

PERMANENT PLANTING OF HARDY BULBS.

THERE are many beautiful hardy bulbs that will take care of themselves in the border, and no flower garden can afford to be without them. Perhaps one of the showiest is *Tulipa sylvestris*, a group of which makes, in its clear bright yellow flowers, one of the prettiest displays imaginable, in April and May. The leaves are narrow and prettier than those of the kinds usually planted for temporary effects; the flowers are quite fragrant. There are a number of others that would doubtless do as well and be equally as interesting.

Many of the *Narcissus* thrive undisturbed; but one that has given the writer considerable pleasure is *N. biflorus*, a pure white hybrid, blooming in May. As the name implies, two flowers are usually borne on one stem. It is deliciously fragrant, and very much like one of its supposed parents, *N. poeticus*.

Although by no means as showy as those already mentioned, *Leucojum aestivum* should perhaps be ranked as next in attractiveness. The individual flowers are small, bell-shaped, opening two or three at a time on one rather tall stem, and gracefully drooping; the color is of a good white, greenish at the base on the outside. They are excellent for cutting, lasting well and opening buds.

Blooming in late spring, they complete a nice succession.

The well-known snowdrop is one that cannot be dispensed with. *Galanthus Elwesii* is said to be the best, though the writer's experience has been confined to the common species, *G. nivalis*. This frequently blooms in Philadelphia, before the close of winter, a few days of warm sunshine bringing out the tiny flowers, which droop modestly as though abashed at their early appearance. The last snowfall sometimes catches them, but without doing serious injury. This, with the *Leucojum* and well-known crocus, is all the better for being undisturbed for four or five years,—or until the increase makes them crowded. Planted 3 inches apart, and about 4 inches beneath the surface in deep, well-drained and enriched soil they will give greatest satisfaction.

While September and October are usually the best months for planting hardy bulbs, do not omit them because it is getting late and November is at hand. As long as the soil can be worked, they will generally do well,—in fact they have been occasionally placed in holes made in frozen ground. But this method is by no means to be advised. If the soil is heavy, a little sand should be placed under each bulb.—Meehan's Monthly.

DON'T MARKET THE CULLS.

There is one of the most important truths in the science of marketing in a nutshell. It is not only the "little cull peaches," but the little cull strawberry, the little cull cucumber, the little cull tomato, the cull cauliflower, the little cull of any and all vegetables and fruits that break down prices and destroy the markets. The worst thing about market-

ing culls is that they destroy the demand. After a family has had, say, a bushel of cull tomatoes, they don't want any more soon, if at all; whereas if the fruit had been first-class, it would not only have received a much higher price in the first place, but would have made a market at once for more; and so on through the entire list of vegetables and fruits.