lets appear about the outside of the soil when it is turned out in a ball, transplant to larger pots.

## Flower Shows.

Why is it that flower shows are not more general throughout the country? This question is prompted by a clipping from an English paper recently given me by Mr. Charles Fox, an enthusiastic flower-lover of this city. The clipping tells of a Chrysanthemum Show recently held at Dorchester, in the County of Dorset, and, judging from the description given, one must conclude that flower shows in England are regarded, as they should be, as affairs of importance.

The show in question was opened by Mrs. A. T. Brinsley Sheridan. To quote from the report :

"Mrs. Sheridan, instead of contenting herself with saying the 'few words' too usual on such an occasion, made an apt and eloquent speech, worthy of the daughter of the eminent John Lothrop Motley. In the course of it she said:

"When, ladies and gentlemen, your Honorary Secretary having invited me to open this exhibition, I happened to be in London a short time ago, I asked my friend, the Colonial Secretary, who is passionately devoted to gardening, and whose plants and flowers rival those at Kew, what I had better say on such an occasion. His answer was: 'Say that flowers mellow the homes of the people." (Applause.) That is a sentiment on which we are all agreed, for surely nothing so mellows, beautifies, and humanizes our homes as flowers. (Hear, hear.) The cult of flowers has of late increased enormously, and many of our old favorites have assumed proportions such as we should never have believed possible. Flowers have become with us, I will not say the fashion, because I hate the word, but such a part of our lives that we have learnt to appreciate more fully than ever their manifold beauties in shape, color, and construction. (Hear, hear.) We, the happy possessors of gardens, know what a constant and daily pleasure and comfort flowers are to us. We ming, so what do you think about it? greet their advent in the spring, and bemoan bitterly their departure in the autumn, when, as the American poet. Bryant, says:

"The melancholy days have come The saddest of the year,"

which sweep away so many beautiful flowers, except those that we have been able to cultivate and preserve under glass. Let me say, to those who have gardens, that the more flowers they can grow, the more there will be to give places will be stocked at reasonable less highly favored than we are will be mellowed and beautified. (Applause.) Here we have fine collections of that marvellous floral creation from which this show takes its name. Every year new varieties appear, new beauties, new harmonizing shades and colors; and all these are due to the gardeners who, with so much intelligence, care, and patience. have produced such splendid results. (Applause.) We are also grateful to those who have been willing to send us their cherished possessions, to excite our admiration and to gladen our eyes. spared neither time nor thought in bringing this show up to a high level of perfection. (Hear, hear.) The Dorchester Chrysanthemum Show hereafter will become famous, not only throughout the length and breadth of Dorset, but also in other parts of England. I congratulate the committee on their well-deserved success, and have great pleasure in declaring this exhibition open. though applause.)

"Captain Dymond presented to Mrs. Sheridan a beautiful bouquet of yellow and amber chrysanthemu: pressed to her the hearty thanks of the committee, both for so bandly comments to open the bazaar, and for her extraords narily good speech (Apple .-. . . .

The seed catalogues will some to ing in, with all their inspiration of should not one inspiration be a flower show, or a series . . your locality this year 1 1



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house might very well be utilized for such a purpose, with one department reserved for children's exhibits. A fee of five or ten cents could provide funds for awards, if awards be given Really, the idea seems not at all difficult.

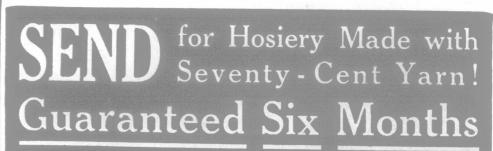
This is the season for all such plan-

By the way, if you have never, hitherto, received a seed catalogue, watch for the advertisements of any of the seedsmen who advertise in "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine," and write to those seedsmen for copies. When you have a seed catalogue, you simply cannot resist having a garden

# CROCHET MITTENS.

Dear Ingle Nook Friends,-For a numaway, the more the shops and market- ber of years past I have been a reader of "The Farmer's Advocate," and I enjoy prices, and the more the homes of those its pages very much, especially Hope's Quiet Hour, which is certainly a very comforting sermon for anyone to read. Now, my dear friends, I hope you will pardon me for any mistakes I may make, as this is my first letter to the paper. I have read it for the past twelve years, but when you know I am a farmer's wife, and also the mother of eight children, you will understand how it is I have not written oftener. I noticed in December 19th issue, a request for crochet-mitten pattern, and as I have a very good pattern, I thought I would send it in. I have also an-Last, but not least, our thanks are due other pattern for baby's mittens which to the working committee, who have is very nice, but will not send it just

> Crocheted Mittens.-Materials, threethread "Starlight Saxony" and steel crochet book. Make a chain of 52 stitches. This will fit a lady who wears a 61 glove. Join the ends of the chain. Crochet 2 rows around in single crochet. On the third row, exactly opposite the starting point, widen by crocheting two statches in one, then one Plain, then widen near. Rest of row Plain, short crosset. Fourth row-Plain, short or clar Fifth row-Widen opposite the list wide ing in the third



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