



FIG. 2022. LILY OF THE VALLEY AND NATIVE FERN.

An average width of six or seven feet gives room for a nice display of plants ranging in size from quite dwarf plants to those five or six feet in height. The size of the border, either in width or length must be determined by the number and size of the plants it is to contain, as well as the space that these will require when they have fully developed their growth. Most of the dwarf shrubs mentioned would require to be about three feet away from any other permanent plants. The perennial plants and lilies should have about two feet clear of space from other plants of a like nature. The annuals and gladiolus bulbs and any other plants considered desirable, could be placed between these, so as not to crowd or overgrow them. (In mentioning gladiolus on page 65 of January number the word "perennial" was inadvertently inserted.)

The most desirable kind of soil to succeed best with almost all kinds of garden flowers, is without doubt soil of a rich loamy nature. The latter kind however is not by any means really necessary, as many shrubs and perennials succeed splendidly in heavier soil. It is very essential that the border should be well drained, as there is nothing more detrimental to herbaceous perennials or shrubs than badly drained ground.

The border should have a good coating of well rotted stable or cow manure, and be dug thoroughly and deep. This should be done the previous fall, or quite early in the spring if possible. Every vestige of roots of perennial grass and weeds should be carefully picked out when digging, especially twitch or spear grass, as this latter is very troublesome in herbaceous borders if not kept under control. The best time for planting