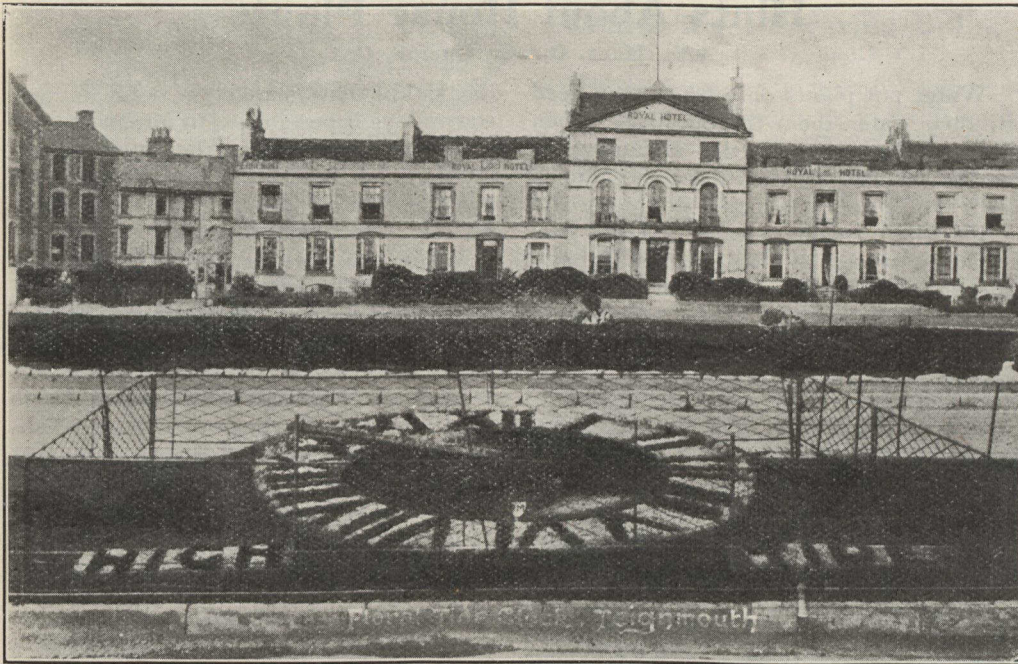




The Famous Floral Clock at Teignmouth, England. Read Adjoining Article.

smaller varieties come from England and France. But the florists have taken such complete possession of this popular flower—their hothouse blooms being perfectly huge, as well as gorgeous in color—that our garden varieties suffer by comparison.

The chrysanthemum family is immense, numbering over four hundred distinct varieties. This number is being constantly added to by newer hybrids. The chrysanthemum is indeed the last and most beautiful autumn flower of all Flora's train. Whatever we may say in

praise of the rose, we must acknowledge the lovely Golden Flower another Queen—the Queen of Autumn.

When the summer flowers are dead and the birds have flown southward; when the Borean blasts blow down from the icy regions of the North—then comes our Autumn Queen with a wealth of bloom the like of which we never saw in June.

"The fields are stripped, the groves are dumb,

The frost-flowers greet the icy moon—
Then blooms the bright chrysanthemum."

The Flower Gardens of England

Mrs. Allen Baines, Toronto

MY husband and I are on a visit to my native land, and it has occurred to me, as a true and loyal member of the Toronto Horticultural Society that a floral letter from England might be welcome to readers of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST. The flowers have been glorious this year despite—might we not say, in many instances, because—of the cool and showery weather that prevails.

These flowers in this old land seem to grow for their own pleasure. They rejoice to live, to flourish, to give lavishly of their very best in color and bloom. No village street seems too dusty, no cottage garden too small to be chosen for their habitation. And the hearts of their owners respond and give them love for love, and the laborer, the river lock-keeper, the villa resident and the country squireen—all alike find pleasure in their cultivation.

I spent a fortnight in my own county, Devonshire. I drove constantly through the little thatched villages in which every cottage wall is a bower of Jasmin, climb-

ing roses and even of scarlet geranium and myrtle, both of which are perennials there, and grow to an enormous size. Beneath the walls and in the tiny gardens white lilies stand in stately masses against a background of blue larkspurs and among standard bushes of hybrid perpetual and tea roses that fill one with delight, and perhaps a little envy, when thoughts present themselves of many hard (and successful) struggles for the life of the former of these at home. Standard roses will, I fancy, always remain an impossibility for us in Ontario.

WE WOULD LIKE TO GO

I would like to take all the readers of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST with me through the little lanes where honeysuckle and wild roses in three or four shades intertwine among the fern-banked hedges—and, still more, I would like to tell them, as they pass the cottages and cosy farms, that many an owner of the humblest of these successfully competes with the high and the rich at country flower shows, because, loving them with all his heart, he has found that "where

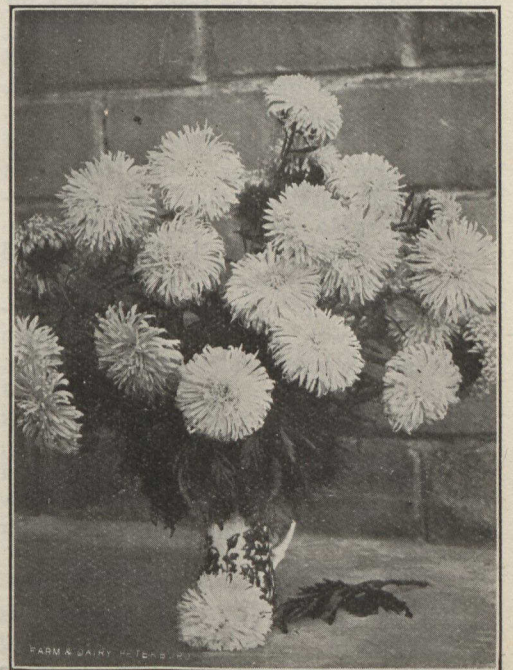
there is a will there is a way" to grow them.

Of course, in the towns and seaside resorts and beautiful country seats, the work of the skilled professional is evident. One thing particularly strikes you concerning the gardener here. In his own line, he is generally a well educated and reading man. He does not scorn reading or laugh at chemical fertilizers, or shrug his shoulders in conceited contempt over the scientific treatment of flowers and vegetables. He studies, he makes trials of new things, he notes down failures, and through failures reaches to success, and thus can tell you the reason of his success.

This was particularly exemplified at Teignmouth, a sea resort in Devonshire. The manager of the public gardens there is a working gardener called Symes. Once he was a private gardener. Now he has been chosen to this office and has worked wonders in the gardens and in the show conservatories which are filled with tuberous begonias, fringed, double and single, Schizanthus in every shade, forming compact masses of bloom, Crassula Coccinea and Achimenes.

I am enclosing with this a rather poor photograph of the "Clock bed," designed and kept in order by Mr. Symes himself.

Finding that I was interested, Mr. Symes kindly gave me a good bit of his time and the following description of the clock bed. First, you must know its purpose, which is to indicate the times of high tide. The figures are perfectly clear, the whole bed being a marvel of smooth surface. In the centre there are balanced two large white clock hands which are moved to the hour.



The Marquis Aster

These asters won three first prizes at the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto. They were lavender pink in color, and were shown by F. H. Hammett, of Toronto.