

plants with delicate foliage, a bulb or two for flowers, and ferns. The artillery plant is especially pretty in a fern dish, as is also the plumosus asparagus. When they grow a little too large they can be cut back or removed. *Begonia multiflora* is also a pretty plant on account of its many small leaves. Whenever a fern dish grows ragged looking, remake it. One can have two or three in various states of development, so that one perfect one is always on hand. If I lived

east I should have a dish of native ferns and lilies of the valley put away in a cold cellar where it could freeze up until February and then bring it into the warm rooms. And I would have one of maidenhair and sweet violets for early spring. One can get more delight out of a fern dish than from a whole conservatory of big plants. There is something so interesting in the slowly uncurling fern fronds, it fascinates a plant lover.—*Lick's Magazine*.

PANSY GROWING

Sir: Would you kindly give me a few hints on raising pansies, the kind of soil they require and treatment they should receive from time seed is planted.

To secure the best results with pansies the seed should be sown about the second or third week in August, and the plants wintered over in a cold frame. At this date, however (March 3rd), it would be better to sow the seed in a pot or shallow box in the window, or in a moderately warm hot-bed. The plants should be hardened off by placing them in a cold frame or some sheltered position out of doors before being planted out in the border. As pansies are of a comparatively hardy nature, they can be planted outside, usually early in May. Pansy seed can also be sown in the open ground as soon as the ground can be worked, but these

do not come into flower oftentimes until hot weather commences, and pansies do not succeed well in hot weather unless under specially favored circumstances.

Pansies like a light rich soil, with plenty of moisture, that is why they succeed best as spring or early summer flowering plants. Pansies planted out for late spring or early summer flowering would be benefitted very much by being planted in a position where they were at least partially shaded from the sun for a few hours at noon day. Light rich soil, plenty of moisture, and a temperature varying from 50 at night to 65 or 70 degrees in the daytime suits pansies splendidly. A burning hot sun soon ruins them. A little shade suits them.

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FARMING AND HORTICULTURE

THE farmer is satisfied if his cereal crop yields him a profit of \$15 or \$20 an acre. The horticulturist—and I mean by this term the man who grows fruits or vegetables outdoors—must get from \$50 to

\$500 per acre; and to do this must be able to make use of every possible fact which science and practice have shown to be of value.—*The World's Work*.