

UNIQUE FLOWER STANDS AND POTS.

THE ordinary flower-pot has been taken so much as a matter of course that few persons think of using any other receptacles for the plant growths with which they adorn their homes. Yet it is possible to utilize various articles common to most households and at the same time produce something appropriate to the flowers or plants that are put in them.

These holders, which are easy of construction, may, to a certain extent, take the place of the jardiniere that is now so common.

The Japanese have devoted much time and shown great skill in the arrangement of plants and flowers. They offer good examples of what may be done with a single plant or a few flowers. The results they obtain are artistic and compel admiration. It is often desirable to move plants from one room to another, or to use a single plant for a decoration; the various devices shown in the drawings (with one exception) may be very easily moved.

A hanging arrangement for flowers is shown in Fig. 1869. It is odd and effective,



Fig. 1869.

and well worth the slight trouble and expense incurred in constructing it. A carpenter's assistance may be needed for this, and for some of the other designs, but all may be made at trifling cost.

A child's hoop is used for the han-



Fig. 1870.

dle. It passes through two pieces of three-quarter-inch stuff cut two inches wide, that are in turn nailed to two wooden towel rings, one above the other, eight inches apart. A circular piece of wood is fitted into the lower ring, and light strips of wood are tacked on, the whole forming a basket in which the pot is placed. Vines are planted and trained up and around the hoops.

Fig. 1870 is intended as a substitute for the fern dishes of silver that grace the dinner-table. This is the ordinary round wooden spice box known to many housekeepers. It is painted a pale cream tint, and when filled with growing ferns is quite as good in effect as the silver dishes, which, to my mind, always seem a trifle cold and metallic for flowers and plants. A Japanese stand gives style to this arrangement, which might otherwise be deemed quite commonplace.

This stand may be stained a dark sienna or ebonized. It should not be over three inches in height, as the plant must not be