

**A TREATISE ON THE  
CULTIVATION OF  
ORNAMENTAL FLOWERS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649331857

A Treatise on the Cultivation of Ornamental Flowers by Roland Green

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Cover @ 2017

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A

**TREATISE**

ON

**THE CULTIVATION**

OF

**ORNAMENTAL FLOWERS;**

COMPRISING

REMARKS ON THE REQUISITE SOIL, SOWING,  
TRANSPLANTING, AND GENERAL  
MANAGEMENT:

WITH

DIRECTIONS FOR THE GENERAL TREATMENT

OF

**BULBOUS FLOWER ROOTS,**  
**GREEN HOUSE PLANTS, &c.**

—◆—  
BY ROLAND GREEN.  
—◆—

BOSTON,

PUBLISHED BY JOHN B. RUSSELL, 22 NORTH MARKET STREET,  
AND  
G. THORBURN & SON, 67 LIBERTY STREET, NEW YORK.

Press of L. E. Butts & Co.

1828.

33757  
Mar. 25, 1922

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DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS, *to wit:*

*District Clerk's Office.*

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the eighth day of April, A. D. 1922, in the fiftysecond year of the Independence of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, *John B. Russell*, of the said district, has deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as proprietor, in the words following, *to wit:*

"A Treatise on the Cultivation of Ornamental Flowers; comprising Remarks on the requisite soil, sowing, transplanting, and general management with Directions for the general treatment of Bulbous Flower Roots, Green House Plants, &c. By ROLAND GREEN."

In conformity to the act of the Congress of the United States, entitled, "An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned;" and also to an act, entitled, "An act supplementary to an act, entitled, an act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned; and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving and etching historical and other prints."

JNO. W. DAVIS, } Clerk of the District of  
Massachusetts.

## FLOWERS.



SHOULD the agriculturist have no taste for ornamental gardening, yet such is the laudable taste of the fair daughters of America, at the present day, that, there are but comparatively few, that do not take an interest in a flower garden. And this alone is a sufficient reason for the publication of these remarks.

Horticulture, as it respects Ornamental Gardening, is one of the most innocent, the most healthy, and to some, the most pleasing employment in life. The rural scenes, which it affords, are instructive lessons, tending to moral and social virtue; teaching us to "look through nature up to nature's God."

Flower gardens were ever held in high estimation by persons of taste. Emperors and kings have been delighted with the expansion of flowers. "*Consider the tilies of the field,*" said an exalted personage, "*how they grow;*" for Solomon, when clothed in the purple of

royalty, "*was not arrayed like one of these.*" Nature, in her gay attire, unfolds to view a vast variety, which is pleasing to the human mind ; and consequently has a tendency to tranquillize the agitated passions, and exhilarate the man—nerve the imagination, and render all around him delightful.

The cultivation of flowers, is an employment adapted to every grade, the high and the low, the rich and the poor ; but especially to those, who have retired from the busy scenes of active life. Man was never made to rust out in idleness. A degree of exercise is as necessary for the preservation of health, both of body and mind, as food. And what exercise is more fit for him, who is in the decline of life, than that of superintending a well ordered garden ? What more enlivens the *sinking mind* ? What more invigorates the *feeble frame* ? What is more conducive to a *long life* ?

Floriculture is peculiarly calculated for the amusement of youth. It may teach them many important lessons. Let a piece of ground be appropriated to their use—to improve in such a manner, as their inclinations shall dictate—to cultivate such plants as are pleasing to their taste ; and let them receive the proceeds. Let order and neatness pervade their little plantations. Let them be instructed, that nothing valuable



is to be obtained or preserved without labor, care, and attention—that as every valuable plant must be defended, and every noxious weed removed; so every moral virtue must be protected, and every corrupt passion and propensity subdued.

The cultivation of flowers, is an appropriate amusement for young ladies. It teaches neatness, cultivates a correct taste, and furnishes the mind with many pleasing ideas. The delicate form and features, the mildness and sympathy of disposition, render them fit subjects to raise those transcendent beauties of nature, which declare the “perfections of the Creator’s power.” The splendid lustre and variegated hues (which bid defiance to the pencil,) of the rose, the lily, the tulip, and a thousand others, harmonize with the fair fostering hand that tends them—with the heart susceptible to the noblest impressions—and with spotless innocence.

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*Situation.* As to the proper situation for a garden, it is not always in our power to choose. A level plat, however, is to be preferred; for if there be considerable descent, the heavy rains will wash away the soil. A southern aspect, sheltered from the north and north-

west winds, is a proper situation for most plants. An inclination towards the north, or west, or any point between them, should, if possible, be avoided.

*Soil.* The natural soil should be a deep loam, which is easily made rich by old rotten manure. But here again, it is not always in our power to choose such a soil. In such cases we must endeavor to imitate, we must dig and carry off—and bring on loam, &c. and make a rich soil. The ground ought to be well pulverized with the plough or the spade. In a word, what is wanted, is a deep rich soil, natural or artificial, not too wet, nor too dry.

The ground in a garden must be kept rich, and often stirred. It ought to be manured every year. A compost made of decayed vegetables, yard manure, rotten leaves, ashes, and mould from any place, where it can be had, is proper for a garden. A garden should be well defended, by a high and tight fence, especially on the north and west.

*Sowing and Planting.* In the first place, the ground must be made fine, as well as rich. It should be moderately moist, not too wet, nor too dry. The beds should be raised three or four inches, above the level

of the walks; and the seeds ought, by all means, to be sown in rows, ten or twelve inches apart; and the earth should be moderately pressed upon them. The time for sowing either annual, biennial, or perennial flower seeds, is in the months of April and May, according to the state of the season. Very small seeds may be covered with fine earth nearly half an inch, larger ones in proportion to their size; and those as large as a pea, to the depth of an inch, or a little more. Seeds of delicate plants, should be planted in flower pots, and the earth kept moderately moist, by watering with a watering pot, that is finely pierced, and does not pour heavily; or the pot may be placed in the pan, and water supplied at the bottom. The pots should be exposed to the sun, except from eleven A. M. to two P. M. when a powerful sun might scorch the vegetating seed. The mould for pots should be rich, and sifted through a coarse sieve, made for that purpose.

*Transplanting.*—The best time, perhaps, for transplanting annual plants is in June, and for biennial and perennial plants in September or the beginning of October—remembering in all cases to take a sufficient quantity of earth, with the roots, where it can be done with propriety. Scoop trowels will be found