PRUNING SHRUBS.

The English Idea as Expressed in Gardening Illustrated.

Separate the shrubs with which you intend to deal into those grown principally for flowering, many of which are deciduous, and those grown for their evergreen or ornamental foliage. Probably the majority of shrubs make their flower growth the previous year; consequently to cut back late in autumn or before flowering takes place in spring, simply destroys the whole of the massive flowers. As soon as possible after flowering is over prune all shrubs belonging to this class. Thin the branches where crowded and remove the old wood that has borne the flowers to make room for the growth of new shoots for the succeeding year. Forsythias, Deutzias, Weigelas, shrubby spiraeas, genistas, lilacs, viburnums and many others may be so treated.

Herbert Darwin! may be kept somewhat dwarf and yet flower freely if it is planted young and if the leading growths are shortened. The growth of rhododendrons cannot be cut away without reducing the number of flowers for the next year. On the other hand, if allowed to grow thickly in clumps without cutting, the inner and under growths soon have to succumb to the stronger ones.

Hardy azaleas do not grow so strongly as rhododendrons, consequently they are not so difficult to keep within bounds. Pruning is but little required. The same remarks apply to fieliums, Kalmias and Peris (Andromeda) floribunda.

Most of the evergreen and ornamental foliaged section may with advantage be cut over occasionally in summer, or they may be pruned as each subject requires according to the position which it is meant to occupy. In mixed shrubbery borders such plants should have sufficient room, and those in the front line should be a dwarf growing character, or such as can be kept dwarf without being unsightly. Pruning should all be done with the knife or special shears for the purpose.

A Valuable Cherry.

Cherries of the Bigarreau class are distinguished from the heart cherries by their firmer flesh. The trees are of vigorous growth, with spreading branches and foliage that is soft, luxuriant and drooping.

THE WINDSOR CHERRY.

Notable among the newer cherries of this sort is the Windsor, a seedling originated by Mr. James Dougall, of Windsor, Canada. Its fruit is large and liver colored, and resembles somewhat Tradescant's black heart, ripening three or four days later than that variety. The flesh is remarkably firm and of rich quality. The tree is prolific and hardy. For market and for family use this is generally pronounced a valuable addition to the list of late varieties.

The Verbena Mildew.

The verbena mildew has been very successfully combatted at the Cornell experiment station with a solution of water in water of potassium sulphide, at the rate of a quarter of an ounce to the gallon. The plants were occasionally sprayed with the fungicide, and, while traces of the disease still appear at times, it is rendered practically harmless. This preparation has also been applied to cucumbers infected with the same or a similar fungus with very satisfactory results.

Stalking Lawns.

Thin, weak lawns, which scorch and turn brown with the heat of the sun, may be much benefited by leaving the cut grass on the lawn. The grass cuttings will soon wither and disappear, forming a beneficial mulch to the roots of the grass. This practice may be continued to the end of August. Grass that is constantly being cut soon shows signs of weakness unless helped in some way.

Dwarf Cannas.

While formerly dwarf cannas were employed for the effect of their foliage exclusively, the so called dwarf French cannas are rapidly superseding the older types. Their dwarf habit, handsome flowers and the freedom with which they are produced are making them great favorites not only in the garden, but also for conservatory and greenhouse culture. In color the flowers are rich crimson and bright yellow, with all the variations those colors are capable of. The Florists' Exchange tells that American florists-tarists, however, have not been slow in improving the good work initiated by the French. By judicious crossing they have already produced some of the most beautiful as well as most dwarf varieties in existence. The most remarkable of these is the "Star of 1891." The entire height of the plant does not exceed eighteen inches. The flowers are bright orange crimson, and so nicely arranged on the spike that the general appearance is more like a cluster of rhododendron than that of old style cannas. A bed of these, conspicuously planted in a lawn, must produce a really gorgeous effect.

What Others Say.

The Rural New Yorker commends Michel's early as the best of the notably early strawberries in cultivation.

American Garden calls attention to the Merkel, a new red raspberry wholly distinct from all other varieties and possessing several valuable qualities.

Popular Gardening suggests that Paris green or London purple may be used with the Bordeaux mixture and thus gain a combination useful both for insects and fungus diseases.

Moores La Moine, of Nancy, France, have sent out this season a sweet scented begonia. The flowers are described as rose colored and having a rose scent.

LANGUAGE OF APES.

Professor Garner Has Obtained Several Clues to the Dialect of Monkeydom.

There is a very remarkable paper by Professor Garner on the language of apes which he has been studying with the help of the phonograph, and of which we illustrate the principal points in our issue of the midsummer. He tells us that, with the consent of Dr. Frank Baker, director of the National Zoological gardens at Washington, he constructed a pair of apes, which had been living together, and placed them in different cages.

Then he placed the phonograph near the cage of the female, and received a new set of the sounds which she had uttered in their interviews. It was then observed to the effect of the male and made to repeat the sounds this registered. The surprise and perplexity of the male were evident. He treated the sounds to the force from which they came, and failing to find this with his throat his hand and arm was the force quite up to his shoulders, whether it, and peered into the hole again and again. He would then retreat and again cautiously approach the hole, which he examined with evident interest. The expression of the face was indeed a study.

Using his phonograph and doing all in his power to induce the sound after he had obtained what he believed to be the desired sound, Professor Garner took a flat tin box, placed the phonograph in the cage, raised quite up to the bars and placed the sound, thought he had succeeded in obtaining the desired effect to repeat this word with his own tongue and lips to a receptive monkey. The monkey immediately gave to look at him, and when he had repeated it there or four times very distinctly the monkey repeated the sound and turned to a pan kept in his cage for supplying him with drink, brought the pan to the front of the cage, raise quite up to the bars and poured out the sound himself, though as yet Professor Garner had not shown him any milk or any other drink. Then, and not till then, milk was brought and poured into the pan, the monkey drinking from with great zest, and then repeated the sound again some three or four times.

And Professor Garner found that when he wanted his monkey repeated he always used the same sound. And so, when water was used instead of milk, the same word was repeated to signify the desire for it, the inference was drawn that the word denoted either liquid or the thirst which was satisfied by liquid. The same experiment was tried with a sound which Professor Garner discovered to be always used in connection with solid food, a banana or a carrot, a bit of bread or an apple, and so, the same word seemed to apply to all of them equally. Professor Garner inferred that the word described either solid food in general or the hunger felt.

And in the same way he discovered the sound which described pain or sickness, and another which expressed either a sense of danger or a threat, the effect of the utterance being to alarm the monkey so that he only had to always spring to the highest point in his cage, and after it had been repeated three or four times the result was that the creature became almost frantic with dread, for would the monkey even allow himself to be attracted to the spot he drank or had offer to eat some food used to associate Professor Garner with the sound, expressive of either danger or hunger.

In this fashion Professor Garner obtained the mastery of about eight or nine sounds, which may be changed by different modifications into three or four times that number, so as to express modified forms of the same word; all of them clearly vocal sounds with the linear indication of something like a consonant, and these sounds Professor Garner regards as the constituent elements of an ape language which has a variety of different dialects, according to the species of ape addressed.—London Spectator.

People Who Eat Horses.

Once upon a time, before the Argentine was gridironed with railroads, a little party of us set off in the saddle to cross the Pampas to the jumble plantations of Rio Negro. Coming to the end of a long day's canter we also came upon a group of another half savages, of whom we had heard but with whom I, at least, had never made acquaintance before. A couple of them were carving veritable chunks out of the carcass of a horse, whose hide was pegged out on the grass to dry. These great sets of meat, half roasted, without salt, in the embers of a fire of twigs and turf, constituted the feast to which the Gauchos welcomed us.

It was hearty eating, though the cookery could not compare with that of "The Honest Man" in Paris, and it was one which most our ends knew. They fired for the horse and off the horse as well as on his back. His hide went to the traders to make thongs, and his flesh went into their bellies to make them work cheerily, and no one who has seen them running down their game, with their long lances tipped with bolas balls, will doubt that it was healthy feeding, however deficient in epicurean charms.—Alfred Trumble in New York Sun.

A New Creation.

God never repairs. Christ never patches. The Gospel is not here to mend people. Regeneration is not a scheme of moral tinkering and ethical cobbling. What God does, he does new; new heavens, new earth, new body, new heart. "Behold I make all things new." In the Gospel thus we move into a new world and under a new scheme. The creative days are back again. We step out of a regime of jails and hospitals and reform shops. We get live effects direct from God. That is the Gospel. The Gospel is a permanent miracle. God at first hand—that is miracle. The Gospel thus does not closely with other schemes of amelioration. They are good, but this is not simply better, but different, distinct, and better because distinct; it works in a new way, and works another work. Compare the wrought chains fretted on the domicile, and the divine word working a new creation in the domicile. It is all there. It is like the difference between the impotent Pontius holding the turbulent sea with chains, and the gracious Lord saying to the troubled sea, "Peace, be still!"—Rev. C. H. Parkhurst.

Merry Like Company.

Tommy (to Jenkins)—Does it really make you so wide-awake, mamma? Ma—Yes, my son, very much more than it tires you.

Tommy (drying his eyes)—I'm so glad—Exchange.

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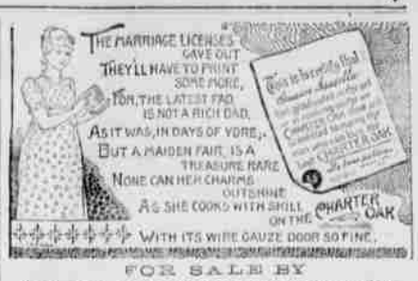

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