficient to bring any of our native trees to full maturity, and all of them look good to a sawmill man when fifty years old.

As for tree planting in this country, we are making a poor start and in a wrong direction, but it is an encouraging sign and prophetic of better things as the price of lumber advances, and the necessity for renewing our forests becomes more urgent, and the profits thereof become greater and more apparent.—*American Carpenter and Builder.*

ARSENICAL POISON SPRAYS

IT is very desirable to grow apples free from worms. The codling-moth is the insect that lays the eggs in the blossoms from which the worms are hatched. Arsenical poison sprays on the blossoms is eaten by the young codling-moth worms and they die before doing any damage.

A great many fruit growers do not spray at all for the codling-moth. It has been found, however, by experience that those who do spray with arsenate of lead use too strong a solution, apply too much at a time, and usually spray too often. Four pounds of arsenate of lead to 100 gallons of water make an amply strong solution. A greater proportion of the poison is an actual detriment and waste.

The apple tree does not have to be soaked with the poison mixture to kill

the larvae of the moth. The minutest drops of the liquid on the calyx of each blossom will effectively do the work. The fineness of the spray is of more importance than the quantity used. Each blossom should receive a little. Some in spraying apply so much of the liquid that it runs down the branches and trunks of the trees, finding its way into the soil and to the roots of the trees, where it does injury.

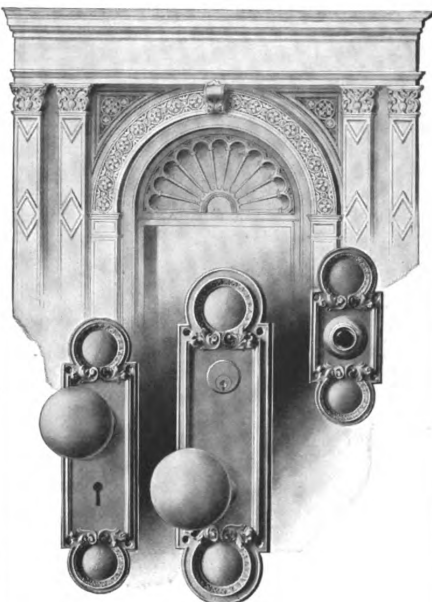
In most cases two to three pounds of arsenate of lead to 100 gallons of water makes a solution strong enough to destroy all of the worms if applied in the right way. Two sprayings at the right times are sufficient, and a saving of material and labor. The general notion that arsenical poisons on the trunk and branches of trees is beneficial is a mistake. On the other hand, they do positive injury, and many trees thus treated die from poisoning.—*Journal of Agriculture.*

MAN GENERALLY WINS WHAT HE WORKS FOR

WE would all desire to work less if the needed things of life were not affected thereby. The willingness to work is the measure of a man's usefulness, and foreshadows a man's progress in life. With the exception of those who have inherited wealth (and that was gained by the work of his ancestors) all men have to work. It is his normal condition.

Our only capital is our time and our ability to work, and a man is surely justified in using his capital as it seems best to him within the limits of his rights. This phase of life is so personal in its nature that it is hard to conceive that anyone should question it. It is a part of the very grain of a man, and we may well inquire: Who shall hinder him? If an eight-hour day is considered sufficient to a man who would rather talk than work, why may not another use his capital an additional twenty-five per cent? And if at the end of ten years' time he has more money in bank than the eight-hour man, by what right does the easy worker abuse and blackguard him.

This is a wonderful world, compared with what it was three hundred years ago. And we all know that we owe it to the ten-hour men. They are the men who, because of their labors, have



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Keeping Up the Place

NONE JUSTAS GOOD

Every owner of a home or farm has the expense of "upkeep" to contend with.

There are sidewalks, curbs, steps, clothes posts, horse-blocks, watering troughs, chicken coops, and the like to be built, repaired and built again later.

Why not make these improvements of concrete and settle this annual expense for all time?

Concrete is the great, modern building material, easy to handle, economical and durable as stone.

We have published a text-book devoted exclusively to this sort of work. It tells just how to make these improvements—how to mix the concrete and how to make the molds.

You can do much of the work yourself; all of it can be done under your supervision. The book is called

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and will be sent to any one on request.

Concrete is a mixture of sand, gravel or broken stone and some kind of Portland Cement. The kind is important—so important that you should know about

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which, because of its purity and uniform quality, has become the standard in cements. Atlas is made in but one grade—the best—and everybody gets the same. Atlas is the brand the Government has purchased to the extent of 4,500,000 barrels for use in building the Panama Canal.

Get Atlas for your own use and specify it for all work you have done.

Other books:

"Concrete Country Residences" (delivery charges 25c.)

"Concrete Cottages" (sent free)

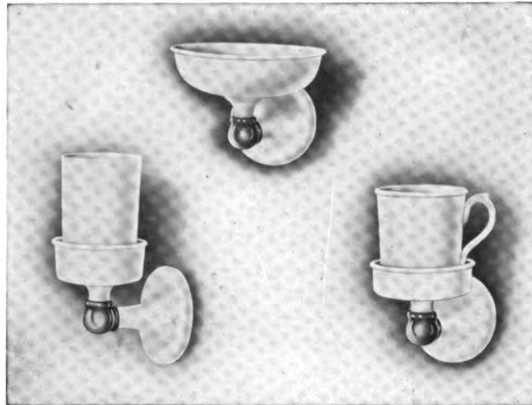
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Pure White "Bone China" Toilet Accessories



These bone china toilet fixtures for fastening upon the wall are the very things needed to complete the refined toilet.

On account of the purity of the material and neatness of pattern and workmanship, they are a necessity in the toilet of discriminating persons, being easy of installation and of the proper durability for the uses to which toilet articles are subject.

They are also reasonable in price and are absolutely the most sanitary fixtures made.

Plate 1610-K Plate 1620-K Plate 1615-K

- PRICES:—No. 1610-K, China Bracket, China Receptor, China Tooth Brush Vase with heavy Nickel Plated Brass connection, complete. \$3.00
 No. 1615-K, China Bracket with China Receptor and China Drinking Cup with heavy Nickel Plated Brass connection, complete. 3.00
 No. 1620-K, China Bracket with China Receptor and China Soap Cup with heavy Nickel Plated Brass connection, complete. 3.00

NOTE—We also make numerous other specialties for bathroom and toilet, illustrations of which we will be pleased to send on request.

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made the desert bloom as the rose; they are the workers who have almost bridged the oceans and laced the continents together with bands of steel. By their labors the world and the elements thereof, and the unseen powers of the air have been made the servitors of mankind and do their bidding.

Even darkest Africa has become light, and the snarling roar of wild beasts of that dark realm has been banished by the heralds of civilization—the engine's whistle.

All things through them have been brought under subjection and put under our feet. We owe but little to the eight-hour men. But if they are satisfied to reap a scant harvest, in return for scant service, it is but meet. For as a man sows so shall he reap.—*Western Architect and Builder.*

THE GREAT VALUE OF HUMUS

HUMUS in the soil has seldom been taken at its full worth. The mission which it fulfills is second in importance only to that which is fulfilled by the presence of plant food in the soil. Humus is helpful in keeping soil in proper mechanical balance, in binding soils that are much prone to blow, in increasing the power of soils to absorb and hold moisture, and in making more effective the action of fertilizers.

When the humus is exhausted in a soil its mechanical condition suffers. It becomes more impacted, less easily aerated and less easily penetrated by the roots of plants. Some soils so light as to lift with the wind can be kept from blowing, at least in a great measure, by simply keeping them stored with grass, roots or other vegetable matter buried in the soil. The increase in the power of soils to hold moisture is very great when well stored with humus.

One instance is reported from Devil's Lake, N. D., in which timothy sod was broken up in 1908. Spring wheat was sown on the same in the spring of 1909. The difference was twelve bushels per acre in favor of the timothy sod, as compared with the other land. The season was dry, and this, in a way, explains the difference in yield. On the timothy sod it was nineteen bushels per acre, and on the other land it was seven bushels. When commercial fertilizers



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 THE
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 NORWOOD, MASS.
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Absolutely sanitary—will not hold dust—colors are fast, lasting and match perfectly.

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 SEND FOR SAMPLE BOOKS—FREE

are sown on land they will fail to respond properly unless the land is supplied with humus.

Such being the case, every effort should be made to store the land with humus. It would be possible to have an excess of humus, but in practice this seldom happens. Humus may be put into the soil in the form of clover roots and of grass roots, of buried catch-crops, barnyard manure.—*American Agriculturist*.

PRUNING

THERE are a few fruit tree pruning rules: Trim a little every year rather than much in any one year. Peach trees require more pruning than most trees; at least one-half of the new growth should be removed each season. Cherry trees require the least pruning, merely cut out dead, broken or "crossed" limbs. Other trees need a judicious thinning-out and sometimes, cutting-back. If two branches interlock, remove the smaller one, avoid cutting so as to leave "stubs;" make neat cuts close to union; paint all large wounds. Be chary of cutting off large limbs; if it must be done, saw on under side first, partly through and then saw from above. Prune now or in June. Spring trimming induces wood growth. June trimming induces fruit growth. Which do you want? (Note that on young trees you should want only wood growth until they are of good size and fully able to endure the strain of fruit bearing.—*Farm Journal*.)

RUST ON HOLLYHOCKS

RUST on hollyhocks has been assigned to various causes, but not until lately have I become convinced beyond a doubt that there exists a remedy for the disease. This remedy consists in the main of what is known as sulpho-naphthol, which is a liquid. A tablespoonful of this liquid is put into an ordinary pailful, or nearly so, of water, and then the water agitated, after which the plants affected should be sprayed with this emulsion. More than one application may be required for a complete cure, but cure eventually it will.

Hollyhocks grown during the winter in a greenhouse where the temperature frequently rises inordinately high are



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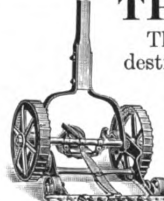
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almost certain to be more or less affected with rust when they are put outdoors in spring. Hollyhocks should either be planted in the soil in cold frames, or, if it is preferable for the sake of convenience at the time of shipping, in pots or flats. When in either of these they can be kept just as well and perhaps better in frames than in a greenhouse.—*Florists' Exchange.*

THE VALUE OF BIRDS

BLACKBIRDS are not liked in some sections of the country. Robins are not liked in other places, but generally both birds are valuable to the fruit growers, and both birds do a great deal more good than harm.

In some sections where birds are thick and fruit trees are scarce, when the season is hot and dry and it is difficult for birds to find water, they attack the juicy ripening cherries because of the moisture. Other fruits are from sixty to ninety per cent water, and it is difficult to see how a thirsty bird can pass them by.

It is noticed that where fruit trees are abundant the growers make very little objection to birds, but where a farmer has only one cherry tree he seems to get the impression that the birds sit around all the spring waiting for the cherries to get big enough to puncture. The fact is both blackbirds and robins live on insects and weed seeds seven or eight months in the year, during which time they destroy immense quantities. To pay them for this labor, farmers should grow fruit or provide running water or do something to make life more pleasant for the birds in hot weather, because without them he could not grow fruit at all.—*Farm Press.*

LEMON VERBENAS

BAD luck or a possible mishap in the culture of *Aloysia citriodora* at any plant grower's establishment, or, indeed, the total absence of this old time favorite in the concern's collection, is not likely to cause any great diminution in the firm's assets. The trade in lemon verbenas has come down to a point which is best described by saying that, if you have a few, they will likely find buyers; and if you haven't, nobody will call for them. For all that, they are raised to some extent here and

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there, and their peculiar sweetness, like that of mahernia, heliotrope, olea, wallflower and rose geranium, is not entirely swept away by the breeze of strenuous commerce, nor could the illusive violet, the pungent chrysanthemum, the overpowering lily or the odorless rose and carnation of to-day compensate for the entire loss of these subtle charm-ers. Lemon verbenas, like all the rest of them, are easily raised, and it is well to have a few about the place.—*Florists' Exchange.*

ITEMS FROM AUTOMOBILE TOPICS

A very useful plan for carrying spare gasolene is to take an ordinary two-gallon gasolene can and make a cloth or carpet cover to just take the can with the end of the cover to button over, and this carried in the car makes a most convenient footstool, and if the contents are desired to be used at any time they are always handy to be put in the tank. This method has the advantage that no extra tanks or pipes, with their concomitant possibilities of stoppage and leakage, are necessary or desirable in this connection.

In the interest of tire maintenance, the question of the alignment of the wheels is a point that ought not to be overlooked. The rubbing action set up, due to want of alignment, tends to take more out of a cover in a few miles than hundreds of miles would do when the wheels are working parallel to each other.

It is important to see that all the movable joints in a brake are really working and not rusted fast; this is often the cause of an inefficient brake.

When leaving the car at night, or for any length of time, make it a practice to shut off the gasolene supply. If this is not done, and if there is a leak, or a flooded carburetter, a fire may be caused by someone carelessly tossing a burning match under the car.

In adjusting the steering gear for lost motion, care should be observed lest the parts be set so close as to bind. After completing adjustment, the gear should be tried through its entire "lock" to make sure that the alignment is perfect. If not, binding will occur.

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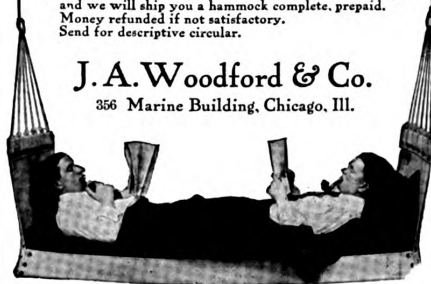
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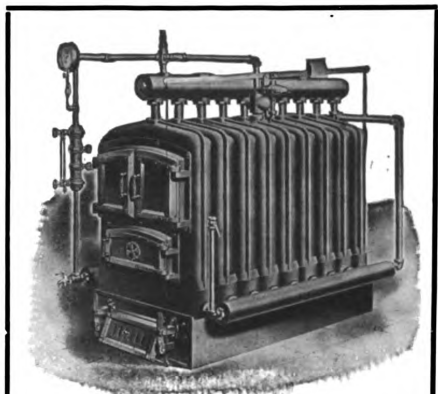
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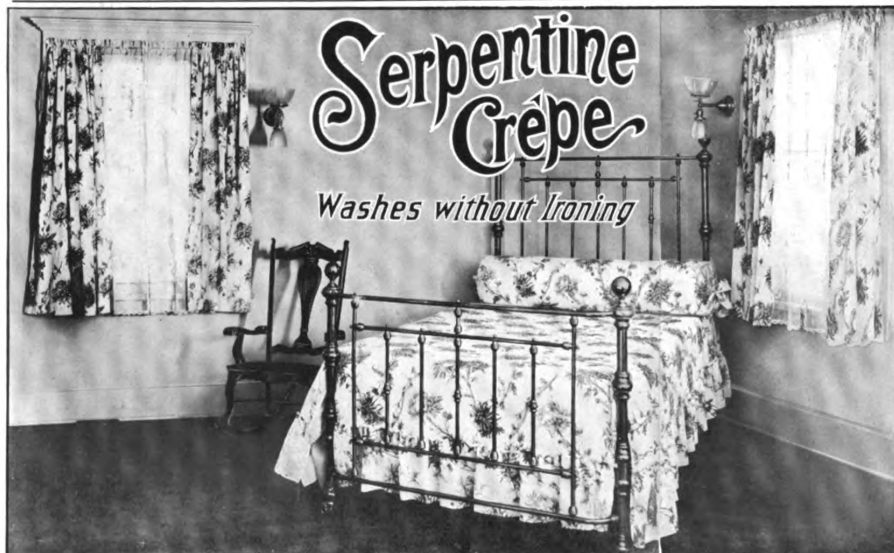
PLANTS which produce their flowers upon the new growth bloom more freely if pruned frequently and severely. Roses, bouvardias, plumbagos, and many other plants of similar character are greatly stimulated and encouraged to bloom by this treatment. It is a good plan to cut back a branch as soon as a flower or a cluster of flowers begins to fade. Never cut away any portion containing a bud. The more new growth you can get, however, the more flowers will be produced. Sunlight, an even temperature, moist atmosphere, and indirect ventilation all aid in keeping plants in a healthy condition; but for the class of plants mentioned, pruning is quite as essential, and should not be neglected.—*The Household Journal*.

AN AUSTRALIAN WOOD

RECENT tests of the hardwoods of Western Australia have revealed the extraordinary properties of yate, believed to be the strongest of all known woods. Its average tensile strength is 24,000 pounds to the square inch, equaling that of cast iron. Many specimens are much stronger, and one was tested up to seventeen and one-half tons to the square inch, which is equal to the tensile strength of wrought iron. The tree grows to a height of 100 feet and a diameter of two. The above claims are almost unbelievable.—*Western Architect and Builder*.

FLOWER IMPROVEMENT

THERE has been much improvement in the Narcissus the past few years. The reader can remember when the plant did not produce as many blooms as it does to-day and the blooms were not so large. The improvement has been the result of selection and careful attention on the part of florists who have undertaken the task of improvement. There are now several species that bear two and even three flowers on a single stem. The most prominent of the many-bloom varieties is the Polyanthus to which belongs the paper-white variety and the Chinese sacred lily. This species often has eight flowers in a cluster and many times as high as twelve. While the primitive plants were grown indoors and out-of-doors and in all parts of the country, this variety is a favorite for indoor



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culture. It cannot live out-of-doors through our Northern winters. In the instance of the poet's narcissus there is still much room for improvement. Only the healthiest bulbs should be selected. Then, too, it is advisable to select only the bulbs from those plants which have been in the habit of producing the best and greatest number of blooms.—*Exchange.*

INDIVIDUALISM

MOST men are moved to action in this world because of individual necessities, and they strike out to do for themselves and theirs in accordance with the dictates of their own judgment and what each man deems his personal rights. Never before in the history of the world has personal liberty been more tenaciously clung to and sought after.

The desire of all nations is the enlargement and strengthening of individual liberty, and the wave now sweeping over the world will never grow less. The socialistic effort to break down competition and reduce society to one tame level and to destroy the individual independence of the units of society, and to assign to each one a set duty, in a set place, with a set compensation by a central body, supposed to act and dominate all for the public good, is folly. Under such a scheme there can be no end to the interference with personal liberty.

Even men and women could be compelled to marry as per the orders of an advisory board of physicians, all for the public good. Indeed, such theories of society can never be imposed on mankind. It is in absolute opposition to man's nature, to his past hopes and aspirations, and his present desires, and nothing would so surely and quickly sweep it aside as an actual trial of the theory for a short time, if it were possible. Man feels that he is the outcome of a nobler origin, and is partaker of the divinity of which he is an emanation, and instinctively feels that he is individually responsible to the same. Man's uplift from the wild chaos of the past, marvelous as it is, has been along the lines of individual action and individual responsibility, and on these lines it will continue until all men shall know and do the right, and men will respect the rights of others because they desire the maintenance of their own.—*The Western Architect and Builder.*

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AN HISTORICAL COLONIAL MANSION

AMONG the quaint and beautiful houses of New England, the country seat of the late Mrs. Nathaniel Russell Middleton, at Bristol, R. I., possesses many features which make the homes and mansions of a hundred years ago so fascinating, so satisfying.

This mansion known as "Hey Bonnie Hall" was designed by Russell Warren, the architect who also designed the White House at Washington. This fact may have centered a keener interest upon it, yet it has been notable ever since it was built in 1808 not only for the beauty of its design and detail, but also for its charming furnishings, rare porcelains and china, and the beautiful works of art which it contains. Photographs of the house and of its several rooms disclosing its wealth of antique furniture and art objects, with an interesting description of the events with which it is historically connected have been furnished by Miss Ann Oldfield.

THE WINDOW GARDENS OF PARIS

Jacques Boyer says: "that genuine love of flowers, which is innate among all Frenchmen, rises to the height of a veritable passion in Paris." The success in recent years of the competition in the decoration of windows and balconies with floral embellishments is but another manifestation of this Parisian love of flowers. These competitions were initiated to encourage the permanent decoration of the street façades of homes by means of natural flowers under the skilled direction of the architect and florist. The widest attention has been attracted to this meritorious enterprise. The great shop keepers of the boulevards, the rich citizens, able to avail themselves of highest professional skill and assistance and the small householders of Paris, are all awake to the artistic possibilities it presents and each is striving to outdo his neighbor. A beautiful idea and one well worth adopting.

A GREEN MOUNTAIN CAMP

The camping season is upon us, the season when the call of the wild cannot be ignored. Louise Shrimpton tells how two young professional men devoted their leisure time during one summer to building a mountain camp house in the deep woods, yet near a small village. The small cost of it all, and the great good to both of them physically, and the pleasure to themselves and their friends, each summer, indicates a rational method of recreation, from which the greatest benefit may be derived. Truly, the simple life's the thing. Photographs of the finished camp, plans, sketches and costs supply practical suggestions to those contemplating a summer diversion.

GARDEN EMBELLISHMENTS

The early garden makers among the Greeks and Romans recognized the fact that however beautiful in its wealth of flowers and shrubs a garden might be, still it required certain accessories to produce that inviting air so essential for its complete success. Fountains, vases and statuary were used in profusion by them for this purpose. In our American gardens, we are realizing more and more the value of such things and are installing in our gardens, whether formal or otherwise, accessories that fit the environments. These sometimes combine in themselves, the useful and beautiful. Arbors, pergolas, rustic shelters, etc., are all much in evidence. Lillian Harrod makes valuable suggestions as to what to use and where and how to place it. Much helpful information is contained in this interesting article.

BERRY-BEARING SHRUBS

The first of two papers by Marie von Tschudi with the above caption will appear in the July number. She points out that our native shrubs are not so numerous and in many cases not so beautiful as those of the Eastern Hemisphere. Nevertheless there is no more pleasing group of growing things than shrubs. They attract both the amateur and professional gardener. They are easy to cultivate, useful, highly ornamental and have an infinite variety of charm, which begins when their colored branches commence to put out buds and which continues while their flowers bloom, their dark green leaves change to vivid reds and yellows and finally fall revealing their glowing fruits.

POISONOUS WOODLAND HERBS

Annie Oakes Huntington in the July issue presents her fourth paper dealing with the poisonous plants, vines and herbs found in our meadows, swamps and woodlands. In this paper we are made acquainted with the deleterious qualities possessed by wood sorrel, black cohosh, the white and the red baneberry and Culver's root. Information of this kind is very helpful, especially as it is freed from technical terms.

CITY GARDENS

Some astonishing data are presented by Charles Matlack Price regarding the area of unused, never seen and unthought of land, embraced in the back yards of our city houses. He estimates that the area of such lands in the great cities of the United States alone, aggregates a total equal to the extent of the Great Sahara Desert. How to get some good out of what is now useless; how to decorate and beautify these spaces to make them attractive is the object of this paper on "City Gardens." He suggests methods and illustrates his ideas cleverly by sketches, elevations and plans.

A BAYSIDE CABIN

A five hundred dollar house on a ten thousand dollar field would seem to be a little incongruous. The site is a four acre field on the shore front of Southold village, the oldest settlement on Long Island. Daniel H. Overton writes most entertainingly of the way the summer camp came to be and gives cost of building and furnishing.

SOMETHING ABOUT WINDOW BOXES

"There is no reason why the decoration of our windows and verandas should not be as successfully accomplished here as in Europe." So says, Mr. L. J. Doogue, of the Department of Public Parks of Boston, Mass. He tells how to go about it. What size the box should be. What kind of soil to fill it with, and finally what to plant in it, as well as how to care for the plants while growing. All practical advice.

A SINGULAR PREJUDICE

The disposition shown by many persons to underestimate the value of the architect's services forms the basis of a short paper in defense of the profession in general by Seymour Coates. He points out several channels of value that rarely come within the client's range of vision.

FURNISHING THE PORTABLE HOUSE

Mr. James Johnson gives interesting figures on the furnishing of the portable house. As this type of inexpensive dwelling has been coming into the public eye of late, the article is of interest.

1911 1912

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