

ground. It is better to set them in a sheltered spot in their pots for a few days, until the leaves have become somewhat hardened. Before turning them out of their pots to the flower-beds, water well first; the soil must be pressed firmly against the balls of the roots, as they are planted in the ground.

Where bedding-plants have to be bought, it is not good policy to choose tall, delicate plants, that have been forced early into growth. Select such as are green, dense, and bushy, and have vigorous looking foliage. Fine leaves, at this season, is a greater sign of health than fine flowers.

As soon as the grass on the lawns commences to grow, if it has had a top-dressing of manure in the winter, whatever straw may be on should at once be cleanly raked off, and as soon as it is long enough to take the edge of the scythe, it should be mowed. It is of first importance that the first mowing should be done as early as possible in the season. If left to grow long before the first cutting, the leaves get yellow at the base, and at every cutting after the yellowness appears, totally destroying the fine green color which gives the lawn its chief attractions. Where a first-rate mowing is desired, it is best to roll the grass the day before cutting. The grass is then pressed all one way, and cut evenly, and any dirt or stones pressed beneath the surface that would otherwise take the edge off the scythe. A good lawn-mower keeps his scythe very sharp. Some grind a little before each regular set-to at mowing. Those who are not accustomed to mowing lawns, should take but a few inches in width at a time, so as not to "score." With a little thought and judgment, any field-mower can soon become a good lawn-hand. A sharp scythe is the chief element of success.

In planting out for summer show, climbing vines must not be forgotten. Screens can be formed of them, besides many beautiful and fanciful objects, and then their training over strings, wires and arbors, afford much pleasant and interesting occupation for the ladies.

The sowing of hardier annuals should be finished as soon as possible, according to directions furnished last month. The tender kinds, such as Balsams, Globe Amaranthus or Bachelor's Buttons, Thunbergias, &c., should be put in about the end of the month. There is now pretty well known an Orange Globe Amaranthus (*Gomphrena Hoveyi*), introduced several seasons ago from Mexico by Mr. Hovey, of Boston, and in an open sunny spot, is really a very beautiful kind to grow. The Cypress vine, both white and crimson, is rather impatient of cold, and had better not be sown till the end of the month. Gladioluses are becoming a very popular summer-blooming bulb, as Hyacinths are for winter and spring. They are very beautiful, and thrive in any rich sandy soil. They also may be planted the end of the month. The same may be said of Tuberoses. Do not forget when the autumn comes, to take up the roots, as they are injured by the first frosts.

I prefer the present and May to any other for trimming box-edgings. They look much better when cut to a conical form, than when squared at the top, and besides, are much less liable to die out in patches.

This is the best part of the spring, on the whole, to plant evergreens. For immediate effect, they are usually planted much thicker than they are ultimately able to occupy with any credit to themselves. In planting, take care to plant those that will finally remain first, and fill in the temporary ones after. It is not uncommon to see trees—a Norman Spruce, for instance, that will in a few years possess a diameter of thirty feet, planted perhaps but six or eight feet from the edge of a walk, and no other near to stay when the one so inconveniently close has to be removed.

Deciduous trees and shrubs may still be planted,—the longer, however, they are delayed till the middle of May, the more severely they should be pruned at planting. If this be attended to, there is no risk, if even the tree has burst nearly fully into leaf.

FRUIT GARDEN.

Grafting can be continued till the buds of the trees are nearly pushed into leaf. Sometimes, from a pressure of other work, some valuable scions have been left on hand too late to work. It may be interesting to know, that if such scions are put into the ground much the same as if they were cuttings, they will keep good