

Another Page of Notes and Comments

A GAPANTHUS Umbellatus. I lately saw a clump of this "Lily of the Nile" growing at the foot of a greenhouse wall, the foliage being dense green. They were producing spikes of bloom very freely, each being not more than 1ft above the leaves, which were of about the same height. The flower-heads, too, were much larger than usually seen, the color of the flowers being a deep blue. These were much superior to those grown in the greenhouse, being more healthy and vigorous, while the umbels of bloom were larger, richer in color, and held on shorter, stronger stems.

NOTE. This plant is easily grown from seeds; it is hardy in the South, and further North in protected situation, but will not endure freezing. Grown in large pots at the North and set out in saucers of water in a shady place in Summer, it will make a fine display of lovely big umbels of bloom. See engraving

MORE ABOUT AGAPANTHUS. There is no plant for a terrace or garden than Agapanthus Umbellatus. I have eight tubs of it on a terrace here' two of which have thrown up fifteen heads apiece! They are arranged along the terrace at interval; with tubs of Hydrangeas between. The plants are gross feeders and rapid growers, and the chief point in cultivation is to know when to divide. If allowed

to wait too long and the plants over-fill 7 their pots or tubs they will dwindle away. They require shelter from Nov. until May, growing outdoors from May

MYOSOTIS Palustris Semperflorans. This is certainly 7 the best of the Forget-me-nots. It is the earliest to bloom, and will continue flowering quite late in the year. The individual firs are large and abundantly produced. Plants grow freely, especially in heat. Four small bits which were put in at the

foot of a Rhododendron last Spring have now developed into a mass, which covers at least a yard of ground, and is now a perfect sheet of blue. Given a fair start by the water-side it will hold its own with almost anything, and give no further trouble. **J. C. T.**

NOTE. There are more showy varieties of Myosotis, but they are not permanent as garden plants. The one above described is a tenacious perennial, and once established will not soon disappear. It is a good lasting everblooming perennial and will retain its place under trying conditions. See page 41.

LOBELIA Gracilis. This is a rather rare variety introduced from New South Wales. It is trailing in growth rather than compact. As an edging plant or for marginal lines in the flower garden it is not adapted, but when used as a carpeting and among plants of taller growth, it is most useful and very appropriate. Its chief utility, however, lies in its valuable properties as a basket plant or for vases in the flower garden. For these purposes during the Summer months it is extremely useful, being easily started, of quick growth, and flowering profusely.

It can be also utilized as a pot plant for the margins of stages and in rustic basket arrangements. When using it thus my practice is to intermix it with either the common Mimulus or Harrison's Musk (Mimulus Moschatus) one being a pleasing contrast to the other. For planting promiscuously upon rockwork it is also valuable, as it does not require any great amount of soil in which to grow.

NOTE. These trailing Lobelias deserve more attention. The clusters of bloom are blue, rose, and white, and are produced on slender graceful stems, always exciting admiration. The light, or heavenly blue variety is especially handsome, as also the dark blue with white eye. The seeds should be sown thinly in rows, and when the plants appear place a layer of coal dust over the surface to ward off a fungus that causes damping off of the plants. When large enough pick out the little plants with a pen knife and reset them in a shallow tray of good sandy soil until large enough to transfer to their blooming quarters, either baskets, vases, or beds. They thrive in a mixture of equal parts of sand, rich loam, and fine stable litter, and delight in partial shade during the hot days of Summer. Be sure to try this grand Lobelia.

COMPACT SCABIOSA in Pots. Within the last few years the compact Scabiosa has been grown

somewhat extensively for flowering during the winter, and is very useful the plants are for that purpose, with no more heat than that afforded by an

greenhouse, they will bloom for a considerable time, and the long stalks of firs, being used in a cut state for a variety of purposes. The

of the plants is simple; all that is required being early in the season, and grow them in pots placed out of doors until the cold

then place inside. H. P. (Eng. Garden)



The Beautiful Easily Grown **weather sets in** a **LILY OF THE NILE**, (Agapanthus Umbellatus) •

RUDIBECKIA (Echinacea) Purpurea. I am glad to see that year after year this is coming more into use. Those who have seen flowers on their young plants, and at a stature of perhaps 18" will no doubt have been pleased by the singular colors and quaint form of the heads; but provided they grow the plant well for one year or two, they will find that it attains a height of 5 feet or more, and that the red-purple ray florets will each measure 6" across. It is after seeing a specimen of my own that has been growing in a new border for three years that I have been induced to pen this note. I am sure that everyone that may try it will be delighted with it.

NOTE. Plants of this hardy perennial are readily grown from seeds, and for a bed or border they are showy and attractive throughout the season. The new hybrid varieties show flowers of various shades, and are desirable for cutting. See page 45.

CENTAUREA Moschata. This is grown at Kew as a pot plant for the conservatory, and is an excellent example of a plant that is extremely pretty and deliciously fragrant plant. Its silvery foliage goes so well with the tassel-like firs.