

plants of every description dislike strong heat, preferring a cool, moist atmosphere, with plenty of air in mild weather, and free access to the sun's rays. They do not require to be constantly deluged with water, but should receive a liberal supply whenever the soil becomes dry. Drainage in the pots must always be attended to, as stagnant water at the roots will result in diseased plants and impoverished flowers. For window-culture, the plants should be started either in a cool greenhouse, or sunny window in the domestic apartments, whence they may be removed to the living room as the bloom begins to appear.—Popular Gardening.

### HOYA CARNOSA.



HERE space is limited, I prefer to grow flowering plants instead of vines, ivies, etc. But a blooming vine has a combination of qualities which should be respected. Such a vine is the hoya, or "wax plant." It delights in a warm, shady situation, and a rich sandy loam. Five years ago I was given only a leaf of that coveted plant. An eight-inch pot was filed with rich sandy loam, the leaf was inserted, and about half covered with the soil; it was watered, then placed in a south window to wait developments. Yes, indeed, I waited; but, long as it seemed, it amply paid me for waiting. The first year it grew about six or eight inches, but the next two years it grew very fast, and formed buds that gave me the most beautiful flower of my collection. It bears its flowers in umbels of a pinkish white with a dark centre. They look like the purest wax, with a drop of honey in the centre of each flower; and they are also delightfully fragrant. Contrary to the advice usually given, the flowers of the hoya should not be taken off, for they bloom each year on the old flower stem; it also sends out buds each year that bloom the following season. The long trailing ends should not be cut off, for in time they put forth leaves and branches. The hoya should not be shifted or the roots disturbed if flowers are wanted; they will then bloom when three years old. I give plenty of water during the growing season, and a weak fertilizer while in bloom, but in winter water is withheld, and the plant allowed a rest. The leaves are dark green, thick and wax-like, thus both leaves and flowers suggest its common name. Kept free from dust it is a very desirable foliage plant. My hoya stands in a west window; sun-loving plants are placed between it and the window to shield it from the direct rays of the sun. It is an ornament to any plant collection, and improves with age.—Vick's Magazine.

"DON'T talk to me," said the lettuce to the turnip. "I have a heart and you haven't." "I don't see how that can be," replied the turnip. "You never get mashed, and I do."—Life.