

In Field and Garden

APPLE-GROWING ON THE ISLAND

Inhabitants of this island have little need to concern themselves with the problems of irrigation, that count for so much in the dry belts of the mainland, but it was interesting to note, during a visit to Mr. G. Heatherbell's orchards at Glen Lea, that there is an opportunity there of comparing the "dry" orchard with one that receives irrigation. Both consist of the same varieties of trees and are on similar soil, and after the season just over the owner is inclined to think that the crop from the "dry" portion is the better.

At Glen Lea the low tree with the centre headed out is the type adhered to. The heading has been done at about 2½ to 3 feet from the ground, and in future will be done even lower down. Pruning is done in the spring, as autumn pruning leaves a risk of the wounds not having healed over before the cold comes, and also has a tendency to produce excessive root growth.

The importance of the correct treatment of the tree in its initial stages cannot be too insistently impressed on the mind of every grower. Once head it out and start it right, and a great stride has been made to its ultimate success. Crooked growths must be avoided at all costs. They cannot fail to be weaker than the branch that grows at its natural angle from the parent stem, and sooner or later they will be the first to suffer from the wind. In pruning the aim must be to cut back as near to the bud as possible. The less wood left above the straighter will the shoot grow.

The land at Glen Lea is a rich loam of good depth over gravel. No manure is used, but the whole of the clover crop is plowed in with its stores of nitrogen. The subsoil is packed firm and the top spit cultivated to keep it as fine as possible, checking evaporation and allowing air to penetrate to the roots.

Mr. Heatherbell has a great belief in the future of two Oregon apples he is growing—the Orenco and Minnetonka. Lane's Prince Albert, Lemon Pippin, Spies, and the Winter Banana are a few of the names which a hasty visit to the storeroom and the subsequent taste impressed on the writer's memory. The Winter Banana is the variety so successfully grown at Kalloops and in the Okanagan. It has great powers of resistance to the cold.

Sheep, it seems, are not always safe to run in an orchard. However much feed they have, they will always find time to nibble, and if the trees are young will make havoc of the tender bark. Later on they should do nothing but good.

With regard to the shape of tree to be preferred, there is a general tendency, at this end of Canada at any rate, towards the low tree with the open head. The pyramid, when perpendicular with sufficient space between, is a very beautiful sight, but of necessity the apples on it cannot get as much sun as on the open-headed tree, or attain that depth of coloring that is so prized at the present day. Then, again, the day must come when even the pyramid tree must be headed out (if not, the wind will do it), and the larger the tree the greater damage will be done when picking, and the more difficult will be the task of pruning it as it ought to be pruned.

GARDEN GREENERY.

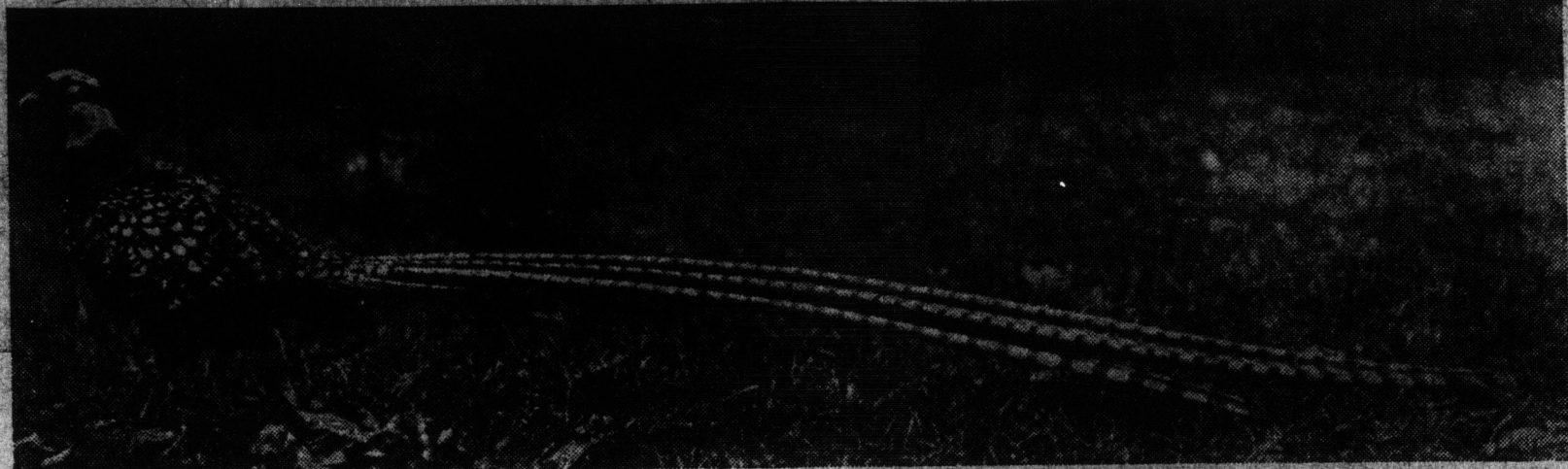
Plant Names, Conservatory Flowers.

In this dreary month of November, when every day the garden becomes more bare and cheerless, the evergreen trees and shrubs endowed with the hardihood to retain their leaves begin to be more valued than at any other time of the year. Now it is that we realize the wisdom of plentifully interspersing evergreens among the more transitory plants of summer and allotting no small space to such as are able to defy the severity of winter. The glossy-leaved laurel, the fir, the cypress, and the yew present their dark-hued foliage; while the variegated forms of these and other subjects are especially valuable in giving brightness to the garden in winter. The laurustinus is well furnished with foliage, also the bay and the glistening holly, the latter beautiful in the lustre of its highly polished leaves often sprinkled with vivid red berries. None of these subjects are unsightly at any season, but they claim particular attention in dull wintry days.

It is surprising to find how dry the soil still is a foot below the surface; some regular drenchers are needed after such a droughty summer. Still, but for certain traces, we might almost fancy that the peculiarities of the past season were but phantasies of the imagination, so rapidly has nature recovered itself under the influence of moister weather. Had a wizard flung his wand over the earth and caused spontaneous change, it could hardly have been more marked than is the appearance of the ground growth just now in both gardens and fields. Alterations and improvements should be now in progress, and this is the proper time to carry out new ideas and intentions, for the gardener's year commences at the fall of the leaf.

Plant Naming.

Plant nomenclature has become so complicated that it is no wonder if the novice in horticulture is puzzled at times, and finds it extremely difficult to acquire an accurate knowledge of the scientific names given to plants.



Reeves' Pheasant on Moresby Island

Reeves' pheasant is the subject of an interesting experiment by His Honor, Lieut. Governor Baterson on his ranch at Moresby Island. Two years ago two cocks and half-a-dozen hens were imported in the Spring, and several clutches of eggs obtained in the enclosures in which they were at first accommodated. These all proving infertile, the birds were turned out to fend for themselves and have only been seen on one occasion since. Still there is good reason to hope that this experiment will, as it deserves to do, succeed, and this Province be the richer for the addition of this magnificent pheasant to the list of its game birds.

This bird has been a denizen of the coverts of Great Britain since about 1881, and for some ten years before that had been hand-reared. It has done well on several estates, but never ousted the ordinary bird (the cross between the Colchicus and Torquatus). It has been known to cross with the common variety, the first result being a fine bird of great

weight and beauty, but as a rule the hybrids prove infertile.

Sir J. G. Millais' description of the Reeves' is well worth quoting: "We all know," he writes, when a cock Reeves' pheasant attains his full beauty and length of tail, what a splendid bird he is as he struts about in his gorgeous trappings, and shows himself off for the benefit of his lady-love, but when the bird is launched in the air, and dashes along above the highest trees of a wild Scotch landscape, leaving poor old Colchicus to scurry at what seems but a slow pace behind him I can assure your readers that both the dignity and the pace are alike wonderful, and a sight not easily to be forgotten." Again, after a day's shoot at Guisachan, in Ross-shire, he writes: "As soon as one of the long-tailed sky-rockets cleared the trees, he left the others (pheasants and blackcocks) far behind and came forward at a pace which was little short of terrific."

The bird's extraordinary power of stopping itself in full flight deserves mention. By a

sudden twist it opposes the whole surface of its expanded wings and tail to the air, and then head downward, drops to the tree it has selected to roost in. It has been suggested that only in this way can it reach its perch without its long tail plumage, five or six feet in length, catching in the branches.

The due proportion of sexes to be maintained in the case of pheasants generally is a subject on which fresh local data will always be valuable. Roughly speaking, in the Old Country, this has been fixed at one cock to three hens, but some have considered that too many old hens are apt to be spared and not enough mature cocks left to ensure a stout progeny. When there is a scarcity of cocks the hens will be found to become barren, and that curious change of plumage takes place in which the female puts on male attire, which is a sure sign that something is wrong. As a rule, however, the old cock is well aware of his danger and a past master at the art of getting away unseen at the first tap of the beaters' sticks, which makes the killing of him no easy task.

Ater, atra, atrum—black
Albus, alba, album—white
Bicolor, bicoloris—two-colored
Crocatus, crocata, crocatus—safron yellow
Coeruleus, coerulea, coeruleus—sapphire blue
Kermesinus, kermesina, kermesinus—crimson
Luteus, lutea, luteum—yellow
Eca, margaritaceum—pearl
Margaritaceus, margaritaceus—pearl-like
Maculatus, maculata, maculatus—spotted
Niger, nigra, nigrum—black

When a plant is named in honor of an individual the word is put in the genitive case; thus, Drummond's phlox is called phlox Drummondii. Names intended to denote the habitat or native country of plants usually terminate in "ensis"; for example, lilium Canadensis, the Canadian lily, and garden hydrangea is hydrangea hortensis, from hortus, a garden, and "ensis," locality. When a plant has a likeness to some other "oides" or "ana" is affixed to denote the same, as solanum jasminoides, a jasmint-like solanum, and cypripedium montanum, the mountain bladder fern; and sometimes in connection with a certain person, as Clematis davidiana. In addition to these, there are many other definitions, such as "micro," small; "macro," large; "bilobus," two-lobed; and "arborescens," tree-like. Very full double flowers very often have "osus" affixed to their names, as seen in the word "globosus," or with "bundus," meaning abounding; a familiar example is, stephanotis floribunda. It must not be supposed however that the terminations of words are always uniform, for the structure of the original has more or less influence in the formation of the affix. A congress for the consideration of the nomenclature of garden plants was held last spring at Brussels, at which our Royal Horticultural Society was represented, and the results were published in the last issue of our journal.

Winter Observatory Flowers.

To provide the glass houses with a sufficiency of showy flowers during the dull months of the year is one of the most important among various matters which engage the attention of the gardener during the winter. There are many plants which are at their best during this season, and few will produce such a brilliant display with so little trouble as the epiphyllum. The singularly beautiful features of this species of cacti make them as conspicuous as they are valuable—their rich colors, length of time they remain in bloom, and the number of decorative purposes to which they can be put render them a most desirable addition to the gay flowers intended to brighten up the surroundings at a dull time of the year. The only difficulty in connection with their culture is that they need a moist, warm atmosphere while growing; that is to say, an ordinary amateur's airy glass house is not an ideal place for the purpose. Anyone who can give them a stove atmosphere while active and a cooler and drier temperature to harden their growth and set their buds, can have them gay for quite three months. The forms they can be made to assume are various, standards, pyramids, and umbrella shapes being the most popular, the latter being perhaps the best of all. In order to assume these shapes they are

grafted on to standard stocks of some other type of cacti, and as such are sold by the nurserymen. They commence to bloom in November, and by picking off the faded flowers the beauty of the plant may be extended until February with but very little attention beyond occasional watering. It forms quite a novel plant for table or vase decoration, and usage to which many plants succumb when going through this ordeal it seems to stand with impunity.

Important Fruit Experiments.

Of all the influences of the man upon the vegetable world, one of the most beneficial is, without doubt, the conversion which he has effected of the wild and almost inedible plants into the delicious ornaments of our table. In the case of apples, which have been so vastly improved during the past half century, acres are now grown in orchards, the very finest varieties, which at one time were only known in gardens, and in regard to these field cultures, it has been found inadvisable to plant too many of one sort, as inside the fringe of the plantation there is likely to be nothing but a small crop of fruit. The fact has already been proven to demonstration in the United States of America, and instances of such results have been noticed in England; but the subject has so far reached an experimental stage only. During the present year Mr. Cecil Hooper, a well-known Kentish fruit specialist, has conducted some important experiments on the pollination and setting of the blooms of various fruits. He states:

"Out of sixty-three varieties of apples tried, on which opened blossoms were bagged, i.e., the trusses of bloom were covered with muslin bags, to keep away the windblown pollen, and that brought by bees and other insects, and left untouched, only Irish Peach matured its fruit, and that was very good; of those bagged and pollinated with their own pollen by brush or anthers, the following matured their fruit: Irish Peach, White Transparent, Newton Wonder, Ecklinville Seedling, Summer Golden Pippin, Baumann's Red Winter Reinette, Peasgood's Nonesuch, Christmas Pearmain, King of the Pippins (damaged by sawfly, eventually fell). Whereas in nearly all the crosses made, good fruits have resulted; out of sixty-four crosses, some forty-eight were successful. These crosses were made without taking out the stamens from the flowers, pollination being effected by brush or anthers; if the brush was used, it was dipped in methylated spirits and allowed to dry before using again; but in the case of a tree of Cox's Orange Pippin, nine bunches of unopened blossoms had their stamens taken out with forceps, and were pollinated by camel's hair brush or anthers with the pollen of nine different varieties of apple, to try and see which would give the best result; eight of these set fruit, namely, with High Canons, Bramley's Seedling, Grenadier, Lady Henniker, Golden Spire, Duchess's Favorite, The Queen, and with its own pollen. In these trials only with Peasgood's Nonesuch did fruit not set. However, they have gradually fallen till the only ones left are those pollinated with High Canons and Bramley's Seedling, the latter being one of the best fruits of the tree. It would be of interest and probably of value to find out a good polliniser to plant among Cox's Orange Pippins, which is a self-sterile variety, i.e., flowers self-pollinated will not mature fruit. One grower informed me that

he found Worcester Pearmain a good variety to plant among Cox's Orange Pippin, and another told me his best fruits of Cox's Orange Pippin came from a plantation interplanted with Duchess's Favorite."

Another writer in the Gardeners' Chronicle proves the advantages of growing a few ornamental crabtrees as helpful towards the production of named apples, and it is curious to observe that one often finds such a tree in an old garden orchard. It is an important subject which needs much investigation and observation by fruit growers and economic botanists before we reach the knowledge already gained by American and Australian horticulturists.

Horticultural Distinctions.

During recent years the Royal Horticultural Society of England has applied new principles to the disposal of their fellowships by granting special privileges, not only to those who are professors of the science and practice of horticulture, but also to those who have at times rendered the society important service. It is announced in the last issue of the society's Quarterly Journal that a diploma has now been distributed to holders of the Victoria Medal of Honor, and also to the Honorary and Corresponding Fellows. The former number about sixty and the latter about ninety. The ordinary Fellows and Associates numbering about 12,000, who enter the society by recommendation and subscription, need possess no knowledge whatever of horticulture, the majority joining in consequence of their position as cultivators or as lovers of plants and flowers.—Donald McDonald in Daily Telegraph.

WINTER GARDENING

Flowers at Christmas Without Heat

Many a possessor of a garden cannot include a hot-house in his outfit. He may be devoted to the culture of plants, but when the winter days begin and the cleaning up of the garden finished (as far as it ever is finished), he gives up regretfully his hope of seeing bloom and bud again reward his work until the arrival of spring.

In most gardens, however, room can be found for some kind of a glass-house, whether separate from or part of the home, and in this, if he be minded, the gardener may secure a succession of flowering plants, shrubs or ferns, among which he may work many a pleasant hour no matter how hard the rain patters overhead, heedless of low temperature or gales of wind.

The term "cold-house" may be defined as one in which the temperature is not allowed to fall below 35 deg. Below that it will be necessary to supply heat, but in this climate periods of frost will be so short that this description of the house is justified.

In the selection of plants it must be kept clearly in mind that this kind of house is not for sub-tropical plants of the kind usually associated with greenhouses. Its object is to give just enough protection to hardy plants as will induce them to flower earlier than is their wont in the garden outside. This cuts out such plants as Geraniums, Persian Cyclamen, Heliotrope, and many of the bedding plants raised in heat, but it includes Roses, Clematis, Jasmine, Rhododendrons, Primroses, Violets, Crocus, Iris and Camellias, to give a few samples at random of plants whose blossoms will be doubly precious when obtained in the winter of our discontent.

Christmas Roses will be protected from the earth splashing which so often mar their beauty.

Wallflowers and Forget-me-nots will flower from Christmas onwards, to be followed by the spring bulbs, Marguerite Carnations, Anemones, Saxifrage and Fressias, Lilies-of-the-Valley and Irises; and among these the owner can work and smoke and congratulate himself—as gardeners have a way of doing—no matter what storms—climatic, political or civic—rage outside.

Many a flower from the Kicking Horse Pass may be brought down to be studied and admired in this inside winter garden.

This is a brief suggestion of the possibilities of the cold-house, but once they are grasped, the possessor of it will find he has entered on a branch of gardening which has a whole world of its own, as well as many devotees, among whom is Mr. K. L. Davidson, whose writing has inspired much of the present article.

A description may be given of an ingenious stove, suggested by the same writer, which, failing more elaborate apparatus, will raise the temperature several degrees at a pinch. Stand an ordinary lamp on the floor, build up bricks on each side and insert a large flower pot over the lamp, then a succession of smaller pots, also inverted, decreasing in size. The heat rises through the holes, and the earthenware surface becomes gradually heated.

Great care should be exercised in commencing feeding the fattening animal. The grain ration should be very light at first, and gradually increased until a full feed is being given. If suddenly placed on a heavy grain ration, the animal's digestion is interfered with, and his appetite falls off, very often causing him to lose flesh, rather than gain. Sudden changes of feed must always be avoided.

Foliage or Leaves.	
Acuminatus, acuminata, acuminatum—pointed	Frondosus, frondosa, frondosum—frond-like
Crenatus, crenata, crenatum—crenate	Hirsutus, hirsuta, hirsutum—hairy
Dentatus, dentata, dentatum—toothed	Umbellatus, umbellata, umbellatum—umbrella-like
Fimbriatus, fimbriata, fimbriatum—fringed	
Color of Flowers	
A few of the most common adjectives used to denote color in its various degrees:	