S PEAKING o' money," said the night-watchman thoughtfully, as he selected an empty soap-box on the wharf for a seat, "the whole world would be different if we all 'ad more of it It would be a brighter and a 'appier place for everybody."

He broke off to open a small brass tobacco-box and place a little quid of tobacco tenderly into a pouch in his left cheek, critically observing at the same time the efforts of a somewhat large steamer to get alongside the next wharf without blocking up more than three parts of the river. He watched it as though the entire operation depended upon his attention, and, the steamer fast, he turned his eyes back again and resumed his theme.

"Of course, it's the being short that sharpens people," he admitted, thoughtfully; "the sharpest man I ever knew never 'ad a ha'penny in 'is pocket, and the ways 'e had o' getting other chaps to pay for 'is beer would ha' made 'is fortin at the law if 'e'd only 'ad the eddication. Playful little chap 'e was. I've seen men wot didn't know 'im stand 'im a pot o' beer and then foller 'im up the road to see 'im knock down a policeman as 'e'd promised. They'd foller 'Im to the fust policeman 'e met, an' then 'e'd point them out and say they were goin' to half kill 'im, an' the policeman 'ud just stroll up an' ask 'em wot they were 'anging about for, but I never 'eard of a climp telling 'im. They used to go away struck all of a 'eap. He died in the accident ward of the London Horsepittle, poor chap,"

He shook his head thoughtfully, and ignoring the statement of a watchman at the next wharf that it was a fine evening. shifted his quid and laughed rumblingly. "The funnlest way o' raising the wind I've ever 'eard of," he said, in explanation, "was one that 'appened about 15 years ago. I'd just taken my discharge as A. B. from the North Star, trading between here and the Australian ports, and the men wot the thing 'appened to was shipmates o' mine, although on'y

"I knows It's a true story, becos I was in it a little bit myself, and the other part I 'ad from all of 'em, and besides. they didn't see anything funny in it at all, or anything out of the way. It seemed to them quite a easy way o' making money, and I dessay if it 'ad come off all right I should have thought so, too.

right I should have thought so, too.

'In about a week after we was paid off at the Albert Docks these chaps was all cleaned out, and they was all in despair, with a thirst wor wasn't half quenched and a spree wet was on'y in a manner o' speaking just begun, and at the end of that time they came round to a room wot I ad, to see wot could be done. There was four of 'em in all—old Sam Small, Ginger Dick, Peter Russet and a orphan nevy of Sam's whose father and mother was dead. The mother 'ad been 'alf nigger an' 'alf Malay when she was living, and Sam was always pertickler careful to point out that his nevy took arter 'er. It was enough to make the pore woman trees the contract of the same of th It was enough to make the pore woman turn in 'er grave to say so, but Sam used to say that 'e owed it to 'is brother to

'Wot's to be done?' see Peter Russet, "Wots to be done?" see Peter Russet, arter they'd all said wot miserable chaps they was, an 'ow badly sailor-men was paid "We're all going to sign on in the Land's End, but she doesn't sail for a fortnight; wot's to be done in the meantime for to live?"

There's your watch, Peter, see old Sam, dreamy-like, 'and there's Ginger's ring. It's a good job you kep' that ring, Ginger. We're all in the same boat, mates, an' I on'y wish as I'd got something for the general good. It's 'aving an organization. orphan nevy wot's kep' me pore.' "Stow it,' ses the nevy, short-like.

Everything's agin us, see old Sam.
There's them four green parrots I
brought from Brazil, all dead. 'So are my two monkeys,' ses Peter seet, shaking 'is 'ed; 'they used to sleep

all shook their 'eads then, and Russet took Sam up very sharp for ing that p'r'aps if he 'adn't slep' monkeys they wouldn't ha' died. 'He said if Sam knew more about monkeys than wot 'e did, why didn't 'e put 'is money in them instead o' green parrots ot pulled their feathers out and died of

"Talking about monkeys," ses Ginger Dick, interrupting old Sam suddenly, 'wot about young Beauty here?"
"Well, wot about him?" ses the nevy,

in a nasty sort o' way. W'y, 'e's worth forty monkeys an' millions o' green parrots,' ses Ginger, starting up; 'an' here 'e is a-wasting of 'is opportunities, going about dressed like a Christian. Open your mouth, Beauty, and stick your tongue out and roll your

W'y not leave well alone, Ginger? ses Russet; and I thought so, too. Young Beauty was quite enough for me without Ter 'blige me,' ses Ginger, anxiously,

just make yourself as ugly as wot you can. Beauty.'
"'Leave 'im alone,' ses old Sam, as his nevy snarled at 'em. 'You ain't every-body's money yourself, Ginger.' nevy snarled at 'em.

"I tell you, mates, see Ginger, speak-ing very slow and solemn, 'there's a fortin in 'im. I was lookin' at 'im just now, trying to think who 'e reminded At fust I thought it was that bis stuffed monkey we saw at Melbourne, then I suddenly remembered it was a wild man of Borneo I see when I was kid up in Sunderland. When I say 'e a 'handsome, good-'arted looking gentle-man alongside o' you. Beauty, do you be-

gin to get my meaning?" "'Wot's the idea, Ginger" see Sam, get-ting up to lend me and Russet a 'and with 'is nevy.

'My idea is this,' ses Ginger; 'take 'is cloes off 'im and dress 'im up in that there winder-blind, or something o' the kind; tie 'im up with a bit o' line, and take 'im round to Ted Reddish in the 'ighway and sell 'im for a 'undered quid as a wild man of Borneo.

"Wot? screams Beauty, in an awful voice. 'Let go, Peter; let go, d'ye hear?'
"''Old your noise, Beauty, while your elders is speaking, see 's uncle, and I could see 'e was struck with the idea. "'You jest try dresing me up in a win-der-blind,' ses his nevy, half-crying with

'Listen to reason, Beauty,' ses Ginger, 'you'll 'ave your share of the tin;
it'll only be for a day or two, and then
when we've cleared out you can make
your escape, and there'll be twenty-five pounds for each of us."
"''Ow do you make that out, Ginger?"
ses Sam, in a cold voice.

Fours into a 'undered,' ses Ginger, "Ho, ses Sam. 'Ho, indeed. I wasn't aweer that 'e was your nevy, Ginger.'
"'Share and share alike,' ses Russet.
It's a very good plan o' yours, Ginger.'
"'Ginger holds 'is 'ead up and looks at

I thought o' the plan,' 'e) ses, speaking very slow and deliberate. 'Sam's 'is



"RETURN OF THE WILD MAN."

incle, and 'e's the wild man. Threes | man was just going to make hisself com into a 'undered go-'
"'You needn't bother your fat 'ead add-

"You needn't bother your fat 'ead adding up sums, Ginger,' see Russet, very polite. 'I'm going to 'ave my share, else I'il split to Ted Reddish.'

"None of 'em said a word about me; two of 'em was sitting on my bed; Ginger was using a 'andkerchief o' mine wot 'e found in the fireplace, and Peter Russet 'ad 'ad a drink out o' the jug on my washstand, and yet they never even mentioned me. That's firemen all over, and that's 'ow it is they get themselves so disliked.

"In a look, an' 'e curled up on the earthrug instead.

"E sin't a very fine specimen,' ses 'I'E ain't a very fine' specimen,' ses 'I'

round young Beauty, an' the langwidge they see fit to use made me thankful to think that the parrots didn't live to

larn it.
"You never saw anything like Beauty "You never saw anything like Beauty when they 'ad finished with 'im. If 'e was bad in 'ts cloes, 'e was a perfeck horror without 'em. Ginger Dick faked 'im up beautiful, but there was no pleasing 'im. Fust he found fault with the winder-blind, which 'e said didn't fit. then 'e grumbled about going barefoot, then 'e grumbled about going barefoot, then 'e was time he did somethink; and the near-grumbled about going barefoot, then 'e was time he did somethink; and the near-grumbled about going barefoot, then 'e up beautiful, but there was no pleasing 'im. Fust he found fault with the winder-blind, which 'e said didn't fit; then 'e grumbled about going barefoot, then 'e wanted somethink to 'ide 'ls legs, which was natural considering the shape of 'em. Ginger Dick nearly load 'is temper with Ginger Dick nearly lost 'is temper with 'im, and it was all old Sam could do to stop himself from casting 'im off forever. He was finished at last, and arter Peter Russet 'ad slipped downstairs and found a bit o' broken clothes-prop in the yard, and 'e'd been shown 'ow to lean on it and make a noise, Ginger sald as 'ow if Ted Reddish got 'im for pounds 'e'd get 'im a bargain.

'We must 'ave a cab,' ses old Sam.
'Cab,' ses Ginger, 'What for?'
'We should 'ave half Wapping follow ing us,' ses Sam. 'Go out and put your

ing up, Ginger, and fetch a cab."
"Ginger started grumbling, but he went, and presently came back with the cab and the money, and they all went down-stairs leading the wild man by a bit o' ine. They only met one party coming up, and 'e seemed to remember somethink e'd forgotten wot ought to be fetched at

Ginger went out fust and opened the cab-door, and then stood there waiting becon at the last moment the wild man said the winder-blind was slipping down. They got 'im out at last, but before 'e could get in the cab was going up the road, at ten miles an hour, with Ginger 'anging on to the door calling to it to

"It came back at about a mile an' a 'alf an hour, an' the remarks of the cab-man was eggstrordinary. Even when he got back 'e wouldn't start till 'e'd got double fare paid in advance; but they got in at last and drove off.

There was a fine scene at Ted Reddish's door. Ginger said that if there was a bit of a struggle it would be a good advertisement for Ted Reddish, and they might p'r'aps get more than a 'undered, and all the three of 'em could do, they couldn't get the wild man out o' that cab, and the cabman was hopping about 'arf crazy. Every now and then they'd get the wild man 'arf out, and then he'd get in agin and snarl. 'E didn't seem to know when to leave off, and Ginger and the others got almost as sick of it as the cabman. It must ha' taken two years' wear out o' that cab, but they got 'Im out at last, and Reddish's door being open to see what the row was about, they went

straight in 'Wot's all this?' ses Reddish, who was a tall, thin man, with a dark mustache.
"'It's a wild man o' Borneo,' ses Ginger, panting: 'we caught 'im in a forest
in Brazil, an' we've come 'ere to give you

the fust offer.'
"Ted Reddish was so surprised 'e couldn't speak at fust. The wild man seemed to take 'is breath away, and 'e looked in a 'elpless kind o' way at 'is wife, who'd just come down. She was a nice-lookin' woman, fat, with a lot o' yaller hair, and she smiled at 'em as though she'd known 'em all their lives. "'Come into the parlor, she ses, kindly, just as Ted was beginning to get is

fortable in a easy-chair, when Ginger give 'Im a look, an' 'e curled up on the 'earth-

isliked. dish to Ginger, very polite. I thought it "It took 'em best part of an 'our to talk was funny a wild man should be wearing a collar. It's my mistake. That's wild man, I s'pose, on the 'earthrug' 'That's 'im, mum,' ses old Sam, very

short. 'He don't look wild enough,' ses Red-

'Is teeth into it. Anybody might ha thought Ginger was the wild man then, the way 'e went on, and Mrs. Reddish said that even if he so far forgot hisself as to use sich langwidge afore 'er, 'e oughin't to before a poor 'eathen animal. "How much do you want for 'im?' ses Ted Reddish, arter Ginger 'ad got 'is leg away, and taken it to the winder to look

One 'undered pounds,' ses old Sam. "Ted Reddish looked at 'is wife, and ey both larfed as though they'd never

Why, the market price o' the best wild men is only thirty shillings,' ses Reddish, wiping 'is eyes. 'I'll give you a

'Old Sam looked at Russet, and Russet oked at Ginger, and then they all larfed.
"'Well, there's no getting over you, I can see that,' ses Reddish, at last. strong? 'Strong ain't the word for it,

inchim to the back and let 'im 'ave

'ed,' ses 'is wife.
"'E'd kill it,' ses old Sam, hastily.
"'Never mind,' ses Reddish, getting up; brown bears is cheap enough." "They all got up then, none of 'em knowing wot to do, except the wild man, that is, and he got 'is arms tight round the leg o' the table.
"'Well,' ses Ginger, 'we'll be pleased

for 'Im to wrestle with the bear, but we must 'ave the 'undered quid fust, in case 'e injures 'isself a little.' ''Ted Reddish looked 'ard at 'Im, and then he looked at 'is wife agin. "Til just go outside and talk it over with the missus," he ses, at last, and they both got up and went out.

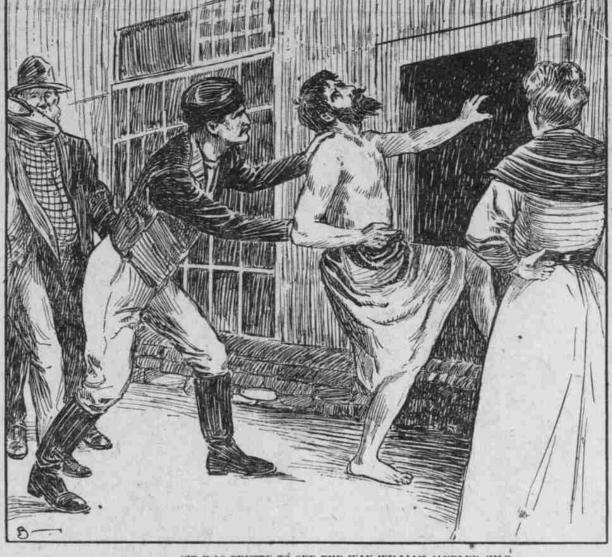
'It's all right,' ses old Sam, winking 'Fair cop,' ses Ginger, who was still rubbing his leg. 'I told you it would be but there's no need for Beauty to overdo et. He nearly 'ad a bit out o' my leg.' "'A'right,' ses the wild man, shifting along the 'earthrug to where Peter was sitting; 'but it don't do for me to be too

You 'eard wot she said tame. "'How are you feeling, old man?' ses Peter, in a kind volce, as 'e tucked 'is legs away under 'is chair. "Gur,' ses the wild man, going on all fours to the back of the chair, 'gur—wug

'Don't play the fool, Beauty,' ses Pe ter, with a uneasy smile, as he twisted 'is 'ead round. 'Call 'im off, Sam.'
"'Gur,' ses the wild man, sniffing at 'is

legs; 'gurr.'
"'Easy on, Beauty, it's no good biting
'im till they come back,' ses old Sam.
"'I won't be bit at all,' ses Russet, very sharp, 'mind that, Sam. It's my belief Beauty's gone mad."

"Hush, ses Ginger, and they 'eard Ted Reddish and 'is wife coming back. They came in, sat down agin, and after Ted 'ad 'ad another good look at the wild reath.
"They followed 'em in, and the wild at 'is teeth, he spoke up and said they'd



"IT WAS PRETTY TO SEE THE WAY WILLIAM 'ANDLED 'IM."

"'It's agin our way of doing business.' ses Ted Reddish. 'If it had been a lion or a tiger we could, but wild men we never do.' The thing is,' ses Mrs. Reddish, as

the wild man started on Russet's leg and was pulled off by Sam and Ginger, 'where to put 'im.'
"'Why not put 'im in with the black leopard?' ses her 'usband.

"There's plenty o' room in his cage, says 'is wife thoughtfully, 'and it 'ud be 'I don't think the wild man 'ud like ses Ginger.

'I'm sartin sure 'e wouldn't,' says old Sam, shaking 'is 'ead.
"'Well, we must put im in a cage by hisself, I s pose,' ses Reddish, 'but we can't be put to much expense. I'm sure the money we spent in cat's meat for the last wild man we 'ad was awful.'

"Don't you spend too much money on cat's meat for 'im,' ses Sam; 'e'd very likely leave it. Bringing 'im 'ome, we used to give 'Im the same as we 'ad ourelves, and he got on all right. 'It's a wonder you didn't kill 'im,' ses Reddish, severely. 'He'll be f ferent 'ere, I can tell you. 'He'll be fed very dif-tell you. You won't know 'im at the end o' three days.'

"'Don't change 'im too sudden,' ses Ginger, keeping 'is' ead turned away from the wild man, wot wos trying to catch 'is signed 'Barnum' offering 'im two 'undered eye. 'Cook 'is food at fust, 'cos 'e's been for the wild man, in case Ted Reddish should want to beat 'em down. They all 'I know wot to give 'im.' ses Reddish,

offhandedly. 'I ain't been in the line 27 years for nothink. Bring 'Im out to the back, an' I'll put 'im in 'is new 'ome. "They all got up and, taking no notice of the wild man's whispers, follered Ted Reddish and 'is wife out to the back, where all the wild beasts in the world seemed to 'ave collected to roar out to each other what a beastly place it was

decided to give a 'undered pun for 'im at the end o' three days if 'e suited.
"'I s'pose,' ses Sam, looking at the others, 'that we could 'ave a bit of it now to go on with?"
"'It's agin our way of doing business.' Ted Reddish said it was,

"Wot makes you call it that?' ses Sam. "Reddish didn't seem to 'ear 'im, and it took all Ginger's coaxing to get Beauty go in. 'It's on'y for a day or two,' he while-

"'But 'ow am I to escape when you've got the brass?" ses the wild man. "We'll look arter that, ses Ginger, who 'adn't got the least idea. "The wild man 'ad a little show for the

last time, jist to impress Ted Reddish, an' it was pretty to see the way William 'andled 'im. The look on the wild man's face showed as 'ow it was a revelashun to 'im. Then 'is three mates took a last look at 'im and went off.

"For the fust day Sam felt uneasy about 'im, and used to tell us tales about 'is dead brother which made us think Beauty was lucky to take arter 'is mother; but it wore off, and the next night, in the Admiral Cochrane, 'e put 'is 'ead on Gin-ger's shoulder, and wep' for 'appiness as spoke of 'is nevy's home at ''Appy Cottage

"On the third day Sam was for going ound in the morning for the money, but Ginger said ot wasn't advisable to show 'aste; so they left it to the evening, Peter Russet wrote Sam a letter ad a drink before they went in, and was smiling with good temper to sich an ex-tent that they 'ad to wait a minute to get

Reddish was sitting in a armchair shakin er 'ead and looking at the carpet very

their faces straight afore going in.
"'Come in,' ses Reddish, and they fol-lered 'im into the parier, where Mrs.

'I was afraid you'd come,' she ses, in a low voice.
"'So was I,' ses Reddish,

'What for?' ses old Sam, It didn' look like money, and 'e felt cross,
"'We've 'ad a loss,' ses Mrs. Reddish She touched 'erself, and then they see she was all in black, and that Ted Red-dish was wearing a black tie and a bit o' crape round 'is arm.

'Sorry to 'ear it, mum,' ses old Sam.
'It was very sudden, too,' ses Mrs Reddish, wiping 'er eyes.

"That's better than laying long,' ses Peter Russet, comforting like.
"Ginger Dick gives a cough, "Twenty-five pounds was wot 'e'd come for; not to 'ear this sort o' talk.'
"We've been in the wild-beast line

seven-an'-twenty years,' see Mrs. Red-dish, 'and it's the fust time anythink of this sort 'as 'appened.

"'Ealthy family, I s'pose;' ses Sam, staring.
"'Tell 'im, Ted,' ses Mrs. Reddish, in a 'usky whisper.
"'No, you,' ses Ted.
"'It's your place,' ses Mrs. Reddish.

'A woman can break it better,' ses 'er "Tell us wot?" ses Ginger, very snap-

"Ted Reddish cleared his throat, "'It wa'n't our fault," he ses, slowly,

while Mrs. Reddish began to cry agin; 'gin'rally speakin', animals is afraid o' wild men, and night before last, as the wild man wot you left on approval didn't seem to like "'Appy Cottage," he took 'Im out an' put 'Im in with the tiger.'
"'Put him in with the WOT?' ses the unfort'hit man's uncle, jumping off 'is

chair.
"The tiger," ses Reddish, "We 'eard but we thought something in the night, but we thought they was only 'aving a little bit of a tiff, like. In the morning I went down with a bit o' cold meat for the wild man, and I thought at first he'd escaped; but looking

'Don't, Ted,' ses 'is wife, 'I can't Do you mean to tell me that the tiger 'as eat 'im'" screams old Sam.
"'Most of 'im,' ses Ted Reddish; 'but that Mrs' 'e couldn't ha' been much of a wild man 'e was."

to let a tiger get the better of 'im. I must say I was surprised."

'We both was,' ses Mrs. Reddish, siping 'er eyes, "You might ha' 'eard a pin drop; old

Sam's eyes was large and staring, Peter Russet was sucking 'is teeth, an' Ginger was wondering wot the law would say to it-if it 'eard of it.

" 'It's an unfortunit thing for all parties," ses Ted Reddish at last, getting up

and standing on the 'earthrug. " 'Orrible,' ses Sam, 'uskily, 'You sught to ha' known better than to put 'im in with a tiger. Wot could you expect? W'y, it was a mad thing to do."

'Crool thing,' ses Peter Russet. "You don't know the bisness properly,' ses Ginger, 'that's about wot it is. W'y, I should ha' known better than that.'
"'Well, it's no good making a fuss about it.' ses Reddish. 'It was only a wild man, arter all, and he'd ha' died anyway, cos' a wouldn't sait the army anyway, cos' a wouldn't sait the army anyway. anyway, cos 'e wouldn't eat the raw meat we gave 'im, and 'is pan o' water was scarcely touched. He'd ha' starved himself anyhow. I'm sorry, as I said before, but I must be off; I've an appointment down at the docks."

"He moved towards the door; Ginger Dick gave Russet a nudge and whispered something, and Russet passed it on to

"What about the 'undered quid?" pore Beauty's uncle, catching 'old o' Red_ dish as 'e passed 'im.
"'Eh?' ses Reddish, surprised—'Oh,
thet's off.'

"Ho! says Sam. 'Ho! is it? We want a 'undered quid off of you; an' wot's more, we mean to 'ave it."

"'2 But the tiger's ate 'im,' says Mrs.
Reddish, explaining.
"I know that, see Sam, sharply. But
'e was our wild man, and we want to be
paid for 'im. You should ha' been more
careful. We'll give you five minutes; and if the money ain't paid by that time we'll go straight off to the police station.'
"'Well, go,' ses Ted Reddish.

"Sam got up, very stern, and looked at fou'll be ruined if we do,' ses Ginger,

"'All right,' ses Ted Reddish, comfortably 'I'm not sure they can't 'ang you,' ses Russet.

"I ain't sure, either, ses Reddish; and I'd like to know 'ow the law stands, in case it 'appens agin.'
" 'Come on, Sam,' ses Ginger; 'come straight to the police station.'

"He got up and moved towards the but Mrs. Reddish flopped on her knees and caught old Sam round the legs, and 'eld him so's 'e couldn't move.
"'Spare 'im,' she ses, crying.
"'Lea' go o' my legs, mum,' ses Sam,
"'Come on, Sam,' ses Ginger; 'come to the nolice.'

"Old Sam made a desperit effort, and Mrs. Reddish called 'im a crool monster, and let go and 'id 'er face on 'er huspand's shoulder as they all me he parlor, larsing like a mad thing with hysterics.

'They moved off slowly, not knowing wot to do, as, of course, they knew they daren't go to the police about it. Ginger Dick's temper was awful; but Peter Russet said they mustn't give up all 'ope-he'd write to Ted Reddish and tell 'im as a friend wot a danger 'e was in. Old Sam didn't say anything, the loss of his nevy and twenty-five pounds at the same time being almost more than 'is 'art could bear, and in a slew, melancholy fashion they walked back to old Sam's

lodgings.
"'Well, what the blazes is up now?' ses Ginger Dick, as they turned the corner.

"There was three or four 'undered people standing in front of the 'ouse, and women's 'eads out of all the winders screaming their 'ardest for the police, and as they got closer they 'eard a in-cessant knocking. It took 'em nearly five minutes to force their way through the crowd, and then they nearly went crazy as they saw the wild man with 'alf the winder-blind missing, but otherwise well and 'arty, standing on the step and giving rat-a-tat-tats at the door for all 'e

"They never got to know the rights of it, Beauty getting so excited every time they asked 'im 'ow he got on that they 'ad to give it up. But they began to 'ave a sort of idea at last that Ted Reddish 'ad been 'aving a game with 'em, and that Mrs. Reddish was worse than wot

Plants Made to Bloom at Will

Artificial Heat and Cold Storage Used to Get the Desired Results in Aiding Nature. P HAS been said that civilization pre- in flower in October, or even earlier. The etherizing plants to bring them quickly and Professor John Craig, of Cornell Uni-

cedes all forms of gardening and this is specially the case in respect to ornamental or decorative gardening as distinguished from the culture of plants for

conomic purposes. Decorative gardening is one of the last lobbies to be taken up in a newly civilized country, but after this stage has been reached the hobby continues to be progressive as long as the civilization itself advances.

Thus it is that in the twentieth century men are no longer content to cultivate plants in their natural season of growthand gather the flowers in Summer time, out attempt their cultivation in every season of the year and expect the supplies of flowers to be as certain at Christmas as rose blooms in June. Greater success is possible in this way than has been the case previously and this suc cess is due to the employment of means uch as were never dreamed of even a

tw years ago. The desire to have the garden bloom in Winter first found expression in the building of glass houses for the cultiva-tion of exotic plants and the means taken to heat such houses by flues. Little progress was made, however, until after the middle of the last century, when the flue system was superseded by the employ-ment of an apparatus consisting of hotwater pipes.

Forcing Process Used.

Having got thus far, it was possible o flower some few plants in Winter and many species in Spring that previously vere perfectly unknown at such seasons This was due to the practice known as forcing," being the subjection of plants to the influence of considerable artificial heat in order to force them into bloom. By the continued repetition of the process and consequent increased knowledge of the effect of forcing upon different plants a greater number of species was successfully brought under the treatment and the early forcing of flowers, fruits and vegetables became part of the ordi-

nary duties of the gardener.

But there was a limit beyond which such forcing could not be pushed, owing to the fact that plants insist upon hav-

ing a certain amount of sleep or rest after the completion of growth. For this son many bulbous plants, including of the valley, also deciduous shrubs possible flowers in November and early

means of doing this was eventually found through the resting periods has been in the employment of cold storage.

Give the Plants Rest.

If plants of the present season's growth refused to be forced again until they had had a month or two of sleep, why not retard those of the previous year? Such was the reasoning that led to the discovery in the dying hours of the nineteenth century that Illy of the valley crowns, Japanese and other Hy bulbs, siso Blacs, deciduous azaless, hy-drangess and some other deciduous flowering shrubs might be lifted early in Spring before commencing growth and if placed in cold storage rooms similar to those used for the preservation of fresh meat might be retarted until it was hought fit to introduce them to heat and force them into flower at any date the cultivator desired. This discovery alone had the effect of enabling the market grower to place lily of the valley flow-ers on the market on every day in the

Retarding is now practiced in all gardening communities and its commercial value is beyond estimation. It must be pointed out, however, that toward the end of the Autumn the plants that have been in cold storage so long begin to lose their vital power, for the sleep cannot be indefinitely prolonged with impunity and by the time the forcing of the succeeding season's products can be undertaken with success the old retarded specimens have lost their commercial value alto

Three Periods of Sleep.

The next discovery in relation to the forcing of plants was made in Denmark by Professor Johannsen, of Copenhagen. This Danish boranist after making a prolonged study of the resting period of plants came to the conclusion that their period of inactivity or sleep might be divided into three stages, as follows: First, the period immediately following fall of the leaf or a stage in which the plant is going to sleep; seco ilar length of time during which rest is absolute, and thirdly, the period in Spring when, the sleeping stage having passed, the tree continues to remain dormant only because the weather is un-suitable for growth.

It was thought that it might be possible

to hurry the plants through the first two stages of rest into the third, and it was obvious that if this could be done they obvious that if this could be done they would at once be in a suitable condition for introducing to the forcing house. Professor Johannsen, by repeated experiments, found that in plants, as in aniin December.

The lily of the valley being one of the most popular white flowers in this country, it occurred to the market growers that it would be a lucrative business if by any means it were possible to have it

success.

Flower Twice a Year.

A lilac bush may be lifted from the ground at the end of the Summer while the leaves are still upon it and removed to a house where it is treated for a few hours to the influence of the fumes of ether, and by this simple means such an effect is produced in the tissues as would not have taken place for several months to come if left to Nature. It is now easily possible to flower illacs twice in the same year, once naturally in the open ground in June and again in October or November by subjecting the plant to etherization at the end of August and subsequently ferc-ing it in the hot-house. When plants are to be etherized they are brought first into a dry condition at top and root before removal to a structure that can be made

practically air tight.

When the door has been sealed the ether is applied through a small hole in the roof into a vessel in the house and the fumes being heavier than the atmosphere, they hang about near to the floor, where the plants are arranged. The exact length according to the species, and some are subjected to two doses. Professor Craig, of Cornell University, in making some re-cent experiments, found that lilacs and spiraces yielded the best results after therization and that bulbs of lilium Har risii bloomed from one to three weeke in advance of nonetherized bulbs.

Dries Up the Tissues.

The only explanation that science can yet offer of this extraordinary influence of ether is that it has the effect of drying up the moisture in the tissues and it i believed that in the natural rest or sleep which plants undergo there is also a grad-ual drying process at work which, for want of better knowledge, the cultivator describes as the ripening of the tissues.

At this present date in some of the upto-date horticultural nurseries etherized plants of the present season's growth are already subjected to the forcing influence of the hot-house.

Experiments with the electric light were continued by Deherain and subsequently by L. H. Bailey at the Cornell experimen station. The conclusions reached at Cornell were that electric light promoted as similation, hastened growth and ma-turity; that periods of darkness are no necessary to plant growth and that it might sometimes be used with profit in certain branches of forcing-house work.

versity, therefore turned his attention to acetylene gas and conducted many experi-ments in respect to its influence on the growth of various plants. The conclusions btained from these experiments were related by Professor Craig in a recent paper he read before the International Acety-

lene Association He declared that, according to Munster-berg, acetylene more nearly approximates sunlight in its makeup than any other artificial Illuminant used.

Strawberries were brought into bearing 16 days earlier as a result of acetylene added to sunlight. In the case of geranium and lillum blooms these were three weeks ahead. Radishes, the favorite salad plants, increased much in weight to acetylene, and their maturing period was shortened by 20 per cent. Pro-fessor Craig's experiments have left many chasing such flowers as lillits, spiraeas, azalemollis, lilac, narcissus, roses, tulips, on dark days, when the sunlight is de-ficient? If it may be used at night, is

ficient? If it may be used at night, is it best to run a weak light all night or a strong light in order to give a period of rest part of the time?

How many people, when they are purchasing such flowers as lilles, spiraes, azaleamolis, illac, narcissus, roses, tulips, viburnum and hyacinths for their Christ-mas decorations have any idea of the art. mas decorations have any idea of the arti-

The Candidate's Daughter.

Woman's Home Companion. father was a candidate. His daughter was my love; Her face was morning light to me. Her eyes the stars above— Her father was a candidate; This much is worthy note—° She came to me, all smiles to state; "Pa needs the floating vote."

"My dear." I said, "you cannot get This floating voter's vote Without you give something first To make this voter float; Something to lift him up from earth And spread hie joyous wing In a flight of sunny cestacy Where tarks and linnets sing."

The rogue political, she saw Clean through my aneedote, And blushed a bit, and archly sighed: "So you would sell your vote". father was a candidate; He needed floaters bad-The sweetest lips I ever-Hush! I voted for her dad!

Fooled Her.

"Yes, I crawled up stairs on my hands and knees last night.

"Fooled your wife, ch?" "Yes, she was away at the seashore and I had forgotten."-Houston Post