

any of them, the carp is rather tasteless. In very cold spring brooks carp will not grow at all, they rather seem to shrink, if we can imagine a fish shrinking with the cold. But in warm waters, especially in the Southern States, where there is no trouble with frost, they attain an enormous size quickly. There have been instances of their growing to seven pounds weight in two years, which far surpasses anything known of any other species of fish. In the North, if the ponds have hard bottoms and freeze their entire depth, the carp will be killed. But if the bottom is soft and muddy they will burrow into it and protect themselves. They are said to feed on vegetables, either the natural growth in the water, or the refuse from the garden, but I imagine they are greatly improved by an occasional taste of the numberless insects that are found on all aquatic plants. The same rule applies to them that is found to govern in all other departments of nature; the best is always the hardest to get. Not only will carp never supply the place of trout, but they will hardly live in the same water. They need little care, and will exist on poorer food, are content in less fine water, and they are in the end an inferior fish. The common proverb says that whatever is worth having is worth working for, and that, translated into fish literature, means that an ordinary variety is more easily maintained than a superior one. Still there is always more need of the lower class. Few men eat trout, more eat shad, and infinitely more use cod, while the ponds that are adapted to trout, are not as one in a hundred to those fitted for carp. Any old sluggish pond, above a mud-hole, will answer for them. In conclusion, it is almost self-evident that carp are no more a game fish than a fattened hog is a game ani-

mal. Carp can generally be procured through the State Fish Commissioners, and several breeders offer them for sale. —ROBERT BARNWELL ROOSEVELT, in *American Agriculturist* for January.

#### DOUBLE-FLOWERED GOLDEN FEATHER.

The pretty lace-leaved Golden Feather, usually called *Pyrethrum aureum laciniatum*, has proved with us to be the best white flowered bedding plant we have. Without any attention, it has been a dwarf and compact mass of white flowers the whole season, and the flowers are so freely produced that one can scarcely see the foliage except at the margin of the beds, where the pale, lemon-coloured leaves make a pretty fringe. I am by no means enraptured with Golden Feather, seeing it is so overdone in many gardens; but white flowers have so softening a character amongst brilliant summer blossoms, that any plant is welcome which produces them freely, and I feel sure that any one giving the double *Pyrethrum* a trial—not as a foliage, but as a flowering plant—will be well satisfied with it. It keeps sending up a continuous succession of flowering shoots from the base in such a way that a dense mass of double button-like flowers is produced the whole season. It is as easily raised from seed or by division of the old plants as the ordinary form; but whereas old plants are of very little service in a fine-foliage point of view, from their running up to flower so persistently, in this case they are very useful. In a cut state this plant is also serviceable. The shoots average from 9 inches to 1 foot in height; and, as white flowers are so effective in all kinds of floral decorations, a plant that produces an unfailing supply is ever welcome, whether for beds or borders.—*The Garden*.