more graceful, carrying more spikes of flowers, and proving much hardier than the ordinary Hyacinth, which always deteriorates after the first year, though it certainly comes in more brilliant shades of crimson and pink. However, the colors of these Scillas are by no means to be despised. There is a beautiful rose, a pale pink, and several lovely shades of mauve and blue and the whites are especially fine and very lovely. In England these Scillas are used freely—planted in clumps here and there, in the herbaceous border with charming effect. The bulbs are quite large and require deep planting—say six inches. A great advantage about them is that they will do very well in shady spots (if given good soil) as well as in the open border. The English Nurseryman catalogue the named varieties which are greatly to be preferred to the types—I am afraid our Canadian seedsmen do not list them, they are slow to carry a stock of anything they are not certain to sell but if they were only enterprising enough to grow them themselves they could soon teach the people their value and beauty.

Snowdrops, if planted very close together, soon become naturalized and will in time produce good clumps—isolated

Snowdrops, if planted very close together, soon become naturalized and will in time produce good clumps—isolated blossoms are so small that they do not amount to anything but a well established clump of them about a foot in diameter makes a showy mass of white before anything else is in bloom. The double ones last longer than the single, but plant both and have a clump of each, using the ordinary double one (Galanthus Nivalis fl.pl.) and the variety catalogued as G elwesin (the Giant Snowdrop) in preference to the ordinary single one—it is twice the size. A hundred to a clump, planted half an inchapart, will give immediate results that will be pleasing. If put in a warm sunny position they will begin to bloom early in March. Another pretty thing is the Puschkinia libanotica, or Lebanon squill. It is quite reasonable in price, perfectly hardy and blooms very early. The flower is so pale a blue that it is almost white, but being veined with a deeper blue gives it the appearance of being blue throughout. Do not forget the "Muscari or Grape Hyacinths" (called sometimes Starch Plants). The variety catalogued as Muscari azureum and its larger form—M. A. robustrum—is the first to bloom—its spikes of flowers if the lovely soft shade known as "Cambridge blue" begin to push their way upwards as soon as spring makes her delightful presence known as if they could not bear to lose one of the precious moments. They are over before the later varieties appear on the scene, but the one catalogued as "Heavenly Blue" makes up for its more tardy appearance by its superior lasting qualities, the size of its spike and its rich blue color. It is the queen of Grape Hyacinths and a mass of them (of say 50 bulbs) is very effective and will quite astonish those who only know the old fashioned varieties. There is a little white one known as "Pearls of Spain"—M. botryoides album—which is pretty, and M. B. candidum, white tinged rose, and M. B. pallidum a lovely soft lavender, are both charming but are between \$1.25 and \$1.75 a dozen, so ar

would need at least 25 of each to make a good clump.

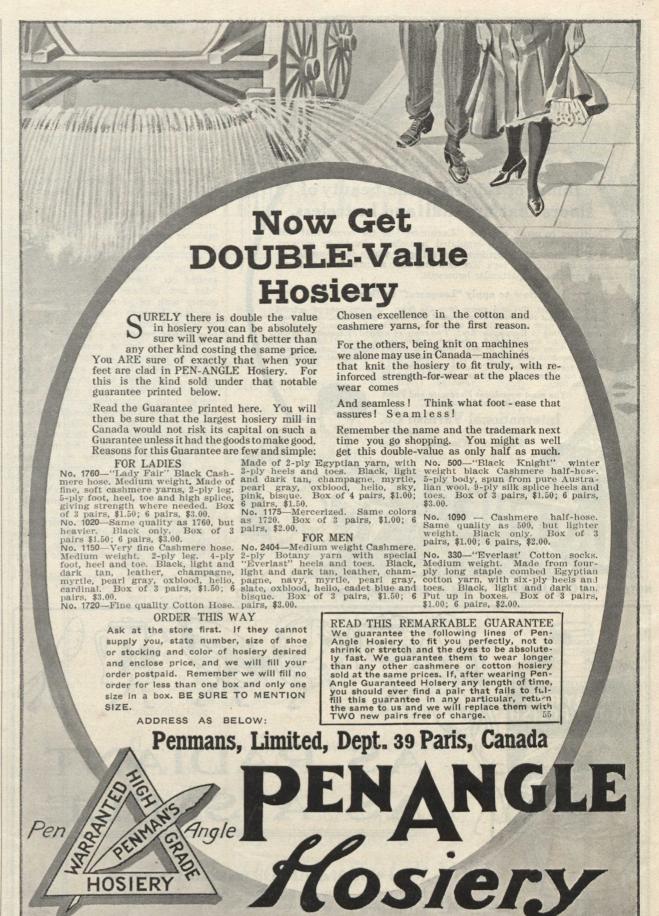
The Chionodoxas are another very attractive family with blue flowers and the common name "Glory of the Snows" is not exactly misapplied, for they hasten to play their part in honor of spring's coming if they are not always present when winter says goodbye. The best known and most commonly grown variety is C. luciliae, but I prefer C. sardenses, a deep gentian blue, and C. gigantea (syn C. grandiflora) with very larger flowers of layender blue.

present when winter says goodbye. The best known and most commonly grown variety is C. luciliae, but I prefer C. sardenses, a deep gentian blue, and C. gigantea (syn C. grandiflora) with very large flowers of lavender blue.

The little Bulbocodium vernum gives variety in color amongst the very early things, being a bright rose purple or magenta. It is about six inches high easily grown and quite hardy. The Spring Snowflake (Leucojum vernum) is not as much grown as it deserves to be as it is very early, of very graceful growth—having pendant flowers like of a Snowdrop only larger—and much longer stems (six to eight inches long) making it quite useful for cutting, added to its other virtues. It has a delicate fragrance.

Dig canna roots as soon as the leaves have been blackened with frost, but before the frost has touched the roots.

Store the roots for a week or two in a shed, safe from rain or frost, then remove to a warm room in the cellar where the temperature ranges from forty to fifty degrees.



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