Garden and Forest.

A Dwarf Stock for the Peach.

The chief hope for Peach growing in climates where the flower-buds are habitually killed in winter, lies in securing a stock that will dwarf the tree sufficiently to render winter protection practicable. For some years past I have been experimenting with a stock, the first hope for which was the Flowering Almond, Prunus Japonica (P), but with this I failed to secure a union with buds of the Peach. I would not say that the object was not attained, for I have budded one or two of the most beautiful, but repeated efforts here in Wisconsin resulted in failure. I inserted a total of several hundred buds in four different trees with the flower in a single instance in Bud, and the winter dry and warm summer weather is much more difficult than in the eastern states, and it is possible that the Peach may be budded on the Flowering Almond in a climate more favorable for budding.

Next I tried a form of the Sand Cherry, grown from pits procured in western Iowa. This shrub is quite dwarf, attaining a height of only two or three feet. Professor Bailey pronounces it Prunus Besseyi, the same species to which the so-called Improved Dwarf Rocky Mountain Cherry belongs. With this stock I have been more successful. I inserted a few buds in it in 1895, and while I had less expectation of success than with the Flowering Almond, I succeeded much better. The peach grew vigorously on this stock, and by the second year had attained the height of about five feet. The past season, although the best growing season we have had for some years, the peach-trees on this stock have scarcely increased in height. They have branched rather thickly, and at present are well filled with flower-buds, from which I infer that they will probably not grow larger than they now are. At this height the trees are readily protected by digging away sufficiently from the trunks the sand soil which may be found readily, when the whole is covered with earth. The trees blossomed the past spring and set some fruit, though the fruit in many cases.

I am also trying Prunus subcordata and a dwarf form of P. maritima, but with what success remains to be seen.

E. S. Gaff.

Correspondence.

Lilium Washingtonianum.

To the Editor of Garden and Forest:

Sir,—This is a Lily of the high mountains of California and Oregon. In California it is found only in the Sierra Nevada from San Bernardino county north to Mount Shasta, while in Oregon it is found in the Wallowa and Umatilla counties, the latter being the northern continuation of the Sierra Nevada range. In all cases its home is to be found in the higher, cooler regions, the south face of the mountains, or in the thick forest along the Monzantia and Conostus, still higher up, regions where the snowfall is great and melts slowly, and a long period of root-growth is insured. In such places its strong stalks are pushed up quickly, as the melting snow gives it the opportunity, and rising to a height of five to seven feet in June, July, or August, according to climate, its grand white flowers are unfolded, perfuming the air for miles around. I once saw one on a single mountain slope in brush, a count that I can better vouch for as I transferred the bulbs to trucks at a later period.

Lilium Washingtonianum proper has the variable characteristics of importance: The type is white-flowered, with purple dots, and has a very large horizontal bulb. Bulbs of this often measure ten to eighteen inches around, and weigh from ten ounces to two pounds.

At Mount Shasta there is a variety with flowers and stalk like the type, but with small bulbs, seldom over two ounces in weight, and averaging less than an ounce for flowering bulbs.

One of Lilium Washingtonianum in Oregon and Washington have, according to my observation, broader, more oval leaves; I find, too, that many of the scales on them are different; those in the Sierra Nevada exhibiting a difficult scale; two or three jointed, and the joints easily separable.

About Mount Hood, in Oregon, the variety Purpureum is found. One of the most striking instances of the adaptation of plants to changed surroundings came to my notice recently. I received a consignment of Lilium Washingtonianum bulbs from a colleague who has grown them in the main Willamette Valley, in Oregon, the largest valley of Oregon, a broad plain many miles wide. The she of the bulbs and the large number of double or triple flowers on each one impressed my acquaintance, but I could not find any mention, and as many as five large bulbs were together. A letter of inquiry brought the following answer:

...I wish to say that all the bulbs from the valley grow in cultivated fields; they do not seem to thrive in pastures, or even along the fence-rows. Every bulb that I have dug has been dug in a field. Their native home is far up among the mountains, in loose, unrotten soil. Fifteen years ago I saw their growing in only one field in the upper Willamette Valley. They were much noted and admired. From that field they have spread over the whole Willamette Valley in spots. They cannot be said to be very plentiful yet, but the situation seems to suit them perfectly. They usually grow in clumps and some are injured by the frost in early winter.

I may add to my correspondent's interesting remarks that the soil is gravelly, or somewhat sandy. Of course, the cause of the double bulbs is the injuries from the plow, causing the bulbs to "break up." Evidently, the Lilias flower and seed in grain-fields before the grain is cut, and if so there is no limit to their spread, as under prevailing agricultural methods they would soon be below the plow limit. In California and Oregon it is customary to sow grain one season and to merely seed and harrow the second year, thus giving the Lily seedlings two years in which to get below the shallow plowing in vogue. The double bulbs grow through the plow, and may be up next year, being perfectly safe. The bulbs will be in very firm, packed soil. The whole incident is suggestive to cultivators. Lilium Washingtonianum has a natural home on the hills, subject to grow, but it will thrive under such conditions as my correspondent has outlined the grower need not despair. Many that out of six or seven hundred bulbs of Lilium 162 were from ten to sixteen inches in circumference and averaging twelve ounces in weight, while 313 were from seven to ten inches in circumference and averaged six ounces in weight.

Dak. City. C. B. Parry.

A Good Variety of the Jerusalem Artichoke.

To the Editor of Garden and Forest:

Sir,—For several years I have grown an improved Artichoke with the best results, and I consider it the best of all roots for hogs. My plan is to feed all the artichokes the swine can eat until just before killing, when a few bushes of corn are given to harden the meat. This plan saves many bushels of corn. One acre will keep from twenty to thirty hogs from September until June in healthy and generally good condition. For cattle, horses and sheep there is not a better root grown. One acre will yield from three hundred to seven hundred bushels of tubers, depending, of course, on the fertility of the soil, although immense quantities are produced in any soil. Low land which is too tryध का केवल साफ हो और सचेत की अद्वितीय संसाधन है लेकिन वहाँ की ग्रामीण तथा स्वीकृति नहीं है। यह अद्वितीय टाइप एवं यह एक प्रकार की नीति है, जिसकी साफ और गुणकृत सतह है और जिसका उपयोग भोजन के लिए की जा सकता है।