

to the planting that is now going on in the experimental grounds of the Ontario School of Agriculture at Guelph, expecting that in a few years the reports will very materially advance our knowledge of the hardiness of many useful and ornamental trees and shrubs.

There are several varieties of these *Wistarias* now in cultivation. Of the Chinese there is a white variety, differing in no material particular from the other except that the flowers are white instead of blue. Another variety was introduced from Japan in 1863, having perfectly double flowers, deeper in color than the single, and the racemes somewhat longer. There is also a white variety of the American species, and one that is supposed to be a hybrid between the American and Chinese species, called *Wistaria Magnifica*, and another known as *W. Brachybotris*, brought from Japan, which differ from the type mainly in the shade of color of the flowers.

We are indebted to Mr. James Vick, of Rochester, N. Y., for the opportunity of presenting our readers with the colored illustration of a raceme of this beautiful flower which adorns the present number. It is a very truthful representation, and does great credit to Mr. Vick's accuracy and taste.

SOWING FLOWER SEEDS OUTSIDE, AND BEDDING OUT.

BY N. ROBERTSON, GOVERNMENT GROUNDS, OTTAWA.

Sowing outside should never be done sooner than the middle of May, and not then unless the weather is warm and vegetation going on rapidly. If you sow when cold weather prevails many of your seeds will rot and perish. A very large proportion of the flower seeds sown outside are never seen, and the general cry here raised is "bad seeds." The principle of success in this is much the same as in the hot-bed, but with this difference: The seeds are thrown carelessly in the ground, and nature is expected to do the remaining portion of the work, but she will not unless you adhere to her rules. A large portion of flower seeds are so fine that unless care is taken in the sowing of them the attempt will be in vain. The general practice with amateurs is to scrape away a little of the surface and sow the seed, and draw the soil back and leave it there. Often the soil is rough and hard below, and it is almost the same as if the seeds were thrown on a road