

ornamental before and after flowering, if the flower stalks are cut out after blooming. It is propagated by division in spring or fall, and should be shifted every three or four years, as it increases so rapidly that it is apt to die in the centre of the clump if left too long in the one place.

QUEEN OF THE PRAIRIE, *S. Venusta*.—A weaker growing species. Does not make such a bushy clump as *Ulmaria*, but grows about a foot higher. The clusters of flowers are more elongated and are a bright pink in color. Season about a week later—decidedly the showiest of the herbaceous *Spiraeas*.

S. palmata elegans.—A very graceful plant, about three feet high, with flattish clusters of pink and white flowers, lighter and more delicate in growth than *Ulmaria*. Though somewhat of the same habit, it is upon the whole the most beautiful and desirable of the genus.

Phlox decussata.—The new varieties of the old-fashioned perennial *Phlox* have raised it from the position of a very common place flower, limited in color and small in size, to that of one of our most valuable perennials. From no other can we get such a mass of color in the border or such a variety of shades. One English house catalogue, 145 varieties ranging from white through all shades of pink to dark red, and from the palest violet to dark purple. Their season of bloom is from July till fall, some varieties flowering earlier than others. The first clusters are the largest and finest, but if the tops are cut off some of the shoots as soon as the buds form, they branch out and produce fine heads of flowers late in the season.

A good half dozen varieties are:

The Pearl, white.

Sir Richard Wallace, large white with violet eye.

La Soleil, lilac-rose.

Isabay, orange salmon.

August Riviere, fiery-red shaded violet.

Frau Von Spiemen, salmon pink; a very fine sort, flowers one and one-half inches across, slightly curled inwards at the edge.

GAS PLANT, *Dictamnus Fraxinella*.—A very showy and interesting plant that should be more widely known. It increases so slowly, often growing for years without any apparent increase in size, so that it has not been very widely disseminated, very few gardens being so fortunate as to possess a good specimen. It grows about two feet high, a well established plant, being about as much in diameter, each stalk terminated by a spike of rosy flowers eight or ten inches long, at their best for a month after May 20th. The leaves resemble those of the Ash and if gently pressed emit a perfume like lemon peel, but if bruised the odour is balsamic and somewhat strong for most tastes. The volatile oil that produces this odour is secreted so freely that if a match is applied to a newly-opened flower on a hot day a slight explosion ensues.

D. F. alba is a very handsome variety with pure white flowers.

MONEYWORT OR CREEPING JENNIE, *Lysimachia Mummularia*.—If you have any place too much shaded by house or trees for any of the ordinary flowering plants, or even grass, to grow, but which you would like to have covered, try *Lysimachia Mummularia*, Money Root or Creeping Jennie, by far the best creeping perennial we have for that purpose. It spreads rapidly, rooting at the joints and throwing out lots of side branches, but as it does not produce underground shoots it is easily kept within bounds. The leaves are oval in shape, about twelve inches long, of a rich dark green color, and are produced so freely as to completely cover the ground. The flowers, bright yellow, cup-shaped, about three-fourths of an inch across, are in great abundance during June and July.