

LESSON II.

TULIP.

Tulips are so varied in their colours and forms, that while some are the easiest subjects that can be executed, others require the greatest skill in the management of their colours. Of course this, which is introduced as the subject of the second lesson, is one that will require but little trouble in its imitation. The stalk must be drawn first: this in a tulip is nearly straight; but in drawing flowers nothing is so much to be avoided as a hard stiff line, as though it were formed with a ruler. This line is made to curve a little to take away the ungraceful appearance of a straight line, but not so much as to destroy the character of the flower. Keep the lines of the stalk very light with the pencil at first; from the stalk make a small point at the place where you suppose the upper part of the flower will appear; and in the same way measure the outline of the sides of the flower.

When the points are properly marked, so that the outline may not be too large or too small, proceed to draw the faint outline of the centre leaf, taking care that the point at the top of the leaf is inclined the same way as the end of the stalk. In drawing the outline of a flower, it is not of so much consequence that every turn is so accurately drawn as that the general character of the subject is attended to. Thus if, in copying this leaf, there should be a slight variation in the form, or even if it is a little larger, provided it is gracefully drawn, and the whole, taken together, is like the tulip, it will be advisable to proceed. As soon as the light outlines of the centre and side leaves are