

—Messrs.
; " J. W.
berry Cul-

countries, and two or three are found in Central Europe; none are British. The original species have since been superseded by the very numerous and beautiful hybrids that are in cultivation, though many of the originals are retained, and are useful in the mixed border. The Hottentots eat the bulbs of some species which contain a considerable quantity of starch.

DS, MRS.
RTON.

The bulbs should be planted in a rich, light, mellow soil, about 20th of May, if the ground is warm, and, for a succession of bloom, every two weeks till the 1st of July. A sunny situation, with ground well spaded and thoroughly pulverized, is the most suitable. If the soil is heavy, plant from one to two inches deep; if light, three to six inches. If bulbs are planted deep they attain a greater size, and are better able to stand a season of drought. They are moisture-loving plants, and, for that reason, they succeed well in England. I think the finest flowers and largest spikes are obtained by late planting, as they come into bloom about the 1st of October. If planted early, they should have a light mulching of newly-cut grass. It is one of the richest of our summer-flowering bulbs, and so refined and delicate in quality of color that it is never anything other than satisfactory. If you care for a soft, pale shade, you have it; if you prefer the brilliant scarlet, crimson or violet, they are before you in every shade. No garden should be without them, or their gorgeous display of bloom. As cut flowers, they are most satisfactory; and if cut when the first four flowers are in bloom, and placed in water, they will open bud after bud till the whole spike is in bloom. The bulbs should be taken from the ground before danger of frost, put in paper bags and kept in a dry cool place free from frost.

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I am sure we will derive a great deal of pleasure from the cultivation of our Gladioli. Horace Smith says: "The purest happiness our hearts can enjoy is that which is wafted to us from the hearts we have made happy, even as the flowers which we ourselves have planted ever seem to breathe around us a sweeter and more acceptable fragrance."

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