

mud, or any rich earth which has at least a quarter of cow manure, and put in your lily bulbs. Run in the water gently so as not to disturb the soil, and fill but a few inches above the bulbs. When they show signs of growing, add more water, until at length it is almost or quite full.

When the water freezes to the depth of a half inch, reach down and remove the plug,

and fill the tank full to the top with dry leaves or loose hay, and lay boards over the top. Any tender lilies like callas, should be removed and either placed in the cellar in a pail of mud, or dried off. When the hard frosts are over in the spring, remove the litter, add a little well rotted cow manure, and any new bulbs you wish, and gradually refill with water.—*Vick's Magazine*.

GREENHOUSE, WINDOW AND GARDEN.—III.

THE greenhouse and conservatory will require extra care as the spring approaches. Close attention will have to be given to watering all plants thoroughly that are in full vigorous growth, as well as those in flower. Shading and ventilating will also be features of routine work, and the fires must on no account be neglected during the treacherous weather often experienced in March. Roses in pots and those growing on benches will require plenty of water, liquid manure once a week, and syringing with clear tepid water once a day, if possible, to keep them going.

Azaleas, that have done flowering, should be kept in a warm but not too sunny part of the house. They require to be kept quite moist at the roots and syringed daily, after flowering, to encourage the new growth. If necessary they should be re-potted after the flowering period.

Greenhouse ferns should be re-potted at once, if not already done. It is always advisable to re-pot ferns before the young fronds have made much growth. An inch of drainage in the pots, and a compost of equal parts enriched loam, sand, and leaf soil (or peat) suits nearly all ferns.

Varieties of Rex Begonias may be propagated now from mature leaves; or the thick fleshy stems, or rhizomes, can be cut into lengths of about two inches, and struck in

sand. The base of the mature leaves with about an inch of the stem attached—and the latter inserted in sand so that its junction with the leaf is just under the sand—will strike readily and make much better plants than those grown from the thick stalks.

Winter flowering begonias, when out of flower, such as *B. incarnata*, *B. fuchsiaoides*, *B. foliosa*, can be cut back a little; cuttings of these can be struck as soon as the cuttings can be secured. Young plants of these succeed better, as a rule, than old plants kept over. *Begonia rubra* rebels against much pruning, it needs liberal treatment as to soil, potting, etc., but does not like cutting back.

The new begonia, "*Gloire de Lorraine*," promises to be a valuable addition to winter flowering begonias. It is inclined to be a little fickle, and requires care in growing; but its large clusters of bright rose-pink flowers, that it produces in such profusion, gives even a small plant when in flower a most beautiful appearance. It requires very similar treatment to *B. incarnata* but is not quite as robust as that variety, being more of the habit of *Begonia Bruantii*.

Tuberous begonias and fancy caladiums may be safely started now. Barely cover the tubers, or bulbs, in sand in a warm part of the greenhouse. Water them thoroughly once, and never allow them to become quite