

which was inserted with blue immortelles the national motto, "E Pluribus Unum." This completed the floral display in the blue room.

The red room adjoining to the west also showed very creditable arrangement of flowers and plants, while in the family dining room on the north front of the building the floral decorations were rather more of a conventional order, the center piece upon the table consisting of a full-rigged ship, made up of pinks, delphiniums, roses and pauties, with the word "Hymen" inserted on each side, the whole resting on a mirror which gave it the appearance of floating. Different varieties of selaginellas and tiny pieces of coral were arranged to represent the shore line, while a bank of Jacqueminot buds were made to serve as mainland. From the main mast floated the national emblem, while the other two masts floated tiny white flags having on them in gold the monogram "C. F." Large crystal vases filled with hybrid roses completed the table decorations. Of course choice bouquets for the company were not wanting, though the luncheon was partaken of from small side tables, each seating only four persons. The two mirrors in the room were beautifully festooned with the delicate *Asparagus tenuissimus* interspersed with roses. Palms, dracaenas, crotons, caladiums and flowering plants graced in every available space the four exquisitely carved sideboards, and the mantel-pieces were a solid bank of choicest roses tastefully bordered with foliage.—*American Florist*.

Washington, June 3rd.

### DECORATION DAY.

#### FLOWERS AT GENERAL GRANT'S TOMB.

The arch of masonry that now entombs the remains of General Grant was surmounted Decoration day with hundreds of imposing designs in flowers, between which were interspersing clusters of daisies and lilies in receptacles filled with water. The front of the vault was entirely draped with ivy, and on the center of the iron gate which is the entrance to the tomb, was a large crown of flowers in relief. This was made of white carnations, studded with camellias and festooned with *Spiraea Japonica*. East side the crown hung a wreath of white roses. The top the arch of the tomb was surmounted with a cross of roses, and back of this was perched an eagle with outspread wings. The bird was most naturally and symmetrically fashioned and worked out in carnations and button daisies.

"Are you going to make a flower-bed here?" asked a young lady of her father's gardener. "Yes, miss; them's the order." "Why, it'll spoil our croquet ground!" "Can't help it, miss. Your papa says he's bound to have this plot laid out for horticulture, not husbandry."

### WHAT IS A GENTLEMAN.

What is a gentleman? Is it a thing Decked with a scarf-pin, a chain, and a ring, Dressed in a suit of immaculate style, Sporting an eye-glass, a lisp, and a smile? Talking of operas, concerts and balls, Evening assemblies and afternoon calls, Summing himself "At Homes" and bazars, Whistling mazurkas, and smoking cigars?

What is a gentleman? Say, is it one Boasting of conquests and deeds he has done? One who unblushingly glories to speak Things which should call up a flush to his cheek? One, who, whilst railing at actions unjust, Robs some young heart of its pureness and trust? Seems to steal money, or jewels, or wealth, Thinks it no crime to take honor by stealth?

What is a gentleman? Is it not one Knowing instinctively what he should shun, Speaking no word that can injure or pain, Spreading no scandal and deepening no stain? One who knows how to put each at his ease, Striving instinctively always to please; One who can tell by a glance at your cheek, When to be silent, and when he should speak?

What is a gentleman? Is it not one Honestly eating the bread he has won, Living uprightly, fearing his God, Leaving no stain on the path he has trod, Caring not whether his coat may be old, Prizing sincerity far above gold, Reckling not whether his hand may be hard, Stretching it boldly to grasp its reward?

What is a gentleman? Say, is it birth Makes a man noble, or adds to his worth? Is there a family tree to be had Spreading enough to conceal what is bad? Seek out the man who has God for his guide, Nothing to blush for and nothing to hide; Be he a noble, or be in trade. This is the gentleman nature has made.

### BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS.

"He who has a love for the beautiful in nature, In his heart cannot be wholly bad."—*Anon*.

We are passing through one of the most beautiful of the seasons; a long winter has opened our hearts to more fully appreciate the refining influences which nature is now throwing around us. The verdure of the fields, the wonderful bloom of the trees, and above all the transcendent beauty of the spring and summer flowers, all conspire to bring to our hearts a fervent love for the beautiful in nature. Truly when we "consider the Lilies of the field," we see that "Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

This love for flowers which is so strong in the human heart, has been the means of creating an industry which counts its devotees by the thousands, giving employment to many hundreds more, feeding many months and filling many hearts with a pleasure unsurpassed by anything earthly. The writer was once engaged with a number of hands in taking up Rose bushes from a large field, for the purpose of shipping them to different sections of the country. As this work was performed during the latter part of September, the majority of the bushes were in full

bloom. The whole field contained about 20 acres, all planted to Roses, and the reader may imagine that this vast field covered with the bloom of many hundreds of plants of colors ranging from pure white to the darkest crimson, was a sight, which even we from the nature of our business were familiar with, caused us to stop and admire. Necessity compelled us to strip these bushes of their flowers and leaves in order that they might be handled to better advantage. It seemed a cruel thing to do, but there was no alternative, especially as they represented to their owner dollars and cents, which to his mind was of more importance than floral beauty. The work of stripping these bushes was performed by boys and girls, a number of each being with us on the occasion mentioned. As the work commenced the force was gathered, and soon little fingers were busy ruthlessly plucking the beautiful buds from the bush. As the children were called to their work, we noticed one little girl of about ten years who did not respond to the order, but stood with downcast eyes. Going to her we asked the trouble, when in reply the child burst into tears, and replied, "Oh! sir, I cannot pull those beautiful flowers in pieces, I love them so I cannot bear to hurt them." We immediately gave the child other work to do, not having the heart to ask her to perform an act which seemed to her only sacrilege.

Thus we ever find it. A love for flowers which has always existed in the hearts of the human race and which time cannot obliterate. The careworn man of business, whose hours are filled with the task of solving business problems, finds among flowers that relief which anything else utterly fails to give. Association with the beautiful gifts of God brings to our hearts better thoughts, and we are lifted for a time, in spirit at least, from the sordid atmosphere to a purer clime in which there is no guile.—*The American Garden*.

TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS were received for admissions at Klunder's New York flower show. This is indeed a grand showing, and one that should encourage the craft everywhere. It is another telling comment on the advance of the trade. It is true the exhibit was a grand one, but how recent is that growth of the business which would make such receipts possible even with the most elaborate arrangements.

Horace Greeley, in his best days, said: "Our farmers' sons escape from their calling whenever they can, because it is made a mindless, monotonous drudgery, instead of an ennobling liberalizing, intellectual pursuit. Could I have known in my youth what a business farming sometimes is, always may be, and yet generally shall be, I would never have sought nor chosen any other." This should be a lesson for the young to learn.