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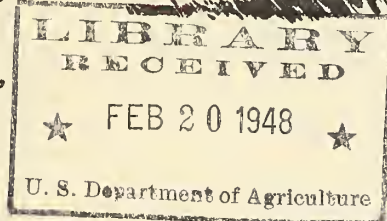
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Gardenside Gossip

A Publication of Gardenside Nurseries, Inc.
Shelburne, Vermont



THE CURE FOR THIS ILL IS NOT TO SIT STILL,
OR FROWST WITH A BOOK BY THE FIRE;
BUT TO TAKE A LARGE HOE AND A SHOVEL ALSO,
AND DIG TILL YOU GENTLY PERSPIRE;
Kipling.



Volume Thirteen, Number 1
JANUARY 1948

Very likely you won't recall what it was that the poet was inveighing against in The Cameleelious Hump. And if you do look it up and discover that it was not having enough to do, many will be sure to feel that it doesn't apply to them. But doesn't it?

Do you sit at a desk, work a machine, or care for a busy home? If you do these or other confining work, of course you do have enough to do. In spite of that, how often do you feel the 'hump that is black and blue', from doing the same thing over and over? That is just the time when it will help to get out in the garden, -
AND THEN YOU WILL FIND THAT THE SUN AND THE WIND,
AND THE DJINN OF THE GARDEN TOO,
HAVE LIFTED THE HUMP--

Every season this is proved to us. We recall the printer who spends every spare moment working about his grounds. The teacher who was so thankful for his hobby. The doctor who stood in his doorway to look out over his perfect garden. These we knew, but there are countless others whose letters come to us to prove our point again and again. Won't you join them? You'll not be sorry.

THE DWARF NEW ENGLAND ASTER.

Until late in the summer of 1947, it did not seem to us that we should have anything really new to offer in 1948. And then, just about as we despaired, along came the best, easily grown thing we've seen in a long time, - a truly dwarf Aster *novae angliae*. It had been standing in our trial beds since spring, without attracting undue attention. Then in September as the first flowers opened, they became the first attraction on the place.

Identical with the New England Aster of our fields, these grew only two feet or slightly less, in height. The sturdy stem was there, but instead of being so evident that it must be kept covered with the foliage of other plants, it was hidden by its own branching. The many branchlets made a head of bloom fully as large as the tall form, the perhaps more rounded. A low rounded mass of deep purple was all one could see. Granted the color is the familiar one, what's wrong with that. It's still a fine sight over a stone wall. But this dwarf form is perfect for the front of a border, and where the Cushion Mums aren't early enough, this will give fall color, - lot's of it. Some day we'll hope for other color forms. We hope they'll keep the desirable trouble free growth and freedom from disease which is so notable a feature of this one.

Tho we had but a few ourselves, we hastened to purchase the available stock and offer strong potted plants for May delivery at \$1.00 each, postpaid.

All prices include delivery charges, unless otherwise stated. If you live west of Wisconsin, Illinois, Tennessee or Mississippi, please add 5% to cover higher cost of shipping.

HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

From no other small investment is it possible to reap so much pleasure, or so much color in the garden, as from the newer Garden Mums. Coming into bloom as they do, at a time when other plants are fading, and annuals due for a frosting at any moment, they are doubly welcome. Our plants are grown in small pots, are sent out in late April and May, and will flower well this first year. All of the sorts we offer have been chosen for earliness, and are usually at their fullest bloom before early October frosts, while if they escape those, they persist and look well until November.

SUMMERTIME.

This new Bristol Nurseries introduction is not a true Garden Mum, as we have come to know them. Instead, it is a hardy perennial Chrysanthemum, which may be planted and left alone. It improves in performance for at least two years after it is planted, and then needs division. It grows to about 20" in height, with a spread of two feet. The foliage is glossy rich green, and the flowers are single, two inches across, bright lemon yellow to bronze yellow, fragrant, and carried on densely branched sprays. Last of all, and most important to northern gardeners, -IT STARTS FLOWERING IN MID-JULY, and continues until October. The plant is patented (Number 689), and is sold at the introducers price of SEVENTY FIVE CENTS EACH.

WHITE WONDER.

At last, a good white flowered Mum, that blooms in late September. There are other good whites, of course, but in our estimation, this is nearly perfect. The plant is husky and strong growing, standing to three feet of height when well grown. The blossoms are ball-shaped, with broad petals, and are exquisitely formed. They open soft creamy white, but when mature are a crisp clean white. The stems branch heavily, so that a few are a fine bouquet. In bloom on September 25th, it was entirely unharmed by a light early October frost, and lasted well thruout the month. SEVENTY FIVE CENTS EACH.

BUTTERBALL.

We were greatly impressed by this very early yellow pom-pom type Mum, which flowers about September first. The flower is soft and informal, and the plant an easy and good grower. Fine in the garden, and may be cut. REGULAR PRICES.

JOAN HELEN.

This variety, blooming about September 25th, is a rich rhododendron purple. The flower is semi-double, but large, and the whole plant is a blaze of color. The best in its color in an early flowering Garden Mum. REGULAR PRICES.

STRONG PLANTS FROM 2 1/2" POTS. EXCEPT AS NOTED, all are priced as follows. 50¢ each; 3(alike)\$1.35; 5(alike)\$2.00 ALSO, -any five, \$2.25; any ten, \$4.25; any twenty-five, \$9.00.

SOMETHING ABOUT LILIES.

It has occurred to us at times, that in writing descriptions of Lilies, we took a great deal of knowledge for granted. Almost a lifetime of lily growing and nearly as long a period of catalog compiling, well mixed with a habit of talking about plants with anyone who came along, has made us fall into a lingo that very likely needs explaining, especially for the new-comer in gardening, or for the old hand being exposed to the Gossip for the first time.

Let us start with the Regal Lily. One remark we have made is that it is 'now too well known to need description'. And then we go right ahead and compare the newer hybrids to it. Just what do you know about this lily? Here at hand is a copy of Wilson's 'The Lilies of Eastern Asia'. Mr. Wilson spent twenty years collecting lilies in the wild. His knowledge of them was unsurpassed. And it was he who first discovered L. regale in August 1903. He says that it grows wild only in a small area some fifty miles long, in a region where the summers are hot, and the winters are severely cold. There it grows in great plenty among grasses and low shrubs and in niches on the bare cliffs. For it he recommends a 'well-drained loamy soil and full exposure to the sun--'. Plant the bulbs from 8 to 10 inches down, and if leaf-mould is available, so much the better'.

Bulbs of this lily were sent to England where they flowered in 1905, and in 1910, it flowered in America. It was first called L. myriophyllum, but this name was soon shown to have already been given to another, somewhat similar lily, of which one form is now called L. sulphureum. By 1916 the new lily was beginning to be available generally, and we photographed the first bloom that opened in the State of Vermont in that year. The slender, but sturdy stem, with its narrow foliage, the long broadly opening blooms lightly shaded brown on the outside, and white with a canary yellow throat, were distinctly different from other lilies in cultivation. And when it soon became apparent that it could be easily grown from seed, and would thrive almost anywhere, its place was assured. Various firms grew it in quantity; one enthusiast carried seed about with him at all times and gave it freely to anyone who would try it; the writer sent the first large shipments of cut blooms to a large city market, where they created a real sensation. Today one sees it in the most unexpected places, from palatial estate gardens, to a spot on the lawn of a back roads home.

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Something about Lilies, -con.

Botanists divide the true lilies into several sub-classifications. Most of the Asian lilies belong under Eulirion, and very many of the members of this group have trumpet shaped blooms. The common Easter Lily is an example. We have already mentioned a form of the true *L. myriophyllum* now known as *L. sulphureum*. This Burma sort had been sent to England before 1889. A very close relative was discovered by Mr. Wilson in 1903. It was first called *L. leucanthum*, but was later correctly renamed *L. sargentiae*. It stands more erect than *L. regale*, has lighter colored foliage, and more drooping flowers. The blooms are longer than those of *L. regale*, rather greenish brown on the outer segments and pure white within. In addition to these three, there are at least three more closely related forms, of which one is the lily often called 'Formosanum', but which is really the hardy form (from the Island of Formosa), of the Philippine Lily, (*L. philippinense formosanum*). These Lilies all profited by the interest that the Regal Lily had aroused, and soon most of them were being grown in some quantity in America. Previous to this time, very few Lilies had actually been grown here, either from seed or by artificial methods, and almost no hybridization of the known species had been attempted, partly because the methods of growing were not well known, and more largely due to the fact that many lilies when fertilized with other than their own pollen, refused to set seed. But almost at once there appeared a natural hybrid of *L. regale* and *L. sargentiae*, which Mr. Wilson was shown and which he named *L. princeps*. About the same time a hybrid of *L. sulphureum* and *L. regale* (still with the Regal as the seed parent), was produced and named *L. sulphurgale*. And about 1930, *L. sargentiae* was used as the seed parent with *L. regale* to produce the strain we call the Shelburne Hybrids. Countless other crosses have been made, and some fine forms have been selected and propagated as clones, of which the best is probably the G.C. Greelman Lily, a fine *L. princeps*. In crossing these closely related species, it was soon noted that often the first generation seedlings had many diverse characteristics which is against the laws which govern plant breeding. One cannot make positive statements, but it is apparent that when *L. regale* is the seed parent, most of the resulting seedlings resemble that species, which would indicate that it was a strong form, while seedlings on the others give all sorts of intermediate forms, making one feel that they are not as well fixed in their characteristics. We have just begun to work with these beautiful lilies, and where the end will be, no one knows. Already there are forms with pink trumpets, and we have seen one that was soft yellow.

HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

General List.

FOR PRICES, SEE PAGE 2.

- ALGONQUIN. A very hardy, brilliant yellow sort. The loose flowers are on 2' stems and are excellent for cutting. Sept. 10-15.
- AMELIA. This is the Azaleamum, or Pink Cushion. A compact plant about 18" high, covered with bright pink double flowers.
- APRICOT GLOW. This is the Azaleamum in a glowing, apricot-bronze color. Makes a compact plant 2½' across, full of bloom.
- AUTUMN LIGHTS. A glistening coppery-bronze single, of compact habit, and easy culture.
- BARBARA CUMMING. A good sized bronzy yellow flower, quite double, and early. Grows about 18" tall, good for cutting.
- EARLY BRONZE. A bright little bronze button, flowering very early, and one of the best for the north. Low plant.
- EUGENE A. WANDER. Huge, sparkling bronzy-yellow. Earliest big Mum, growing 18" high, and fine for cutting.
- FIRE GLOW. Oriental red, changing to a nice bronze-red. On the Azaleamum order, early, very hardy. A compact plant, 18" tall.
- GOLDEN CUSHION. The yellow-bronze Cushion Mum. Extremely good.
- KING CUSHION. The bronze Azaleamum. Husky and effective.
- KING MIDAS. A magnificent large yellow. Very free flowering. 30".
- LAVENDER LASSIE. Much like a lavender pink Azaleamum, tho a bit taller, and less compact. This is one of the choicest of all the September flowering Mums. Not over 2' tall.
- MILKY WAY. Soft yellow, changing to pure white. Double. Erect. 30".
- NORTH STAR. The best single white, free and showy in late September. Two feet high, and may be 4-5' across the second year.
- PYGMY GOLD. A very early brilliant yellow pompom, only 15-18" tall.
- QUEEN CUSHION. The white Azaleamum. Faintly tinted lavender.
- SEMINOLE. Soft white flower, double and of good size. 18" stems. Companion to Algonquin, and both are U.S.D.A. introductions.
- SEPTEMBER BRONZE. A rich bronze pompom with the Azaleamum habit. Strong growing and flowers very freely, from mid-Sept. on.
- SEPTEMBER CLOUD. A white counterpart of the preceding, but not as strong growing. Compact plant.
- SEPTEMBER GOLD. A fine golden yellow "Cushion Pompom.
- SUPREME YELLOW. A fine soft yellow Azaleamum, with no trace of any other color, even as it ages.
- VENUS. An orchid pink single, growing 30" tall, and flowering before the end of September. Excellent for cutting.

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LILIES.

With but two exceptions, all of the Hardy Lilies we offer were entirely produced here, from seed, or other method, and one of the other two has been grown here for an entire season. All these Lilies are as free from disease as careful culture can make them, are now in our storage, and can be sent at any time. Plant them as early as possible, and you should have many fine blooms this first summer.

SHELBURNE HYBRIDS.

We are constantly improving this strain of Regal type lilies and we firmly believe that a planting of any fair number of them will give more garden beauty, over a longer period, than is possible with any other strain. Many late forms can be traced directly to the seed parent, *L. sargentiae*. But in almost all, the influence of *L. regale* can be seen in the open flaring blooms, held up so that they can be seen without getting to one's knees. Very hardy and vigorous, they are long lived under average conditions, and require no coddling to make them give the full perfection of their beauty.

STRONG 4/6" BULBS, 40¢ each; 10 for \$3.50; 100 for \$30.00.
HEAVY 6/8" BULBS, 60¢ each; 10 for \$5.00.

SHELLMAN.

Resulting from a cross of Shelburne Hybrid and Princeps, this is an interesting form to the plant breeder, since seedlings of it might easily produce many varied forms. In general it is distinguished by the sturdiness of its growth, the massive form and occasional extreme length of its trumpets, which are of Regal type. It is moderately late in flowering period.

STRONG 4/6" BULBS, 50¢ each; 10 for \$4.50.

PRINCEPS.

A taller, stronger Regal Lily, with all the good features of that beautiful lily, to which is added the somewhat later flowering period of the other parent. These lilies open their blooms in one fine splash of flowering, instead of over a long period as does the Shelburne Hybrid strain, and if color effect is wanted, they should be used. At their best here in mid-July.

STRONG 4/6" BULBS, 40¢ each; 10 for \$3.50; 100 for \$30.00.
HEAVY 6/8" BULBS, 60¢ each; 10 for \$5.00.

PRIDE OF CHARLOTTE.

This is a glorified Sargent's Lily, with the long, slightly drooping trumpets of that sort, white inside, with a rich yellow throat, and dark brown outside. It is tall and late, and very hardy. It is reproduced from bulbils, so that every bulb is identical, and a bed in bloom is very uniform, -and beautiful.

STRONG 6/8" BULBS, 85¢ each; 10 for \$7.50.

SPECIOSUM RUBRUM.

The beautiful fall flowering, white and pink spotted Turks-cap so much admired in the garden and for cutting, in September. We have a fair stock of bulbs which have grown here for a year.

STRONG FLOWERING SIZE, 75¢ each; 10 for \$7.00.

AURATUM.

The American Military Government is sending to America, a small number of bulbs of this fine lily, so scarce in recent years. No bulbs have yet arrived, nor has any price been made. We expect to have a moderate number at a reasonable price.

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE WRITE US.

Something about Lilies, con.

Much of the interest in lilies today is in these relatives and forms of *L. regale*. There are records of earlier Lilies quite similar, and even now new forms are being found. Just how these all rank botanically is a problem for the botanist. The average gardener should content himself with the hybrids, or with the true *L. regale* or if he wishes to raise some hybrids he may buy some of the species, remembering that in many cases they are badly mixed forms of the more prominently mentioned sorts named in this article.

In collecting lilies thruout Eastern Asia, Mr. Wilson came to know more about the likings of the most popular garden sorts, than anyone else ever had. He was a person of positive opinions. And in no other matter was he as positive as in his dislike for cultivated (fattened, he called them) bulbs. He writes of *Lilium auratum*. "It grows in black volcanic soil--. In some places there is a thin covering layer of humus, but more often there is nothing but volcanic ash and lava debris". Later he says, "we plant it in rich soil, feed it with manures, and too often forget the vital matter of perfect drainage. It was a sorry day when the Japanese discovered that the larger the bulb, the greater the market value". This is so true of all our lilies that we repeat it here. You may get larger and taller flowers and plants, but you jeopardize the health of your lilies if you grow them in too fertile soil.

There are other lilies from Eastern Asia, too. *Lilium tenuifolium* comes from there, as do *L. cernuum*; *L. callosum*; *L. concolor* and *L. amabile* that we grow. These can be said to be closely related, and some of them undoubtedly are truly so. All but one belong to the sub-classification known as Martagon, of which the most distinguishing characteristic is the Turks-cap type of bloom, where the segments turn outward and back until they touch themselves again. *L. tenuifolium* was first found in 1772, and was given the name we use in 1812. It is now sometimes called *L. pumilum*, tho this name was first given it in 1813. In writing of it Mr. Wilson says 'there is said to be a white flowered variety'. More than one grower of lilies, would part with his favorite easy chair, if he could but own one bulb of that. He also considers *L. tenuifolium* Golden Gleam, to be a hybrid with *L. martagon album*, tho he does not amplify the statement. It is a bit hard to believe for whenever one plants *L. tenuifolium* and the variety Golden Gleam near each other, seeds of the latter will begin to produce many bright red blooms, and soon the entire strain will be the Coral Lily. Our stocks are grown entirely apart.

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Something about Lilies, con.

LILIES.

Mr. Wilson considered *L. cernuum* a close relative of the Coral Lily, but our best efforts have failed to produce seedlings from crosses between the two. Many years of cultivation have finally produced strains of *L. tenuifolium* that grow as easily as radishes, but *L. cernuum* is still a wildling. If we could but combine the two, giving the stamina of one to the color of the other, or perhaps obtain some shades intermediate between them, how happy we would be. Both these Lilies grow easily in a light, well drained soil. However Mr. Wilson speaks of the Coral Lily as being found by him growing in a 'stiff loam soil'. The surrounding plants were 'dwarf and sparse' and the lily 'enjoyed full exposure', which he also notes of *L. cernuum*. We have found the latter to do best when lightly shaded from the afternoon sun, but very happy when in shade nearly all the day.

Lilium callosum is much like a very tall *L. tenuifolium*, but the flowers are orange-red, and lack the sheen of *L. tenuifolium*. Some years back we grew it on the poorest driest soil we have, which during the War years held some evergreens, and a fine crop of coarse weeds. *L. callosum* had seeded, and soon we had a crop of flowers, showing among the evergreens, and perfectly happy in competition with ragweed, and the like. They were really fine, some having twenty blooms and we then decided to continue growing the species, and to use it in crossing. Perhaps it will prove to be closer to *L. cernuum* than is *L. tenuifolium*. A yellow form of this lily is said to be plentiful on Okinawa.

Lilium amabile as we grow it is hard to compare with Mr. Wilson's description. He says of it that it is plentiful in Korea where it grows in a gritty loam and enjoys the shelter of grasses and dwarf shrubs, 'above and among which it flaunts its vivid colored flowers in late June and early July'. So far, all is well. Then he says, 'A dainty, pleasing little lily, of wayward habits-- but I doubt if it will ever become popular as it is essentially a specialist's lily'. We disagree so far as being little, for it grows to four feet with us, and is sturdy and showy, while far from being a specialist's lily, it grows easily and freely. We now have a pure yellow form of it for which we predict a real popularity.

Lilium concolor is last, but Mr. Wilson gives it good place, since it has many forms which have found their way into cultivation. It belongs in an entirely different classification known as *Pseudolirium* but it is closely grouped with both the Goldbanded Lily, and with the Regal Lily. As a garden plant it is entirely distinct and many will find it hard to see any relationship between it and the others named.

AMABILE. In cultivation, this Asian lily is of easy culture. It produces good numbers of bright grenadine-red, reflexed blooms on a three foot stem, in July. Again plentiful, we are reducing our price. Use it plentifully thruout the border. STRONG BULBS, 35¢ each; five for \$1.50; ten for \$2.50.

CLARK'S ORANGE. A bright orange red Turks-cap sort, which is larger than the preceding. It much resembles *L. willmottiae*, but is more erect, and much earlier, flowering in late July. 25¢.

CONCOLOR. The Star Lily is one of the brightest of our June flowering lilies, and while small, it holds its flowers so erect, and opens them so flat, that it makes a greater showing than would be expected. Ours is a fine sturdy strain. STRONG BULBS, 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00; 100 for \$18.00.

MAXIMOWICZII. Flowering in late July, this is also a bright orange, Turks-cap like sort, spotted with black. It is quite tall, but stands well erect. Permanent, and increases well. 25¢.

REGALE. We have bulbs of our own growing of this beautiful and popular lily, and it should be planted with its hybrids, since it flowers before any of them. STRONG 4/6" BULBS, 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.00. HEAVY 6/8" BULBS, 45¢ each; 10 for \$4.00.

SUTCHUENSE. Light orange yellow to cinnabar-red Turks-caps, with black spots in a nodding umbel in late summer. Somewhat stronger than *L. willmottiae*, which it resembles, and useful in late summer, especially when mixed into other plantings. STRONG BULBS, 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.00.

TENUIFOLIUM. The Coral Lily. Visitors last summer actually gasped, when they saw our field of these beautiful little gems in full bloom, from a distance. It is just about the brightest coral red we know. Plant it in the border, to stand two or more feet high above lower plants. Or mass it in lots of ten or more in any part of the garden for brilliant effect in mid-June. 15¢ each; 10 for \$1.35; 100 for \$12.00.

TENUIFOLIUM GOLDEN GLEAM. A rich orange yellow form of the Coral Lily. 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00.

SPECIAL LILY BARGAIN.

We want you to try and to know our Lilies, and particularly do we want you to grow the ones we like best. Therefore, we are making this special BARGAIN OFFER, for the month of February, only.

10 Shelburne Hybrid, 4/6"---	List price,	\$3.50
10 Concolor	" "	2.00
10 Tenuifolium	" "	1.35
30 Lilies in all	Total value,	6.85

POSTPAID TO YOU FOR ONLY \$5.00. Offer ends, March 1st.

BEARPAW POPCORN.

We again have a moderate crop of this fine tender white Popcorn, unexcelled for flavor. It is bagged in one pound cellophane sacks, and will keep indefinitely, and even improve, in your refrigerator. Makes a fine gift. During the war, we sent many pounds of this overseas. 35¢ per pound, postpaid.

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A SELECT LIST OF CHOICE PLANTS.

ASTILBE FANAL. Of all the new varieties in this fine group of really hardy plants, this one really was popular from the start, its bright color and moderate size, seldom over 2' in height, made it ideal for the small border. The name means Lighthouse, a tribute to the nearly red flowers. We have a fine lot of young plants, and are actually reducing the price, for this offering. 50¢ each.

A. GERTRUDE BRIX. Taller and stronger, this may stand 3' high, with much larger plumes of bright pink. Actually the florets are nearly as deep in color as those of Fanal, but a silvery center, changes the tone. 50¢ each.

CHRYSANTHEMUM RUBELLUM, var. CLARA CURTIS. Just as we had decided to include this plant, we received a letter asking if we still carried it. Yes, indeed, and we shall continue to do so. It is hardy, and grows well for several years without division. It flowers before frost, and profusely. It isn't as fine as the Garden Mums, but it is a bright pink daisy-like Chrysanthemum, on good stems for cutting, and making a fine show in the border in September. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35.

DELPHINIUM PACIFIC HYBRIDS, -Round Table Series. Still the best of all the Hybrid Larkspurs we have seen. Wiry stems that stand up well. Large flowers, mostly doubled, in every conceivable shade. Sturdy, 2-yr. old plants, sure to flower. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35; 5 for \$2.00; 10 for \$3.50; 100-\$32.50

DIANTHUS hyb. ROSE CUSHION. One of the neatest and most compact little hardy Pinks we have ever seen, excellent for an edging, or as a specimen in rockery or border. Grey blue foliage in dense rounded tufts, two or three inches high, with bright rose pink flowers in June and later, on 5-6" stems.

D. PETRAEUS. Smaller, and with darker green foliage. The flowers are bright pink, close to red, and are single.

D. PLUMARIUS, HIGHLAND QUEEN STRAIN. These are old fashioned Spice Pinks, in a particularly colorful strain. Many of the flowers are bright pinks and reds, and all are fragrant.

D. WINTERI, MEG GARDNER. These winteri Pinks are fine forms of the Spice Pinks, grown from cuttings, so that all are alike. This one is quite tall and erect, a crimson eyed, white flower.

D. -MRS. BACK. Similar to the preceding, but less erect and tall.

D. -MRS. WORMALD. Bright pink, with a bright crimson center.

D. HARRIS HARDY CARNATIONS. We have been asked for these so many times, that we finally grew a quantity of them. The flowers are miniature Carnations, some quite large, fragrant, and in varied colors. Fine for cutting.

ALL DIANTHUS ARE, - 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35; 5 for \$2.00; 10 for \$3.50

DICENTRA SPECTABILIS. True Old Fashioned Bleedingheart. We have a fine lot of plants of this long time favorite, in different sizes, to suit every purse. Plant it in quantity on the shady north side, or under trees, -or anywhere. Two bud plants, 35¢; three to five bud plants, 50¢ each, 3 for \$1.35; 10 for \$3.50; HEAVY five to seven bud plants, 75¢ each.

DICENTRA SWEETHEART. This is the white flowered Plumy Bleedingheart, a delicate and attractive plant for any garden. Fine field grown plants, 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35; 10 for \$3.50.

DICTAMNUS ALBUS RUBRA. According to Hortus, this is the correct title for the Red Flowered Gasplant, or Fraxinella. We like the plant for its fine foliage, its long lived hardiness, and for its color and fragrance in the garden. 50¢ each.

Something about Lilies, con.

As we first remember seeing the Star Lily we were not greatly impressed, and while we did purchase seed of it in Japan, in later years, we had no conception of the interest it would later hold for us. We had raised some quantity of bulbs before one chance seedling showed up at the edge of a frame, and after the second year, produced ten or a dozen flowers. From it we took seed, and all the bulbs we now grow descend from that one. A further selection of two years ago, from two outstanding plants promises even further vigor. Great masses of plants in bloom last season were a sheet of orange scarlet in late June. It appears we have a form called by Mr. Wilson, *L. concolor sinicum*. But even in the fairly closely selected seedling strain we have, some variation appears. We have both spotted and unspotted segments. It is our hope that constant seed raising of this lily may cause it to evolve into new forms, for there are few other close relatives to use with it in hybridizing. Closest to it is another Asiatic species *L. davuricum*, in which one sort, usually called *L. batemanni* is outstanding. Mr. Wilson believes that Mrs. Bateman's Lily is but a fine selection from *L. davuricum* while equally determined authorities insist it has hybrid origin. Crosses between this lily and *L. concolor*, have not produced seed. Another close relative is *L. auratum* and if one could but combine these two, what combinations would be possible. One thinks of bright vermilion *L. auratum*, or of Star Lilies as large as a plate.

As usual any discourse on the subject of lilies ends on the subject of crosses between the various species. Because of the beauty and variety of the lilies, and also because the structure of the flower makes the actual operation of cross-fertilization an easy one, many crosses have been made since the lily has been cultivated. But the successes are far outnumbered by the failures, and the ones that have become known have as likely as not been made by some rank amateur, -or by some fluttering moth. No less a personage than the Historian, Parkman tried his hand, and even gave his name to a beautiful seedling of the Showy Lily (*L. speciosum*), from pollen of *L. auratum*. It was described as a Crimson Auratum, and the stock of 50 bulbs was sold for \$1000. in the 1870s. The purchaser flowered it but once and then lost it! Of late, there is evidence that the continued cultivation of the lily in the garden have caused it to become more amenable to hybridization. And there is certainly no reason why any gardener shouldn't pick the anthers off an opening bud, and then a day or so later touch the style with pollen from some other sort. If a seed pod develops, dry it carefully, label it with data of the cross and then start growing seedlings. You now have a lifelong hobby!

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ROCK GARDENS.

Is it true that Rock Gardening is no longer an important occupation with home owners?

We're beginning to think so, and by Rock Gardening we don't mean just piling up a stone from here, and another from there, and filling in between them with a collection of small plants, of which the Sedums, or the Thymes are quite sure to take over the area, and exclude the others. No, we mean the planning of an area to simulate natural ledge conditions, a moraine, or other form of special soil problem, and then planting on it the choice small plants which either are found growing in such locations, or more likely cannot be grown under any others.

You will note that we still grow the Sedums and the Thymes and the Sempervivums and we confess to having sold a lot of them to plant on rock piles. But the better things, like the Dryas, and Aethionemas, and Helianthemums, or Gentians and Saxifrages to mention a few, no longer have a demand. If you reply, "we can't grow 'em", there isn't but one answer. We grow them, so they are hardy. Almost always it's a matter of choosing a location. True, some things do not grow for us but if we have discarded them, it was either because they very apparently weren't winter hardy, or else that we had become discouraged over the prospects for sales of such plants, and gave them up. In our trials are many plants we can grow but have never bothered to increase because we doubted the demand for them existed.

There are places for all plants. Thymes make beautiful walks about a garden. Barren areas covered with Sedums can be beautiful. Sempervivums are fascinating, tumbling over the rocks, and collections of them are as good as postage stamps, we think.

But the pleasure to be had from succeeding with a choice Gentian, or a rare Primrose, is far greater than the satisfaction of covering an ugly spot in the garden with plants which developed for just that purpose. It's time gardeners started being gardeners again! In the years before the War never a week passed but some enthusiast dropped in to look around, swap gossip, and quite often plants. Many a friendship formed that way is sadly missed. Even the people we offended by our positive views, came back. These are the good things of life that can't be allowed to pass away. Do, please, fix up some spot where you can Rock Garden, -and then next summer, pay us a visit.

A SELECT LIST OF CHOICE PLANTS.

DRYAS SUNDERMANNI. This little prostrate shrub is one of the most attractive things we grow. A small plant, will spread to a three foot circle in a few years. The stems make a thick mat, covered with brownish green leaves, which are evergreen. The flowers are single and white when open, more than an inch across, on six inch stems. The opening buds are soft yellow, pointed, and remind one of tiny rosebuds. The seed head is like those of Anemone pulsatilla, a tuft of feathery achenes. For the rockery, or for a dry spot in partial shade, where grass will not grow. It thrives here in full sun, on dry and sandy soil. Small clumps 50¢ each.

EUPHORBIA POLYCHROMA. In the early spring, this relative of the Poinsettia sends up a quick growth of stems to about a foot forming an effective clump, which is topped in May with umbels of soft yellow bracts and a brighter yellow center. After flowering, if cut down it produces a new growth of foliage and is attractive all summer. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35.

FRAGARIA VESCA ALBA. From the attention given to the white fruited Alpine Strawberry when it is ripe here, by all the nursery personnel (from the Manager, down), one would judge it to be what it is, a finely flavored berry, of fair size, well worth cultivating for the fruit alone. It is an excellent ground cover, as well. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35; 5 for \$2.00.

GYPHOPHILA ROSY VEIL. We like this double pink Baby's Breath as well or better than the popular Bristol Fairy. It is as good for cutting, and the plant is permanent, of easy culture, and not so large and strong for the border. 50¢ each.

LAVANDULA VERA, MUNSTEAD STRAIN. All our plants of this Lavender came from one fine specimen of this exceptionally hardy, and compact strain. In two years, we often have plants 18" across and carrying a hundred or more flower stems. Fine for an edging, or just to have around, so that you can pick a sprig now and then to smell of. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35; 10 for \$3.50.

PLATYCODON MARISSII. We like this particular form of the large Balloon Flower, because it seldom grows more than 18" high. It is one of the most permanent plants, and in time attains considerable size, often having fifty stems. It holds these stems well erect, but the general effect is of a rounded small bush which in midsummer is covered with large white or blue flowers. We have grown a good number of these plants in both BLUE and WHITE. They are now of the best size for permanent placing, but they seldom flower well until established for a year. Specify color. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35; 10 for \$3.50.

POLYGONUM REYNOUTRIA. If a strong ground cover is required for a hot dry place, this is it. Not only does it cover such places well, but in fall it colors beautifully. 50¢ each.

RUDBECKIA THE KING. The Coneflowers, of which this is still the largest and brightest colored form, are among the best late summer plants for the back of the border. They stand stiffly erect; have good foliage at all times; and the purple cone like center, with somewhat lighter ray petals about it are attractive and different. It is a plant for well drained soils, and is usually longlived. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35.

R. NEWMANNI. We have never understood why this typical Black eyed Susan was not popular. It stands about 30" tall, and flowers profusely in midsummer. It isn't weedy, grows easily and cuts well. A clump in the center of the border will be appreciated next August. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35.

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A SELECT LIST OF CHOICE PLANTS.

THE MANAGER'S DESK.

PYRETHRUM, EILEEN MAY ROBINSON. A fine single Painted Daisy, with enough extra petals to make it very showy. The color is light rose pink. Strong tall plant. 50¢ each.

P. Helen. A very fine double bright rose bloom, of good size. Does not fade, and is easily grown. \$1.00 each.

P. MRS. D. C. BLISS. A small single bloom on a hardy and vigorous plant. Noted for its odd color, an orange pink. 50¢ each.

P. VICTORIA. A fine sort, imported from England many years ago. The bright rich red flowers are produced in profusion, and the plant makes a great showing. Strong in growth. Permanent. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35; 5 for \$2.00; 10 for \$3.50.

SPIREA NEWMANNI. A little shrub, in effect a miniature Spirea Anthony Waterer. Useful as an edging, or as a specimen, and particularly noteworthy for its intense deep reddish foliage after frost in the fall. 50¢ each.

STACHYS LANATA. This plant has the softest, plushiest, grey leaves you ever saw. The flowers are small and not noteworthy, but we would grow the plant for its foliage, anyway. 50¢ each.

TROLLIUS FIRE GLOBE. We are slowly rebuilding our collection of Globe Flowers, of which this is one of the best bright orange colored sorts. 50¢ each; 3 for \$1.35; 5 for \$2.00.

T. LICHTBALL. The name means Ball of Light. A very bright red orange Globe Flower. Prices as for Fire Globe.

VIOLA JERSEY JEWEL. Last season, we managed to grow a fair number of Bedding Violas from true stock, but of this one only do we have enough to offer generally. The rich red purple blooms are produced in profusion right thru hot weather, and we still think it the equal of the more popular Jersey Gem. Both were raised by the late T. A. Weston. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10-\$3.00 P.S. (Has anyone the true White Jersey Gem, -write us).

PANSIES+-PANSIES.

We have a fine lot of Pansy plants in all the popular kinds by color, and mixed as well. The plants grew heavily last fall and if they are planted early in spring, and well cared for they will give a wonderful show of color. Do not confuse these plants with the sort of seedlings that are usually sold in baskets. All have been transplanted, and are of good size, with strong roots.

SWISS GIANT MIXED. The finest range of colors as well as many oddly marked blooms. 10 for \$1.00; 100 for \$8.00.

ALPENGLOW. Rich wine red shades.

BERNA. Dark violet blue.

CORONATION GOLD. Deep golden yellow.

DELT BLUE. Soft porcelain blue.

FIRE BEACON. Brick red shades.

RASPBERRY ROSE. Deep bright rose, no other like it.

THUNDER SEA. Deep ultramarine blue.

WHITE. Large pure colored sort, without markings

PRICED AT,-

10 for \$1.00

100 for \$9.00

(25 at

the 100 rate)

HOLLYHOCKS.

Strong root pruned seedlings, which will transplant well. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 5 for \$1.50; 10 for \$2.50.

ALLEGHANY. The most varied single strain. Some are semi-double.

DOUBLE, in NEWPORT PINK; ROSE; SCARLET; WHITE; YELLOW.

At Christmas time there came to my desk a card from a firm with whom we do a small amount of business thru the summer months, unimportant to us, and I had thought to them also, until I had read the bit of verse printed on it. It ended,-

For if we had no friends like you,
There'd be no firm like ours.

Yes, I know they sent them out to every one, but that is just the point. It is as important to please us tho our orders are small, as it is to hold the good will of larger firms, for there are many like us and it is the total of many small orders which in the end keeps the business world turning.

I have two reasons for making this point and the first is with reference to my words in last September's Gossip. Unless you do buy from us, we cannot continue mailing the Gossip, -in fact unless enough of you do buy plants, there will be no Gossip printed. The response last fall was encouraging. But it could have been much better. Accordingly, we have taken from our mailing lists just the same deletions as usual. We now plan to mail this Gossip and another. Then we shall again cut down the list. Surely your garden can hold a few new plants. If you like the Gossip then buy them of us, and keep it coming to you.

The other reason is that we shall be obliged to raise our prices this season. We have held out against it, for the very reason above, we wanted a lot of friends, and we believed that the surest way to get them was to keep the price of our plants low enough so that every one could enjoy them. Now at last there is no alternative. Add to rising costs, continuous losses from delay in transit, -something we never used to have to contend with-, and the rise is forced upon us. To offset it, we promise two things. First, we plan to ship all our Parcel Post, with Special Handling, which should materially shorten the time in transit. Second, we shall attempt to improve our packing, as fast as materials are available, which means that we hope to be able to use cartons again, rather than the closely wrapped packages forced on us by material shortages. And in any case, we shall continue to guarantee safe delivery in good growing condition.

Gardenside Nurseries, Inc.
Shelburne, Vermont

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