

Horticultural.

FLORAL NOTES.

Add a little wood ashes to the flower pots of favorites, and see how quickly it will neutralize and improve the growth.

Climbers add very much to the beauty of a greenhouse window. English ivy, tropsolum, German or parlor ivy, etc., are useful for this purpose.

Except for professional florists we would advise against the buying or planting of expensive bulbs. Though costing four or five times as much as the common varieties they seldom produce any better flowers.

Insects, if found on the plants in the house, should be destroyed at once by means of tobacco water or soap suds. An old tooth brush may be used on hard wooded plants.

Plants vary greatly with respect to their demands for food, their capabilities of gathering the ingredients from the soil and air, and the effects of different fertilizers upon their growth.

Among our sweet Summer flowers there are very few more desirable than the sweet flowering pea. They give us all colors, from dark purple to white, and several colors on the same flowers.

The drainage of the flower pots should be perfect so that surface water can escape through the hole in the bottom of the pot. If the pots stand in saucers pour off the water that runs into them.

Among the many plants for ornamental foliage beds there are none, perhaps, more useful or popular than the varieties of coleus. Their leaves present an almost endless show of brilliant colors.

Whitewashing Trees

Do not be afraid to white wash fruit trees of all kinds. It looks neat, fresh and nice; and it not only destroys insects and their eggs, but the white coat on the body of the tree reflects the heat and keeps the inner bark and sap vessels from being scalded and blighted by the rays of the sun.

This lime and sulphur wash is good for grapevines and posts and stakes in the vineyard. When properly made and put on, a strong smell of sulphur will be detected several feet from the trees and vines during the whole summer.

The Nurserymen.

California nurserymen are up to their eyes in business. They are undergoing another rush on much the same classes of trees, which were in every buyer's mouth last year.

Many of the leading orchard proprietors in Northern Italy and Southern Germany are cultivators of the common black ant, which insect they hold in high esteem as the fruit-grower's best friend.

The Utah Farmer says: "A gentleman who has had experience asserts that nothing is such an enemy to alkali lands as a crop of alfalfa plowed under. The latter will renovate the

former and render the land fit for cultivation of any kind of cereals.

There is, however, one encouraging feature about the present turn in the demand. It seems to rest upon a far better foundation than many rushes which have been based upon a sort of an epidemic fancy.

Sermons on tree planting do not now seem to be called for in California. We used to preach them and throw into them all the sentiment and eloquence which we could master.

Fuchsias.

Every spot around one's home ought to be beautified. No matter if it is a house built of logs or stone you can home, you cannot make it too beautiful.

A reader has asked me to teach her how to treat fuchsias. I dearly love this flower, and I think that they will find a place in the affections of any one who grows them.

If not well sheltered from the wind, you had better build a lath fence about two feet high around the plants; through the hot, dry weather, they should have a good sprinkling with water about three evenings in each week.

The fuchsias makes a splendid pot plant, and may be pruned to any desired shape. When the little plant attains a height of eight or ten inches, pinch out the centre, and in place of one there will be three or four branches growing out.

The highest production of California wool was in 1876, when over 55,000,000 pounds were produced. In 1878 it was down to 40,000,000. Oregon, according to the best statistics attainable, produced 8,325,000 pounds of wool in 1880.

A Chicago paper tells of a man who was complaining that he had invested a rather large sum of money in Wall street and lost it all. A sympathizing friend asked him whether he had been a bull or a bear.

"I'd laugh if I should fall and break my neck," jestingly remarked James Maloney of Tampa, N. Y., while in the act of descending a tall pear tree.

"Yes" replied the friend, and something stranger still is, that we look at a watch to see what o'clock it is, but never look at a clock to see what o'clock it is.

A Laramie man who used to own a watermelon patch and a bull dog in Iowa, is having constructed for the world's fair, a log cabin bed quilt containing 2,135 pieces.

"Scientific: "Do we inherit ability?" was the subject suggested by the scientist of an Oskosh debating club. "It seems necessary," said one of the members.

A lady at a watering place was trying to attract a great deal of attention at the table, and her manner was none the finest.

During a trial in Arkansas a slug, a rock, a rail, an ax-handle, a knife, and a shotgun were exhibited as the "instruments with which the deed was done."

An inland correspondent writes: "Is canned lobster better than the fresh article?" Oh, far better! Far better. You can hold five times as loud in your sleep and ten times as often, on canned lobster.

Georgia darkies went touch the revised version with a ten foot pole. They think it is a democratic dodge of some sort to enchain them out of salvation.

A doctor being asked what was the best way to cure lam, remarked that before answering that question he should want to know what ailed the ham.

Do not carry on a conversation with another in company about matters which the company know nothing of. It is almost as impolite as to whisper.

"Anxious inquirer" asks how he may "learn to write well?" Write it w-e-l-l, son. There man be those who spell it with one l, but the best authors double the final consonant.

"Here's a fly in my soup, waiter." "Yes sir; very sorry, sir; but can't you throw away the fly and eat the soup?" "Of course I can; you didn't expect me to throw away the soup and eat the fly, did you?"

The Vermont housewife who read that English nobles have lots of hares in their preserves says she tried it to the extent of putting a whole chignon into some blackberry jam, and the jam didn't seem a bit better for it.

Secretary Kirkwood was appointed a thoroughbred Indian a clerk in the Indian office. Don't be startled, brethren, but "things is a workin'" and the first thing you know some President will yet appoint a sailor Secretary of the Navy.

It isn't that the girls don't think it improper and that they don't object to it, that when one feels a man's arm around her waist she doesn't try to get away. It's because the surprise deprives her of strength to move. Oh, yes!

Mr. V. G. Bogue has been appointed chief engineer of the Cascade surveys on the Northern Pacific, vice Col. I. W. Smith, resigned.

It is understood that Gen. Anderson's report is adverse to building the Northern Pacific railroad over the Cascade range north of the Columbia. He possibly sides with Gen. Deane, in the belief that the rail of the pot is no longer lying down than standing up.

The Oregon Railway and Navigation Company's agent at Dayton, Eastern Washington Territory, has been instructed to bill wheat from that point to Astoria at 80 25 per ton.

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Miscellaneous.

The Helpless Boy. There is a great deal of talk about training the girls, and if all the advice that has been given were conscientiously acted upon, there would be but few girls left to train.

Portland Mechanics' Fair

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