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NOVELTIES OF 1891

IN

Hardy Border Plants,

OFFERED BY

THE READING NURSERY,

READING, MASS.

JACOB W. MANNING, PROPRIETOR.

Sacred Lily of the Incas.

in connection with shrubberies, it is quite indispensable. 20 cents each.

Anthericum Liliastrum var. Major (Giant St. Bruno's Lily). 2 feet. May to late June. A very choice border plant with linear foliage, and producing large lily-like pure white and exceedingly fragrant flowers in long, dense spikes on stems often two feet high. It is of the easiest cultivation in all soils and quite indispensable to any good collection. For cutting purposes it is well adapted, and the flowers are of good lasting quality. 25 cents each.

Armeria Lauchiana. 4 inches. This is the most useful of the dwarf Sea Pinks for borders and edgings. Of free and vigorous growth, yet forming close, dense tufts or mounds of light green foliage, with bright rosy-crimson flowers borne in dense heads on naked stems five to seven inches high: also useful for bedding. Choice and quite new. 25 cents each.

Armeria plantaginea var. formosa. 15 inches. A splendid variety of the common Thrift, but with deep, clear crimson flowers of unusual size and borne in comparatively large heads on stems often 15 inches long. The long, light green foliage is arranged in flat rosettes close to the ground. With us it was in continuous bloom during the summer months of the last two years. 50 cents each.

Alstroemeria pelegrina var. alba (The Sacred Lily of the Incas). 2 ft. A very rare plant from the higher altitudes of the Andes and not yet fully tested as to hardihood, though it probably will succeed well with the protection of a wall if planted in a light, sandy loam. The plant grows about two feet high, and is clothed with light glaucous green foliage. The flowers are pure white, two to three inches across, and borne in clusters. It is a very showy plant, and very interesting on account of its associations with the history of an extinct race of people. Rare. Established plants in pots, 50 cents each.

Anthemis tinctoria (Golden Marguerite). 2½ feet. An old garden favorite almost lost to general cultivation, yet possessing many valuable qualities. It is hardy in all soils and situations, forming a dense, branched bush with dark green, finely-cut foliage, and commencing in late June continues in bloom almost without cessation until hard frost. The flowers are clear yellow throughout, regularly formed and borne on good stems. As a flower-garden plant for cutting, or even used

Giant St. Bruno's Lily.

Boltonia latisqua (False Chamomile). 4 feet. August and September. In our collection of over 900 varieties we consider this one of our best plants. It forms a dense, broad-topped bush, with light green, narrow foliage. The flowers are of a most pleasing delicate rose color and in form similar to a Marguerite, but with three rows of very numerous narrow rays, while the centre is of a deeper shade of the same color. These flowers are borne in immense profusion and in broad, flat heads often three feet in diameter to a single stalk, yet each flower has its separate stem, excellently adapting it to cutting. Its late blooming season is an added merit. 25 cents each.

Delphinium Sinensis (Chinese Larkspur). 1½ feet. One of the choicest of medium-sized perennials with light green, handsomely divided foliage, and comparatively large, loose spikes of beautiful light-blue flowers at intervals during the summer and early autumn. In its various varieties the colors range from pure white to dark ultramarine blue and in double and single forms of flowers. 35 cents each.

Eulalia gracillima var. univittata. 3 feet. A new, hardy ornamental grass, worthy to associate with the variegated and barred forms of the same family. The foliage is very narrow, and except the midrib, which is of

Golden Marguerite.

ivory whiteness, is of a very deep shade of green. The whole plant assumes an upright habit of growth, yet the semi-pendulous habit of the smaller leaves produces a charmingly graceful effect to the whole. A worthy plant for the border or for foliage effects. 25 cts. each.

Rose Mallow.

Helianthus lætiflorus. 5 ft. August and September. A valuable new single-flowered sunflower, seemingly quite hardy. It makes an upright bush with ovate lanceolate, rough foliage. The flowers are three to four inches across with a double row of petals, cup-shaped and of a deep golden yellow bordering on orange. They are borne on long, stiff

stems rendering them quite useful for cutting. Commencing to bloom in the last weeks of July it continues in perfection for a long season. Desirable for the border or among shrubs. 35 cts. each.

Hibiscus Moschuetos (Rose Mallow). 5 feet. August. A vigorous, bushy plant, with light green, heart-shaped, pointed foliage, and large, clear pink flowers with deeper centre, borne in clusters. A rare and choice native, growing well in any good garden soil and worthy of high culture. Very useful in the border, among shrubs, or even as single specimen lawn plants. Used as a group of these alone they are very effective. 25 cents each.

Lathyrus latifolius var. albus (White Perennial Pea). A vigorous climber with pure white flowers, in dense spikes, on good stems, and borne freely at intervals throughout the summer and autumn. For covering trellises, rock-work, or fences, this is very useful, and equally so when trained to a low trellis in the border where its flowers will give a choice effect and prove valuable for cutting. Strong plants, 50 cents each; blooming plants, 35 cents each. We would also recommend the common red-flowered form of the same, and also the variety *splendens* with deep crimson flowers, both of which are useful alone or in connection with the above, 25 cents each.

Lobelia cardinalis (Cardinal Flower). 3 to 4 feet. August and September. We have a particularly fine strain of this most showy plant in which the individual flowers are much deeper colored than usual, and also in much longer and broader spikes. With us the plants are perfect perennials and produce a most gorgeous effect. They are of easiest culture in any but a very dry soil, forming a dense tuft of foliage, and throwing out numerous offsets for the following season's blooming. No hardy flower can surpass this in brilliancy of coloring or freedom of bloom in its season. Strong clumps, 50 cents each; blooming plants, 20 cents each.

Lupinus polyphyllus. 4 feet. June to July. A handsome Lupin of very free blooming qualities, producing spikes of light blue, pea-shaped flowers; these spikes are often eighteen inches in length, held well above the foliage and producing a most gorgeous effect. Adapted to any good soil and invariably satisfactory. 35 cents each. We can furnish the beautiful pure white form, in limited quantity, at 75 cents each.

Cardinal Flower.

Lychnis viscaria var. flore plena (Ragged Robin). 15 inches. June. Not a novelty in the sense of absolute newness, for it has been in cultivation for years, although but little known in this country. When not in flower it forms a dense tuft of evergreen foliage, but in June it sends up tall spikes as illustrated of handsome, double, deep red flowers of a most exquisite fragrance, and which remain in perfection for quite a time. A bed of these makes a most gorgeous effect while single plants quickly give splendid results. One of the finest hardy plants in cultivation, and adapted to any good soil. 25 cents each.

Oenothera glauca var. Fraserii (Fraser's Evening Primrose). 1 foot. June to late August. This, we believe, the choicest of this most showy family of flowering plants. When full grown it forms a dense, full-branched bush one foot high, with oval, dark green foliage, turning later to showy autumn coloring. Commencing in the last weeks of June it continues in perfection of flower until late August, covering the months usually attended with the hottest weather and a consequent scarcity of flowers. The flowers are cup-shaped, deep, glossy, golden-yellow, in dense clusters. Each flower is usually one to one and one-half inches in diameter. After flowering the top gradually dies away and is succeeded

Ragged Robin.

by a tuft of evergreen foliage at the surface of the ground. Singly or in masses it is a very effective plant. 30 cents each; \$3.00 per dozen.

Pardanthus Sinensis (Chinese Blackberry Lily). 3 ft. Broad, sword-shaped, light green foliage; and in July and August showy, star-shaped flowers of a deep orange color, prettily spotted with deeper orange and purple, and succeeded by showy seeds in clusters to give a close resemblance to a blackberry, and remaining on the plant until hard frost. Hardy and desirable. 20 cents each.

Phlox Miss Lingard. We have tested this valuable variety collection of over a hundred varieties possesses merits over them all. 25 cents each.

Platycodon Mariesii. 10 inches. July to frost. This is a great improvement over the common form of the Giant Bell Flower, as it is of dwarf habit, never with us exceeding one foot in height, and forming a dense, dwarf bush. The flowers are often one and one-half inches in diameter, bell-shaped, and of a deep, clear blue, beautifully veined with a deeper shade of the same; they are borne on good stems especially adapting them to cutting. They are almost continuous bloomers during the time indicated, and are beautiful and interesting in bud as well as when opened. 35 cents each.

Ranunculus speciosus var. flore plenus. 10 to 12 inches. All summer. An especially free and continuous blooming form of the Bachelor's Button, with dark green, finely divided foliage, and showy, perfectly double, deep, golden-yellow flowers about one inch in diameter, borne at intervals throughout the summer. 30 cents each.

for several years and can freely recommend it in every way. The foliage is very rich, glossy green in color and quite free from mildew, while the flowers are borne in long, dense panicles often ten inches to one foot long, pure white with a faint lavender eye, and quite fragrant. With us it is in constant bloom from July to hard frost, so long as it is prevented from going to seed. It is very distinct in foliage and shape of panicle from any sort to our knowledge, and in our

Especial attention is called to our descriptive catalogues as quoted below, and which we send to customers on application. They are the most complete on the subjects that they treat in America, and are valuable hand-books.

- I. Catalogue of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Conifers and Climbing Vines. 96 pp.
- II. Catalogue of Choice Hardy Perennials. 60 pp.
- III. Catalogue of Large and Small Fruits. 28 pp.
- IV. Recently Introduced Trees and Shrubs of Ornamental Merit.

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THE READING NURSERY,

ESTABLISHED IN 1854,

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