

**FLOWERS AND FLOWERING BUSHES
IN
THE COLONIAL CHESAPEAKE
by
Elizabeth B. Pryor**



**THE NATIONAL COLONIAL FARM
RESEARCH REPORT NO. 17**

The Accokeek Foundation, Inc.



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Introduction

"The taste for gardening is, at Philadelphia, as well throughout America, still in its infancy." wrote Johann David Schoepf in 1783. "There are not yet to be found many orderly and interesting gardens."¹ Schoepf's words are typical of traveler's accounts which describe the farms and townhouses of the Chesapeake colonies. Despite the balmy climate, rich soil, and a culture which strove to emulate the elegant tastes of the English gentry, pleasure gardening was generally ignored by the colonial farmer. Robert Beverly wrote from Virginia at the turn of the eighteenth century that "A garden is nowhere sooner made than there, either for fruit or flowers...."

"And yet," he added sadly, "they han't many gardens in that Country, fit to bear the name of gardens."² Travelers in Maryland, North Carolina, Delaware, and Pennsylvania made similar comments and the verdict was always the same: the area had abundant resources for the cultivation of flowers, but the settlers had little inclination to utilize them. From St. Jean de Crevecoeur came the following statement: "We are very deficient in gardens for we have neither

the taste nor time and besides, the labour is too dear."³ Another description, from North Carolina in 1700, stated that "The flower-garden in Carolina is as yet arriv'd but to a very poor and jejune Perfection."⁴ And even in Philadelphia, which was known for its proud landscape, a visitor saw that the gardens "for the time, are cultivated in vegetables and grains...."⁵

Preoccupation with production of a cash crop was probably the chief reason that colonial farmers declined to plant flower gardens. As tobacco culture became the all-encompassing pursuit of colonists in the Chesapeake area, other aspects of farming, including the raising of livestock, grain crops, and gardens, were neglected. Many people commented on this single-minded pursuit of tobacco wealth, and deplored the toll it took on the soil and the development of agriculture as a whole.⁶ Flower gardens, hardly a necessary part of the plantation, were therefore overlooked by many farmers. "For whatever needs more than a little work without producing a great profit is not to the American taste," one European visitor wrote cynically. "And so the pleasure of a fine garden is as yet scarcely known in Virginia."⁷ Robert Beverley agreed, "No seed is sown there, but it thrives;" he wrote, "and most of the

Northern Plants are improved, by being transplanted thither. And yet there's very little improvement made among them, seldom anything us'd in Trafick but tobacco." ⁸ Even those not completely preoccupied with tobacco were overwhelmed with the cares of starting a farm in the wilderness. The clearing of land, provision of food, and building of shelter were all labor intensive. With the availability of both manpower and tools limited, the farmer had little time for frills such as pleasure gardening. St. Jean de Crevecoeur was one who recognized this problem, and defended the lack of ornamentation on American farms. "Compare for one minute the additional work which the American farmer must submit over and above what people of the same class must do in England, admitting that everything else is equal," he wrote. "The very article of firewood is an immense addition, although the wood costs nothing." ⁹

Related to the shortage of time and labor, was the availability of skilled workers. Ornamental plantings required specific knowledge about their care, and special skill to lay them out effectively, regardless of any advantage of climate or soil. Until Philip Miller published his Gardener's and Botanist's Dictionary in 1737, detailed instructions on planting, cultivation,

and wintering of plants were not readily available to the amateur gardener. Most of the immigrants arriving in the Chesapeake colonies had had little or no exposure to the pleasure grounds of the rich, and were not well versed in the cultivation of even modest cottage gardens. The African slaves, of course, were completely unfamiliar with European methods of gardening. Johann Schoepf believed that it was this shortage of skilled labor which accounted for the lack of successful flower gardens in colonial America. Even when flowers from Europe were introduced, he noted, many grew "worse under careless management" and he blamed the dearth of American gardens on "unskillful cultivation."¹⁰ George Washington's constant admonitions to his Black gardeners to take care of tools, to plant items in specific locations, and to carefully grow their own seed are also indicative of the problems faced by a planter who wished to improve his grounds.¹¹ Professional gardeners began to be available in Maryland around the middle of the eighteenth century, but it was only the very dedicated gardener, or the very rich, who could afford their services.¹²

Perhaps another reason for the shortage of cultivated gardens was the powerful beauty of the

natural landscape around the Chesapeake Bay. The same travelers who scoffed at the slovenly gardens of the planters, exclaimed over the unspoiled forests and rivers of Maryland and Virginia. Some were struck by lush carpets of wildflowers and berries; some awed by the magnificent trees; a number believed that the land was the incarnation of Paradise. One traveler commented on the rich variety of the fall flowers blooming in the woods of Maryland: gentiana, two species of aster, golden rod, yellow wood sorrel, foxglove, witch hazel, and dandelion.¹³ Another remarked that the land was "as fragrant as a garden."¹⁴ Richard Lewis was moved by the lovely aspect of his surroundings to immortalize it in verse. In 1730 he wrote "Description of the Spring, a journey from Patapsco in Maryland to Annapolis," which included the following stanza.

Here various flourets grace the teeming Plains,
Adorn'd by Nature's Hand with beauteous Stains.
First-born of Spring, here the Pacone appear,
Whose golden Root a silver Blossom bears.
In spreading Tufts, see there the Crowfoot blue,

On whose green leaves still shines a globous sun;
Behold the Cinque-foil, with its dazzling Dye,
Of flaming yellow, wound the tender eye.
But there enclos'd the grassy wheat is seen,
to heal the aching heart with cheerful green. 15

Typical of these laudatory descriptions, which often proclaimed the whole continent a garden, was

written by John Ferdinand Smith, from Southern Maryland
in the 1770's. Speaking of the Potomac River he said:

Every advantage, every elegance, that beautiful nature can bestow, is heaped with liberality and even profusion, on the delightful banks of this most noble and superlatively grand river. All the desirable variety of land and water, woods and lawns, hills and dales, tremendous cliffs and lovely vallies, wild romantic precipices and sweet meandering [sic] streams adorned with rich and delightful meadows, in short all the elegant beauty that can be conceived in perspective, are here united, to feast the sight and soul of those who are capable of enjoying the luxurious and sumptuous banquet. (16)

With such natural advantages it was, in a sense, unnecessary to embellish a plantation further with introduced plants and stylized landscaping. In the eighteenth century it seemed especially ridiculous to worry about a formal garden, for garden fashion had moved away from the geometric regularity of the French landscape designers to an increased interest in "natural" gardens, in which trees and shrubs were artfully laid out to appear as if they had sprung up on their own. In America, the woods, cleared of underbrush by decades of Indian fires, already had much of the same look that clever gardeners in England strove so hard to imitate. Indeed the most laudatory remarks on any

"garden" in Maryland were not written about a true garden at all; instead they described a plantation, whose owner had cut paths and walkways through the forest. Wrote Edward Kimber:

...on three sides extended the clear'd land, of near 500 acres, skirted by the surrounding woods, which at such a distance, had a pleasing romantic appearance; and behind the house, instead of clearing, they had caus'd the woods to be cut into an hundred mazy walks, and meandering alleys, which run back near a mile, and afforded a most charming rural retreat; diversify'd with groves, shades and thickets, and water'd by a branch of the neighbouring river, which art had taught to murmur through every glade. At the extremity of these walks was a fine level savannah, where the loving pine and bleating sheep, cropp'd the flowery herbage, and the sportive steed frisk'd and gambol'd o'er the plain....17

With nature embellishing their land with such a lavish hand, the colonists had little need to plant a garden in order to create a place of beauty, or to find solitude and peace.

Thus, flower gardens (and to a certain extent, gardening of any kind) remained out of vogue throughout the colonial period. In Virginia, planters were so reluctant to stray from the cultivation of tobacco that it was necessary to pass a law requiring them to keep a kitchen garden to supply themselves with food. Even

after the law was passed, the farmers neglected their gardens, allowing cattle to run through them while they tended tobacco.¹⁸ Most contented themselves with "planting cabbage and turnips in an enclosed space, which goes by the name of garden, and sticking among them a few uncomely flowers."¹⁹ A few, such as Landon Carter, tried raising flowers to beautify their plantations, but gave it up when it proved difficult and expensive, and thus took up time and land that could be turned to a profit. When Carter's tulip bulbs - imported at considerable expense from England - dried up after planting, he had them pulled up, and the flower garden sown with turnips, thus "turning that ground to advantage. "This makes me, an old man, think it an excellent scheme," he noted in his diary, "especially as my colic will not let me, as I used to, walk out and enjoy the pleasure of flowers, I shall therefore order the ground to be new dunged, and intend to continue this turnip Project, as I see an advantage to be made of them."²⁰ Illustrative of the disinterest in gardens is the infrequency with which they are mentioned in estate advertisements in the Maryland Gazette. Between 1750 and 1755 only a dozen of the several hundred advertisements mentioned a garden of any sort, and only one in

the entire period 1750-1755 listed a garden with any indication that it contained flowers. Of course, some of the estates that were sold during this time probably had gardens, but the fact that they were not mentioned shows that they were considered of too little value to be major selling points.²¹

It was left, therefore, to those with either a true passion for horticulture, or a desire to exactly duplicate the manners of an English gentleman, to develop the first flower gardens of note in the Chesapeake colonies. A handful of enthusiasts stand out: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, William Byrd, and John Custis in Virginia; Margaretta Carroll of "Mount Clare," the Hollyday family, and William Faris in Maryland; John Bartram in Pennsylvania. These people were amateurs in the true and positive meaning of the word - those who pursue something for the sheer pleasure of doing so, - and their writings reflect the enjoyment they felt in their often haphazard attempts to establish flower-growing in America. "I have a pretty little garden in which I take more satisfaction than in anything in this world..." admitted John Custis, who had his portrait painted with a tulip in his hand.²² George Washington believed that gardening was among "the

most rational avocations of life", and that it contributed to the health as well as the amusement of the planter.²³ In Maryland, William Faris spent every possible hour away from his silversmith's business in the garden, and it was of dunging, pruning, and planting that he wrote in his diary, not soldering or silver sales.²⁴ And Thomas Jefferson perhaps spoke for all when he wrote the following, after nearly a half century of enthusiastic gardening.

I have often thought that if heaven had given me choice of my position and calling - it should have been on a rich spot of earth, well-watered and near a good market for the production of the garden. No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden. 25

Very few American gardeners had the ambition or know-how to follow the then prevalent European trends in landscaping. During the Renaissance and into the seventeenth century, stylized gardens, filled with geometric beds, fanciful topiary, and stiffly planted rows of flowers, had been the rule. During the latter part of the period, the French had further embellished this type of garden with artificial waterways, picturesque bridges, and flower beds arranged to resemble rich tapestries. But during the early eighteenth century in

England there was a reaction against such formal schemes. Led by poet Alexander Pope, English gardeners began to concentrate on creating a kind of contrived naturalness, with an emphasis on wooded walks, parks instead of stiff garden beds, and picturesque vistas. Without benefit of pictures, or many books describing these innovations, most colonial gardeners followed their own whims in laying out their grounds. Only a few who travelled in Europe, such as Jefferson or Byrd, were able to glean ideas from the large gardens they saw there.²⁶

A few descriptions exist which give a sense of the design and variety of flowers contained in the more elaborate colonial gardens. Both contemporary accounts and recent archaeological research reinforce the idea that little attention was given to formal landscape design. A few, like William Byrd's noted grounds, and the famous "falling"²⁷ gardens at Mount Clare in Maryland, were terraced. However, gardens this carefully planned were the exception. Others, like the governor's mansion in Annapolis, had pleasure grounds laid out in a particularly attractive situation. "The garden is not extensive," wrote a visitor in 1769, "but it is disposed to the utmost advantage; the center walk is terminated

by a small green mount, close to which the Severn approaches; this elevation commands an extensive view of the bay and the adjacent country." ²⁸ A European observer of the 1780's wrote after visiting the home of a Mr. Jones on the Pamunkey River, that he was surprised to find that it was "furnished with infinite taste, and what is still more uncommon in America, that it is embellished with a garden, laid out in the English style." ²⁹

For the most part, the gardens of even horticultural enthusiasts were a good deal more modest. The few who tried by following old garden manuals to design a stylish garden, generally ended up with the geometric boxwood and floral arrangements called "knot" gardens, which were years out of date by the time they were planted. Both the governor's palace garden at Williamsburg, and George Washington's carefully executed design at Mount Vernon are examples of this. ³⁰ The garden at Nomini Hall, which impressed a northern tutor as being especially lovely (due to the family's "Invention & Industry & Expense") had a walk lined with poplar trees, leading to a pasture and orchard, and a set of formal beds which contained vegetables as well as cowslips, violets, and honeysuckle. A few fruit trees

were interspersed throughout the beds.³¹ John Bartram, a true zealot in horticultural matters, had grounds which included so many exotic plants that he referred to his efforts as a "botanical garden," yet a drawing made in 1758 shows a very simple plan. Laid out on two levels, Bartram's garden included orchard trees, a vegetable patch, some casual beds of flowers, and an oval pond, rather unceremoniously plopped down in the middle.³²

The garden of William Faris was probably typical of the combination of spontaneity and planning exhibited by colonial gardeners. Though no drawing of his garden exists, the detailed notations in his diary give a good indication of the layout. It had at least six flower beds, including two border strips, a large bed divided into quadrants and one circular bed. A number of these beds were lined with Dutch boxwood, cut and grown by Faris with painstaking care. A large English walnut tree stood in the garden, surrounded by another flower bed, the contents of which Faris changed annually. Near the entrance to the garden stood a peach tree, and the gate itself was flanked by two rose bushes, one red and one white. Vegetables, herbs, bulbs, and perennials

were all cultivated, not in individual beds, but mixed haphazardly together. Thus, cabbages stood next to seed tulips, strips of lawn were bordered by tuberoses and onions, bee balm and sage were interspersed with carrots, beets, and asparagus, wall-flowers and shallots surrounded the walnut tree one year, Brussel's sprouts the next. An arbor was covered with "flowering beans" (whether edible or not Faris does not say.) Cherry trees in pots completed the scene.³³

The Faris garden was fenced, and this too was typical of the colonial garden. Fences were considered so necessary to prevent the encroachment of wild and domestic animals that in 1624, the Virginia Assembly required that gardens be enclosed.³⁴ Most of the gardens mentioned in Maryland Gazette advertisements were fenced; an advertisement for July 10, 1755, for example, listed an estate with "two gardens well-paled in," and another for January 6, 1778 mentioned, "an extensive garden walled with brick."³⁵ Walled gardens were the exception since they involved a much greater investment of time and labor to build. Most farmers were content with a snake fence, or one of palings. The picture of John Bartram's garden shows a board fence of vertical planks notched on top.³⁶

Walkways were another standard item of the colonial garden. Not only were they essential for cultivation purposes, but allowed for recreational walking and gave definition to the beds. At Nomini Hall they were laid out in brick and burnt oyster shells. Gravel, crushed oyster shells or seashells, sand, and pulverized brick were other popular materials for walkways. One middle-class gardener who owned a tavern, took the used clay pipes of his guests and crushed them for use on his garden walks. All of the materials were pushed into the ground by means of a small roller.³⁸

Just how large such enclosed gardens were is difficult to determine. Jefferson's plans for Monticello covered several acres, as did Washington's at Mount Vernon. In town, gardeners such as Faris and Custis were limited to the small city yards they owned, though Faris expanded his garden into the lot next door by renting space from a neighbor. Probably more typical were the sizes mentioned in estate advertisements. A 1752 listing included a garden 144 feet square, and a similar one, in 1778, boasted one 130 feet square. Since flowers and vegetables were generally intermingled, it is likely that garden plots, if they were kept at all, were made large enough to supply the

household with vegetables, fragrance, medicine, and blossoms throughout the year.

William Faris' intermingling of flowers and vegetables was not unusual in Cheaspeake area gardens. George Washington, Peyton Skipwith (another avid Virginia gardener), and Thomas Jefferson, all kept their gardens in a kind of glorious confusion of utility and ornament. In part this was because of an unwillingness to clear and fence too much ground, or, in the cases of Faris and Custis, the desire to utilize well the limited space available to them in their city gardens. But it also reflected the complex nature of the plants themselves, which often overlapped in usefulness and beauty. What were artichokes, broccoli, and cauliflower, but buds or flowers? Bee balm, noted for its fine purple flowers, made a delicious and soothing tea; lavender was a prized fragrance herb as well as a lovely, delicate flower. Roses may have been planted for their splendid show each summer, but they were also an important flavoring ingredient, and their petals were used to freshen linen and chase stale odors from the house. Fruit trees were a classic example of this mixture of use and ornament. Their blossoms were highly prized additions to the spring garden, and orchards were

considered beautiful compliments to the rest of the plantation grounds. Later, their fruit was equally valued.⁴⁰ Thus, the American prediliction for combining form and function extended to the garden.

The gardens of men such as William Faris were, of course, more elaborate than those tended by the majority of middle-class farmers. But their difference probably lay chiefly in the variety of plant materials found there and the amount of care and thought allotted to them. The average farmer, as Johann Schoepf noted, was content to plant "cabbages and turnips to an enclosed space...strewing among them a few uncomely flowers," but this was not entirely different from the arrangement in back of the Faris silversmith shop. For rich and poor the essential elements of the colonial garden remained the same: a cleared and enclosed space containing flowers, vegetables, herbs, and a few fruit trees in gay profusion, cut through with walks and tended whenever time could be taken from other pressing needs.

Colonial Flowers

The earliest flowers grown in America probably sprang from seed carefully brought with the immigrants from England. A century later gardeners like William

Faris or Margareta Carroll of Mount Clare still viewed the acquisition of new varieties of plants as something of a treasure hunt. Native American plants were acquired and domesticated; friends and relatives were cajoled into parting with slips and cuttings; bulbs and seeds were ordered from England and Holland. By the end of the eighteenth century, this zealous minority had managed to raise a fairly impressive array of native and naturalized plants. Sixty varieties of perennials, a similar number of flowering trees and shrubs, as well as a few varieties of annuals and bulbs are to be found among the records of Chesapeake planters. Henrietta Goldsborough, a resident of Calvert County, Maryland, had tulips, peonies, crown imperial, buttercups, anemones, artichokes, autumn crocuses, and hellibore in her garden.⁴¹ At Monticello, Jefferson experimented with scores of flowering plants, including marigolds, violets, carnations, hollyhocks, jonquils and lilies, as well as native plants such as the Virginia bluebell, and mountain laurel.⁴² William Faris had ten varieties of tulips, four kinds of hyacinths, and sixteen different perennials in his garden between 1792 and 1795.⁴³ And in Virginia, Mrs. Peyton Skipwith made out a "wish list" of garden plants she hoped to acquire that included

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seventy-five different bulbs, shrubs, and flowers. In all, the following list of plants may be associated with Chesapeake gardens in the colonial period.

Bulbs

ACONITE (C,S)* [Aconite]. Monkshood. A wild variety, [A. uncinatum] was grown in Lady Skipwith's garden.

CROCUS (C,S,B) [Crocus vernus]. Small easily spring flowers grown perennially from bulbs.

CROWN IMPERIAL (F, C, W, S, J, H) [Fritillaria imperialis]. A type of lily, yellow or orange, said to grow particularly well in America. Earlier categorized as Corona imperialis.

DAFFODIL. See Jonquil.

FIERY LILY (B, J) [Lilium bulbiflorem angustiflorem].

GUERNSEY LILY (C) [Amaryllis spatha multiflora]. A lily with many flowers under one hood, also called a lily-daffodil.

*Key for gardens where plants listed. See page 37.

HYACINTHA (F, S, J, C, P) [Hyacinthus]. Faris had white, red, blue, and "winged" varieties in his garden. Grape hyacinths grown by the Skipwiths among others, were also popular. Jefferson planted "feathered" hyacinths in 1782.

IXIA (S, B) A name used interchangeably for several lilies, including the "Blackberry," and "Leopard," and purple-flowered variety.

JONQUIL/DAFFODIL/NARCISSUS (F, B, J, S, P) [Narcissus]
N. jonquilla was one of many varieties of Narcissus in Chesapeake gardens. Among those difficult to identify are "Sweet White Narcissus," Autumnal Narcissus and N. tazetta L., the polyanthus Narcissus.

MARTAGON (C, B, S) [Lilium superbum]. A native American variety, called "Turks cap" because of the resemblance to the turban worn by Sultan Muhammed I. Yellow, red, and spotted varieties known. Among the most popular of the lilies.

NARCISSUS. See Jonquil.

SNOW DROP (S, B) [Galanthus nivalis]. Both single and double varieties were known around the Chesapeake Bay.

TARACULE (P). A bulbous plant, advertised by Peter Bellet in 1786 as available in eight varieties.

TULIP (H, F, C, B, P, J) [Tulipa]. A perennial flower, most often grown as an annual. Faris had up to ten different varieties, including parrot yellow, red, white, single early, and double flowers.

Annuals/Perennials

AGAVE (W, J) [Agave americana]. An ornamental grass.

ANEMONIE (H, S, J, F, P) [Anemone hortensis]. A single-petal flower in shades of white, blue, purple, or red, grown from a tuber.

ASPHODEL (C) [Asphodelus]. Any of several spear-shaped flowered perennial, used for medicinal purposes.

AUTUMN CROCUS (F, S) [Colchicum autumnale]. Any of several blue, fall-blooming flowers, propagated from tubers.

BALSAM (F, S, J) [Impatiens balsamina]. Double and single-blossomed were known. Skipwith grew white, purple, and red. Grown as annual.

BELLFLOWER (J, B). Probably Canterbury bells, Campanula medium. A native American variety C. americana was also known.

BERGAMOT (F, B) [Monarda didyma]. Bee balm. An herb with purple-red, spiky flowers, used to make an aromatic tea.

BLEEDING HEART (F). A perennial grown in the Faris garden.

CANDYTUFT (S) [Iberis sempervirens].

CARDINAL FLOWER (W, J, S) [Lobelia cardinalis]. A perennial with long, spiky red flowers.

CARNATION (C, J, B, P, L) [Dianthus caryophyllus]. Also referred to as Clove Gillyflower or Clove July-flower.

CHINA ASTER (F, B, C) [Calistephus hortensis]. The earliest imported aster grown in America, about which little is known.

CHRYSANTHEMUM (F, S, C) [Chrysanthemum indicum]. The original Chinese flower was esteemed for its hardiness after frost. Probably grown as an annual. White and yellow varieties were known.

CLEMATIS (B) [Clematis viorna]. One known variety was red and reticulated.

COLUMBINE (F, J, S) [Aquilegia vulgaris]. An American variety. A. caradensis seemed not to have thrived in Virginia. Both double and single species were found in the Chesapeake region.

COXCOMB (Tres couleurs) (F, C, Ca, Sc, L) [Amaranthus tricolor]. Also sometimes called "flower gentiles;" these were a popular perennial.

CYCLAMEN (S, B) [Cyclamen europeaeum]. Grown from seed, then nurtured as the bulbous roots developed. Dedicated gardeners prized this since it bloomed from December to spring.

DAISY (B, J) [Bellis perennis].

DAYFLOWER (S, B) [Commelina nudiflora].

DELPHINIUM (J, B) [Delphinium ajacis]. Both rose and blue varieties were known in the colonial period.

ETERNAL OR EVERLASTING (S, B). Any of several "strawflowers" which retain their color with drying, e.g. Gnaphalium sylvaticum.

FLAG See Iris.

FLOWER DELUCE (J, F) [Iris pseudacorus]. The "fleur de lis," a type of iris.

FLOWERING BEANS (F). An unidentified vine in the Faris garden.

FOXGLOVE (C) [Digitalis purpurca]. A tall, spiked-flowered perennial, used for medicinal purposes.

GERANIUM (J) [Geranium macolatum].

GILLYFLOWER See Carnation.

HELIOTROPE (J) [Heliotropium peruvianum].

HELLEBORE (H, B) [Heleborvs viridis]. An herb with an orchid-like flower, thought to cure madness.

HOLLYHOCKS (C, J) [Althtea rosa].

HONESTY. See Satin Flower.

ICEPLANT (F, S, J) [Mesembryantheum]. A delicate perennial, this was grown in pots.

INDIA PINK (F, J, S) [Dianthus chinensis]. Earlier classified as Caryophyllus sinensis. Annuals with a great variety of color in the red, pink, and white

range. The name is used interchangeably with Sweet William.

IRIS (J, B, S, C) [Iris]. Any of several perennials with distinctively shaped flowers, and grass-like leaves. Grown from tubers. Bartram grew white iris, Jefferson and Custis refer to "blue flag" plants. Red, violet, and yellow varieties were also known.

JOBS TEARS (F) [Coix altissima]. A tall grass plant, with large seeds, and several spikes of flowers. Perennial.

LADY-IN-GREEN (F). An unidentified annual in the Faris garden.

LILY OF THE VALLEY (S) [Convallaria majalis].

LUPIN (S, B) [Lupinus perennis and L. luteus]. A tall plant with roseate blooms, native to European swamps.

MARIGOLD (F, J) [Calendula]. These "African Marigolds" were completely different from the present day variety. Grown in pots, they were tuberous, and generally either white or purple.

MARSH MALLOW (J, W, B) [Hibiscus palvstris]. A tall plant with roseate blooms, native to European swamps.

MIGNIONETTE (F, S, J) [Reseda odorata]. A sweet-smelling, annual plant with a tall spike of flowers, generally yellow.

MIRIABILIS (J) [Mirabilis jalapa]. Four o'clocks.

NASTURTIUM (J) [Tropaeolum majus]. A culinary herb as well as a flower; this was also called Indian cress.

PARSON'S PRIDE (F). A perennial grown in the Faris garden.

PASSIONFLOWER (F, C) [Passiflora]. Two sorts were known in the Chesapeake area: P. incarnata with an edible fruit known as maracocks; and P. lutea, which grew in the Carolinas.

PEONY (H, B) [Paeonia officinalis]. Rare perennial in American gardens.

PERIWINKLE (J) [Vinea minor].

PERSICARIA (B) [Persicaria orientale]. A showy annual with red flowers growing to a height of six or seven feet.

POPPY (F, J, B, Ca) [Papaver]. Most gardeners probably had P. orientalis, or P. hortense, the two common

English varieties. The dwarf poppy or P. nudicaule, was also grown in Chesapeake gardens.

PRIDE OF CHINA (F, W, J) [Melia azedarach]. First introduced by Prince's nursery; it was also known as Pride of India, and Pride of the East.

PRIMROSE (F, S, J, C, B) [Primula aricula]. Cowslips were also sometimes called primroses, though technically they belong to a different species. Mertensia virginica, was a native blue-flowered variety, sometimes transplanted into the garden.

PYRAMID OF EDEN (P, J, Se). Probably Swertia carolineus, a wild gentian.

SATINFLOWER (F, J, S) [Lunaria annua]. A white flowered annual, also known as honesty.

SENNA (J, B, S) [Cassia fasciculata]. Partridge Peas. Native to America, these plants flowered in autumn and produced seeds; thought to have medicinal properties.

SENSITIVE PLANT (F, J, B). Two varieties were grown: Dionaea muscipula or Venus-fly trap, and Chrankia uncinata, the native sensitive briar.

SNAPDRAGON (J) [Antirrhinum majus]. An annual known to be in the garden at Monticello.

STATICE (S) [Limonium vulgare]. Also called thrift; it retained its color when dried.

SUNFLOWER (K, B, S, J) [Helianthus annua].

SWEETPEA - Sweet William (F, J, S, B, W) [Lathyrus odoratus]. The "everlasting" pea, L. latifolius, was also grown.

SWEET WILLIAM See India Pink.

TUBEROSE (F, C, S, J, H, Ca, P) [Polyanthes tuberosa]. Both double and single varieties of these shade-loving plants were cultivated. Grown from tubers, they were only partially successful in the humid Chesapeake climate. Among those grown by Faris were "Glory of Canton" and "Mrs. Gassy."

VIOLA (S) [Viola pedata].

VIOLET (L, S) [Viola odorata]. A fragrant wood's flower, either blue or white.

WALLFLOWER (F, S) [Cheiranthus]. Many varieties, confusing in their similarities were grown, among them

stock, dame's violets, widow wallflower, and "old bloody" wallflower.

YUCCA (J, W, S, B, H) [Yucca filamentosa]. Silk grass, noted for its large waxy-white flowers on a stalk.

Shrubs/Trees

ACACIA (J, B) [Mimosa nilotica]. Any of several trees; acacia, mimosa, honey locust. Jefferson bought "Egyptian" acacias in 1778.

ALDER (J, B) [Alnus serulata]. Both native and European varieties were grown in pleasure grounds.

ALMOND TREE (C, J, F) [Prunus amygdalus]. Grown chiefly for flowers and set in a garden, not orchard.

ALTHEA (F, J, S, Sc) [Althea frutex or Hibiscus syriacus]. The Rose of Sharon.

ANOMIS (S, B) [Onomis]. A showy shrub with purple flowers on long spikes.

APPLE TREE (F) [Prunus malus].

AZALEA (J, B) [Azalea]. A number of these grew wild in America.

BEAD-TREE (Sc) [Azedarach sempervirens]. An evergreen with rose-shaped flowers.

BLACK HAW (W) [Viburnum prunifolium]. Also called Black Gum.

BOX (C, W, F, Sc) [Buxus sempervirens suffruticosa]. Used for edgings of formal gardens; this was a rare and costly shrub until after the American Revolution. Custis also grew B. aureus, a variegated type.

CALLIPARCA (J, W) [Callicarpa americana]. A "showy and pleasing" shrub with delicate purple berries.

CAROLINA CORAL TREE (S) [Erythrina].

CEDAR OF LEBANON (C, B) [Codrus libani].

CRAB APPLE (W) [Pyrus coronaria].

CRAPE MYRTLE (W) [Lagerstroemia indica]. A native of the West Indies.

DOGWOOD (C, W) [Cornus florida]. A flowering white or pink tree native to the Chesapeake area. Enthusiasts for American plants often transplanted it to the garden.

ENGLISH BROOM (or Scotch Broom) (B, J) [Cytisus seoparivs]. A shrub used for hedges in Virginia; also recommended for feeding pigs.

FRINGE TREE (W, J) [Chionanthus virginica]. Also called the Snow-drop tree of Virginia; it was described as having "bunches of white flowers hanging on branched footstalks." To Jefferson its blooming was a harbinger of spring.

HAWTHORN (W, J, B). Any of several American plants used for edging, hedges, etc. Crataegus phaenopyrum was the most prevalent.

HOLLY (F, W, J, C) [Ilex]. Both I. aguifolium (English holly) and I. opaca (American holly) were staples of the colonial garden.

HONEYSUCKLE (C, W, S) [Lonicera Azalea]. Any of several flowering vines, including red, white, pink, and yellow varieties. Two scarlet types, and one yellow, were native Maryland and Virginia.

HORSE CHESTNUT (C, B) [Aesculus hippocastanum]. An English tree valued for its fine size and fragrant flowers.

INDIAN NUTMEG (F). Possibly Opuntia vulgavis, a common garden plant in Europe, with a large rose-shaped flower.

JASMINE (F, J, C, P, Sc) [Jasminum]. Several varieties were grown by Chesapeake farmers, including J. Sambae, a white and purple variety, and Gelsemium sempervirens (Bignonia sempervirens in Jefferson's Notes), a yellow variety native to Carolina.

JERUSALEM CHERRY (F) [Solanum pseudo-capsicum]. A flowering bush, probably related to the laurel.

JUNIPER (K, B) [Juniperus virginiana]. A native tree sometimes transplanted to the garden and trimmed to create a neat shrub.

KALMIA (B, J, W) [Kalmia aliflora]. A shrub, called "Dwarf laurel or ivy" by Jefferson.

KENTUCKY COFFEE TREE (W) [Gymnocladus dioica]. Acquired by Washington after a trip to Western Virginia.

LABURNUM (C, J, W) [Laburnum anagyrodie's]. The golden chain tree, a shrub or tree with delicate, dangling yellow blooms.

LAUREL (C, W, Sc). Any of several evergreen shrubs, native to America, including Epigaea, Ralmia, Laurus, Rhododendron.

LILAC (C, B, W, J) [Syringa vulgaris, S. persica]. Both varieties were cherished by zealous gardeners.

LIME TREE (W, Cl, F) [Tilia]. One of several species of flowering Linden. May have been T. caroliniana, an American variety.

LOMBARDY POPLAR (J) [Populus nigra]. Brought back from Europe by Jefferson in 1784.

MAGNOLIA (C, S, W, J, B) [Magnolia]. Anyone of four native American trees:

Magnolia acuminata: mountain magnolia, found wild in Western Virginia and Maryland.

Magnolia glauca: a small bush-like magnolia, very fragrant; grew wild in swampy or marshy areas.

Magnolia grandiflora: The tulip tree.

Magnolia tripetala: A large tree with shiny leaves, sometimes called the "Umbrella tree."

PADUS (B) [Prunus padus]. The European bird cherry, a "lovely tree."

PEACH TREE (F, C, H) [Prunus persica]. The double-flowering, P. persica semiplena, was probably the one

grown in gardens. Other peach trees were cultivated in large orchards throughout the Chesapeake region.

PECAN TREE (C, W, J) [Carya pecan illinoensis]. Used in the garden as a curiosity. This native tree was not grown in orchards in Maryland and Virginia.

PYRACANTHA (H, W) [Pyracantha coccinea]. Firethorn.

REDBUD (C, W, B) [Cercis canadensis]. A native American plant. Because of its spring beauty, it was sometimes moved into the garden.

RHODODENDRON (B, J, W). Any of several native bushes, evergreen and flowering in the spring, including Rhododendron maximum.

ROSE (F, C, B, P, L, S, J) [Rosa]. Four varieties: R. damascena, R. alba, R. rugosa, and R. centifolia were known in colonial gardens. The wild rose, R. virginiana, was not extensively cultivated.

SCOTCH BROOM. See English Broom.

SMILAX (F) [Smilax laurifolia]. A shrubby form of Sasparilla.

SNOWBALL BUSH (F, B). Probably Hydrangea arborescens, the native American hydranga.

SPIREA (B) [Physocarpus opulifolius]. Also called canewood and Virginia "Guelder-rose."

SWEET-SCENTED SHRUBS (F, W, J) [Calycanthus floridis]. A flowering shrub believed to produce medicinal oil. Native to Carolina, it was a valued garden plant.

SYRINGA (C, S). Though this may refer to lilac, it was also used to describe mock-orange, a sweet scented, spring blooming shrub, now Philadelphus coronarius.

TEA SHRUB (Sc, J). An unidentified shrub, apparently native and used to make an herbal tea.

TRUMPET VINE (J) [Bignonia capreolata]. A vine covered with with large orange-red, trumpet-shaped flowers. Schoepf noted that in Virginia "Bignonias appeared here as large strong trees."

WALNUT TREE (F) [Juglans]. English walnut trees were frequently imported for American gardens. The American varieties - Juglans nigira, rotundo profundiffime insculpto, and others - were not propagated in gardens, but left wild in the woods.

WAXENELLA (H). An unidentified shrub grown by the Hollyday family in Maryland.

WILLOW (B, W, J, F, Sc) [Salix]. Faris grew a "golding" willow, and several American species were available, but the weeping willow [Salix babylonica] was considered the most exotic.

WISTERIA (S) [Glycine frutescens]. The "Carolina kidney-bean tree" was a modest variety of Wisteria, native to America.

YEW (W) [Taxus baccata]. An English plant, used for ornamental plantings or shrubbery.

KEY

- H = Hollyday Papers (Maryland Historical Society)
- B = Bartram list of Plants
- J = Thomas Jefferson's Garden Book
- S = Skipwith list in Leighton, pp. 283-290
- F = Faris Diary, (Maryland Historical Society)
- C = Custis Garden, Swem, "Brothers of the Spade"
- W = Washington Writings
- Cl = Carroll Papers (Maryland Historical Society)
- K = Kalm's Travels
- Ca = Diary of Landon Carter
- P = Peter Bellet Advertisement
- Sc = Schoepf, Travels
- L = Lawson, New Voyage
- Y = Lloyd Family Papers

The list of flowers grown by the "middling sort" of planter was, of course, considerably shorter. An early visitor to the colonies saw numerous herbs grown,⁴⁵ but the only true flower he observed was the rose. Johann Schoepf noted that very few gardens had imported flowers, that they were filled with "nothing but wild jasmine flower, gentiles, globe-amarantis, hibiscus syriracus, and other common things."⁴⁶ A similar report came from North Carolina in 1700. "We have only two sorts of Roses," admitted John Lawson; "the Clove-July flowers, violets, Princess Feather, and Tres Colores. There has been nothing more cultivated in the flower-garden which occurs to my memory".⁴⁷

European travelers were attuned to look for plants with which they were familiar, and it is probable that they may have dismissed a wide variety of native American flowers grown in modest gardens. Lady Skipwith had numerous wildflowers in her garden, among them, bloodroot, Dog's Tooth Violet, wild phlox, and Solomon's Seal.⁴⁸ Thomas Jefferson was another who favored native plants; his flower beds boasted trumpet vines, wild azaleas, and goldenrod.⁴⁹ Indeed, Johann Schoepf dismissed many gardens as inferior because he saw little "by way of foreign growths which it had been attempted

to domesticate," despite the fact that he had seen a number of native plants of rare beauty.⁵⁰

Because they were easy to acquire and already adjusted to the climate, it is likely that the average farmer who desired a bit of color or variety in his garden relied heavily on native plants.

Of the imported plants grown, perennials and shrubs were preferred over annuals. English taste, which favored these forms of flowering plant, was partially responsible for their popularity in the colonies. But perennials, which were generally propagated by root, were also particularly suited to being transported across the ocean; in their dormant state there was less likelihood that they would die, and they were not as easily destroyed by vermin as were seeds. Shrubs were less easily transported, but like perennials, they had the advantage of blooming year after year, with little care once they had been established in the garden. One bush or plant could be divided by roots or trimming to multiply the numbers in the garden, an easier task than growing plants from seed. Over three-quarters of the plants listed in the papers of Chesapeake area gardeners, were either shrubs, trees, or perennials.

Fewer varieties of bulbs were grown by the colonists, though among enthusiasts they were greatly favored. Tulips and hyacinths were most common and occasionally, lilies, jonquils, narcissus, or grape hyacinths were mentioned. The difficulty of insuring their safe arrival -- for they were very tasty to mice and rats, and susceptible to rotting from the damp -- made them a highly prized addition to the flower beds. (Once in America they were generally propagated by seed to avoid the risk of reordering from England). Plants grown from tubers, such as anemones, ranunculas, and tuberose, were favorites in England at the time, and dedicated gardeners consistently tried to raise them from the delicate tubers sent from England. However, they were not well suited to the heat and humidity of the Chesapeake watershed and the results were frequently unsuccessful. At least one European visitor faulted American gardens for the absence of these flowers, ignoring, as usual, the lovely native blooms which took their place.⁵¹

Roses were rarely mentioned in accounts of Chesapeake gardens. A wild rose, Rosa becida or virginiana, grew in the area, but those transplanted from Europe were, like the tuberous flowers, not particularly hardy

in the southern colonies. The damp climate made them susceptible to a number of fungi and insect infestations, and the delicate canes often did not survive the harsh winters. William Faris had two bushes, one white and one red (probably Rosa alba, and Rosa damascena) in his garden. A damask rose bush, growing at General Nelson's house in Yorktown, Virginia, was famous enough to be mentioned in several accounts of the battle fought there in 1781.⁵² But many dedicated gardeners, including Mrs. Carroll, do not mention roses at all. No references to formal rose gardens have been found, and it is most likely that pleasure gardens, if they had any roses at all, contained only one or two bushes. Four varieties were available to gardeners in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries - the Rosa alba, Rosa gallica, Rosa centifolia, and the Rosa damascena. Sweetbriar bushes, a kind of a multiflora single climbing rose, were also known in Maryland during the colonial period.⁵³

These early roses were abundant seeders and easily cross pollinated, however, and it is doubtful if many remained faithful to the type during the period. This, in fact, was true for most of the flowers raised from seed in colonial gardens. Rarely are distinct varieties

listed under the species name in America, unless it be by place or origin, or by color. William Faris had ten different tulips in his garden, but he identified them only by their colors, or words such as "best," or "seeding." Not until 1797 did he list the precise varieties "General Washington" and "Lady Washington".⁵⁴

Faris kept bees in his garden and this, of course, aided the cross-pollination of seed-flowers. More than once he planted seeds in his beds without any idea of what would come up.⁵⁵ Native and imported honeysuckle cross-fertilized to create new species, and the same was true of every kind of fruit tree. Thus, except for places in which the strictest attention was paid, colonial gardens probably contained few plants whose exact strain could have been classified by Philip Miller or any other botanical expert.

One reason that there were so few species of flowering plants in the colonies was the difficulty of acquisition. The easiest method was simply to walk into the woods and transplant some of the lovely shrubs and flowers into an enclosed space. Mark Catesby, a gardener who worked in Virginia from 1712-1719, popularized this use of native plants, and it remained a favorite way of obtaining garden materials throughout

the colonial period.⁵⁶ It was by this method that Margaretta Carroll obtained red buds and magnolias for the splendid gardens at Mount Clare.⁵⁷ George Washington also collected native plants when he expanded his pleasure ground in 1785. He recorded several forays into the woods "in search of Elm and other trees for my shrubberies, etc. Found none of the former, but discovered one fringe tree and a few crab trees in the first field beyond my line, and in returning home...by the way of Accatinck creek I found several young holly trees growing near Lawson Parkers." Washington also collected maples, magnolia, dogwood, redbud, sassafras and willows from the woods, and on his travels to western Virginia brought back the seeds and berries of plants which interested him.⁵⁸

In the early years of settlement the only alternative to collecting native specimens was to order seeds and plants from Europe (or occasionally the West Indies) either from friends or through a merchant. All shipping from Europe was risky; the long ocean voyage exacerbated any problems caused by careless selection or handling by those sending the materials. In 1736, Peter Collinson warned John Custis that there was very little chance of herbaceous plants surviving the trip since "a long

voyage (&) a small neglect ruins them." ⁵⁹ Bulbs, trees, shrubs, seeds, and roots fared little better. Though conscientious factors entrusted the little parcels to the captain's cabin, and took care to pack them well, colonial gardeners faced constant disappointment when the orders arrived. John Custis complained that he lost gooseberry bushes, carnations, and primroses when a dog "tore the packages to bits," and bemoaned the destruction of one hundred "fine double Dutch tulips" which split and were spoiled when the ship came in late. "I have been ill-used and it has given me more uneasiness than if I had lost 100 times the value in anything else," he wrote. ⁶⁰ Some sense of the care required to ensure the safe arrival of plants can be had from the instructions Thomas Jefferson gave for shipping garden materials from Europe.

Take the plants up by the roots, leaving good roots. Trim off all the boughs & cut the stems to the length of your box. Near the tip end of every plant cut a number of notches which will serve as labels, giving the same number to all plants of the same species. Where the plant is too small to be notched, notch a separate stick & tye it to the plant. Make a list on paper of the plants by their names & number of notches.

Take fresh moss just gathered, lay a layer of it at the bottom of the box 2 inches thick, then a layer of plants

again moss alternately, finishing with a layer of moss 2 inches thick, or more if more be necessary to fill the box. Large roots must be separately wrapped in moss. 61

The most certain way of receiving plant shipments intact was to have them sent by an acquaintance in England. One man more than any other befriended colonial garden enthusiasts in this way. Between 1720 and 1760 Peter Collinson, a clergyman and amateur botanist, corresponded with Americans such as John Custis, John Bartram, and Maryland's Hollyday family. He sent shipment after shipment of British garden flowers to them, complete with instructions for planting, cultivating, and collecting seed. In return he requested his friends ("Brothers of the Spade" he called this horticultural network) to send him examples of American plants for his own garden. Collinson did much to further the career of botanist John Bartram, and even sponsored him on a collecting trip through the Southern states. There was a certain selfishness in this generosity, since Collinson was enormously proud of his botanical garden and anxious to collect exotic specimens for it. But, by encouraging a network of interested gardeners, tenaciously sending and resending European

plants to his friends, and by cherishing and displaying the plants he received from the New World, Collinson was largely responsible for both the establishment of many European species in America, and the respect with which American flora came to be regarded in Europe.⁶²

With plants from abroad thus difficult to acquire, wise gardeners saved seed or divided roots to expand and enrich their flower beds. Despite the two-year process involved in propagating tulips by this method, for example, it was considered more likely to succeed than a shipment from Holland or England. The correct method of saving seed, according to the first garden manual written in America, was to dry the flower heads "in an airy place that is shaded from the sun; when dry and hard, rub them out of the chaff...."⁶³ The diary of William Faris reveals that nearly one-third of his gardening time was spent in carefully dividing roots or storing seeds.⁶⁴ (The nursery was an important part of the serious horticulturalist's domain - Faris, Washington, Jefferson, and Carroll all had one - but was probably found less frequently on the grounds of the occasional gardener). Washington continually berated his gardener for failing to save seed. After pointing out that most seed that was bought was not good, and

that it thus occasioned loss of labor, money, and an entire growing season, Washington concluded with a strongly worded "request" to his overseer.

Herewith you will receive a parcel of seeds for the Gardener; but I request you to tell him, in positive terms, that he must in future, save his own seeds; for I cannot be eternally buying seeds in the manner I am, merely because it saves trouble; when the cost falls so heavily upon me; especially too, as it is an equal chance that the seed is bad. 65

As gardeners began to be skilled in propagating their plants, it became possible to acquire new flowers by exchanging seeds, roots, and cuttings with acquaintances in the Chesapeake area. By the end of the colonial period this was common practice. Thus, Washington wrote to Margaretta Carroll to obtain samples of trees and shrubs from her greenhouse, and James Hollyday made a note in his pocket memoranda both to be on the look out for "any exotick flower seeds" when he visited neighboring plantations.⁶⁶ William Faris cultivated seed tulips especially for his friends and his diary contains numerous entries similar to the following: "Doct Scott sent me some carnation or rather pink plants & I sent him some evening primrose plants."⁶⁷ When paying a social call on Landon Carter,

John Taylor of "Mount Airy" brought along flower slips
68
as a present.

The more enterprising of these gardeners began in the late eighteenth century to offer their surplus seed and shrubs for sale. Thomas Jefferson bought up to 30 pounds worth of nursery plants from the gardener at nearby Greenspring Plantation in 1778, 1779, and 1780, and noted the success he had with trees that only needed
69
to be carried a short distance before transplanting. Similarly, Washington allowed his gardener to sell extra nursery stock for a profit; one fifth of which he allowed the gardener to keep.⁷⁰ An advertisement in a March 1760 Boston Transcript suggests that colonial gardeners of more modest rank also earned money by selling flower seeds; forty different flower varieties
71
were listed for sale by one woman. No similar advertisements were found in newspapers of the Chesapeake area, but private sales of this kind may well have taken place.

Commercial nurseries also began to spring up in the second third of the eighteenth century. The Prince nursery on Long Island advertised flowering shrubs for sale as early as 1737, including syringa, magnolia, laurel, and lilac, which they would ship to Maryland or

Virginia. Minton Collins ran a thriving business near Richmond. He numbered among his customers Sir Peyton Skipwith and members of the Byrd family. His line of items included trees, bulbs, and perennial roots. 72
Itinerant seedmen also showed up periodically in the towns of the area. In 1786, for example, Peter Bellet told the readers of the Maryland Journal that he had:

Yet on hand an extensive variety of the most rare bulbous flowers and seeds which have not been known before in this country. He has also just imported from Amsterdam the most beautiful Ranunculas, a variety of 120 sorts of all colours; 60 sorts of double anemones; 25 sorts of monthly Rose Trees; 11 sorts of Jessamine; 22 sorts of Carnations; 11 sorts of rare bulbous Pyramids; 8 sorts of Passetouts; 8 sorts of Tube Roses, 8 sorts of Taracules; all sorts of Tulip seed, 16 sorts of Narcissii; 20 sorts of double jonquils, the most rare and in all colours; Hyacinths of the very best sorts; 46 sorts of flower seeds. 73

Once the seed, roots, cultivation of flowers, or plants were acquired, the farmer had to experiment with the cultivation techniques that would produce the most successful flowers. Until the 1730s, when Philip Miller and Batty Langley produced volumes which gave detailed instructions on the raising of flowers, there was little guidance for the amateur horticulturalist. Men such as Faris and Washington frequently consulted these manuals.

In general, however, the American gardener had to resort to a trial and error method of cultivation, for soil and climatic differences kept English techniques from being completely transferable to the New World. John Custis found this to his sorrow when trying to grow almond trees and a number of British plants in his garden in 1730. He found that the hot Virginia summers dried up many species, that imported orchard trees bloomed too soon and thus lost their fruits, and that the long dry spells interspersed with heavy rain storms destroyed other delicate flowers. The consequence, he told Mark Catesby, was that he was "out of [mind?] endeavoring anything but what is hardy and Virginia proof."⁷⁴

The easiest way of cultivating a flower garden was to simply plant seeds, roots, or bulbs in their proper season, weed them and water them if needed, and leave them to flower, die back and grow again on their own next year. The many descriptions of jumbled, neglected gardens of the colonial period, and the dearth of gardening tools listed in estate inventories for middle class farmers suggests that little effort was given to flower growing. With their time occupied by the heavy labor of the corn and tobacco growing season, the small planter and his family certainly did not make garden

work a priority. Probably little more than weeding, watering, and an occasional pruning were attempted by the majority of Chesapeake farmers.⁷⁵

For the enthusiast, however, gardening offered a year-long set of activities to keep flowers at their peak. Bulbs, tuberous perennials, shrubs, and annuals each required specific types of care. Philip Miller's monumental Gardener's Dictionary listed separate instructions for every variety of vegetable or flower grown in the garden, including recommendations on planting, weeding, and propagating. His advice can be roughly divided into three sections -- bulbs, perennials, and shrubs -- for his instructions differ little among the various plants in each section.

Miller advised that shrubs were to be propagated by the small shoots or suckers, which sprang up from the roots. They should be taken up in autumn, planted in a nursery, if possible, and kept free of weeds. John Randolph, writing from Virginia in A Treatise on Gardening, and speaking specifically of honeysuckle, reiterated Miller's advice -- though shoots or cuttings could be removed when the plant was in flower, transplanting should not take place until it had finished blooming.⁷⁶ If possible, the gardener could

stir up the soil around the roots a bit during the winter. The shrubs were to be transplanted from the nursery to the garden in the spring. George Washington noted that the farmer should take care during the operation to keep the roots well buried.⁷⁷ John Custis transplanted his trees and shrubs in a basket, which he buried with the plant roots; eventually the basket rotted and the roots continued to grow undisturbed.⁷⁸ After transplanting, shrubs and trees were generally carefree, save for the necessity of pulling off suckers and pruning back the dead wood each year. Even roses were to be raised by this pattern, though Miller advised that it was necessary to prune them quite far back in order that the flowers, which appeared only on new growth,⁷⁹ would be abundant.

Perennials and annuals required a good deal more care. According to variety, the seeds were to be sown in autumn or spring in boxes filled with rich soil. During their nursery growth they were to be watered and kept clear of weeds, and those that were weak or poorly formed were to be culled out. Transplanting took place in the spring for plants that had been sown in the fall and vice versa. Miller recommended that nursery plants

be one year old before transplanting. Once established in the garden, weeding was again emphasized and old blooms were to be cut back. Miller made little distinction between the care of the various annuals and perennials, save in suggestions about how often roots should be separated, or old plants replaced by new.⁸⁰

Perennials propagated by tubers were planted in the fall and allowed to develop roots through the winter. After flowering in the spring, they were left to die back. Some tuberous plants, such as the ranunculas and anemones, were taken from the ground and stored after the vegetation died. "Tulip when the leaves decay and other Roots we take up every other year," Peter Collinson wrote to Maryland's Goldsborough family, "& then part the Roots & plant them again about Michaelmas in New Bed of fresh earth in which they have not grown before - this makes them flower strong & Bold & preserves the Roots from Decay & Rotting."⁸¹

Bulbs were treated similarly to perennial root stock. If raised from seed, they were to be carefully chosen and sown around the beginning of September. The seedlings were to be kept in the sun and well watered until late spring when their tops withered. After this no water was given to them. When dead, the bulbs were

dug up and saved for planting the next autumn. At that time the bulbs were planted about five inches deep, watered until they bloomed, then the flowers were snapped off and the leaves allowed to die back. The bulbs remained in the ground two years, but were then taken up to be replaced by new stock.⁸² William Faris, a tulip fanatic, who one year grew nearly 2,000 bulbs,⁸³ followed much this method in his garden.

In 1803, John Gardiner and David Hepburn of Maryland wrote The American Gardener, the first complete manual for horticulturalists in the United States. In it they included a calendar of activities which gives an idea of the work performed each month in the flower garden. In January they advised plunging pots planted with auriculas, carnations, hyacinths or tulips into garden beds, and, if the weather was mild, planting crocuses, ranunculas, and anemones. Flowering shrubs, such as roses, honeysuckle, lilacs, and jasmine were also to be planted that month. In February the garden beds were to be dressed with dung, and bulbs and roots kept well covered. March was a busy garden month. Annual seeds could be planted in hot beds, or, in mild weather, directly in the ground, perennial roots

transplanted, garden walks and edges cleared, and delicate flowering trees and shrubs planted. In April, the seeds of shrubs or evergreens could be started in the nursery, annuals transplanted from the hotbed, new seeds of both annuals and perennials sown in the nursery, and tuberose begun. Watering and weeding were constant jobs during these months. The gardener spent May taking up tulip and hyacinth bulbs, transplanting annuals, taking cuttings of fibrous rooted plants, supporting flowers with sticks, destroying weeds, and caring for walks. In June, shrubs were propagated by cuttings, more annuals transplanted, the remainder of the bulbs taken up, fall blooming bulbs planted, perennial roots divided, perennials planted in borders, and hedges clipped. During the steamy days of July, the gardener did little but water, shade, and weed his plants, and keep lawn and hedges clipped. In August, fibrous roots were divided, auricula and polyanthus seed sown, perennial seeds planted in the nursery, annual seeds gathered, borders and hedges clipped, and fall bulbs planted. September saw the addition of fall perennials to the garden, and the gardener also planted boxwood and bulbs, transplanted shrubs from the nursery, and propagated cuttings. In October, plants were

sheltered from the bad weather, roses pruned, and boxwood planted. Any spring bulb planting was also finished this month. Similar activities took place in November. In December, the gardener ended the year by planting hedges, preparing his ground, pruning shrubs, and covering plants.

The diary of William Faris gives additional information about gardening activity in Maryland. The following is a brief summary of his work between 1792-1798.

- January: Dunged garden; repaired garden fence; cut and thinned shrubs.
- February: Planted flowering cherry seeds; dunged garden.
- March: Sowed tulip seeds; cut and planted boxwood; prepared soil; dunged garden; sowed perennials in pots; planted tuberoses outside; transplanted seedlings of flowers from nursery; planted seeds in nursery; cleaned litter out of gardens; pruned bushes.
- April: Dunged garden; dug flower beds; planted roots and seeds of perennials; tied back hyacinths; trimmed shrubs; transplanted trees.
- May: Marked tulips with coded sticks; broke off tops of tulips after blooming; weeded garden; dug garden beds; planted tuberoses and anemones in pots; marked and gathered seeds.
- June: Took up seedling tulips; began to gather seeds.

July: Cleared walks; took up plants; divided perennial roots; replanted boxwood.

August: Cleared walks; took up plants; divided perennial roots; replanted boxwood.

September: Cleared walks; took up plants.

October: Planted seedling tulips; planted perennial roots; digging, dunging, and planting flower beds; planted bulbs.

November/ December: Little work recorded except preparation of beds. (85)

Gardening Tools

To accomplish all of this, the dedicated gardener required a number of specialized tools. Spades, used for digging beds, planting, and transplanting plants, were considered important garden implements. Most were imported from England, made of wood and tipped or covered with iron. Hoes (used for weeding and planting), rakes, and sickles (for cutting lawns) were other essential items.⁸⁶ From there the colonial horticulturalist could go off on any tangent he pleased. A set of drawings made by John Evelyn in 1659 for an unpublished book on horticulture, shows wheelbarrows, trowels, seed baskets and lips, hotbeds, levels, shears, weeding hooks, watering devices, and many other items.⁸⁷ (See Appendix III). George Washington, and other avid

gardeners, frequently used bell glasses (large bell shaped domes made to cover delicate plants in bad weather) as well as hot beds to encourage the early growth of their garden plants.⁸⁸ Miscellaneous garden tools, such as the brass watering can dating from 1660 found on Virginia plantation, or the garden shears ordered from England by Charles Calvert in 1664,⁸⁹ also give an idea of tools used by wealthy planters. In addition, archeologists have discovered the shards of many different types of clay pots, both practical and ornamental, which were used during the colonial period.⁹⁰

Uses of Flowers

Flowers have always been considered more necessary for the soul than for the body. Yet many of the ornamental plants grown around the Chesapeake Bay were thought to have medicinal or culinary uses. Indeed, the first flowers planted by earnest farmers may well have been chosen for their utilitarian properties.

A surprising number of flowers were used in medicines. Roots, petals, seeds and leaves; all were thought to have health-giving qualities. Peonies, for example, were not considered particularly attractive

flowers, but their roots were a frequent ingredient in
homemade tonics.⁹¹ The dried, powdered leaves and
flowers of Lily of the Valley, diluted in water or wine,⁹²
were thought to prevent apoplexy, palsy, and vertigo.
A poultice made of the roots of the daffodil mixed with
honey was good for aches and pains; foxglove made the
heart beat, and a salve of its seed cleaned wounds; and
honeysuckle was thought to aid digestion.⁹³ A syrup of
roses steeped in water was considered a good laxative,⁹⁴
as well as a general tonic and reviver of spirits.
The medicinal properties of columbine were so pronounced
that it was believed to cure everything from jaundice to
small pox and malignant tumors.⁹⁵

Sunflowers also had their medicinal properties and
many other uses as well. Flower petals produced a rich
yellow dye, the stalks were sometimes used for fodder,
and the seeds were pressed for oil, ground into meal or
eaten as they were. Even the head was sometimes boiled
and eaten like an artichoke, or fed to cattle. But,
sunflowers were not the only flowers used for food in
unexpected ways. Richard Bradley, in the early
eighteenth century, recommended using marigolds to color
and flavor cheese. Quinces, from the flowerey Japonica
bush, were made into jelly, marmalade, and roasted like

apples. And both rose hips and rose petals were made
into jam, if there was sugar to spare. ⁹⁶ Other culinary
uses of flowers tended to be more subtle, however. Most
were used as syrups or flavorings. Carnations, for
example, were used for making a popular cordial, and
thus were sold on the London markets with vegetables. ⁹⁷
Similar to this was peach blossom syrup, made in the
Chesapeake colonies where peach orchards were a common
sight. Hannah Glasse, in The Art of Cookery Made Plain
and Easy gave the following recipe for this cordial in
1757.

To Make Syrup of Peach Blossoms

Infuse Peach Blossoms in hot Water as much
as will handsomely cover them. Let them
stand in Balneo, or sand, for twenty-four
hours, covered close - then strain out the
flowers from the Liquor, and put in fresh
flowers. Let them stand to infuse as
before, then strain them out, and to the
Liquor put fresh Peach Blossoms in the
third Time, and, if you please, a fourth
Time. Then to every pound of your
Infusion, add two Pounds of double refined
Sugar, and setting it in Sand or Balneo,
make a syrup, which keep for use. (98)

The syrup may well have had an alcoholic content
or taken in conjunction with other spirits. In 1756,
Robert Lloyd wrote to a fellow Marylander, describing
the antics of a friend who "had had little to do for two

months past but sport and be gallant...with a full Dose
of the Syrup of Peach Blossom topt with some your
Brother Harry's fine old Madeira." ⁹⁹

A syrup of roses was made and consumed in a like
manner, but the most common use for rose petals was to
make rose water. Used to enhance creams and custards,
fancy cakes and tarts, it was the flavoring preferred by
cooks before vanilla became popular. ¹⁰⁰ In addition,
it often perfumed the hair and skin of delicate ladies
or was used in a final rinse of their underclothes.
Damask roses, with their powerful scent, were favored
for distilling rose water. The following recipe is from
Hannah Glasse.

To distill red Rose-Buds

Wet your Roses in fair Water. Four
gallons of Roses will take near two
gallons of Water, then still them in a
cold still; take the same stilled water,
and put it into as many fresh Roses as it
will take, then still them again.(101)

For those with a greenhouse, or living farther south,
orange flower water could be made and used in the same
manner.

Finally, flower petals were dried, mixed with
spices and pressed into linen bags to lay between
household linen, or to fill a bowl and perfume the air.

NOTES

¹ Johann David Schoepf, Travels in the Confederation, translated and edited by Alfred J. Morrison (New York: Burt Franklin, 1968), I, p.93.

² Robert Beverley, The History of Virginia in Four Parts (London: 1722), pp. 278, 280.

³ St. Jean de Crevecoeur, Sketches of Eighteenth Century America, edited by Henri L. Bourdin, Ralph H. Gabriel, and Stanley J. Williams (New York: Benjamin Blom, Inc., 1972), p. 144.

⁴ John Lawson, A New Voyage to Carolina, edited by Hugh Talmage Lefler (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1967), p. 84.

⁵ Crevecoeur, Sketches, p. 72

⁶ See Avery O. Craven, Soil Exhaustion as a Factor in the Agricultural History of Maryland and Virginia (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1926), pp. 32, 351.

⁷ Schoepf, Travels, II, p. 76.

⁸ Beverly, History of Virginia, p. 278.

⁹ Crevecoeur, Sketches, p. 144.

¹⁰ Schoepf, Travels, I, pp. 93-94.

¹¹ See George Washington to William Pearce, January 16, 1794, and April 6, 1794 in John C. Fitzpatrick, ed., The Writings of George Washington (Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1931-1940), XXXIII, pp. 271, 316.

¹² On June 5, 1755, for example, the following advertisement appeared in the Maryland Gazette:

"If any GENTLEMAN wants a well-experienced GARDENER, who is qualified for any climate situation or soil, and the various seasons for the propagation of most sorts of esculent plants, for the kitchen, fruit,

and pleasure gardens, conservatory and nursery in their several tribes; he is also a ground-workman, a single person, and willing to serve by the year..."

13

Peter Kalm, Peter Kalm's Travels in North America, edited by Adolph B. Benson; (New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1964), I, pp. 107; see also George Alsop "A Character of the Province of Maryland, 1666," in Clayton Colman Hall, ed., Narratives of Early Maryland (New York: Barnes and Noble, 1910).

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Beverley, History of Virginia, p. 122.

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Richard Lewis, "Description of Spring, a Journey from Patapsco in Maryland to Annapolis April 4, 1730," in Roy Harvey Pearce, ed., Colonial American Writing (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., 1969), p. 612.

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John Ferdinand Dalziel Smyth, A Tour in the United States of America (New York: New York Times and Arno Press, 1968), II, pp. 145-146.

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Edward Kimber, The History of the Life and Adventures of Mr. Anderson (New York: Garland Publishing Company, 1975), p. 232.

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Edward Hyams, A History of Gardens and Gardening (London: J. M. Dent and Sons, Ltd., 1971), p. 209.

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Schoepf, Travels, II., p. 76.

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Jack P. Greene, ed., The Diary of Colonel Landon Carter of Sabine Hall, 1752-1778 (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1965), p. 1095.

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Maryland Gazette, 1750-1778; see especially advertisement on January 6, 1778.

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John Custis to Robert Cary, n.d. (1725), in Earl Gregg Swem, ed., "Brothers of the Spade: Correspondence of Peter Collinson, of London, and of John Custis, of Williamsburg, Virginia 1734-1746," Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society, LVIII, p. 37.

23

George Washington to Sir Edward Newenham, April 20, 1787, in Fitzpatrick, ed., Writings, XXIX, p. 205.

²⁴See Diary of William Faris, 1792-1800, in Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland (here-after cited MHS).

²⁵Thomas Jefferson to Charles Wilson Peale, August 20, 1811, in Thomas Jefferson's, Garden Book, edited by Edwin Morris Betts (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 1944), p. XV.

²⁶See Hyams, History of Gardening, p. 207.

²⁷Francois Jean Chastellux, Travels in North America (New York: Augustine M. Kelley, 1970), p. 281.

²⁸William Eddis, Letters from America, edited by Aubrey C. Land (Cambridge, Massachusetts: The Belknap Press, 1969), p. 12.

²⁹Chastellux, Travels, p. 215.

³⁰Hyams, History of Gardening, pp. 210-211; and Audrey Noel Hume, Archaeology and the Colonial Gardener, Williamsburg Archaeological Series No. 7 (Williamsburg: Williamsburg Foundation 1974), pp. 33-34.

³¹Hunter Dickinson Farish, ed., The Journal and Letters of Philip Vickers Fithian (Williamsburg: Colonial Williamsburg, Inc., 1965), pp. 43-44; 78-79).

³²See drawing of John Bartram's garden in Hyam, History of Gardens, p. 200.

³³Faris Diary 1792-1793, MHS.

³⁴Ibid; and Hume, Archaeology, p. 8.

³⁵Maryland Gazette, July 10, 1755 and January 6, 1778.

³⁶Hume, Archaeology, p. 8; and Hyams, History of Gardening, p. 200.

³⁷Hume, Archaeology, pp. 21-23.

³⁸See, for example, Faris Diary, March 29, 1794, MHS.

39 Jefferson, Garden Book; Faris Diary, March 20, 1794, MHS. Advertisements in Maryland Gazette, November 23, 1752, March 24, 1778.

40 See for example, Faris Diary; Farish, ed., Journal Philip Fithian, p. 90; and Lewis "Description" in Pearce, ed., Colonial Writing, p. 613.

41 See Peter Collinson to William Goldsborough, October 7, 1751, and Peter Collinson to Henrietta Maria Goldsborough, February 20, 1752, in Hollyday Papers, MHS.

42 Jefferson, Garden Book.

43 Faris Diary, MHS. See May 1, 1794 for list of tulips.

44 See Ann Leighton, American Gardens in the Eighteenth Century: "For Use or For Delight" (Boston: Houghton-Mifflin, 1976), pp. 280-284.

45 "Letter of Thomas Paschall, 1683", in Wayne Rasmussen, ed., Agriculture in the United States: A Documentary History (New York: Random House, 1975), I, p. 120.

46 Schoepf, Travels, II, pp. 93-94.

47 Lawson, New Voyage, pp. 84-85.

48 Leighton, For Use or for Delight, p. 286.

49 Jefferson, Garden Book, p. 27.

50 Schoepf, Travels, II, p. 77.

51 Ibid., I, p. 94.

52 Faris diary, May 303, 1793; MHS; and Ethelyn Emery Keays, Old Roses (New York: Earl M. Coleman, 1978), p. 35.

53 Keays, Old Roses pp. 15--71.

54 Faris Diary, May 1, 1794, and October 9, 1797, MHS.

- 55
Ibid., March 19, 1793.
- 56
Hyams, History of Gardening, p. 211.
- 57
Margaretta Carroll to Charles Carroll, March 17, 1782, Carroll Papers, LC.
- 58
John C. Fitzpatrick, ed., The Diaries of George Washington (Boston: Houghton-Mifflin, 1925), II, pp. 338, 344, 345, 349, 360.
- 59
Peter Collinson to John Custis, November 12, 1736, in Swem, ed., "Brothers of the Spade", p. 51.
- 60
See John Custis to Robert Cary, n.d., 1725 and 1726, ibid., pp. 31, 37-38.
- 61
Jefferson, Garden Book, p. 117.
- 62
Leighton, For Use or for Delight, pp. 104-105; and William Darlington, Memorials of John Bartram and Humphrey Marshall (Philadelphia: Lindsay and Blakiston, 1849).
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Faris Diary, MHS.
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George Washington to William Pearce, April 6, 1794, and February 28, 1796, in Fitzpatrick, ed., Writings, III, p. 316, XXXIV, p. 480.
- 66
George Washington to Margaretta Carroll, Ibid., XXX, pp. 404, 426; and James Hollyday, pocket memoranda, 1733, Hollyday Papers, MHS.
- 67
Faris Diary, May 5, June 13, 1792, MHS.
- 68
Greene, ed., Diary of Landon Carter, p. 836.
- 69
See Jefferson, Garden Book, pp. 77, 89, 90.
- 70
Advertisement for Prince nursery in Leighton, "For Use or For Delight"; and George Washington to William Pearce, January 25, 1795, in Fitzpatrick, ed., Writings, XXXIV, p. 103.

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Advertisement quoted in Alice Morse Earle, Home Life in Colonial Days (New York: MacMillian Company, 1898), pp. 440-441.

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U. P. Hedrick, History of Horticulture in the United States to 1860 (New York: Oxford University Press, 1950), p. 28; and Leighton, For Use or For Delight, pp. 205, 306-309.

73

Advertisement in Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser, January 24, 1786.

74

John Custis to Mark Catesby, June 1730; Custis to Peter Collinson, July 29, 1736; in Swem, "Brothers of the Spade", pp. 39, 48; See also pp. 62, 71.

75

Jasper Danckaert's description of Maryland gardens was typical of those dividing the farmers' poor attempts at gardening. In the late 17th century he wrote:

"Tobacco is the only production in which the planters employ themselves as if there were nothing else in the world to plant but that...a few vegetables are planted but they are of the coarsest kinds and cultivated...in the coarsest manner, without knowledge or care.."

Danckaerts quoted in Richard Osborn Cummings, The American and His Food (Chicago: University of Chicago Press 1940), pp. 134-135. See also Elizabeth B. Pryor, "Agricultural Implements used by the Middle Class Farmers in the Colonial Chesapeake," (Accokeek Foundation, 1982).

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Philip Miller, The Gardener's Dictionary (Codicote, England: Verlag Von J.Cramer, 1969), e.g. p. 1351; and John Randolph, a Treatise on Gardening reprinted in Gardener and Hepburn, American Gardener, p. 300.

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Fitzpatrick, ed., Diaries, II, p. 345.

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John Custis to Peter Collinson, n.d. (1738), in Swem, "Brothers of the Spade," p. 69.

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Miller, Gardener's Dictionary, pp. 1351; also pp. 1217-1220.
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Ibid., p. 265.
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Peter Collinson to William Goldsborough, October 7, 1751, Hollyday Papers, MHS.
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Miller, Gardener's Dictionary pp.942, 1417.
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Charles Calvert to Lord Baltimore, April 27, 1664, in The Calvert Papers, Maryland Historical Society Fund Publication, Number 28 (Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1889), p. 250; and Hume, Archaeology, pp. 68-69.
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Hume, Archaeology, pp. 39-40.
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Miller, Gardener's Dictionary, p. 1004.
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Thomas Short, a Treatise on such Physical Plants As Are Generally to be Found in the Fields or Gardens in Great Britain (Philadelphia: B. Franklin, 1751), p. 162.
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Charles B. Heiser, Jr., The Sunflower (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1974), pp. 29-49, and Richard Bradley, The Country Housewife and Lady's Director (London, 1727), p. 79.

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Miller, Gardener's Dictionary, p. 264.

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Hannah Glasse, The Art of Cookery Made Plain and Easy (London 1757), p. 305.

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Robert Lloyd to James Hollyday, November 21, 1756, Hollyday Papers, MHS.

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Susannah Carter, for example, calls for it in recipes for orange pudding, spanish cake and cheesecake. See Susannah Carter, The Frugal Housewife (New York: G and K Waite 1803) pp. 149, 157, 166.

101

Glasse, Art of Cookery, p. 314.

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APPENDIX 1

Wildflowers in Cheapeake Gardens

Bindweed (F)
Moccasin Flower (B,C,S)
Amerian Columbo (J)
Apocynum (Butterfly weed) (S)
Bartramia (railroad weed) (B)
Bloodroot (J,S)
Virginia Bluebell (J,S)
Turtlehead (B)
Rock bloodwort (B)
Wild Rosemary (B)
Virginia Beans Ear (J)
Greek Valarian (B)
Phlox (B,K,S)
Goldenrod (J,B)
Solomon's Seal (B,S)
Dog Tooth Violet (S)
Fumaria (S)
Greater Celadine (S)
Trilium (S)
Hound's Tongue (S)
Virginia Spiderwort (S)
Aster (S)
Cowslip (S)

Canadian Columbine (S)

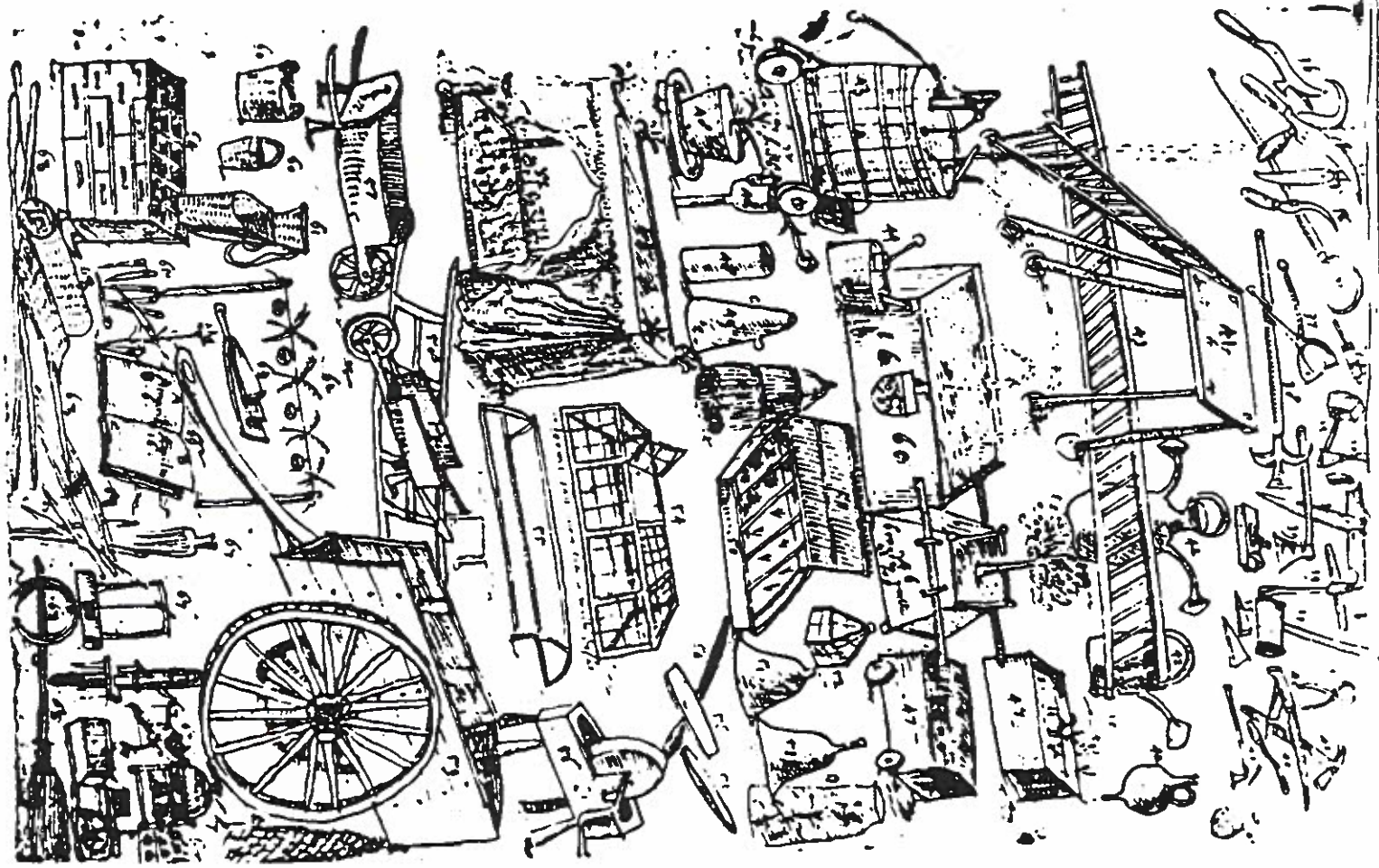
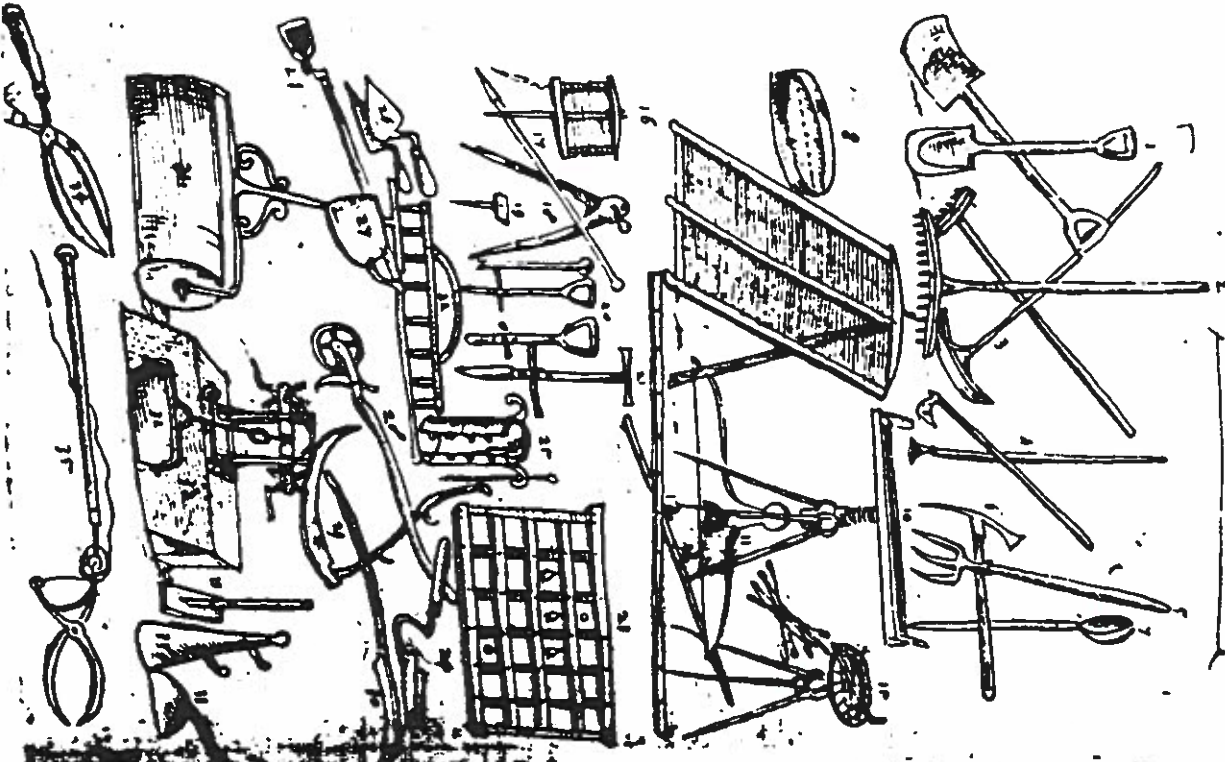
Bermudiana (S)

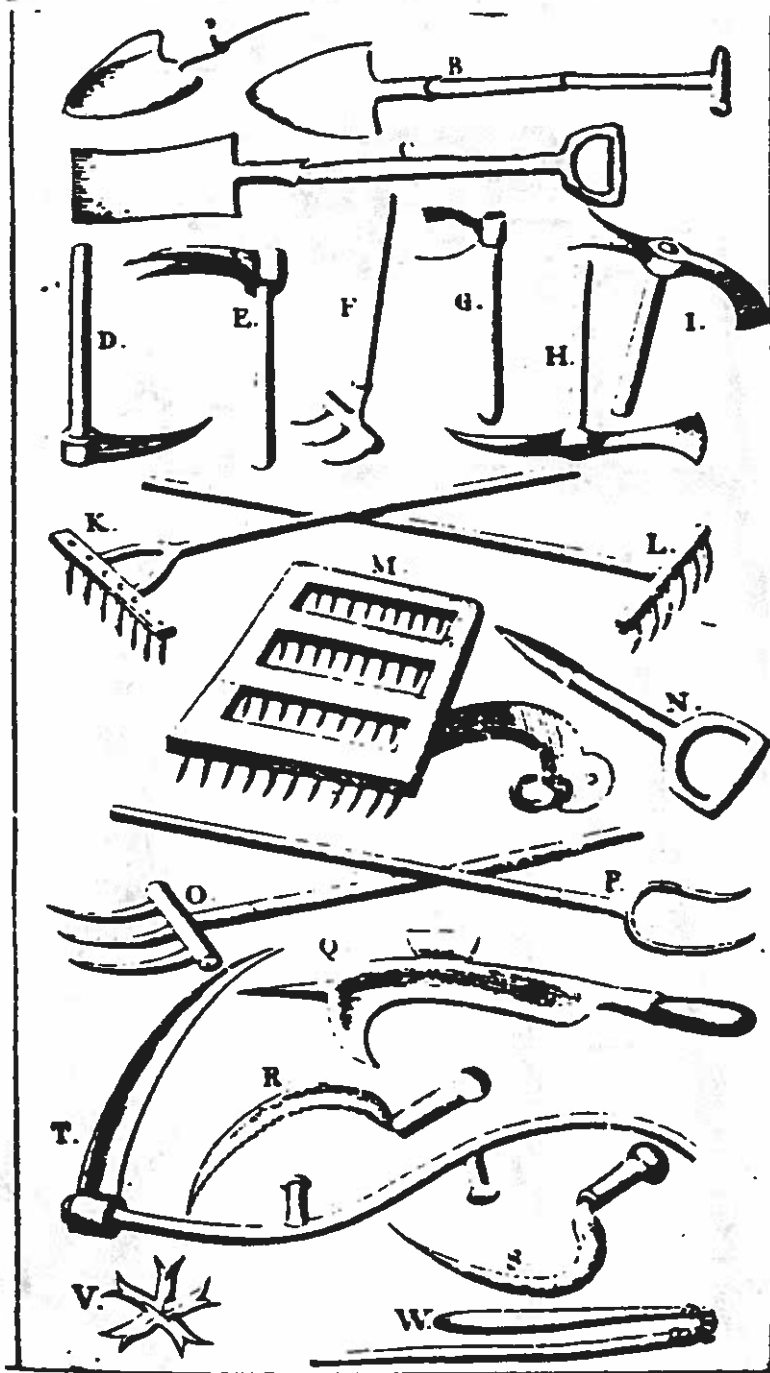
Starflower (S)

Liverwort (S)

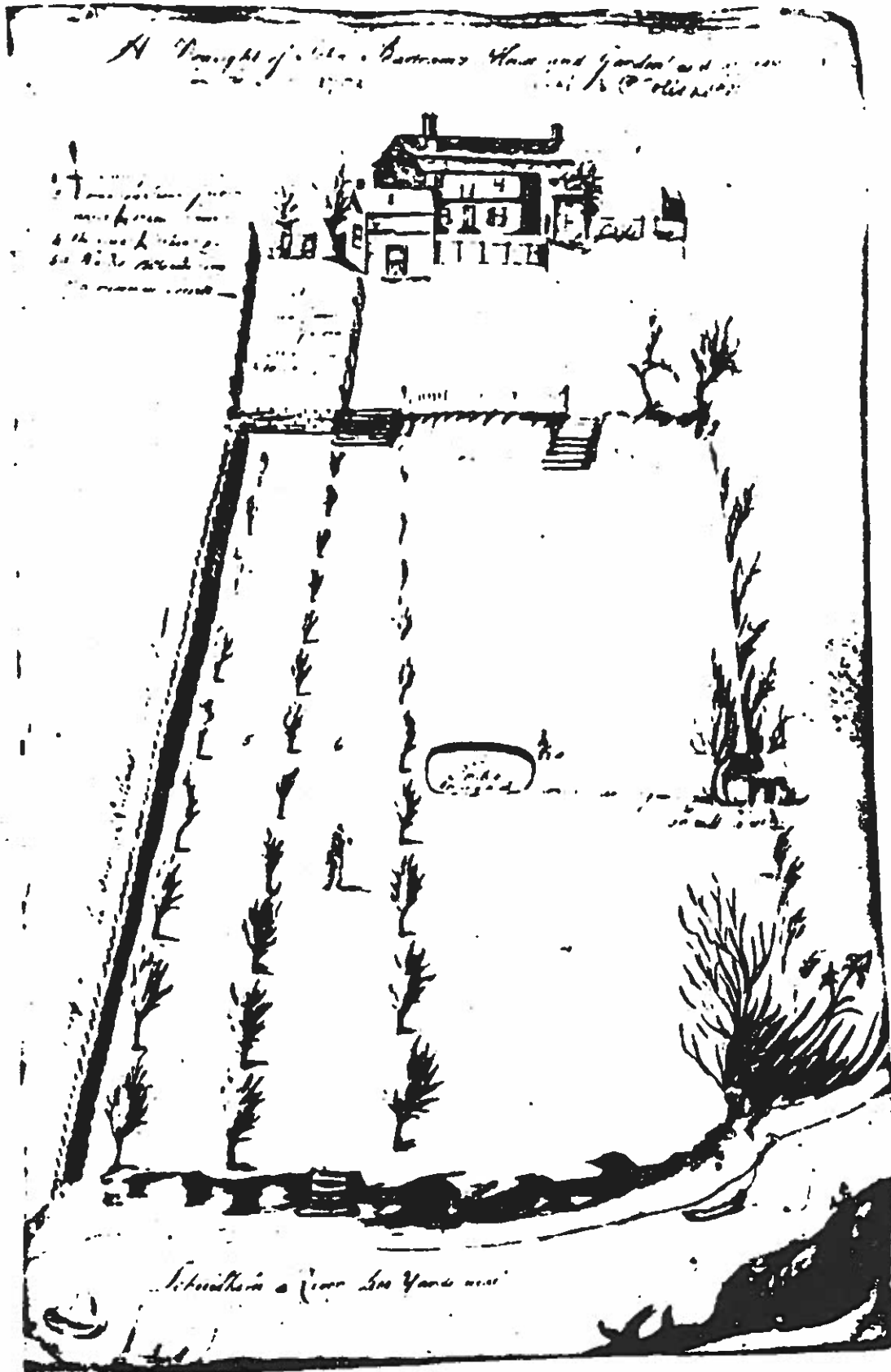
Wild Trees and Shurbs are listed pp. 26-32.

The instruments here depicted in the eye of the reader, and referring to the numbers as they are denoted.





APPENDIX 3
 Hume, Archaeology and the Colonial Gardener



A Draught of John Bartram's House and Garden in the Year 1758
From Hyans, A History of Gardening.

APPENDIX 5

Bulbs Planted by William Faris, May 1,
1974, Faris Diary, MHS.

| No. | | Sticks |
|-----|--------------------|--------|
| 1 | Best Tulips | 382 |
| 2 | Dwarf do | 40 |
| 3 | Red do | 200 |
| 4 | White do | 32 |
| 5 | Black do | 8 |
| 6 | Yellow do | 62 |
| 7 | Parrot tails | 21 |
| 8 | Double do | 61 |
| 9 | Red and White do | 32 |
| 10 | Seedings | --- |
| 0 | White Hyacinths | 66 |
| 11 | Red do | 270 |
| 12 | Blue do | 75 |
| 13 | Winged do | --- |
| 14 | Red Crown Imperial | 7 |
| 15 | Yellow do | 7 |
| 16 | John Quills | 8 |
| 17 | White Narcissis | 18 |
| 18 | Yellow do | 9 |

APPENDIX 6

"a Calendar of the bloom of flowers in 1782"
 from Jefferson, Garden Book, p. 94.

a Calendar of the bloom of flowers in 1782. Note they were planted this spring, and the season was very backward.

| March. | April | May. | June. | July | Aug. | Sep. | Octob. |
|--------|---------|---------|-------|------|------|------|--------|
| " | o o h o | o o o o | o o o | | | | |

Narcissus

Feath.

Hyacinth"

Jonquil"

Hyacinth" Anem."

Ranunc."

M. Iris Iris bicolor"

Nasturtium."

Tulips"

Peony."

Fiery Lil."

White Lilly."

Pink

Sw. Wm."

Holly hock"

Calicanthus"

Crims. Dw. Rose"

APPENDIX 8

from Leighton, "For Use or For Delight"

CATALOGUE OF AMERICAN TREES, SHRUBS AND
HERBACIOUS PLANTS,
most of which are now growing,
and produce ripe Seed in
JOHN BARTRAMS Garden, near Philadelphia.
The Seed and growing Plants of which are disposed of
on the most reasonable Terms.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a Tulip Tree | Liriodendron |
| Sweet Gum | Liquid Ambar styraci flua (W.B.) |
| f Sweet Fern | Aspleni F |
| b White Pine | Pinus <i>Strobilus</i> (Strobus W.B.) |
| a Swamp Pine | _____ Palustris |
| c Pinaster or Mountain Pine | _____ Sylvestris |
| b Frankinsense Pine | _____ <i>Toda</i> |
| Long leaved Pine | _____ Phoenix |
| Dwarf Pine | _____ Pumila |
| Pennsylvania Pine | _____ Echinatus |
| a Larch Tree, White and Red | _____ Larix |
| Balm of Gilead Fir | _____ Abies Canadensis |
| c Hemlock Spruce | _____ Abies Virginiana |

- | | |
|---|---|
| a Newfoundland Spruce, black red and Dwarf | _____ <i>Abies (Picea foliis brevioribus</i> W.B.) |
| Bald Cypress | Cupressus Disticha |
| White Cedar | _____ Thyoides |
| o Red Cedar | Juniperus Virginiana |
| o Sasafras Tree | Laurus Sasafras |
| Red Bay | _____ Nobilis |
| a Benjamin or Spice Wood | _____ Benzoin |
| Carolina Spice Wood | _____ Geniculata |
| a Rose Laurel | Magnolia Glauca |
| o Florida Laurel Tree | _____ Grandiflora |
| a Cucumber Tree | _____ Acuminata |
| Umbrella Tree | _____ Umbrella |
| o Great Yellow Sweet Plumb | Prunus Americana |
| Crimson Plumb | _____ Missisippe |
| b Chicasaw Plumb | _____ Chicasaw |
| a Beach or Sea-side-Plumb | _____ Maritima |
| Dwarf Plumb | _____ Declinatus |
| o Bird or Cluster Cherry | _____ Padus Sylvatica (virginiana W.B.) |
| a Evergreen Bay of Carolina | _____ Serratifolia |
| Dwarf Bird Cherry | _____ Racemosa |
| Crab Apple | Malus Coronaria |
| c Quickbeam | Sorbus Americana |
| | Mespilus Nivea |
| | _____ Pumila |
| a Great Hawthorn | _____ Axarol |
| Cockspur Hawthorn | _____ Spinoza (<i>coccinea</i> W.B.) |
| b Dwarf Hawthorn | _____ Humilis |
| Carolina Hawthorn | _____ Apiisolia |
| d Swamp Service, 2 varieties with red and black fruit | Crategus Prunifolia |
| | _____ Canadensis |
| a Dwarf Swamp Service 2 varieties red and black fruit | _____ |
| Arbor Vitae | Thuya Odorifera (<i>odorata</i> W.B.) |
| e Dogwood | Cornus Florida |
| | _____ Sylvestris |
| a Red Willow | _____ Sanguinea |
| White berried Swamp Dogwood | _____ Perlata |
| e Mountain Dwarf Cornus | _____ Venosa |
| a Great Black Haw | Viburnum Prunifolia |
| Small black Haw | _____ Spinosum |
| d Water Elder | _____ Tini folia |
| c Mountain Viburnum | _____ Triloba |
| a Tough Viburnum | _____ Lanceolata |

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| b Indian Currants | _____ Symphoricarpos |
| Diarvilla | Diarvilla Canadensis |
| d Spiked Willow Herb | Lythrum |
| a Tooth ache Tree | Xanthoxylum Virginianum |
| Kidney Bean Tree | Glycine Frutescens |
| Indian Patatoes | _____ Apios |
| Canada Barberry | Oxijacantha Canadensis |
| e White Birch of Canada | Berula Papyrifera |
| a Red Birch | _____ Lenta |
| c Sweet Birch | _____ Nigra |
| a Dwarf Birch | _____ Nana |
| c Aspen Birch | _____ lifolia |
| d Common Alder | Alnus Rubra, Berula |
| a Sea side Alder | _____ Maritima |
| Silver leaved Alder | _____ Glauca |
| e Sugar Maple | Acer Sachariflua |
| a Scarlet Maple | _____ Rubra |
| c Silver leav'd Maple | _____ Glauca |
| Ash leav'd Maple | _____ Nigundo |
| c Dwarf Mountain Maple | _____ Arbustiva |
| Striped Bark Maple | _____ Ornata |
| c Dwarf Yew | Taxus Canadensis |
| Creeping Syringa (Shade) | Mitchelia Repens |
| (Clammy Birthworth W.B.) | Artistalochia Frutescens |
| e Linden | Tilia |
| a Great White Ash Tree | Fraxinum Excelsior |
| c Black Ash | _____ Nigra |
| o White Oak | Quercus Alba |
| b Black Oak | _____ Nigra |
| Red Oak | _____ Rubra |
| Spanish Oak | _____ Hispanica |
| Dwarf Oak | _____ Nana |
| a Willow leaved Oak | _____ Phyllos |
| Water Oak | _____ Deltoide |
| f Barren black Oak | _____ Folio Amplissima |
| a Live Oak | _____ Aegilops |
| g Chestnut Oak | _____ Castania |
| Willow Oak with broad leaves | _____ Dentata |
| b Dwarf Chinquapin Oak | _____ Chinquapin |
| Oak | _____ Lobata |
| Oak | _____ Campana |
| White Oak | _____ Palustris |
| f Scarlet Oak of Florida | _____ Flammula |
| Gall bearing Oak | _____ Gallifera |
| a Halesia or Silver Bells | Halesia Letrantera |
| 2 varieties | (Tetragorotheea W.B.) |

Trefoil Tree
 e Black Walnut
 White Walnut or Butter Nut
 b Thick shell Hycory
 c Pignut Hycory
 a Shelbark Hycory
 e Great Shelbark Hickory
 b Balsam Hicory
 a Hazelnut
 c Dwarf Filbert or succold nut
 b Witch Hazel
 Red Root (Jersey Tea W.B.)
 (Staff Trees W.B.)
 a Nine Bark
 Ipecacuanha
 Spiraea (Indian Pipe-stem)
 d Poison Ash
 c Buck's Horn Shumach
 a Beech or Sea-side Shumach
 o Scarlet Shumach
 a - - - -
 Poison Vine
 b Poison Oak
 c Sweet flowering Locust
 b Peach Blossom Acacia
 a Honey Locust
 Catalpa
 Cross Vine
 Yellow Jasmin
 Trumpet Flower
 Water Tupilo
 Ogeche Lime
 Sower Gum
 a Prickly Ash
 c Spiknard False
 e Spiknard
 a Cotton Tree
 Black Poplar
 Aspen
 d Bog gale
 Candleberry
 a Dwarf Sweet Candlebury
 e Button wood or water beach
 Prickly Goosberry
 o Beach Tree
 Chestnut

Ptelea
 Juglans Nigra
 ___ Alba
 ___ Hycory
 Juglans Cinerea

 ___ Odorifera
 Corylus Nucleo Rotundiori & Duriori
 ___ Cornata
 Hamamelis
 Ceanothus Foliis Trinerviis
 Celastrus Scandens
 Spirea Opulifolia
 ___ Foliis Ternatis
 ___ Aruncus
 Rhus Vernix
 ___ Cervina
 ___ Lentisci Folia
 ___ Glabra
 ___ Canadensis
 ___ Radicans
 ___ Triphyllon
 Robinia Pseudacacia
 ___ Villosa
 Gleditsia Triacanthus
 Bignonia Catalpa
 ___ Crucigera
 ___ Semper Virens
 ___ Radicans
 Nissa Tupilo
 ___ Ogeche
 ___ Sylvatica
 Aralia Spinosa
 ___ Nudicaulis
 ___ Racemosa
 Populus Deltoidea (Deltoide W.B.)
 ___ Foliis Cordatis
 ___ Tremula
 Myrica Gale
 ___ Caerifera
 ___ Angustifolia
 Platanus Occidentalis
 Grossularia Canadensis
 Fagus Sylvatica
 ___ Castenea

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Chinquapin | _____ Castenea Pumila |
| a Sweet Shrub of Carolina | Calicanthus |
| o Holley Tree | Ilex Aquifolium |
| a Yapon or Cassena | _____ Yapon |
| | _____ Augustifolium |
| | _____ Dahun |
| Dahun Holly | Gaultheria |
| Jersey Tea (Mountain Tea | Epigea Procumbens |
| W.B.) | Vitis Vinefera |
| | _____ Librusca |
| o Bunch Grape | _____ Vulpina |
| Small blue Grape | Smilax Aspera |
| a Fox Grape red black & white | |
| a Bull Briar | _____ Annua |
| Black Briony — many more | Diosperos Guajacaina |
| species | Aesculus Ocrandra |
| o Persemmon | |
| c New River Horse Chestnut | _____ Caroliniana |
| o Scarlet flowering horse | Dirca |
| chestnut | Clethra Alnifolia |
| a Leather Bark | Rubus Idaeus |
| Clethra | Morus Nigra |
| ✓ Raspberry | Anona Nuda |
| ✓ Mulberry | |
| a or e Papaw Apple | Hypericon Kalmianum |
| b Shrub St John'swort | Cercis Siliquastrum |
| 2 species | Olea Americana |
| e Judas Tree | Vitis Petroselenefolia |
| b Purple berried Bay | Celtis (Celtis orientalis W.B.) |
| e Carolina Pepper Tree | (Philadelphua |
| Lote or Nettle Tree | (Alatamaha |
| Three Undescript Shrubs | (Gardenia |
| lately from Florida | |

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