

box should be painted outside, and two inches down from top on inside. A dark, dull, olive-green colour is best for this purpose. Place a small iron staple or screw-eye on each end near the front top corner to support the box when it is placed in position. A piece of strong wire or an iron hook fastened to the screw-eyes or staples in the window frames are necessary for this purpose. The box should have at least three inches bearing on the whole length of the window sill, and a piece of galvanized sheet iron on the sill to prevent rot setting in.

#### A WORD ABOUT FLOWERING SHRUBS.

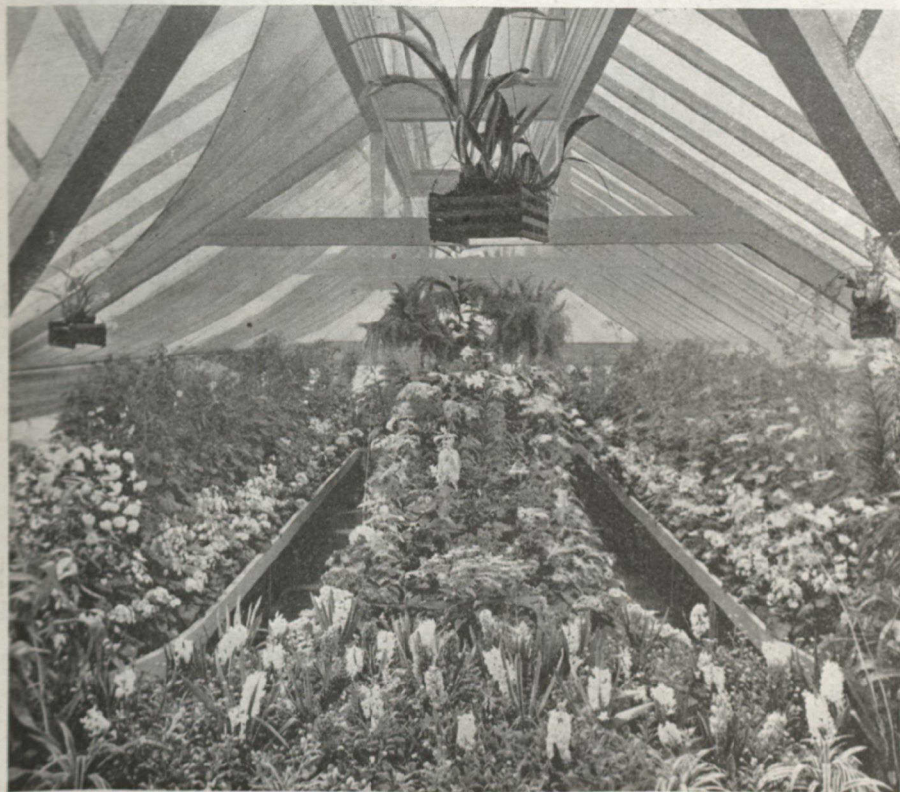
One of the most grateful pictures that the garden can offer is the flowering shrub, and this is the moment to send in the order to the nurseryman. It is not possible in these monthly notes which embrace several subjects to give more than the barest

outline of the requirements of the various subjects under consideration. I will briefly sum up the essentials to observe: 1. A rich soil, as far as possible, if water is standing this must be drained away. 2. The hole to be sufficiently large to admit the roots without any tendency to cramping. 3. Broken roots and jagged ends to be removed with a sharp knife, in no other way. 4. About half the previous season's growth prune back to effect a balance between root and branch. 5. Over the roots place fine soil, letting this run in amongst them and then fill in well treading around. Firm planting is essential to success. 6. Never allow a tree or shrub when received from the nursery and the weather is unsuitable for immediate transference to the ground to remain exposed. Heel it in, that is, well cover the roots with soil. 7. When frost prevails place them in a dark, unheated cellar, where they will be safe. Here thawing will take place.

3. Never allow grass, as was explained in the last supplement, to grow within two feet at least of a tree or shrub. 9. Mulch over the soil with 3 inches of manure or litter to keep the soil moist and of a comparatively even temperature.

#### CHOICE OF SHRUBS.

Give the order now and remember that unless variety is insisted upon, it is wiser to begin with a few kinds. Never dot shrubs over a lawn which is as one likes to call it, the heart of the garden, and practise grouping. Take the lilac, a shrub or small tree, which ever one chooses to call it, is a great success in Canada, even in wind-blown parks and gardens. A rich selection is available with flowers, both double and single, and filled with fragrance. A mixture is pleasant to see, pure white (Continued on page 20.)



A Cloud of Flower Colouring in the Winter Garden.



The Dainty Primroses of the Land of Flowers—China.

## A Winter Garden of Rare Flowers

“A WINTER GARDEN.” What does that signify? Simply a conservatory or greenhouse—whichever one's fancy inclines to call it—filled with flowers that are brought to their ripe beauty when the snow still mantles the earth. The illustrations that accompany this article were taken through the courtesy of Sir Edmund Osler, who has an intense love of flowers in his heart. They show parts of the splendid winter garden that is attached to the library in his beautiful home, Craighleigh, Rosedale, Toronto.

Such pictures as these should encourage a deeper interest in this delightful phase of gardening—the circling of the year with flowers full of colour and subtle odours. The conservatory forms, as has been mentioned, part of the house itself, and in the evening the soft glow of electric lights brings out the full value of the wealth of flower shades. It is a little scene in fairyland, fresh, dainty and comfortable when a rushing wind or a storm of hail whistles round this gathering of Chinese Primroses, Cinerarias, Orchids, Forget-me-nots, Daffodils, the graceful Schizanthus, Hyacinths, Carnations, Nile Lilies, the arching flower stems of the Euphorbia jacquinaeflora and Tulips. There is a procession of flowers, the Calceolaria later in the year giving the chief note of colour.

It is impossible to convey useful information unless the plants receive their botanical names, otherwise they could not be identified for the purpose of growing oneself the kinds of flowers that fill Sir Edmund's conservatory during the winter months. Euphorbia jacquinaeflora may seem a terrible mouthful, but it could be called the Scarlet Spurge, which might apply to more than one of the same family.



A Charming Group—Stagshorn, Fern and Orchid.

Peering above the Cinerarias, the cool grey green leaf of a plant that has given comfort to millions of sufferers, was the Eucalyptus, from which is extracted the oil of commerce—Eucalyptus globulus—here grown for its foliage beauty. Unfortunately it is an exotic in this country and in Britain, except in the extreme south, and then it must not be considered safe during a period of sharp frost. The chief gardener, Mr. Allen, sows the seed in March and the plants are of rapid growth.

It is not given to everyone to revel in a winter garden, but much may be accomplished with a humbler structure for the raising of Hyacinths, Tulips, and Daffodils is particular, as these are less troublesome to manage than the majority of the flowers shown in the illustrations. It is a real gain in health and happiness to tend flowers that blow when nature is asleep, a beautiful life-giving hobby in leisure hours. They are flower children, sensible to neglect, but responding to careful nurture. Upon this all depends, and in the conservatory proper the highest cultural skill is essential to success.

The building must be constructed on the most approved scientific plan to ensure suitable ventilation, freedom from drip, which is a bugbear to plant life, and draughts. A changeable climate renders the gardener's calling one of constant anxiety, but it is worth the labour, skill, and expense when such results are achieved as those depicted.

“Who loves a garden, loves a greenhouse, too,

Unconscious of a less propitious clime,  
There blooms exotic beauty, warm and snug  
While the winds whistle and the snows descend.”  
E. T. COOK.