



## TIMELY TOPICS FOR THE AMATEUR—VI.

**T**HE flower garden and lawn, especially the latter, usually presents a burnt up, rusty looking appearance during the month of August that is very discouraging to those who take a pride in having their gardens and lawns looking fresh and bright throughout the entire summer. Constant and copious waterings may keep the grass looking comparatively fresh and green, and relieve somewhat the general dried up appearance prevailing around; but the deficiency in color of foliage, and lack of flower on tree and shrub, is very noticeable on most lawns, at this the ripening season of the year.

The last sprays of bloom of the late flowering Spireas, such as *Spirea Douglasii*, *S. aurifolia*, *S. Bumalda*, and a few other varieties that are so useful in helping to brighten up the lawn during July, are now rusty and dingy looking. Even the useful purple leaved plum (*Prunus Pissardii*), and the purple leaved *Berberis* cannot retain the deep rich coloring of their foliage, if fully exposed to the burning rays of the sun. Many other of our colored and variegated leaved shrubs, also show the effect of the continuous hot-sun, and are unable to retain the beautiful color and markings of their foliage, that make them so attractive during spring, and early summer. When planting any of

these variegated or colored foliage shrubs, give them a place, if possible, where they are partially shaded from the mid-day sun,



FIG. 1886. SPIREA DOUGLASII.

as very few of them give the best results possible when fully exposed to the sun during the entire day.