

PENTSTEMON BARBATUS.



FIG. 1422.—PENTSTEMON.

HAVING this hardy perennial in bloom at "Maplehurst" all through the month of July, we have photographed a spray to give our readers an idea of its flowering habit. By itself it is hardly showy enough at a distance, it needs to have other more showy kinds with it, such as for example, *Coreopsis lanceolata*, which blooms about the same time. The name is from *pente* five, and *stemon* a stamen, but the fifth though present and conspicuous, is sterile. The common name is Beard Tongue, because the lower lip of the corolla is more or less bearded at the throat. There are about sixty varieties, mostly natives of North America. There is a great variety of colors and many of them are especially desirable for the herbaceous border. The species above referred to, sometimes called *Chelone barbata*, has flowers varying from light red to carmine, and grows to about three feet in height.

GROWING AMARYLLIS.—Place about one inch of small pebbles or charcoal in the bottom of a six or eight-inch crock. For soil use sand, muck and rich loam. If the loam is not rich add some fertilizer. Plant bulb with about one-third above soil, so water will not get in the neck of the bulb. Plunge in the earth in summer, in good light, but not in the sun. In fall ripen foliage, and set in a moderately cool place. When you wish them to bloom bring them to a warm window, and when leaves begin to form water gradually. I have had good success with this treatment. Some varieties are easier grown than others.