



## ✧ Flower Garden and Lawn. ✧

### DWARF HARDY PERENNIALS.

**I**T is now that those who are happily the possessors of perennial gardens are being delighted, as one after another of their old favorites or new acquisitions display their individual charms under the influence of summer's onward march.

There is a charm in gardens of small dimensions, at least in those perennials that are of dwarf growth, and as yet as handsome in appearance as their relations of sturdier habits.

Some of the plants here mentioned have already contributed their share to the brightening of the garden and retired till another spring shall wake them to activity. Watch for them however if you have not already the pleasure of their acquaintance.

The *Subulata* Phloxes are indeed among the most showy of all perennials. Here they begin to show about May 10th, and remain a solid unmarred mass of flower for a full month. As a bordering for a walk they are always admired, for edging a bed of perennials or spring flowering bulbs we have never found anything more appropriate.

The foliage which can hardly be seen during the flowering period, is small and narrow; none of the varieties attain a greater height than 6 inches, but they

spread quite rapidly. The pure white one *Alba*, when in flower reminds one of a drift of snow. One is white with a scarlet eye, another dark, rose pink, and very attractive.

The dwarf Irises claim attention in the garden of small dimensions. The English and Spanish Iris are bulbous rooted, valuable where hardy, but they are not entirely so here. The Siberian Irises grow about 18 inches high, are quite hardy and bear neat long stemmed flowers that are useful for cutting; the best are the pure white and the clear bright blue varieties. *Iris pumila* attains a height of not more than seven inches; the first flowers open about May 5th, and the plants are soon thick with clear purple blossoms, in shape exactly like a miniature *Iris Germanica*. There is a white variety of this species, and several that closely resemble *pumila* in color.

*Aquilegia Bergeriana* received from the Ontario Fruit Growers Association several years ago, proves one of the earliest, most dwarf and handsome of all. With us it grows only about 12 inches high and produces unusually large, well-expanded flowers, light purple in color, and each petal tipped with white. The cup is also purple banded at the outer end with sulphur yellow.