

Horticultural.

The Garden.

This is the season for transplanting evergreens, although the season is late, the sooner such operations are completed the better. Planting deciduous trees, if not already done, had better be deferred till the fall. Too much care cannot be exercised in preparing ground for planting, and in finishing the operation in a neat and workmanlike manner. The ground should be deeply dug in the fall—if trenched two feet deep all the better—and the planting should be proceeded with as soon as the soil is dry and the weather warm. By carefully attending to such matters trees will not only live, but generally will thrive and grow with a rapidity truly astonishing, as compared with the disasters and slow progress of others less liberally and skilfully treated. The habits of trees should be studied in adapting them to soils, exposure, &c. Among evergreens, as a general rule, pines will flourish in a dry, sandy soil; the spruce requires a medium condition in relation to moisture, while the family of firs will luxuriate in somewhat sheltered and damp situations. In dry weather, especially when trees are several days out of the ground before planted, it is an excellent practice to pud the roots, which can readily be done by plunging them into a mixture of cowdung and water, a portion of which will adhere to them, and keep them moist. Avoid planting too deep, and throw in some fine soil to fill up the interstices between the roots, tread the soil firmly, especially in dry weather. Mulching newly planted trees acts beneficially as a protection against the drought of summer, and the frosts of winter. These suggestions are of general application; but in case of choice fruit trees and flowering shrubs, they are of indispensable necessity. It is for want of proper attention that many failures in planting have to be annually explored.

Roses intended for removal, which in the ever coming kinds, as Tea, China, Bourbon, &c., is occasionally advisable, should now be moved without delay, and pruned back considerably. This is the season for selecting bedding-plants; and of a dwarf and stocky appearance are to be

preferred and that have been somewhat hardened by occasional out of door exposure, when admissible. Box may now be planted, and the edging carefully cut, which gives it a pleasing appearance. Florist's flowers should be attended to as forming a source of beauty and enjoyment. Auriculas, carnations, pansies, polyanthus, phlox, &c., are easily cultivated, and impart much beauty to the garden. Gladioli are getting popular, and may now be set out.

Not a day should be lost in getting in the principal crops of the garden; some of the earlier crops were sown last month. It is not, however, too late, in this backward season, to catch up work that has been neglected. In this climate the most productive garden crops are not frequently put in the ground before the beginning of May. Much, however depends, as we have observed in previous numbers, not on the particular time of sowing alone, but also on the suitable condition of the ground, and the temperature of the atmosphere.

Floriculture in Spring.

[The following paper was recently read before a meeting of the Hamilton Horticultural Club, by Mr. George Laing, Landscape Gardener, of that city.]

The Winter has passed away—John Frost, the fell destroying enemy of the Florist, is about to take his departure for a season. Spring time and Summer are at hand—gardeners and amateurs must arouse from their lethargy and be up and doing. Clean, dress, and roll the grass in the parterres. Soil and dig the flower beds—make all ready for the bedding season.

In writing on this subject I shall endeavour very briefly to state whatever may occur to my mind, confining myself principally to the varieties cultivated in this locality, and, as I proceed, introduce anything new I may think of, with a few remarks on the nature, habits, and culture of the plants.

If not already done, (say 1st April,) sow tender annuals in a hot bed or in pots or boxes, that can be placed in a vinery or any other suitable place under glass. Increase the plant stock by propagation—procure from the nurseries all the new Verbenas, Scarlet Geraniums, Heliotropes, Petunias, Carnations, Pinks, Hollyhocks and Dahlias, &c., all which are now very plentiful and so cheap that no one who has the desire need want them. Study to have all in readiness and good order by the time they are