

Ornamental Shrubs and Hardy Perennial Plants,

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The subject that I have selected for this paper covers a very wide field, but in the limited time allowed we will confine ourselves to a few of the hardy varieties and such as are of easy culture, and requiring the least possible care, with the object of encouraging this much neglected branch of horticulture.

There will be more difficulty in growing with success the same varieties of shrubs and plants that grow to the east and south of us, and it is important that we fix upon a list that is recommended by those who have had experience here, so that there may be no waste of time, money or labor by the inexperienced, in trying such as are not adapted to the climate.

There is, perhaps, no city in the Dominion where planting has been more neglected than in our own. The absence of trees on our streets and avenues, clumps of shrubbery on the margins of our lawns, and borders of hardy herbaceous plants is commented upon by visitors from abroad. True, our gardens are a blaze of glory while the annuals are in bloom from the middle of July until they are nipped by the early frosts, but outside of this there is nothing to attract attention except a few well kept lawns, which are too often disfigured with rockeries, the presence of which is a veritable eyesore upon what would otherwise be pleasant looking places.

Large and small gardens can be made very attractive from spring until late in August with a proper selection of shrubs and plants such as I shall now proceed to enumerate.