

Hyacinths, anemones, ranunculuses, and other bulbs now in flower will have their blooming period greatly prolonged by frequent watering and shading from the overpowering brightness of the mid-day sun.

Successful culture of potted plants during the previous months of spring will now begin to clothe the greenhouse with healthy foliage and a profusion of beautiful bloom, the gaiety of which will richly reward the cultivator's earnest anxious exertions, who will now begin to water more freely at the root, and more sparingly over head; for water sprinkled over blooming plants extracts the delicate colours of the petals, washes off the handsome pollen which not unfrequently adorns the anthers and stigma of the flowers, and hastens more rapidly to decay the too evanescent beauty of handsome flowers, which a drier atmosphere would possess the power of greatly prolonging.

Vines under glass, aided with a moderate amount of fire-heat, will now be bursting into foliage, and will, at this stage of their growth, require constant attention in the displacement of irregular growths, the reduction of all side shoots to one only on each spur, and the stopping of these, one joint before the bunch, by pinching out the top with the finger and thumb. The leading shoot should also be carefully tied in, and then stopped between the sixth and tenth joints of its growth; successful grape culture depends, in a very large degree, upon preventing the growth of useless wood, for the energies of the vine ought to be entirely concentrated upon the production of large high-flavoured fruit.

Continue to maintain a warm moist atmosphere, syringing with water of the same temperature as the house, and closing early every afternoon.

All flower beds or borders occupying a position upon or standing by the margin of grass lawns should now be fully planted with greenhouse and other plants well suited for summer decoration, such as geraniums, verbenas, caleolarias, cinerarias, fuchsias, heliotropes, carnations, and hybrid perpetual roses in pots; all of these, with a fair proportion of blush and dark China roses judiciously blended, will maintain throughout the whole of the Summer and Autumn a great profusion of bloom, combined with a pleasing diversity of colour and every enjoyable perfume.

NOVEMBER.

From brightening fields of ether fair disclosed,
Child of the sun, refulgent summer, comes
In pride of youth; and felt through Nature's depth,
He comes attended by the sultry hours
And ever-fanning breezes.—THOMSON.

Summer—Plant Scarlet Runners and French Beans—Turnips—Swedes for Winter use—Spinach—Peas and Broad Beans—Watering—Sow Cress, Mustard, Radish, Endive, and Lettuce—Transplant Spring-sown Cabbages—Plant out Vegetable Marrows, Melons, &c., sown in Pots—Regulation of Fruit Trees—Raspberries—Strawberries—The Flower Garden—Training Greenhouse Climbers—Temperature of Vinery—Plants in Ornamental Borders.

SUMMER commences with November and although its general character may incline to warm dry weather, yet the ground is not unfrequently cooled, and trees, plants, and seeds greatly refreshed, and rapid growth in each encouraged by occasional copious rains, which stimulate vegetation in a very remarkable degree, and afford suitable opportunities for continuing the sowing and planting of some sorts of vegetable crop; first amongst which scarlet runners will claim attention, two or more successive sowings of each of which ought to be made during the commencement of the month.

Successional sowings of white stone turnips may continue to be made; for, to have these in perfection, it is best to make frequent small sowings, using the roots only when they are young and tender; swede turnips sown now will be fit for use in winter; for although they are usually considered a field crop, they are also a very excellent winter vegetable.

Further supplies of spinach and repeated sowings of peas and broad beans may continue to be made; should the soil happen to be dry at the time of sowing any of these crops, it is an excellent plan, after the drills have been formed, to run a potful of water along the bottom of each, immediately after which the seeds may be sown and covered in. This is a much better and more natural plan than steeping seeds, and the ground will retain the moisture thus imparted better than by surface watering, whilst the germination of the seeds will be considerably accelerated thereby. Crops, however, which have recently been sown, will be greatly benefited by repeated surface-waterings during dry weather. This assertion, I am aware, is sometimes challenged by the inexperienced and unobservant.

Successional sowings of cress, mustard, radish, endive, and lettuce can be continued. Spring-sown early and late cabbages can be transplanted, and additional sowings made; any of the other sorts of winter greens fit for removal may now begin to be transplanted, care being taken to select suitable weather and a fit condition of the soil.

Vegetable marrows, cucumbers, gourds, pumpkins, water-melons, and tomatoes, raised in pots, as previously directed, may now, if omitted last month, be planted out in a sheltered situation; each of which,

except the tomatoes, may be planted in threes, each three standing about a yard apart. The first few days after removal they should be constantly shaded, and frequently watered. Tomatoes may be planted at the bottom of a paling, to be trained against it, or in continuous lines across the garden, twelve inches distant in the line, and to be ultimately supported by branches similar to pea stakes; or bricks may be placed upon the surface, and the plants pegged down upon them, the radiating heat from which rapidly ripens the fruit.

Fruit trees, especially vines, peaches, and nectarines, are liable to produce more young wood than is either favourable to the future production of fine fruit, or conducive to the general vigour and symmetry of the tree. Pinch out, therefore, with the finger and thumb, all seemingly superabundant shoots, leaving only such as are likely to leave the tree symmetrical and well-proportioned.

Established raspberries, especially on a hot, dry soil, are liable at this season to throw up numerous suckers, which should either be frequently cut with a garden hoe or very carefully lifted with a fork; for they are produced at the expense and to the great injury of the parent fruit-bearing plants, at the bottom of each of which from three to five young shoots, left for next year's fruit-bearing canes, are amply sufficient.

Strawberries out of bloom should have frequent liberal waterings, to assist them in swelling their fruit.

Flower gardens should be neatly hoed and raked, and sweet peas, Brompton stocks, dahlias, hollyhocks, and other tall growing plants, will now require to be staked or otherwise supported; whilst all the other dwarf-growing and choicer sorts of flowers will have their brilliancy of colours and duration of bloom greatly prolonged by frequent shading and watering.

The greenhouse will now be profusely gay with all the rich and gaudily-coloured flowers which geraniums, fuchsias, and verbenas in a full blaze of bloom can impart, brought out in contrast and heightened in effect by the gaiety of numerous other flowering plants, exhibiting every shade of colour as well as a large diversity of foliage.

The duration of this display will be best maintained by watering freely at the root only, by airing largely every calm day, and by shading the house slightly from the brightness of the mid-day sun.

Climbing plants, growing up the rafters and columns of the house, will require frequent pruning and training, so that the beauty of their gay blossoms may not be obscured by the density of overcrowded leaves and branches.

Vineries will require a rigid adherence to instructions previously given with reference to temperature moisture, and ventilation, increasing, however, the two first conditions of culture, and reducing the third as the vines enter upon the critical stage of blooming and setting their fruit; a high moist temperature and somewhat close atmosphere will favour the setting of all the varieties of grapes, and will be found to be completely indispensable to the Alexandrian and cannon-ball muscats, as well as several other of the imperfectly setting but higher flavoured varieties.

Stop all lateral shoots at the first joint, and tie up with care every branch which has fruit to support, and permit no more than one bunch of grapes to each branch.

Flower beds standing upon grass lawns, which have been well filled with flowering greenhouse plants, now starting forth into vigorous growth, will not only require at this season frequent watering, but also continued attention to tying and staking; for rapid growing, soft-wooded plants, like dahlias, are liable to be broken with the wind unless supported by strong stakes and tied in at least once every week; care being taken to bind very loosely so as to allow room for the growth of the daily swelling stems, which require ample room for expansion.

DECEMBER.

Be gracious, Heaven! for now laborious man
Has done his part. Ye tender showers descend!
And temper all, thou world-reviving sun,
Into the perfect year!—THOMSON.

Midsummer—Luxuriant Vegetation—Budding Fruit Trees—Garden Employment—French Beans—Radishes, Lettuce, &c.—Sow Swedes—Plant out Cabbages, Cauliflowers, &c.—Turnips—Winter Greens—The Flower Garden—Christmas Fruit and Flowers—Greenhouse Plants out of bloom—Thinning Grapes—Trim Lawn and Shrubbery Hedges.

MIDSUMMER begins with the commencement of the present month, which is especially the season of luscious fruits and beautiful flowers. The trees also rejoice in their leafy pride, the fields luxuriate in the abundance of their verdure, and animated nature is full of life and enjoyment.

Exuberant growth in gardens everywhere prevails, and especially amongst fruit trees, which now require to have both the fruit and young growths properly thinned; the rapid growths of the stocks of fruit trees and roses fit them for commencing the operation of budding, care being always taken to select for the operation a showery or cloudy day.