

FLOWERS IN MARCH.



THE crocus and the primrose bloom
In amber's varying dyes ;
And snow drops aid to chase the
gloom,
Inspir'd by lowering skies.

So gems—with answering hues—adorn
The necks of ladies fair ;
The topaz, and the pearl, there worn,
Do with those flow'rs compare.

The amethyst and aconite
Alike their tints display ;
The violets too, as sapphires bright,
Their purple tribute pay.

Narcissus next appears, forsooth,
In jealous yellow clad ;
Because he lov'd himself, poor youth ;
And, cross'd in love, grew mad.

Ere long, rose, (oh, beauteous flower !)
Its fragrance will exhale ;
And, after ev'ry soft'ning shower,
Fresh perfume ev'ry gale.

The infant buds, as emeralds, shine ;
But soon, a crimson dye,
The jagged calyx rich will line,
And seem like rubies nigh.

That semblance mark luxuriant earth,
In precious boons bestows,
Twixt radiant gems that lie beneath,
And flow'rs the surface shows !

'Tis thus the Delia's matchless charms,
Which joy around impart ;
Within her smiles each floweret blooms ;
Each gem shines in her heart.

I. KINGDOM.

March, 1814.

* Our Book Table. *

PARK AND OUT-DOOR ASSOCIATION. First Report, Louisville, Kentucky, 1897.

We have just received a copy of this Report from Mr. W. H. Manning, of Boston. The report covers about 100 pages, not only showing the excellent work of the Association, but also containing many valuable papers. As an example, we quote from Mr. Manning's paper on Park Designs and Park Planting :

Plantations upon the public streets, about recreation grounds, or at points where large crowds will congregate, should be made up of plants with uninteresting flowers and a vigorous constitution, tough branches or prickly stems, so that they will repel rough usage and recover quickly from an injury ; while those standing close to pleasure walks, terraces, windows, and about buildings, where they will be under inspection at all times, should be made up of varieties having foliage and flowers and stems that are attractive at all seasons ; whereas plants that are to form a

part of a landscape to be viewed at a distance should be selected on account of the effect of light and shade that they will produce. Similar considerations will prevail in working out the details of all plantations.

It is generally coming to be realized that native plants, especially those having a vigorous growth and healthy foliage, should predominate in all permanent out-of-door plantations, and that with these the exotics can be used to give variety, but in such a manner that no serious injury to the appearance of the plantation will result from diseases to which they are more subject as a class than natives.

Primarily plants are used by a landscape designer as a painter uses his pigments, to secure certain landscape effects. He does not select a plant for a position because it is rare, but because it gives just the shade of color, texture, or outline to complete the ideal picture he has formed in his mind.

CATALOGUES.

SEED ANNUAL, 1898, A. W. Livingston's Sons, Columbus, Ohio.

THE ash-leaved maple (*Acer negundo*), a herald of spring, with its beautiful green foliage, and its rapid growth, would be an excellent street tree, were it

not for the bag-worm and web-cater pillar being so fond of it. It should be skilfully pruned to keep it in good health.—Mass. Hor. Society.