

Window Gardens.

Window boxes filled with luxuriantly growing, free blooming plants will prove things of beauty which will give pleasure to the inmates of the house, the chance guest, and the passer-by.

Plants thrive much better when the pots are sunk in boxes than when kept on shelves or stands, where the sides of the pots are exposed to the sun, which bakes the earth and tender roots. The lover of flowers will find herself well repaid for the time, labor, and money expended in providing these snug receptacles for her plants by the growth, vigor, and lavish bloom they will show.

Our aim is only to tell how to provide some pretty and inexpensive boxes for the better keeping of the plants already housed. But we stop a moment to urge that in each home some bit of greenery should have a place. Because means are limited, choice plants hard to obtain, or the time to be devoted to their care short, the plants which will yield pleasure and carry a bit of summer through the long months of cold and snowstorms should not be given up.

It is far better to have plain boxes filled with easily grown plants than to have none at all. Because Mrs. Highfly has window boxes which are creations of art in pictured tile and carved wood, filled with rare plants and tended by an experienced gardener, is a very poor reason why some one else who happens to be blessed with a lesser share of riches should not try to have the more inexpensive boxes and easier grown flowers within her reach.

It is a happy fact that ordinary flowers can be bought for a trifle, and will grow and bloom so luxuriantly that they will rival the rare exotics in their grand surroundings. The window space at command and the means of the owner will decide to some extent the kind of boxes to be used. Really attractive ones can be made, put in place, and filled for a trifle, and even under the care of an inexperienced hand the plants will yield full return in flowers and foliage.

To make window boxes which will be positively handsome and show no trace of their plebeian origin requires but little skill or artistic ability. The boxes may be made of pine or any kind of inch-thick board. They should be as long as the window is wide, one inch deeper than the largest pot to be put in them is high, and one inch wider than the pot is broad.

Any ordinary carpenter can put the boxes together, but he should be instructed to use screws in place of nails for joining, since if nails are used the seams will soon show unsightly gaps. The top of the box may be finished by a narrow moulding, or by an inch-wide strip of thin board. The carpenter can either fasten it on or only fit it and leave it to be put on later, according to the decorations decided on. It is a good plan to have all window boxes furnished with a zinc lining, but as this adds quite an item to the expense, it may be left out, and the boxes made perfectly watertight by covering the cracks up the corners and around the bottom on the inside with putty.

When the boxes are ready for decorating, location, the kind of flowers to be grown in them, and the colors in the furnishings of the room where they are to be placed must all be taken into consideration before deciding how they are to be ornamented.

Bright colors should not be used for an entire box, and bright red in quantity should be avoided, unless the box is intended for holding ferns in a north window. Bright green is a color also to be omitted.

The most simple way to finish a box is to stain and oil it. A good staining fluid for imitating walnut is made by adding powdered burnt umber to boiling vinegar until the desired shade is procured. Apply the stain to the wood while hot, using a brush to put it on with, and rubbing off well with a woollen cloth. After the stain has dried in the wood, oil with boiled linseed-oil, rubbing long and well.

A very fine imitation of mahogany may be obtained by rubbing the wood with a solution of nitrous acid, then apply with a soft brush one ounce of dragon's blood dissolved in about a pint of alcohol, with a third of an ounce of carbonate of soda, mixed and filtered. This will have a great brilliancy of polish. If it becomes marred, it can be restored by the use of a little cold-drawn linseed-oil.

More elaborate effects can be obtained by painting. A pretty box can be made by marking of the ends and sides into three inch-wide perpendicular stripes, and painting with pale blue, creamy brown, very light pink, and soft pale grey, using one color to a stripe, and taking them in the order named. Two coats of paint must be used, and one of varnish, after the last coat of paint is perfectly dry. The stripes must be carried up over the moulding around the top of the box, so that the stripes will show on the upper edge.

Instead of stripes, the box may be marked off into three-inch squares painted with the colors named. The effect is much better than would be imagined.

A very good imitation of a box with tiles set in may be made thus: Mark off the ends and sides of the box. Their will be a square on each end and three or four on the sides. Frame the squares by tacking on narrow flat moulding. Paint the squares inside the moulding any color liked, and further ornament them with figure designs or arabesques; paint the moulding a dark brown.

Another box may be painted a very dark blue all over. On each end and the sides mark circles as large as can be made to leave an inch-wide space between them and at top and bottom. Paint the space inside

the circles a creamy white, and on this ground some suitable design. Either figures or small landscapes can be used effectively. They can be easily adapted to the purpose from the designs given in the different art publications. After the painting is perfectly dry, the boxes should have two coats of clear varnish.

If the windows are low, the boxes may be placed on the floor, and should then have casters or small knobs screwed under each lower corner for feet. If the windows do not reach to the floor, the boxes should be raised enough to bring the top of the boxes on a level with the window-sill, or an inch or two below. It should never be so high that the light does not fall evenly over the plants. The boxes may be supported on iron brackets screwed to the wall or furnished with legs.

It is often desirable to keep large single plants on the floor near low windows. These can be provided with small boxes large enough to cover the pots holding them. Such boxes should have casters, so that the plant can be moved easily from place to place. They will be found a great improvement over the unwieldy pot which must be lifted. They may be decorated in any of the ways described.

With the exception of ferns, it is better to keep the plants in pots, and set the pots in the boxes, filling in the spaces with moss or with sand, and covering the tops with growing moss. The plants can be changed without disturbing them, and when one plant gets out of bloom, the pot can be lifted out, and another put in its place.

The plants should never be crowded too closely together. It is much more satisfactory to possess a few strong, free-growing plants than three times as many struggling with each other for room to grow.

Some Don'ts For Girls.

Don't encourage young men to call upon you who frequent liquor saloons, billiard parlors, or pool rooms.

Don't notice men who stare at you on the streets, even if it is a well-bred stare. Doubtless they think themselves irresistible and you very much impressed with their appearance.

Don't consider it a sign of your popularity to be accompanied by several escorts whenever you take your walks abroad.

Don't accept promiscuous invitations. It only cheapens you, and may draw you into a circle of acquaintances you will regret having formed.

Don't sanction wine drinking when out to parties or weddings. Your simple act of declining the proffered glass may act as a check upon your companion. Tacit disapproval sometimes does more good than the most eloquent temperance lecture.

Don't marry a drinking man. If the sweet-heart will not give up the dangerous habit, it is very certain the husband will not.

Don't allow men to be familiar with you, to use slang or doubtful expressions in your presence.

Don't make appointments with men, either at a friend's home, in the Park, or at any place but your father's house.

Don't expect to have exclusive use of the parlor for yourself and callers. Others of the family have the same rights as yourself, and your conversation can and ought not to be of so private a nature that the presence of a third person is felt to be a restraint.

Don't rebel if the visits of a certain gentleman are disagreeable to your mother, and she says so. She knows best, and can see faults and deficiencies that your youth and inexperience would never discover.

Don't attempt to copy the manners and dress of your brothers. Nothing so unsexes a woman as masculine ways.

Don't use loud tones in talking, nor call men by their last names without the usual prefix. Men may treat you as a good comrade, but they very rarely marry such girls.

Don't be deceived that men want to raise a family of Amazons. Remember that while men apparently have more license than women, still they expect their wives to be like Caesar's wife, "beyond reproach."

Don't be ashamed to help mother with the housework. A practical knowledge of bread-making, cooking, and the general management of a house is worth more than a smattering of music or painting. To know how to "set" sponge for bread is an accomplishment that no girl need despise, and the kneading of it is grand exercise.

Don't set your mind too much on dress. While it is your duty to look your very best with the means at your command, it is wrong to give so much time and thought to the adornment of your person, while your mind is starving for want of proper food. You need not be a blue stocking, but a good healthy course of reading and thinking is splendid gymnastics for your mental powers.

Don't come down to breakfast in a soiled wrapper, slovenly shoes, "bangs" done up in curl papers, and back hair in a cracker knot on the top of your head. You will never see any one better to dress for than those in the home circle. They are the ones to be cheered by your sweet, wholesome appearance, and not strangers.

In a word, girls, try to be true women, and by so doing you will gain an influence which, like a sweet perfume will shed its fragrance upon all with whom you may be brought in contact.—[Ladies' Home Journal.]

To Save Life

Frequently requires prompt action. An hour's delay waiting for the doctor may be attended with serious consequences, especially in cases of Croup, Pneumonia, and other throat and lung troubles. Hence, no family should be without a bottle of **Ayer's Cherry Pectoral**, which has proved itself, in thousands of cases, the best Emergency Medicine ever discovered. It gives prompt relief and prepares the way for a thorough cure, which is certain to be effected by its continued use.

S. H. Latimer, M. D., Mt. Vernon, Ga., says: "I have found Ayer's Cherry Pectoral a perfect cure for Croup in all cases. I have known the worst cases relieved in a very short time by its use; and I advise all families to use it in sudden emergencies, for coughs, croup, &c."

A. J. Edison, M. D., Middletown, Tenn., says: "I have used Ayer's Cherry Pectoral with the best effect in my practice. This wonderful preparation once saved my life. I had a constant cough, night sweats, was greatly reduced in flesh, and given up by my physician. One bottle and a half of the Pectoral cured me."

"I cannot say enough in praise of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral," writes E. Hampton, of Palestine, Texas, "believe me, I do that, but for its use, I should not have lived!"

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,

PREPARED BY

J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.
Sole and Principal Agents. Price 25¢; six bottles, \$6.

"Not Bulk, but Business!"

is the way a Western man put it in expressing to a friend his complete satisfaction in the use of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets. So small and yet so effectual, they bid fair to supplant entirely the old-style pill. An ever-ready remedy for Sick and Bilious Headache, Biliousness, Consumption and all blood disorders. Mild in action, wonderful in effect! Put up in vials, convenient to carry. Their use attended with no discomfort! These sterling merits account for their great popularity.

The treacle jug, the buckwheat pancake and the cold wave now form an oligarchy of tremendous power.

If those who wish to improve their personal appearance would, instead of using cosmetics, use Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery, they would find it clear the skin from pimples, and give health and glow to the cheek.

The pirate considers himself a sea king; the detective is generally a sea-king also.

A Cure for Deafness.

There have been many remarkable cures of deafness made by the use of Haggard's Yellow Oil, the great household remedy for pain, inflammation and soreness, Yellow Oil cures rheumatism, sore throat and croup, and is useful internally and externally for all pains and injuries.

"General Court news"—account of the engagement of one young man to several young women.

THERE NEVER WAS A MEDICINE sold in Canada that accomplished so much in cleansing the system from all Scrofula taint as Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery. It strikes at the root of the disease by clearing the blood.

It is the scissors-grinder who likes to see things dull.

Amherst Acknowledgments.

"I acknowledge the good I received from Burdock Blood Bitters. I had constipation, irregular bowels and accumulation of wind, causing severe pain in my stomach. Two bottles of B. B. B. cured me. It is all you claim it to be." ALLAN A. CLARKE, Amherst, N. S.

The elevator boy has a life that is full of ups and downs; yet when he is at the end of his rope he can raise something.

W. W. McLellan, Lyn P. O., writes:—"I was afflicted with Rheumatism, and had given up all hopes of a cure. By chance I saw Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil recommended. I immediately sent (fifty miles) and purchased four bottles, and with only two applications I was able to get around, and although I have not used one bottle, I am nearly well. The other three bottles I gave around to my neighbors, and I have had so many calls for more, that I feel bound to relieve the afflicted by writing to you for a supply."

Some men work harder to avoid paying an honest debt than they would have to work to earn the money to pay it with.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it this receipt in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. PETERS, 830 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.