## THE LANDSCAPE GARDENING BOOK

excellent design, they are dismal things in winter, minus the water. So unless they can be very well done, they are better omitted altogether.

Bees are not furniture exactly, but they belong in every garden where flowers grow. Fruits will be scarce on many a bush without bee visits, and vegetables too, within the kitchen garden. They are a little trouble at swarming time perhaps, but well worth it in the practical advantage of having them, to say nothing of the delight they are to watch and study and ponder over.

The possibilities of the lattice are innumerable and cannot more than be mentioned in a general way. For divisions in the garden, for blotting out disfiguring objects where there is not space to plant them out, and for insuring the privacy of tiny gardens, there is nothing equal to a lattice. High board fences that are an eyesore take on real beauty when stained a dark rich green or brown, and topped by a white painted lattice, half their height or thereabouts. And lattices fixed against a building are in themselves most decorative, as I have already pointed out in a previous chapter.

Finally we come to statuary, and here is one thing to be very careful about. A statue has no excuse for being unless it is excellent in conception—unless it carries some big meaning. Abominations in the shape of deer and hounds and other "realistic" animals, which found their way somehow into some grounds awhile back, are not likely to break into any garden of to-day, I trust. But meaningless groups are almost as bad as these were.

We do seem to be somewhat at a disadvantage in the matter of subjects, to be sure, when we compare our resources with the rich mythology of the ancients, inspiring as it did so many

162