

# LIFE IN THE GARDEN

## PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR AMATEURS

### Next Week's Work

By VERONICA.

#### SEEDS TO SOW THIS MONTH.

##### FLOWER—

Balsam  
Cockscomb  
Celosia  
Cosmos  
Godetia  
Impatiens  
Martyula  
Mignonette  
Nasturtium  
Phlox Drummondii  
Portulacca  
Sunflowers  
Verbenas  
Zinnias  
Zen Japonica

##### VEGETABLES—

Beet: Long Red, Spinach  
Broccoli: Penzance, Veltch's Self-protecting  
Carrot: Early Horn, Altrincham  
Celery, Cucumber, Egg Plant  
Kidney Beans, Runner Beans  
Lettuce, Cabbage, Cos  
Parsley, Curled, Fern-leaved  
Parsnip, Pepper  
Peas, Telegraph, Sherwood, Telephone  
Radish, Long Scarlet, Turnip-rooted  
Rhubarb, Giant Victoria, Topp's Winter  
Spinach, Squash  
Turnip, Golden Ball  
Melons, Pumpkins, Vegetable Marrow

#### GENERAL GARDEN WORK.

The continued dry weather has considerably hardened the soil, and planting out, unless on light land, is slow work. The water-pot must be used unsparingly on all plants just set out. Now is the time to get at weeds. Stir the soil thoroughly, leaving the weeds on surface, and the sun will finish them. Dahlias and chrysanthemums should be planted

out where they are intended to flower, and well watered in. Phlox Drummondii, Balsams, Zinnias, Celosias, and Cockscombs when hardened off should be planted out in beds and borders. Kumaras should be hardened off, and where this has already been done, they should be planted out. Continue successional sowings of Lettuce, Peas, and Kidney Beans.

#### COMING SHOWS.

Wellington Rose and Carnation Show, November 20.—H. A. Fox, Hon. Sec.  
Auckland Horticultural Society's Summer Show, November 22 and 23.—W. W. Bruce, Secretary.  
Wanganui Horticultural and General Produce Society's Spring Show, November 27 and 28.—D. Roy Walker, Secretary.  
Wanganui Horticultural Spring Show—27th and 28th November.

## The Queen of Flowers

**T**HE antiquity of the rose is so great that all account of its origin has been lost. The rose is mentioned in the earliest Coptic manuscripts. India's traditions take the rose to the times of the gods on earth. Etymologically "rose" is from the Celtic rhodd or rhudd—red; also the root of "ruddy." The Greek name, rhodon, has the same meaning. Botanists know of over 1000 species of the wild rose, and the varieties are innumerable. Every continent in the world, with the solitary exception of Australia produces wild roses. The Queen of Flowers constitutes only a very small proportion of the rose family, of which, roughly speaking, no less than about 100 genera and 1000 species are known, while many species boast of practically innumerable varieties. The rose still maintains her proud title. Many competitors press her hard, and sometimes it would appear she had been out-distanced, but, by the time the winning post is reached, she is found to still carry the blue ribband. The carnation occasionally is a very formidable rival. The sweet pea has made great exertions. The paeony has a try, and these three, when in their best form, may pass the rose; but once in good form, the rose has no difficulty in coming in an easy first. It is no exaggeration to say the rose is loved by everyone; there is an attractiveness about the flower, which is

an open sesame to every heart. It affords a fine field to those with some spare time, who are the possessors of a suitable piece of land to make a hobby of their cultivation; to collect plants of the great rose family; to experiment in budding, in grafting, in growing them on their own roots, and in raising them from seeds is enough—ay! and more than enough to fill any man's lifetime, how-

ever long. The late Dean Hole, an English clergyman, was an enthusiast in rose growing, and derived a life-long pleasure from the pursuit; probably many an inspiration was got in that rose garden. We are not surprised at the number of clergymen who take to gardening as a recreation, nor should we think their sermons were any the worse, but all the better for it. More likely, we fancy to have a freshness and life which the con-

when he found it he lay down beside it uttering its name lovingly. A lady would have had more sense and would hug a rose, but this man was content to bestow his attention on grass. The rose gives of her charm to all who give her any attention. She is not proud, but will flourish quite as well in the plot of the artisan as in the king's grounds. Many working men find in rose growing a most healthy recreation. We have



H. T. Rose Mildred Grant,  
Premier Bloom, much reduced.

stant delving in old Greek and Hebrew books could not impart. Men of all ranks in life have been fascinated by the rose, king and peasant, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught is, we understand, a keen gardener, taking a great pride in his rose garden. Men, famous in politics, in literature, in science, and art, find pleasure in her charms. Poets sing her praises. Queen Alexandra visited the National Rose Show this year, and was pleased with the exhibits, and we hardly think there is any lady who does not expand a smiling face when roses are within her reach. We have known a man so enamoured on discovering a plant of grass he had been searching for that

known labourers, men earning a few shillings a week and supporting a family, have a small collection of roses, grow them really well, and carry off the honours at their local show. We remember an instance which occurred during our apprenticeship. The nursery where we worked had supplied roses to a farm labourer who lived some ten miles distant. After the usual lapse of credit we were sent to this man's house to collect. Evidently he knew where we hailed from, and what our errand was, for no sooner did he observe us near his humble dwelling than we were taken round the end of the house into his garden; whispering to

