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## My Mother's Garden

Howard Weeden

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*The Diaries of Susan Bradley White offer readers of the Quarterly a unique opportunity to see through the eyes of a woman who lived in Huntsville all of her life, from July 22, 1823 to her death in 1896. The granddaughter of Pamela and Thomas Bibb, the daughter of James and Adeline Bibb Bradley, Susan married Thomas Wilson White, son of James White. Thanks to Eleanor Newman Hutchens, who edited the diaries; to Margaret Hutchens Henson, who helped with typing; and to Jane Faber Scott, who keeps Susan's flowers growing and still enjoys Susan's porch addition. The pit Susan writes about was one of the earliest glass covered pits for winter storage in this section. (Diary entries were selected by Elise Stephens.)*



## MY MOTHER'S GARDEN

She had a soul so like a flower,  
That when she passed away  
A garden was her monument,  
And every year the blooms returned  
With all the old-time scents,  
Which she had known and loved.

But ever through the musk and spice  
Of roses and of pinks,  
Her spirit breathed a finer sense  
Than either musk or spice;  
And day by day, the fragrant air  
Spoke less of Bloom than Soul.  
'Til odors were but memories--  
In that garden of the past

- Howard Weeden