

OLD AGE'S GARLAND.

While resting in my easy chair,
With closed eyes, I hear him there,
Gowan, with the golden hair—
Golden hair and starry eyes,
Blue as his lovely western skies,
Whispering softly, "Grandma, rise!"

Here's Frankie, Jack, and Geo. and Chris,
And Susie, too, our little sis,
Waiting to give Grandma a kiss;
For this was Grandma's natal day,
And they had twined a garland gay
To make old C-and-mamma a Fay!

So to the bower I had to go,
Quite pleased to think they loved me so,
How could I say the darlings, no?
And full of glee they marched along,
A little regiment twenty strong,
A laughing, happy, merry throng.

And there a wreath awaited me
As lovely as a wreath could be,
Of Daisies, Jasmine, and Sweet Pea;
They placed it gently on my hair,
Then hip, hurrah! rose in the air,
But, oh, my heart it felt sad and sair.

I wept and laughed, and laughed and wept,
A sad, sad anguish o'er me crept,
My slender thread of life nigh nipp'd.
A tower of memories on me piled,
I thought I was again a child
Roaming 'mong the heather wild,

Laving in my native fairs,
Gathering bloom frae off the whins
And rushes, where the burnie rins.
A moment, and the spell was o'er,
Old Grandma was their Fay once more,
The blithest of the pigny corps.

With crown of flowers upon her brow
Her staff was turned to sceptre now,
And then was held a grand pow-wow.
I wished to see them all rejoice,
But, oh, the wild discordant noise
That came from those wee drummer boys!

Enough to throw their Fay in fits,
Hossy, rollicking, darling pets,
Splendid five-year-old cadets!

Montreal.

GRANDMA GOWAN.

AMARYLLIS HALLII.—The new *Amaryllis Hallii* is hardy and very beautiful: it makes its foliage early in spring, and after maturing it dies down. Late in the summer the flower stalks spring up almost like magic, so rapid is their growth, and

produce a number of pink blossoms, unlike any other *amaryllis* or lily. It is a great acquisition to the list of hardy bulbs.

A NEW SHRUB.—*Lespedeza bicolor* is a charming lawn shrub from China and Japan, perfectly hardy, with fine acacia-like foliage and abundant long sprays of rosy purple pea-shaped flowers, which show to advantage when contrasted with its dark green foliage. This is an excellent shrub for small places, as it seldom exceeds five feet in height.—*Philadelphia Press*.

TO KEEP ROSE-BUSHES FREE FROM INSECTS.—J. H. Woodford said that he keeps insects from his roses by dredging the bushes with hellebore early in the morning, before the buds form, which kills the first insects that come; then again before they bloom, and again after blooming. These three applications are sufficient.—*Proceedings Massachusetts Horticultural Society*.

SOUTHERN CULTIVATOR.—The advent of of June brings to our table that old and standard publication, *The Southern Cultivator*, for the current month. While it has seemed in the past not possible to improve it, the varied and valuable table of contents of the present number is conclusive evidence of its improvement. Its readers can but approve of its present get up and make up. They will find valuable suggestions and information in "Thoughts for the Month." It is not possible, in the limits of a newspaper article, to enumerate the large number of articles of marked interest and decided importance. Every department is full, while the editorial department shows a freshness and vigor that commend it to the thoughtful and progressive reader. To be appreciated, *The Cultivator* must be read; if it is read it cannot fail of being appreciated. The article on "The Experimental Farm at Vincennes" is worth a year's subscription. We urge it as a matter of self-interest that every reader of our Journal send \$1.50 to Jas. P. Harrison, Business Manager Cultivator Publishing Company, Atlanta, Ga., for a year's subscription, or if they prefer we will send our paper and *The Cultivator* one year for \$2.25.