

among the foliage and between the pots. But keep up frequent sprinkling, the same as before. In about two weeks they will have made enough new roots to sustain them finely in almost any situation, and that without the leaves showing any signs of wilting.

What is worth doing at all is worth doing well; surely in plant culture it is worth while to take some pains to thus get the stock into proper shape for winter.—American Gardening.

BULBS FOR HOUSE AND WINDOW CULTURE.



WHEN the qualities of the Holland bulbs are considered, the beauty of their flowers, the fragrance of many of them, their hardiness, the ease with which they can be raised, adapted to the circumstances of everyone by their cheapness and the few requirements of culture, so that one having a single window can have the pleasure of them as well as one who has a greenhouse to devote to them, it is not so surprising that so many thousands and millions of these bulbs are raised, but that everyone, who admires plants, does not provide them for house culture as surely as the season of them arrives. It is gratifying to have the evidence which yearly presents itself that the love of these plants is steadily growing and spreading in every direction in town and country life.

If the bulbs are wanted merely for the bloom of one season the character of the soil, provided it be light enough, would be a matter of comparative indifference, for their blooming would depend more on the strength of the bulbs than on the quality of the soil in which they are potted. Most persons, however, after blooming hyacinths and tulips in the house, plant them in the garden in the spring to remain indefinitely, and consequently like to keep them as good as possible. A good potting soil for nearly all bulbs and house plants may be prepared by a little timely attention. A mixture of fibrous loam, leaf mold and sand with a little old stable manure constitutes the proper material; do not use fresh manure. The fibrous loam is prepared by cutting some sods and placing them in a heap, grass side downwards where they will decay. When the grass roots have rotted, and so that they will crumble down, the soil is ready for use, and it can then be mixed with a quarter of its bulk of sand and as much more of old manure. If leaf mould from the woods can be produced about as much of it can be added as a fourth of the loam. These substances well mixed together will make a valuable potting soil.

A 5-in. pot is the best size, but if one has but a 4-in pot it can be used; or if larger ones, they can contain more bulbs. If one is where pots are not easily to be had, a wooden box may be made to do good duty, and many a good wife