

most skillful pansy-grower in Great Britain.

*The Portulaca* can not brook the shade, nor smile when the cool air of evening comes on. It revels in the full noontide heat, laughs in the face of the blazing sun, and asks only for clear skies and brightest sunshine. The weather is never too dry and the sun too hot for its comfort. It must have a sandy soil to be satisfied, for it will not thrive in clay or muck. The seed may be sown in the spring after the weather has become warm enough to give some warmth to the ground, and as the weather grows hotter the plants will grow faster, and soon cover the bed with their gay flowers, which are both single and double, and rosy purple, crimson, yellow or rose in color.

*The Salpiglossis* is better shewn in our colored illustration than by any word picture we can give. The rich and varied coloring of the flowers make them very attractive. The plants thrive best in a rich sandy soil. The seeds may be sown in the spring after the weather has become settled, or if it be desired to have flowers all summer, then sow in pots or small boxes in the house or cold-frame, and transplant when danger of frost is passed. We say sow the seed in pots or small boxes because then the ball of earth can be taken out without breaking; for the *salpiglossis* does not transplant readily, and it is important that the roots should be disturbed as little as possible.

*The Drummond Phlox* is the rival of the verbena for constant display and splendid color; in most gardens it will

prove even more satisfactory. There is every shade of color, ranging from pure white to darkest crimson. The seed may be sown late in the fall, just before the ground freezes, or early in spring as soon as it can be worked. The plants will begin to flower early in June, and continue to grow and flower during the summer and autumn. They will thrive in any rich friable soil, in the open sunshine rather than in the shade. Very beautiful effects can be produced by planting different colors in broad ribbons, such as scarlet, white and rose. The contrast is very pleasing and will well repay the trouble. A paper of mixed colors of the very best varieties, procured from one of the most eminent growers in Prussia, will be mailed with the papers of Pansy, and Aster seed to those subscribers who choose the flower seeds.

The foregoing are a few out of many beautiful annuals that will not fail to please every true lover of flowers. It is the aim and purpose of the magazine to disseminate a taste for flowers, by teaching how they may be grown, and pointing out those varieties that can be successfully cultivated with no other skill than that born of a determination to succeed. The late James Vick said that the cultivation of flowers is one of the few pleasures that improves alike the mind and the heart, and makes the lover of these beautiful creations of infinite love wiser and purer and nobler. Another has said that what is in our garden is typical of what is in us; if we have taste, refinement, a love for the beautiful and good,