

THE SIMPLE LIFE



THE HOME GARDEN

GARDEN CALENDAR FOR JULY

Plant: Many Hardy Border Plants if weather is suitable. And especially, Pyrethrum, Delphinium (cut back for late flowering), Gaillardia, Narcissus, Iris, Eutima, Winter Grown.

Sow: Cabbage for Spring Colewort, Peas, quick growing kinds, Carrot, Cauliflower, Mustard, and Cress, Dwarf Beans, Lettuce, Cus and Cabbage, Onion, Turnip, Endive, Early Horn Carrot in shade, Radishes in shade, Parsley, Fricoly Spinach, Black Spanish Radish, Cauliflower, if not sown, Brompton Stock, Queen Stock, Antirrhinum, Cucumber.

VINES FOR ORNAMENTAL PURPOSES



INES are Nature's drapery, so when using them about the house and grounds treat them as drapery. Do not spread them out, covering openings where light should have free access, but confine them instead to their true function of softening the

lines of columns, balustrades and cornices, leaving open spaces where open spaces come, and framing the view of lawn or street or field, as you look from your porch or windows, in a succession of leafy borders.

There are a round dozen and a half of commonly used climbers which are shrubby, producing woody stems and simply shedding their leaves in the autumn; while there are almost as many more that die to the ground in the fall, having herbaceous or "juicy" stems. The former will give the best results for screen and shade purposes because the herbaceous kinds must start from the ground each year. There are, also, many annuals which die completely every year, though some, like the morning-glory, will self-sow and consequently reappear each spring, and are usually used for temporary effects.

For covering woodwork, such as the sides of houses and porches, I know of no better vine than the Virginia creeper (*Ampelopsis quinquefolia*). The informal habit of the creeper and its loose growth make it at home in less formal situations than would be suited for the Boston Ivy (*Ampelopsis tricuspidata*). It is ideal for covering fences, softening old tree trunks, and for arbors and porches, especially if massed with other flowering vines like the clematis. It is a rapid grower and, by means of suckers, will cling to anything it touches. There is one variety of this which has only tendrils and must be tied into place. It is undesirable on this account. In the fall the foliage turns to a rich scarlet.

The variety *Engelmanni* has smaller leaves, and in the fall they turn to a brilliant scarlet. The best deciduous vine for covering stone and brick walls or buildings is the so-called Boston Ivy (*Ampelopsis tricuspidata*, known in the trade as *A. Veitchii*). The plants cling close to the wall, making a broad, smooth, dense sheet of green which assumes a crimson-scarlet color in the fall. It is a fast grower, making eight to ten feet of new growth in a season. Both of these varieties of *ampelopsis* have a bluish black fruit that is borne in bunches, but they are not at all conspicuous.

The best fall-flowering vine is the Japanese clematis (*Clematis paniculata*). It is a very desirable vine for covering porches and arbors if it has something to which its tendrils can cling. In the late summer—late August—it is covered with a mass of white flowers, which are followed, in the fall, by an equally heavy crop of seeds, each of which has long, hair-like growths, which give the plant a particularly pleasing, fuzzy appearance.

Almost as good as this, and blooming a little earlier in the season, is the virgin's bower (*C. Virginiana*). If these two varieties of clematis are planted together, they will furnish a wealth of flowers all through August.

Another clematis which I like very much, but which suffers from the cold of our northern winters, is *C. montana*; so I hardly care to recommend it, except to southern gardeners. Its blooming period is much earlier than *C. paniculata*, the waxy, pinkish white blossoms unfolding in May. The fragrance is delicate and delicious. It is a strong climber, easily reaching fifteen feet in a season.

C. montana, in combination with wistaria, as shown in the illustration, is charming; the graceful blue-blue pendants of the latter swinging above the star-like clematis.

The wistaria is one of our most attractive vines, and it is the best summer-flowering vine we have. It seems to me that we have much to learn in the treatment of the wistaria from our friends in Japan, where the finest species, *multi-juga*, is grown. There they train the vine about the eaves of their low, one-story houses, and when it blooms, great panicles—sometimes three and four feet long—droop like fringe around the building. It is a vine that is especially suited for growing over windows or along eaves, for its habit is to turn always away from its main trunk in a curious shelving sort of canopy fashion, and this prevents it from shutting out light and air. Indeed, it is so light and airy in leaf that its shade could not be very dense, anyway. Branches fifty to one hundred feet long are not uncommon on established plants. Its blossoms are practically odorless.

Akebia quinata is a clean and dainty Japanese vine, with foliage that does not give much shade, but is very attractive. It has small, interesting, chocolate-colored flowers. It is well suited to porches, because of its delicacy and its freedom from insects and disease. It is not sufficiently dense to be a good arbor vine, though it may be used in a combination, of course, quite as well as any other.

The deliciously fragrant honeysuckles are

excellent for porch columns. They grow about fifteen feet in height. Hall's honeysuckle (*Lonicera Japonica*, var. *Halleana*) has white blossoms, turning yellowish with age, and holds its leaves until January and flowers from July until the hard frosts arrive. The woodbine of England (*L. Periclymenum*), with yellow-white flowers that are purplish outside, will grow in partial shade. Its variety, *Belgica*, is the Dutch, or monthly fragrant honeysuckle of old-fashioned gardens. It is a stronger-growing form, with vivid red flowers. It is always well to combine honeysuckle with a vine like *ampelopsis* or *akebia*, as it is not strong in foliage and is apt to get bare near the ground.

There is a great deal of sentiment attached to the English ivy (*Hedera Helix*), and there have been a great many disappointments attending its culture. Here, in the vicinity of New York, it can be grown on the north side of buildings. In this climate the sun scorches it badly when grown on southern exposures. It is also one of the best plants to use as a ground cover. It will carpet the ground under trees where no grass will grow, and sometimes climbs up the trunks for several feet.

A vine which will give a similar effect to the English ivy, and that is perfectly hardy, is the Japanese spindle vine (*Euonymus radicans*). It is a very close-growing, creeping

Kudzu vine (*Pueraria Thunbergiana*) is the quickest-growing vine in cultivation in this part of the country, making sometimes fifty feet of growth in a single season. It is woody in the South, but north of Philadelphia it dies to the ground each year. This is not a disadvantage, however, on account of its rapid growth. Its leaves are large and its shade dense, thereby making it a desirable arbor vine.

Hardy moonflower (*Ipomoea pandurata*) is another rapid-growing vine, which forms a thick and impenetrable screen with its large heart-shaped leaves. The flowers are large and white. It reaches a height of twelve feet, and you must guard against its spreading too rankly at the roots.

Hardy passion-flower (*Passiflora incarnata*), though of doubtful hardiness north of Baltimore, unless it is in a sheltered position, is, nevertheless, grown by many, and is attractive on arbors because it is strong and the large white flowers are showy among a mass of foliage. It is not difficult to raise from seed.

An almost unknown vine is *Polygonum Baldshuanicum*, a kind of jointweed, which is almost as showy and in the same delicate way as *Clematis paniculata*. The blossoms cover the vine and are daintily tinged with pink,

the shade as in the sun, for it is a wild-wood native, you know.

The everlasting pea (*Lathyrus latifolius*) can be used in very wild places where a vine that will roam over everything is wanted. It is also good on a trellis, as it grows luxuriantly. The white-flowered form is showiest and most attractive.

Matrimony vine is suitable for a trellis or a bank. It has long, wand-like branches, that bear tiny purplish flowers in summer and bright scarlet berries in autumn. For these especially it is well worth having.

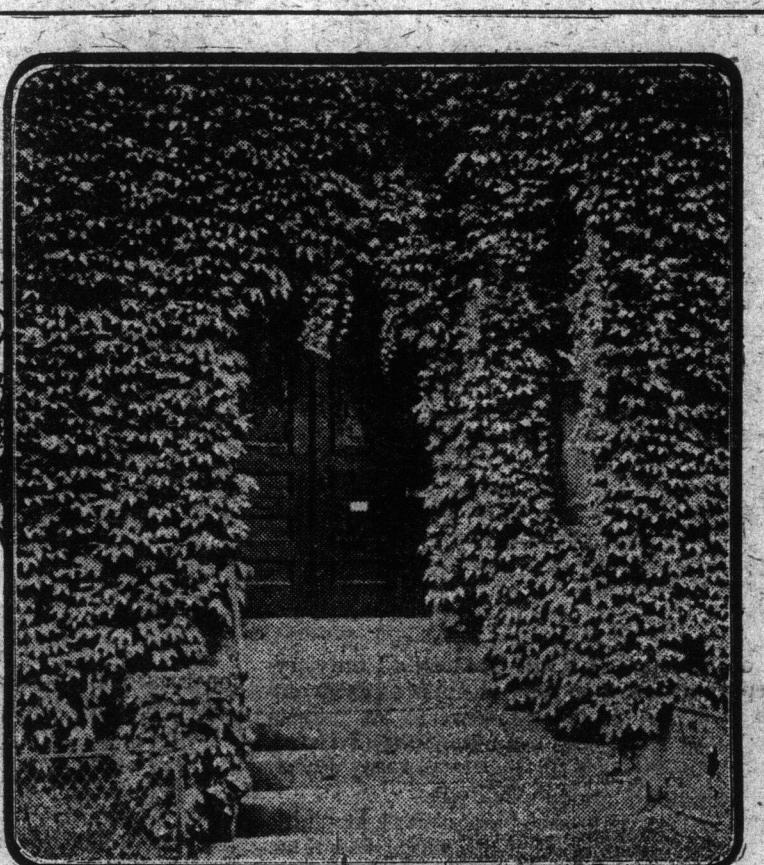
The tender annual vines occupy the same relative place among vines that annuals do among the herbaceous perennials in the flower garden—that is, they generally are used to fill in and increase the blooming period and they help out wonderfully when grown the first season, while one is waiting for the permanent things I have already described, to grow.

The morning-glory, in all its varieties, is probably the best annual vine for quick results that there is. And the blossoms, though not lasting, are so lovely that the early riser is surely rewarded by his view of them. The Imperial Japanese strain of morning-glories is probably the best to grow.

Nasturtiums will not form so thick a screen as the morning-glory, but there is nothing more satisfactory in the way of blossoms than



AKEBIA, CLEMATIS AND VIRGINIA CREEPER



BOSTON IVY

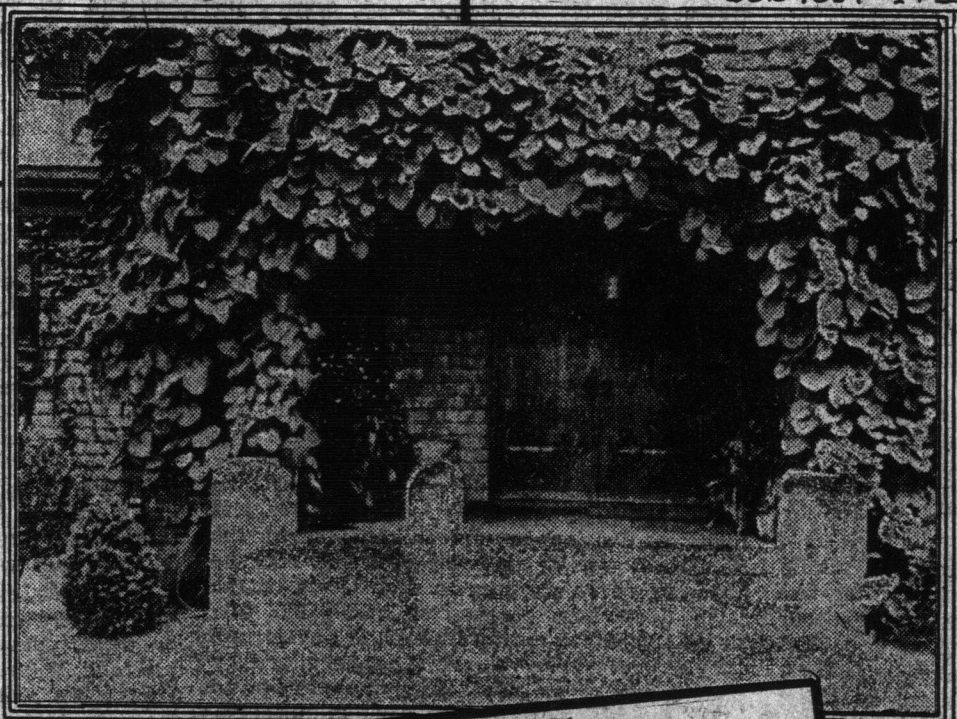
plant that is at home upon rough walls or rocky banks. Its leaves are thick and leathery and evergreen, and there is nothing better for permanent cover. It is slow-growing, so be patient with it. It needs a brick or stone house for best effect, but I have seen it growing on trees and dead stumps.

A comparatively little-known vine, which should be more generally planted, is the climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*). It is hard to establish, according to some, but others have no difficulty with it. It wants rich, moist, but not heavy soil; it can stand partial shade, although it will not blossom so freely, if at all, and it will withstand dry weather much better than most of our vines and flowering plants. It grows from forty to eighty feet high, and has great panicles of white flowers.

All of the wild grapes are beautiful on arbors, pergolas, the trunks of old trees, or clambering over underbrush in wild gardens. Never put them on buildings, however, as they are woefully out of place in any but a semi-wild situation. They are rank growers, running fifty to one hundred feet if unchecked. *Vitis vulpina*, *V. heterophylla* and *V. Labrusca* are each very different, but each one is a good vine. They give excellent shade, and, for training over rustic-work, are particularly useful. Set these plants at every column or support; a good average distance for them is five feet apart. Put them closer, however, for immediate effect, but remove some of them later.

The familiar Dutchman's Pipe (*Aristolochia sipho*) with its enormous leaves, sturdy, strong and overlapping, is a fine vine for arbors. Its leaves cast a dense shade, but it has curious-shaped flowers which are interesting and attractive.

The Silver sweet vine (*Actinidia*) is not so well known as it ought to be. Its leaves are broad and give generous shade. The blossoms are white and fragrant, and, in Japan, its home, the fruit, is eaten. The species *arguta* has a curious fashion of turning silvery white the tips of its leaves when in bloom. This changes to a pinkish color and finally returns to the normal shade during the summer. It grows about fifteen feet high.



DUTCHMAN'S PIPE

forming a misty cloud. It grows about twenty feet high.

The best red-flowered vine for general use is the trumpet-creeper (*Bignonia radicans*). It can be used almost anywhere if there is something to be covered. It is effective when planted among rocks, or for thin spots, in brightening hedges. Trained with other vines, over arbors, it throws its scarlet blossoms in bold relief against the foliage when almost nothing else is in bloom. Do not use it on buildings, however, for it will get into the joints and pry them apart.

A rank-growing vine that must be carefully kept within bounds by confining its roots within a tub, but that is still well worth growing for its bright double pink flowers, is the California rose (*Convolvulus Japonicus*). For covering stumps and walls and in half-wild places it is excellent, but it will kill everything else unless its roots are restricted as suggested. For slopes that are half rocky and that wash, it will serve to hold the earth as well as to ornament, belonging as it does to the common bind-weed family.

Bitter-sweet (*Celastrus scandens*) with its gorgeous orange berries we all know. Plant it along the top of a wall where it will droop over, or on a rocky slope, or use it for covering trees or on a trellis. It will grow as well in

these gorgeously colored flowers. Trailing over balustrades, falling from the top of a wall, or in any position where the vines may wander carelessly, there are few things the equal of nasturtiums. In these also it is well to get a fine strain of seed.

For a variegated-leaved vine grow the variegated Japanese hop, because the leaves are very showy and insects do not bother it. It is dense and will cover an arbor while you are waiting for a perennial to become established.

A delicate, feathery vine that will self-sow is the climbing fumitory. It does not give much shade, but is good for trellises or stumps of trees.

"Cups - and - saucers" (*Cobaea scandens*) is a vine that will cling to rough surfaces and so may be used almost anywhere. There are white and purple-flowered forms.

The hyacinth bean is excellent for arbors or trellises, as it grows thickly and rapidly. The wild cucumber vine is equally good and attractive in blossom, and the ornamental gourds, which are listed under names indicating their shape, are rapid growers. A great deal of pleasure can be had from the annual moonflower, for its flowers open only in the evening. They are white, three to four inches across, and in a new variety put on the market this season, the flowers are between six and seven inches across.—Grace Tabor.

CACTI FOR FLOWER LOVERS

The general idea of a cactus goes no farther than the common prickly pear, the crab or Christmas cactus, the king cactus, or case-knife cactus, or possibly a night blooming cereus. There is no special beauty in the plant itself of any of those mentioned. If it were not for their fine blooming qualities they would not long be given a place in any conservatory or window garden. Flower growers, who have seen only such specimens, will be surprised to know that there are over 2,000 different varieties, more greatly varied in form than any other class of plants in the world.

The genus includes delicate-stemmed branching tree forms, with stems about the

size of a goose quill, and making densely branched shrubs, as well as the immense giant cactus, which towers in the form of a branchless tree to a height of forty to sixty feet, with a massive trunk two feet in diameter. These are landmarks in Southern Arizona and Mexico, where they are not molested, being many tons in weight, and covered with very long, pearl-covered spines.

Still other forms are globular, with as great contrasts as in the tall growing sorts. The smallest is the dainty button cactus, from one-half to an inch in diameter, covered with spines so fine and silky as to appear like lace spun by an industrious spider, while in the same category are found enormous globes three feet in diameter, and bearing stout spines, which are really the most attractive part of the plant; some, as on the fishhook cactus, having perfectly formed hooks, three to six inches long, and capable of lifting a great weight. Others wave and twist over the plant, and display brilliant colors of yellow, all shades of red, brown, purple, black and white, some plants having several colors intermixed in regular form, making the effect pleasing.

Enamored of the grotesque as nature has produced it in this family, the fancier has conceived the idea of still further adding to their odd features by grafting one upon the other, and in this way many highly valued additions to a collection are made. Their fleshy structure makes the cactus the best of subjects for experiment in this line, and the operation is very simple. Slender growers are cut to a wedge-shape, and inserted in the split top of the stock to be used, held in place by running a couple of spines through, and tied up firmly. In a few days a union is formed and growth starts at once, and is much more rapid than when the scion is grown on its own roots. Globular sorts are cut off square near the bottom, set on the top of a columnar stem of a cereus, and bound by a string tied over the top.

By these means, curious and handsome specimens are made; drooping sorts are set on tall stems, and present a graceful appearance, also blooming more freely, while the effect of a round, heavy spined *Echinocactus*, supported on one or more straight stems of stout cerei is very curious. It is to this process that the success attained in growing fine plants of the crab, or Christmas cactus, is due, the stock used being an exceedingly rapid grower, the *Pereskia*.

Hybridizing has also been practised to a large extent in some branches, particularly the *Phyllocactus*, many European fanciers possessing "several hundred distinct varieties, all tracing back to the two or three original sorts found in their natural state. Their home is in the almost perpetual dampness of the Amazon valley, Brazil, where they grow on trunks and branches of trees, their roots clinging to the moss. Thus, this family of cacti live in entirely different conditions from others, and require somewhat different treatment.

While the fancier who makes a collection of cacti, tries to secure the oddest in form, regardless of bloom, yet this is a feature that will well repay the little care necessary to produce them. The most gorgeous day bloomers are the *Epiphyllums* or crab cactus, in many shades of crimson and red with white shadings; the *Phyllocacti*, which bear handsome flowers, from two to ten inches across, ranging in color from pure white, pink, violet, scarlet to purple, in a truly grand showing in early spring; some of the cerei, such as the "Rat-tail," "Rainbow," and others; and the *Echinocerei*, low growing clusters, which are resplendent in spring with exceedingly beautiful flowers of very large size, bright pinks, yellows, reds, purples, and so forth, often six inches across.

But it is the night bloomers that give us the really notable flowers, not only of immense size, but magnificent in form and texture. The famous night-blooming cereus, itself a slender climber, less than an inch in diameter, first puts out its woolly buds, that gradually increase in size, until they reach out six or eight inches from the stem, the outer end the shape of closed bud, until at length the final day for the completion of its wonderful development arrives, when a magical change is seen—the bud grows and swells, so quickly, that it can almost be seen to expand, and in a few hours there is the promise of a mighty effort when darkness comes. Then is the time to watch the mammoth bud awaken to its short but gorgeous life. The tip bursts open, the outer sepals of yellow and brown slowly uncurl, disclosing to view an immense cup-shaped form of purest white petals, within which nestle the hundreds of down-tipped stamens, with the prominent pistil standing well out. As it grows later the finishing touches are put on by the great flower, petals are shaken loose, the sepals curl further back, and there before us is the triumph of the floral world—a night-blooming cereus in bloom, the flowers measuring twelve to fourteen inches across, and giving out a delicious fragrance that fills the conservatory or house. Is it to be wondered at, that when a cactus collector begins to discover the possibilities of his collection, he becomes an enthusiast on the subject, and by the unappreciative public is designated a "Cactus Crank?"—In Canadian Horticulturist.

RED SPIDER ON SWEET PEAS

The yellow and dried-up appearance of the vines is due to the attacks of red spider. The easiest and best method of ridding the plants of the pest is to syringe with clear water applied with considerable force. Be sure to hit the under sides of the leaves, for this is where the insect resides.



N a paper on "ism," read Pan-Anglic Strachey, touched the

people the press discussions of the pulpit, the least meeting, the essay abstract and brief chronicle since superseded; it has practical; and its only series, is driven more a the contemporary drama. In the the least adventurous spectator of the cost his copper coin for a swiftly the world-d eyes. History is her of nations, the conflict rise and fall of dynasties, the ebb and flow phases of philosophy sport, dress, fashion and crime. Nothing place in the record, magnificent. Science bined to render it pos sits at his breakfast artisan, as he hurries car, to be an eye-Persia, a riot in Ind Mexico, a cricket m garden party at Win

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Social reform is p of Mr. Gokhale's, an They are moved for India, harassed by themselves, a minute rage, and the exclus some fifty millions v all. But at the pres trest is necessarily suppose that Mr. G has a political object