

generally be a successful plant grower in any part of this world. As to temperature of water, the only heed I have taken was that if the temperature of my house was already low I was careful not to use cold water and make the temperature still lower; if the temperature is high I have never been particular if the water was cold; if the temperature was overly high I considered it might even do good in a measure by counteracting it. I have known people when their plants would be frozen in the open air to put water on them. I have advised them constantly against this. This year, at the time of the severe frost some parties determined to prove whether I was correct or not, and they watered portions of their plants and left others unwatered; some sprinkled water even on black currant and raspberry bushes and they turned white as if a fire had passed over them, while the plants that had been left unwatered recovered their usual color. I shall just give you this advice, never water a frozen plant. Mr. Mitchell, then read his paper as follows:

As I noticed sometimes plants subjected to unnatural treatment, or placed in situations uncongenial to them, and where, perhaps, some other plant would give to the grower a far larger measure of satisfaction, I thought possibly such advice as I could give on these heads regarding some of our commoner plants might be more useful than the somewhat uncertain information I could give relating to newly introduced plants.

There are also general questions which I am frequently asked as to the reasons for failure, and the way to success in plant growing, answers to some of which I will endeavor to include.

I will commence with the GERANIUM, perhaps the best-known flowering plant of all. There is very little advice to give regarding it. A larger general measure of success is attained with it than with any other flowering plant. It is not exacting in situation or treatment. One of the very few mistakes made with it in open air planting is that some persons thoughtlessly use too many varieties. In prominent situations, where planted for display, this spoils the effect. One variety in a bed produces the most striking effect. For this purpose no other variety yet introduced equals the well-known *Heteranthe*, or, as it is often called, "*Double General Grant*." *Bruant* is a much recommended variety of the same type and of nearly the same color. I find it to be not of nearly so good a constitution. *S. A. Nutt* is the best very dark-flowered variety for the garden. White and light-flowered varieties are never a perfect success in the open air. *Mrs. E. G. Hill* is one of the best salmon-colored varieties for the garden. There are very many varieties equally useful for pot culture.

There is perhaps no other plant of which so many are yearly bought and with which so small a measure of success is attained as the large-flowered FUCHSIA. The fuchsia is not exacting in the matter of soil or even in the amount of water it receives, but it is imperative that the temperature should not vary excessively and particularly that it should not run extremely high. As a spring and summer flowering plant for a cool conservatory it is very useful. I have attained the highest degree of perfection with these large-flowered fuchsias by placing the plants when commencing to bloom far from the glass on a low bench or on the ground itself, where the temperature is moderately low and even. In such a situation these plants are very beautiful. The variety known as *Storm King* is the most easily managed of all the large flowered fuchsias. The smaller-flowered varieties, which have been less improved from their original species, are many of them plants of easy management.

The large flowered *Cannas*, of which so much was expected and promised when they came out a few years ago, have not been universally satisfactory. Failure, I notice, is generally due to planting in shaded situations or insufficiency of water during dry terms. *Cannas* require an open sunny situation and plenty of water artificially applied in the absence of rain.

The plant known as *Caladium esculentum* requires the same treatment and situation as the *Canna*.

A plant which used to be a common garden plant, and which, when I was a boy, I used to see a striking object in the garden plots of that day is *Monarda didyma*. It is