STAN IN





A NEW AND BETTER STYLE OF FLOWER BEDDING



OME now, confess! You have just moved into a new place. Or the gardening mania strikes you at this time and generally lasts for about two weeks in the year! You were intending to cut a circle in the middle of the lawn and put in a bed of the usually accepted

But let me tell you of something that I think will give you a deal more satisfaction and will be cheaper in the end. The best thing you can do is to have a hardy border along one or both sides of your yard. The ideal plan is to have shrubs at the back and perennial flowers in front. Shrubs cost the most at the start and the great bulk of their bloom is confined to May and June, but they are the longest lived, require the least attention and make a noble background for perennial flowers as the accompanying pictures

The reasons why you don't want a geometrical flower bed are these: A bed in the middle of the lawn makes the lawn seem smaller than it really is, whereas borders frame a home picture and make the grounds seem larger than they really are. Again, tender bedding plants are likely to be stiff, gaudy, monotonous and to suggest a public park or show place instead of a quiet home. Finally, you have the same expense over again every year, or else you must keep your geraniums in the cellar over winter and take cuttings of them in the spring.

I grant you that bedding plants may give a better effect the first month or even the first year and that ordinary perennials will bloom only two weeks, whereas geraniums and canhas will flower for three months. But a hardy border has all these advantages. The plants do not have to be purchased or resown every year, they are permanent and will multiply so that you will have plenty to give away and exchange; a hardy horder always has something / new of interest every day, whereas bedding plants become tiresome; you can always cut flowers for your friends without spoiling the general effect; you can have them for two months before it is safe to set out bedding plants and two months after, frost has killed the cannas; the cost of maintenance is less; and last, but not least, the plants harmonize with the landscape justed of being obviously imported from the mapies. In short, bedding plants are best in public places; a hardy border is the best thing for the home.

"But," you will exclaim, "how can I start a hardy border as late as this?" Five years ago it was practically impossible to make a garden in June, or after hot weather had arrived. Now all that is changed. There is hardly any perennial flower you are likely to think of that cannot be secured from some of them in pots especially for summer delivery. Such plants may cost a little more than the field-grown, and they ought to, because they have required more care. Besides, you could not plant field-grown plants in June, whereas pot-grown plants will grow right ahead and loom this year.

One reason for this new opportunity is that the automobile brings more people to the nurseries than ever before. It is the fashionable thing now to visit nurseries after the spring rush is over. The nurseryman has nothing to do then and is glad enough to have visitors. And in floriculture it is a fact, as with many other luxuries, that the supply often creates the demand. You may read about a plant every year in the catalogues for ten years, without being tempted, but when you see how beautiful the real thing is you buy it on the spot. It is a common thing for people to see something they need at their summer home and take the plant right back with them in their motor car. When you come to think of it, this sort of thing should always have been so. We ought to be able to get any plant we want at any time. It is a sign that we are growing up. Of course, it would be foolish to buy now the April or May blooming species, such as columbines and German iris, and I should not get any peonies now because they can be better planted in September. For this year's effects I should say the best choice would be as follows:

For June, foxgloves, Sweet Williams and Coreopsis lanceolata.

For July, larkspurs, hollyhocks, and Japan-For August, phlox, veronica, Stokesia, and

yucca. For September, Japanese anemone, grace-ful sunflower (Helianthus orgyalis) and sneezeweed (Helenium autumnale, var. super-

For October and November, pompon chrysanthemums.

So far I have been contrasting the flower bed with the hardy border. Now I want to show how the exacting requirements of bedding can be met by certain hardy perennials which will give more refreshing and dignified effect than tender plants and at less loss.

First, take the hardest case of all—the formal garden where neatness is supreme and plants must be constantly on dress parade. Flowers borne in spikes are necessarily formal and, therefore, appropriate to formal gardens. Moreover they suggest aspiration and are, therefore, more desirable than flowers that yearly triumph over the winter.

merely suggest display. Their spires recall those of a church and the blue upward-pointing larkspurs or veronicas take one's thoughts insensibly to the skies.

There are two practical difficulties, how-ever, about such flowers in a formal garden. Some of them get unsightly at the base of the spike before the top buds open and others are not attractive when out of flower. Both these objections apply somewhat to foxgloves, which have rather coarse, weedy leaves, drop their blossoms untidily and are unsightly when going to seed. Other flowers that fall by this standard are asphodels and the cardinal flow-

er. But no such objection can be made to larkspurs, veronicas, forch lilies (wherever it is safe to leave them in the ground all winter). the obedient plant, (Physotegia Virginica), or the snakeroots (Cimicifuga racemosa and Japonica), all of which are spicate flowers, breathing the very spirit of aspiration. For all of them possess that decorative quality when out of bloom which is so essential in a formal garden and all of them bloom a month or more, or else yield a fair second crop if cut back after blooming and given plenty of food and wa-

I would not advocate using hardy plants exclusively in a formal garden, but in every

We need to take a lesson from Highland! Park at Rochester, N. Y., which shows us how to make a shrubbery collection interesting when the shrubs are out of bloom. Here you find no mixed borders of perennials, but great beds of perennials like the foxgloves and the yuccas and Stokeslas—only one kind of flower in a place and enough of it to fill the eye. There is not a dull rod in the entire collection, for as you walk down those green alleys between the families of shrubs, a slight turn is always bringing a new picture in sight. The great part of each picture is greenery rather. than flowers, as it always ought to be, but whenever the shrubs themselves do not present a note of color by their flowers you may be sure that Mr. Dunbar has provided the necessary accent by means of a bed of some one noble flower with a permanence that comports with that of shrubbery.

with that of shrubbery.

To sum up: A hardy border is better for a home than beds of tender plants; a formal garden should be dominated by hardy perennials; and the best bedding effects in genuine landscape work are made with hardy perennials, rather than annuals or tender plants. Finally, hardy plants can now be had from pots any day during the summer.—Henry, Maxwell in Garden Magazine.

with astonishing freedom at a time of year when flowers are particularly cherished. Its flowering, of course, somewhat depends upon the weather, but frequently one may see its bright rosy bells almost as soon as January comes in. By the end of February, the entire plant is a mass of beautiful color, and for two or three months longer they retain their freshness, no matter what weather may occur. So free-flowering is this Heath that its flowers literally cover it. However freely it might be planted it would never become wearisome or out of place, for its tints, though bright and warm, are not harsh."

Winter-flowering Honeysuckles (Lonicera Standishi and L. fragrantissima) have not the rambling growth of the Honeysuckle of the hedgerow, but are usually grown against a wall. We well remember wandering in a garden one bright winter day and wondering where the rich Honeysuckle-like fragrance came from. The plant was then unknown to us, but Londera fragrantissima was breathing forth sweet incense. From that moment it became one of our most cherished flower friends. The plant was growing in a sunny recess near the dining-room, so that the perfume when the window was open could float into the house.

would be found to be sweet scented. At the same time it is possible to grow Mignonette that will have a good perfume in winter, but it must be in districts where the atmosphere is clear, and the plants must be close up to the glass, where there is little heat and plenty of air. We have seen Mignonette beautifully flowered and very fragrant at Christmas time, the variety being that originally known as the French giant Mignonette, and from this improved varieties were selected until we had Parson's White, which was undoubtedly one of the sweetest grown. Then when the dwarf red variety came into favour Vilmorin's grandiflora was one of the best. Careful selections of this were very sweet. Later on we had Machet, which, perhaps, flowers better and is easier to grow for winter than any other, yet it has very little, if any, scent until we get bright weather, and when we first flowered it we were much disappointed, and inclined to discard it altogether. Later on, when we had bright sunny weather, it proved to be sweetscented, but perhaps not quite so powerful as some other varieties. Mignonette can seldom be flowered successfully near London or any other district where fogs prevail. Good growth may be secured and the flower spikes may show, but the flowers do not develop. In winter time Mignonette must be kept fairly dry, and very little manure given. Light and air, with just sufficient warmth to keep out frost, are necessary.

In regard to growing Mignonette for win-ter flowering seed may be sown early in July. We have succeeded best when sowing in the pots that it is to flower in, giving good drainage and giving some soot with the drainage material, the compost consisting of good loam, with manure and some old mortar rubbish mixed with it, and the pots filled very firmly to within about half an inch, the surface made level with a little fine soil. The seeds should be sown thinly and covered with soil to which sand is added. Level this over and press down, using a fine-rosed wateringpot to give just sufficient water to set the surface, and later more, never letting the surface get quite dry until after the seedlings are through. The thinning out should be done as soon as the seed leaves are well developed. Shading is given during the early stages, but after the seedlings are well established give full after the seedlings are well established give full exposure to the sun and careful attention to watering; this secures short, sturdy growth. During the early stages they are grown on in a cold frame, leaving the lights off when the weather is favorable. Early in September remove the pots to the greenhouse and place them as close to the glass, as possible, but should the weather be very bright and warm they may remain in the frame later; careful tradition is a great secret. If the plants show watering is a great secret. If the plants show signs of weakness manure is given, but for autumn it is found better to avoid over rigorous growth, while for late spring flowering manure may be used liberally.

ROOT MAGGOTS

Some years ago I read an article in which it was said that deep planting of onions was a cure for maggots. As I planted quite a lot of multipliers, I tried different depths, and found that deep planted ones were worse than those on the surface. This gave me the idea of

planting on ridges. The following two years I ridged all my ground, and put the sets on top. At the first hoeing, I pulled the soil away from the bulb, and never saw the sign of a maggot. The next year I planted in the level again, and fully two-thirds were attacked by maggots. I pulled the soil away from them, clean to the roots, and, as soon as the bulb got good and dry, the maggots disappeared from the onion patch, only to attack my cabbages and cauliflowers. They attacked these even more vigorously, sometimes making a clean sweep of the rows, and I thought that I would have to quit early growing.

I tried everything that I could hear of, until one of my neighbors told me that he knew of an old man who always put a match in with the plants when he put them in the ground. As I could not procure any of the old sulphur matches, I made up my mind to try the sulphur alone, and was rewarded for my trouble by not a single cabbage or cauli-flower, around which sulphur was placed, being attacked. Put the sulphur close to the stem. One teaspoonful is enough for one hundred plants.—Edward Lane.



home garden they ought to be dominant. It is right that we have some tender plants, because a formal garden must never be without at least one bed of flowers or brightly colored foliage. But there is no poetry or romance in begonias or cannas or scarlet sage or ageratum or any other tropical foreigner that is told off to a special job, like that of making a show. The object of a formal garden is to stir the heart in a way that no other kind of garden can do. It does this chiefly by its alternate suggestions of restriction and of freedom, its narrow walks and luxuriant growth. Tender plants never look free. The free, luxuriant flowers—the ones that most stimulate the imagination are the ones that have their roots epest in Anglo-Saxon history and life-the hollyhocks, bellflowers, columbines, peonies, German irises, primroses, violets, lily-of-the-

I haven't the slightest doubt that the reason why a formal garden dominated by hardy flowers brings such thronging memories and even intimations of a previous existence is that these flowers have been loved longer by our ancestors than these upstart begonias and abutilons. And I know the reason why so many costly formal gardens let you down with such a sickening thud is that the show element is too much in evidence. They are ostentatious and cold because they do not have any home feeling. It takes hardy perennials to give the home feeling.

valley, and clove pink.

So much for the formal garden. Now for the genuine landscape effects on great estates. Here, of course, all are agreed that tender plants are inappropriate. But there are many people who believe that when one is planting on a greater scale than that of the suburban or city yard, the ordinary mixed border is likely to have a weak and spotty effect, especially at a distance. Consequently, some have advocated using beds of annual flowers to brighten shrubberres after June, when the pest part of the shrub bloom is over. I believe that perennials make more dignified and appropriate bedders than annuals, even in the case of foxgloves, columbines, and other perennials which, for this purpose, are best sown every year and which may actually cost more to raise and take longer to bring into flower than annuals. The reason is that you can always tell annuals, because they are branched near the base, stand like single plants, or otherwise betray their temporary character, whereas perennials form glorious clumps and groups with many shoots uprushing to a greater height or otherwise proclaim their

## HARDY WINTER FLOWERS

It cannot be generally known that several shrubs and small trees bloom during the winter months, for they are so seldom seen. This is to be regretted, as they are not only beautiful—flowering, too, with a freedom one associates with the high summer days—but, in several cases, exceptionally fragrant. A walk round an interesting garden recently, in which winter-flowering shrubs are planted with ino niggardly hand, brought to mind the importance of these kinds in the garden at this season. There, in a sunny corner, was the Tree Witch Hazel (Hamamelis arborea), which is the most beautiful of its family. It may be regarded as a small tree, seldom growing more than 8 feet high, though in its native land of China it attains larger dimensions in every way. The flowers are golden yellow in color, and consist of several curling petals with crimson calyces, which seem to shine in the winter sun. These crowd on the leafless shoots and give a fresh beauty and interest to the garden in January. The way to obtain the full value of the shrub is to plant it in a group, say, of six plants, with the little Partridge Berry (Gaultheria procumbens) as a groun work, the latter a little evergreen shrub, crim-son almost with fruits for many weeks. There are other Witch Hazels, but H. arborea should be chosen before the others. H. japonica zuccariniana flowers quite as freely, but does not produce so rich an effect; this also blooms in winter, and the pale yellow coloring is charming. The Witch Hazels are easily grown, needing no special soil, but shelter and unshine are necessary, not from any want of hardiness, but to give the flowers as much chance as possible at this uncertain season of

The Winter Heath (Erica carnea).-Why this exquisite Heath is not as common in gardens as the Christmas Rose itself is a mystery. It is thick with crimson flowers for many weeks in-winter, and gives a warm glow to the garden when planted in groups. A group of fifty plants—and they are not expensive produces an effect that is in pleasant harmony. with the greys and browns of the surrounding woodland. The writer planted a group con-sisting of this number of tufts in rough meadow land, and no feature of the garden not even the Roses rippling over Oak fences and pergola—gave greater delight. It is mentioned in "Trees and Shrubs for English Gardens" that of all the dwarf Heaths more can be said

and though the plant is bare of leaf the blos-soms make a brave show; they may be descried against a well-toned brick wall for some little distance. It is just as well to bear in mind that this is one of the shrubs, which bloom on the young wood, and any pruning or cutting out of useless branches that may be necessary should be done in early spring when the flowers are over, for if it is delayed there will be no flowers next year.

Garrya Elliptica we treasure for its beautiful catkins, which are in bloom in winter.

Few wall shrubs are so leafy and luxuriant,

Winter Sweet (Chimonanthus fragrans) is

very welcome at this season. In the variety

grandiflorus the flowers are larger and of a

learer shade of citron yellow than the type,

and placed against a sheltered sunny aspect it bears a profusion of catkins at this season. They possess a fresh, wholesome fragrance and upon the plant have a strongly picturesque beauty. Occasionally the Garrya will cover a house front, but only in tavorable situations. It is evergreen, the leaves dark in color, oval in shape, and about 3 inches long. Male and female flowers are borne on separate plants, and the most beautiful of the two is the male or pollen-bearing form. A Clematis flowers in winter, a fact not generally known, and C. calycina is the kind. the interesting features about this Clematis are its evergreen leaves and early flowering period. Among other Clematises it is easily

recognized in winter, for it is the only hardy kind to retain its leaves, and it is rarely between December and February that a plant can be found out of bloom. It was first brought to this country in 1596. In its home in the Balearic Islands it is said to grow to the tops of tall trees, and, in fact, smother them, but in this country it is seldom more than 12 feet or so in height. The leaves are deep green and glossy, the flowers drooping, greenish white, with purple marks on the inside of the sepals, and borne from the leafaxils. They differ in size to some considerable extent, some being only 1 r-4 inches across, others upwards of 2 inches. Like many other early-flowering shrubs, it looks more at home in some cosy corner or against a wall than it does in the open ground.

## THE MOST FRAGRANT MIGNONETTE

While there is certainly some preference with regard to the scent of the various varieties, climate and other conditions of culture have more to do with the matter. We think in favor of E. carnea than of any other kind. if the same variety which appears to have no "It is not only absolutely hardy, but it flowers scent now were flowering in May and June it

## FLORAL NOTES

Yucca, being a semitropical growth, though quite hardy as far north as northern New York, in its commoner forms, requires a place where it will have sun practically all day long.

Give it room, for new growths come from it. By cutting sweet william back a little after the first bloom, it is generally possible to coax a second bloom

Annual poppies need a good deal of mois-ture. They thrive best in a damp climate. The Shirley variety is the most satisfactory. If the bloom obtained from the dahlias is not good as it should be, dig a richer soil in around them, and allow only one stalk to grow from each tuber. Crowd the water on

Be sure to provide stakes for both dahlias and golden glow at an early stage of growth. They break easily in high winds. Never let the blossoms on spiracea Anthony

Waterer fade on the shrub. It will check the bloom at once. Cut the blossoms each day as they appear and the bush will remain in glor-ious bloom till frost, and sometimes till the