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# GARDENSIDE GOSSIP

VOLUME 3

JULY 1, 1938

NUMBER 3

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A PUBLICATION OF U. S. Department of Agriculture.

## GARDENSIDE NURSERIES, INC.

SHELBURNE, VERMONT

SO WHAT SIGNIFIES WISHING AND HOPING  
FOR BETTER TIMES.  
WE CAN MAKE THESE TIMES BETTER  
IF WE BESTIR OURSELVES.

-----  
Poor Richard.  
-----

We have no right to philosophize----  
perhaps no reason to do so.

But whatever you may think of the  
state of the world at the present time,  
one thing is certain; unless you bestir  
yourself now many things will be missing  
from your gardens next summer that should  
be there.

And they can be there if you will  
take a moment to turn these pages, to  
read about the plants that should be  
planted in midsummer, or early fall, and  
ordered now, so that they can be sent to  
you at the proper time, when they are  
fully dormant.

You will find familiar names and  
phrases in the following pages. On the  
other hand there are a few new things,  
changes in prices, new evaluations of the  
varieties themselves. The GOSSIP does a  
lot of just that - garden gossiping. In  
the nursery we hear flower-lover's comments.  
In gardens that we make or visit we learn  
of the behavior of plants under different  
conditions, and a surprising amount of our  
mail can be classed as gossip. If you  
have been tempted to write us about some-  
thing you have observed, don't hesitate to  
do so. We need anything that will help us  
to be of more help to those who ask us for  
advice.

We wish that you would all keep an  
especially sharp eye out for new forms of  
the common hardy plants, and particularly  
our native ones. As you read the story  
of the white Gayfeather, be thinking that  
you might have been the one to have found  
it and enriched our gardens. And you  
might also give a silent word of thanks  
to the seedsman who sent us *Ruellia ciliosa*,  
supposedly a half-hardy biennial, which has  
wintered in the same spot here for four  
years, without loss, and has given us a  
profusion of blooms all summer, on the  
poorest, driest soil---and if any of you  
have it, be looking for a break in its  
color, it must be about due.

If you're wishing and hoping for a  
better garden - or better gardens - be-  
stir yourselves.

THE WHITE GAYFEATHER.

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LIATRIS SCARIOSA ALBA.  
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On another page is a brief story of the little we know  
about the Gayfeathers, and particularly about this white one.  
So that for this page we need do no more than to tell you  
how easily they are grown, in almost any soil, and how well  
they will do on dry, hot, and poor places. Of course, they  
are better if given good garden soil, with fair moisture,  
tho' it sometimes seems they get too large and strong if at  
all over-fed. They are perfectly hardy, but resent over-wet  
conditions.

Flowering late in summer, and with us often continuing  
into October, they offer both an unusual fall color, and a  
fairly tall accent plant for the back of the border that will  
not grow rampantly all summer, crowding out more valuable  
things, as do so many of the plants we depend for that purpose.

We have this large bed of seedlings, nearly all of which  
will flower this fall. A large proportion of them we know  
will be white. Send in your orders now, for delivery as soon  
as they begin to flower, and we can be sure of the color. In  
case of any shortage, we shall fill orders in strict rotation.  
Early letters will surely get the first plants to show color.

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STRONG, TRANSPLANTED, TWO-YEAR OLD ROOTS, 50¢ each, Postpaid.

10 or more for 45¢ each.

ORIENTAL POPPIES.

All Poppies are priced at 25¢ each; 5 for \$1.00; 10 for \$2.00; 100 for \$18.00. These prices include delivery. A few exceptions have a higher price noted. Not less than five plants, all of the same variety, will be sold at the quantity rate.

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 APRICOT QUEEN: A very brightly colored sort, not orange, but just off that color towards pink. Fine silky petals and a prominent dark purple blotch.

BEAUTY OF LIVERMERE: Deep ox-blood red, close to maroon. An old variety, of easy culture, permanent, free flowering.

CAVALIER: Very erect, and quite tall, with extremely large blooms of a shade close to that of Lulu Neeley, but brighter. It is a distinctly worthwhile sort of good free growth.

CERISE BEAUTY: This is a brilliant cerise pink, a distinctly different color, and is not duplicated by any sort we have. A large, strong growing sort, that always does well.

DELICATA: Old-rose pink, or when fully open, almost a lavender. In partial shade it might be a bit brighter in color.

E. A. BOWLES: A very delicate and charming shade of soft shell-pink, with well crinkled petals. Choice and easily grown.

FAIRY: A replica of E. A. Bowles, save for two things. It is all through flowering when E. A. Bowles is in its prime, and it is slightly smaller and lower.

FLANDERS FIELDS: A variety that is gaining in favor here. It is almost, perhaps quite as deep a color as Lulu Neeley, but it has a sheen, a brighter cast that makes it glow.

GLOWING EMBERS: The season's sensation - there is nothing like it in its color. It is a deep brick-red, with a touch of orange, slightly dulled, not bright, reminding one of some of the Amaryllis colors. The flowers are of heavy texture, and much crinkled. Only 60 to spare at 50¢ each.

GOLD OF OPHIR: This Poppy is orange yellow. This season we have more of it in bloom than ever before, and our beds are so arranged that it shows in direct comparison with all the others. It isn't Dandelion color - but neither is it bright. We have a fine bed, and are dropping the price to the level of other standard sorts.

HENRI CAYEUX: Old-rose, shading into burgundy. One of the odd shades, that scarcely seem to belong in the Poppy family. Given shade its coloring is brighter. \$1.00 each.

JEANNE MAWSON: Lovely peach-pink. Another sort, that, like Cerise Beauty is distinctly different, not just another pink. The plant is vigorous, and the flowers are extremely large.

JOYCE: Another strong erect variety, with flowers of cerise and old-rose. Extra good, but a trifle brighter than Jeanne.

JULIA BUCK: Large full flowers of deep coral-pink on strong, rigid stems.

LIGHTNESS: This variety doesn't grow so tall, scarcely two feet high with us. The soft rose colored flowers, a bit brighter than E. A. Bowles, are rather smaller than many others, tho' they are heavily ruffled. But how it does flower. Three to one from any other sort on the place of similar size and age.

LORD LAMBOURNE: Brilliant scarlet, erect and strong. A really fine form of the true type of Oriental Poppy, perhaps a shade brighter in coloring.

ANOTHER SEASON WITH THE POPPIES.

Poppy season rightly begins with us here in August. As soon as we have cleared the Carnation plants from the land they have occupied since May, and which had been especially fertilized for them, we work the soil deeply, and lay it out in beds. Usually this is mid-August. The Poppies however have been dug in July.

It has taken several years to work out a satisfactory technique and rotation of crops. Not only is the planting time an unusual one, needing either an area that has been kept idle since spring or else they must follow some crop that is dug in July, of which there are few. The land must be deep, so that the roots can penetrate, and well drained, so that winter loss from rotting of the young plants will not occur. Last of all, on such soils, Poppies persist and come up for a number of years from the roots left in the soil, so that a new field has to be used each year for at least four, to prevent mixture.

All plants are dug each year, graded, and after filling orders, replanting is begun. First are set the weaker crowns which were not of salable size, and these usually provide the show of bloom we enjoy each June. Then cuttings from the roots of heavier plants, that have been in flower, and are known to be true to name, are set. From these we usually get a few blooms, and splendid healthy young roots, of a good size for planting in your gardens, to provide bloom next year.

These beds begin to show growth with the September rains. After heavy frost, they are well covered with straw, but they are among the first to be uncovered in spring, as growth starts early. Always there are some losses, usually in sorts that we didn't have as many of as we had wished. The surest way to get a heavy percentage of plants thru the winter is to set about twice the needed number. All will survive. From April until June, one hears the remark "Come back in June, and see the Poppies bloom." It is constantly in all our minds, for certainly no more gorgeous splash of color exists than thirty-five varieties of Poppies in bloom.

They follow the Iris or come with them, as this year, and usually are a little ahead of the Peonies. June skies are kind to us here, and we seldom get rains to beat the enormous cups into the dirt, or hot weather that burns the flowers as they unfold. Each year, we think we shall manage to keep the most delicate and odd shades together, and to erect some form of protection against the sun, to get the fullest measure of their beauty. But in May and early June we seldom have time to do such things, and it has never been done. What matter, they're lovely anyway.



Another Season With the Poppies - Cont'd.

It seems at times that we should discard at least half the sorts we have, and there is a lot of duplication of color. In some cases, the season is different, and in at least one case of almost identical color, one variety is much stronger than the other. Then we have a few sorts that are of great value, or of the odd shades of color, that we somehow do not seem able to get quantities of. Why will one plant in the middle of a row across a bed live, when none are left within two feet of it? But we keep these sorts, hoping to have a bit of luck, so that we can really make a fair price on them. One thing keeps our list of varieties large. That is the fact that no two people pick the same sort, when they see them in flower.

We are constantly buying and trying the newer sorts, and right here we want to make a statement and then tell a story. We have paid some fairly steep prices at times for new plants. And in a few years we have offered them at our usual 25¢ rate, even tho' at first we had asked several dollars for them. As a result we have been criticized both by gardeners and nurserymen. Of course one hates to pay a good price for a plant one year, to have it much cheaper the next. And many growers prefer to sell one plant at a steep price rather than many at a low. We have no quarrel with either idea, but we have one fixed principle. If a plant is good, it is worth the original price, no matter if it soon becomes cheaper. And, if we can grow that good plant in quantity and make it available to everyone's garden, - and pocketbook - that is fulfilling our reason for being, and doing our small bit of good in the world. Why should your neighbor enjoy a plant that you can't afford, just because we refuse to use the knowledge we possess to grow it in quantity, and sell it cheaply.

As for the story, we bought a new Poppy last year, and the first bloom to open was enormous - and gorgeous. A visitor saw it, and wanted it surely included in the order. The salesman couldn't quote a price, so they returned to the office. The price set was high. It had to be, as we had but a few plants, and a considerable investment in them. "I guess", said the visitor, "I'll just go back and take another look." High prices defeat the purpose for which plants are grown in nurseries. Yet, as in this case, the value was there, and the plant was worth a second look.

That's about all. Perry's White that was all white last year is showing the color of Mrs. Perry in the bed this year. Our stock was carefully saved last year, in fact this is the only real mixture we have seen. Beyond any doubt, this variety will revert. However, we have plenty that are white, this year.

Won't you come see them all next June?

ORIENTAL POPPIES.

LULU A. NEELEY: Red may scarcely be called a satisfying color in any plant, rather it is stimulating. But the red of this fine Poppy is satisfying. Last year we said 'it is the deep red of a well colored apple'. There are other sorts that more noticeably attract attention, but one is always conscious of this sort, and if we were limited to one only it would be this one. Erect, of good size, the deep red flowers lasting well, and a sturdy, sure-to-grow plant.

MAY QUEEN: The same as Olympia, or so close as to be identical. A double early flowering Poppy, of bright orange, touched with scarlet. Showy and permanent.

MRS. PERRY: Lovely salmon pink; an old, standard sort that always grows and flowers.

NEGRILLON: Bordeaux and lavender, an odd combination of red and rose that needs shade to develop perfectly. \$1.00 each.

PERRY'S WHITE: Still the best white we have. The bed is flowering well this season, and but a very few reversions are noted. Good, strong plants. 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.00.

PRINCESS ENA: Much like Mrs. Perry in color, but more tulip-shaped, and less cuplike in form.

PROSERPINE: Chinese red, with a very dark center. A late, tall variety that is vigorous and free flowering.

SILVER BLICK: Salmon pink, with delicate base markings. Taller and larger than Mrs. Perry, this has become our favorite in its color, and we are now growing more of it than of the older sort. Every visitor prefers it too.

SPOTLESS: This is a pure soft pink, just a trifle lighter than Silver Blick and Mrs. Perry, but deeper than E. A. Bowles. It is not as tall as some, with us, but flowers profusely, and the plant grows readily. Several plants with extra petals have been noted in this lot, showing a tendency toward doubling. Spotless has gained greatly in favor here this year with visitors, and amongst ourselves.

TANGEE: Clear, pure orange, tall, very large, and well formed. The color doesn't clash with others. \$4.00 each.

WATTEAU: Pure coral pink, low, and a profusely flowering sort. This variety has a peculiar appeal, hard to describe. 35¢.

WELCOME: Our field notes read, 'Not as glistening as Flanders Fields'. The same deep red, slightly lighter than Lulu Neeley, but lacking the sheen. The petals are shaggy, and there is a fine central blotch.

WURTEMBERGIA: Enormous cerise scarlet flowers, opening out as flat as a plate. An entire garden full of color in itself.

Not much can be added to the amount of Gossip and description we have indulged in concerning Poppies. But it occurs to us that where we are concerned with the planting methods that we use here, the method of planting a larger root is rather different. We would specify two rules. First, cover the crown from one to three inches, depending if the soil is heavy or light; second, never curl the ends of the roots. It is preferable to cut them off, tho' if the soil you have won't permit a planting hole deep enough for the plant received, it is not a satisfactory Poppy soil. Don't be alarmed if the root you get is dry and wilted, that is natural in the dormant state. Plant in firmly, and the soil moisture will soon plump it up. Last of all, mark the spot until growth shows in fall.

A BIT ABOUT PEONIES

Peonies and Iris fill the borders in late May and June, and fill many pages of catalogs in summer and fall. It doesn't seem to us that it should be necessary to remind you again that Iris are best planted shortly after the blooming time, and Peonies in September. But just the other day, we were distinctly and plainly asked, on the grounds of a large estate, "What is the best time to transplant Iris?" So after all, maybe we should mention the fact that it is commonly done in July, and that we have a very good list of standard varieties, to be found in the Master List, of which we will gladly send you another copy on request.

Peony prices as quoted in the Master List, and continued in this Gossip, are really a bargain. The plants are a year older and larger, and while we find it necessary to divide them, if too large, we can and do send a good division in all cases, and generally a plant equal to or truly 'one year old from division'. This with the Postpaid feature, makes the prices actually low. Incidentally, we can obtain almost any desired Peony for you and invite your inquiries.

We have hesitated over the inclusion of the Tree Peonies in this Gossip, but have decided to offer a few. These are distinctly not of our growing, but are the product of a reputable firm. They are grafted on roots of the common Peony, in most cases, and it should be borne in mind in buying them, that if the tops are killed completely back to the roots, the true variety may be lost. It is in this group of Peonies that we get the only real yellow sorts, and tho' it is some years since we saw them in flower the memory of them has persisted, and finally influenced us to try to sell another grower's plants when we should be bending all our energies to selling our own. They are fully hardy in all except extreme climates, and we shall probably invest in a few for ourselves. Always have wanted to try rooting cuttings, and growing them on their own roots. In fact the only sort we now have is on its own roots, and we increase it by division, like any other Peony. It must be possible to grow others that way.

Some Peonies do not bloom. Experts may disagree with us but experiences we have been having convince us that a lack of Potash in the soil, especially on very light loams, may have something to do with this. Identical varieties and sizes of roots, set out on light soils and on heavy clay, the same fall, have provided a marked contrast in favor of the heavy soil. This had had heavy applications of wood ashes as well. A soil test revealed both soils fertile, in fact the loam was richer than the clay, except in Potash. Try wood ashes, they won't do any harm. Or, if you must, use a little Muriate of Potash, and watch results. P. S. - Then write us.

OUR LIST OF PEONIES

ALBATURE: White, with a red tipped center. Also called Avalanche. Midseason. Best white at the price. 35¢ each.

ALBERT CROUSSE: A very late, sea-shell pink flower of perfect shape. 50¢ each.

CHESTINE GOWDY: Silvery pink, growing deeper at the center. 50¢ each.

CLAIRE DUBOIS: A later M. Jules Elie, with a wonderful silvery sheen. 50¢ each.

DORCHESTER: The latest Peony. A fine deep pink, almost salmon. 50¢ each.

EDULIS SUPERBA: Good rose pink. Large and very early. 35¢.

EUGENIE VERDIER: An early, extra large pink. A fine bloom that lasts well. 35¢ each.

FELIX CROUSSE: The best midseason red, and when well grown it is quite the finest red. 35¢ each.

FESTIVA MAXIMA: The old favorite white, with pink tipped center. Unexcelled for massing or cutting. 35¢ each.

FRANCES WILLARD: An immense flower. Blush white, fading to pure white. 75¢ each.

GEORGIANNA SHAYLOR: Extremely large flesh pink flower. 50¢.

JAMES KELWAY: Rose-white, changing to milk-white, and finally fading to pure white. 75¢ each.

KARL ROSENFELD: Fine rich velvety crimson. Midseason. A choice red sort, that lasts well in true color. 50¢ each.

LADY ALEXANDRA DUFF: An immense cup-shaped, pale pink bloom. 50¢ each.

LE CYGNE: Not only the finest white, but considered the world's finest Peony. Very large and distinct. \$1.50 each.

LIVINGSTONE: Pale lilac-rose, with silver tips. A compact very double bloom. 35¢ each.

LONGFELLOW: Brilliant crimson. Just about the brightest colored sort we grow. 75¢ each.

MARGUERITE GERARD: Enormous flat pale pink flowers, fading to white. 35¢ each.

MARIE CROUSSE: Pale lilac-rose. A mid-season, bomb type flower of great beauty. 35¢ each.

MARIE LEMOINE: The latest white, an extra large double bloom. A very fine sort that should be in every collection. 50¢ each.

MARTHA BULLOCK: A very large perfectly flat flower, of deep rose pink, fading to silvery pink. Fragrant as a June rose. \$1.00 each.

MME. AUGUST DESSERT: Bright rose, the center flecked crimson. 35¢ each.

MME. DUCEL: Large, incurved, silvery pink bloom. Midseason. 35¢ each.

MME. EMILE GALLE: A rounded sea shell pink flower like a great double apple blossom. Ethereally beautiful. 50¢ each.

MME. JULES DESSERT: Pure white, with distinct pink center. 75¢ each.

OFFICINALIS RUBRA: The well known, deep red Peony, that often opens for Decoration Day. 50¢ each.



PEONIES -- Cont'd.

SARAH BERNHARDT: Apple-blossom pink. It excels all others in its color. Fine on light soil. 35¢ each.

SOLANGE: White shaded brown. A perfectly formed bloom, of great size. No other Peony like it. 75¢ each.

SUZETTE: Bengal rose, slightly shaded carmine-purple, and with a silvery reflex. 50¢ each.

THERESE: Rich violet-rose. An enormous, finely formed flower. \$1.00 each.

TOURANGELLE: Delicate rose, over pearly white, shaded with salmon. One of the best of the later sorts. 75¢ each.

VENUS: Pale hydrangea-pink, with a lighter collar. 35¢ each.

WALTER FAXON: Bright rose. A distinct, delicately colored bloom, of high quality and good size. 75¢ each.

PEONIES WILL BE SENT OUT IN SEPTEMBER, UNLESS REQUESTED EARLIER. ALL PLANTS ARE ONE YEAR OLD FROM DIVISION. PRICES INCLUDE DELIVERY IF THE VALUE OF THE TOTAL ORDER IS \$1.00.

TREE PEONIES.

The following list of Tree Peonies comprises the offering of a firm specializing in their culture. Each plant is two years old, and pot grown in 5" pots. They may be had at any time, and transplant with perfect safety. Time should be allowed us to obtain the plants, however. Prices are per single plant, and include delivery.

ARCHIDUC LUDOVICO: Double flesh pink. \$4.00 each.

ATHLETE: Double glazed mauve, shaded rose. \$4.00 each.

BARONNE D'ALES: Vivid salmon pink. Double. \$4.00 each.

COLONEL MALCOLM: Light purple and violet. \$4.00 each.

FRAGRANS MAXIMA PLENA: Double salmon-flesh pink. \$4.00 each.

GEORGES PAUL: Amaranth and violet. \$4.00 each.

JULES PIRLOT: Satiny pink. \$4.00 each.

LACTEA: Pure white, blotched carmine. \$4.00 each.

LA LORRAINE: Sulfur yellow, with salmon tinge. \$12.00 each.

MME. DE VATRY: Satiny pink, shaded lilac. \$4.00 each.

REINE ELIZABETH: Vivid Salmon rose. \$4.00 each.

REINE DES VIOLETTES: Fine dark purple. \$4.00 each.

SATIN ROUGE: Bright blood red. \$15.00 each.

SOUVENIR DE DUCHER: Bright reddish violet. \$4.00 each.

SOUVENIR DE MAXIME CORNU: Deep yellow, heavily shaded orange. Fragrant. A wonderful double bloom. \$10.00 each.

TRIUMPH DE VANDERMAELEN: Clear rosy purple. \$4.00 each.

REMEMBER - Tree Peonies, under good conditions, grow to large size. Plant them at least four feet apart.

HERE'S THAT STORY ABOUT LIATRIS.

The Liatris or Gayfeather is distinctly an American plant. Varieties of it are found in all parts of the country. The most commonly grown sort for years was L. Pychnostachya, known as the Kansas Gayfeather, since it was found more generally west of the Mississippi River. There are several other western sorts, and some southern, all that we have seen having flower spikes of the general type of the Kansas Gayfeather, the individual flower heads small and closely set, so that the entire inflorescence gave the effect of a spike. Some of the forms we have grown were really dwarf, and only a foot or more high. Others are intermediate, with slender stems and spikes of flowers. And there are now available selected types of the Kansas Gayfeather that afford the florist six foot stems, with a spike of flowers over two feet long. Incidentally all Liatris flower from the top, downward. Also, and even more surely, if that is possible, all Liatris have the same deep wine purple blooms.

There is one sort, however, L. scariosa, not L. squarrosa, which is distinct, which has its flower heads well spaced on the stem, so that while it still gives the long spike effect, it is different. And tho' it persistently gave the same colored flowers, when raised from seed, it was this sort that nature picked to transform. A good number of years ago we happened to note that the Hicks Nurseries on Long Island had a white flowered form of this Liatris, and we purchased a few roots of it. At first we divided the roots, but it seemed to us to have a stunting effect on the resulting plants, and we began saving seed, always difficult with this family as they flower so that that our frosts prevent its formation. Several years elapsed before we really got a good lot of seedlings. From them we raised another lot of seedlings, and now---getting ahead of the story a bit.

In all the seedlings we raised, we had just two colors, the familiar one, and the white. And in the second generation of seedlings we didn't feel that we had as good a percentage of white as came in the first. And too, we had some complaints from purchasers of plants we knew to be white, that they flowered in the familiar color, the next year, leading us to think they might revert. Wishing to check up on them, we recalled that it was said the plant was found growing wild, a chance sport. A reference work told us that this Liatris grows over much of the East, tho' we do not know that it is a real native of Vermont. A letter to the Hicks firm brought the definite information that it was found growing wild on Hempstead Plain, on Long Island. Now to revert to the second generation seedlings.

## CAMASSIAS.

These are bulbs found growing in moist or even wet meadow land, or beside ponds, or in open woodland - anywhere in not too dense growth. There are several species, not too distinctly separated. Some were used as food by the Indians. Perhaps for that reason the name *esculenta* was given at first to both the middle western and the Far coast form. The latter we now recognize as distinct, and tho' not as large as the other western form, *leichtlini*, it is far preferable to the one most commonly grown.

The culture is simple. Bulbs should be planted in clumps of from three to ten, for best results, and left undisturbed. Here they are already beginning to ripen, after flowering in May. They give blue in the early border, and disappear, to come again at a time when they are needed. Try them.

C. LEICHTLINII, BLUE: This species grows to 4' in good soil, and is very showy. Pale lavender to dark blue.

C. LEICHTLINII, WHITE AND CREAM: A light colored strain of the preceding.

C. QUAMASH: This is the far western form, which we have had before as *esculenta*. We have appreciated the improvements in it this year. It is a better blue, and more floriferous than the other forms, tho' not so tall, nor as large.

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ANY OF THE ABOVE: 3 for 35¢; 10 for \$1.25; 25 for \$2.50,  
POSTPAID.

## DICENTRAS.

Our native Squirrel Corn and Dutchman's Breeches, found in every rocky hard-wood field, are among the earliest and most charming spring flowers and childhood friends. The white flowers tipped with yellow may, in good cultivation, stand up on 8" stems, and really give a good bit of color to a rocky slope or the edge of shrubbery. We find no difficulty in cultivating them in any deep cool soil.

D. CANADENSIS: Squirrel Corn. A round yellow corn.

D. CUCULLARIA: Dutchman's Breeches. A reddish bulb, of loose pointed scales, all of which will grow.

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EITHER OF THE ABOVE, 15¢ each; 3 for 35¢; 10 for \$1.00; 100, \$9.00

## MERTENSIA.

There are several members of this family, all of them fine and worth cultivation, but the one we offer far surpasses the rest and is, perhaps, one of our finest wild flowers. M. VIRGINICA: The American Cowslip. From a stout, black root, rises an arching stem of blue green leaves, tipped with pendant blue bells, flushed pink. After flowering it dies away. Charming with Bleeding Heart, or massed under tall shrubs and excellent in the border.

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STRONG ROOTS, 25¢ each; 5 for \$1.00; 10 for \$1.50; 100, \$12.50.

## SANGUINARIA

The Bloodroot is most common on rock strewn open hill-sides where the reddish roots will be found nestled against a stone. Any soil will grow them, if cool in summer, or if they are given a rock for protection, as in nature. In earliest spring SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS gives a wealth of foliage effect, with a charming white flower that rivals the finest Crocus. Use them in the Rockery, and under shrubs.

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STRONG ROOTS, 3 for 50¢; 10 for \$1.25; 100 for \$10.00, POSTPAID.

## TRILLIUM

The Trilliums are found variously, some in the depth of cool woodland, others scattered over open woods, indiscriminately; and some in dense patches, carpeting the edge and even encroaching on the surrounding fields. (See next page).

Here's that story about *Liatris* - Cont'd.

From the first of that generation seedlings to bloom, we harvested a crop of seed, and sold the plants. Last year that seed, really the third generation from our original plants, produced a good quantity of seedlings. But in the meantime we had flowered a second lot of seedlings from the second generation seed and among them was a fair percentage of white, and two outstandingly different spikes. One was an exceptional plant of true *L. scariosa* color, but brighter and with more flowers open. The other had almost no color, just a washed-out sort of thing, fit only for the discard. Yet in these two were the first evidence of a real break from the original color of all *Liatris*, since the white was a chance seedling, that apparently would reproduce itself true to color only part of the time. The first seed saved from these two failed to grow, but by giving the plants a start under glass we were able to seed them last fall, and seedlings of both are now growing nicely. Don't misunderstand, we aren't making any predictions at all, but we're doing a lot of hoping, and we have some reason to believe that in this, or the next generation, we shall begin to get some new colors in *Liatris scariosa*.

Now getting back to the third generation seedlings. In July, we transplanted the entire lot, and with an unusual amount of luck - and some water - we lost but a few and, strange to say, along in fall those one year old seedlings began to flower! That isn't usual, tho' perhaps not an impossibility, but we never had it happen before. Best of all, a good big percent were white, and it is that bed of seedlings we are waiting to see flower this fall. Apparently we will have a heavy bloom. Will there, or will there not, be any color other than the two familiar ones in this lot of seedlings? How we wish we knew. In any case, we shall have a good quantity of white, unless last fall's indications were not correct.

All this may not be as important to you as we are trying to make out, but we believe that it is. If you know this *Liatris* you'll appreciate having it in other colors. If you know and like plants, you'll understand the grip that waiting for each new first flower to open can have on one.

Never shall forget a dreary November day in Connecticut some years ago. It rained in gusts, and was generally as nasty as November can be. Inside the house was warmth, and cheer, while across the yard were greenhouses filled with seedling chrysanthemums, opening for the first time. Did we cross that rainswept yard that day? Indeed we did, not once but many times, and always with the hope that "something new may have opened", - tho' we knew well enough that it couldn't have since the hour before. The same fascination takes the prospector into the desert..



TRILLIUM -- Cont'd.

DON'T FORGET TO PLANT THESE NOW.

Perhaps you get tired of having us continually remind you that certain things should be planted at certain times. Yet they do so much better in most cases, when flowering time comes around, that you'll surely thank us then, and too, some things just have to be handled now.

Take Mertensia, for instance. It is now dormant, and can be dug with every bit of surety of lovely blue and pink bells next spring. But dig it next spring, no matter how early, and it sulks, and won't grow for a year, or else the started top turns yellow, and fades away. And this is true of those delicate little natives, cousins of the Bleeding Heart, the Squirrel Corn, and the Dutchman's Breeches.

Another native American that is not easily moved in spring, tho' it ripens rather later in summer than the preceding, is the Camass. We had a splendid bed of bloom this year, and these bulbs grown here offer a chance for earlier delivery than is the case of western bulbs. And there is another little Middle Westerner that not many people know, Leucocrinum, the Sand Lily. A clump of these in the front of a rockery, or in front of shrubs, or in smaller plants in a border, will throw up literally hundreds of good sized snow white flowers like open Crocus, in earliest spring.

Lycoris squamigera, the Hardy Amaryllis is ripening as this is written, and should be moved at once so that it may flower in August. Colchicums, the Meadow Saffron, and the Fall-flowering Crocus, should both be ordered now and planted as early as possible, so that they may bloom this fall.

The Madonna Lily can be and well may be planted out soon after it has flowered, if possible to obtain it. Imported bulbs arrive too late for best results. Our bulbs are grown here, and we fill orders from this stock as long as it lasts. After that we buy and send out the best Northern France bulbs. Order early, there aren't too many.

Corydalis bulbosa is a little plant and now, with the Poppies flowering, its memory is dim, but we hailed its purple blossoms above the glaucous foliage last April, with joy. For all the world like a deep rose colored Dutchman's Breeches, and, like them, now entirely disappeared.

The early spring Anemones, together with the Shooting Star and the Leopard's-bane, start growth so early in spring that they should be moved after flowering, and as early in summer, or else in fall, as planting conditions are good, so that they will be fully established for spring, when they will repay your thought with extra flowers. And - may we remind you to mark all these plants and bulbs when you plant them.

None of them seem to object to being cultivated in our open nursery beds, even without shade. Of course, it is a deep and cool soil, even in midsummer. But if the Trillium are planted on the north of a house, or of shrubbery, or in the lee of a rock, they usually grow readily.  
 T. ERECTUM: Purple Trillium or Wake-Robin. A deep purple red flower, carried erect. Easy culture.  
 T. GRANDIFLORUM: Pure white and fades to a deep rose, as it ages. Very large flowers, above the foliage, often giving the effect of a white carpet, in the edge of woodland.  
 STYLOSUM: This southern form is white, stained with rose. It is perfectly hardy here, and grows readily.  
 UNDULATUM: Painted Trillium. Found only in deep cool woodland, usually at considerable elevation, but grows readily here. White, with a deep red-purple blotch in the throat. Plant four to five inches deep.

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 ALL THE ABOVE, 3 for 50¢; 10 for \$1.25; 100 for \$10.00,  
 POSTPAID  
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LEUCOCRINUM.

The Sand or Star-Lily comes from the plains of Kansas, and from mountain meadows of the Rockies. It has a slender crab-like root cluster, with a central bud. In the earliest spring it throws up slender grass-like leaves, and in May it carries one after another of really large, pure white flowers, with yellow anthers, like a large flat white crocus. We find it very charming, and easily grown. It was extra fine this spring, on an old bed. STRONG CROWNS, 25¢ each; 3 for 60¢, 10 for \$1.50.

COLCHICUM.

Fall flowering European bulbs, much like very large Crocus.

C. AUTUMNALE: Large lavender blue cups, in September and October.

C. BRONMULLERI: Fine, cup shaped, long tubed flowers of a rosy-lilac, almost a deep pink. 50¢ each, 10 for \$4.50.

C. SPECIOSUM: Deep rose-purple. Very large and fine. White, large clear white cups, with a yellow center

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 EXCEPT AS NOTED: 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00, POSTPAID.  
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FALL CROCUS.

Smaller than the Colchicum, more like the common Spring Crocus, these little bulbs give an astonishing amount of color in the late fall.

C. SATIVUS: Large lilac purple flowers, with a showy orange center.

C. SPECIOSUS: Large bright blue flowers, deep orange anthers.

C. ZONATUS: Rose-lilac, with yellow throat..

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 5 for 35¢; 10 for 65¢; 25 for \$1.25; 100 for \$12.00, POSTPAID.  
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LYCORIS SQUAMIGERA

Also called Amaryllis halli, this is the hardy Amaryllis. The leaves are sent up in early spring, and die away in July. In August the flowering stem appears, grows rapidly, and carries an umbel of tubular, rosy pink flowers, each some two inches long. An extra fine and unusual bulbous plant. Good in part shade, and may be combined with Hemerocallis. Is best after becoming established, and may not flower the first year.

STONG HOME GROWN BULBS, \$1.00 each, POSTPAID.

LILIUM CANDIDUM

Madonna Lilies are favored subjects to combine with the blue of Delphinium, but they do not need any such comparison to accent their beauty. Alone, a group of five or more in full bloom, gleaming white and resplendent with their golden anthers will remind us of that "glistening host."

THE MANAGER'S DESK

At the close of the busy spring season, in the Nursery business, one's mind is just about going around in circles. Quite often, too, one's basket is heaped high with things that should be attended to. For along with getting off the plants that you want for your garden, we have, too, the need for planting our own fields. And our weeds grow, just as yours do. And visitors come in, and are very welcome, and certainly necessary to our piece of mind, even though we have to give them the time we have allotted to emptying that basket. Salesmen know that spring finds us in a buying mood, and sometimes with the means to satisfy it, and they drop in. Last of all, things we haven't seen for a year are opening their flowers, and now and then one opens that we've never seen.

All this is by way of saying that it is only when we are not busy that we have time for long letters, and immediate attention to complaints, and the like. No doubt, a number of readers will immediately surmise that we have been busy this spring. Most humbly do we beg that for our sins of omission and commission, you will excuse us. There is a limit to our days, and some things had to be neglected, and no one under pressure does the right thing every time.

Please believe, if you have received a shipment of plants that weren't quite all you expected, or if they didn't arrive when they should, or we failed to send the things you particularly wanted, that it wasn't a deliberate matter, and that we are anxious to correct anything in which we find ourselves at fault. By the time this reaches you the basket will have been emptied, we trust.

In a business such as ours, many items we offer are unobtainable save from long distances, sometimes not at all. In the case of loss, we may spend weeks trying to obtain more. And invariably, the things that give us trouble are the ones that we have given extra space to, and booked many orders for. Sometimes it seems that the extra care we try to give such things proves their undoing.

Please, when you write us, if you must complain - smile!

Madonnas are best in seasons when there is not an excess of rainfall to keep their foliage wet, and to carry the spores of the disease which is their worst enemy, up from the soil where it is dropped from the diseased leaves, to the lower foliage of this year's growth, and so into the stem. This year is ideal, we have had little rain, and the bed is practically one hundred percent free of disease. In but a few days now, we shall have bloom. No need this year to coat the foliage with unsightly Bordeaux, which is the best preventative of Botrytis.

Strong flowering bulbs, grown here - 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.00  
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ANEMONE PULSATILLA ALBA

Departing now from the plants that grow from bulbs and tubers, we urge you to try summer or fall planting of the Anemone group, of which the White Pasqueflower is such a lovely representative. Well established before winter sets in, they are ready to start up in earliest spring, pushing their plump buds wrapped in wooly coats, up even thru a late spring snowfall. The white form was once almost impossible to obtain, but we now have a fine lot of them, in heavy clumps, all of which have flowered. Don't forget to include this in your next order and you'll surely thank us next spring. Beautiful with Mertensia.

Clumps, 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00; 100 for \$18.00, POSTPAID  
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DORONICUM CAUCASICUM

The Leopard's-bane is one of those plants that, - "now you see and now you don't", for it starts up in a hurry in earliest spring, and flowers before many plants realize that it is time to grow. It's bright yellow daisies on long stems, ideal for cutting, are welcome then, too, and they continue over a long period. Soon after it is through flowering it dies away to the ground, and is thereafter only a scattered few leaves under other plants, tho' its roots continue their activity all summer. The next spring the bed is larger and stronger, and in time it has to be thinned out, but it never becomes really weedy.

STRONG YOUNG PLANTS, 25¢ each; 5 for \$1.00; 10 for \$1.50.  
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DODECATHEON MEADIA

No American wildflower more closely resembles the Cyclamen of Europe than does this plant, also called the Shooting Star, because its flower's petals turn completely back, leaving the stamens and the pistil out in front, pointing the way. The plant is of easy culture in any light soil, we find, and in most clays if not wet. It is better for a little shade, but grows readily here in full sun. An established clump throws up a number of stems, to two feet high at times, and there are many flowers in the umbel so that blossoming continues for a long time. White is most common, varying to pink, especially in shade.

STRONG CROWNS, 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00, POSTPAID

GARDENSIDE NURSERIES, INC.  
SHELBURNE, VERMONT