

PERIWINKLE (MAUVE)



Christopher Pilling

Periwinkle
(mauve) is in hiding
when we're striding past on some horticultural mission.

Dry sticks of fuchsia
dug up from by the quince
are holding their own since the day of the transplant.

Solomon's seal,
risen, sudden, green,
can be seen to be losing every trace of inhibition.

Rose rose rose
firmly set in three holes dug for them
in the bed at the back come and gallivant.

"We're being flagrant",
they say, swaying in their cups. With twilight, though,
topdressing the show, they'll shrink, 'll

rose, fuchsia,
Solomon's seal, but not the
self-effacing dusky periwinkle.