

The fern vase was a large Hercules' Club gourd, arranged in the same manner, lined with tinfoil, in which the ferns were planted in soil, just as they came from their native woods. She made quite a number in odd varieties, and after filling them sent them as presents to friends. The styles which ingenuity can produce is almost without limit. An assortment of gourd seed will produce all sorts of odd shapes and sizes. They should be planted in different parts of the garden, and will grow in almost any odd place where nothing else will succeed.

In making the baskets two or three can be combined in one group, one for live ferns and two for flowers. The old fashioned Dipper gourd and the Hercules' Club are the best for the larger vases. The latter will grow long and straight when it is made to rest at the bottom on something and by its own weight forced to grow crooked.

The gourds form a numerous family, and are exceedingly dissimilar in character. The plants are useful for covering old trees, arbors, fences, and for summer screens of any kind. The culture is the same as for melons and squashes; the seeds must not be sown until the weather is warm and settled.—

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#### SOME VALUABLE ROSES.



AMONG the many varieties of recent introduction, the following are a few of the greatest promise, as noted while in flower last season.

Mrs. Degraw (Bourbon). Somewhat resembling Appoline, but a more abundant bloomer, more compact and dwarf in growth, and quite as hardy.

Clothilde Soupent (Hybrid Tea Polyantha). This is quite a novel variety, being a cross between the Tea and Polyantha classes, color pure white, deepening to rose in the centre, will be valuable either as a pot or bedding variety, it will be found hardy.

Snowflake (Tea). Said to be identical with Marie Lambert, produces an abundance of pure white flowers all summer, a splendid pot variety.

Meteor (Hybrid Tea). One of the finest hybrids yet introduced, dark velvety buds of great substance, can be wintered out with protection, makes a good garden rose, and is excellent for pot culture.

Waban (Tea). A deep pink sport from Catharine Mermet, but holds its color better than that variety, and fills a place long felt as a florist's forcing rose.

Madam Georges Bruant (Hybrid Rugosa). A cross between Rugosa and Sombrenil, and retaining in a great measure, the vigorous habit and beautiful rugose foliage of the former, bears long pointed buds of the shape and color of Niphetos (white), said to be very hardy.

Duchess of Albany (Hybrid Tea). A red sport from La France, and seems to be quite as desirable as that very popular variety.

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