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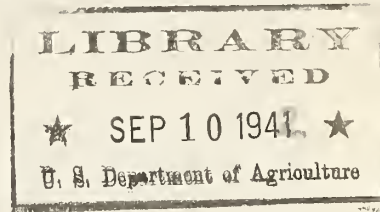


GARDENSIDE GOSSIP

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NON-ESSENTIAL

This is a hateful word!

No industry that served to fill a place in the every day life of a nation at peace, can truly be said to be non-essential now. True, some are more essential than others. But whatever you may associate with the word, would you willingly give up all interest in that industry, hobby or sport? Curtail it, - yes of course, if it will help the war effort. But label it useless? WHY?

Of course the word is attached to the growing of plants and flowers. Do they not use soil, and labor and plant food, as well as transportation that could better be given to producing food.

Imagine a home without green lawns; noble shade trees; the varied greens of the evergreens, showing against the snow; with bare walls, un-graced by shrubs; and a garden of vegetables only, without a bloom, or the semblance of design, save to have rows as straight as possible, for convenience in weeding. That, it seems to us, is a symbol of what we are striving to defeat, in this war.

WILL YOU NEED A GARDEN NEXT YEAR, OR IN THE DAYS TO COME?

SHELBURNE HYBRID LILIES.

SHELBURNE HYBRIDS are Regal Lilies, but different. That is - they have the general habit of growth; form of flower; and ease of cultivation that has made the Regal so well known. But when the Regal stops, there the SHELBURNE HYBRIDS begin. The blooms are larger, and quite often more brightly colored, while again they may be greenish outside, instead of the brown of the Regal. Some few bulbs will open their blooms as the Regals fade. Others will not open for two weeks after they are gone. If Regals grow two feet high, SHELBURNE HYBRIDS will be three and four; while if Regals make strong growth, then the SHELBURNE HYBRIDS will often go to six feet, with sturdy erect stems that hold their heavy heads of bloom proudly high.

Each year we have grown more and more SHELBURNE HYBRIDS, until this year we shipped away over ten thousand cut blooms in July. Our ambition has been to make them as plentiful and as cheap as Regals. Unfortunately, one may buy "flowering-size" Regal Lily bulbs today at very low prices, which we can't equal. But we can do this. We can send you SHELBURNE HYBRIDS of a guaranteed size (4 to 6 inch circumference), at a much lower price than ever before. They are 10 for \$2.50; 100 for \$22.50; 250 or more for \$50.00 (20¢ each).

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL. Offer #1. With each lot of ten SHELBURNE HYBRIDS ordered, we will send one large bulb of the West Burke Lily, a red cup shaped sort. Offer #2. We will send three SHELBURNE HYBRIDS, and one West Burke Lily, for \$1.00.

Offer expires October 1st. All prices are Postpaid.

SWEET VIOLETS.

One of the outstanding plant novelties of the past few years, is the Everblooming Sweet Violet, that is really hardy. Not but that Rosina is hardy, and everblooming. Somehow, one always associated Violets, with flowers of blue violet, and a pink like Rosina was a novelty. Everyone wanted the blue Everblooming, and we were amazed at the demand. It occurred to us that many might like to have flowers in winter, so we sent for plants of the large flowered tender sorts, usually grown under glass, and offer them here.

Plant these Violets either in pots, of good size, or else in a cold frame. In any case, do not protect them until there has been a fair frost, and even then give them plenty of fresh air and avoid hot dry atmosphere. A forty degree temperature is warm enough. Flowers will appear in November, and some will be in bloom, all the winter, if the frame is well protected, or you give the plants good care in the house. We suggest October delivery is best. Use leafmold soil, if possible.

GOVERNOR HERRICK; BARONESS ROTHSCHILD; PRINCE OF WALES. All are blue, and all are good. Strong field grown plants, 35¢ each; three for \$1.00; five or more for 30¢ each, postpaid.

EVERBLOOMING BLUE. This is a hardy form, with fair sized flowers all summer long, strongly perfumed. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00.

ROSINA. This form has rosy pink flowers, strong perfume, and will also blossom all summer, and is especially fine in fall. 25¢ ea.

DOUBLE RUSSIAN. Small and very double dark blue flowers, intensely fragrant, in spring. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; five for \$1.50.

SINGLE RUSSIAN. A strong growing, single form, very fragrant, that flowers in spring and occasionally again in fall. 35¢ each.

BEDDING VIOLETS.

These are neither Violets, or Pansies. They have larger foliage and flowers than the former, but are smaller than the latter. They are truly perennial if properly treated, and are among the finest plants we have for bedding effect where solid color masses are wanted, from spring, well into summer. Ours are young plants, summer propagated, and are offered during September at a moderate price. They will flower well next spring.

JERSEY GEM. The standard blue purple sort, noted for length of flowering period, and quantity of blooms on good stems.

WHITE JERSEY GEM. A fine white form of the preceding, very like it except in color which is clear white without markings.

JERSEY JEWEL. A richer purple sort, that is very persistent in hot weather. One of the best in the 'warmer' color shades.

MAGGIE MOTT. This and the following are Englands finest sorts. Very large, soft lavender pink flowers, without an eye. 35¢ each.

MOSELEY PERFECTION. A clear yellow, without markings, and a splendid vigorous plant.

MARY EMMA. From Borsch in Oregon, this very large, round, bright yellow flowered sort, like a splendid Pansy, but perennial.

EMBERLEY'S ROYAL PURPLE. And from Canada, this giant blue purple sort, strong plant and long stemmed large self colored blooms.

ANY OF THE ABOVE, except Maggie Mott, 25¢ each; five for \$1.00; ten for \$1.75. POSTPAID. Quantities must be alike, not mixed.

SALADS IN YOUR GARDEN.

Perhaps we are being a little bit far-fetched. But most will agree that while certain things are absolutely needed to make a meal that will support one thru a days work, it is the Salad, and the other less important items which do much to make a meal a pleasant memory, -keep it from becoming in time a dreary repetition of bread and meat. So it is in the garden.

We all admit the necessity of certain basic materials in planning a garden, for effect or for cutting. The strong growing plants at the back; bright colors toned down by cooler ones; pale colors set off by a bit of contrast; foliage good at all seasons, etc. But time and again, one finds the visitor exclaiming over some little plant that has no garden value to commend it. Brilliant just at its particular time, it may completely disappear later, or have to have its patch of browning foliage hidden with other material. This is the salad in your garden. Too much formal effect no matter how satisfying, may eventually cloy one.

And just as one cook uses Tarragon vinegar, and another knows just how to use the Garlic clove, so does the skill of the true gardener appear in the carefully planned careless placing of these little plants. It may be a flower stem of the Hardy Amaryllis appearing above a Peony, where no one would look for blooms in August. Or it may be a bright red Little Joe shining like a jewel in a garden full of midsummer yellows. Like Virginia Cowslip in the first few days of spring, before other plants have decided to start at all, throwing up first the deep purple tips, and then the rapidly unfolding, lush green leaves, seemingly so exotic in the cold rains of spring. Or the bare ground of a September and October garden suddenly flowering in the daily appearing mystery of Colchicum and Autumn Crocus.

Scattered thru the Gossips year in and out, are many of the Salad plants. You can't use them for massed effects in most cases, except perhaps for edgings. But in their skilful blending in the garden picture, is a very fair index of your ability as a gardener. And in them one finds more pleasure, often-times, than in the more commonly seen and grown bread and meat plants.

Of late, we have tended away from the Rockery. The demand has been for more and more color in the garden, particularly if could be cut from, for use in the house. We urge you not to forget the Salad plants. We grow both, love both, and could not easily give up either.

PEONIES AND HEMEROCALLIS.

Despite their omission from this Gossip, both these plants should be very much in your minds, these September and October days. For a number of seasons, we have filled the September issue with a long list of the varieties of both that we have, together with exhortations to buy them now. It seemed to us that you must be as tired of that repetition as we are. Yet we mustn't let you forget their importance in the garden picture.

Peonies are not plants that need a press agent. Last spring, when planting beds of these and other flowers in a City Park, we noticed that the Inquirers would always look puzzled if we said Dianthus or Delphinium. But if we said Peonies, a look of recognition would appear, and we didn't have to make further explanations. Likewise most shrubs in that public planting became either Lilacs or Roses! However, we supplied some Peonies a year ago to a friend in another state, who had known us in schooldays. One always hates to deal with someone who knows us so intimately that if anything goes wrong, we are sure to be told exactly what they think. You should have seen the letter we had this summer. All the plants flowered this year! Enclosed are two orders! And a friend who has had poor success has been induced to take out all her plants and re-order from you! Since then we have had other orders for Peonies, all due to that same friend. Yet she received no better plants than you will get, in fact her order went thru with others, and without special consideration.

But Daylilies or Hemerocallis, are a different matter. Usually the first mention of them brings a question. They are often confused with the Hostas or Plantain Lilies. More usually, they are definitely identified by a reference to the Tawny Daylily, so common on many country roadsides. If the conversation occurs here, we have a full answer in a bed of one each of all our sorts, growing close by the office. A look at that, never out of flower from May to September, is all the explanation needed, and quite often we make a convert. But if we happen to visit a garden, it is more difficult. And so to you, we say as we did to a man this spring. "No flowering plant will give you more of satisfaction over a full summer period, day or night. None will require less care, for they have no pests or diseases. And they are entirely hardy from planting at any time."

Today, he came to the Nursery, and said he must have some more sorts, next year. He truly did.

VARIOUS OTHER VIOLETS.

VIOLA GRACILIS, Dark Blue. Some years ago we found these in full bloom in another nursery, in midsummer, and brought them home. They are smaller than the Bedding Violas on the previous page, but make large flat mats, covered with bloom. This is a fine blue purple. 25¢ each; 5 for \$1.00; 10 for \$1.75.

VIOLA GRACILIS, Light Blue. Slaty blue flowers, much lighter than the preceding, but equally good. These gracilis Violas are truly perennial, and these are forms far finer than the usual seedlings offered. Prices same as Dark Blue above.

VIOLA SYLVESTRIS ROSEA. This is a woodland Violet, with bright pink flowers, not fragrant, in great profusion, over a long period in spring. The plant is tufted, but throws out runners which also flower, but do not root down. We have fine year old field plants. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 5 for \$1.50.

VIOLA JOOI HYBRIDS. Here at last are the 'Jewel Violets', we have written about so often. These are truly not the usual V. jooi, but a selected plant from a hybrid with V. macroceras and while they have the compact tufted habit of V. jooi, they have a delightful fragrance, described as fruity. The foliage of this Violet is different, very dark green, and a plant in growth looks like half a large orange. In spring, very early, flowers appear as leaves start, and the plant is a veritable half ball of pink purple flowers. Ideal edgings; fine in the rockery; a gem in any location. 25¢ each; 5 for \$1.; 10 for \$1.75.

PANSIES. With great regret, we must state that we cannot offer the Swiss Giant Strain in separate colors this year. We do have some colors, but adverse weather conditions took so many that we cannot offer them freely. If you wish them, please ask us, for we may have some to spare, later on.

WE DO HAVE THE SWISS GIANTS IN MIXED COLORS. Fine seedlings transplanted, at 35¢ for 10; 1.00 for \$3.00, postpaid.

GARNISH FOR YOUR GARDEN.

ASTILBE FANAL. We read that Fanal means Lighthouse, and this bright red Astilbe, with its finely colored foliage that stays attractive all summer, will be just that in your garden, when it flowers. WHERE ELSE CAN YOU BUY IT FOR 50¢

DIANTHUS LITTLE JOE. Sturdy tufts of blue green foliage, and the surprisingly large bright red flowers on six inch stems appear all summer. Sold to every one who saw it here last year. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$2.50.

DICENTRA SPECTABILIS ALBA. This is the true white flowered form of the common Bleedingheart. We have a fine lot of one year old roots to offer, and can fill all retail orders which will be shipped in September, or held until spring 1943, if desired, and cash is sent with order. \$1.00 each.

PHLOX DIVARICATA SNOWFLAKE. The Canadian Phlox is one of the most beautiful blue flowered plants of the May garden (we have it, too), but this white form is entirely distinct and rarely beautiful. The color is a clear white, and the individual flowers are large. The head is compact, the plant is compact, and we think it one of the finest additions to one of our finest plant families. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 5 for \$1.50.

RANUNCULUS MONTANA. A tiny Alpine Buttercup, growing at most not over four inches high, here, this has glossy green leaves which carpet moist or shaded soils, and astonishingly large bright yellow 'Buttercups', in early spring. Not a weed, but a good ground cover, and very showy when in bloom. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$2.50.

LILIES.

A LOOK BACKWARD.

Lily bulb growing is one of our major activities. The larger part of our crop is sold to other firms, perhaps those from which you have bought at times. That is why we do not offer complete assortments of all the known Lilies, but rather those which we can grow here readily. Occasionally we buy some sort of which we are temporarily short, if we know it to be of outstanding value, or of easy culture. Try some of our bulbs this year, they come to you freshly dug, and ready to grow.

CANADENSE. The native Meadow Lily is splendid for naturalizing, and is very attractive standing above coarse growth or low shrubs. Pendant yellow bells, in June. 35¢ each.

CANDIDUM. Madonna Lilies are among the choicest ornaments of the early summer garden, flowering with Larkspurs. Strong American grown bulbs are available, and should be planted as early as possible. 50¢ each; 10 for \$4.50.

CENTIFOLIUM. A long trumpet Lily, much like Regal, but greenish outside, and somewhat later. 50¢ each.

CERNUUM. We are pleased to be able to offer this Lily again, in strong home grown bulbs. It is the counterpart of the Coral Lily, in all but color, which is a lavender pink. We hope that this stock, having flowered twice, shows a trend toward complete domestication of this wildling from Asia and that you will want to have it in your garden. 50¢ each; 10 for \$4.50; 25 or more for 40¢ each.

CLARKS ORANGE. A Turkscape type Lily, bright orange, with black spots, standing stiffly erect, but with a wide branching head carrying many flowers. Flowers thru late July and early August, is hardy and disease free. Found in a Rutland Vermont garden, and not yet identified. 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00

CONCOLOR. Since we have been able to grow the Star Lily in good numbers with comparative ease, from seed of one bulb that was outstanding several years ago, we have become more and more partial to it. The color is more orange than the Coral Lily, and the flower is held erect, and is quite flat. The segments spread widely, giving a star-like effect and a bed is remarkably colorful. Fine large bulbs, that will flower heavily, 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00; 100 for \$18.00.

HANSONI. This is a distinct Lily, growing to a good height, and with partly reflexed segments of thick texture and a odd yellow coloring, spotted with black. It is very permanent and is a striking ornament in the border, as its leaves are in whorls, and the whole effect is exotic. 50¢ each.

MAXIMOWICZII. Came as a mixture in seed from Japan, years ago and for some years unidentified. Not quite the usual type of this Lily, that is offered. It flowers in July, very tall and slender, dark orange red flowers, like smaller Tiger Lilies. A permanent, easily grown sort, for scattering thru the border. 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00.

PARDALINUM GIGANTEUM. This is the Leopard Lily, and one West Coast sort that does well here. Tall and strong, with bright orange Turpscape like blooms. 50¢ each.

PHILADELPHICUM. Our native Wood Lily, also called Orangecup Lily. Grows in sandy dry soil, in partial shade, and is fine to naturalize among low shrubs, or in the border. 35¢ each.

REGALE. No description or praise of the Regale Lily is needed. Strong home grown bulbs, 4/6", 20¢ each; 10 for \$1.50; 100 for \$12.00. 6/8" bulbs, 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00. 8/10" bulbs, 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.00.

Since first we became interested in Lilies, many changes have occurred. It is doubtful that any good will come from repeating them all. But it is certain that one may learn what to expect of the future if one looks backward, carefully.

Except for a very few of the common European Lilies, no selected sorts grown under name, were available in the early 1900s. Most of the bulbs sold were from collected stock, some of which had been cultivated in nursery beds for a season. There were several forms available of the two Japanese Lilies, but the culture of both was not well understood. Bulb supplies of all sorts were uncertain.

Gladiolus were new, too. One of today's acknowledged leaders in their culture used to call on us and take our time from Lilies and other hardy plants, while he talked Gladiolus. Since our liking has always been for the things that are hardy, and can stay outdoors thru our few England winters, we weren't interested particularly. But it does give us a means of comparison, for we have seen the culture of Glads go on to entirely unexpected heights; overcome what appeared to be a crippling insect infestation; seen the presumed surplus become an import factor in our winter flower market and a source of much revenue to southern growers who ship them north. And, thru it all, seen a regular development in the beauty of the flowers, which entirely stops anyone from saying that they would prefer the old sorts, or the wild species.

We think it will prove to be true with Lilies, too. It wasn't the introduction of *Lilium regale* alone that gave Lily growing a boost. It was the gradual improvement of the available strains, both in size and quality of the bulbs, but also in the coloring of the blooms, that held peoples interest. Then when the Mosaic disease threatened them, their lovers rallied to their support, just as did the Gladiolus enthusiasts. Today, we think largely because of Thrips, the culture of the Gladiolus is on a firmer foundation than ever before. We think that is also true with Lilies. Certainly, all the gloomy prognostications of a few years past have not come true. And we read more and more articles by amateurs and professional growers, which indicate a knowledge of Lilies, that no one, even the best informed could match, a few years back.

We need to take the Lily from the enthusiasts garden, and put it in everyone's garden. And the best way to get the knowledge that will permit us to do that is to get as many of them into your garden as possible, today.

A LOOK FORWARD.

Still thinking of Lilies, but in a different way. A year ago, we had the factor of curtailed importations from Japan, to contend with. Had we foreseen surely, what many of us really expected to happen, and did happen in December, that would have been an unimportant fact. But last Fall, we faced a probable shortage of Easter Lilies as well as a definite shortage of hardy sorts for fall planting. Various other sorts usually brought from Europe had also become scarce, and seemed likely to be soon even more so. All in all, many nurserymen and florists were inclined to shake their heads.

There were some Lilies, last Easter. Not everyone had a pot that wished one. But they were not in every chain store and super-market, and somehow to us, the Lily we did not have became much more of a symbol of that for which it stands. This year, we are told that a very satisfactory quality of American grown bulbs in very fair quantities, will be available. Still not enough, but speaking well for our American ability to do the 'impossible', in a very short time. Eventually, we shall produce all we shall need, for cutting during the rest of the year, as well as for the Easter plant. And in achieving that, we shall learn much about the culture of all Lilies. Let us hope too, that some attention will be paid to the development of a really hardy and permanent strain of *Lilium longiflorum*, that can be grown outside in our northern gardens.

Just a few days ago, we obtained the bulbs of *Lilium cernuum* that we offer elsewhere. This we grew first from Japanese seed, but could never quite tame. Must have been wild seed! Now we find that while we were buying seed and growing it, another brighter person had succeeded in raising seed, and growing it on, so that the bulbs we have are at least a second generation of home grown stock, and they have flowered twice, something we found hard to accomplish. *L. tenuifolium* was like that once, but today it grows so easily that it now appears in winter in our flower markets. Soon *L. cernuum* will be as easily grown we hope.

This very day, we were offered a moderate number of *Lilium speciosum*. Years ago, Farquhars of Boston, grew this Lily in a perfection of bulb never seen in Japanese stock. Apparently someone else is able to cultivate it too. There aren't the thousands available that once were to be had, --but what there are, are good Americans. And there'll soon be more.

LILIES.

- SPECIOSUM RUBRUM.** Just as this is being prepared, we are able to buy a moderate number of this beautiful fall flowering Lily, white heavily spotted pink, in strong American grown bulbs. They are far from plentiful. 75¢ each; 10 for \$6.50.
- SUTCHUENSE.** Light orange yellow to deeper cinnabar red Turks-cap like flowers, spotted black, in a nodding umbel in late summer. The usual Lily offered under this name is not spotted, but we believe this a variant form, and true. 35¢ each.
- TENUIFOLIUM.** The Coral Lily is one of our favorites. The bright red Turkscaps are so brilliant, and they are produced in such profusion! Large bulbs, 15¢ each; 10 for \$1.25; 100-\$12.
- TENUIFOLIUM GOLDEN GLEAM.** A golden yellow counterpart of the Coral Lily, equally bright, and of easy culture. SAME PRICES.
- UMBELLATUM.** A strain of mixed colors in this early flowering, very dwarf, erect cup shaped Lily. Mostly yellows and red, they are effective when massed, and may also be forced. Mixed only, strong home grown bulbs. 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00.
- UMBELLATUM WEST BURKE.** A bright red and vigorous form of the preceding. Very showy here this summer, permanent and soon increases to a good clump. 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.00; 100-\$25.00
- WILLMOTTIAE.** A small number of our own bulbs of this bright orange and black Turkscap, which carry so large a number of blooms in a spreading umbel, that the slender stems droop unless they are planted in shrubs or strong growth. 35¢.

HYBRID LILIES.

- GEORGE C. CREELMAN.** We have our own stock of this splendid Lily noted for length of trumpet, and intensity of coloring. Just a bit later than Regal, of which it is a hybrid. 4/6" bulbs only 80¢ each; 3 for \$2.25.
- PRIDE OF CHARLOTTE.** True stock of this splendid late Lily, stiff erect stems, with clean foliage. The flowers are long trumpets, greenish outside, well flushed yellow in the throat. These are not seedlings, and a bed of this Lily will flower as a group. 6/8" bulbs, 75¢ each; 10 for \$6.00; 100 for \$55.00; 4/6" bulbs, 50¢ each; 10 for \$4.50; 100-\$40.
- PRIDE SEEDLINGS.** Shows much variation, many do not have the characteristic stem bulbs. Sturdy erect Lilies, flowering with Shelburne hybrids. 6/8" bulbs, 40¢ each; 10 for \$3.50. 4/6" bulbs, 35¢ each; 10 for \$2.50; 100 for \$22.50.
- PRINCEPS.** Seedlings from Geo. C. Creelman, these are glorified Regals, but later. Fine for cutting, and for garden effect. PRICES SAME AS PRIDE SEEDLINGS ABOVE.
- SHELburne HYBRID.** These are described on page 1. We also offer larger bulbs at the same PRICES AS PRIDE SEEDLINGS ABOVE.

OTHER BULBS.

- CAMASSIAS,** both Quamash and Leichtlini. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00.
- COLCHICUM,** either purple or white. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00.
- LYCORIS SQUAMIGERA** (Hardy Amaryllis) \$1.00 each.
- MERTENSIA VIRGINICA.** 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00. Heavy roots!

OUR NATIVE FERNS.

We feel that more fall planting of Ferns should be done. In the spring, tender fronds are uncurling and are easily broken. Stored material isn't fully satisfactory. On the other hand, if planted in September, they can become settled in their new home, and are 'ready to go', with the first warm days.

ADIANTUM pedatum. The common Maidenhair Fern, grows at its best on moist banks, stony and well shaded. It will thrive in any shaded location, even if dry, but will not be as tall as it will with plenty of moisture. Try it with Bleeding Heart under trees. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

ASPIDIUM cristatum. The Crested Fern is quite common in moist woodland. It is not difficult in shade, even tho dry, and will stand from one to two feet high. As a specimen, it is rich looking, and when massed, it has substance enough to provide coverage for a rough wall. It is evergreen and is useful for picking. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

A. goldianum. Goldie's Fern is the very largest of the wood fern family. It is native to rich open woodland, and likes but does not require, limestone. Planted at the very back of a fern group, it towers above the rest. If planted as it grows in nature, it should be clumped, making a striking group. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

A. marginale. This is the most common evergreen fern in our woodland, easily cultivated and attractive. Useful in any location in full or partial shade. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.; etc.

A. noveboracense. Common in fairly dry woodland, the slender doubly tapered fronds of the New York Fern are pale green and delicate looking. Should be massed in shade, as in sun they will scorch, and alone, they lack strength. Grows about 18 inches tall. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

A. spinulosum. The most beautiful of the evergreen wood ferns, and most useful too. It is picked for florists use, but it is as useful in shade, especially if moist, for it will make a strong clump to 30 inches high. Beautifully divided pinnae give a lacy effect. Easily cultivated. Usual prices.

ASPLENIUM acrostichoides. This may be four feet tall, and as such is one of our tallest sorts, but it demands a moist bank for such growth. But in any good location, well shaded the Silvery Spleenwort is easily cultivated. Tapered much as is the New York Fern, but less markedly. Usual prices.

A. angustifolium. A quite rare sort, is the Narrow Leaf Spleenwort, yet we are fortunate in a good colony on our own land. Needs a rich moist woods-soil, adequate shade and protection from wind and rain, as its fronds are tender, but when well grown it is rarely beautiful. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10-\$3.00

A. ebeneum. Here at last, a Fern for dry soil, and partial sun. The Ebony Spleenwort grows on partly exposed ledges. At best a foot high, it should be used as a specimen, or in ragged masses-not with other ferns. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10-\$3.

A. filix-femina. The Lady Fern is both our most common, and our most variable form. Fine and delicate, it is very attractive and if one wants a cover for shade, or partial sun, this is the plant. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$2.50; 100-\$15.00.

A. trichomanes. Maidenhair Spleenwort grows as a little tuft on ledges, often quite dry, if shaded. With us it cultivates readily, and it is one of the best rockery sorts. A gem. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00. Low prices on quantity.

CAMPTOSAUROS rhizophyllus. Best of all odd ferns for the well shaded rockery is the Walking Leaf. When happy, it carpets round boulders, the tips of each frond rooting down in the moss. We find we can cultivate it in soil, and good shade, without difficulty. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

NATIVE PLANTS.

Each Fall, as we think back to the season just passing, or ahead to the spring to come, we are seized with a great desire to write about the things that fill our woodlands. These are the plants once so familiar to all, and now known only to the country dweller, and often not to him. As population has shifted to the city it has amused us to hear the country boy, now a successful business man, talk about 'Brakes'-(meaning Ferns). And as well to talk with the city born who do not know that *Caltha palustris* is the same Marsh Marigold, or Cowslip, that served as a 'mess of greens' on our forefathers tables, -and also that one doesn't sit on stone walls when they are covered with three leaved Ivy.

It won't do to turn up our nose at the native flowers. They aren't quite so thrilling as Roses, or some rare Alpine rockery plant, or Japanese fern. But they have their place in our lives and in our gardening. To the country boy in the city we want to say that his 'Brakes' attract the attention of a successful city man, born and bred, to the point that he spends all his spare time in our hills. And to the city gardener we want to say that very often the things which thrive in our woodlands prove to be just what is needed for a difficult planting problem. And to both, we say, as we have before, it is time that a real interest was displayed in our American flora, not just to be able to grow them, but to improve them for the general betterment of our gardens, just as we have done with immigrants from Asia and Europe.

Herewith, we yield to temptation and present two pages of Ferns. We could go much further and fill this Gossip with descriptions and items of interest about our flowering plants as well. But Ferns will take all the space we have to spare. Perhaps next Fall, we'll tell you about Hepaticas, or Clematis verticillaris.

It used to be the first question one would ask about any plant was, "Is it hardy?" Of course these things which grow in our woodland are hardy, so far as cold is concerned. But they do have certain requirements if they are to thrive and survive the winter. Often times, we find that plants from the woods and fields will grow readily in locations entirely foreign apparently. But one cannot put dry ground plants into bogs, nor shade lovers into full sun, with impunity. In fact the opposite is much more the successful planting, for bog plants will grow in dryer soil in the garden, than in nature, and many natives are best in partial shade. We think that the fact that in woodland and meadow, the native plants that bloom in spring are often entirely dry in summer, has much to do with trouble when they are cultivated.

NATIVE PLANTS, -con.

OUR NATIVE FERNS.

In woodland in spring, the pale sun rays strike in, and in this light we get our first flowers. Then as the increasing intensity brings out the tree foliage we get one of two things. Either a ripening of the foliage as with Bloodroot and Squirrel Corn; or else the development of foliage as Hepaticas. And it is not until the shade is quite noticeable that the fern fronds grow, and the native Orchids appear. Then as summer comes on, these various plants get quite dry, gradually ripen their foliage, or even as with one Fern, may lose it all, and make new in the cooler Fall months. In the occasional wet summer the stronger plants will over run the woods, crowding out the weaker things. Or, as may happen with *Trillium grandiflorum*, the roots will rot badly. We know an open woodland, quite low, where Snow *Trillium* grow by the million. Yet collectors seldom dig roots there, for if there is any rain at all in mid-summer, the roots will be soft and will rot quickly after digging, if indeed they are not already rotting when dug.

Another thing we do not like, altho it has been done for years, is the practice of storing many sorts of native plants over winter in cellars, for delivery in spring. True, we do it at times, for with some plants, -like the true bog orchids for instance, -it is almost impossible to get them in spring, and buyers insist on wanting them then. And stored plants do grow, especially those that have roots that develop a flower the season before, like *Trillium* and the *Cypripediums*. But these plants are accustomed to being frozen all winter, quite often in wet or very moist soils, and they cannot help but become weakened by the gradual drying of storage, so that even if they flower, they later die, and give the planting of natives another black eye.

We think that Fall is an ideal time to plant ferns, and Orchids, and all the various things that are wild here. Give them a satisfactory location. Don't let them get too dry before real wet weather comes. As soon as the ground begins to freeze, cover them lightly, using leaves if they have no top growth showing, or brush or straw if they have green tops. In spring, don't uncover until growth starts, most plants expect to push up thru leaves and litter, in woodland. And if you can, leave a mulch about them, then.

Use them along the north or east side of the house or garage; under trees that break the afternoon sun; to cover bare spots in the border, that are later filled with foliage of Peonies, for instance. It isn't hard to think up ways to use any plant, if you love gardening.

CYSTOPTERIS bulbifera. Those delicate filmy ferns, you have seen growing in moss on ledges in damp shade, are quite apt to be in this group. Either form is good for the larger needs of the rockery. Grows readily in soil. This is the larger and the fruits are in tiny bulblets along the lower side of the frond. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

C. fragilis. Very similar to the preceding, but smaller, and it has no bulblets. Prices same as preceding.

DICKSONIA punctilobula. The best large fern for full sun, this carpets upland pastures. Better if shaded against full afternoon heat. Can be weedy, but in poor soil, it has a place, and its filmy fronds are very attractive. Usual prices.

ONOCLEA struthiopteris. Native to river banks and wet land in partial shade, this is one of the better tall specimens, and one that will grow in dry soil, on the north of a home. It may stand 4 feet high, making a regular vase of fronds. A sturdy, useful, fern. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

OSMUNDA cinnamomea. In wet swampy land, the Cinnamon Fern will grow six feet tall. Yet it thrives in dry shade, and is tall enough. A luxuriant plant, very sturdy, and because of the root size, able to care for itself in competition. 50¢ each

O. claytoniana. Very like the preceding, but Clayton's Fern differs in that the fertile pinnae are in the middle of a frond, and shrivel as they ripen. Whence another name, the Interrupted Fern. 50¢ each (Roots weigh a pound or more).

O. regalis. The Royal Fern grows in swamps and wet places, yet it is also found in dry shade. It never attains the same stature in dry ground, as it does in swamps, but it is a magnificent specimen, whenever grown at all well. 50¢ each.

PELLAEA atropurpurea. The Purple Cliff Brake grows on dry limestone ledges, almost without moisture. In our shade house it is nice in ordinary soil, however. 50¢ each.

PHEGOPTERIS dryopteris. One of the most attractive small ferns, ideal for the shaded rockery, and the front of taller sorts or for massing in open woodland, where it grows naturally in not too wet soil. The Oak Fern has a green color, of its own, almost yellow. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

P. hexagonoptera. The Broad Beech Fern is quite uncommon. It is found in open woodland, and when happy makes a good mass a foot or more high of widely triangular fronds. 50¢ each.

P. polypodioides. The Long Beech Fern is more common. Much like the preceding, but longer than broad. Mass these ferns, as alone they lack substance. When they carpet, they are very attractive. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

POLYSTICHUM acrostichoides. The dark green, shing fronds of the Christmas Fern shine from shaded banks, and often are found on the east sides of woods, in open ground. Useful under tall trees, as a cover. Never rampant. 35¢ each; 3 - \$1.

P. brauni. Braun's Holly Fern is found in the high mountains, yet it grows nicely on the north side. It is by far our most beautiful large fern, and may be 3 feet tall. The sturdy dark green fronds are rusty chaffy, and evergreen. 50¢ each.

WOODSIA ilvensis. Rusty Woodsias grow in full sun, on exposed cliffs, and in dry open banks. One of the most attractive small ferns for the rockery, not tall, but making a broad clump. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

W. obtusa. An excellent rockery fern, slightly taller than the preceding, the Blunt-lobed Woodsia grows in full sun, at the edges of exposed ledges. Will be greener in partial shade. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$3.00.

ALL OUR PRICES INCLUDE DELIVERY!

ORIENTAL POPPIES.

It seems to be difficult to convince our readers that the large flowered Poppies should be planted in midsummer. It is probably, quite true that July and August planting are not fully essential in sections where September and October are warm months. But if you expect frost by early October, than these Poppies should be promptly planted, so that an adequate root system may develop before cold weather, to hold the plants firmly in the soil over winter. In any case, we urge planting during September. Our own replanting is now under way.

The roots harvested in July, and now in dormant storage, were quite the best we ever dug. Sturdy crowns, and well-branched feeding roots, which will quickly give a sturdy clump, and will delight you next June with dozens of great glowing blooms, or delicate pink or white ones. Every variety offered in the catalog, and again in the July Gossip, as well as the combinations offered in the July Flower Grower, are still available at the same prices. We will gladly send more copies of the catalog or the Gossip, on request.

No other small investment in plants can give quite so much color to your garden next summer, as will some of these Poppies. Thirty odd sorts, all the best old and new, and all guaranteed true to name. Postpaid, too!

BEARPAW POP CORN.

The other day we had a letter from a lady who has bought many plants of us. Opening it, and noting the name, we were delighted to read a message about as follows.

"Enclosed is a dollar bill. Please send me at once some of your Bearpaw Popcorn. It is the best I have ever eaten."

It has seemed to us that many of you who think of us primarily as growers of a very great many kinds of hardy plants, may have found it difficult to think of us also as growers and purveyors of things to eat. Actually, we grow a number of crops besides the plants and the Popcorn. But no one item has increased in favor so rapidly as this corn. One large grocery chain now displays it in a local store and keeps it continually on hand, to the point that we have largely increased our planting. It sells in direct competition with a company packaged Popcorn, at a much lower price. Quality tells most quickly when it is closely compared with low priced goods.

That is why we were pleased to have our gardening friend praise our Popcorn. And it is why we are sure that you will like it too. Attractively packaged in one pound Cellophane bags, we pack four pounds and deliver it to you for One dollar. Single pounds are 25¢ each, if ordered with other material.

P.S. This is a fine Christmas Gift suggestion, and we also send quite a bit of it to boys and girls away at school.

THE MANAGER'S DESK.

The problems that crossed the desk this summer have been more varied than usual. Many of them have not been solved there, but have gone home at night. In fact, more days than not, the desk has been empty. Letters that should have been written have been left over-long, so that some necessary piece of work could be finished. Haste has resulted in a few extra errors in writing up orders. But the haste has permitted the growing of a nearly normal supply of plants. And as well, many acres of field crops, to help the war effort.

Now, as the season draws to its close, we find time to wonder what the coming year holds. Labor and supplies must go first to the war effort. Yet we have some men who have been here for years, who will stay. We can make other materials do to produce and pack plants. And we have an obligation to ourselves, to keep the work going; to our friends and customers to send them the plants that during all the hardest days of the past years, some few faithful ones have always wanted. We have to pay taxes, and buy Stamps and Bonds. We have to think too, that after the war is won, we shall again be asked to supply many things which now are but little wanted. For it is true, that this season we have been amazed at the light response to our various offerings, some of them of things that in other days, would have been taken over-night.

One fact is sure. Catalogs will be curtailed next year. Save the present issue, for another will not be mailed unless circumstances change materially and soon. A small reprint will be made, so that those who lack a complete list will have one. For the rest, we shall, we hope, continue to send out the Gossip.

Callers at the nursery, have been few. The reason is obvious. For the same reason our own activities have been curtailed, and we have made less calls on other gardens and nurseries. But we have added plants to our collection even so. All in all, it amounts to this. We must sell our plants thru the mails. We must sell our plants, if we are to fulfil our obligations and buy the Stamps and Bonds. We MUST sell our plants. Who'll buy?