

Notes from the English Garden with Comments

Note: For more than half a century The ENGLISH GARDEN, published at London, England, was the leading garden periodical of Europe, an authority read by all the prominent horticulturists of the world. I have bound volumes dating back from 1586 to the time of the World War. Unfortunately, the editor, who was superintendent of the Glasnevin Botanic Gardens, Ireland, and with whom I became well acquainted there, enlisted in the English army and was killed in battle. The publication was suspended and has never yet been revived. The notes here given were culled from my volumes, and I have added my own comments to them, all of which I trust will be of interest. PARK.

ADONIS Vernalis. Among plants suitable for Spring gardening, none, perhaps, excel the charming Spring Adonis Vernalis,

and large clear amber-yellow flowers make it far more effective in Spring than. Tulips of the same color; over the latter, too, it has many advantages. It flowers annually with increased vigor, and even if the beds in which it grows were to be used for Summer bedding, the foliage of the Adonis would add rather than detract from their beauty. There is, moreover, no reason why this plant should not be permanently established in our wild gardens. It is perfectly hardy, being found plentifully over a wide area of Europe.

Editor. NOTE. This very beautiful hardy perennial, so common in Europe is but little known in America. This may be because the seeds start rather tardily and those who get them become impatient and neglect 't the seed-bed before the seeds have had sufficient time to germinate. The hardiness and great beauty of the firs during the Spring months, however, fully justify the patience required in starting the seeds. My seeds are of the very latest crop and should yield the happiest results.

ERINUS Alpinus. This is a charming and distinct little plant, producing a profusion of violet-purple flowers over the tufts of abundant leaves. It will not endure Winter in a wet low place, but will run riot over old walls or

stone steps, where it has made itself thoroughly at home, running into every nook in the steps and flowering with utmost profusion. It is only necessary to sow seeds in the chinks where there is some moss or earth to root into, and leave the rest to nature. The plant will even flower on mere mossy stones and rocks without earth. Much beauty is lost to gardens by not sowing seed of such alpine gems as the Erinus.

Editor. NOTE. To get this Erinus started the seeds should be skillfully sown as they are very fine, and plants should be well cared for, setting them where they are to grow and bloom. Once established, they will propagate from self-sown seeds and spread, covering up bare spots and beautifying unsightly places, without further attention. It must not be supposed, however, that the seeds in a packet can be strewn over the soil carelessly if plants are expected to appear and flourish as above described. The seeds are expensive because they are difficult to get, and care must be used in getting the plants started. See page 60.

LATHYRUS Latifolius. I sowed seeds of this in March, starting the plants in pots and setting them out early, and nearly all of them began blooming in Autumn. They were of the white variety. The next year I got seeds of the red variety, treating them in the same way, and they bloomed in five months. At present our plants are very fine, having grown over eight feet high, while they are covered with flowers; many hundreds of the peduncles are from thirteen to fifteen-flowered, and this is but a repetition of the display last year, seventeen months from sowing the seed. C. Tallack.

NOTE. Lathyrus Latifolius is one of our best hardy perennials. It blooms freely throughout the entire season, the flowers being of pleasing colors and larger than those of the common Sweet Pea. Give it a trellis and remove the clusters when they begin to fade to prevent seed formation. Once established, the plants

will live for years without any further care. They thrive in dry weather, wet weather, or cold weather and other conditions that will ruin many other perennials. They are readily started from seed. Don't fail to add this grand perennial to your order.

VIOLA, Tufted Pansies, do well in loamy soil. If the soil is sandy or very free it will not grow. Pansies well until stiffened by the addition of loam. To have the plants bloom continuously throughout the Summer, the bed should be where it will be shaded for two or three hours during the hottest



ADONIS VERNALIS
A Beautiful Spring Flower. See above notes, also page 55.

started in September will begin to bloom in Autumn and in a mild climate will bloom during Winter. Ed.

NOTE. Tufted Pansies will endure more heat and unfavorable conditions than the true Pansies under proper treatment. They are fine bedding plants and should have a place in every garden. See page 49.

BOCCONIA Cordata. This is at all times an interesting plant, handsome in foliage as well as flowers. Its tall stems are clothed with large, deeply lobed, glaucous leaves, and terminated by panicles of creamy white firs, which fade to a peculiar snuff-brown shade. The plants we have are in fresh deeply trenched ground, and cover several square yards. They are a mass of vigorous growth, flower panicles on stems 9 ft. high. Some of the terminal panicles of flowers are nearly 1 yard long, and the shoots which produced them have thrown out laterals which have also flowered showing bloom among the rich foliage.

NOTE. Bocconia Cordata is a single specimen or for the back ground. It is used wherever the grounds are large enough to accommodate it with taste. Lasts many years—See