

Flower Department.**PANSIES.**

We trust that most of our readers have a piece of ground devoted to flowers. Our aim has ever been to encourage the cultivation of flowers, and we trust our labor has not been in vain. The only object in the mission of life is not to produce that which will pay in a pecuniary sense, but the beautiful must not be lost sight of. Home is made more attractive by a choice collection of flowers, and they possess a moral influence in the ratio that they give a harmless source of employment and pleasure, and thus prevent the mind seeking the vicious.

We now give you the representation of Pansies in group, also of those grown singly, and hope you may each have a few choice ones. These engravings are representations of Mr. Veek's collection. He is one of the leading seedsmen of our neighboring republic, who has done much to disseminate good seeds throughout Canada as well as the States. Cultivation tends to improve plants as well as the human family. Pansies make good imigrants, and they are better for frequent transplanting. Some florists move them every two weeks; now is the time. Feed your Dahlias, Fusias, Meriles of Peru, Asters and Zinnias; cow manure is the best suited to them; a little charcoal is highly advantageous to produce good dark colors; place a few pieces about the roots of your plants, near or on the surface.

PRUNING TOMATOES.

It is stated that gardeners in France cut off the stem of the tomato plants down to the first cluster of flowers which appears on them, thus impelling the sap into the buds below the cluster, which pushes up vigorously, producing another cluster of flowers. When these are visible, the branch to which they belong is also topped down to their level; and this is done five times successively. By this means the plants become stout dwarf bushes, not over eighteen inches high. In order to prevent

them from falling over, sticks or strings are stretched horizontally along the rows, so as keep the plants erect. In addition to this, all the laterals that have no flowers whatsoever, are nipped off. In this way the ripe sap is directed into the fruit, which acquires

**GROUP OF PANSIES.**

beauty size and excellence, unattainable by other means.

**PANSY—FLOWERS NATURAL SIZE.**

The school-house in the Irish Settlement Huntingdon, three or four miles from Madoc, was destroyed by fire one night last week.

FOR WINTER-HOUSE PLANTS.

Sow the seed in a place shaded from the sun between nine a.m. and four, p.m., to insure growth. An occasional watering is all that will be necessary up to August; and,

until then, the flowers should be pinched off as they appear. In August, shift into six inch pots; and, if the shoots are close together, peg them down and out so as to keep them open. The plants will now grow rapidly and require frequent stopping. House the plants when it becomes unsafe to leave them out longer, and then place them as near the glass as possible, and where they can have plenty of fresh air.—They do best in a cool dry, airy green-house. Stop them up to December, and then allow to go to bloom. Avoid keeping the soil wet and give air abundantly. In mid-winter you will have nice compact specimens covered with bloom, and in a convenient size of pot. If you wish for later-blooming plants, though these will continue in flower for a long time, you may

sow the seed towards the end of July: when they are two inches high, prick them of in eight inch pots, four plants in each. At this stage, clear and weak liquid manure may be given at every alternate watering, remembering

always that it and all water should be of the same temperature as the house. As the flowers begin to develop themselves, liquid manure is given whenever moisture is required by the roots. Afterwards the plants are not further potted if the drainage acts well, and watering is not necessary so long as the soil retains sufficient moisture to prevent flagging. It is essential to keep the plants near the glass.

EFFECT OF TREES ON CLIMATE.

—The dryness of the Egyptian climate is such that rain is unknown in Upper Egypt, and in olden time it never rained oftener than five or six days in a year on the Nile delta. The viceroy, Mehemmed Ali, caused twenty millions of trees to be planted on this delta; these have now attained their full size and the number of rainy days has increased to forty.