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Special Suggestions for Southern Gardens

Meehan's Garden Bulletin

NOVEMBER, 1911

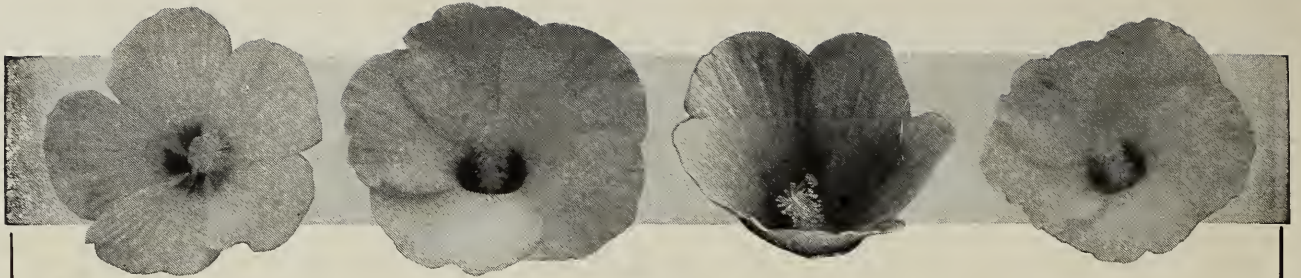


THE HARDY ASTERS, THE GLORY OF THE AUTUMN.

Published Monthly
by

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS
Nurserymen and Horticulturists Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

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September 18th.

Assuming that you are interested in your Mallow Marvels even after they have left your hands, I enclose photograph of one of the Marvels which I planted at Belmar, N. J. This plant is now about 7 feet high. It started to bear flowers August 12th, and is still at it. It is safe to say that in this time it had several hundred flowers.

From Chicago.

The handsomest perennials I have had this past Summer were a half dozen of your Mallow Marvels. The Mallows were a wonder and delight to behold. One red one was as handsome as a well-grown bunch of American Beauty Roses.
W. P. G.

Are your Mallow Marvels planted for next season's display?

Over a thousand roots are on their way to expectant flower lovers at this writing. Orders are coming in from all points.

Meehans' Mallow Marvels are not passing novelties, but new, ever-surprising perennial flowers.

Be sure to send your orders to us. The finest strains are only obtainable from us. As originators we are certain to be ahead of every grower who has attempted to follow our production.

	2-year Roots		3-year Roots	
	each	per 10	each	per 10
Pink Marvels . .	\$0.50	\$4.00	\$0.75	\$6.00
Soft shades of pink				
White Marvels . .	.50	4.00	.75	6.00
White and very pale-tinted kinds				
Red Marvels75	6.00	1.00	8.00
Vivid shades of red				

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS

Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.



Small Garden Lily Group

KNOWING the great pleasure every flower lover would get from an assorted planting of these hardy lilies, we have made up a careful selection of the kinds suited for interspersing with shrubs or perennials in a border. Once planted they will become established and give lasting satisfaction.

Get this collection and see what splendid results follow.

- 6 Japanese Gold-banded Lilies, white, gold bands
- 18 Madonna Lilies, pure white
- 12 Lilium elegans, dwarf, various colors
- 24 Turk's Cap Lilies
- 10 Fragrant Japanese Lilies, rose
- 10 Bright Red Japanese Lilies

80 Splendid Hardy Lilies.

Worth more, but as a group will be sold for
\$10.00

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS

Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

Meehan's Garden Bulletin



VOL. 3

Subscription 50 Cents a Year

NOVEMBER, 1911

No. 3

Single Copies 5 Cents

Points of Interest in Lawn and Garden Planting

S. MENDELSON MEEHAN.

GARDENING is no exception to the common fact that in all matters of human concern there is very little originality.

It is very noticeable to the traveler interested in plants and the arrangement of them on grounds.

This lack of originality may be influenced by conditions of trade. A local nurseryman may produce certain kinds of plants to the exclusion of others, and the plantings in his neighborhood reflect that man's business efforts.

Some plants raised from slips or seeds may be generously distributed from friend to friend 'til these things become localized.

Beautiful grounds, tastefully planted, or public parks, to which so much attention is paid, furnish living illustrations of effects that may be produced, and these are copied.

Every locality may be said to have its own peculiar characteristics, from which a student with opportunity might write a wonderful and interesting history.

Then the pity of it is that gardening possibilities become constricted through ignorance.

What each possesses may be lovely, and contentment with that which is good, though it be little, is much to be desired. But oh, the possibilities which the world of nature and her gardeners spread before us! Contentment, after all, is only a satisfactory stage when positive limitations call an absolute halt.

Step out of the beaten paths, dear friends, and see if your garden and grounds are really as interesting to you as they might be.

Go into your grounds at once. Stand off at different points, and be intensely critical.

How can it be that you have allowed that long stretch of unsightly fence to disfigure your surroundings all this time? Of course, it never

occurred to you before. Whenever you passed that point you were hurrying from or to the house, with other thoughts on your mind.

Certainly you have not allowed the walls within your house to remain undecorated; that cost you hundreds of dollars. Put ten to twenty in a tasteful belt or groups of shrubs, or a perennial border along the fence, and note the wonderful change.

Don't make this a hedge fence unless the space is narrow. Straight lines are the proper thing for artificial fences, but you are *copying nature*, and will arrange your planting accordingly. Do not, however, go to extremes. At times curved lines in plantings are as inappropriate as a winding path across a treeless prairie.

Then what about those hideous outbuildings. No, we understand you never thought them hideous. Ignorance will usually be bliss. But if you had friends calling, would you guide them around with pride to see the view? A couple of low-growing trees, and half a dozen large spreading flowering shrubs would work wonders here.

With an assortment of flowering shrubs along the fence, selected to flower at different periods, your place, if small, will give you a strolling place pleasanter than a public park.

There are certain points about the grounds that must always be planted with something; one can't be original in that. But the actual selection of suitable plants may be varied.

What is the great privilege in gardening not enjoyed by decorative work of other kinds? Surely it is the never-ceasing change of scene. To-day the fragrant white bush honeysuckle is in flower; next week its pink relative changes the color scene. Unfolding leaves, ornamental berries—amber, glowing red, snowy white—grace-

ful outlines of branches, exquisite autumn colors, these all combine to form an unending chain of delight.

Study your place with the eyes of a stranger. Decide that certain places might be embellished. Draw on your imagination; would a bushy plant, or an upright one produce the right effect; should it be a tree—perhaps an evergreen?

Then make the selection and don't necessarily "follow the crowd." See something of the world yourself. Of course, you'll make mistakes, but a rapidly developing interest will quickly be gratified by the marvels in plant life that you never dreamed of.



The Sweet Gum has a distinctive, star-shaped leaf. Not another plant rivals it in Fall colors.

Sweet Gum

In selecting a tree for the street or lawn, one is very apt to see what his neighbour has and then plant the same. Thus we see whole localities planted with Carolina Poplars or Silver Maples when it would have been just as easy to secure and plant a much better tree.

Even the nurseryman is much given to following the crowd in this respect, under the pretext that he must supply the demand when he should try just a little harder to guide the demand, for none know better than he the most desirable tree to plant.

If one analyze the good qualities of ornamental shade trees, the Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) will be found to stand very high. The fact that it is very common in a natural state in the South makes it a harmonious figure, and does not discredit it for frequent use.

It is exceedingly handsome, having a very symmetrical habit of growth, beautiful star-shaped, bright, glistening foliage, a glorious autumn coloring, and generally a distinguished looking cork bark. In addition to this, the foliage has a delightful balsamic odor when crushed.

To these qualities add the fact that it is comparatively free from insect pests and disease, is a fairly fast grower and a long-lived tree, and you have a list of good points that are hard to beat.

Perhaps the only objection that can be brought against the tree is the limited area in which it will grow. Naturally, it does not grow north of Connecticut and Southern Illinois, but is found growing wild very plentifully southward to Florida and Texas.

Although it is found chiefly in moist woods, where it grows to the height of 150 feet or more, it grows well in dryer situations, but does not attain such large proportions—possibly 40 or 50 feet.

Under cultivation, it seems to thrive in either wet or dry situations, although preferring the latter.

The planting of the Sweet Gum should be done carefully, and at the right time, or many failures will result.

Do not try to plant a larger tree than 3 to 3½ inches in diameter, and this size only when it has been planted several times previously in the nursery, and always prune severely at the time of planting.

What a difference it would make to the appearance of some of the southern towns if their own native Sweet Gum were growing instead of so many of the undesirable Carolina Poplars.

E. H.

A Delicious Pear

The old-fashioned Sheldon Pear is the equal of any for all-around merit.

It produces well, and fruit of large size. The peculiar rounded form individualizes it, and also gives a good proportion of edible part.

The color of the fruit is a soft yellow-brown, making it a pleasing table fruit. The flavor is delicious, and the flesh juicy and melting.



Have you ever questioned the value of vines? If you have, carefully scan this perfect result. The house is made cozy and attractive by the planting.

Some Good Vines for the South

ERNEST HEMMING.

A VERY able landscape gardener and artist, while traveling through the South, made the remark: "The South should plant more vines." Those familiar with conditions can readily appreciate how good this advice is. We cannot get along without houses and buildings, and we cannot always have them as ornamental and artistic as we would like, but it is within the reach of every one to plant a vine, to soften the lines of a building, or perhaps screen it out entirely.

When planting vines it should be kept in mind just what is desired, and the selection made accordingly.

Perhaps only a delicate tracery of foliage is required to enhance the beauty of the pillars of the porch or maybe a dense screen of foliage to cut out an objectionable view; there are vines to suit all purposes.

The pergola, garden arches and fences need not lack clothing, both fashionable and lovely.

The following are a few suitable for the South, with a brief description suggesting what and where they are best fitted for:

Bignonia capreolata, fine for covering arbors, trunks of trees and posts. It is evergreen and very strong, growing hardy as far north as Washington. The trumpet-shaped flowers are produced in great profusion in April.

Euonymus radicans. An evergreen vine for covering stone walls, gate posts, copings and trailing over the ground. Do not expect it to climb very high; about eight or ten feet is the average, although it will do better than this if the position suits it.

English Ivy. Besides the common well-known one there are many beautiful forms that will grow equally well. Plant, as a rule, against the north wall or where the sun does not make it too hot for the ivy to cling.

Ficus repens, or Climbing Fig. Hardy in the southern portion of the Gulf States. It is a rapid grower, and makes a dense green covering. At more northern points it is not so likely to thrive except in well-protected positions.

Rhynchospermum Jasminoides, Malayan Jasmine. A beautiful, fragrant, evergreen, flower-

ing vine. Hardy from North Carolina southward. A fine subject for the porch.

The above are all evergreen. Among those that lose their leaves in the winter months, the roses come first. The South is justly famed for its roses; many kinds, such as the Marechal Niel, Cherokee, Climbing Teas and Hybrid Teas will only grow in the North under glass, or the most favored conditions, while in the South they revel in the sunshine and reach perfection.

Clematis paniculata does well almost everywhere, and is a grand vine for the porch; it is clean, fragrant and a rapid grower.

The large flowering clematis, that are so desirable, are a little uncertain and cannot be depended upon to cover up, but they are always worth trying.

There are two vines that come to mind that are occasionally seen in conservatories in the North that should be well adapted to the Gulf States. *Solanum Wendlandi* and *Clematis indivisa*.

The first-mentioned is a glorious thing when in bloom, and is a strong grower.

The *Clematis indivisa* is somewhat like the well-known *paniculata*, but is very distinct and charming, especially suitable for porches and columns.

For positions wanting a heavy mass of foliage there are the sweet-smelling flowering grapes, Virginia Creeper and Wistarias, also the well-known Trumpet Vine. In addition to the common one, there is a beautiful golden form known as *Bignonia radicans aurea*, and *Bignonia grandiflora*, a very large flowered one.

The roots of vines are usually of the same character as the tops, long and stringy, so that it is a little difficult to transplant large plants without cutting the vines well back, to correspond with the loss of roots, sure to occur in digging them up. It is always best, if at all possible, to get a plant that has been grown in a pot. The roots are intact, and, in unplanting, all danger is removed. They start to grow very quickly, and make much better time than a larger plant dug from the open ground.

Meehans' Mallow Marvels

The beautiful Mallow Marvels, proving to be a great success, admired by all who have seen them, are being improved each year by continued selection. Unlike the common mallow, that only does well in swampy ground, the Mallow Marvel thrives well in dry soil, as well as wet—even in very poor soil.

The Mallow Marvel is very slow to start its growth in spring; the buds are so slow showing above the ground that one is often led to believe they died during the winter. But, after they start, they grow very rapidly. By August they reach a height of six to eight feet, when they begin to bloom, and keep on blooming to September. The flowers, in various shades of pinks, reds and white, are of immense size, and in such bright colors they may be seen at a great distance.

It is a pleasant quality that they are very seldom attacked by insects or worms, and are free from disease.

The tops should be cut off in the fall, and a mulching of good manure will act as a fertilizer.

W. K.

Getting Food to Plants

Though practiced only in a limited way in the past, there is considerable attention now being given to blasting in connection with the planting of trees.

It may seem strange to those unacquainted with the practice to consider the two as being in any way related.

Out in the Middle West, years ago, the pioneers found soil running 6 and 8 feet deep, of the finest character possible for growing things.

That condition, however, is rare, and ordinarily, to get minimum results, requires study and the practice of scientific methods.

Blasting a small hole before setting a tree is not for the purpose of quickly opening the hole; in fact, the charge will not do this satisfactorily.

The intention is to break up hard pan, lumps and unavailable soil, rendering it suitable for the needs of the tree.

The loosening of the soil permits moisture to enter, thus loosening the fertilizing elements for the benefit of plant life.

The idea is no longer an experiment, but has been proven as being a most valuable practice, resulting in marked differences between trees planted in this manner and those set out by usual methods.

The practice is one really intended for the man who can make use of it commercially, such as the fruit- or nut-grower.

On large estates it might also be satisfactorily followed, where extensive tree planting is done.

WARREN J. CHANDLER.



Though little known the quantity and quality of the bloom of the *Armeria* or Sea Thrift makes it worthy of a place in every garden.

A Miscellany of Plants for Light Soils

ONE of the puzzling questions that frequently arise is the kind of plant that will thrive in light, dry and poor soil.

A moment's analysis of the stated conditions is desirable: "Light" or porous soil is a desirable thing in itself; only water plants can exist for any length of time in soil continually wet. Therefore, even pure sand is subject to good possibilities.

To sand or very porous soil add a liberal amount of stable manure, containing straw or similar bedding material. This, as it decays and becomes well merged with the soil, makes a splendid growing condition.

Muck from a creek bottom is frequently added to light soil with good results, but also it is sometimes sour and undesirable.

A summer surface mulch of litter, leaves, or dry grass clippings is frequently ample where the fertility of the soil cannot be questioned.

"Dry" soil sometimes infers *hard* soil. Alongside the foundation of a house, soil not only becomes dry because sheltered from rains and by house eaves, but may be packed hard by drippings. This condition is the most difficult to correct. Break it up if possible. Dig it up to a good depth, without bringing the poor under soil to the surface. Use the summer surface mulch very freely.

Plants for this position should be vigorous-rooting kinds that will rapidly gain hold on the surrounding soil.

The following notes on suitable plants are by no means exhaustive or with any particular order in listing; they are better available as merely suggestive.

The Rose-Purple Bush Clover, *Desmodium penduliflorum*, is a great favorite with the few who know it well. It roots well in porous soil.

The *Desmodium* has various uses. Though almost herbaceous in the North, it may keep most of its stems in the South. A beautiful bushy growth it makes, snugly filling in a corner between steps and house wall; or several may be used in a row against a wall. Flowering profusely in fall, it is one of the most valuable of shrubs.

The Chinese Pagoda Tree, *Sophora Japonica*, is unquestionably one of the finest flowering trees in America. It is neat in everything, and makes a beautiful rounded head. Summer flowering is one of its important qualities. Light soil seems to suit it well.

As every one knows, the pea family is vigorous rooting. The Perennial Pea, *Lathyrus grandiflorus*, does well in almost any position. Train it on a lattice, tie it to a stake, or let it run over a bank. Its leaves are almost evergreen at times.

The violet is always looked upon as a harbinger of spring, but there are other enjoyable flowers to be had at the same time. Try *Cerastium tomentosum*, which is appropriately called "Snow-in-Summer."

It grows no larger than a violet, spreads more rapidly, and will accompany the violet nicely.

Another little border plant is Thrift (*Armeria*), an old-fashioned plant, but not seen enough. It grows in pretty little green cushions of foliage, from which appear for several months in the year rose-pink buttons on slender stems—like hatpins.

Every one likes the lovely pink of the flowers of the fruiting peach. The flowering peaches treble the beauty of the fruiting ones, and may be had in spotless white, pink, and dazzling red. Of course, they'll grow anywhere the common peach will.



This is the *Cerastium* or "Snow-in-Summer." The pure white blossom really come in early Spring, in masses, looking like lingering patches of snow.

"Devil's Walking Stick" is not an attractive name, but the plant is remarkably interesting, and will grow in very poor soil. It is one of the most unique plants grown.

Club-like stems, with prominent thorns, make the name rather appropriate. The stems are hidden in summer with a mass of tropical foliage surmounted in late season with a mass of fluffy flowers.

Locate it low, if possible, that the flowers in long loose sprays may be readily seen.

Eight to ten feet may be said to be the usual height of a mature plant.

The Sorrel Tree, *Oxydendrum arboreum*, is a charming native small tree which is usually grown as a large shrub.

Its lovely sprays of white flowers in summer are followed in fall by a gorgeous red coloring of the foliage.

In its native haunts in the mountains of the South it is a wonderful sight in autumn colors.

Plants native to mountainous localities are usually satisfactory in any light soil. One may count on the Blue Mount Atlas Cedar, and the Deodar Cedar as desirable specimen evergreens. Indeed in the South there is no finer evergreen in cultivation. Let them have a position where they may grow large uncrowded.

Few evergreens have a wider range of opportunity than the Juniper.

It grows far North and far South, and in the poorest of soils. Varieties of *Virginiana* are most suitable.

Growing in stony places, and in partial shade, the Canadian Yew is desirable in any of the higher altitudes.

Leucothæ is a delightful shrub, with its lance-pointed evergreen leaves. It is choice to bank in where a natural effect is wanted.

Mahonias are rapidly coming to be recognized as indispensable to the average grounds.

Their evergreen, hollylike leaves, bushy growth, adaptability to rather poor soils, make them very welcome everywhere.

The glorious blue Verbena shrub, *Caryopteris*, should be better known to the South. It is excellent in light soil, scarcely hardy enough for most northern points, and for its late summer flowering is indispensable. As a dwarf shrub its uses are many.

Well known to most southern sections is the lustrous green bushes of the Japanese *Euonymus*.

Now, try some of the deciduous kinds—*Euonymus Europæus*, etc. Just at this writing the curiously angled, red berries, in clusters like cherries, in beautiful harmony with orange-red seeds peeping from the bursting pods, and the rich green leaves, all a combination most delightful. Grow it as an upright shrub.

The Gold Flower, *Hypericum Moserianum*, is another charm. Golden flowers, like single roses, are exceedingly attractive. This is just a little shrub, the branches falling gracefully over the ground. Plant it in the border or flower garden.

There are so many of these choice things available for light soils, no one should despair of getting something established at almost any point. We might close by saying, "when all others fail, try the old-fashioned flag or iris."

S. M. M.



The Japanese Rose is welcomed wherever known. The single blossoms are beautiful and delicate, and the rich, glossy, green leaves bid defiance to the rose bugs. The seed hips are a show in Summer and Fall.



The loose, dark lilac panicles of flowers on the Rouen Lilac are borne in such quantities as to weigh down the bush. The foliage is exactly like the parent plant, the Persian Lilac.

Where You Are Your Own Gardener

S. MENDELSON MEEHAN.

A LOVE for flowers and ornamental plants is held more or less by nearly every man and woman, but the circumstances of life frequently seem to forbid intimate relations with gardening.

It is usually the rush of the times, or lack of income to maintain elaborate grounds and plantings, that interferes with an indulgence of this taste for nature.

As a personal interest, gardening has saved many persons from physical and mental wreck; the pity is that there should be any handicaps.

It is the purpose of these notes to suggest some easily-cared-for plants which any one may possess and enjoy without fear an expensive gardener must be employed to care for.

Naturally, under the circumstances, one of the most important considerations is variation in time of flowering.

It is easy to select from spring-flowering kinds; summer and fall are more difficult.

Much has been said about Meehans' Mallow Marvels; they unfailingly head every list of plants of that character.

They are one of the easiest plants to grow and care for. Just set them out, with three to

four feet each way for future development, and let them alone except to cut off the dried stems every winter.

Some flower lovers, strolling in the garden each morning, may take the moment to pluck the faded flowers of the day previous, but this is really not necessary.

A root old enough to produce several stems will flower for two months at close of summer; gorgeous blooms to attract the busiest and most careworn life.

Lilacs are tantalizing things, as a rule. So often they fail to bloom at all, or do it sparsely; or they will sucker up to produce a huge clump of stems ungraceful, troublesome and without flowers. French varieties overcome some of these troubles, but for general satisfaction we like the little Rouen Lilac.

It is a good self-caretaker, and one rarely ever sees a plant that is not lovely at all times.

Roses are equally trying to one with little time. They must be pruned and staked to keep them within bounds, and fed to maintain strength and give them perfection.

The Japanese *Rosa rugosa* requires so little attention it is commonly grown among shrubs.



The Best Hardy Garden

We Ever Offered for \$5.00

We have been selling collections of old-fashioned, hardy perennials for some years, but this group we consider to be the very best ever given for the money. If you have a border you will be glad to freshen it with these splendid kinds. For anyone starting a cutting border here indeed is just the collection to make a good start for the purpose.

These plants, sixty-six in number, purchased individually would cost \$7.50 and are well worth it. Send at once for this unusual and most reasonable collection.

- 1 Meehans' Mallow Marvel
- 2 Yellow Columbines
- 4 Garden Phlox
- 4 Fall Anemones
- 2 Double Paeonies
- 3 German Iris
- 12 Double Narcissus
- 3 Plantain Lily
- 3 Blanket Flower
- 3 Sweet William
- 3 Bell Flowers
- 3 Perennial Coreopsis
- 2 Hardy Asters
- 12 Single Narcissus
- 2 Perennial Spiraea
- 2 Blue Speedwell
- 2 Double Sunflower
- 3 Blue Columbines

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS
Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

After some years there may be a few old stems to cut out, allowing new sucker-growth to take their place.

With lovely single flowers, which every one seems to like almost as much as double flowers, and these appearing consecutively all summer long, it is a charming plant.

It is perhaps rare the rugosa rose is used as a cut-flower, yet it is delightful. The flowers nestle attractively among the numerous green leaves.

A friend recently brought us a jar of preserved seed pods or "hips" of this rose. They looked like maraschino cherries, and had a flavor all their own—delicious. Some enterprising man will some day bring this into the class of edible fruits.

One of the trying things to a busy man is to find his plants becoming diseased or ravaged by insect pests.

The Japanese Ginkgo is a blessing to such an one—no diseases or insect pests have thus far annoyed it.

So adaptable to every situation, and especially useful in narrow spaces between houses, on sidewalks, etc., it is becoming very popular. To crown all, it is both unique and attractive in appearance, yet harmonizing with other plants perfectly.

In the North, Magnolia usually signifies a large bushy tree-shrub, which, in spring, is smothered with flowers, white or pink.

In the South, Magnolia stands for that beautiful, broad-leaved, evergreen species for which Northerners yearn.

The dwarf, shrub-like Magnolia, is one on which all might dwell as the most convenient to grow, with all the charming flowering qual-



The huge panicles of beautiful, pure white blossoms, combined with rich green foliage, make the Adam's Needle a valuable plant for many positions. Does well in almost any soil.

ities, and, as well, a handsome leaf—though not evergreen.

It is suitable for the small property, and never requires attention. No continuously falling evergreen leaves to sweep from the lawn.

Many rapid-growing trees are troublesome because they grow rank and need pruning.

The Tulip Tree is satisfactory, if given room and light to perfect its natural symmetry. Its trunk is a tall straight bole, inspiring to look at.

The leaves and growth always neat and attractive. One difficulty is the first and last—it is not easy to transplant except when severely pruned.

The Yucca, or Adam's Needle, is a very useful little plant. It will grow in the poorest of soil, and takes care of itself admirably. Place it on a bank, in a small corner, against a low wall, or fence, among herbaceous plants in the garden (especially among Iris), in the foreground or outer corners of shrubbery beds—hundreds of situations are open to it.

The spikes of fragrant white flowers in early summer are striking and effective.

Following is a short list of hardy garden flowers easily cared for and attractive:

- Asclepias tuberosa.*
- August Lily (*Funkia sub-cordata*).
- Funkia lancifolia.*
- Tiger Lily.
- Pæonies.
- Pentstemon digitalis.*
- Sedum spectabilis.*
- Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium*).
- Sea Lavender (*Statice*).
- Teucrium Canadense* (Germander).
- Thermopsis Caroliniana.*
- Veronica* (various kinds).

Winter Protection for Tubbed Plants

Box bushes and other evergreens are used a great deal to decorate porches, steps, etc, during the winter. These are in tubs or pots, and, in most cases, exposed to the cold winds. It's only natural that the wind, blowing around the tubs all winter, should penetrate and cause the roots to dry up and wither. By spring there is not enough life left to start the plant growing.

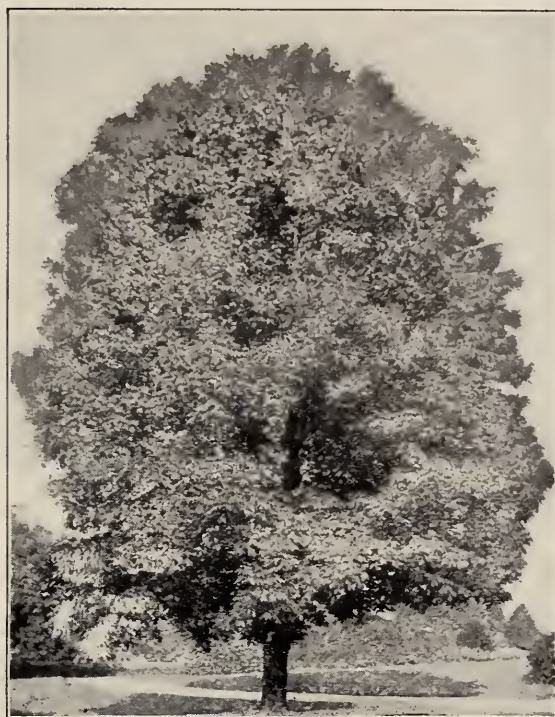
To prevent this get a tub or pot larger than the one the plant is in. Place the small tub inside the large one and pack sawdust or anything that will pack tightly between the two tubs. This will keep the wind from reaching the roots.

W. K.

Growth of Evergreens

It is distinctly noticeable that a good many evergreens, especially Arbor Vitæ, Retinosporas and Junipers have made remarkable growth since the heavy rains experienced in August. It is generally thought that evergreens have finished their yearly growth before July; this year, however, finds them still growing, and, at this writing, October is nearly here. Everything points to a most successful planting season for this class of plants, the soil is plenteous in moisture and warmth; what more could be desired?

E. M.



The Ash

Our Best Quick-Growing Tree

Quick-growing trees are ordinarily not worth the planting, as for example the Carolina Poplar, Silver Maple, etc., but when you get an Ash you have a sterling tree of high quality. For use on sidewalk, lawn, driveway or for shade purposes of any kind, it is to be depended upon. Though preferring a deep, moist soil it will do well in higher locations.

Here are some splendid trees in good variety. Planted this Autumn they will make good headway next season.

American Ash. A fine, noble tree of good outline. The attractive light green foliage is silvery white on the underside.

- 8 to 10 ft., 1 to 1¼ in caliper, \$1.00 each
- 8 to 10 ft., 1¼ to 1½ in. caliper, 1.25 “
- 12 feet, 1½ in. caliper, . . . 1.50 “
- Specimens, 3 in. caliper . . . 3.50 “

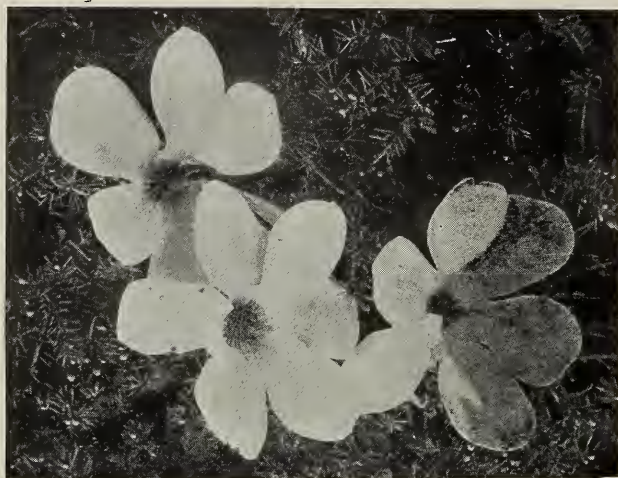
English Ash. The rich green foliage of this Ash remains on until very late Autumn. It is not as open in growth as the American. A very fine tree.

- 10 to 12 ft., 1½ to 2 in. caliper, \$1.50 each
- 12 to 14 ft., 2 to 2½ in. caliper, 2.00 “

Green Ash. Good, bright green foliage and a close, round-headed tree of fine appearance.

- 10 to 12 ft., 1½ in. caliper, . . \$1.50 each
- 12 to 14 ft., 2 in. caliper, . . 2.00 “

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Phila.



One of the sweetest and most attractive Magnolias is *conspicua*, the pure white Yulan Magnolia.

MAGNOLIAS The Harbingers of Spring

To have a lawn without one Magnolia at least on it, is to live without the pleasure of welcoming the coming of spring.

Is there a group of flowering plants as closely linked with spring as Magnolias? We think not.

Just now our stock of the following kinds is excellent. Not only are the plants of good size but we lift them very carefully, thus removing almost all risk of death in transplanting.

Decide to plant out a group of them or at least get one, if limited space prevents the other course.

If your lawn is exposed to extreme cold and sweeping winds, tell us to ship in spring, but by all means order now. Our stock is naturally limited in such stock and sizes. South of Philadelphia fall planting may be generally observed.

Dwarf Star-flowered Magnolia (*Magnolia stellata*).

Almost covering the plants with its shower of blossoms, this beautiful dwarf, bushy-growing Magnolia is one of the most ornamental. The flowers are tinted pink in bud, opening pure white and are delicately scented. These plants of ours will match with any in the country as being superior.

1½ to 2 feet, \$1.50 each	3 to 3½ feet, \$3.50 each
2 to 2½ feet, 2.00 "	3½ to 4 feet, 4.50 "
2½ to 3 feet, 2.50 "	

White, Sweet-scented Magnolia (*Magnolia conspicua* or *Yulan*)

The pure white, waxy blossoms of this beautiful Magnolia are known to all plant lovers, though not as common as the pink variety. They exhale a most delicious fragrance when the tree is covered with blossoms in April.

4 to 5 feet, \$2.75 each	8 to 9 feet . . . \$4.00 each
5 to 6 feet, 3.25 "	10 to 12 feet, fine 5.00 "
6 to 7 feet, 3.50 "	

Pink Magnolia (*Magnolia Soulangeana*)

This well-known, large-flowered, light pink Magnolia needs no description. It is seen in almost every garden of any size or consequence. Our plants are grand.

2 to 4 feet, \$2.25 each	4½ to 5 feet, \$3.00 each
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Purple Magnolia (*Magnolia purpurea*)

Somewhat shrub-like in habit. Produces purple blossoms after many kinds are through flowering. Not hardy in the extreme north.

1½ to 2 feet, \$1.00 each	2½ to 3 feet, 2.00 each
2 to 2½ feet, 1.50 "	3 to 3½ feet, 2.50 "

A Quartette of Fine Magnolias

You will never regret planting some Magnolias on your home grounds. Let us send you one each of the four kinds of Magnolias listed above.

- 1 White, Sweet-scented Magnolia, . . . 5 to 6 feet
- 1 Pink Magnolia 4½ to 5 feet
- 1 Purple Magnolia 3 to 3½ feet
- 1 Dwarf Star-flowered Magnolia . . . 2½ to 3 feet

The above Sterling group for - \$10.00

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Phila.



A specimen Japanese Maple of this size is seldom seen, but the same form and attractive appearance occurs in all the smaller sizes.

The Green Japanese Maple

One usually associates colors other than green with the Japanese Maples. Without the slightest disparagement to the beautiful delicate colorings of the red, yellow and multi-colored varieties, the common green Japanese Maple is perhaps the best when everything is considered.

It is the strongest grower, having the best constitution.

The habit and form of foliage is as light and feathery as can be desired.

The color, although green, stands well during the hottest summers.

The fall coloring is superb, yet with all these good points it is often overlooked.

For a pretty specimen where a small tree is wanted for the lawn, there is nothing superior. It will grow to the height of 20 to 25 feet, with almost an equal spread of branches, but these proportions are rather unusual and indicate an old tree.

Plant it where a nice little tree 10 to 12 feet high is wanted, and you will have something you will like just as soon as it gets established, even though it be only a few feet high.

E. H.

Success in Planting Evergreens

Evergreens are hard to transplant successfully, unless handled with the utmost care. There are several reasons, one of which is that evergreens always carry their foliage, which is constantly drawing on the strength of the plant.

In transplanting evergreens they should never be permitted to become dry from the time they are dug from the ground by the nurserymen until they are established in their permanent position.

Nurserymen go to a great deal of expense in moving all evergreens every two or three years, in order to have the plants produce fibrous roots, enabling them to dig many plants with a solid ball of earth to the roots. This brings a plant in such a condition as easily to transplant as it would have been had it been grown in a pot. Some kinds, such as pines, do not readily make these fibrous roots, and much of a ball is not to be expected. Of course, the balled plant does not dry out so readily as the one without, and the time out of the ground in actual course of transportation should never cause alarm.

H. BROWN.

Plants for an Autumn Display

Many people are away from home, on various pleasure trips, during the summer; the grounds, though kept in perfect order by the gardener, cannot be a source of pleasure to them at that time.

Select plants that bloom in autumn; the foliage will give an attractive appearance to the grounds during the summer, and in the fall, when coming home, instead of the last faded flowers of summer to greet you an abundance of bright, fresh flowers should prove a source of pleasure.

A few good plants for this purpose in the hardy border or garden are the numerous varieties of Hardy Asters, the Helianthus, Hardy Chrysanthemums, Anemones, *Plumbago Larpentæ*, Dahlias, Desmodium and *Caryopteris mastacanthus*. Among the shrubs, the Althæas are most attractive. Baby Rambler roses are covered with flowers this fall, especially the white variety, "White Witch."

W. LAMB.

THE PARAGON Paeony Group

Have you ever wanted to get just a few real choice pæonies which have not the earmarks of the common about them? In our large collection we have some of splendid blood—they show their qualities when in full bloom.

If you wish such a group let us send you five good roots of five varieties which we have most carefully picked from twenty times that number. These five pæonies sell from 50c to \$1.00 a piece, depending from whom you buy them. Some growers could not supply them.

Our special offer—these five superb pæonies for **\$2.00.**

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS
Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

SPECIAL Combination Subscription Offer

As hundreds are becoming subscribers to the Garden Bulletin, influenced by the practical, up-to-date information it contains, and as hundreds are also ordering Meehans' Mallow Marvels for a brilliant display in 1912, we give below a special combination offer for the benefit of those wishing both.

For the balance of this Autumn we will sell three Mallow Marvels in three distinct colors, and subscription up to and including the December, 1912, number, for the special price of \$2.00.

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS
Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.



The Pure White Speed- well



THERE are many blue Speedwells but only one pure white one—the Great Virginian Speedwell illustrated above. Note the graceful beauty of the blooms which of course are impossible to improve upon for bouquet purposes.

As the flowers come in August and September they are doubly welcome.

A very vigorous growing perennial reaching 4 to 5 feet.

Strong roots 15c
10 for \$1.20 25 for \$2.50

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS
Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

An Evergreen for Borders

If one sit down to make a list of the attractive evergreens of dwarf habit, it will be found difficult to get a fair assortment, outside of those which require regular shearing to keep them within bounds.

The neat little "Rosedale Hybrid" fills a splendid place. It is about hardy at Philadelphia, and is just the thing for the South.

It may be used in place of *Retinospora squarrosa*, having the same color, but being dwarf, will not need shearing for the beds or borders.

R. P.



In this department we will discuss all horticultural problems that will be of value to our readers. Time mentioned for work or flowering is for locality of Philadelphia.

Ask us for any information you are in need of in the horticultural line.

Address all communications "Special Information Department, 'Garden Bulletin.'"

Azalea Not Flowering

I have had a large azalea (potted) for several years. This year it only had one flower. Has acted so before. What is the matter?

MRS. C. N.

Azaleas may be regularly brought into flower every year, and there must be something wrong with the conditions or the treatment. The best we can do is to name briefly some of the necessary things in handling them.

Immediately the plant is through flowering, it is advisable, providing the after-conditions can be worked, to cut the plant back quite severely in order to induce new vigorous growth. This new growth will produce good flower buds. If it is not done, the growth may be weak or strong, according to the general conditions. If strong, then you get the flowers anyhow; if weak, the results are likely to be the reverse.

After the plant is cut back, it should be kept warm and moist, being careful, however, not to actually overwater it. The moisture refers rather to the atmosphere, such as one usually finds in a greenhouse or conservatory as contrasted with that of a dwelling house.

In early summer, after the weather is thoroughly settled following the spring changes, the plant should be set out of doors. The pot or tub in which the plant stands should be plunged into the ground. In that condition the plant will require little or no care. Having that kind

of treatment, the plant can stand out in full sunlight, if watched to see that it does not actually suffer from drought.

Pruning Shrubs

Please tell me the proper seasons for trimming up *Spiraea*, *Symphoricarpos*, *Berberis*, *Azalea*, *Deutzia*, *Crape Myrtle*, *Forsythia*, *Hydrangea paniculata*, *Viburnum*, and *Weigela*. These shrubs were set out in March last. Should they be cut back severely or only trimmed? Your advice will be appreciated.

T. W.

It is just a little difficult, without knowing the condition of the plants. With well-established plants one can easily judge of the condition, but in this case recently transplanted stock might vary very much and require different treatment.

General principles will be the safest for us to give you. The best season for trimming any of these shrubs is after they have flowered, removing some or all of the canes or branches that have just flowered, assuming the number of branches remaining are, say, two-thirds of the original number. It is not usually safe to remove more wood and foliage than this during the summer, when plants of course need foliage for existence. If the reduction under such a plan seems too great, do just a little of it to encourage a vigorous growth on the part of the remaining wood, and finish it in the winter, being careful not to remove at the latter period any growth that has just been made, which seems important for the production of flowers the following season, unless flowers may be sacrificed for the good of the plant.

The *Hydrangea paniculata* and the *Spiraea*, if any of them be summer-flowering varieties, may be very severely pruned in the winter, as flowers will be produced next season on the growth of that season, and you can safely prune away any of the wood during the winter, being assured flowering wood will follow in the spring.

Assuming you received good, bushy plants, it would have been best to have pruned them very severely at the time of planting, in order to get entirely new wood, though sometimes the condition of the plants will necessitate retaining a good portion of the strong, vigorous, young growth. In such event, pruning at this time would have been little required, simply thinning out where the branches have grown too thick and bushy and overload the plant.

Columbines in Flower for Spring, 1912

MOST satisfactory results come from Autumn planting of the beautiful, Spring-flowering Columbines. These are so early in the Spring that it is almost impossible to move them then without checking their growth. Our collection is a large and splendid one, and out of it we have made up an assortment which is ideal for any garden. Here it is.

6 Rocky Mountain Columbines (*caerulea*).
Blue and white.

4 Golden Columbines (*chrysantha*).
Yellow.

6 Japanese Dwarf Columbines (*flabellata nana alba*). White.

6 Erskine Park Hybrids. Wonderful new strains. Various colors.

4 European Columbines (*vulgaris*).

4 Native Columbines (*canadensis*). Red.

The above collection, 30 plants in all, in good, strong roots, for

\$3.00

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS

Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.



An Interesting Iris Offer

Everyone loves the exquisite blossoms of the Iris. It has form, color and fragrance sure to please the most critical. Commencing with the German kinds, which are so showy in May, and continuing with the Siberian and finally the Japanese class, the period of blossom is extended until early July.

Our collection, covering all these classes, is large and contains the very finest kinds. As they are wanted in all gardens we have a collection for just such needs.

We will sell three dozen fine, strong roots, thirty-six in all, including German, Siberian, Japanese in variety, and additional splendid species, for the special price of **\$3.50**.

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS

Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

Additional Notes on Winter Mulching

Some time ago I wrote in regard to mulching as being different in results from mulching in the North. What I write now is not to contradict anything that I said before, but is the result of observations of the action of a different mulch. The one of which I wrote before was of Soft Maple leaves, which form a close blanket.

Last fall I mulched a large bed of young gladiolus bulbs, to see if I could winter them without digging. The results of this experiment are not yet fully in evidence, though I know it was not wholly a success. My greatest interest in the mulch is for its use with Narcissi



Pot-Grown Japanese Anemones

Have you ever tried to buy Japanese Anemones? If so, you know how scarce good stock is.

THAT is just why we consider ourselves fortunate in having a most splendid collection of beautiful plants, all in pots ready to grow.

You never will regret planting Anemones. They come in flower in Autumn when flowers are scarce, do so well in semi-shaded positions, and are flower friends which you soon learn to love.

Grasp this unusual opportunity to get some excellent plants at very low prices.

**Strong, pot-grown plants, all colors,
15c each. Postpaid, 20c**

10 for \$1.20 50 for \$5.00

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS
Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

and tulips. I am convinced that I cannot grow them successfully in open field without some kind of protection, but the close, heat-retaining and heat-excluding mulch proved with me worse than nothing, for reasons given.

The mulch of which I now speak was* of wheat straw, which does not mat down, but remains stiff through the winter, like brush. It thus gives free ventilation from the surface of the ground to the open air, letting the extra heat of the ground pass up through, and giving access to the cold air of outdoors. Not only so, but the ground is effectually shaded from the heat of the sun, also the light, and so I believe the bulbs would be protected from stimulation to growth through the warm weather, of which we have a good deal in winter.

It has occurred to me in the past few days that possibly part of the difficulty with the bulbs is the excessive dryness of many of our winters. Under this wheat straw mulch the ground keeps moist; the mulch retains the moisture in the soil and also operates as an effective trap for the moisture of dew and frost, which here is a very considerable quantity. For the reasons given, I believe the wheat-straw mulch will give success, should the cow-pea cover crop prove a failure. Rye straw would probably be equally good, but I doubt if oat straw would, as it is much softer and might pack down into a blanket like the maple leaves.

Another thing that may have operated to the detriment of my bulbs is the baking heat of the sun while the bulbs are lying dormant in the ground in summer and fall. The cow-peas, drilled in in time to shade the ground at about the time the bulbs become dormant, would obviate this difficulty also.

Missouri.

B. C. AUTEN.

Phosphates

"Kindly tell me, through the medium of your BULLETIN, what are phosphates, and how can they be procured?"

The term phosphates is generally applied commercially to fertilizers containing a large or small percentage of phosphoric acid. They are what is known as direct fertilizers; that is, they contain plant foods that aid directly in the growth and development of the plants.

They are usually separated in three classes, phosphatic guanos, rock phosphates and acid phosphates. Guano is a term usually applied to deposits of the dung of sea fowl, but is also applied to other animal products. It contains little or no

nitrogen. The phosphoric acid in guanos varies from 15 to 30 per cent. The rock phosphates contain from 25 to 30 per cent. phosphoric acid. The acid phosphates are mostly procured from the rock phosphates by the treatment of some form of insoluble phosphates of lime with sulphuric acid. Superphosphates, made from the same, may contain from 12 to 18 per cent. of available phosphoric acid. Acid phosphates are usually known as superphosphates or dissolved bone.

Experiments show that plants will die before reaching maturity if they do not receive a certain amount of phosphoric acid. Phosphates have, therefore, a direct bearing on plant life in three different ways.

First, they aid in the nutrition and development of the plant by supplying the needed amount of phosphoric acid. Secondly, they assist the plant, in some way not clearly understood, in assimilating other plant foods.

The majority of seeds contain phosphates and



A Cream White Chinese Lilac

Syringa villosa

Flowering late in June at the time of the Hungarian Lilac, after most kinds are over, this splendid kind deserves the very highest praise and recommendation.

The foliage always claims attention, as it is rich and shiny, and when in flower the large panicles of cream-white or pearl blossoms are beautifully displayed against this background of leafage. Note the breadth of the specimen illustrated and the great quantity of bloom. One seldom sees this lilac, as it is yet uncommon.

These fine, well-developed plants are sure to please.

5 to 6 feet (worth \$2.00)—\$1.00 each

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.



Next April you'll see the Scarlet Japanese Maples

coming into leaf, the foliage making a most brilliant effect, and you'll want to get some bushy plants—such as we now have. It will then be too late.

Why not select some of these fine, well-rooted specimens of ours—get them established this Autumn and next Spring you get your results.

We have unquestionably the finest stock in the world of these blood-leaved Maples.

	each		each
1 to 1½ feet, .	\$1.00	3 to 3½ feet, .	\$3.75
1½ to 2 feet, .	1.50	3½ to 4 feet, .	5.00
2 to 2½ feet, .	2.00	4 to 4½ feet, .	6.50
2½ to 3 feet, .	2.75	4½ to 5 ft.,	\$8 to \$10

A few extra fine specimens at \$12.00

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS
Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

it is necessary, therefore, that there be a certain amount of phosphoric acid in the soil to aid the plant in the development of its seeds. Thirdly, certain forms of phosphates render the albuminoids thoroughly soluble and enable them to be carried to growing parts of the plant, where they are to be found in quantity. It has been generally

noted that where there is an available supply of phosphates in the soil that the plants will develop and mature more quickly.

In regard to the proper application, the fall and winter is usually the best time for treating the soil with phosphates, although there are a few fertilizers containing phosphates which can be applied in the spring.

Planting Time in the South

Fall is the best time to plant in those localities where the winters are not too severe; especially if plants, well-ripened by a cooler climate, be used. Just as soon as the leaves of a tree or bush begin to turn yellow it shows they have fulfilled their functions, and the plant is becoming dormant. When dormant the plants can be moved with the least risk, and the sooner it is done the better.

Extensive experiments have proven that although plants are apparently dormant, there is a continuous growth through the winter, even amid the frost and snow. They are storing up energy, as it were, so as to be ready to expand their buds in the spring.

A little thought will readily convince any one that it is better for a plant to make this winter growth in its new quarters, so it will be established and ready for the great drain on the plant caused by pushing out its leaves.

Very often spring planting is followed by hot, dry spells that are so disastrous to plants that have just been planted. Artificial watering is good at such times, but it does not take the place of the rain or the cool moist atmosphere of winter, so necessary to the support of the plant until it has sent out roots to supply its needs during the hot weather.

The same rules apply to the transplanting of evergreens. Move them at a time they are least active, and when they will have the longest period before being called upon by the sun to give off so much moisture.

Experienced planters all agree that in the South there is less danger to newly transplanted nursery stock from cold following the fall planting than from the heat and drought following spring planting.

E. H.

Magnolia Trifietala

This tree is specially worthy of a position on a lawn or lane, for several reasons; and one is, that it makes an exceptionally good shade. The



Meehans' Hardy Chrysanthemums

Allentown—Golden bronze.
Alpha—Single white, yellow center.
Autumn Queen—Large, rosy pink.
A. Neilson—Large pink, with silvery reverse petals. New.
Baby—Golden yellow, button type.
Bedouin—Small flower, mixture of garnet and white.
Boston—Semi-double, splendid golden bronze or old gold.
Bradshaw—Large, full, silvery-pink flower.
Brown Bessie—Beautiful brown button flower.
Corsican—Light pink, quilled petals.
Daisy—Tall, single white, yellow center.
Daisy Anderson—Very large, maroon-bronze.
Eagle d' Or—Medium, clear yellow flower.
Edna—Glowing pink, medium size.
Eleanor—Fimbriated flower, pure white petals.
Elkton—Large, light pink blossom.
Eva—Semi-double, large magenta, shaded lighter.
Fire Ball—Medium yellow, tipped crimson.
Flora—Small, golden yellow.
Fremy—Large, beautiful terra cotta.
Globe d' Or—Large, bushy, clear yellow.
Gloriosa—Semi-double white, shaded and pencilled claret.
Golden Gate—Semi-double, bright yellow.
Golden Mlle. Martha—Small, double, clear orange yellow.
Golden Pheasant—Small, rich yellow.
Goldfinch—Small, gold, shaded crimson.
Grandeur—Large, golden bronze and old gold.
Henrietta—Bronze, yellow edge.
Hindu—Semi-double bronze.
Hijos—Beautiful primrose pink.

James Boone—Pure white of good size.
Julia Lagravere—Large, rich maroon.
Kadar—Mottled crimson and garnet. Early.
Lady Naylor—Beautiful, pure white.
Ladysmith—Medium, rosy-lake tinged salmon.
L'Ami Conderschlerd—Small sulphur white.
La Favorite—Small, rosy-pink shaded white.
Lilia—Double, scarlet-bronze. Tall.
Little Pet—Small claret. Perfect form.
Lovely—Small, bright pink.
Lyndhurst—Deep, velvety-scarlet maroon. Tall.
Maid of Honor—Deep rose, medium size.
Maid of Kent—White of medium size.
May Suydam—Medium size. Rich bronze.
Mercedes—Semi-double, pure white.
Model—Small, round, pure white. Early.
Mrs. Porter—Good, bright bronze.
Mrs. Snyder—Large, rich yellow.
Mrs. Vincent—Large, rich magenta.
Nellie Rainsford—Small, orange-salmon, tipped red.
Ora—Rich, coppery-bronze. Reflexed petals.
Painted Lady—Semi-double, light pink, shaded white.
Pamela—Single, deep pink, yellow center.
President—Large, deep violet rose.
Radiance—Semi-double, light pink, shaded darker.
Reliance—Single cream.
Rosalie—Rosy-pink, semi-double.
Rosamond—Small, purplish white.
Souer Melaine—Large, pure white.
St. Illoria—Large, glorious, silvery-pink.
Strathmeath—Large, clear pink.
Sunset—Medium, single, reddish brown.
Triumph d' Or—Rich, golden yellow.
Yellow Gem—Pure yellow. Large, full flowers.

Thrifty, pot-grown plants, ready for delivery after April 15, 1912

15c each. Postpaid, 20c each
10 for \$1.20. 50 for \$5.00

Send to

Address

SPECIAL—The owner of home grounds needing *Trees, Evergreens, Shrubs* or hardy plants of any kind should send to us for our complete descriptive catalogue. It is a valuable and practical book. Free on request.

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Phila.



Hail Chrysanthemum !

Welcome in our leafless bower,
Where November's breath has come,
Welcome golden-anthered flower,
Ever fair Chrysanthemum !
Like an old friend's pleasant face—
Though the earth is void of grace,
And the many birds are dumb,
Cheerful, gay Chrysanthemum ?



The Hardy Chrysanthemums

the true Autumn Flower—

As the frost creeps into the air and the garden begins to show the approach of Winter the bright blossoms of the old-fashioned Hardy Chrysanthemums give us a new wealth of bloom.

Every garden needs them, whether large or small, even if it be only a border. Because of them you'll miss your roses and other floral pets less when Winter's approach becomes apparent.

True, their blossoms are small in comparison to the huge Chrysanthemum flowers of the florists' window, but in their rugged style, "home-garden" association and great diversity of color they have merits which compensate in full.

Enliven your garden by having some of the finest blossoms obtainable for the Fall. They are hardy, despite some gardeners' contentions. If you wish advice, ask us—we have made them a specialty for years.

Meehans' Prize-Winning, Hardy Chrysanthemums

Sixty-four splendid, distinct varieties. The cream of known kinds, for outdoor planting.

We are proud of our big, varied collection of old-fashioned, hardy Chrysanthemums. They are all worthy kinds, and the care we use in growing them insures plants true to name. This is a most important consideration.

Our Chrysanthemums have been receiving prizes all over the country. Each season hundreds come to view them at our nurseries.

Here is the list, double that of last year, having many new and most worthy additions to it. Plenty of the well-known button types, others the size of a silver dollar, and also single and semi-double kinds.

Here are our reasonable prices for them. Ready for delivery after April 15, 1912.

POT-GROWN PLANTS—Your Selection

15c each. Postpaid, 20c

10 for \$1.20. 50 for \$5.00

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS

Germantown, Phila., Pa.

foliage is large and of a pleasing green, and both flowers and fruit are highly ornamental.

When one speaks of magnolias, his thoughts are likely to be of the varieties with many flowers and showy in color, but this one has a place of its own, as its white flowers open after the

others are gone, and come at a time when the foliage gives the flowers a setting.

The seed pods are very attractive in late August, when the red pod breaks and orange-colored seeds hang from silken threads.

H. B.



Special Flowering Shrub Offers

There are a number of our customers familiar with the shrub offers we have made in the past, where we have given splendid collections of really extra-sized plants at a nominal price. These offers are always open as we are continually clearing ground for new plantings and take this opportunity to sell these plants at a reduction. In every case they are splendid plants. Never do we send out questionable stock.

If this interests you, read the offers mentioned below and tell us to send you some. Such opportunities as these are splendid for the purchaser who has no special selection in mind but wishes some first-class plants.

\$5.00 Shrub Group

- 2 Spiraea Billardi, bushy 4 to 5 feet
- 1 Early-flowering Hydrangea paniculata . . . 3 to 4 "
- 1 Symphoricarpos vulgaris, Indian Currant . 3 to 4 "
- 1 Hungarian Lilac, Syringa Josikaea 4 to 5 "
- 1 Old-fashioned Purple Lilac 3 to 4 "
- 1 Old-fashioned Snowball 4 to 5 "
- 2 Weigela floribunda, crimson flowered . . 3 to 4 "
- 1 Meehans' Variegated leaved Althaea . . . 4 to 5 "
- 1 Spiraea Douglassi 4 to 5 "
- 1 Double-flowered Rose of Sharon 3 to 4 "

This splendid group of shrubs is worth *at least* a third more. It is a bargain without the "job lot" character.

\$10.00 Shrub Group

- 3 Spiraea Billardi 4 to 5 feet
- 2 Early-flowering Hydrangea paniculata . . 3 to 4 "
- 3 Symphoricarpos vulgaris, Indian Currant . 3 to 4 "
- 2 Hungarian Lilacs, Syringa Josikaea . . . 4 to 5 "
- 2 Old-fashioned Purple Lilacs 3 to 4 "
- 2 Old-fashioned Snowballs 4 to 5 "
- 2 Weigela floribunda, crimson flowered . . 3 to 4 "
- 2 Golden Bells 3 to 4 "
- 2 Meehans' Variegated leaved Althaeas . . 4 to 5 "
- 3 Spiraea Douglassi 4 to 5 "
- 2 Assorted Rose of Sharons 3 to 4 "

The 25 big, bushy shrubs in this section are worth easily \$15.00, and in many nurseries could not be had at all. Just suited for lawn planting and sure to give quick returns.

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Phila., Pa.



A glimpse of a small section of our perennial gardens.

REAL TREASURES IN New and Rare Perennials

JUST ten perfect gems for interspersing in the hardy garden. Give a fresh touch to your garden by placing some of these sterling plants in it. We only give a very short description, though we could say a great deal more about each—they are so decidedly worthy.

PRICES, except where specially priced, good roots for 15c each. 10 of one kind, \$1.20

New Pheasant's Eye Pink (*Dianthus Cyclops and Diadematus*.) Last year we secured two excellent strains of Scotch Pinks, which have just finished flowering. Such a wonderful show of colors and all full of the fragrant, spicy perfume for which these plants are noted. The flowers are semi-double, and graceful in form, coming in the greatest profusion. These will delight the heart of every lover of old-fashioned flowers.

Meehans' Mallow Marvels. No other perennial introduction of recent years can compare with this. See history and description elsewhere.

2-year-old roots in pink and white, 50c each, 10 for \$4.00.
Red, 75c each, 10 for \$6.00.

Hardy Sweet Pea. A real gem among perennials. The individual blossom is exactly the same as a pink Sweet Pea. Instead of coming singly, however, the display is made doubly beautiful and very striking by a number of the flowers being clustered together. There is no fragrance to the flower. The rich, dark green foliage is handsome and forms a background for the floral display. It is almost evergreen. Use it for gracefully falling over a wall. On a bank it is splendid, and tied to a stake or trellis it is handsome; grows luxuriantly in any case. It is a perfectly hardy perennial.

Double Orange Day Lily. A most striking perennial known for some time but really quite uncommon in gardens today. Good, large, double orange blossoms of excellent form. In the midst of drought it stands in bold defiance, the most conspicuous flower in the garden. A fine bouquet flower. Plant a good cluster - you'll like them.

New Orange Sunflower. The *Heliopsis* is known to almost every hardy garden, but this new perennial, *H. Scabra*

Major, is a big improvement, as the flowers are larger than all the other kinds and are very abundant on each plant. Flowers in July and August. Give it a place in the rear of your perennial border as it grows 4 to 6 feet high. Good for cutting.

New "Baby's Breath." Sounds odd, but it's well worth special mention. Flowers two weeks earlier than the common form, in June. Foliage is low, not unlike that of the Scotch Pink. Flowers on stems at least 18 inches high. Splendid for cutting for bouquet purposes, as the misty, spray-like white flowers are pretty and delicate. It is called *Gypsophila Stevensii*.

Improved Cerastium. In *Cerastium Biebersteinii*, the flowers and leaves are both larger and showier than the common *C. tomentosum*, known commonly as "Snow in Summer." Low growing, with silvery foliage, and, in flower, a carpet of pure white. Blooms in May. Grand for rock garden use.

New Maroon Helenium (*Helenium autumnale rubrum*). A rich, dark red variety of striking appearance, the showy, single flowers coming in large clusters and producing excellent effects in August. The plant grows 3 to 4 feet high, the individual flower resembling a small single sunflower, except that the petals tend to fall from the center.

New Crimson Sea Thrift. A charming, bright crimson form of the pink *Armeria maritima*, called "Laucheana." Forms perfect little cushions of foliage from which arise continuously in May and June, slender stems, surmounted by the button flower heads. Excellent for border use or rock gardens.

The Striking Dropmore Anchusa. A wonderfully beautiful perennial, the equal of the choicest Larkspur, the spike of pale blue or indigo blossoms closely resembling it. Be sure to get the true Dropmore form. 25c each, 10 for \$2.00.

SPECIAL NOVELTY OFFER. We will sell 5 plants of each of the above listed specials, 50 plants in all, a splendid group, for **\$7.50**

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Phila., Pa.