

### A Hygienic Vest.

The waistcoat which we illustrate is designed to protect the lungs, especially at the back, where they come nearer to the surface of the body. It is



composed of two layers of woollen cloth and one of silk perforated for ventilation and prepared with a chemical possessing sanitary virtues. As a safeguard against cold and rheumatism the vest has been recommended by Dr. Andrew Wilson, and other medical authorities.

### FLOWERS, BEES, AND POULTRY.

**P**EOPLE in all conditions of life think more of the flowers and country than a few years ago. A healthy awakening to the keen delight of having flowers constantly with us has arisen, and not only is there joy in looking at and working amongst such treasures, but they bring healthy appetites, ruddy cheeks, and a sharp perception of the beauties of Nature.

Each month we shall have something to say about three hobbies—flower gardening, bees, and the poultry yard. Flowers are within the reach of all who possess a strip of garden, but one needs the country to indulge much in hives or poultry runs. Not a few, however, of the readers of CASSELL'S MAGAZINE reside in quiet English villages where Gloire de Dijon roses clamber over the doorposts, and "Honesty" makes purple patches in the borders.

**GARDENING.**—There is little to be done in the garden at this time. The principal thing is to thoroughly dig up the soil, incorporating lime with heavy manure-filled ground. Leave the soil exposed for rains and frosts to sweeten. Never over-water plants, as moisture does not dry up quickly, unless the greenhouse is left to the tender mercies of an evil-smelling, air-consuming stove. Keep window plants away from draughts, and even in winter sponge the leaves weekly to remove dust and dirt.

**BEES IN WINTER.**—If the beekeeper thinks a stock is short of food, place candy cakes on the frames under the coverings. Never supply liquid food, as this gives the bees dysentery. It is

important to maintain a regular temperature in the hive, which should be in a dry position. A zigzag entrance is very useful in preventing, during mild weather or gleams of sunshine, the bees from leaving the hive under the supposition that spring has arrived. If the hive is not fitted with this form of entrance, fix a shading board in front.

**POULTRY IN WINTER.**—The house for poultry must be free from draughts, and now is a good time to thoroughly cleanse the run, scattering lime on the turf. See also that the perches are kept clean, as these are used more in winter than in summer, when the fowls are able to scratch about in meadow and yard. An important winter meal for poultry is the hot early breakfast, to consist of boiled potato parings, scraps from the table, and a pinch of poultry spice occasionally. Give a feed of mixed corn in the afternoon, and a little later on also, if that previously given has been picked up. Never waste.

### GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR THE PRIZE COMPETITIONS. (See page 76.)

1. Every reader of the MAGAZINE (not being an ordinary contributor to its pages, or the winner of the first prize in a former competition of a similar nature, in connection with this MAGAZINE) is eligible to enter the competition. No competitor is allowed to send in more than one entry for the same competition.

2. The Editor cannot undertake to answer any inquiries. *The particulars given under each head are sufficient for the purposes of the competition, and everything else is left to the judgment and discretion of the competitors.*

3. All communications regarding MSS. and work entered for the above competitions must be sent in the same packets with the work. No previous or subsequent communications (except under Rule 7) can receive any consideration. The award of the judges will be published in the MAGAZINE as soon after the close of the competition as possible, and no information respecting the award will be given before this publication.

4. Every MS., photograph, or other entry must have inscribed on it, or otherwise securely attached to it, the name and postal address of the author, together with a declaration *that the work is original and entirely the sender's own, and that the competitor is an amateur*, to be signed by the author and countersigned by some other trustworthy person—*i.e.*, a magistrate, minister of religion, or householder—with the postal address in both cases.

5. The copyright of the prize work, or works, will become the property of the proprietors of this MAGAZINE.

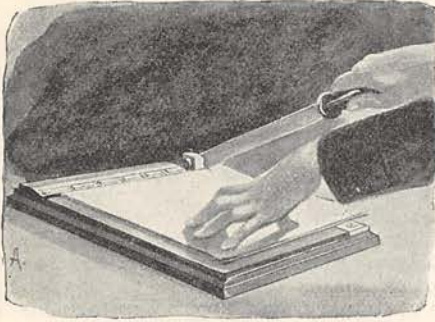
6. Should two MSS. or other entries be, in the opinion of the judges, of equal merit, any prizes may be divided between their authors at the discretion of the Editor. Any, or all, of the prizes may be withheld in the event of no entries in the competition being thought by the judges to be worthy of distinction.

7. All packets containing MSS. or other entries should be prepaid. The Editor will not be liable for loss or miscarriage of any work. Unsuccessful competitors (except in postcard competitions, or where special means of disposing of the entries are announced) may have their work returned to them at their own risk, upon application to the Editor, *after the publication of the award*. Any such application must be made within *one month* of the publication of the award and be accompanied by stamps to defray the cost of carriage. (Competitors should *not* send stamps, or instructions for return, *with their MSS.*, as no notice can be taken of any communications of this nature made before the award is published.)

8. All entries should be addressed—The Editor of CASSELL'S MAGAZINE, La Belle Sauvage, London, E.C. Each packet should bear on the top left-hand corner of the envelope or wrapper in which it is enclosed the name of the Competition for which it is sent.

### A New Paper-Cutter.

The little device which we illustrate is intended for cutting the edges of paper, and especially prints. It consists of a board which is marked with a scale



A NEW PAPER-CUTTER.

of inches and provided with a steel edge against which the knife descends. The paper to be trimmed is laid on the board, and the portion to be removed is allowed to project over the steel edge. When the knife is brought down the paper is cut away.

### Some Seasonable Volumes.

Those children must be past pleasing who are not pleased with the new volume of *Little Folks*, which has been issued in time to serve as a most appropriate Christmas or New Year's gift. It is full of good and varied reading, brightly illustrated, and prettily set forth. With the January number the magazine is to open a new series, in which its space will be considerably extended, and its attractions made even greater than they are already. For very young readers Messrs. Cassell issue "Bo-Peep," a simply written and abundantly illustrated volume, which should find a welcome in every play-room.—The January number of *The Quiver* is, like the November part, with which the volume opened, specially enlarged by the addition of a pictorial supplement. The annual volume for 1895 is now ready, and will commend itself to all who are in search of a miscellany of good and wholesome reading for old and young.—Messrs. Longmans send us a volume of charming fairy tales for children, by Miss Elizabeth Wordsworth, under the title of "The Snow Garden, and other Fairy Tales."

### South Africa.

Few subjects have been more to the fore during recent years than that of South Africa, its people, its products, and the relations of the Imperial Government to the Colonial and other Administrations. Mr. Basil Worsfold, whose book upon "South Africa" has just been published by Messrs. Methuen and Co., brings to bear upon his subject personal acquaintance with life in more than one of the districts of which he treats, and an intimate knowledge of the history and constitution of each. His book, unambitious as it is, has therefore a distinct value at the present time, when so many people are interested directly or indirectly in the rapidly developing resources of these new lands. Several of the chapters—notably that upon the literature of South Africa—show an altogether fresh point of view.

### Our Prize Competitions.

Particulars of the first series of new Competitions for 1896 were given on page 76 of our December issue, in which Prizes were offered for the best and second-best Serial Stories of 40,000 words—for the best summaries of "A Missing Witness," when this story is completed—for the best Snap-Shot Photographs of out-door scenes—for the best-worked hemmed linen handkerchiefs—and for the best got-up gentleman's collar. The Rules and Regulations were set out fully in our last number, together with the respective dates when the work is to be sent in. For the convenience of our readers, however, we append here a short note of the dates:—

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HEMMED HANDKERCHIEFS (£1 1s. and 10s. 6d.—due February 17th, 1896).

GOT-UP COLLAR (£1 1s. and 10s. 6d.—due January 16th, 1896).



### AMONGST FLOWERS AND POULTRY.

EVERYTHING is quiet in the garden, and what little work there is to accomplish may be frustrated by severe frosts. Towards the end of the month finer weather sometimes comes, and then is the time to fill up gaps amongst the cabbages, and in favourable weather make a sowing of early peas. If bulbs still remain unplanted, give them immediate attention, and it would be better to pot them now than trust to the mercies of an English winter. If the growth of October-planted bulbs is sparing through the ground, place over them a covering of spruce, branches, or litter.

Window plants must be sponged more frequently in winter than in summer. There is more dust from the sweeping of the rooms, and it is unsafe to open windows to expose them to cold currents of air. No plant excels *Aspidistra lurida*, the "Parlour Palm," for the winter; its leaves are leathery, presenting an even, shining surface from which dust is easily wiped off with a sponge dipped in lukewarm water. Though called a "palm," the *Aspidistra* is not so, and far removed from that great family of foliage plants. We have written before of this window adornment. It is rather expensive, but a few shillings are well spent upon it, as it increases in beauty with age, and is not harmed by a few draughts of cold air even in the winter. Much disappointment too frequently occurs with purchased flowering plants, especially in the spring. They are made to sell, forced up in heat, and the altered conditions of life upset them entirely.

Poultry must be very carefully tended during this month, especially in very severe weather such as often occurs at this season. One cannot expect pullets and hens to lay satisfactorily if at all neglected, and to secure a good return in eggs in winter the yard should be stocked with March-hatched pullets.

nears its mouth are a bar to navigation at present, but the surrounding district is quite fit for agriculture.

“Phrase and Fable.”

Dr. Brewer's "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable" is an old friend to many of our readers, but it has just been reissued by Messrs. Cassell in a new form which ought to compel all who knew it before to substitute the new edition for the old one, and all who do not possess this invaluable book of reference to procure it. The new volume contains no fewer than 1,440 pages of well printed, carefully arranged references to all such points as the ordinary dictionaries pass by, though the average reader is frequently puzzled by them. The "Bibliographical Appendix" is a very useful feature of this acceptable library companion.

AMONGST FLOWERS, BEES,  
AND POULTRY.

FEBRUARY is a hopeful month—we look forward to the advent of Spring, its flowers and its softer winds. The Snowdrops are peeping above the brown earth, and in quite wintry weather something will show that the departure of cold and discomfort is approaching. How pretty the winter Aconite looks with its bright yellow flowers in their quaint collar of green leaves; and how few plant it, though as rich in colour as almost any bulb, and amongst the first to expand to the weak sunshine.

If vacant ground has not been dug up, and the weather is not severe, let this important work be accomplished at once. Marl and burnt clay will greatly improve light soils, and mix with heavy ground such materials as cinder ashes, brick-rubbish, and lime; particularly the last-mentioned, which is also valuable for incorporating with rich garden-soils. Plant hardy perennial and Alpine plants. Phloxes, perennial Sunflowers, Lupines, Day Lilies (*Hemerocallis*), and *Erigerons* are the most satisfactory, as they never fail to blossom well. This is, of course, a small selection, but it would require a chapter to deal carefully with the subject. Plant climbers, Roses, and make new walks.

Sowings of Peas should be made now. First and Best, American Wonder, and Ringleader are three good kinds, or one can have such old favourites as Alpha. Sow Mustard and Cress in boxes, and a small sowing may be made of the Queen Onion, early Heartwell Cabbage, early Turnips, round-leaved Spinach.

This is a good month, for those who do not wish to grow exceptionally large exhibition blooms, to put in *Chrysanthemum* cuttings. Select stubby shoots with a "heel" attached—that is, with a few little roots if possible. Dibble them in fairly close together round the sides of 48 or 5-inch pots, filled with loamy soil, similar to what one would use for Geraniums, and place in a greenhouse, or frame, where gentle heat can be given. They will soon root and be ready for potting off. Always remember that the *Chrysanthemum* will not tolerate much artificial warmth, and that only at the start. It is a plant naturally hardy, and more injured by fire-heat than any other florist's flower.

With the increasing warmth of the sun's rays plants will need more water, but, of course, only when fairly dry. A very good test as to whether a plant requires water or no is to rap the pot with the knuckles. If a clear ringing sound is given out, water is needful; if dull and heavy, then the soil is sufficiently moist.

As the weather is often as severe now as at any time during the winter, my only advice in respect to Bees and Poultry is to follow the information given last month. March will bring, however, more labour amongst these, and our future notes will be fuller in these departments.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

PARTICULARS of the first series of new Competitions for 1896 were given on page 76 of our December issue, in which Prizes were offered for the best- and second-best Serial Stories of 40,000 words—for the best summaries of "A Missing Witness," when this story is completed—for the best Snap-Shot Photographs of out-door scenes—and for the best-worked hemmed linen handkerchiefs. The Rules and Regulations were set out fully in the December number, together with the respective dates when the work is to be sent in. For the convenience of our readers, however, we append here a short note of the dates:—

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"OPINION" COMPETITION—No. 1.

The large number of entries for the "Opinion" Competitions, announced by the proprietors of CASSELL'S MAGAZINE in a leaflet inserted in the December issue, makes it impossible to announce this month the awards in all three Competitions. In Competition No. 1, for the selection of the eight most generally popular items in the December number

The First Prize of Twenty Pounds is divided between—

WALTER CLAYTON, Wolverhampton, and  
J. BOSS, Lupus Street, S.W.,  
whose selections were adjudged equal in merit.

The Second Prize of Five Pounds is awarded to  
(Mrs.) M. A. GUTHRIE, Nottingham.

The Third Prize of Three Pounds to  
W. H. THOMAS, Dartmouth Park Road, N.W.

The Fourth Prize of Two Pounds to  
A. RYRIE, Glasgow.

The Fifth Prize of One Pound to  
S. H. BRIANT, Uxbridge.

The Awards in "Opinion" Competitions Nos. 2 and 3 will be announced in our next number, if possible.

## AMONGST FLOWERS, BEES, AND POULTRY.

March.



THIS is a seed-sowing month, when one must think of Marigolds, Sweet Peas, and such homely flowers. Also plant hardy perennials, or divide the roots to increase the stock, as they will now shoot forth under the quickening influence of brighter skies.

Roses may be pruned, leaving the dwarf, hybrid, perpetual, and tea-scented varieties until early April. Some Roses will not stand severe cutting back with the knife, and the fragrant Gloire de Dijon resents such treatment by behaving in a way to cause alarm. The shoots, where cut, sometimes die back their whole length, the tree itself occasionally expiring. Merely remove at a stroke superfluous growth, not snipping back every growth as the custom is with jobbing gardeners.

Roses may still be planted, but this is not, as my readers have been informed before, the best season—November is the proper rose-planting month. Trees and shrubs may also be planted now, but they will need greater attention during the summer in the way of watering than those planted in the autumn.

Cut back ivy close to the house, and a delicious surface of green leaves will come, but never recklessly tear ivy from gable ends, or spots that get their beauty, so to say, from this evergreen mantle,

unless damage to the building is anticipated. It is not often, however, that ivy is hurtful in this way.

In the poultry yard hens are sitting in force. Goslings may be soon expected, ducklings also; and to get good laying hens in winter, chickens must appear before Lady Day. If the owner has been remiss about breeding, buy several sittings of eggs at once from a sound source. For each hen, from eleven to thirteen eggs will suffice, but eleven is the safer number. As the month lengthens, cease supplying warm food to the fowls, and at once examine coops, feeding-vessels, etc., to see that they are in condition for the chicks.

Bee-keeping may be commenced now, as no month is better than March to make a beginning. Purchase stocks in straw hives that have wintered well. Take great care in removing hives that the combs are not displaced, and in preparing straw skeps that are to go a distance, put them into cheese-boxes with hay in the bottom to prevent damage. Plenty of air is provided, an important matter in bee management. To keep the combs steady push crumpled newspapers between them. A novice in bee-keeping should try and see for himself how to manage a hive, as a few practical illustrations are better than many articles. I am surprised that so few good apiarists exist. Honey is always in demand, and should be an important detail in the work of the farm or cottage garden.



## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

## AWARDS.

## LAUNDRY COMPETITION.

IN this Competition our readers will remember that Prizes were offered for the two best got-up gentleman's collars. A large number of entries were received, and

The First Prize of ONE GUINEA is awarded to  
KATE AITKEN, Dumferline.

The Second Prize of HALF-A-GUINEA to  
LUCRETIA WALKER, Handley, and

An Extra Prize of SEVEN-AND-SIXPENCE to  
ADA FURNESS, Sheffield.

The following are COMMENDED:—  
JANE ANDERSON, Dundee;  
SARAH THOMAS, Narbert;  
LOUISA WEST, Allerton.

Competitors are reminded that their collars will be returned if they make application, and send postage, within one month of the publication of this number. Otherwise we cannot undertake to return them.

## "OPINION" COMPETITIONS.

THE award in the first Competition was announced in our last issue, and we are now able to give the list of prize-winners in the remaining two:—

## COMPETITION No. 2.

The First Prize of £5 is awarded to  
CAROLINE COOPER, Oldberrow.

The Second Prize of £3 to  
M. A. MATTHEY, Folkestone.

The Third Prize of £2 to  
C. E. MORGAN, Llandderfel.

The Fourth Prize of £1 to  
SOPHIA S. COLWIN, Creetown, N.B.

## COMPETITION No. 3.

The First Prize of £5 is awarded to  
WILLIAM D. HARRIS, Cheddar.

The Second Prize of £3 to  
ROBERT W. JONES, Oswestry.

The Third Prize of £2 to  
EDITH J. QUENTIN, Watton.

The Fourth Prize of £1 to  
CHRISTINE HANDLEY, Garston.

## NEW COMPETITIONS.

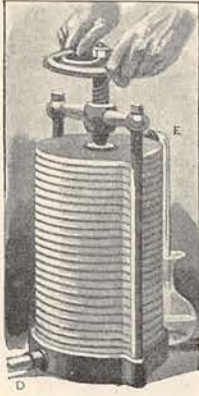
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aëronauts leave for Spitzbergen, from the north of which they will start on their hazardous journey.



A NEW PAPER FILTER.

#### A New Paper Filter.

A filter of paper which is proving useful to chemists, perfumers, and others, is shown in our engraving. It consists of a pile of round sheets of filter-paper alternating with circular grids of tin, the whole being compressed by means of the screw seen above. The foul liquid is forced under pressure into the orifice, D, and flows out continuously in a purified state from the orifice, E. It has the advantage of being easily dismantled and cleansed.

#### "Loveday."

Miss Wickham's story with this title ran through our own pages so recently, that it is alike impossible and unnecessary for us to say anything about the story as such. Messrs. Cassell have now issued it in a single volume, with Mr. Gülich's illustrations; and those of our readers who enjoyed the story as a serial in CASSELL'S MAGAZINE, have now an opportunity of securing another copy of it in a separate and more portable form.

#### Scottish History for Young Readers.

No writer better fitted for the task of re-telling the story of Scotland for children's reading could be found than Mrs. Oliphant, and the dainty little volume of her "Child's History of Scotland," which Mr. Fisher Unwin sends us, will deservedly have many admiring readers who can no longer in fairness be called children.

#### "The Story of British Music."

Mr. Crowest deals in his latest book, "The Story of British Music" (Bentley), with the most romantic period of English musical history, a subject which is growing more and more popular every day. This volume—which, we understand, is to be succeeded by others, each complete in itself—includes the period of the wandering bards or troubadours, and carries the story onward to the commencement of the Tudor dynasty. While pleasantly written, the story is evidently gathered with care, and may be commended to all lovers of music and musical lore.

#### Some Useful Handbooks.

A handbook which is at once practical and concise, dealing with the subject of "Fretwork and Marquetry," is published by Mr. L. Upcott Gill. Its author is Mr. D. Denning, and his good advice is ably seconded by simple and intelligible diagrams, which make the book a thorough *vademecum* for amateurs. From the same publisher comes another excellent handbook on "Modern Magic Lanterns and their Management," by Mr.

R. Child Bayley, who handles his subject so carefully and exhaustively that any student of the work with ordinary intelligence, should have little or no difficulty in mastering the manipulation of the apparatus described. Mr. Upcott Gill also sends us a new edition of Mr. Edward A. Downman's "English Pottery and Porcelain," which, in its enlarged and revised form, offers a wonderfully concise handbook for collectors and students of ceramics.

## AMONGST FLOWERS, BEES, AND POULTRY.

APRIL.

THE weather varies greatly in this month of keen winds and bright sun. The greenhouse should be gay with flowers, azaleas and cinerarias in particular, and will require the giving of air cautiously. A bitter east wind is not helpful to plants in full blossom. As the sun gains power, increased attention will be needful in watering, the soil in the pots, especially if full of roots, quickly getting dry. Shade the glass if the sun is very brilliant, to keep the flowers fresh; they soon flag and lose colour in a bright light. Ferns do not need so much shade as is commonly supposed, unless *Todeas* (filmy ferns), but too much sun is hurtful. In the old-fashioned houses one sees dark green glass, under the impression that ferns require perpetually a dim light, but under such a covering as this success is impossible. Early April is a good season to re-pot ferns. A soil of loam, peat, and sharp silver sand is most suitable, and when re-potting is done at the time growth is starting one may divide the plants, if they are becoming too big or an increase of stock is desired. Sow seed of hardy annuals, and almost everything may be sown now, as sweet peas, candytufts, and a host of other plants that might be named if space permitted. Protect wall-fruit trees from keen winds. Plant potatoes, sow Horn carrots, cabbage, and cauliflower for use in the autumn months, and at quite the end of the month sow French and runner beans. Peas may also be sown now, and in the majority of gardens these are in great request.

*Bees.*—This is a busy time in the apiary; at least the most active season of the year is at hand. It is essential to have in the bar-frame hive the now popular comb-foundation, which promotes much greater yields of honey. Comb-foundation is made of thin sheets of wax embossed by the foundation machine to the natural shape of the base of the honey cells and supplies all the wax needed to form the comb. Where whole sheets are used, they are fixed firmly in the saw-cut of the top bars, and allowed to hang to within three-quarters of an inch of the bottom bar and a quarter of an inch from the side bars.

*Poultry.*—Unless the March sittings have turned out satisfactorily, sitting must be carried on during this month to provide pullets for that important work—winter-laying. Chicks will be making great progress now, and should, as they appear, be removed to the rearing ground, as the grass is preferable to buildings unless the land be very damp and cold.

have been in precisely the same circumstances once before. Apparently, such a delusion might be produced by one half of the brain acting a little later than the other.

#### Mr. Max Pemberton.

Ever since Mr. Max Pemberton's famous story of marvels, "The Impregnable City," opened a new path in the literature of adventure, numbers of writers, old and new, have flung themselves into

together with the history of Parson Ford, his tutor, and of Lady Marjory, the daughter of John, Earl of Quinton, so far as her story is, in a manner, his own. All of which is duly recorded, and to be read, in the great Library at Warboys, as it has been by this present writer, who now for the first time publishes his account thereof."

The first instalment of this strange web of love and adventure will appear in our next issue. The illustrations have been entrusted to Mr. Sidney Paget, now famous as the illustrator of "Sherlock Holmes."



## AMONGST FLOWERS AND POULTRY.

MAY.

**M**AY is a month of flowers and sunshine. Each day reveals a richer floral store, and it is a month, too, of hard work in the garden.

Amongst flowers, one of the chief things will be "bedding out," as planting tender plants is called in gardeners' language. Anything almost may be put out now—geraniums, cannas, dahlias, sub-tropicals, tuberous begonias, zinnias, and balsams, besides others. But before they are exposed to the tender mercies of an English climate, harden them off in frames to prepare them thoroughly for a life in the open air. Far better to wait until early June before planting if the various subjects are not in condition. When put out before being well hardened they receive an unfortunate and sometimes fatal check.

Dahlias require a very rich soil and plenty of water during the summer. I think these flowers of the sun, sumptuous in colouring and stately in aspect, are a mistake in small gardens. They occupy too much space and encourage earwigs. All seedlings should be well thinned out and many are now in their infancy. Unless each seedling receives sufficient to develop its characteristic habit it will never reveal its true beauty. I write of every annual and every vegetable.

Amongst vegetables, sow seed of those kinds that should have received attention last month. Thin out asparagus seedlings and cut all shoots in the beds when of suitable size. Sow kidney beans, one of the most useful of vegetables, beet, and plant out cabbages from the seed beds. Prepare celery trenches, and get out late in the month vegetable marrows and cucumbers on ridges. Towards the end of the month well harden off the tomatoes for the open, as early in June they may be planted against the sunniest wall in the garden. Insect pests on fruit trees and in the greenhouse are troublesome in May and must be watched for.

Always think of the future in the management of the poultry yard. I tendered this advice in March last to my readers, and there is another season of the year when it must be repeated, in May and June, as at this time the early-hatched chickens are ready to sell. Never sell all the pullets, but as few of them as possible. A common practice is to first get these into the market, as they are ready before the cockerels; but if pullets are sacrificed now, where are the fresh eggs to come from in autumn and winter?



MR. MAX PEMBERTON.

(Photo.: W. Bradshaw, Newgate Street, E.C.)

the same track, the great majority of them with but indifferent success. Mr. Pemberton, however, seems content to leave his imitators to their own devices, as in his recent volume of stories, bearing the title "A Gentleman's Gentleman," may be seen. A still more important story, however, by the same author is yet to see the light, and we are happy to be able to announce that arrangements have been made for the first appearance of the new work in serial form in this MAGAZINE. It will bear the title of

#### A PURITAN'S WIFE,

which purports, in Mr. Pemberton's own words, to be "The story of Hugh Peters, the son of Jonathan Peters, of Warboys, in the County of Huntingdon, and the nephew of that Hugh Peters who was chaplain to the Lord-General Cromwell. On which account, and by reason of the part he was said to have played at the Court of the French king, after the coming of Charles Stuart to his own again, many evils befell him, as are hereinafter set out,

## AMONGST FLOWERS, BEES, AND POULTRY.



**F**ERNS should be in full beauty this month; they have a refreshing aspect, whether in the greenhouse or in some shady glade in the open. Plenty of water must be given to pot plants, but be reasonable in its application. Only supply water when it is necessary, not to plants already soaked. A light

shade must be given, but only to screen the ferns from the scorching sun. Ferns dislike darkness, and to get robust fronds that last well when cut, give the plants a cool light position to induce sturdy growth. This is the month to strike pinks from cuttings, also called pipings and layers. The more popular method is to take cuttings, which should be cut just under a joint, and dibbled in, under a hand-glass. Make up a firm bed of light sandy soil, which must be fairly moist, not too wet; otherwise, the cuttings will damp off wholesale. There are many beautiful pinks. Mrs. Sinkins, Her Majesty, and Mrs. Lakin, are of purest white, the last of the trio smoother and more even than the two former; all three are sweetly scented. Pinks make delightful edgings. Even when flowerless they possess charm, the leaves being of a pretty silvery colour, which is retained throughout the year.

The German Irises are splendid June flowers. I

wish every lover of hardy plants would grow a selection of these, not the washed-out varieties that are seen in gardens. We have plenty of fine selfs and shaded flowers, far richer and more striking than dingy mauves or dowdy yellows. The plants are vigorous, as one well knows. The great blue flag of gardens is *Iris germanica*, and a noble flower it is when well massed. No varieties surpass the following in beauty: *Atro-purpurea*, intense purple; *Bridesmaid*, a tenderly coloured flower, lavender and white; *Celeste*, self lavender, a beautiful variety; *Mme. Chereau*, white, edged and feathered with lavender, a popular market kind; *Queen of May*, an exquisite kind; the standards are rose-lilac, also the falls, the latter richly veined with yellow; *Rigoletto*, golden yellow and crimson; and *Victorine*, white with purple blotches on falls and standards.

**SHADING HIVES.**—If the weather be very hot, remove quilts over section boxes. Ventilate a little, but on no account raise the roofs too much. The familiar straw hackle is a good shade, also a green tree bough. Secure swarms.

**MATERIALS FOR EGG SHELLS.**—Nothing is better for shell-making than the prepared oyster shells to be obtained from poultry fanciers and dealers. A prepared compound like this, however, is not essential, as old rubbish is almost as valuable. In the use of either of these, circumstances alter cases. If the fowls can get plenty of runs amongst old buildings, prepared compounds are unnecessary.

## PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

### Pocket-handkerchief Competition.

**G**ENTLEMEN'S linen pocket-handkerchiefs, more or less well hemmed, have, in response to the prizes offered in our December number, come in from all parts of the kingdom; from north, south, east, and west of England, and from Scotland, Ireland, and "gallant little Wales." Hemstitching is not hemming, and a great many are hemstitched. Backstitching and fancy lace stitching are not hemming either, and fine Scotch cambric is cotton, not linen.

The best specimens of hemming are by

Miss Lydia Collis, Lorne Villa, Strood, Rochester,

Miss May Mitchell, The White Farm, Ilkley, near Leeds,

whose work is of equal excellence and so very good that we give an

EXTRA PRIZE OF ONE GUINEA and award them one guinea each.

The SECOND PRIZE OF HALF A GUINEA is taken by

Miss Beatrice Scrivin, North Cerney, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

HONOURABLE MENTION is deserved in order of merit by E. Wheeler, Union Street, Torquay; Miss Florence T. Lawford, Birchwood Park Road,

Swanley Junction; Florrie C. Shepherd, Exeter Road, Launceston, Cornwall; Edith A. Allan, Mill House, Ecclesfield, Sheffield; Miss Annie Ion, Daubeny Street, New Clee, Grimsby; A. M. Hutchings, 9, Athenæum Place, Plymouth; Miss Emma M. Moore, 4, Eglantine Terrace, Malone Road, Belfast; A. J. Winslade, Braden, Isle Brewers, Taunton; Lydia S. Martin, 30, St. Margaret's Road, Oxford; Florence Faill, 1, Hawarden, Partickhill, Glasgow; Edith Mary Worlidge, Orchard Bank, Altrincham, Cheshire; and Madge Latham, 1, Kensington Terrace, Hyde Park Road, Leeds.

Those competitors who require their work to be returned to them must make application within one month of the publication of this Award (Rule 7), enclosing stamped addressed wrapper or envelope.

As this number will be issued several days prior to the 1st of June, we would remind our readers that all MSS. in the Serial Story Competition must be received by that date. The "Summary" Competition is not due until 30th July; but the Photographic Competition closed on the 15th of May, and we hope to publish the Award in an early number.

his experiments to the Academy of Sciences, Paris. He has discovered that intense cold prevents the emission of the phosphorescent rays. A tube containing phosphorescent sulphide of zinc, after exposure to the light of a magnesium wire, was plunged in a freezing mixture of chloride of methyl, —or of carbonic acid snow and ether—which reduced its temperature to 23 degrees and 79 degrees below zero Centigrade respectively, and the phosphorescent tube became dark. On withdrawing the tube from the mixture, it regained its ordinary temperature and at the same time its phosphorescent lustre. The experiments also showed that the emission of light was only temporarily checked by the cold, and that the full supply of light in the body was ultimately obtained from it. So far, at least, the process would be too costly for practical purposes, except, perhaps, in the polar regions where intense cold is to be had without any trouble and light is a luxury during the winter.

#### Chone.

This is the Kanaka name for a new rubber-yielding tree (*cerbera manghas*) which flourishes in New Caledonia. It grows to a height of about 40 feet, and puts forth beautiful white blossoms. The milky juice of the tree, when evaporated, yields a black gum which is impervious to water, like gutta-percha, but dissolves in turpentine, petroleum, and other hydrocarbon essences. Leather impregnated with the gum, or cloth varnished with it, becomes quite waterproof.

## AMONGST FLOWERS, BEES, AND POULTRY.

JULY.

THE great flower of the present month is the Carnation, a richly scented and coloured perennial, without which no border or bed is complete. A mass of Carnations is a picture we are never tired of; and if the plants at times behave in erratic fashion, the reward is abundant when full blossoming arrives. Early in the month put a neat stick to each flower-stem, if the flowers are wanted for exhibition—not otherwise, unless stormy weather is anticipated. Never grow calyx-bursting Carnations, if possible; even if the colouring is beautiful, the flowers have a bedraggled aspect. A neat tie with raffia is helpful when the bloom seems likely to burst, and one can also obtain cheaply small indiarubber bands made for the purpose of keeping the unruly florets within proper bounds.

Towards the end of the month commence to layer the plants. This is not work that should be left until August. The operation is simple. Scoop away with the hand the soil around the plant, so as to make a shallow basin. Into this put prepared compost—loam with a little leaf-mould and sharp silver sand—and then select the strongest shoots. Make an upward cut through a joint, to form a tongue, so to say, and peg this into the soil. A strong hairpin will suffice if there is any difficulty in procuring small pegs. Place over the

joint some of the prepared soil, and water gently. In the latter part of August the layer will have rooted, and can then be transferred into the position in which it is to bloom. When layering is postponed until the following month, the layers are not rooted in time to get them established in their flowering quarters before sharp frosts occur. Put a strong stake to every tall plant—Dahlias, for example—likely to suffer in a high wind, and carefully watch plants both in the open and under glass to prevent collapse from dryness at the root. Summer-prune fruit-trees, and keep a close watch for birds, which have many hearty meals—from bush-trees especially. Netting is one way of preserving the crop.

POULTRY in confined runs must have ample green food and the ground kept clean. Never give more food than the birds can consume.

BEES.—By the time this MAGAZINE is in our readers' hands, swarming will be in progress. If the bees upon leaving the parent hive cluster near the ground or on a low tree, syringe *very gently* with cold water, to make them cluster more closely. Then spread a cloth directly under the cluster, and at one end of it place the floor-board of the hive to receive the swarm, raising the front, by means of a stone or block of wood, about one inch and a half. If the branch on which the Bees have clustered is small, cut it off and shake the Bees on to the cloth by a sharp movement. The Bees, falling in a heap, will quickly regain their feet and run into the hive.

## SNAP-SHOT PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION.

THIS Competition has not been so productive of good work as former Competitions of this character; and the Adjudicator is of opinion that not one of the prints sent in is worthy of a First or the Second Prize, offered under our number. The first Prize has, therefore, been withdrawn, under the provisions of clause 6 of the General Regulations governing the Competition, and the Second Prize of £3 has been divided between the following two competitors in proportions named:—

TWO POUNDS (£2) to

WALLACE HEATH,  
Elmfield, Shrewsbury.

ONE POUND (£1) to

C. F. INSTON,  
25, South John Street,  
Liverpool.

Unsuccessful competitors are reminded that their work will be returned on receipt of application (accompanied by postage) within one month of the publication of this Award.

The MSS. in the Serial Story Competition (which closed on June 1st) are now under consideration, and we hope to publish the Awards in our next issue. Meanwhile, we would remind our readers that the "Summary" Competition (which full particulars were given in the December number) closes on July 30th.



that we have seen. Even the qualified teacher of music will find in its pages many profitable hints and much valuable information.

#### "Royal Academy Pictures," 1896.

By the time this number of the MAGAZINE reaches the bulk of its readers the galleries at Burlington House will be closed for the season. But the best pictures of the exhibition are still to be seen in the handsome volume of "Royal Academy Pictures" published by Messrs. Cassell. In its pages you may see the pictures at your leisure, without any crowding, and with no fear of "Academy headache."

#### Some More New Books.

We are all becoming specialists, even in our pastimes, nowadays. The old-fashioned garden where one grew "a little bit of everything" is quite out of date, and each gardener devotes his attention to some one plant or flower. So many of our readers will be glad to welcome a handy little manual on "Carnation Culture for Amateurs," written in a practical style, by Mr. B. C. Ravenscroft, and published by Mr. Upcott Gill.—Our old contributor, Mr. F. M. Holmes, has written an interesting and informing work on "Miners and their Work Underground" (Partridge), which deals with the life of the workers in mines, both at home and abroad, for the homely coal and the precious diamond.—Messrs. Cassell have just issued a new edition of Mr. Barry Pain's amusing volume of sketches and readings to which he gave the appropriate title of "Playthings and Parodies."

### AMONGST FLOWERS, POULTRY, AND BEES.

AUGUST.

IF Carnations have not yet been layered, do so at once. It is of great importance to get the rooted layers into their permanent quarters before the autumn is far advanced. This is a good time to commence making a lawn. Well break up the land, and if necessary manure it, then secure a firm surface by well rolling the ground. This done sow the seed, which should only be purchased from a thoroughly good house. Many lawns are unsatisfactory, not from indifferent preparation of the ground, but from bad seed. A word of advice may be given, too, about picking off weeds from the ground before making the surface firm. A little attention at that time will save much after labour. Bud Roses if not already done, and if we have a severe winter, these late buds will probably suffer less than the earlier ones. As soon as possible in the month increase the stock of tufted Pansies (Violas). In the majority of cases plenty of short stubby shoots will be found in the centre of the plant. These may be either dibbled in a frame of light, leafy soil, placed in a cool shady spot, or if the garden be without such a luxury, a little patch of ground may be prepared, but shade is essential. Beware, too, of slugs, which are fond of pansy shoots.

Early Apples, Plums, and Pears must be gathered as they ripen, and handled with care. Watch for Jargonelle Pears, which go quickly past their best. This delicious fruit should be, so to say, eaten off the tree.

Sow seeds of Cauliflowers, Tripoli Onions, Spinach, Lettuce, and Mustard and Cress. Thin out freely autumn-sown crops. Thick sowing means weakly growth. Earth-up Celery, and remove all surplus growths from Tomatoes, which require all the sun possible.

POULTRY.—Give the birds a good run. The bulk of next winter's eggs must come from the March pullets. They must not be forced on, otherwise they lay before wanted to, but this does not mean neglect them. We do not want backward birds when a full egg-basket is required. If the birds are out of condition, give a feed early in the day, then one of hard grain in the afternoon. Remove all cockerels, as they harass the hens.

RIPENING HONEY.—Before the honey is stored in the cells, and sealed over with wax cappings, a ripening process takes place. Superfluous moisture is evaporated in a large measure in the hive, and when this is finished the cells are closed. The honey is permanently stored in the upper cells, and if more honey has been collected through the day than can be evaporated during the night, it is not stored in these compartments. When all the cells are in use, the bees return and find no place to put their store. It is then converted into wax, added to the cells, and swarming considered. If the unripe honey be extracted, this undesirable swarming is prevented and the work of the bees unhindered.

### SERIAL STORY COMPETITION.

AWARD.

A LARGE number of MSS. came in for this Competition, which closed on June 1st. The Adjudicators report that, although the average was good, only one story stands out from all the others as being worthy of a prize. Consequently, the Second Prize has been withdrawn (under Rule 6), but

The FIRST PRIZE OF FIFTY POUNDS has been awarded to

CATHERINE M. RAMSAY,  
Wylorby Rectory,  
Melton Mowbray,

to whom a cheque for this amount has been forwarded.

FAVOURABLE MENTION is accorded to the following (given in alphabetical order):—

H. CUTHBERT, Hopday;  
A. K. FORBES, Ladybank, N.B.;  
M. HOPPER, Holland Park, W.;  
H. E. W. MILLS, Falmouth;  
W. SEYMOUR, Chesham;  
C. A. SMITH, Southsea.

Unsuccessful competitors are reminded that their MSS. will be returned to them on receipt of application (accompanied by postage) within one month of the publication of this Award.

disturbed is cited by Miss Ormerod of Cirencester. Quite recently a bed of watercresses was all but eaten up by the caddis worm, and the damage was traced to the fact that a number of herons had preyed too freely on the trout of the stream in which the cresses grew. It follows that lovers of watercress (and trout) should not give too much encouragement to herons!



An Upright Cycle.

There is no doubt that cyclists tend to become round-shouldered through bowing over their machines, and the "Upright" bicycle, which hails from America, will therefore recommend itself to a great many, more especially ladies. As its name implies, it allows the rider to sit upright, after the manner of our illustrations. As will be seen, the frame of the bicycle forms a triangle, on which is the seat, and the steering is done by two bent handles coming from the rear, as shown. These handles are so arranged that the arms of the rider drop to their full length in a line with the shoulders and pedals. The chest is thus thrown outwards and the head is kept erect. The weight of the machine is about 19 lbs. in all. We have not been able to find the address of the maker, but it was recently exhibited in a cycle show held at Boston, U.S., and will probably soon find its way into this country.

#### A Fluorescence Lamp.

Mr. Edison is reported to have made a new electric lamp by utilising the Röntgen rays produced in a Crookes vacuum tube. As is well known, these invisible rays which penetrate the flesh and give shadow photographs of the bones are capable of exciting fluorescence or "phosphorescence" in glass or other bodies, such as tungstate of calcium or potassium platino-cyanide. Mr. Edison has, therefore, coated all the interior of the Crookes tube with crystals of tungstate of calcium, and thus succeeded in transforming the invisible rays into light. The result is an electric lamp yielding a soft radiance—filled with steady light, so to speak.

## AMONGST FLOWERS, POULTRY, AND BEES.

SEPTEMBER.

THE garden is now full of colour. A cloud of delicious blue comes from the Starworts (Perennial Asters), which even rains and frosts cannot destroy. But unpleasant weather rots the tender bedder and fills the garden with evil odours. Towards the end of the month carefully lift any tender plant it is wished to preserve until another year—such as Tuberous Begonias, Pelargoniums, Fuchsias, blue African Lily (*Agapanthus*), and things of that character. If the plants are carefully potted up they will continue to flower some time when under glass. Order all the bulbs required as soon as possible, as success in flowering depends in a large measure upon the time planting is carried out. Get in plenty of Daffodils; this year I had a charming bed of Spanish Irises, which flowered remarkably well, the colours white to deep blue, through lovely shades of rose and orange; they are very cheap, too.

As ground falls vacant, no matter whether in the kitchen-garden or in the flower border, dig it up deeply. There is nothing like thorough trenching to assist crops and flowers through such a trying year as this has proved. The reason is obvious, for when the ground is deeply dug, the roots can get well down, and therefore are better able to resist drought. Make up mushroom beds in house for the winter, keep down weeds, and gather all fruit as it ripens. If fruits, such as Apples and Pears, were more carefully handled there would be fewer losses. Lay the fruit out in single layers and in as cool and airy a place as possible. Tomato fruits ripening off should be gathered and laid in a sunny window to finish. Green fruit will also ripen under similar circumstances. It is far better to do this than run any risks of frosts spoiling them.

Watering is, of course, important, but as the sun's power declines give less, and remove decaying leaves and shoots from plants in window-boxes. Where many tender things are used, the great point now is to preserve the freshness of the garden until a decided frost wrecks the plants. Chrysanthemums must be brought under cover towards the end of the month. It is a mistake to leave them longer. Make the house clean for their reception, and give air at every favourable opportunity. Chrysanthemums detest a close atmosphere.

FOOD FOR POULTRY.—One cannot lay down any rule as to the quantity of food poultry should receive. Much depends upon the age, condition, and breed of the birds. Much mischief arises from overfeeding when the fowls are in confinement. Barley should not be the only grain given, but also oats, which are the most flesh-forming of all cereals. Wheat is good, maize fattening, and boiled potatoes mixed with bran or meal promote good laying. Give always as much variety as possible.

A GOOD BEE PLANT.—A fine bee plant at this season is the Sea Holly (*Eryngium planum*). I made a note of it last year to record this September as a plant to grow near hives. It is a beautiful silvery plant with a crowd of small heads of blue flowers. See August notes for bee work. What applies that month is applicable to September.

exactly double, we placed the straight edge of the pattern to this fold and shaped it off to the waist, in this way we took each side gore—placing the centre of the pattern straight up the grain of the material; but the back piece of the old skirt was made out of one full width, so we had to cut this down the centre, fold it together, and cut the two halves at once, joining in a small gore at the hem to give it the proper width (the piece cut off at the waist supplied this). These two back pieces we lined throughout, but the others only to the depth of twenty inches, making a deep hem of brown linenette, and sewing a bias fold of velveteen as a guard to the edge. Having trimmed the two front seams with a galon or braid of twisted brown cord worked in bronze beads, put in the pocket, and tacked the fulness at the back and edge of the waist to a folded piece of black tape to keep it from stretching, we fitted the skirt on, pinning it to the band where it was to be sewn. There being no basque to the bodice, only a little pointed back, the skirt had to fit perfectly around the hips, and we did not shirk the trouble.

Another girl and myself had the cutting and making of the bodice to do; we had  $2\frac{1}{2}$  yards of brown grosgrain silk for lining, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  yards of striped saten for sleeve lining. In tacking out the back, I had to put two side pieces in place of the broad one in the jacket; these, with management, I cut out of the back of the deep jacket basque, and from the front of the same cut the overfronts or zouaves, and faced them with Surah. You will, I think, admire the pretty way these are ornamented with little tabs and buttons, the small turned-back corners at the neck giving a dainty finish to the shape. The vest of brown Surah silk I made to fasten in the front fulness with a couple of hooks and loops free of the bodice, which is well fastened with closely sewn hooks and eyes.

The belt that crosses the front from seam to seam, where it is finished with a row of small buttons, is made shaped to the figure with a dart seam, and trimmed with rows of galon fastening at the left side with hooks to the loops at the edge of the seam. The sleeves have three sets of two rows of galon ending beneath a strap and button at the seam.

One of our old friendly girls called in to see us and have a chat; naturally, the topic was dress, we expressing our genuine admiration for the stylish little cape of fawn cloth she is wearing, with its handsome collar, strapped seams, and double-breasted front. You will find that our little artist has made a sketch of it, which will help us, as we are promised the pleasure of copying it for ourselves if we so wish.



CAPE IN FAWN-COLOURED CLOTH.

BIZZIE BEE.

*Paper patterns in three sizes of either skirt, cape, or bodice, at 6d. each. Address, BIZZIE BEE, c/o Editor of CASSELL'S MAGAZINE, La Belle Sauvage, London, E.C. Patterns will in all cases be sent with as little delay as possible, but an interval of two or three days is inevitable.*

AMONGST FLOWERS, BEES, AND POULTRY

OCTOBER.

**T**HIS is the great month for bulb planting, except perhaps in the case of the late-flowering tulips, which give finer blooms from well-ripened bulbs put in during the first fortnight in November. Plants for spring flowering should be put in now, as tender summer bedders must no longer remain. Put in rose cuttings early in the month, transplant evergreens, and plant trees and shrubs. It is not well to leave this work too late.

Ground intended for fruit trees must be prepared at once. Select a few kinds only, not a large number. It is better to have one tree of a fine apple, such as Lane's Prince Albert, or the delicious Cox's Orange Pippin, than a hundred worthless varieties. Continue to gather fruit as it ripens, storing it in a dry cool room.

Earth up late celery at once, and bank up the sides of the rows to throw off damp, so fatal to this root. Take up beet and carrots, and gather all tomatoes not ripe, for none will ripen on the plants after this.

Remove all tender green-house plants, placed

outside for the summer, under cover, chrysanthemums in particular.

**PREPARING BEES FOR WINTER.**—We must think now of preparing our colonies of bees for the winter. One must secure an abundance of sealed stores, a quantity of young bees, a prolific queen, and well ventilated, but not draughty, hive. Remove enamel cloths from the hives if they have been used, and scrape the propolis from the top bars before putting on the winter coverings, which may consist of sacking doubled with felt over it. Cleanse floorboards and put dry ones in the place of those that are damp, but be careful not to disturb the bees unnecessarily.

**NOTES ON POULTRY.**—The successful poultry-keeper will now have a fine batch of young pullets in his yard, and very few old birds, those for breeding next year. The fowl house must be agreeably warm, well ventilated, and the pullets kept indoors in the early morning when the weather is wet and cold. Give a hot breakfast, and mix a few scraps of meat with the meal. Buckwheat or hard English wheat should be the afternoon meal.

damped, then pressed with a hot iron, they will be stitched each side of the seam on the right side, then the turnings cut away evenly and snipped at the waist and bound with narrow brown galloon. At the edge the hem will be turned up an inch all round and neatened with the galloon, also stitched in two rows half an inch apart. The fronts being double-breasted, the upper one only will be faced back to the width of the buttons, and a piece of tailor's canvas put between to give set and substance for working in the button-holes. At the neck we shall have one of the new stand-up collars, also interlined with canvas, and a detachable shoulder cape, faced with brown Surah silk, and fastened on the coat with two large buttons, cuffs and pockets completing our handsome garment, which we feel confident we shall make well and easily with the help of the thoughtful, industrious girls that go to make up our stitching party.

Not being willing that my birthday should pass unnoted, one of my friends has made and sent to me a cosy jacket, that will look well worn at the breakfast table, or when indulging in a chat over the bedroom fire after a party; in fact, I have even thought that it would look quite the right thing should I wear it as a "sortie" when going to a winter evening's entertainment at a friend's house. It is made in pink Viyella, so soft and pretty, and lined with a thin silky sateen tinted with pink, the edge of creamy yellow lace, and the quilting in white silk, but instead of the usual wool wadding she has used vegetable down, so beautifully light and warm, and in one or two little pleats of the cashmere inserted orris root powder to perfume the garment with a delicate odour as of violets. To make the large full sleeves quite warm they are

lined with white Viyella, but the wristbands are quilted and edged with a lace-trimmed frill. The jacket is semi-fitting, with one seam up the centre back left open six inches up, as also on the two side seams, and edged all round with a blue silk cord. When I remarked how evenly the lines of the quilting were stitched, she told me that they were all ready marked on the paper pattern, but that she had added the embroidered star in the corner of each square to give a more fanciful effect. A pretty bow of blue ribbon ties the lace-edged Viyella hood. To say that I admire the jacket is but mild praise of this dainty little present.



WADDLED MORNING JACKET.

To say that I admire the jacket is but mild praise of this dainty little present.

BIZZIE BEE.

*Paper patterns of the matron's bodice, with design traced, 6yd. Also of the waddled jacket, 6yd.; and pattern coat in first and second size, 1s. 1/2d. each. Address, BIZZIE BEE, c/o Editor of CASSELL'S MAGAZINE, La Belle Sauvage, London, E.C. Patterns will in all cases be sent with as little delay as possible, but an interval of two or three days is inevitable.*

AMONGST FLOWERS, BEES, AND POULTRY.

NOVEMBER.

THIS is a dull month in the flower garden. A few starworts (asters) and tea roses may remain, but the great mass of bloom is over until March and April flowers again appear. November is, however, a month of work. It is the time of pruning fruit-trees, and partially lifting those making too much growth. Thoroughly trench all vacant ground to expose it to the kindly influence of frosts and rains. Plant and prune vines, and keep all growing crops clean. This is the time also for planting flowering shrubs, and I wish those who enjoy gay gardens would think of such charming flowering shrubs as *Philadelphus Lemoinei*, which is quite dwarf and smothered with white flowers in June, *Weigela Eva Rathhe*, deep crimson, and almost continually in bloom from May until autumn, *Paul's double crimson Thorn*, *Cerasus Watereri*, a lovely double cherry, and many other things that could be named did space permit.

This is a splendid month for planting roses and tulips, and, indeed, all bulbs, such as crocuses, daffodils, and hyacinths, can be put in now, though October is a more suitable time. Take up dahlias, cannas, and all tender summer flowers that one wants to keep over the winter. Grow a few bulbs, such as daffodils, in pots, and none is better for the purpose than one called *Johnstoni Queen of Spain*.

POULTRY.—Many old fowls will not yet have got over their moulting. They moult later with age, and the process occupies a longer period each time. Take care that the birds have warm roosts, nourishing diet, and are fed under cover in damp, chilly weather. A little hemp seed at night, given with their grain, will be found very beneficial. It will stimulate egg-production. Remember that the winter management of poultry decides the question of profit or loss. During the cold winter months, when they cannot procure worms or insects, fowls should be supplied with small quantities of animal food, and the first meal in the day should consist of scalded meal mixed to the consistency of a crumbly paste, and given when warm.

BEES.—Feeding up for winter should be completed by the beginning of the month. Put on extra quilts and coverings, leaving a passage over the tops of the frames so that the bees can pass from comb to comb. Contract entrances to hives and place a piece of camphor at the back of each. The bees must, during the winter months, be disturbed as little as possible. Make a general clearing up of the aviary towards the end of the month, and put everything in readiness for next season. See to the sale of honey and the manufacture of mead.