Vol. XII.
APRIL, 1889.
No. 4.

## - CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

The Buttercups and Pansies will have all been laid to rest,
The Tulips and Carnations all be gathered to earth's breast,
The Roses and the Lilies will have lost their sweet perfume
Before, to cheer the lonely earth. Chrysanthemums will bloom.

—Dart Failhonte.
HRYSANTHEMUM Indicum, "the India plant," has, from time immemorial, been cultivated in India, China and Japan; and in these countries this flower, so free to flower, so easily cultivated, and so varied in its forms, has been a particular favorite. The Chinese and the Japanese have been competing with each other in the production of new varieties, and their success proves that the florist's art is by no means neglected in those distant countries. The Japanese have invested it with especial importance, and regard it as a sacred flower possessed of peculiar religious symbolism. This plant, introduced to America by some traveler, has now become one of our most popular flowers, and is produced by our florists in such infinite variety that none but a specialist could make any pretension to being posted on the
endless named varieties that have been catalogued.

So great has become the rage for this flower that at least a million plants were sold by the florists of America last Spring, and probably a larger number, still, will be sold this season. Chrysanthemum shows, of two or three days each, are the order of the day in Autumn both in Europe and America, and are attended by thousands of people.

It is deservedly thus popular, for what compeer has it among our late Autumn flowering plants, thriving as it does equally well in the small city lot, or the ample area about the suburban or country residence.

The three principal classes of Chrysanthemums are thus described by Mr. Jas. Vick, Rochester: Chinese, bearing a large, loose, graceful flower; the Pompon, with small and perfectly double flower in great abundance; the fapanese, with ragged fringe-like flowers, like the Chinese, only more so, and the Ancmonc, flowered or quilled. Our colored plate represents several choice varieties, which group together in a charming bouquet, viz.: (I) Pompons, Perfcction, reddish brown; and Model

