

Floriculture.

THE KIND FATHER USED TO MAKE

Said a young and tactless husband
To his inexperienced wife,
"If you should give up leading
Such a fashionable life,
And devote more time to cooking—
How to mix and when to bake—
Then perhaps you might make pastry
Such as mother used to make."
And the wife, resenting, answered,
"For the worm will turn, you know,
If you would give up horses
And a score of clubs or so,
To devote more time to business—
When to buy and what to stake,
Then perhaps you might make money
Such as father used to make."

WINTER-BLOOMING GERANIUMS.

Because a geranium will blossom so freely and constantly during the summer season, most persons seem to think it ought to keep on doing so the whole year, but unless special preparations are made for it in advance, you cannot expect satisfactory results from geraniums in winter. You must grow your plants for winter flowering, and, in order to have them in proper condition for this, you must begin with them in spring. Take plants grown from cuttings the year before; these are in every way preferable to young plants of the present season as a geranium cannot be made into a good flowering plant the first year. It must have age and size; cut it back well in order to secure as many branches as possible, as the amount of bloom depends largely on the number of these. If a plant shows an inclination to "straggles," keep it, pinching off the top or the ends of its branches until you force it to put forth as many branches as you require. If the plant has vigor it will have to grow, and if you refuse to let it put its growth into one branch, it will have to throw out other branches in which to find a channel for the expenditure of its vitality. If you are patient and persistent, you can force the plant to grow to suit you. Keep all buds picked off during summer. You know the old saying, "You can't eat your cake and keep it too." If you have flowers from a plant in summer, you cannot expect to have them in winter. If you want them then, keep the plant at work during the summer season in getting ready for winter work. If given proper care you will have a plant in the fall which is bushy, compact and covered with growing points, and it will be ready to begin blooming as soon as given a chance to do so, but a plant which has been allowed to bloom through the summer will be in a condition requiring rest.

FLORAL NOTES.

The Japanese have given us some very fine things from their abundant island growth. Among them are the Hydrangia, Panaculata, the Japan Snowball, the Salisbury tree, the Crimson Rambler, the Yellow Rambler, the lily, iris and Xanotheras.

Zampas plumes make a pretty winter decoration. Those with long stems are preferable. And do not dye them; they are much more pleasing to the eye when left their own feathery white. They should be thoroughly dried before being taken into a warm room.

Window boxes dry out rapidly and require much water. Unless given freely the plants suffer. They are exposed to heat and evaporation on all sides. A large pailful every day is not too much. Failure is due to insufficient water supply more frequently than to any other cause.

Mrs. Candace Wheeler voices a pretty thought of the flower lover when she says: "There are some flowers whose manifest destiny is to be given away. Those which reproduce themselves quickly, like roses, pansies, honeysuckle, sweet peas or nasturtiums, seem to grow for the giving, but when it comes to breaking the one supreme effort of a plant like a stalk of ascension lilies,—with the concentrated sweetness of its whole summer put into its cluster of flowers—I confess I feel like taking the bulb into the conference. I want it to consider that to stand in a room preoccupied by pain or bereavement or disappointment is to go out of its own land upon a foreign mission, and I would like to be sure that my lily is capable of the true mission spirit." How true it is—that there are some flowers one cuts without the slightest compunction and others to which one cannot bear to touch the scissors!

A NORTH WINDOW IN WINTER.

Don't be discouraged because you have only a north window for house plants. You can have nice specimens

A post card with your name and address will bring you free sample of

SALADA

CEYLON GREEN TEA.
"Salada," Toronto.

just the same, only you must suit your plants to the situation and not try to grow roses and carnations and other sun-loving plants in a northern exposure. Ferns will do splendidly in a north window, and the best of them all is the Boston or sword fern. It has long, drooping fronds, and makes a handsome appearance. Two varieties of asparagus are valuable—the usual climbing asparagus and A. plumosus nanus; the latter will thrive finely where other plants would die. Cyperus is a good north window plant. It is an annual, a native of southern marshes, and after it has produced its bloom and seeds it dies no matter what you do for it. The only thing is to cut out the flower stalks as fast as they come. Palms do well in the north window, despite their tropical home, they can get along without much sun. And the Chinese primrose does better there than in a south window. For vines, what do you want better than English and German ivy and smilax?

WINTER BLOOMS.

"I think for a winter bloomer there is nothing prettier than the different kinds of primroses; as you can get so many different varieties and in colors, they are a constant pleasure all winter. I tried a new bulb—or, rather, new to me, last winter: Chinese lily; grew it in pebbles and water. It was beautiful, filling the room with fragrance.—M.F.C.

WHY STEEL RAILS BREAK.

In 1895 a steel rail on the Great Northern railway in England broke into 17 pieces, causing a serious accident. A committee of the board of trade appointed to investigate the cause of the breakage has only recently made its report, after four years of work on the subject. The committee ascertained that the particular rail which broke on the occasion described possessed certain abnormal features the precise origin of which remains undetermined, but the investigation led to several discoveries of scientific and practical importance. Among these is the surprising effect of cracks in the upper surfaces of rails. It was found by experiment that a rail nicked with a chisel to a depth of a sixty-fourth of an inch broke under a weight of 600 pounds falling from a height of 12 feet, while the same rail not nicked resisted the fall of a ton weight from a height of 20 feet.

TEA IS POPULAR IN RUSSIA.

Tea was first imported into Russia in 1638. To-day each inhabitant consumes on the average nearly one pound annually. The total consumption is 105,000,000 pounds and the total cost about \$88,000,000. Tea and sugar together cost Russia about \$265,000,000 per year. For brandy, beer and wine the country expends annually about \$560,000,000, so that something like a quarter of the whole revenues of the state are annually expended on tea, brandy, wine and beer, with sugar. Exact statistics are not forthcoming, but it appears that the use of tea is increasing rapidly relative to the alcoholic beverages—a consummation devoutly to be wished.

THE "BUMPING" BICYCLE RACE.

The bumping handicap is a form of cycle racing now very popular in England. The riders are placed five or ten yards apart from scratch to limit. When the pistol is fired each man tries to catch the man ahead of him, and keep from being caught by the man behind. When caught in a rider must drop out of the race. In such a contest there can be no loafing. The riders, of course, do not actually bump against each other. The name was probably suggested by the English boat races, where the aim is to bump against another boat ahead, as described in "Tom Brown at Oxford."

QUEER STATE OF AFFAIRS.

The Danes export the best and highest priced butter in the world, and for their own use buy cheap butter from the United States.

HER PETS.

Grimes—Is your wife fond of pets?
Harum—I should say she was. She is almost always in one.

GLEANED IN FOREIGN FIELDS.

One-fifteenth of the inhabitants of Spain are nobles.

Russia seoured Finland from Sweden in 1809.

Nearly every Chinaman can read, but 90 per cent. of the women are uneducated.

None of the nations of Europe can properly be called "free trade nations" except England.

Spain has a national debt almost twice as large as that of the United States.

The Afridis are said to have no sense of honor. They are the greatest robbers among the Afghans of British India.

The general tendency in all nations is to increase their public debts, except in the United States, where there has been a gradual reduction since the civil war.

Barcelona, owing to its geographical position, has long aspired to be the first commercial city in the Mediterranean, its formidable rival having been always the neighboring French port of Marseilles.

The cavern of Agtelek is one of the most remarkable in Europe. It consists of a labyrinth of caverns, one of which is 96 feet high, 90 feet wide and nearly 900 feet long in a straight line.

MERE TRIFLES.

Snow-blindness is very common among Eskimos.

In Alaska a native just 50 years of age is a rarity.

The term "algebra" comes from two Arabic words signifying the putting together of broken things.

There is a scaly white mineral, hard enough to scratch glass, found in the vicinity of Ephesus. It is called Ephesite.

The vast swamps of the Adirondacks are almost impenetrable with the thick growth of cedar, tamarack and hemlock.

The term "abbot" comes from the word meaning "father." It was originally given to any aged monk, but afterward more strictly applied to the superior of a monastery or abbey.

The names of the letters of the ancient Hebrew alphabet were also the names of material objects, and the letters themselves were at first, in all probability, rude outlines of the objects. "Aleph," for example, means an "ox," and the letter was in its origin the outline of an ox's head.

DEATH IN THE DRINK.

Some time ago in India an officer who was parched with thirst was travelling with his Indian servant where water was scarce. It was evening time, and in that country the moon throws a peculiar light upon many things. The officer saw at the side of the road a pool of water that looked very clear. He was stooping down to drink when his servant called to him, Nay, nay, Sahib lend me your sword. Going to the pool the servant put the edge of the sword into it to stir it, when up came the head of a cobra, the most dangerous serpent in India. The servant then brought the weapon down upon the reptile and cut off his head; Had the officer drank of the pool, he would have been a dead man. There was death in the drink. How many the serpent drink is destroying every day in our great cities! Let us be servants for them, and show them the work of the serpent. At last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder, says the Bible.

INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS IN GERMANY.

There are at present in Germany 296 great industrial concerns which employ more than 1,000 persons each. The total number of persons employed by them amounts to nearly 600,000 and the machinery in use represents nearly 700,000 tons horse power. The most important concern is the Krupp works in Essen, where 44,087 laborers are employed. Next to this comes the Hamburg-American Steamship company, which employs 14,643 persons on sea and land.

CEYLON and INDIA TEA GREEN OR BLACK.

To get clean GREEN tea use the machine made tea of Ceylon and India. It contains no adulterants, no sticks, no willow leaves—it's all tea. The same is true of BLACK.

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CEYLON TEA
the reward of merit. For purity, strength and Flavour, it has no equal.
Lead Packets, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60c.

CONDENSED MILK IN WAFERS.

Condensed milk wafers are going to be used in connection with the emergency ration test in Oklahoma. It is thought that condensed milk food will give better success than chocolate, which has been found to be of little service during the first test, which has just been completed. The milk food is made up in the form of wafers. When dissolved with water it forms a kind of soup.

BRIGHT'S DISEASE

is the deadliest and most painful malady to which mankind is subject. Dodd's Kidney Pills will cure any case of Bright's Disease. They have never failed in one single case. They are the only remedy that ever has cured it, and they are the only remedy that can. There are imitations of Dodd's Kidney Pills—pill, box and name—but imitations are dangerous. The original and only genuine cure for Bright's Disease is

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

Dodd's Kidney Pills are fifty cents a box at all druggists.

HISTORIC CASTLE BURNED.

The Chateau Bel Oeil, the castle and summer residence of the prince of Leigne, near Brussels, dating from 1456, has been destroyed by fire. The paintings and most of the principal works of art which it contained were saved.

The New Furniture Company.

The London correspondent of the New York Sun says "that the most promising market is offered in the United Kingdom for American furniture manufacturer," and also adds that "by sending good furniture enterprising manufacturers will find a trade awaiting them which will pay handsome profits." The Canada Furniture Manufacturers, Limited, which came into existence last week, with a capital of \$3,000,000, is well equipped to do a very large export trade. It has absorbed the Furniture Manufacturing Exporting Co., of Berlin, and Liverpool and also the Anderson Furniture Co.'s English organization. This will give the new company ample facilities to compete with the United States factories successfully. In connection with this we might add that the Canada Furniture Manufacturers offer a portion of preference stock to the public. It is one of the best investments offered.

HER LOVE.

Visitor—Do you love your dolly?
Little girl—Indeed, I do.
It's a girl dolly isn't it?
Yes'm.
Why don't you have a boy dolly?
Oh, the live ones is nicer.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. R. W. Groves signature is on each box. 25c

THE MYSTERY OF THE AGES.

Dickerman—There's one thing that puzzles me.
Rawley—And pray what is that?
Dickerman—How it happens that the new woman is generally not a very young one.

MONTREAL HOTEL DIRECTORY.

The "Balmoral," Free Bus Am. Plan \$1.50 & up
AVENUE HOUSE McGill—College Avenue Family Hotel rates \$1.50 per day.

CARRYING OUT THE DISGUISE.

The Bride—Now, dear, we must act like old married people.
The Groom—All right. Give me back that fifty.

WANDERING JEW.

The botanical name of "Wandering Jew"—Tradescantia zebrina—is given in honor of a celebrated florist, John Tradescant, gardener, to that unfortunate monarch, Charles I. Tradescant was a Dutchman and was called Tradescant by his associates. He established a botanic garden in Lambeth, England, as early as 1629, which was then a rare thing. He also collected a botanical museum, of which Flatman, the painter-poet, said, "That John Tradescant offers our wondering eyes,

By buying up his new-born rarities He bequeathed this museum to his friend, Elias Ashmole. His wife contested the will, but failing in her suit, and not willing to be resigned to the loss of the museum, she foolishly drowned herself; this tragedy so affected Ashmole that he did not care to keep it in his possession, and he presented the museum to the University of Oxford in 1677. It would be interesting to know whence the plant derived its common name, "Wandering Jew," which seems to have been bestowed sans rhyme or reason.

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A WORK-A-DAY WORLD.

Then you place industry before genius?
Yes; industry can get on without genius; but genius can't get on without industry.

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer one Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

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Mrs. Solidrocks—Oh, no! Let the world know how easily you can afford it.

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