

## Flowers.

### CULTIVATION OF THE NARCISSUS.

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(Continued from the last number.)

**T**HE next most useful variety for forcing is the Polyanthus Narcissus, or Many-flowered Narcissus. This species is the one best adapted for house culture, and for the



THE NARCISSUS.

amateur to have blooming during the winter months. The flowers are beautifully scented, and remain in bloom from four to six weeks. The house culture is exactly the same as that under the heading of hyacinth. The varieties that give most satisfaction are Grand Monarque, white, with yellow cup; Staten General, yellow, with white cup; Bazelman Minor, yellow, gradually shading to white; Grand Soleil D'Or, golden yellow, exceedingly handsome. These are probably the varieties the most used, the world over, for forcing. Many other varieties are generally listed in the bulb catalogues, but I do not claim they will produce

such handsome spikes. If any person requires a larger selection, try an assorted lot intermixed with the others for winter bloom. Planting Polyanthus Narcissus this month, you cannot expect them to flower until February or March; but in spite of the time it takes them to flower, do not delay in starting the bulb, for, as I have previously advised, the longer they remain in the dark the better rooted, and as a result the flower spikes will be larger.

Jonquils, double and single, are allied to the Narcissi, and are natives of the south of Europe. Perfumed waters are made from Jonquil flowers, giving the impression to the reader that they must be very fragrant. Either the double or single Jonquil is well adapted to open-air culture, and may be treated in the same manner as the Narcissus, except that the bulbs being smaller they are only planted three inches below the surface of the ground. They are easily forced, and if planted this month they will flower by Christmas. Being cheaper, they should be tried by every amateur. The Chinese Narcissus is a variety I overlooked to mention under head of Polyanthus Narcissus. This is the sacred flower of China: nearly every shop in the Chinese cities has these bulbs growing in a saucer of water and pebbles. They throw up several flower stalks, thickly studded with bloom, white, with yellow centre. The bulbs are of a whitish appearance, thus differing from Polyanthus Narcissus in that they have a dark brown skin. Many charitable ladies around Toronto have sometimes received presents of this variety from the Chinese located here, for charitable services rendered to them; and they have frequently wondered what the name was, the Chinaman being able to explain the culture, but not the name.