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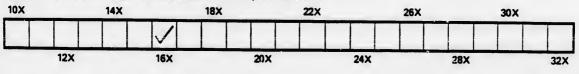
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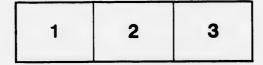
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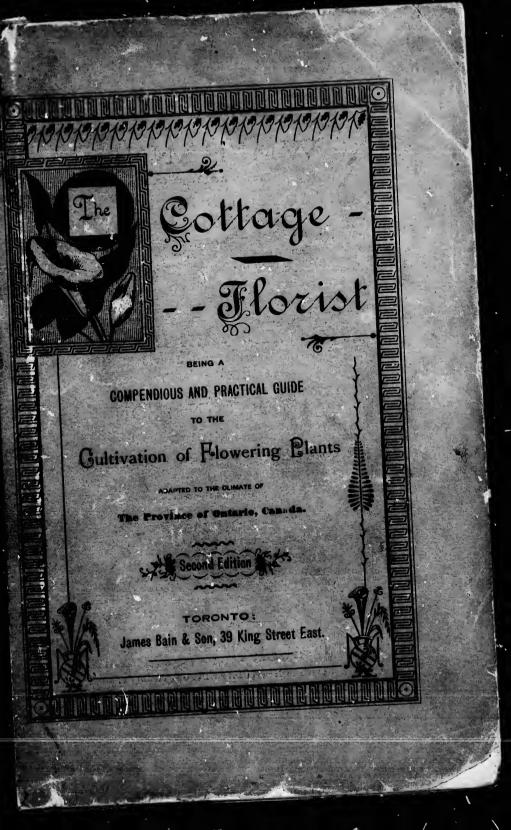
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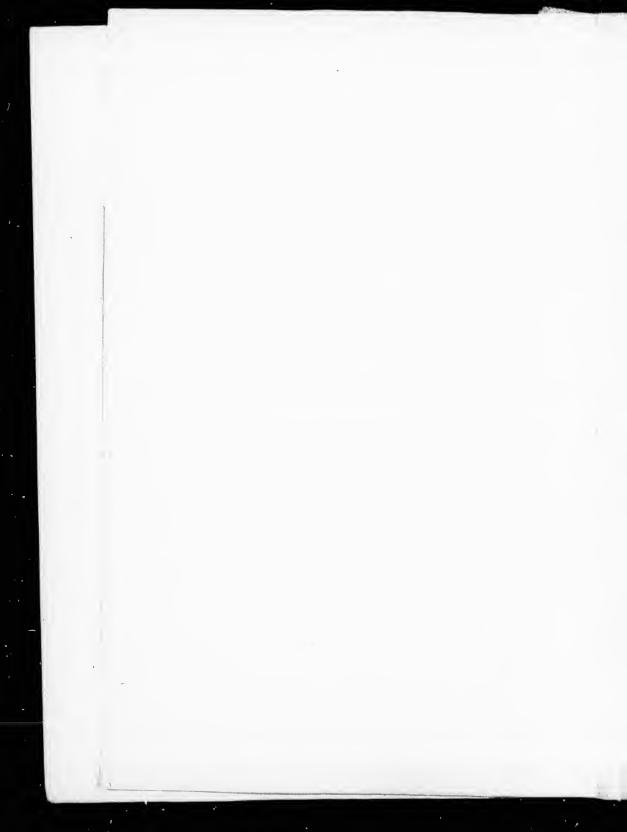
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THE

COTTAGE FLORIST

Being a Compendious and

PRACTICAL GUIDE

to the

Cultivation of Flowering Plants

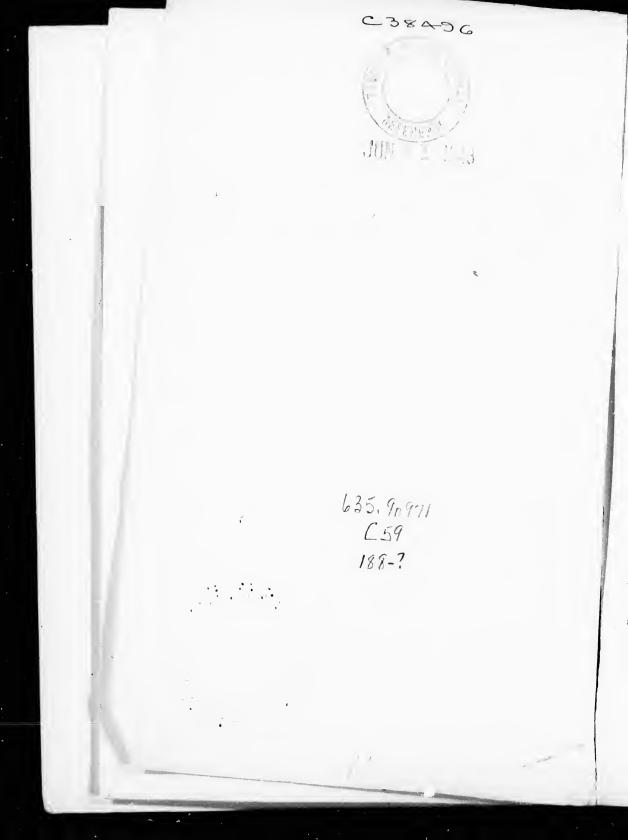
ADAPTED TO THE CLIMATE OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, CANADA.

Second Edition.



TORONTO:

JAMES BAIN & SON, 39 KING STREET, EAST.



PREFACE.

THIS small work is intended to supply a want felt by the Amateur Florist, viz. : such a guide to the treatment of the various flowering plants as will enable him, though the merest tyro in gardening, to cultivate them successfully.

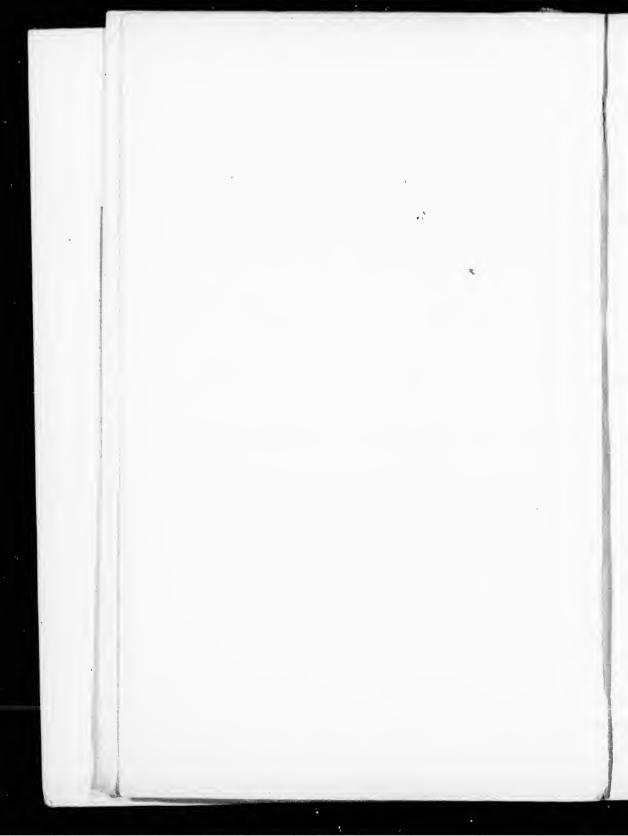
Many very valuable works on the subject of Floriculture have issued from the press of Britain and America, but I am not aware of any that has addressed itself, as is proposed here, to the mere beginner. Some are limited to the cultivation of particular classes of plants : others are too elaborate and expensive ; while some again are mere catalogues, or (when published in Britain) are, however, useful in the hands of the more experienced gardener, necessarily unsuited to the beginner in this Province, where the climate is so very different from that for which they were intended In this respect the Cottage Florist may be relied on with safety, prepared, as it as been, from the experience of one who has been long a cultivator of flowers here.

Trusting, then, that this unpretending volume may meet the want thus felt, and tend to promote a taste for the beautiful—civilizing and elevating the community—the author places it in the hands of the public.



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The Cottage Florist.

HE love of flowers is so inherent a portion of our nature that there are few who do not enjoy their beauty and sweetness, displaying as they do the most brilliant colours, the most delicate organization, the most fragrant perfumes. Indeed, he must be of a brutish nature who cannot appreciate their loveliness, and feel his soul expand with gratitude and praise to the Divine Being, whose Goodness, Power and Wisdom, are thus manifested, clothing the Lily with purity and decking To surround himself with the Rose with loveliness. these attractive and pleasure-giving objects is the desire of every one who can appreciate the beautiful in Nature as in Art : and to devote his leisure to their cultivation and study, the aim of each plodder in the tracks of business or science.

"Delightful task to rear the tender plant,"

To watch from day to day the ever changing, ever pleasing, phases of the garden, to trace the beauteous development of bud and leaf, and blossom; and then what amusement so harmless, and yet so interesting, as to prepare the soil, and train the gradually expanding loveliness of its denizens. The pleasing anticipation, the anxious solicitude, the gratifying results, all tend to keep the

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mind in that delightful feeling of suspense, hope, and gratification, which constitutes perhaps the truest mortal happiness. How natural, then, that the weary labourer, the intelligent mechanic, the man of business or of literature, the learned professor, the shrewd lawyer, or the hardworking elergyman, should seek to solace his mind and drive away his toil, his care, his anxiety, in the enjoyment and repose of his garden.

In our free and happy Dominion of Canada, there need be few who cannot enjoy this attractive feature in the family home.

Yet while the love of flowers is thus common, and the possession of a garden so desirable, disappointment and annoyance so frequently mar the efforts of beginners, that they give up in disgust a pursuit apparently only tantalizing and fruitless. With a view to remedy this, and aid and encourage such, these pages are now issued. My design is not to enter elaborately into the subject, but by a few plain directions and simple rules to enable every one to be his own gardener, and render that a pleasure which is so often a source of annoyance.

In floriculture, as in everything else, much of the success attending it will depend upon the judgment and care taken in laying the foundation.

Presuming, then, that the garden has to be made out of what may have been mere common,—and probably the house or cottage erected—the first thing to settle should be its

ASPECT AND POSITION.

This will of course depend in a large measure on that of the buildings, but if suitable thereto, the most favourable

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re on that of st favourable aspect would be one facing Westward, and it should be protected on the North and East from cold winds, either by the buildings, fences or hedges. If placed so that the parlour, dining, or sitting room windows open on it, so much the better, as then its beauties will form an attractive and pleasing object viewed from within the dwelling; cheering the inmates, especially the female members of the household whilst engaged in their domestic duties; but communication with the kitchen department and back premises should be made if possible elsewhere; so as to prevent too much thoroughfare, to the endangering of beds and plants. A gentle slope will be rather an advantage if falling from the house, but at all events the ground must be free from great irregularities in height and hollow.

If of small extent it should be made perfectly level.

THE SOIL

Best suited for the successful culture of most flowers is a light, friable loam, neither too light and sandy nor too heavy and rich, and by no means stiff or clayey. If the position chosen does not meet these requirements it must be made so, either by the addition of sand, lime. road sweepings, etc., to clayey land, or of decayed turf, cow-dung, clayey loam, to light sandy soil;—whatever the soil may originally be, after levelling off, the whole should be well dug and manured with thoroughly rotten dung, leaves or decayed vegetable matter; as on the proper preparation of the soil at the first will depend much of the future beauty of the garden. If, unfortunately, the subsoil or stratum of earth underlying the top or surface soil be of a hard

clayey nature, it will be well to put in a few drains to carry off the superabundant moisture; these may be made either of the usual drain tiles, or of wooden boxes, and should be at least two feet from the surface of the soil, with a gentle fall and proper outlet; the benefit will be seen in the earlier condition of the soil for work, and the healthier state of the plants.

The situation and aspect being settled, the ground thoroughly prepared, and the intending florist having also decided as to the style or manner in which he intends to lay it out, he should draw out the

PLAN

On paper, according to scale; and here I would remark that serious errors often arise from adopting plans which, however suitable to one garden, are quite unsuited for another-arranging, for instance, a spot of about twenty square feet on a plan only suited to an acre lot, or a quarter acre lot on that of a ten acre garden. Should the space allotted to the Flower Garden be small, say from twenty to fifty feet square, a simple geometrical figure will look best. If a space of one hundred feet be devoted to the flower garden, the whole may be sown with lawn grass, shrubbery planted round the sides and in clumps, and the beds neatly cut out; but nothing looks worse than to see a small garden where the flowers are hidden by rank grass. there are thus two distinct styles of laying out the pleasure garden, known as the geometrical or part rre and the picturesque each having as above stated its peculiar appropriateness.

THE PARTERRE STYLE

Of garden is by far the best where the space is limited, and affords a fine field for the exercise of taste—a series of ovals, circles, octagons, pentagons or squares, may be easily combined in one harmonious whole, carefully avoiding any figure with sharp angles, and arranging all so that they may tend to a central point; the general *coup d'œil* will then be harmonious and lovely.

No minute directions can here be given for forming such plan, the shape of the land and style of adjacent structures materially affecting it. I repeat, therefore, the suggestion to draw it out first on paper, according to a regular scale taken from actual measurement of the land itself, and then proceed to transfer the design to the land, previous to doing which, however, it should be either well ploughed or dug, manured and leveled. This done, begin by marking out with wooden stakes the boundaries of your several walks and figures, carefully measuring from point to point as in your draught plan.

When the whole design has been as it were traced in stakes, on the soil, begin to form the

WALKS,

By removing a portion of the soil and throwing it on the adjacent beds. If it is desired to make more perfect work, they should be dug to the depth of at least two feet, filled with broken bricks or stone to the depth of twelve inches or more, then about six inches of smaller stone, finishing with three or four inches of clean gravel, you will then have a

few drains to may be made en boxes, and ce of the soil, enefit will be work, and the

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would remark g plans which, unsuited for about twenty cre lot, or a Should the all, say from cal figure will be devoted to h lawn grass, mps, and the than to see a y rank grass. the pleasure rre and the peculiar ap-

good hard dry walk even in the wettest weather, besides the advantages of draining.

AN EDGING.

Or border should now be formed round the several beds, marking them out by stakes and thus showing the intended walks, and this should be done previous to completing the The best edging is undoubtedly one formed of Box walks. (Buxus Sempervirens), for though the first cost may be greater than many other things used for that purpose, its greater durability, neatness and distinctness, will always place it first in the list of edging plants. The best time to plant is about the 10th of May, and the method of doing so, as follows : with a sharp spade cut a slight trench neatly along the line about six inches deep, then take your plants, which may have been previously separated into small pieces, (each of which, however, should have some rootlets attached) and place them regularly in the trench with one hand, while with the other you draw some soil up to them. Proceed thus till all has been planted, then fill in your soil and gently press with the foot, finishing with graveling of the walk: water the whole thoroughly to settle the soil about the plants, and trim the tops neatly with a pair of garden shears. In winter, a slight protection may be given. Should Box be thought too expensive, there are several other plants which may be used, such as the Iris humilis Statice Armeria, Phlox Subulata, Thyme, Pheasant's Eye Pink, Allysum, Gentian, Southern Wood, or Grass. there have also been recently introduced several kinds of artificial edgings, made of iron, stone and wood. But none of these can for a moment bear comparison with

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Box. Your work is now done and the parterre only awaits the processes of planting and sowing to render it a thing of beauty and of life.

Should the extent of the contemplated garden warrant the adoption of

THE PICTURESQUE STYLE,

The first thing to be done will be to have the land thoroughly dug or ploughed, and manured, (if this is done in the fall, and repeated next spring, so much the better), so as to form a lasting bed to nourish grass and plants for years; early in the spring, let the whole be sown with clean Timothy Grass and White Clover, and well rolled with a heavy roller, raked, and again rolled. Nothing further should be done that season but to keep rolling every other week. The ensuing spring a fine uniform turf will be formed which if carefully mown once a week will present a velvety, clean carpet, out of which to cut your beds for flowers. Proprietors impatient of this delay of a year, often seek to save time by putting on turf from some common at hand, but have afterwards to regret their hurry by the introduction into the garden of many noxious weeds, thistles, dandelions, &c., as well as from the irregular appearance of the whole. Take time, therefore, that you may do it the faster, and better.

Good taste, an eye to harmony, and sound judgment, can alone direct to the proper arrangement of the flower-beds and borders in this style of garden. It admits of a larger introduction of Flowering Shrubs, and Trees, and greater variety in the shape and design of the several beds, but no

rule can be laid down that will compensate for the want of the principle of beauty and harmony, in the mind.

In laying out a garden in this style therefore, it is useless attempting to draw plans on paper, all must depend upon the judgment and taste of the gardener-some rules may, however, be wisely observed :

1st. In cutting out the beds or flower plots, nover make them so large but that you can easily reach the centre from some point with an ordinary hoe or rake.

2nd. Let there be proportionately more of these flowerbeds near the dwelling than in the distance.

3rd. An undulating border of, say, five or six feet, or at least a succession of beds, ought invariably to be formed on each side of the main pathway to the dwelling house. All further arrangement must be left to the taste of the owner.

Whichever style of garden has been thus formed, either the geometrical or the picturesque, we have as yet only prepared, as it were, the canvas on which to paint the future picture. And when we have raked and moulded to shape the several beds or compartments, we have but produced the plain shield on which hereafter to emblazon our triumphs. Yet if the work has been done as already directed, the future operations of the Florist will be materially aided. Henceforth he will require to exercise his mind in reflecting on the probable results of the relative position of plants, the harmonious blending of colours, the natural habits of plants, their height, hardiness, and other qualities.

This is the work now before him; it constitutes the difference between the Florist, who makes the works of God his study, who calculates with precision the result to flow from every act he performs in his garden, and the

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mere possesser of a piece of land stuck full of plants, unknown and uncared for.

The novice in gardening must expect his first attempts to fail in producing the effects he desires when planting or sowing; experience in this will be his best teacher, but he should from the first learn never to place a plant in the soil nor sow a seed where it is intended to flower, without first considering what will be its effect in that position, how its colour will harmonize with adjacent plants, or beds; whether from its height it may not be either lost sight of by taller growing flowers, or itself overshadow those of shorter growth.

Some assistance in determining these points will be found in the following pages. Where the size of the garden allows of it, a very effective display is made by devoting the several beds to but one flower. For example, filling each bed separately, say with Verbenas or Geraniums, Candytufts, Phlox Drummondii, etc., of one colour; but where the flower-loving but unfortunately poorer amateur has but small space at his disposal he must be content with . a few plants which, however, if well cultivated will afford him greater pleasure, when so placed as to assist each other's beauty.

Plants in a floriculture sense may be classed under five divisions, viz : Shrubs, Perennials, Biennials, Annuals and Bulbs. To these may indeed be added, for large gardens, Trees, but for most cottage gardens, these are quite inadmissible.

SHRUBS

Are hardy and for the most part deciduous plants—that is, casting their foliage every winter, and having many of the

characteristics of Trees. As they are to be permanent in their positions in the garden, they are generally the first thing put in. There are several of them highly ornamental, and by no means to be neglected. Of these the Daphne Mezereum, whose blossoms of reddish purple, clustering the naked branches almost before the snow has left bare the ground, render it a very desirable denizen of the garden; Amygdalis communis flora pleno, (the Double Flowering Almond, following up the preceding with a brilliant blush of rosy blossom; Viburnum Opulus, (the Snow Ball), bearing its bunches of light white flowers like balls of snow ; the Weigellia rosea, the Cydonia Japonica, Berberis Canadensis (the Barberry), Halesia, (the Snow-Drop Tree), Syringa persica (the Lilac), Spirea Douglasii, Arbutus (the Strawberry Tree), Symphora (the Snowberry), Artemisia (Southern Wood), Deutzia, Scabra and Gracilis - very handsome and delicate-looking shrubs, with beautiful white flowers, flowering early in spring, and seldom growing higher than three feet; but, above all Rosa (the Rose); claim a place in every garden where the space will allow. In many cases the extent of the garden may not admit of much shrubbery, but none can afford to do with. With our severe winters, and dry, hot out the Rose. summers, it is difficult to bring the Queen of Flowers to the perfection attainable in Britain, but the skilful forist must accustom himself to meet and overcome difficulties. The Rose is held in high estimation by all civilized nations, for the delicacy of its colours and universally grateful odour. It varies in colour from a deep carmine to pure white, and from purple to yellow. It delights in a rich loamy soil and plenty of water, and a handful of guano put around

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the roots each spring, greatly improves the bloom. For the same reason, viz.: its power of impoverishing the soil, it should be transplanted from place to place every third year. There are several varieties, as the China, or Tea-Scented, the Noisette, the Hybrid Perpetual, and Bourbon, with many sub-divisions, the Moss, the Cabbage, etc. The China and the Noisette are, however, too delicate to stand our winters, and are, therefore, better adapted for the greenhouse than the garden. The Hybrids will be the better of some protection at the same time. A good plan for all Roses is to lay two or three spadefuls of stable manure all around the roots in the fall, bend the shoots down, and throw over them a spadeful or two of soil, or cover with brushwood, it not only protects them from frost, but by the washing in of the snow and rain nourishes the whole plant, or they may be neatly sheathed with straw, this will let them start earlier in the spring, but if the roots are covered with some stable litter they will do very well. A troublesome enemy to the Rose is the Aphis; by shaking the bushes myriads of these yellowish-green flies will be seen flying from it; they settle under the leaves and suck the sap, causing them to become brown and withered, and so injuring its vitality, which in dry seasons renders the foliage a brown mass, utterly blasting the hopes of the florist. Syringing with diluted tobacco, soapy water, or slight lye, and afterwards washing by a thorough watering is the only remedy, but good culture seems to be the best protection from the assaults of all the insect tribe, as thus the plants are better able to overcome their attacks.

The Mosses and Hybrid Perpetuals are best suited for 2

the open ground as being hardier, and of these we have abundant variety. The best season for planting is as soon as the frost is out of the ground in Spring, say about the first week in March. In Britain this is generally done in November, but with our severe winters, March is best, as they would not be strong enough to stand the first winter, and when planted early in the Spring they get well rooted and are prepared to bear succeeding winters. Moss Roses should be pruned in pretty close; Hybrid Perpetual not quite so much, and this is best in Spring, so soon as the buds appear.

PERENNIALS

form the bulk of garden decoration, they are so named because though seed-producing, and capable of being raised from seed, it is generally by divisions of the roots that they are propagated As they are to be permanent in their *locale*, or at all events remain in the same spot for some years, they naturally form the class of plants to follow that of shrubs.

The following are the principal varieties :

Aconitum, embracing the well-known Wolfsbane and Monkshood, and twenty or thirty other species not so well known. They are generally strong-growing plants, leaves much cut; flowers in spikes, either blue, purple, or yellow; height about three feet, and will grow in any common garden soil; in flower from end of June to September. The whole family are poisonous.

Agrostemma (The Rose Campion), flowers either deep red or white, a hardy plant about two feet in height

Alyssum (Madwort), a bright yellow flower about one

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Wolfsbane and cies not so well g plants, leaves rple, or yellow ; n any common to September.

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foot high, well adapted for rock-work or baskets, flowers early.

Aquilegia (The Columbine), one of the Ranunculacea, is a hardy perennial, well known by its pendulous bell-shaped flowers,—there are now several varieties in cultivation, with colours white, pink, blue and purple; they are often double flowered. Its height is about eighteen inches; flowers in May and June.

Asperula, hirta (Woodruff), a useful plant to contrast with Verbenas or Lantana; bright blue flowers, fragrant; one foot high.

Astragalus purpureus, (Perennial Sweet Pea), somewhat like the annual, flowers purple; height about three feet; needs support, does well for training on a trellis.

Aubrietia, a dwarf herbaceous plant, about four inches high, with brilliant purple flowers, blooming early in the season.

Bellis perrenis ('The Daisy,) "wee crimson tipped flower" so attractive in British gardens, can with difficulty be preserved in our dry summers and severe winters; due protection and shade can alone save it.

Cerastium Biebersteinii, a new hardy perennial, producing a large show of delicate white flowers, about six inches high.

Chelone, a native perennial, growing freely in any light rich soil; flowers of a bright red; height about three feet *Convaluaria* (Lily of the Valley), the delicacy of whose colour (tiny white bells) and delightful fragrance, renders it such a favourite with the young ladies; requires very little culture, as once planted it is apt to run beyond bounds.

Coreopsis Auriculata, a perennial somewhat like the annual of the same family, flowers yellow; height about two feet.

Crucianella Stylosa, a native of the Persian Mountains, bears a profusion of bright pink flowers; height about one foot.

Cypripedium (Ladies' Slipper or Moccasin Flower), a native plant of considerable beauty, somewhat resembling in its flowers the Calceolaria; delights in a rather moist, shady situation, flowers white and pink or yellow; height about one foot.

Delphinium, (Larkspur), a perennial of the family so named, generally tall growing—the flowers usually a fine blue, in some the stamens have the appearance of the abdomen of the bee, as if that insect were busily engaged extracting the sweets from the blossom, hence the popular name Bee Larkspur. There is a hybrid variety with white flowers; average height three feet.

Dianthus, this genus furnishes several of our finest perennials, as the Carnation, one of our most popular flowers, fragrant and beautiful. Florists have three varieties of this plant. Flakes, which are striped of two colours Bizarres three, usually white, purple and scarlet; and Picotees, these are pencilled or marked round the edges of the petals (which are generally of a white or yellow colour) with some shade of red or purple; and selfs, which are of one colour only; it should be grown in a rich loam mixed with sand, and highly manured, and protected during the winter by a slight covering of straw, or better, lifted and potted in the fall, and kept in a cold frame or in a greenhouse. It is generally propagated by layering the shoots, or grass, as it is called;

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of our finest most popular we three variel of two colours rlet; and Picone edges of the ow colour) with are of one colour with sand, and inter by a slight red in the fall, It is generally as it is called;

this is done by forcing down these to the surface of the soil. pegging them with a crooked stick to keep them in their place, slightly cutting the stem and covering with about two inches of earth. The best season for doing this is about the middle of August, and care should be taken to keep them moist till roots have formed, which will be in about six weeks, when they should be separated from the mother plant and put in pots till next spring. The Pink, whose culture is precisely that of the above, is very fragrant, and when highly cultivated, beautifully marked with rings of pink, crimson or purple, on a pure white ground; the average height is about two feet. The Sweet William, a garden in itself, rich in every shade of colour from the darkest crimson to pure white, mottled, marked or laced, forming a strong, handsome plant, and displaying a mass of flower; it likes a rich but open soil, and is easily propagated in the spring ; height about one foot. The double varieties are very fine, but require protection. There are several hybrids formed between the Pink and Sweet William, known as mule pinks, which are very pretty. Pheasant Eye Pink, another variety of pink with delicate grass-like leaves, and sending up a succession of stems with fragrant flowers, of white and pink, is often used as an edging plant; height about one foot.

Dielytra spectabilis (Bleeding Heart), is a modern introduction to the Flower Garden, but a very important one; whether the season of flowering (early in June), the apparent delicacy of the whole plant, or the novelty and beauty of its heart-shaped flowers (pendant in racemes), like those of the Fuchsia—be considered, it must be reckoned a great acquisition. When first introduced, it was thought

to be too tender for our climate, but experience has shown it to be thoroughly hardy; it grows freely in any good garden soil, requiring only division and replanting of the roots every third or fourth year.

Digitalis (The Foxglove), well known plants in Britain, have not yet received sufficient attention here; they are strong-growing plants, with flowers like the Snapdragon, and of varied colours, from purple to white. A light, rich soil suits them best; height about three feet.

Dracocephalum (Dragon's Head), a pretty blue flowered perennial, about one foot high ; leaves fragrant.

Gentian, a very beautiful dwarf perennial of a brilliant blue, flowering early in spring, and requiring little care; a light moist soil is its preference; a native of Canada; height six inches.

Geum (Herb Bennet), a handsome Chilian plant, with large orange-scarlet flowers ; height above three feet.

Gnaphalium citrinum, (Cudweed) a useful plant for winter bouquets; height about one foot.

Gypsophila paniculata, a showy, white flower, of easy culture; about three feet high

Helenium, a hardy perennial, with large bright orange coloured flowers; height about three feet.

Helonias, a native of North America, with small whitish pink flowers; height about six inches.

Hepatica, an early spring flower, with bright blue flowers; should be moved every third year; height six inches.

Hesperis (Rocket), double white, yellow and purple; a very handsome and hardy plant, with some fragrance, not unlike the taller species of Phlox, with which they match well in planting; height from three to four feet. They require a mellow soil and frequent change of situation.

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v and purple; a ne fragrance, not hich they match our feet. They of situation. Lathyrus latifolius (Everlasting Sweet Pea), like the annual varieties; pink flowers; height about five feet; must be supported by a framework of wire or trellis.

Lavandula (Lavender), the well-known fragrant flowers of which are used to perfume apparel; is a shrubby perennial, but in Ontario requires protection during the winter.

Lobelia cardinalus, so plentiful in our woods, is a splendid spike-bearing flower of a bright scarlet colour; though hardy enough in its native state, is very apt to be killed in winter when transplanted to the garden; it likes a rich, moist soil. Lobelia, fulgens and Tupa, are improved varieties; very showy; height about two feet.

Lupinus polyphyllus (Perennial Lupin), a splendid vigorous plant, sending up strong spikes of beautiful blue and white flowers; height about three feet.

Lychnis, flos cuculi (Ragged Robin), an old favorite, still deserving a place in the floral world; it is a hardy plant about eighteen inches high, with bunches of bright pink flowers, which look as if torn, hence the name.

Lythrum, a shrubby-looking perennial, with spikes of pinkish-purple flowers, hardy in any common garden soil; height about three feet.

Monarda, a native of Canada, not unlike Mint, with an equally pungent smell, and bearing its flowers, which are a deep red, in tiers under the leaves; it grows about eighteen inches high, is perfectly hardy; all that is necessary in its cultivation being the removal of runners from the roots every spring.

Myosotis (Forget-me-not), with beautiful amethyst-looking flowers, which it produces all summer; delights in a moist and shady position; height about four inches.

Paeny, a large herbaceous perennial, producing large clusters of rose-like flowers of bright colour, crimson, pink or white, and only requiring to be divided every few years; it will grow in almost any garden soil, and looks well mixed with shrubbery; height about three feet.

Penstemon, a beautiful class of plants, not unlike the Foxglove, but with brighter colour, chiefly scarlet; height about two feet; requires protection in winter, especially from damp.

Thr *Phloxes*, **a** numerous family, of the most varied colours and height, varying from *setacea nivalis* and *subulata* to *polyphyllus*, that is, from four inches in height to five feet, and in colour from pink to white and purple. Many beautiful varieties are now in cultivation, with striped flowers. There are few plants better suited to keep up a succession of bloom than the Phlox, some of them being in flower at one time or another during the whole summer—May to October. They grow freely in any good garden soil, but like all perennials are the better of removal from place to place every third or fourth year.

Podophyllum (The May Apple), another native of our woods, deserves a place in the Parterre from the beauty of its pure white blossoms and yellow anthers, succeeded by a little apple, as well as from its peculiar foliations; it flowers in May; height eighteen inches.

Polemonium (Greek Valerian), sometimes known as Jacob's Ladder, a pretty early flowering plant; flowers light blue; height about one foot.

Polygonatum (Solomon's Seal), flowers not unlike the Snow Drop; quite hardy.

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Potentilla, a gem of herbaceous plants, highly ornamental; will thrive in ordinary good garden soil; colours, white, yellow, crimson and purplish; height, average, one foot.

Primula, an important family of early flowering plants, embracing "The Auricula," thus described by the poet :

"See

Where arrayed in sparkling dust, and velvet pride, Like brilliant stars arrayed in splendid row, The proud Auriculas their lustre show."

Its culture is a favourite amusement of the amateur florists of England, and there is no reason why it should not be an equal favourite here; it is quite hardy, and well repays the little attention it requires; the soil best adapted for growing it well is a rich, loamy soil, mixed with sand or road dust; it will stand strong applications of manure water when about showing its trusses of flowers, but no decaying matter should be placed round it in the winter, as it is apt to rot off the shoots; a little dry straw may be thrown over it, but if there is plenty of snow on the ground it will form the best protection. British florists divide their flowers into three classes, viz: green edged, grey edged and selfs, and require that a perfect flower should have a firm and upright stem, of sufficient length to bear the umbel of flowers above the foliage; the umbel perfectly round, and the flowers or pips large, and at least eight in number; the neck or mouth of the corolla, yellow or pure white in a complete circle; the colours decided, brilliant and velvety, the stamens and pistil filling the tube well, but not projecting. Some of the finest prize flowers have been grown by the Lancashire weavers, who take great pains in its culture.

The *Polyanthus*, differing from the above in the leaves being crimpled or mottled, not smooth and flour dusted as in the Auricula; the segments of the corolla are also more divided, and the colour usually of a reddish-brown on yellow ground, sometimes entirely yellow, and in the finer varieties, even a fine crimson. This is also a favourite florists' flower in Britain, receiving the same culture as the Auricula, and like it, easily increased by division.

The *Primrose*, from which the order receives its botanical name, is also well deserving a place in every garden, similar in appearance and culture to the Polyanthus; colours, white, red or purple; height about six inches.

The *Cowslip*, one of the earliest spring flowers ; colour, yellow, and fragrant ; height about six inches.

Pyrethrum (Feverfew), the double varieties very handsome; white, crimson or yellow, of easy culture; height one to two feet.

Ranunculus aconitifolius (Bachelor's Buttons), an old inhabitant of British gardens; flowers white or yellow; height about two feet; likes a moist soil.

Sanguinaria (Blocdwort), a native of our Canadian woods, with pretty white butter-cup shaped flowers; quite an ornament in the garden during the month of May; height about eight inches; likes a well-drained soil.

Sarracenia (The Pitcher Plant), another well-known Canadian, with curious pitcher-shaped flowers and leaves of brown and green; requires to be planted in a moist place; height about one foot.

Saxifrage, pretty dwarf perennials, with white, pink or yellow flowers, and well suited for rock work. The London Pride sends up a stem about six inches, with a raceme of pretty pink flowers; grows best in a light sandy soil.

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other well-known wers and leaves of in a moist place ;

th white, pink or work. The Lones, with a raceme ight sandy soil. Stenochis speciosa, a very showy perennial, with large handsome flowers; it is a native of California, and will grow in any common garden soil.

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Thalictrum (Meadow Rue), a hardy perennial, with lilac flwers, about two feet high.

Veronica (Speedwell), a very pretty dwarf, with blue or white flowers, of easy culture ; height about one foot.

Viola (The Violet), with its delightful fragrance, must have a place in every garden; it should have a rich warm spot, rather moist, and will well repay the small attention it receives, in furnishing a daily supply of flowers to perfume the parlour or the person; colour, dark blue; height four inches; there is a white variety. The *Pansy*, or Heart's Ease, also belongs to this order; to produce good large flowers, it should be grown in highly manured soiland requires to be shaded from the noonday sun, at the same time having a free exposure to the atmosphere.

The culture of Perennials, it will be seen from the remarks on the above plants, is of the simplest nature, mainly consisting in first preparing for them the soil their natures require, loosening the soil gently about them every spring, keeping them within due bounds by the spade or trowel, and taking up and dividing the roots from time to time, the best season for doing which is before they begin to grow in the spring, or after they have done flowering in the summer. Where plants cannot be procured, they may mostly be easily raised from seeds, which can be procured at any respectable seedsman. In planting, the roots should not be crushed together, but carefully spread out, and some of the finest soil gently strewed over them ; the hole should

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then be filled up to the point at which the roots go dow ward and the leaves upward, settling the whole with a goo watering.

Following Perennials, we have a class of plants know to gardeners as

BIENNIALS,

of which the seed being sown one year, do not produce their flowers till the next year, after which they die; in Ontario many of these, however, do occasionally flower the first year, while others may be preserved in flower for many successive seasons. The principal Biennial plants are :

Althea (The Hollyhock), the double varieties of which, of every shade of colour from white to almost black, are admirably fitted to place along with the Dahlia, at the back of the border or among shrubbery ; the seed should be sown upon a slight hot-bed, or under glass in a warm part of the garden; early in spring ; when six or eight leaves have been formed they must be removed into a nursery bed, placing them at least twelve inches apart, and watering well; there they should remain till May or June, when they can be transplanted to the position in which they are intended to flower, or left till next season, care being taken to see that the nursery in which they remain all winter is of a light dry nature, and that they are protected by a good dry covering of straw during the winter, as they are very apt to rot at the neck, and thus all your labour will be lost ; height sometimes seven feet.

Ammobium, a native of New South Wales, with a yellow disk and white ray, like the Daisy; generally flowers in Ontario the first year, its flowers when removed before

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inch the roots go down bout two feet. If the whole with a good a distinction of the program behaved by increasing the second sec

a good Antirrhinum (Snap Dragon) should be in every garden; there are many varieties, all very beautiful, generally white

ar, do not produce their h they die : in Ontonio

Cheiranthus (The Wall-flower), well-known for its fragrance; will flower the second year after the seed has been sown, but must be removed from the garden in the fall, potted and placed in a dry cellar till the ensuing spring; it may be kept in this way for many years; colours, orange and red; height about one foot.

Campanula medium (Canterbury Bells), one of the most ornamental of Biennials, with blue or white bell-shaped flowers; height about eighteen inches.

Dianthus (China Pink), generally grown as an Annual, is really a Biennial, flowering the first year; flower variegated; height eight inches.

Gaillardia, very showy flowers, which, though biennial in their nature, will flower the first year if treated as tender annual, being raised early on a hot-bed, and planted out in June; colours yellow and crimson; grows about one foot high.

Ipomopsis, a beautiful Peruvian plant, with rich scarlet flowers, blossoming the second year; requires a light, dry soil, and slight protection during the winter; height about three feet.

Leonurus (Motherwort), a plant with red or purple

h they die ; in Ontario onally flower the first d in flower for many iennial plants are :

le varieties of which, to almost black, are he Dahlia, at the back he Dahlia, at the back he seed should be sown in a warm part of the ight leaves have been nursery bed, placing watering well; there he, when they can be the they are intended care being taken to remain all winter is protected by a good er, as they are very your labour will be

Wales, with a yel-; generally flowers an removed before

flowers; quite hardy in any good soil; height about one foot.

Mathiola incana (Brompton Stock), is a tender Biennial, which should be sown late in the summer and either carefully removed indoors in the fall, or well protected by covering with a large flower pot inverted, the whole thickly covered with stable manure; the following summer it will flower early, and grow at least two feet high, with a fine spike of flower.

Mimulus (Monkey Flower), a half hardy Biennial, generally flowering the first year; flowers beautifully blotched and marked red or brown, on white or yellow ground; height about one foot.

Salvia patens, a plant of the Sage family, with bright blue flowers; will flower the first year, but if prevented doing so and slightly protected, will do so the ensuing summer.

Trayapogon (Goat's Beard), a hard, it, with large yellow flowers, which close at noon.

The seeds of Biennials as a general ... need not be sown earlier than June, unless where they are desired to flower the first year, when they should be sown under glass on a warm border; after the plants have shown their third leaves, they should be pricked out into a well prepared bed of rich light soil; that is, taken from the seed bed by inserting the trowel or fork under them, gently lifting out each plant and replanting at a uniform distance in the bed prepared for them. When they have attained sufficient size, they may be removed to the spot where they are intended to flower, choosing if possible, cloudy, damp days on which to perform this operation.

ANNUALS,

then made firm by pressing on it lightly with a spade, or

soil; height about one. We now come to the large class of flowers known as

, is a tender Biennial,

mmer and either care-which having grown up, blossomed and produced seed, die, or well protected by and are perpetuated by said seed-they are either hardy, rted, the whole thickly half hardy, or tender, according as they are capable of lowing summer it will enduring more or less cold. When the seeds of Annuals are feet high, with a fine sown, the ground should be first loosened, well raked, and

f hardy Biennial, gen- the saucer of a flower pot; the seed may then be strewn rs beautifully blotched thinly over the ground, and just covered with fine sand or te or yellow ground; light soil; a good rule to observe as to how much should

e family, with bright of earth on the seed as is the size of the seed itself. When vear, but if prevented ll do so the ensuing

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al ... need not be e they are desired to be sown under glass ave shown their third o a well prepared bed om the seed bed by m, gently lifting out n distance in the bed e attained sufficient t where they are in-, cloudy, damp days

thinned out so as to leave each plant plenty of room to TENDER ANNUALS,

be used in doing this, is to put just as great a thickness

they come up, if they appear too thick, they should be

are such as in Britain require to be grown under glass during their whole season, but in Ontario most of them will flourish well in the open air, though in order to bring them forward early, and have them in greatest perfection, it is usual to start them on a slight hot bed. As some of my readers may be ignorant how this should be made, I describe shortly the process. A frame or box, say six feet in length, four feet in width, three feet deep in the rear, and two feet in the front, with glazed sides, must either be made or procured; about two cart loads of warm stable dung should then be piled up near the place you intend the frame to stand; once a week move the whole from one spot to another, until the rank smoky heat has gone, and only a

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gentle one remains ; when in this state measure out a spot a foot wider each way than your frame, and mark it by a stake at each corner; then lay on the dung in layers. gently packing with the back of the fork ; when all is finished place the frame on the top of the bed, which should be about four feet high, put on the lights, and allow to stand for a few days to settle ; then fill in about a foot of fine, light, sandy soil, and your hot bed is ready—the middle of March to 1st April is the time to commence. Some, instead of stable manure, use decaying tan bark, or leaves, as the heat therefrom is more steady, and not so apt to burn the plants if neglected.

Where a hot bed cannot be made available the seed of tender Annuals may be raised in shallow boxes or pots in the kitchen or other warm apartment, taking care that the seedlings as soon as they appear have plenty of light; as the season advances and all chances of severe frost are past, these may be removed to a glass frame on a warm border of the garden. When the seeds germinate and begin to grow, they should be thinned out, to encourage the growth of the remainder, and when in the third leaf or thereabouts, pricked out to a further distance from each other, or potted in small pots which should be left in the frame. By the month of June most of the plants may be either transplanted to a carefully prepared piece of rich soil in some retired place, or potted in prepared compost, in pots larger and larger as required.

Balsams and Cockscombs, by judiciously changing the pots and giving plenty of water, so as to keep up a steady growth, can be made to produce fine, strong, healthy plants for placing in the garden in July; and the reserve ground

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ate measure out a spot ame, and mark it by a an the dung in layers. he fork ; when all is f the bed, which should ats, and allow to stand a about a foot of fine, ready—the middle of commence. Some, ing tan bark, or leaves, ly, and not so apt to

available the seed of llow boxes or pots in taking care that the e plenty of light; as of severe frost are s frame on a warm germinate and begin t, to encourage the in the third leaf or distance from each should be left in the of the plants may be ored piece of rich soil repared compost, in

ously changing the to keep up a steady rong, healthy plants the reserve ground which, by the way, is essential to the keeping up of the bloom of the garden, will by that time be well filled with a supply of plants ready to flower.

The following are the principal Tender Annuals, with their general culture and average height.

Balsam, colours various ; height eighteen inches.

Celosia (The Cockscomb), dark crimson ; height twelve inches.

Coleus, a foliage plant, brownish red; height twelve inches.

Erysimum (Hedge Mustard), a cruciferous plant slighly fragrant, about one foot high, with yellow flowers.

Gomphrena (Globe Amaranth). crimson or yellow ; height eighteen inches.

Heliophila, a native of Cape of Good Hope; blue; height six inches.

Lantana, yellow; height twelve inches. The Lantana can be easily preserved for years, as a bedding-out plant, if taken into the house in winter and duly cared for.

Malesherbia, colour blue ; height twelve inches. Martynia, flowers pink ; height two feet.

Mesembryanthemum (Ice Plant), pink; height six inches. Mimosa pudica (Sensitive Plant), height five inches. Mimulus moschata (Musk Plant), yellow; six inches.

Petunia, colours various ; height twelve inches.

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Rhodanthe, an Australian plant, crimson; height twelve inches.

Salvia coccinca, scarlet flower ; height fifteen inches. Schizanthus, various colours ; height eighteen inches. Verbena, colours various ; height twelve inches.

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HALF HARDY ANNUALS

are usually raised under glass on a warm border, that is, a piece of ground being nicely prepared; a glass frame is laid on the spot, the seed sown, and having been duly covered with light coil pressed gently down and watered, the frame is shut and during cold nights covered with bass matting or an old carpet. Several sorts of seed can be put in under one frame, marking off each compartment with a piece of lath, or other mark of separation, and placing a tally with the name of each in the several compartments; the seed should not be sown earlier than the 1st of June, as the soil then is somewhat warm. The following are the chief half hardy annuals:

Ageratum, flowers blue ; height one foot. Alonzoa, scarlet ; height twelve inches. Aphænostephus, purple flowers ; height six inches. Brachycombe, blue ; height eight inches. Browallia, blue ; height twelve inches. Celsia, yellow ; twelve inches. Clintonia, blue ; height six inches. Didiscus, blue ; height two feet. Fenzlia, lilac ; height six inches. Gamolepis, yellow ; height six inches. Leavenworthia, flowers white ; height twelve inches. Loasa tricolor, red ; height twelve inches. Lobelia, Paxtoniana, blue, trailing habit. Mathiola (German Stocks), colours various ; height twelve

inches. As a considerable proportion of the seed sown, will only give single flowers, it is best to sow German Stocks in boxes or a nursery bed, and transplant to flower garden when the flower buds begin to show—those that

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arm border, that is, a ; a glass frame is laid g been duly covered d watered, the frame d with bass matting seed can be put in ompartment with a ation, and placing a reral compartments ; an the 1st of June, he following are the

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ous ; height twelve of the seed sown, t to sow German ransplant to flower show—those that show a rounded bud will be double, while those that are thin and long shaped will give only single flowers, and may be destroyed.

Malesherbia, blue; height twelve inches.

Nemesia, blue ; height twelve inches.

Obeliscaria, crimson flowers ; height eighteen inches.

Enothera Drummondii, white, six inches high.

Palavia, pink flowers ; height eighteen inches.

Salpiglossis, colours various ; height two feet.

Scabious, purple, white or lilac, or brown ; height eighteen inches.

Schizanthus, retusus, red ; height twelve inches.

Stachys, scarlet; twelve inches.

Statice, lilac; twelve inches.

Tagetes (French Marigold), yellow ; height twelve inches Waitzia, yellow flowers ; height eighteen inches.

Zinnia, colours various; height two feet.

In transplanting half hardy annuals from the seed bed, the trowel should be used, and before doing so, it is well to water the soil thoroughly some time in advance, as it is important that the young roots should be as little disturbed as possible; they should be taken up, earth and all, in little lumps. They can be thinned out, if necessary, after they have grown a little in their new position. Zinnias, and some of the larger ones, may be pricked out in prepared beds, if desired, previous to their final planting.

THE HARDY ANNUALS

May either be sown in spring, say about the beginning of May, or in the fall—October or November. The strongest plants are generally those which have grown from seed

self-sown, that is, seeds that have fallen from the plants of the previous year, and it is well, therefore, in clearing up the garden in spring, not to disturb the surface much until it is seen what have been so self-sown,---the best may then be lifted carefully and planted in their proper places. The following are of this class:

Allysum, flower white, fragrant; height six inches. Anagallis (Pimpernel), red or blue; trailing.

Bartonia, flowers yellow ; height eighteen inches.

Calandrina, lilac; twelve inches.

Calliopsis, orange ; twelve inches.

Centauria, blue, purple or white ; height two feet. Centauridium, yellow ; two feet.

Clarkia, white or pink ; height twelve inches.

Collinsia, purple and white ; height twelve inches.

Collomia, scarlet; height twelve inches.

Convolvulus, climbing ; white, blue and purple.

Delphinium (Rocket Larkspur), white, blue and purple; height twelve inches.

Eschscholtzia, yellowflower; height twelve inches. Eucharidium, lilac ; height eight inches.

Eutoca Wrangelliana, purple ; height six inches.

Gilia, blue, white or purple ; height twelve inches.

Godetia, flowers red or purple ; height two feet.

Iberis (Candytuft), white or purple ; height twelve inches. Isotoma, blue flowers ; height six inches.

Kæniga (Sweet Alyssum), fragrant, white flowers ; height six inches.

Lasthenia, yellow flower ; height twelve inches.

Leptosiphon, flowers, white, yellow or purple; height twelve inches.

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white flowers ; height

elve inches. or purple; height Limnanthes, yellow and white; height six inches. Linum grandiflorum, crimson; height eighteen inches. Mignionette, white, height six inches. Nemophila, white, blue or purple; height six inches. Nigella (Love-in-a-Mist), blue; height twelve inches. Palafoxia, crimson flowers; height eighteen inches: Papaver (The Poppy), colours various; height two feet. Phacelia, blue or white; height twelve inches. Phlox Drummondii, white, red or purple; height twelve inches.

Platystemon, flowers yellow; height eight inches. Portulaca, crimson, yellow and white, height six inches. Silene (Catchfly Lobels), flowers pink; height twelve inches.

The following, though growing readily from the seed in the open ground, had better be sown early in May, as the seeds do not so easily vegetate if exposed to intense frost, and many would be entirely destroyed by the severity of a Canadian winter:

Amberboa, flowers crimson or yellow; height eighteen inches.

Argemone (Prickly Poppy), yellow or white; two feet.

Asperula azurea, blue, fragrant flower; height eight inches.

Calendula (Marigold), yellow or white flowers; height twelve inches.

Callirhæ, crimson flower; height eighteen inches.

Campanula, speculum, blue, white or pink ; height twelve inches.

Carthamus, scarlet flower; height two feet. Centranthus, white or pink; height one foot. Chlora, yellow flowers; height eighteen inches.

Chrysanthemum, white or yellow; two feet.

Cleome (Spiderwort), lilac flowers; height eighteen inches. Crepis, white or yellow; eighteen inches

Cosmidium, yellow flowers ; height twelve inches.

Erysimum, perofskianum, fragrant, orange flowers; height eighteen inches.

Fedia cornucopia pink flowers ; height twelve inches.

Gypsophila, saxifraga, pink flowers; height four inches Helichrysum, white or crimson; height eighteen inches.

Heliptrum, flowers yellow or white; height eighteen inches.

Hibiscus, yellow or brownish flowers; height eighteen inches.

Kaulfusia, purple flowers ; height six inches.

Lathyrus odorata (Sweet Pea), pink and white ; a climber.

Lavatera, rose-coloured flowers ; height eighteen inches.

Linaria, Hendersonii, yellow and lilac; height twelve inches.

Lupinus, blue, pink and yellow flowers; height from twelve to twenty-four inches.

Malcomia, maritima (Virgin Stock), flowers pink, fragrant; height six inches.

Malope, crimson ; height two feet.

Martynia, purple flowers ; height two feet.

Matricaria, white flowers ; height twelve inches.

Moricandia, flowers various; height twelve inches.

Nolana prostrata, blue flower ; trailing.

Phaseolus (The Scarlet Runner), red; climber.

Sanvitalia, yellow; trailing.

Saponaria, pink or white ; height twelve inches Scorpiurus, yellow flowers ; height eighteen inches.

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o feet. velve inches. twelve inches. ng. ; climber.

elve inches Inteen inches. Senecio, white, purple or crimson flowers; height twelve inches.

Tropoelum, orange flowers; a climber. There are now dwarf varieties, not climbers, with fine crimson flowers. Whitlavia, blue flower; height twelve inches.

There is another class of flowering plants which con-

tributes much to the beauty of the garden, viz.,

TUBEROUS AND BULBOUS ROOTED PLANTS.

Tubers are distinguished from bulbs by growing from what are termed eyes, in fact the roots, so-called, are but underground stems; whereas the bulb is more like a large seed, having already in its centre the entire future flower. The potato is a fair sample of the tuber, the onion of the bulb.

Some tubers may remain in the ground for years, others require to be lifted and protected in a cellar or attic during the winter. Of the former of these are the

Crocus, the well known spring flower, requires only to be planted in November to ensure a fine display early next season; they should be planted in well-drained, sandy soil, and at a depth of about four inches, and require to be moved every fourth year; colours, white, yellow, purple or striped; height about six inches.

Iris (The Fleur de Lis), worthy a place in every garden, of easy culture, only requiring to be taken up every few years, and the tubers separated; there are several varieties. The Persian, flowering in May, and sometimes used as an edging plant; the Lusitanica, or *Fleur de Lis*, flowers in June, grows three feet high, handsome blue and white flowers.

The Chalcedonica, with the flowers mottled black and

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white. There is also a yellow variety, flowering in July.

Trilium, a native tuber, flowering early in the season, the flowers which are brownish with red are a fine contrast with the yellow crocus; there is a white variety equally showy; they are natives of Canada.

The following require to be taken up in the fall, and kept under shelter from frost during the winter, and replanted in the spring.

Anemone, a well known flower in Britain, and deserving of more attention in this country; flowering early in the season, and requiring little attention further than careful planting, and lifting as soon as the leaves turn yellow; this should be promptly attended to as without the guidance of the leaves it is difficult to discover the small tubers. They prefer a sandy soil, and are various colours, yellow, purple, and red; height about six inches.

Maderia Vine, a handsome climbing tuber, in rich soil will grow thirty feet in the season.

Cyclamen, an elegant little flower with some fragrance, may be planted in the border in spring, but generally grown in pots; it requires a light, rich soil, and when in a growing state should be watered, at other times left quite dry.

Dahlia, it is needless to say that this should be in every garden, none of any size is complete without it; of every shade of colour and with such beautifully formed flowers it is a general favourite; its culture, moreover, is of the simplest kind. The tubers may be procured of any seedsman in March or April. They should be placed in a warm kitchen till they start the eyes, precisely as does the potato, they may then be divided, each portion of the tuber having an eye or shoot; plant in a light but rich soil in a flower

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flowering in July. early in the season, d are a fine contrast nite variety equally

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th some fragrance, ut generally grown I when in a growes left quite dry. should be in every thout it; of every formed flowers it ver, is of the simof any seedsman laced in a warm as does the potato, f the tuber having ch soil in a flower pot, and either place in a hotbed or retain in the kitchen till they have two or three leaves, keeping duly watered. As the warm weather advances they may be placed in a cold frame in the open air, and about the end of May planted in the garden where they are intended to flower. Planting beside each a firm pole or post, to which to tie it in its future growth, as the stem and branches are very easily broken by the wind.

Great care should be taken to have each root properly labelled when in the house, as well as when planted out, as by previous knowledge of the height and colour of each particular plant alone can you properly arrange them in planting.

About the end of June, look over all the plants, removing side shoots from the main stem, nipping off premature flowers, and noticing that all are neatly tied up; a soaking of manure-water about this time will greatly benefit.

From July to October they will flower in perfection, and until frost cuts them off.

Immediately you perceive that a night's frost has burnt the leaves, cut them down to the ground and throw a handful of dry straw over the roots. In about a week, on a dry, sunshiny day, proceed to lift the tubers, packing each kind in a separate box with light sandy loam; mark distinctly, and put away in a cellar

Gladiolus, a plant rapidly coming into high favour, its bright coloured spikes of flower forming an attractive portion of the garden; colours, whitish yellow, orange rose, crimson or purple and beautifully marked; the culture is of the simplest. In the beginning of April they may be planted in the place they are intended to occupy, or they

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may be brought forward in pots in the kitchen, and be ready to plant o where May. As soon as the flowers have faded they should the cut off and when the leaves turn yellow and decay the tubers should be taken up and packed away in dry sand, properly labelled and kept from frost during the winter; height about three feet.

Mirabilis (Marvel of Peru), this, though generally known as an annual, has tuberous roots, and may be cultivated as such by merely taking up the roots in the fall and preserving them like the Dahlia.

Ranunculus Asiaticus, a flower which, like the Anemone, has not received in this country the attention its beauty deserves, the flowers, resembling miniature Dahlias, are early in their appearance while yet the full efflorescence of summer has not appeared ; it likes a rich but loose soil of considerable depth. The tubers, which are small and clustered together, should be planted about two inches in the soil, filling up the hole with sand. The best time to plant is about the middle of April, or as soon as the season will admit, no further care is required till the flowering is over ; but as soon as the leaves turn yellow the tubers should be sought for and lifted, as, like the Anemone, they are not easily discovered at a later time. Some Florists when planting put a flower pot in the hole, out of which the bottom has been knocked, so as the more easily to secure the tubers in the fall. During the winter they should be carefully packed away in sand, duly labelled ; colours, whitish yellow, or red and beautifully pencilled; height about six inches.

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Wachendorfia, a large yellow flowered tuber, not much known in America, but well worthy of cultivation.

The bulbous rooted flowers form a principal item in the early floral display of the garden; a soil well drained, light and rich is all they ask. They may be, like the tubers, classed under two divisions, viz. : such as may remain for years in the ground, and those which require to be lifted every year and placed under protection from frost.

What may be termed the hardy bulbs, are the

Colchicum (Meadow Saffron), somewhat like the yellow crocus, but flowering in the fall; a peculiarity of this plant is, that the flower shoots through the ground before the leaves, which do not appear till next spring.

Corona Imperialis (Crown Imperial), having large, showy yellow or orange coloured flowers on a tall stem, generally about three feet high, sometimes with two or three tiers of flowers.

Fritillaria, hardy lily-shaped flowers, of various species, white, yellow, blue and purple, resemble the Iris much, but more delicate in appearance ; average height twelve inches.

Galanthus (The Snow Drop), earliest of flowers, of easy culture, only requiring a rich light soil, and to be moved every third year.

Hyacinthus (The Hyacinth), so well known as an occupant of the parlour in the end of winter, is a hardy bulb, which should be planted in the beginning of November; its delightful fragrance and the richness of its several colours, whether white, yellow, blue, pink, crimson or purple, together with the early season at which it flowers, render it an essential in every garden; the culture is simple. Previous to planting, prepare the soil in which you intend

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nemone, beauty are early of sumof conlustered the soil, plant is ason will ; is over ; nould be are not ts when hich the to secure hould be irs, whitht about

to plant with some well decayed manure (fowls or cow is best), well mixed with sand; arrange your bulbs according to colour, then plant as you wish each colour to show; where the garden is large enough to dedicate a bed to them, a splendid display may be made by a judicious arrangement of the several colours; the same bed after planting the bulbs may be sown with Portulaca or Phlox Drummondii, and thus a beautiful succession of flowers will occupy the same ground the following summer. There is one drawback to the culture of the Hyacinth, that the bulbs after flowering degenerate, and never produce so large flowers again ; it is necessary, therefore, to purchase every fall new bulbs, but the cost is trifling, and more than repaid by their attractions.

Leucojum (The Snow Flake), not unlike the Snow Drop, but rather larger, and flowering later in the season.

Lilium (The Lily), all the species of Lilies are handsome, and require little attention; the Lilium Candidum grows about three feet high, with pure white flowers which appear about the end of June; Lilium bulbiform, the Orange Lily, Lilium tigrinum, spotted orange flowers, appearing in August; Lilium Lancifolium, a new Japan Lily, two or three varieties, magnificent flowers, white, pink or crimson, curved petals variously marked; these should, however, have a thick coating of stable manure laid over the roots every fall, as a protection; there are several others, as the Martagon or Turk's Cap, all very showy.

Muscari (Grape Hyacinth), a very pretty little flower, with a stem of about six inches in height, entirely covered with brilliant blue bells, of the easiest culture, requiring only to be planted where wanted in good soil; it flowers as soon as the Crocus. Narc with w yellow fragran garden Tulij

The not no though them with ri the flo Flor Bize **Bibl** Rose Self marks the see others erect, petals of the feathe much quite

Narcissus, embracing what are known as the Daffodil, with white flowers; the Polianthus Narcissas, bright yellow flowers, and the Jonquil, also yellow, and highly fragrant, all desirable in the flower garden; the usual garden soil suits them if well drained.

Tulipa-

"Then comes the Tulip race, where beauty plays Her idle freaks; from family diffused To family, as flies the father dust, The varied colours run; and while they break On the charmed eye, the exulting florist marks, With secret pride the wonders of his hand."

Thomson.

The Tulip is pre-eminently a florist's flower, and though not now as popular as it once was, no garden in England is thought complete without it; the beds are prepared for them with great care, the richest manures, well mixed with river sand being used, and awnings erected to protect the flowers from the glaring sun.

Florists class the flowers as-

Bizarres, yellow, marked with scarlet and purple stripes. Biblæmens, white, with purple marks.

Roses, white, with rose or cherry coloured marks, and

Selfs, either white, yellow, red or purple without any marks; these are generally termed breeders, as it is from the seed of these the crosses are made which produce the others; a perfect flower should have the stem strong, elastic erect, and at least two feet high, the flower large, the six petals forming a perfect cup, the edges entire, the bottom of the cup either a clear yellow or white, and each petal feathered to the edge. Though the Tulip has been so much petted, it is by no means difficult of growth, it is quite hardy, and will grow in any moderately good soil; a

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tle flower, ly covered , requiring ; flowers as

bed of them arranged according to colour and height is a rich sight.

The Van Thol Tulip is an earlier variety, blooming in June, and only about six inches high.

The Double Tulips do not look so well as the single cnes.

The bulbs, which require to be taken up every year and re-planted in the spring, are—

Amaryllis formosissima (Jacobœa Lily), a magnificent flower of a deep crimson colour; requires a rich soil well mixed with sand and thoroughly drained; should be kept well watered when coming into flower. The Belladonna Lily of the same family, is of a pale pink colour, and about two feet high.

Calochortus, a Californian bulb with splendid flowers, lilac and white, blooming in August; requires a sandy soil.

Cape Bulbs (The), a variety of smallish bulbs from the Cape of Good Hope, of rather delicate growth, but well worthy of a place in the border; they should be placed in a warm spot, planting about six inches deep, and protected from late frosts.

Herbertia, a species of Iris, from Buenos Ayres, requiring only the usual soil of bulbous plants.

Ixia, a class of small bulbs, with various coloured flowers, blue, rose, orange and purple; they require a rich soil, mixed with sand and well drained; better fitted for indoor cultivation.

Polianthes tuberosa (The Tube Rose), remarkable for its fragrant, white, wax-like flowers; it should be started in a pot in the kitchen or on a hot bed, and planted out in the open air in June, like the Hyacinth. The original bulb only flow bulbs we reared ff height a a garder but if g in sum *Spare* small g treatme purple. *Tigri* height a In ac plants a

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e for its ted in a t in the al bulb only flowers once in perfection, but the offsets or young bulbs which will be found attached to it may be easily reared for future planting; it prefers a rich loamy soil; height about two feet. The Tube Rose is seldom used as a garden plant, being generally grown in the conservatory, but if grown in pots, may be moved to the open ground in summer, with advantage.

Sparaxis, beautiful bulbous plants of the Iris family, of small growth and delicate appearance, requiring the same treatment as the Ixias; colours, white, yellow, blue and purple.

Tigridia, handsome crimson or yellow Iris shaped flower ; height about eighteen inches.

In addition to these several divisions into which the plants are divided, may be added that of

BEDDING-OUT PLANTS.

Bedding-out plants are such as require, for most part of the year, the protection of a green-house or conservatory, and are, from their manner of growth, effulgent bloom and striking colours, well adapted to produce brilliant effects in the garden.

As I do not expect cottage florists generally to be possessed of green-houses—and the scientific management of one is a subject requiring a volume in itself—I would recommend that such plants as are required be procured from those who make the rearing of them a matter of business. A few dollars thus laid out will be fully repaid in the effect produced in the garden.

The first week in July is early enough to bed out greenhouse plants, and in doing so, be careful to bruise the rootlets as little as possible, at the same time loosening them,

if pot-bound—that is, if the roots form a mass round the inner surface of the pot. Plant in a piece of ground well pulverized, trim off irregular shoots and all the flowers, and give a good watering, which will establish them at once

The following are a few of the most suitable plants :

Alternanthera, a lovely little plant of tender habit, with red or orange tinted leaves.

Calceolaria requires a richly prepared soil to keep up the bloom, and those plants which have the smallest yellow flower and bushiest foliage, the best adapted for bedding or planting in the garden.

Coleus, a family of handsomely coloured foliage plants, which look well amidst the general green surrounding.

The *Geranium*, of which there are now many brilliant varieties, is invaluable in the summer decoration of the garden.

Florists have lately succeeded in producing double flowers on these, but they do not flower so freely as to make an attractive bed. Sometimes the leaves are strongly marked either yellow or white, and these when planted in masses have afine effect. The soil for Geraniums should be rather light.

The Gazenia is a fine contrast to the Petunia, with its brilliant orange flowers.

Heliotrope, the well known Cherry Pie, from the peculiar flavour of its flowers, which are of a lilac or purple colour.

Lantana, a tender annual like the verbena, is well suited for bedding out or planting in masses.

The *Petunia*, where not raised as a tender annual, may be procured in plants for bedding out, especially will this be necessary where named varieties are desired; the double flowered are very handsome.

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to cover objects. The fe *Convo* flowers, from Ju the seed them to The *S* high, an pretty cl The *A* bright of capsule of is, hower

Plumbago, a rich blue tender plant that looks well in masses.

Verbena, this is now extensively grown as a bedding plant, its great range of colour and their brilliancy, together with the abundance of bloom, make it an essential in every garden. It may be easily raised from seed, but as that must be sown early in March to procure plants large enough to plant out in June, it is generally procured from some nurseryman. A large business is done in supplying these, and as the price is but trifling, it is perhaps the best method of obtaining them.

The Verbena should have a good rich soil, and a free exposure.

In some gardens it may be desirable to have a few of what are known as

CLIMBERS,

to cover trellises, summer houses, etc., or conceal unsightly objects.

The following are suitable for this purpose :---

Convolvulus Major, a hardy annual, whose well-known flowers, white, crimson, or purple, appear each morning, from July to October. It will reach fifteen feet high. Sow the seed as early as possible in the spring, where you wish them to grow.

The Scarlet Runner (Phaseolus), will reach fifteen feet high, and vulgar though some think it, is nevertheless a pretty climber.

The Nasturtium (Tropcolum), is useful as well as pretty; bright orange and yellow flowers, succeeded by a green capsule or berry, which makes an excellent pickle; six feet is, however, its utmost height.

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The Sweet Pea (Lathyrus odorata), a well-known variety of the Pea, with pink and white blossom; grows about four feet high.

Honeysuckle, (Lonicera), a shrubby climber, perfectly hardy. The variety known as Scarlet Trumpet is perhaps the most showy, but the yellow is the most fragran⁺. It requires a good rich soil and in a few years will cover a large space.

The Rose has its climbing varieties in the Ayrshire and Prairie Roses, and although the latter is destitute of fragrance, yet its abundance of flowers in some measure renders compensation. Like all Roses, they should have rich soil and moisture. The stems, which will reach ten or twelve feet in a season, are renewed every summer like the Raspberry, and should therefore be pruned out every spring.

The Virginian Creeper, a hardy American shrub, which in a few years will cover a large space, is very useful in concealing any unsightly wall, as it adheres to it like the English Ivy, and in autumn very showy, from its leaves assuming a deep scarlet colour.

Clematis grandiflora is a new climber, growing about twenty feet high, with handsome purple flowers, and strikingly curious seed vessels. It is perfectly hardy.

Wistaria Sinensis, a native of China, will grow in any common garden soil and is quite hardy. It produces about the third year from planting, large bunches of lilac flowers, sweetly fragrant, not unlike the Laburnum.

Ipomæa (Cypress Vine), a handsome annual climber, with rich scarlet flowers; seeds should be started on hot-bed.

Menisperinum, a hardy free-growing climber, well adapted for covering a wall or arbour in short time. Periple of a purp Madein and of v away safe Dolich well adap flowers p Scypan flowers. Tweed should be

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Periploca, a handsome climber, with velvet-like flowers of a purplish maroon colour ; will grow in any light rich soil.

Madeira Vine, a tuberous climber, with ivy-like leaves, and of very rapid growth; but the tubers must be stored away safely every winter.

Dolichos giganteus (Hyacinth Bean), an annual climber, well adapted for a temporary covering to fence or wall; flowers purple.

Scypanthus elegans, a pretty annual climber, with yellc w flowers.

Tweedia, handsome annual climber, with blue flowers; should be raised on a hot-bed.

Such are the materials with which nature abundantly furnishes the florist, enabling him to produce those beautiful combinations and charming effects, so well calculated not only to gratify the sense, but elevate the soul.

With these he is enabled to enjoy somewhat of the happiness of Paradise, to trace the wisdom, power and goodness of his Almighty Father in the loveliest of his productions, and feel that refining and elevating process take place in his whole nature which innocence, purity and beauty are so well suited to effect.

But, though these materials are thus placed at the disposal of man, Divine Wisdom requires of him the exercise of his mental and physical powers, in order to produce the effects required from them.

The work of the florist must be a daily duty, and if he feels the pleasure which the culture of Nature's beauties inspires, he will willingly discharge it; every plant will be duly visited and cared for; weeds which tend to mar the picture removed, and harmony, order and cleanliness main-

tained. As the changing seasons roll round, he will be found watching for the proper opportunity to do some needful work, and preparing to meet the necessities and wants of the various members of his floral family.

I shall, therefore, as some help to the young florist, conclude with a short directory of

WORK TO BE DONE

In each month, beginning with what may be considered the commencement of our floral year.

APRIL.

Let all digging and raking be done as early in the month as possible. In the beginning of the month, shrubs, perennials, and biennials may be planted, if possible in moist weather, if not so, give water.

Tender Annuals may be sown during the first week on a hot-bed, the Half-hardy Annuals under glass in a warm spot, about the end of the month. Now is a good time for planting Cedar or Privet hedges. Box edging may also be put in towards the end of the month.

Anemones and Ranunculus, in pots, may be planted in the beds.

Look over Tulips and Hyacinths now coming into flower; some may require support. Polyanthus and Auricula will soon show their beauties; clear from decayed leaves, and thin trusses where too thick; clean walks and put garden generally in order.

MAY.

Tender Annuals may now be pricked out in the hotbeds, or potted and placed under glass; Dahlias may be removed fr month Bi Amaryllis and watch support w transplant

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Tulips, when the Anemones Pinks and all decaye and Aster nursery be Privet an clean and

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removed from hot-bed and placed under glass; sow during month Biennials and hardy Annuals; plant Gladiolus, Amaryllis and Tuberose; keep the hoe and rake going, and watch the progress of all flowers coming into bloom; support where needed; thin out where too close; and transplant if necessary.

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Seeds may still be sown, and the contents of the hot-bed planted out, where not done last month. Green-house plants, such as Geraniums, Verbenas, Heliotropes, etc., may be planted out. Be particularly watchful this month for weeds; keep hoe and rake in constant operation; plant out Dahlias and stake them.

JULY.

Tulips, Hyacinths, etc., will now be about done flowering; when the leaves appear yellow, cut them off and remove. Anemones and Ranunculus, lift and place in cellar; tie up Pinks and Carnations, and make layers of same; remove all decayed leaves and blossoms; plant out German Stocks and Asters, and any other plants you may have in the nursery beds, or require to fill up parts of the garden; trim Privet and Cedar hedges, and Box edging, and keep all clean and neat

AUGUST.

There is little more can be done this month than to keep a general supervision of the state of the garden, supporting plants where weak, removing such as do not come up to your expectations; raking and keeping tidy the whole. Towards the end of the month some flowers will be ripen-

ing seed; if desired, it may now be gathered; if not, the seed vessels should be at once removed.

SEPTEMBER.

Dahlias will now be in full flower; see that they are well tied to the stakes, to prevent them being broken by any high winds that may arise; gather seeds of the finer flowers as ripening; lift and pot layers of Pinks and Carnations; take cuttings of Geraniums, Verbenas, etc., and plant in pots, if you wish to preserve the kinds through the winter in a green-house or sitting-room; lift Wallflowers and German Stocks, and pot for preservation through the winter; remove dead plants, leaves, etc., and keep clean.

OCTOBER.

Now plant any Bulbs you may wish to add to your stock, such as Hyacinths, Tulips, Crocus, Crown Imperial, Jonquils, Lilies; remove decayed leaves and plants, and preserve the neatness of the garden to the last.

NOVEMBER.

Take up such Tubers and Bulbs as will be hurt by frost, as Dahlias, Marvel of Peru, Tuberose, Gladiolus, Amaryllis; pack carefully away in sand and place in cellar; gather forest leaves and pack into a heap for compost; they are also useful to cover over the beds for protection.

DECEMBER.

No better employment for this month can be found than in collecting materials for compost heap—peat, leaves, old tan, sand, etc.—seeing all protected, and attending to plants in house. Watch protection over Bulb

Arrang Roses and

Prepar ness for n and start them and

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Insects gardening ing if you examine t the cause sure there a caterpill troubleson destroying there nest effectual n

JANUARY.

Watch carefully the plants brought into the house for protection; a sharp night's frost may spoil the whole; look over Bulbs and Tubers to see that none are affected by rot.

FEBRUARY.

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Arrange your designs for coming season ; prune Lilacs, Roses and other shrubs, about end of month.

MARCH.

Prepare hot-bed, and get seeds and everything in readiness for next month; bring up Dahlias, etc., from cellar, and start them in warm kitchen; when duly started, pot them and place in hot-bed.

An important point in gardening is to know the proper time to sow seeds, the Monthly Calendar will be some guide in this matter, and seedsmen now generally print directions on their parcels of seeds, a very wise plan.

Insects are not generally so troublesome in outdoor gardening as in greenhouses, nevertheless, they want watching if you see the leaves of a plant curling up, or withering, examine the under side of them and you will probably see the cause. If some of the leaves seem glued together be sure there is a caterpillar or grub inside; when are you see a caterpillar remorselessly destroy it. Ants are sometimes troublesome in light soils, burrowing under the plants and destroying the roots. I have found coal oil, poured into there nests just after they have retired in the evening, an effectual remedy.

Bachelor's But Balsams.... Barberry... Bedding out P Bee Larkspur Bieeding Hear Bloodwort... Blue Bottle ... Brompton Stoc Browallla Bulbs...

Caccalia coccin Calcoelaria.... Calandrina.... Calendula..... Calliopsis.....

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