

—Photos by M. K. Meeker.

- 1, Wild bergamot; 2, false asphodel;
- 1, Wild bergamot; 2, false Asphodel;
- 3, Great St. John's Wort; 4, red prairie clover; 5, blue vervain; 6, water parsnip.

Miss Butler will conduct parties through the wild botanical garden in Glenwood park on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, meeting them at the terminus of the Fourth and Sixth avenue north street railway, Sixth avenue and Russell avenue, at 10 o'clock; also Saturday and Sunday afternoons, meeting them at 2:30 o'clock at the same place. One hour later, on the same days, those coming by automobile or carriage will be met near the entrance of the garden on the boulevard, at a point northeast of Birch pond, in Glenwood park. To reach Birch pond, turn in at the left of Western avenue, where the park boulevard intersects the avenue.

Phones—T. S., Calhoun 1021; N. W., Main 4295.

THERE are many kinds of gardens. Those are most interesting that have an individual flower and express, as pleasure grounds should, within the bounds of good taste, the owner's personality. Some persons aim to have strictly an old-fashioned garden, loving best the delightful old-time favorites rooted deep in memory. Again, there are literary gardens, devoted to the flowers mentioned by some author, as Keats or Shakespeare; while more, perhaps, make a specialty of a few beautiful plants, and with solicitous care become experts in raising them.

Mrs. Mabel Osgood Wright, in her "The Garden, You and I," describes a fascinating garden designed by an invalid lady, in which nothing was admitted but plants with fragrant flowers or leaves. In such a garden the mints would abound, and among them would be *Monarda fistulosa*, the wild bergamot, that now enlivens the borders of woods and meadows with large clumps of bright lavender bloom. Abundant as it is, we are never ready to cry, "Hold! Enough!" For, besides its delicate perfume, it delights the eye as well. This plant will at once remind one of the cultivated, red-flowered bee balm or Oswego tea (*Monarda didyma*). The mints may be recognized by their square stems, two lipped flowers, and usually aromatic odor.

The *Tofieldia*, or false asphodel, is an attractive little lily. Its compact raceme of feathery, small, white flowers forms the larger part of the plant, surrounded by plants that one would trudge miles to see—wild buckbean, orchids, the pitcher plant, and just now a marsh harebell with a bluish white blossom poised on the frailest imaginable stock.

In wet meadows the white flowers needed to offset the garish yellow are supplied by the water parsnip (*Sium*) and the spotted cowbane (*Cicuta*), both poisonous, alas! to man and beast. Cattle generally know instinctively that they are inedible and avoid them. But children should be taught not to taste unknown plants. The leaves of the water parsnip are uni-pinnate, while the leaves of the cowbane are twice or thrice compounded. The poison hemlock (*Conium*), a relative of theirs naturalized from Europe, furnished, according to tradition, the poison by which Socrates was put to death. The parsley family, to which these dangerous plants belong, together with, strange as it may seem, several food plants, as caraway, parsnip, carrot, celery, may be recognized in the main by the flat-topped flower clusters with stalks arranged like the sticks of an umbrella, each bearing a like bunch of smaller stalks crowned with a tiny flower. Such clusters are called compound umbels.

The blue vervain (*Verbea stricta*), a weed common in neglected, vacant lots, is well worthy of attention. It stands up bravely among ignoble surroundings, old tin, broken bottles and ash heaps, which it attempts to mask. Large, downy leaves thickly clothe the stem. The flower spikes are long and slender, having close rows of seed pods at the base with a ring of bright blue

flowers above and tapering at the tip with the still unopened buds. The garden verbena, unlike this weed, has the lazy habit of lying with its elbows on the ground and getting covered with dirt. Another weed verbena, the hastata, of slenderer habit, but showy in the mass, is abundant in lowlands; also the white verbena, slenderer still and with still smaller flowers.

Regiments of clover husars (*Petalostemum*) bivouac on the prairies with shakos of violet red or of white. Three species respond to muster roll in Minnesota. All are armed with very slender leaf blades and all reek a pungent odor.

The amorphan—camp followers of their military cousins, the petalosteums—have pale, hoary, pinnat leaves and narrow flower spikes. The typical flower of their tribe—the pea—is butterfly-shaped, with five petals, the broad standard, or banner, two slender side petals, the wings, and two partially united petals, the keel, arched over the stamens, and pistil. The amophas have but one of these petals, the standard, the purple color of which contrasts pleasingly with the yellow stamens. *Amorpha* leaves are used in hard times as a substitute for tea. Farmers call the smaller species of the genus "shee-strings," because the roots thickly interlace the soil and make plowing more laborious. The tall *amorpha* is often cultivated and is an esteemed ornament of parks.

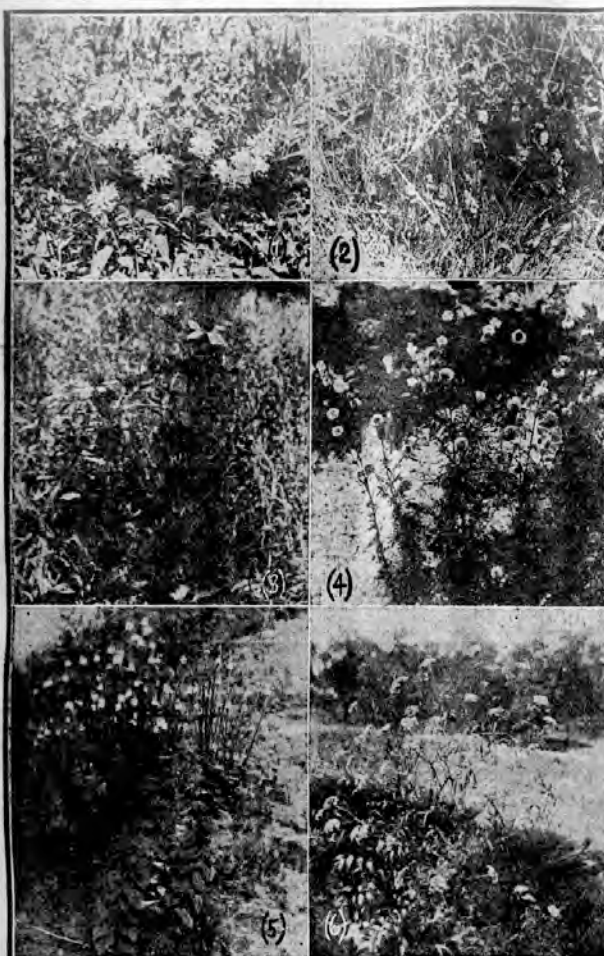
One of our finest native, yellow-flowered plants is the great St. John's wort, *Hypericum Ascyon*. It may be seen in rich lowland about Minnehaha. It is tall and sturdy, a profuse bloomer and interesting in bud and in fruit. The multiplicity of the stamens gives a lightsome grace to the flowers of this family. The flower of this species is large, measuring some three inches across. The petals, when aging, roll up lengthwise, forming a spidery appearance, which adds variety to the in-

florescence, together with the striking buds and seedpods. We can but wonder that with all its merits this plant has not been seized upon for cultivation. The print was taken in the wild garden in Glenwood park, where it is well established in two colonies.

ELOISE BUTLER.

Article rearranged to fit this page

Mint, Abundant in Minnesota Meadows, Delights the Senses; Miss Butler Tells of Wild Flowers in Glenwood Park Garden



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