

HYDRANGEA PANICULATA GRANDIFLORA.

Sir,—In your next issue would you kindly inform me about the culture of hydrangeas, what kind of soil, etc. I have bought during summer some of these, reared at Port Hope, but they have not grown well; remain very small, and only flowered once this season. I am very glad of the explicit directions in journal about bulbs, planting and treatment. I have a great many growing.

RICHARD HENRY LIGHT, *Toronto.*

Reply by Mr. A. H. Faving, Secretary Florists' Club, Toronto.

Your correspondent has, probably, got hold of some old stunted plants of the above, and has planted them in poor soil. No shrub pays better for good treatment and good feeding than this. Young plants should be planted in the spring, in good rich soil that has had lots of well decayed manure dug in, and they should be kept well watered during dry weather; when in full growth they may have liberal doses of liquid manure. With this treatment they are sure to have large panicles of flower towards the end of the summer. They should be well cut back every year, before the buds begin to swell, leaving only two or three strong eyes to each shoot, except, perhaps, in order to shape the plant when more may be left, but the less eyes left the stronger will be the growth. It is a most beautiful shrub, and will well repay all the attention bestowed on it. The flowers last a long time—well into October; it should be in every garden. Here is a description of a round bed of them at Elizabeth, N.J., taken from the *American Florist*, Dec. 15, 1888:

"The bed was 25 feet in diameter, and contained thirty plants, the centre plants reaching to a height of eight feet. The plants will be seven years old next spring. They were in bloom August 1st, and made a handsome show for two months. When at their best there were two or three thousand panicles of bloom, the largest measuring fourteen inches in length, and ten inches in diameter at the base."

FRUIT ON SANDY SOIL.

SIR,—I have bought a farm six miles from lake Erie where the soil is a sandy loam with quicksand bottom. What fruits and vegetables would be best on such soil?

S. G. FISCHER, *Leamington, Ont.*

Among the fruits, plums, pears and apples succeed better on heavier soil than the kind described by our correspondent, but it would be well adapted to the growing of peaches, cherries, black and red raspberries, black currants and blackberries. Red currants and gooseberries would succeed better on heavier soil.