

to grow till the flower shows symptoms of decay, when a gradual diminution should take place. When the leaves turn yellow, water should be entirely withheld, and the bulb should be taken from the pot at the end of July, and stowed away in a dry place for planting in beds the following year. The same bulbs can scarcely be recommended for planting in pots or glasses a second year, but are very good for planting out of doors. Masses of Hyacinths may be planted in ornamental pots or baskets, forming the whole mass of one colour, or the centre and circumference of different colours; and thus ordered, they are at once elegant and effective.

2. *Hyacinths in Glasses.*—Under this form of culture we have in the Hyacinth the most beautiful of house plants in winter and early spring, arriving at the same degree of perfection in town and country. The single kinds, to my eye are always the most beautiful, are especially preferable for glasses, on account of their greater earliness and hardihood. Soundness of bulb at all times important, is more than commonly important here. Set the bulb in the glass so that the lower end, whence the roots are emitted, is almost, but not quite, in contact with the water. Use rain or pond water. Keep the glasses filled up as the water sinks by the feeding of the roots and evaporation. It is a general practice to place Hyacinths in glasses in a dark cupboard or some other place where the light is excluded, and a very good practice it is, for the roots feed more freely in the dark, and thus the system of the plant becomes better stored with food. They may remain in this situation for one or two months, according to the temperature in which they are placed, and should not be too suddenly transferred to the light. Here, as with Hyacinths in pots, when the flowering is over, the bulbs may be brought gradually into a state of rest by the diminution of the supply of water. This done, dry them, store them away, and in due season plant them in beds out of doors to bloom there the following year.

3. *Hyacinths in the open Ground.*—I have never yet seen so much done with the Hyacinth as an out-of-door plant, as I conceive might be done on principles similar to those which have been so admirably carried out in regard to "bedding plants." We have here red, white and blue—to say nothing of the so-called yellow—of innumerable shades. Surely there is ample material for a more extended application of those principles, especially if the aid of the Tulip be called in. The Tulip gives an abundance of yellow, a colour deficient in the Hyacinth. By the combination of these two flowers, a gorgeous and complete flower-garden may be had in spring, as well as in summer, and neither a repetition of the other, but each a change. The Hyacinth is an admirable spring flower. It suffers less from wind and snow, from sleet and hail, than many hardy spring flowers; indeed, almost less

than any other. To-day the snow falls, and plant is hidden and frozen: to-morrow it shines, and it is as erect and as bright as

Hyacinths out of doors should also be planted in the autumn (November). Let the bulb be placed four inches beneath the surface of the soil, and after the soil is pressed add two inches of decomposed manure as security against severe frost. In February, all fear of severe frost is gone, the manure be removed. The same soil as that recommended for pot-culture is suitable for Hyacinths out of doors. But it may not be generally convenient to remove and replace soil in the flower glass. Well, this is by no means a *sine qua non* for success. We recommend it, but do not insist on it. The convenience of the cultivator determines the matter. But if a soil be generally poor, it should be enriched and water abundantly; if close and heavy, it should be enriched, and will usually be improved by mixing with it a good proportion of clean or river sand.—*Extract from Proceedings of the Royal Horticultural Society.*

[The cut placed at the head of this represents Mr. Tye's newly invented and Hyacinth Glasses, manufactured in England, a quantity of which has just been imported by James Fleming & Co., See and Florists of this City. They are an ornamented production.—Eds. C. A.]

The Gladiolus.

It is not the least of the recommendations of the Gladiolus as an ornamental plant, that it proves to be very accommodating to the soil in which it is grown. That it will flourish in sand, and still better if the sand be enriched, is evident from the success which everywhere has been met with by Mr. Sta. Bagshot; but the notion which has been current, that such deep sandy soils are necessary, is by no means confirmed by experience. We are now referring to the Gladioli of times, the glorious varieties which we owe in great part to the blood of *Gandaceen*, which prove so ornamental when grown in garden, and still more so, if possible, for indoor decoration. These varieties have great constitutional vigour, grow in soils of which Bagshot sand is a type, but flourish admirably in beds made up of light soil which accumulates from the empty flower pots wherever a considerable number and variety of pot plants is cultivated. Even when they grow to perfection in deep loam, provided they are well drained, and the soil rendered friable and open by the addition of decayed manure in a condition suitable