

furnish all the protection necessary, besides covering the surface with a green coat almost as quickly as oats will. After the Blue Grass gets its roots well established in deep rich soil it will need no further protection, but will assume entire control in a very short time.

The third essential is early and frequent mowing. If the grass is allowed to get too large before being cut, the stubble will be too stiff, and we lose that soft velvety character which is only produced by frequent mowing. It is time to begin as soon as the grass is tall enough for the mower to catch it. A few annual weeds which may make their appearance during the summer will do no harm, as they will be kept down by the mower and not allowed to ripen their seeds; but such perennials as the Docks, Dandelion, Plantains and their kind should be dug up as soon as they can be seen, and water must be in constant supply to feed the grass, keep

it green and growing. The deep-soil preparation will help to do this, but he is fortunate who can draw on some reservoir for occasional irrigation. Where water is always abundant less care need be given to fertilization, otherwise it will be well to top-dress the lawn early every spring with thirty or forty bushels of unleached ashes and three or four hundred pounds of bone-meal or superphosphate to the acre. This will keep the grass in thriving condition. Barn manure is too unsightly, and should not be used except in localities where snow covers the ground all winter, and then it should be raked off as early as possible in the spring. By following out the suggestions given here in providing the four essentials, we may have as fine lawns in this country as they do in England; lawns which will last a lifetime and be a continual source of pleasure to all who see them.—*Garden and Forest*.

PANSIES.

I HAVE had in the heat of summer, where the sun lay till late in the afternoon, pansies an inch and three-quarters across, from seed two years old from the florist, and a ten cent packet in the beginning. I use a mixture of cow manure, partly rotted forest leaves and wood ashes. Three quarts of ashes to a bushel of manure is enough, but two-thirds of the soil of the bed of the manure and leaves is not too much for pansies. It makes no difference whether the manure is fresh or rotted, that I can see, but it is best to have it buried with a couple of inches of rich soil over it in which to set the seedlings.

A mulch of grass or leaves round the plants will keep the ground from drying, but if it is not rainy they should be watered every night. I think it is best to plant the seeds in a large box filled with the mixture mentioned, and in the same proportion; as

the seedlings are rather slow in growth they can be cared for easier in this way when small.

Young plants beginning to bloom, covered with evergreen boughs during the winter, bloom best in spring and early summer for me. And seeds planted as early as possible in the spring do best for late summer and fall. Pinching out the heart of the plants when small will make them branch more freely.

During the summer the size of the flowers can be kept up by watering two or three times a week with water in which cow manure has been soaked till the color of strong coffee; you can hardly give them too much of it; if it gets on the leaves rinse them with clean water. Pick off the faded blossoms. If you want seed tie a rag round the largest, finest blossoms, and leave but one seed-pod on a plant till ripe.—*Vick's Magazine*.