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978-1-108-07223-6 - Beeton's Gardening Book: Containing Such Full and Practical Information as Will Enable the Amateur to Manage his Own Garden

Samuel Orchart Beeton

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Samuel Orchart Beeton (1831–77), the publishing entrepreneur who made his wife's *Book of Household Management* one of the bestselling titles of the century, gave his name to many other books of domestic, medical and general information for the middle classes. (The 1871 *Book of Garden Management*, published and probably compiled by him, is also reissued in this series.) This work was published in 1874 by Ward Lock, to whom Beeton was forced to sell his own business after a financial collapse in 1866. The book contains 'such full and practical information as will enable the amateur to manage his own garden.' It covers flower, fruit and vegetable gardening, with a section on garden pests and a monthly calendar of tasks. It also contains advertisements for gardening and medicinal products, as well as for other books from the publishers, offering a fascinating insight into social as well as garden history.

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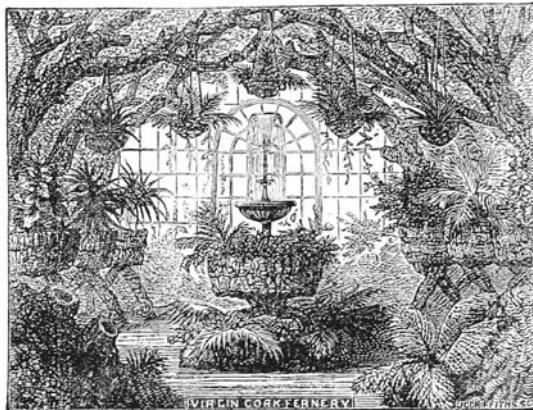
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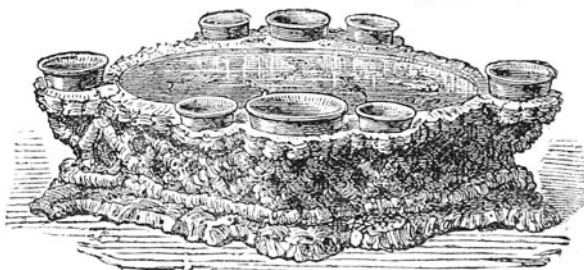
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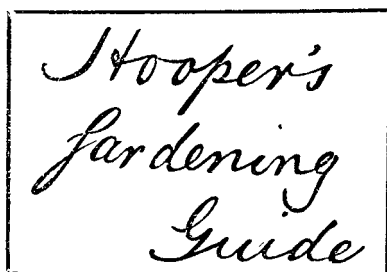
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2. *Anemone*.—There are many varieties of the Anemone, and they are to be found of almost every shade of colour. The double sorts, however, are generally either scarlet or purple. To produce fine heads of blossom they require a very rich light soil, and, when once planted, the tubers may remain in the soil for several years if care be taken to give it an annual dressing of well-rotted manure.

3. *Arum*.—This curious perennial, so popular as a pot plant, is allied to the Lord and Ladies which grow wild in our hedges and woods. It is propagated by off-sets and suckers, and the secret of its cultivation is to give the plant a long period of rest after it has done flowering; after this, to start it in entirely fresh soil, and to give it an abundance of water while in a growing state. A fine grown specimen makes a handsome window plant.

4. *Azalca*.—Both out of doors and under glass, Azaleas are to be valued. The hardy varieties are of American extraction; the more tender sorts, of which our illustration is one, are natives of India. As show-plants under modern training, nothing can surpass Azaleas. Those who want to see them in perfection should pay a visit in the spring to the Messrs. Veitch's nurseries.

5. *Balsam*.—Balsams, of late years, have ceased to be the fashionable flowers they once were. There is a stiffness and formality about them which displease many persons. Still, a well-grown balsam, in full flower, is very showy, and it may also be turned to a good account, for the

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individual blossoms have an excellent effect when used to ornament fruit dishes on a dinner table.

6. *Begonia*.—Some beautiful seedlings, of late years, have been obtained of this favourite plant; all of them, however, require a greenhouse, and many of them stove heat. Such delicate foliage never can be well developed out of doors in our variable climate. Even under glass, a drop of water will soon destroy the beauty of a leaf.

7. *Bourbon Rose*.—This rose, which is a variety of the *Rosa Indica*, is itself the parent of a numerous progeny. Mr. Paul and other eminent growers have hybridized it with the Chinese, Noisette, and other roses, until the varieties are infinite. All the Bourbon roses are singularly hardy, and noted for their brilliancy and clearness of colour.

8. *Camellia*.—Who is there who does not admire the *Camellia*? The rich dark green foliage of the plants, and their blossoms so beautiful in shape and colouring, make them universal favourites. Our artist has here illustrated *C. Donkelaarii*, a variety with very large single flowers, and, generally, a profuse bloomer. This sort is not so useful as a cut flower as many others, but it is extremely showy in the greenhouse.

9. *Canna*.—This beautiful herbaceous plant is far too tender to endure our climate in winter, but when forced on in a hot-house, it may be planted out either singly or in mixed beds. The foliage and blossoms are both highly ornamental. Plants may be obtained from seed, and also from division of roots. The popular name of the *Canna* is Indian Shot.

