

as ever I saw taken from a churn. It required but little working, as the earth absorbed nearly every particle of milk. It is now five days old as I write, and just as sweet and solid as butter can be."

SHOEING HORSES.—Two gentlemen connected with the British army, Mr. George Fleming, veterinary surgeon, and Col. Fitzwygram, have recently published works on the treatment of the horse, and both energetically protest against the paring and cutting away of the sole and frog which often accompanies the operation of shoeing a horse. Nothing can be more barbarous than the carving and cutting of a horse's foot before shoeing, though on his skill in this many a farrier prides himself. The idea that the frog must not be allowed to bear on the ground—that the sole must be thinned till it "springs on the thumb," is a most pernicious one. On this subject Mr. Fleming's precept is: "The sole, frog and bars must on no account; or under any conditions, except those of a pathological nature be interfered with in any way with a knife or rasp." At each shoeing, the hoof must be shortened to its natural proportions, beyond which it has grown the proportions, beyond which it has grown the protecting shoe; it is this which forms the chief-difficulty of the work, and is the criterion of the good workman.

The Garden.

HYACINTHS.

Hyacinths may be classed among the most beautiful and interesting flowers we have. They may be cultivated in the garden, or in glasses, pots and vases, in the house, with equal success.

When cultivated in the garden, the bulbs should be set in October and November. The soil should be light, rich, and well drained, for if planted in heavy, wet ground, the bulbs will have a tendency to rot. The bulbs should be set about six inches apart and four deep. As cold weather approaches, the bulbs should be covered with leaves, straw, or any coarse litter that may be handy, to the depth of five or six inches, in order that the severe frost may not penetrate the roots. The covering should be removed as soon as the shoots begin to show in Spring, and the earth should then be gently loosened around the plants. In about a month the garden will be made beautiful with their blooms.

When Hyacinths are planted in pots, there should be a good drainage placed at the bottom. The soil should then be filled up to within an inch of the top of the pot, the bulb placed in the center, and nearly covered with earth, leaving only the crown visible. After pressing the earth rather firmly down around the bulb, it should be thoroughly watered, the top of the pot covered with moss, or some light material, and set away in a cool, dark cellar. They should be watered often enough to keep the earth moist. In this condition they

should remain for several weeks, the roots will then be well formed, and the pots may be brought to the light and heat by degrees, and water applied more freely. When in full bloom, water should be kept in saucers under the pots, but when the leaves begin to wither, the supply should be diminished, until the bulb is dry and fit to be removed from the earth.

Hyacinths succeed well in glasses. They should be placed so that the roots will just touch the water, not allowing the bulb to be immersed. Set them in a dark, cool place,—the cellar is best,—letting them remain two or three weeks; the roots will then be formed, and the plants may be removed to a light and moderately warm room. They should not, however, be placed in the sun until the leaves have become a dark green. If the water becomes impure, it should be changed. This should not be done too often, as the roots must be disturbed as little as possible—once in two or three weeks will answer every purpose.

When in bloom, hyacinths will last much longer if kept in a cool, light room, than in one where the atmosphere is dry and overheated. The bulbs of those that are grown in water are worthless after one flowering, but those raised in pots may be planted the following year in the garden, and make a very pretty display, though by no means equal to that made at the first blooming.

THE VERBENA.

At this day there is no class of plants that excels the verbenas as a bedding plant for masses and fanciful beds; and on lawns its brilliant flowers of many colors form a fine contrast with the green grass. No class of plants is more generally cultivated or more eagerly sought after than this beautiful family. It is the pride of the green-house during the spring months, and acknowledged by all as the reigning beauty of the flower garden during the summer and fall months, and is certainly worthy of a place in every flower garden, however small it may be.

The verbenas are a native of Buenos Ayres, and were introduced into England about 1825, and imported into this country in 1835, creating quite a sensation amongst the florists of that day, and it has ever since maintained its position in the front rank as a florist's flower. Great improvements have been made in the last few years in the size of its flowers, and in the form of its truss; much improvement has been made in the great variety of its brilliant colors: crimson, scarlet, white, lilac, blueish-purple, and purple, in all their intermediate shades, with eyes of crimson, rose, purple, white,