

and patience and perseverance become fixed in your character, that you will lose faith in such a thing as luck. Success is yours if you desire it very much.

My next letter is from Cornwall.

DEAR UNCLE TIM,—I think you are a jolly uncle and a kind one too. I love flowers, but I haven't much patience, but if you will send me the seeds I will try and be more patient. I will plant, weed, and take good care of them. Yours,

Buzz.

Rather a queer name, but I trust you will buzz around amongst the flowers this summer and keep weeds down, and gather all the sweetness you can from the garden.

Here I have another Niece in Belleville, who writes an encouraging letter to myself and the publisher of our Magazine:

DEAR UNCLE TIMOTHY,—I have never had the pleasure of seeing you, but from the minute description you have given of yourself I am sure it will afford me much pleasure to hereafter recognize you as my Uncle "Tim." I am delighted with the name you have chosen for the horticultural society you are forming. I am much pleased that I may consider myself connected with it, and will be most happy to become a member. I am delighted with your Magazine; the first number is excellent, and well worth twenty-five cents without the following numbers, for which I am patiently waiting. I am proud to know we have an institution such as yours in Canada. Now, my dear Uncle, I think you are the best uncle I know of. I will be glad to receive the seeds promised. I am very fond of flowers, and will try and have a nice flower bed next summer. Ma says she thinks I have written enough for a little girl. So good bye. From your Niece,

PANSY.

I hear from two Nieces in Hastings:

DEAR UNCLE TIM,—Although I have many Uncle Johns and Wills I have never had an Uncle "Tim" before, so I am very glad to make your acquaintance, for as a general rule uncles are fond of their nephews and nieces. You said you liked to see in a person's character two things, "love for flowers and patience." I can safely say I am fond of flowers, but as to patience—well I don't think I possess a great deal. However, I will, according to your advice, try to cultivate this great quality. I think as soon as spring opens there will be more flowers at our house than last year, as I intend to have a flower bed. I thank you for your kind offer of seeds, and wish you would send them to me. This is all at present. From your Niece,

JESSIE WILSON.

DEAR UNCLE TIM,—I thought you would like, perhaps, to hear from me, so I thought I would write a few lines. I am a little girl ten years old. I go to school every day and am in the third book. I never had a flower garden, although I often wished I had, and if you will send me the flower seeds promised I will be much obliged to you. From your loving Niece,

ELLA WILSON.

I expect to have a good report from Jessie's and Ella's gardens this coming summer or fall. I think their mind is made up to do something.

The last letter I have space for is from a little niece here:

DEAR UNCLE TIMOTHY,—I want to join your Horticultural Society, and wish you to send me the seeds promised, as I am going to have a nice little garden for flowers this summer. I have a ticket to the rink this winter, and mamma says perhaps she will let me dress for the children's carnival. I will be glad when the snow goes so that I can get at the flowers, as I like them very much. Good bye. From your loving Niece,

GUSSIE MATHIAS.

UNCLE TIMOTHY'S SEEDS.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR GROWING ASTERS, PHLOX AND PANSY.

In the first place, if those seeds are wanted to make plants early, get some good soil and fill flower pots or small boxes about the size of match boxes, level the soil nicely, then sow the seed of each kind separately and cover lightly with soil about one quarter inch, if possible use a fine sieve for covering the seed, then water with a fine rose or watering can. Be careful not to dash the water so as to disturb the seed. Have the water lukewarm. Then place the boxes or pots in a sunny window, or better still in a hot bed. After the little plants are up nicely, on fine days they may be placed outside in the sun, not allowing them to dry up, taking them back into the house before the cool of the evening. When two or three inches high transplant out into the prepared bed. If a round one, they might be placed so as to form three rings, the Asters forming a solid centre, and next to that the Phlox, and next to that the Pansies. An oval bed would suit just as well. Of course those seeds can be sown in the bed during the first part of May or the latter end of April, only they must be kept moist until they are nicely up, and then if too close together transplant some of the seedlings elsewhere.