

not fit tightly together. Support the box with brackets. In it put some broken flower pots or other material to facilitate drainage and fill with soil.

If the weather is open and no hard frosts prevail, some of the hardier perennials may be planted this month. Among those that succeed well, if planted at this time, are German iris, some varieties of peony, dielytra, and lily of the valley. With the exception of the iris, these plants should be mulched later on with long strawy manure.

Now is the best time to make new walks and driveways, flower beds or borders.

#### BULBS FOR THE HOUSE

Bulbs for house culture may be potted from September until late in fall. Some growers say that November is the best month.

Make sure that the bulbs in pots are well rooted in the cellar or some cold, dark place before being brought out into the window or greenhouse. Securing good roots to hyacinths, tulips and narcissi is the most important point to be considered in successful bulb culture. Bulbs that were potted in September may now be brought to the light.

Pots of freesias should be placed in a semi-light place until started, then given the benefit of the sun and sufficient moisture to keep the soil moist, but not saturated. Do not give liquid manure to freesias. They do not like it.

Try some Chinese sacred lilies and hyacinths in water bowls.

If you start bulbs of Roman hyacinths early in November, you can have the bloom for Christmas.

Why not try a few "pips" of lily of the valley? They are rather hard to grow in the house—unless proper care is exercised. They require a temperature of 75 degrees. Some amateurs grow them near steam pipes from the house furnace, and even near the kitchen range. If you have a greenhouse, so much the better.

Gloxinia, tuberous begonia, and fancy caladium bulbs should be kept dry and stored away in the pots; or, the bulbs may be taken out, packed in dry soil, and placed in a cool temperature not lower than 45 degrees.

#### THE WINDOW GARDEN

If you have not arranged for potting soil for use later on, do so now before it is too late.

Every fine day give your house plants a draught of fresh air, but do not have the draught come directly across the plants. Open a window or door some distance from them.

As the weather grows colder, the heat must be increased. This will result in an increased dryness of the at-

mosphere, and this induces a visit from insect pests. Look out for aphids and red spider. The latter is most to be feared. Sprinkle often with cold water. For aphids, use tobacco water.

Remember the mistake that often is made by amateurs in regard to the watering of house plants. Do not give water every day. That is wrong. Water the plants only when they need it, and then do not delay. Plants need water when the surface of the soil is dry. This can be learned by tapping the pot with the knuckles and getting a ringing sound for dryness and a dead sound when the soil is wet enough. Dryness may be determined, also, by rubbing the surface soil with the finger; if it sticks to the finger, it is moist enough, but if it feels dry, it needs

water. When watering, apply enough to penetrate the soil to the bottom of the pot. Do not allow plants to stand in saucers or pans of water.

When potting plants, water well the first time. Procure new pots if possible. When old pots are used, wash them inside and out. Be sure and put a layer of small stones or bits of broken flower pots in the bottom for drainage.

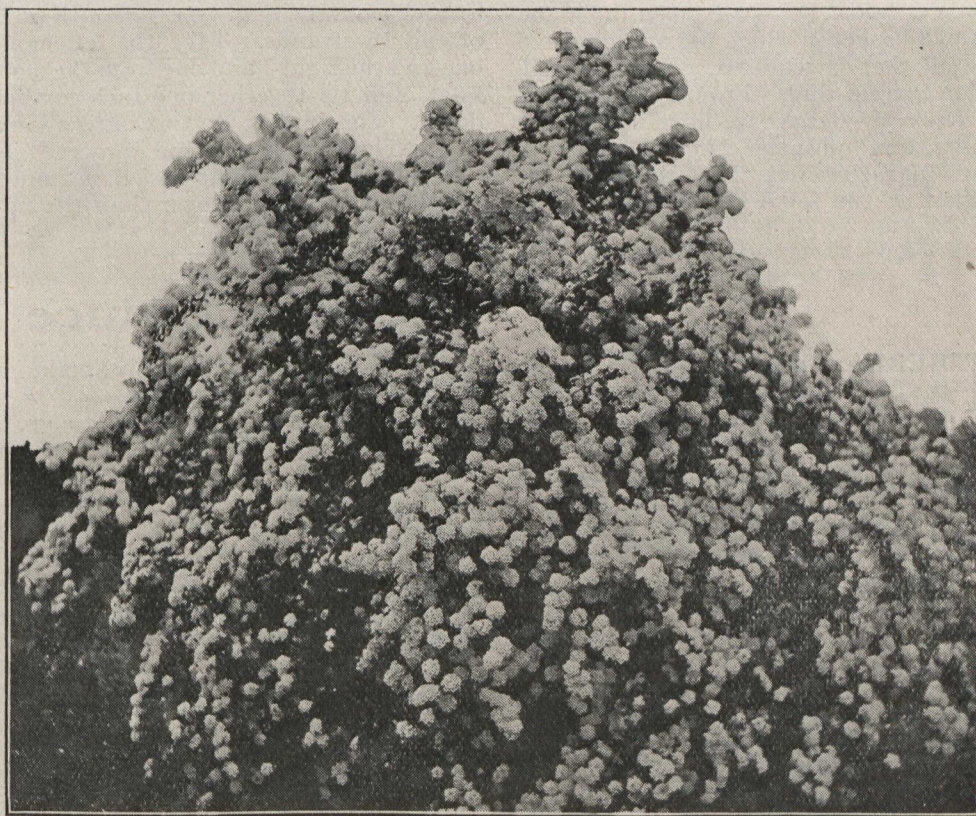
An excellent decorative plant for the window is *Anthericum picturatum*. Give it a warm, shady position and a moist soil. Have you a plant or two of *Impatiens Sultani*, sometimes called the "Patience Plant"? Some varieties of this plant are very attractive. A warm, sunny position gives the greatest profusion of bloom.

## Spiraea Van Houttei

A. K. Goodman, Cayuga, Ont.

OF the many choice hardy shrubs that may be planted in November, none give more satisfaction or greater pleasure than that beautiful,

planted in 1897 and each year its bloom is so striking as to compel attention from every passing flower-lover. The terrace was made from clay taken from



Plant a Shrub Like This for a Similar Effect Later On

free-flowering, white spiraea, Van Houttei. Its season of bloom is June, and though, like other shrubs, it loyally responds to intelligent cultivation you may use it in any place and in any soil with advantage.

The illustration shows one that has been used effectively as a single specimen on the terrace bordering a lawn. It was

a foundation cellar. The shrub was planted simply; it never was cultivated, dug around, pruned, fertilized or watered. It has grown naturally into one of the most perfect specimens of its kind.

Plant your own garden and water your own soil. Consult experts within reach, but work with your own spade.