

pass through the fine avenue of horse chesnut and lime trees, more than one mile long; these trees are of great size and age, and have a noble appearance.

The next trip I made was to Sydenham Palace. I cannot describe the pleasure I derived from this visit. The grounds and the palace occupy 200 acres, which are laid out with the most perfect taste. The Rosery, or Mount of Roses, was in full bloom. This is a circular colonnade, formed by 120 columns supporting 12 arches, 32 feet in height, and 16 feet wide. Roses of every variety grow up here on the lattice work, and produce a very fine effect. The slopes of the bank round this mound are planted with all the approved varieties of standard and dwarf perpetual roses. The valley of *Rhododendrons*, principally of the American varieties, was very fine. Broad walks, fine lawns, great fountains, water temples, with their cascades and falls, extinct animals, and many other attractions, the magnificence of which must be seen to be appreciated.

Before closing my remarks on Sydenham I would take the liberty of throwing out a few suggestions for the arrangement of bedding-out plants on the grouping and ribanding system adopted at Sydenham, Kew, and other places, I was very much pleased with this form of planting, and would strongly recommend a trial of it in Canada. Plants adapted for this purpose are such as we grow in our houses for planting out. I will give a few specimens of what I think would have a fine effect. The beds may be made of any shape to suit individual tastes, as for example, stars, crosses, diamonds, squares, circles, &c.

Grouping in Beds.

A circle of White Petunia, edged with Verbena, Giant de Battles.

A centre of Purple Verbena, edged with Geranium, Golden Chain.

A centre of Geranium Nosegay, edged with Gazania Splendens.

A centre of Punch Geranium, edged with Cloth of Gold Geranium and a Ring of Lobelia Speciosa Kermesina.

A centre of Scarlet Geranium, edged with White Verbena.

A centre of Geranium Ceres Unique, edged with a rim of Crimson Geraniums, and a ring of Cerastrum Lomentasum, a fine dwarf variegated white plant, easy of cultivation, and will stand clipping.

A centre of Geranium Punch, two rings of Golden Chain Geranium, and one ring of Lobelia Speciosa Kermesina.

A centre of ivy-leaved Geranium, edged with Cuphea Platycentra.

A centre of Ageratum Mexicanum, a ring of Punch Geranium.

A centre of Dwarf Bedding Dahlias, two rings of variegated Geraniums.

A centre of Portulaca Splendens, two rings of variegated Alyssum.

A centre of Calceolaria Aurea, two rings of crimson nosegay Geraniums.

A centre of Pirilla Nankinensis, two rings of Scarlet Geraniums, edged with Mentha Variegata (Variegated Mint.)

A centre of Tropaeolum, Crystal Palace Gems, edged with two rings of Purple Verbena.

The same arrangement of plants may be adopted for ribanding, using those recommended for centres of beds as back grounds for the ribands. For mixed beds, variegated and scarlet Geraniums have a fine effect; also, Heliotrope and scarlet Geraniums look well.

I do not wish it to be inferred that the variety of plants mentioned are the only effective arrangement for beds. I simply recommend them as suitable, and easy to be obtained; of course as we advance in this new style of garden decorations we shall increase our variety of plants suitable for the work.

JAMES FLEMING.

Toronto, December, 1862.

To be Continued.

TORONTO GARDENERS' IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

[It is with much satisfaction that we record the formation of a Society among the Gardeners of this city and neighbourhood, for self-improvement, and the advancement of their useful and refining art. Hamilton, as our readers well know, has for several years had such an organization. We wish the new enterprise every success, and should like to hear of similar societies being established in different parts of the Province. In order to meet a practical want that may be felt by such as may contemplate the formation of a Gardeners' Society, we insert for their information the regulations that have been adopted by the one just established in Toronto.—Eds.]

At a Meeting of the principal practical Gardener's of Toronto, and the neighbourhood, it was agreed that they should form a Society for the promotion of useful information among themselves in matters connected with gardening. The object of the Society being to bring the Gardeners together from time to time, that they may mutually benefit each other by entering into discussion on various Horticultural subjects, each one thereby making known his views and experience. A preliminary meeting was accordingly held the second Monday in December, at which a Committee was appointed to draw up a set of Rules and Regulations, and to report the same to a general meeting held on the 22d of December. The report of the Committee being approved of—the