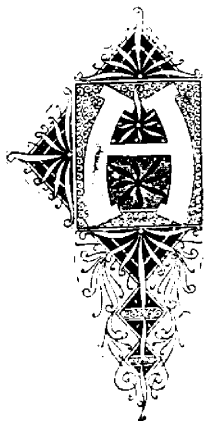


## FUCHSIAS IN SUMMER.



FUCHSIA in perfection is always attractive, yet really good specimens are comparatively rare. No stunted, starved fuchsia will ever give satisfaction, and unless the plant is given rich soil, sufficient moisture and partial sunshine, it would not pay to grow it.

To those, who have seen noble specimens growing as high as eight feet, and loaded with handsome foliage and flowers, says our correspondent, W. F. Lake, in Country Gentlemen, no word is needed to convince them that they are worth the extra care necessary to attain this size, being far superior to smaller plants. In growing these large specimens, cuttings, which should be rather short shoots, may be taken off at the end of August or early in September, and as soon as they have formed roots, should be potted at first in pots not over three inches in diameter, placing them in rather a warm position for a time. When the plants have nearly filled the pots with roots, shift, using the next size larger. The main cause of "scrubby" fuchsias, is allowing them to become pot-bound in the early period of their growth, and at no time, until bloom is desired should the roots be allowed to become pot-bound.

As summer bedding plants in a shady location, fuchsias possess strong merits. If the soil be light and rich they will make surprisingly vigorous growth, and, as in the case of all bedding plants, the foliage and flowers will be decidedly improved in color and substance.

Care should be taken that the plants are not exposed to strong winds, as the fragile flowers are easily injured and the buds knocked off, or whipped about so they will be ragged or torn, if those left are open.

Watering in the dry seasons should not be overlooked, and should be applied in a thorough manner, soaking ground clear to bottom of roots.

A very interesting sort is *F. fulgens*, which is a bulbous variety, dies down in the fall and has a tuber which may be wintered as we keep gladioli and dahlias. The flowers are produced in panicles and are very slender, and from one to four inches long. This variety is started early in pots, and afterwards set in open ground, comes into bloom at a time when there is usually a scarcity of flowers in the garden, and never fails to attract attention from its peculiar shape of flowers.

Considerable interest may be derived in growing the fuchsia from seed, and watching the different characteristics of the plant as they come into flower, and in fact, during the whole period of their growth. Very good varieties may be secured from seeds taken from the fruitlike balls on your own plants, which will follow if the flowers are not picked off, the seed being found inside the reddish