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Figures and Descriptions

OF

POPULAR GARDEN FLOWERS.

BY THE

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PLATE 321.

TRICOLOR-LEAVED PELARGONIUM,
METEOR.

There is not probably in the whole range of novelties and so-called novelties which have been produced during the past few years, one that has been so universally successful as that now well-known and widely distributed Pelargonium, *Mrs. Pollock*; as a pot plant or a bedder it is equally prized; at this season of the year, if properly managed, it tends to make the greenhouse gay with its brilliant coloured foliage; while in the summer, its appearance as a bedded plant, when well managed, is all that can be desired. The magnificent beds of it at Battersea Park sufficiently justify the praise which has been bestowed upon it.

In the various horticultural periodicals, a good deal has been said about the growth of this style of plant, some insisting that it requires peculiar care, and others that it requires no more than the hardiest *Tom Thumb*; the truth we believe to lie between these two extremes. There can be little doubt, we think, that it will flourish best in a light and rich soil, where the bed is thoroughly well drained, with brick rubbish, etc., so that in strong clay soils with inefficient drainage, it will be necessary both to make the compost and also to drain well; in pots, the best situation for them is under sashes, laid on frames, with plenty of air underneath, but sheltered from severe winds.

The success of *Mrs. Pollock* has led hybridizers to pay great attention to this class, in the hope of rivalling or even excelling that favourite variety; from all parts of England we hear of the success that has attended these efforts. Messrs. Wills. of

Huntroyde, Groom, of Ipswich, Smith, of Dulwich, Chater, of Cambridge, Henderson, of St. John's Wood, and last, not least, Mr. Saltmarsh, of Chelmsford, have each to record success. With the latter we have now to do, as *Meteor*, one of the results of his success, is the subject of the present Plate. A comparison of this with our figure of *Mrs. Pollock* (Plate 101), will at once show the greater brilliancy of colour that *Meteor* possesses: the dark brownish-crimson zone is much more decided, and the scarlet zone does not run so much into it as in the older variety; it deservedly received a first-class certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society, and will be let out in the spring with other varieties of the same raiser.



J.S.

PLATE 322.

AQUILEGIA PYRENAICA.

Amongst the herbaceous plants, which were formerly much more sought after than they are at present, the race of Columbines was always a favourite one; in the gardens of the labourer and the cottager, as well as in those of the wealthy, plants of some of the species were to be found, whereas now, many of them are banished to make way for other more showy plants. The lovers of herbaceous plants still cherish a hope of seeing a revival of interest, and many of them are going to considerable expense and trouble in not only cultivating the old varieties, but in introducing new ones. Foremost amongst these, we think we may place Messrs. Backhouse and Son, of York, to whom we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring the exquisite little gem, *Aquilegia pyrenaica*.

When we remember the size to which some of the Columbines attain, their handsome and luxuriant foliage, and their tall flower-stems, the idea of one which when in flower does not exceed nine inches in height seems at first sight unlikely to be realized; but such is the case in the little gem we now figure, which we do not introduce as a novelty, for it has been known for years, but as a plant though known, either forgotten, or not by any means receiving the attention that it deserves. It delights, we believe, in warm and sheltered situations, and grows in the sandy detritus of the rocks; these matters will have to be studied in the cultivation of the plant, for we believe some have found a difficulty in growing it on this account. It will be seen that the foliage is very small, hardly suggesting the idea of an *Aquilegia*, or of the very fairly-sized flowers which it produces, which are of a delicate pale lavender-blue, and are freely produced, considering the size of the plant.

Besides the species now figured, *Aquilegia alpina*, with large purplish-blue flowers, with white centre, growing about fifteen inches high; *Aquilegia glandulosa*, a well-known and beautiful variety; *Aquilegia fragrans*, with pale lemon-coloured flowers, and *Aquilegia Variegata*, with variegated foliage,—will be found well worthy of cultivation.



PLATE 323.

HYBRID PERPETUAL ROSE, NAPOLEON III.

Among the "sunny memories" of 1866, are two days we spent, one at Lyons, the other at Vitry, near Paris, for the purpose of inspecting the novelties amongst Roses, coming out in the autumn. We were fortunate in both cases in being favoured with fine weather, before the excessive heat had destroyed the beauty of the bloom.

At Lyons, we were much interested in seeing, for the first time, gardens long known to us by fame, viz. those of Lacharme, Guillot *fils*, Gonod, and Ducher, and in looking at the new Roses they were about to send out from their establishments,—*Thorin*, from Lacharme, the celebrated raiser of *Charles Lefebvre*; *Horace Vernet*, H. P., and *Madame Margottin*, *Bouton d'Or*, and *Madame Bremond* (Tea Roses), from Guillot *fils*; *Gloire de Montplaisir*, *Madame Reral*, and *Madame Anna Baquet*, from Gonod; and *Antoine Ducher*, *Madame Pulliat*, *Madeleine Norrin*, *Monsieur Plainsangon*, and *Ville de Lyon*, from Ducher; and we have very little fear that their deservedly high reputation will be sustained by the productions of this year, for nothing could be more beautiful than some of those enumerated above; and considering the number of good Roses that have emanated from a city which certainly to a stranger does not seem a particularly favourable one for flowers, it may well claim to being the *terre des roses*, that some of its admirers say it is. On our return to Paris, we were equally fortunate in our visit to M. Eugène Verdier's grounds, at Vitry, and where, amongst a number of brilliant Roses, both of last year and the present, we were at once struck with the brilliant colouring and general appearance of the fine Rose now figured; we secured blooms of it, and it is now faithfully, as far as possible, por-

trayed by Mr. Andrews. A Rose must be something remarkable when it shines out amongst a number of others of the same colour, and this was the case with the Rose in question; it is evidently of the *Général Jacqueminot* class, although fuller than that Rose, and more intense in its scarlet; the habit is also good, and we are very much mistaken if it will not prove to be one of the most valuable Roses of the present year.



PLATE 324.

FANCY PANSIES.

Although the past few years have been unfavourable to the growth of Pansies in the south of England, the Scotch florists have continued their labours and have been very successful, especially in the Fancy class, in improving the shape and substance of a class of flowers which, from their peculiarity of colouring, will have perhaps a larger number of admirers than those which are better known as florists' flowers.

But it is not in this respect alone that the Fancy Pansy is likely to be a favourite; the reproach that has for some time been brought against our flower gardens, that we endure nine months of disorder or barrenness for three months of beauty, is fast being done away with. Mr. Fleming, of Cliveden, has shown how it is possible to have the parterre interesting during winter, and brilliant in spring, as well as gorgeous in summer. For this purpose, amongst other things, the Pansy has been largely used, and one of those which we now figure, *Imperial Blue* (Fig. 3), will, we believe, prove to be a most valuable variety for that purpose; it was exhibited by Mr. Laing, of the firm of Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Stanstead Park, Forest Hill, S.E., several times last year, and was very generally admired; it is strong in habit, abundant in blooming, and differing in shade of colour from any blue Pansy we have, while the intense black blotch and eyes make it very distinct. Besides this, we have figured *Thomas Downie* (Fig. 1), a white-ground flower, with deep purple blotches, and a fringe of purplish pencilling proceeding from the blotches towards the border of the petals; the upper petals are veined at the base with a light feathery-looking blotch. *Miss J. Kay* (Fig. 2), the lower petals of which are bright yellow, with very large crimson maroon blotches; the

upper petals are of magenta, with dark blotch and very narrow yellow lacing. *Hugh Adair* (Fig. 4) is a white ground flower, of exceeding purity and beauty, perfect in shape, and having a large blotch on each of the lower petals, of a dark mauve colour, the edges of the blotch being regularly vandyked; the upper petals are bright magenta, shaded and veined with a dark tint of the same colour, and with a yellow eye. These are all from the collection of Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, and bear witness to the great success which has attended their efforts.



DAHLIA, FLAMBEAU.

It is now some years since we figured one of the numerous varieties of this grand autumnal flower; and although the Dahlia has shared the fate of many a florist's flower, in being put into the background, because the inexorable demands of the "bedder out" could not find a place for it,—yet we feel that it is one so well deserving of cultivation, that we have had again recourse to Mr. Turner's productions, and have figured this very beautiful variety, which has obtained a certificate of merit from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, and is likely to be one of the most remarkable flowers of the season.

The past season has been so very unfavourable for many of the usual occupants of the flower-garden, that more attention has been paid to the Dahlia; and a writer in a contemporary, while deploring that the Scarlet Geraniums were a washy pink, Calceolarias completely *toned down* by the quantity of foliage, Verbenas utterly useless, and Hollyhocks glued to the stakes to which they were tied,—said that yet the Dahlia was unimpaired, the pride and ornament of the autumnal garden, and suggests a freer use of it for decorative purposes; to which we can add our own testimony, that on paying a visit to The Denbies, near Dorking, the well-known seat of Mrs. Cubitt, we were much struck with a border of Dahlias which Mr. Drewett had arranged in front of the long line of glass arcades, which form so distinguishing a feature of the place.

It is not, however, as a bedding Dahlia that we bespeak attention to *Flambeau*, but as a remarkably fine exhibition flower, of fine build and good quality; its colour is a rich deep chrome yellow, heavily edged and tipped with scarlet lake.

a new and most novel flower, with high close centre. The first yellow-ground Dahlia that has been at all constant; the fault generally being the great uncertainty of this most attractive class. It is but three feet high, and equally effective for the garden and exhibition.



THUNBERGIA FRAGRANS.

Several species of this genus of stove-climbing plants are already well known, and extensively cultivated, more especially *T. alata*, and its varieties *alata alba* and *alata aurantiaca*; but as far as usefulness is concerned, we think they must give place to the species now figured, which, although very similar to the old *Thunbergia fragrans*, is, we believe, distinct.

We shall allow its introducer, Mr. B. S. Williams, of the Victoria Nursery, Holloway, to speak for himself concerning it; he says that he "believes this to be the most useful plant he has ever had the pleasure of offering, the whole character being quite distinct from any other *Thunbergia*; and whether grown as a pot-plant, or planted in the border for covering pillars or trellis-work, it will be invaluable; being free in growth, with ample foliage of a dark-green, with great substance. It continues flowering throughout the year, but its principal period is during the winter months, a time when white flowers are scarce; although grown in a warm stove, it has never shown any signs of red spider, a most important feature in this class of plants."

During the present winter we have paid two visits to Mr. Williams's Nursery, and, in both instances, found this plant in bloom, bearing out the character he has given of it. It is well known that it is almost impossible to meet the demands for white flowers in the winter months; and as they are indispensable for bridal bouquets, everything that can be added to the already limited number of white winter-flowering plants is a desideratum gained. It is well known that one eminent raiser of forced flowers, near Paris, has acquired considerable wealth,

and obtained a name, for the ingenious manner in which he makes the common Lilac produce white flowers; and the freeness of flowering shown by the plant now figured, will make it very valuable for such purposes.*

* We here add a note from its introducer:—"I have always considered it a distinct variety from *T. fo. yucca*; the Floral Committee who adjudicated it a certificate found it to differ from the true one in the form of the leaf: the leaf of this variety is more fleshy, and far less spear-shaped." The flower we believe is also larger.



PLATE 327.

GOLDEN VARIEGATED JASMINE.

Although some doubts were entertained when this plant was exhibited before the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, as to whether it was a new plant or not, we have no hesitation in according it a place in our magazine, believing that in the anxiety that now exists to obtain variegated foliage of all kinds, it will be found useful in many ways.

There can be no doubt that the Floral Committee was right in deciding that a form of *Golden Variegated Jasmine* was known many years ago, as we believe that specimens of it were brought forward at one of their subsequent meetings; but this especial form is certainly new, for we are informed by the firm of Messrs. E. P. Francis and Co., of Hertford, by whom it was exhibited, that it was "a seedling from amongst a lot of seed sown three or four years ago, and has maintained its variegation ever since; sported forms of this Jasmine have been known, but have never been known to keep their variegation constant; but in the present one it has never departed from it; even the thick stem is marked; it is very free in growth; the flowers are borne in great profusion, and are remarkably sweet, and the plant is perfectly hardy."

Hardy climbers, with variegated foliage, are always likely to be found useful, the introduction of the *Golden Variegated Honeysuckle*, of Japan, has already put us in possession of a very beautiful one; and the Jasmine, so universal a favourite, with its variegated form, will be found a fitting companion for it, requiring nothing but the most ordinary care, and growing with the greatest freedom. We are informed by the raisers of it that they will not be able to send it out until the spring of

next year, as already it is so much sought after, that they are desirous of obtaining a large stock of it before doing so, and in the mean time we doubt not there will be many opportunities afforded of seeing its value as an ornamental climber.

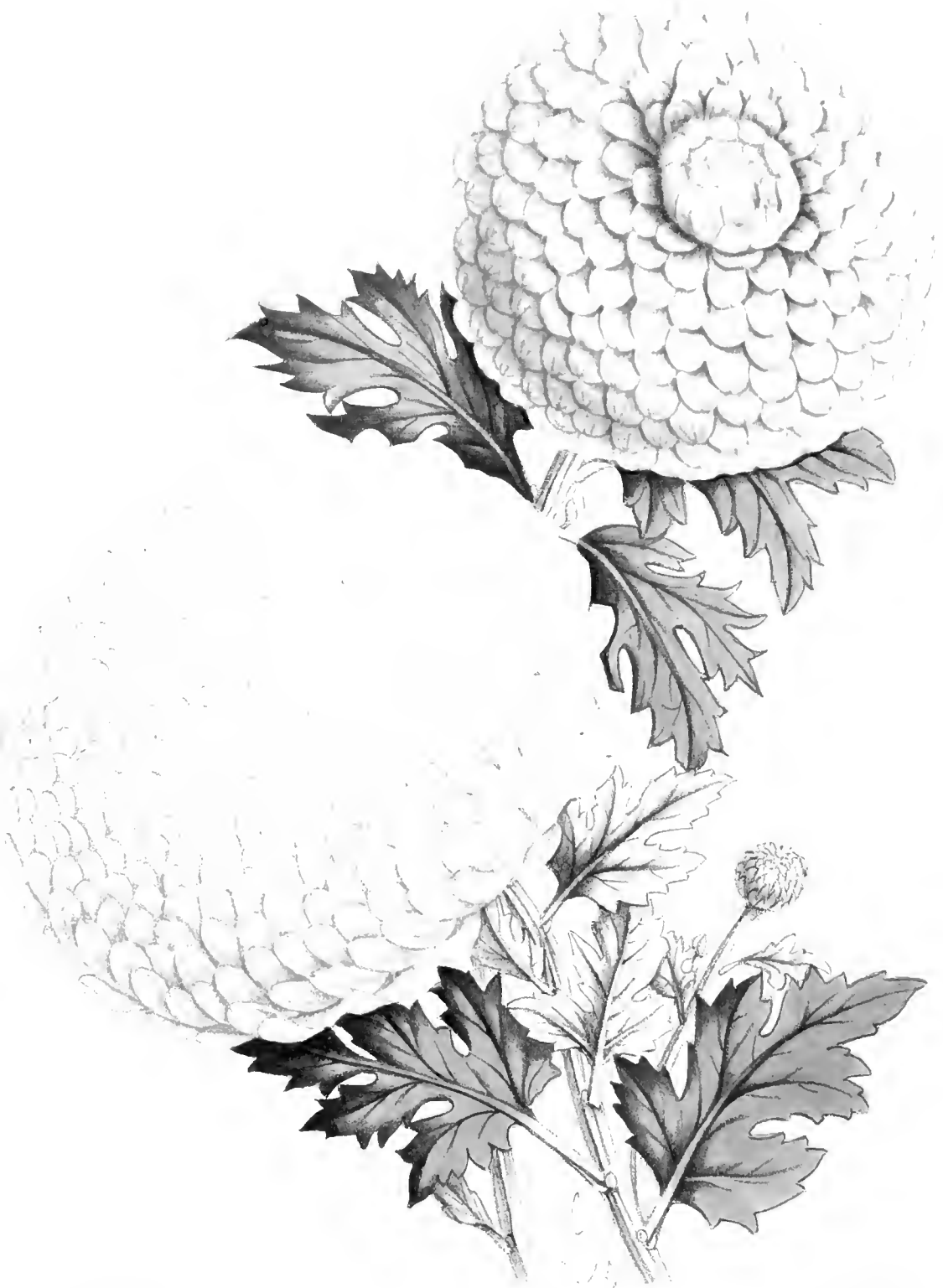


PLATE 328.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS, LADY TALFOURD AND
PURPUREA ELEGANS.

Whatever neglect may have overtaken other florists' flowers, there seems to be very little fear of the Chrysanthemum being passed over. It comes into bloom at a time of the year when the beauty of the garden is past, and when flowers are consequently scarce; it also so readily adapts itself to the varying circumstances under which it is grown, being as much at home in the smoky purlieus of London, as in the pure atmosphere of the country; it is so easily propagated, and bears the exposure to all kinds of weather so well, that even if less beautiful than it is, it would still merit the favour in which it is held; consequently we are no way surprised to hear that it is yearly increasing in favour, and that the new varieties are so much sought after, that there is great difficulty in meeting the demand.

We are, as usual, indebted to the very extensive collection of Mr. John Salter, of the Versailles Nursery, Hammersmith, to whom we owe, with very few exceptions, all the novelties that have been introduced for many years, for the blooms which we now figure. We paid a somewhat lengthened visit to his winter-garden in November last, and from amongst a number of varieties selected these. Incurved flowers have now attained to such perfection, that we think the attention of raisers will be directed more to the reflexed flowers, and that probably Mr. Fortune's introductions from Japan, of which very little use has as yet been made, will be found useful for the purposes of hybridizing.

Of the varieties now figured, *Lady Talfourd* (Fig. 1) is a beautifully incurved flower, of a delicate rosy lilac, well up in the centre, and showing that beautifully symmetrical form so earnestly desired by exhibitors; we have no doubt that it will be found in many winning stands at our next autumnal exhibitions. It is also a plant of excellent habit, and was awarded a first-class certificate by the Floral Committee on Nov. 20, 1866. *Purpurea elegans* (Fig. 2) is of an entirely new shade of colour, being a beautiful deep purple-violet; the flower is of a rosette form, not incurved, and very compact; the habit of the plant is good, and it will make an excellent conservatory plant.



PLATE 329.

SOPHRONITIS GRANDIFLORA, *var.*

High-coloured flowers are not common in the very varied and lovely tribe to which the subject of our present Plate belongs. While rich in all the shades of blue, lilac, and yellow, and containing some of the loveliest white flowers in the whole realm of Flora, scarlet flowers are comparatively scarce; indeed, as a rule, the Orchid attracts us more by the singularity of its form, the delicacy of its tints, or the strength of its perfume, than by the brilliancy of its colouring; hence *Sophronitis grandiflora*, though in itself small, is much valued for its colour.

Sophronitis grandiflora, like many of the Orchid family, is to be found, in some cases, differing from its normal character; thus in the variety we now figure, the leaves are considerably longer than in the variety usually grown; and in some that we have seen there is a difference in the shade of colour; but no very remarkable departure, in any case, has been noted; and our object in selecting the variety now figured, is to bring under the notice of a class of orchid-growers which has arisen of late years, a valuable and easily-managed plant.

We saw this variety in bloom at Mr. Williams's, at the Victoria Nursery, Holloway, and are indebted to him, both for the opportunity of figuring it, and for the following note on its culture:—"It is a very free blooming plant, and is best grown on a block of wood (as shown in the Plate) suspended from the roof of the house, with a good supply of water at the roots; this is best done by syringing the block once or twice a day in warm weather, but in winter less will suffice; the temperature of a cool house will suit it best, and as near the glass as possible, so that it may make strong growth." So much has been

said on the subject of the cool-house treatment, that there is no need to enter upon it here, but merely to add that a “cool-house” is a comparative term, and if it is imagined that Orchids can be grown under the same conditions as a Pelargonium, as some seem to imagine, a very great mistake is committed. We may add that in addition to its other claims, *Sophranitis grandiflora* is an autumn and winter-blooming Orchid.

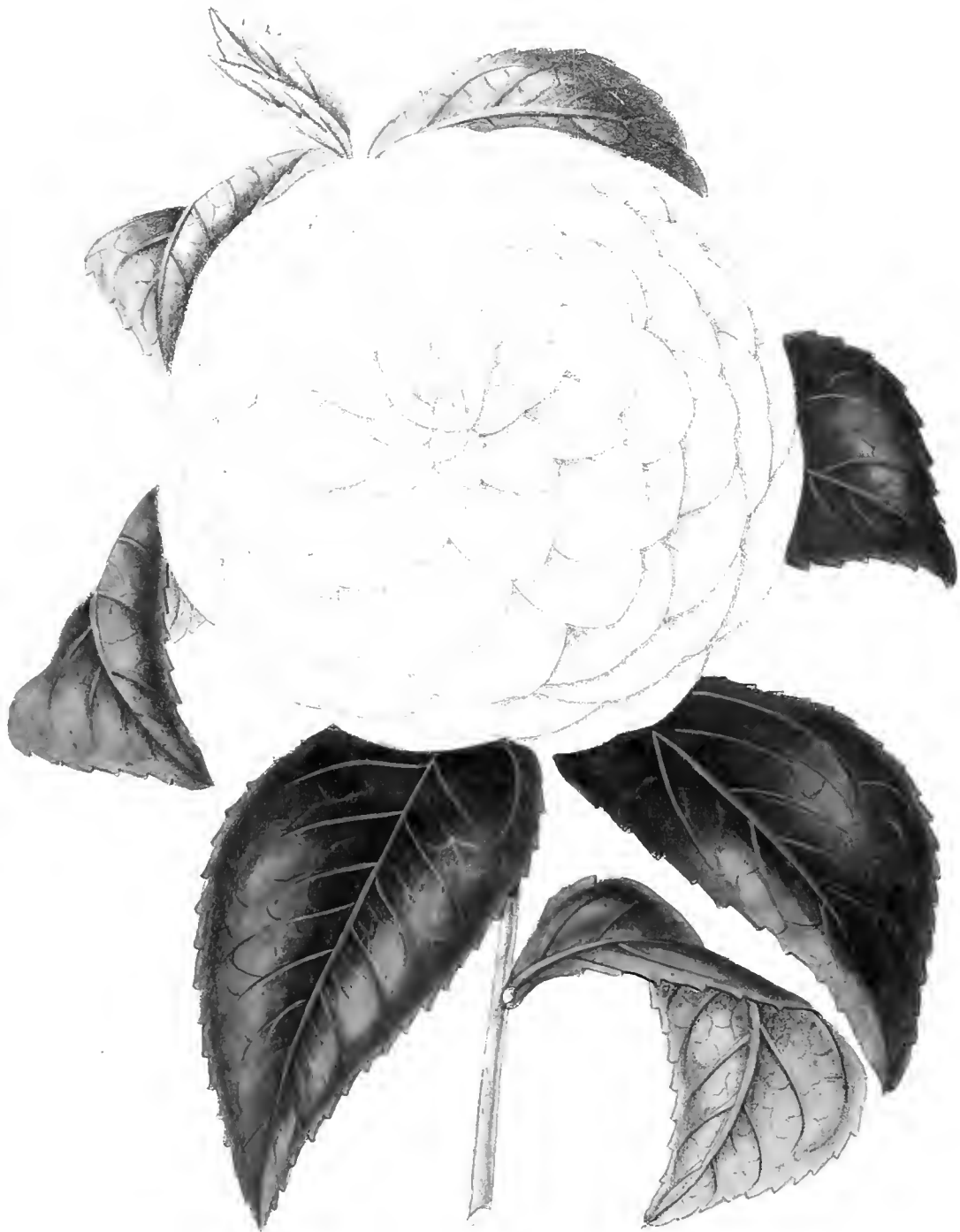


PLATE 330.

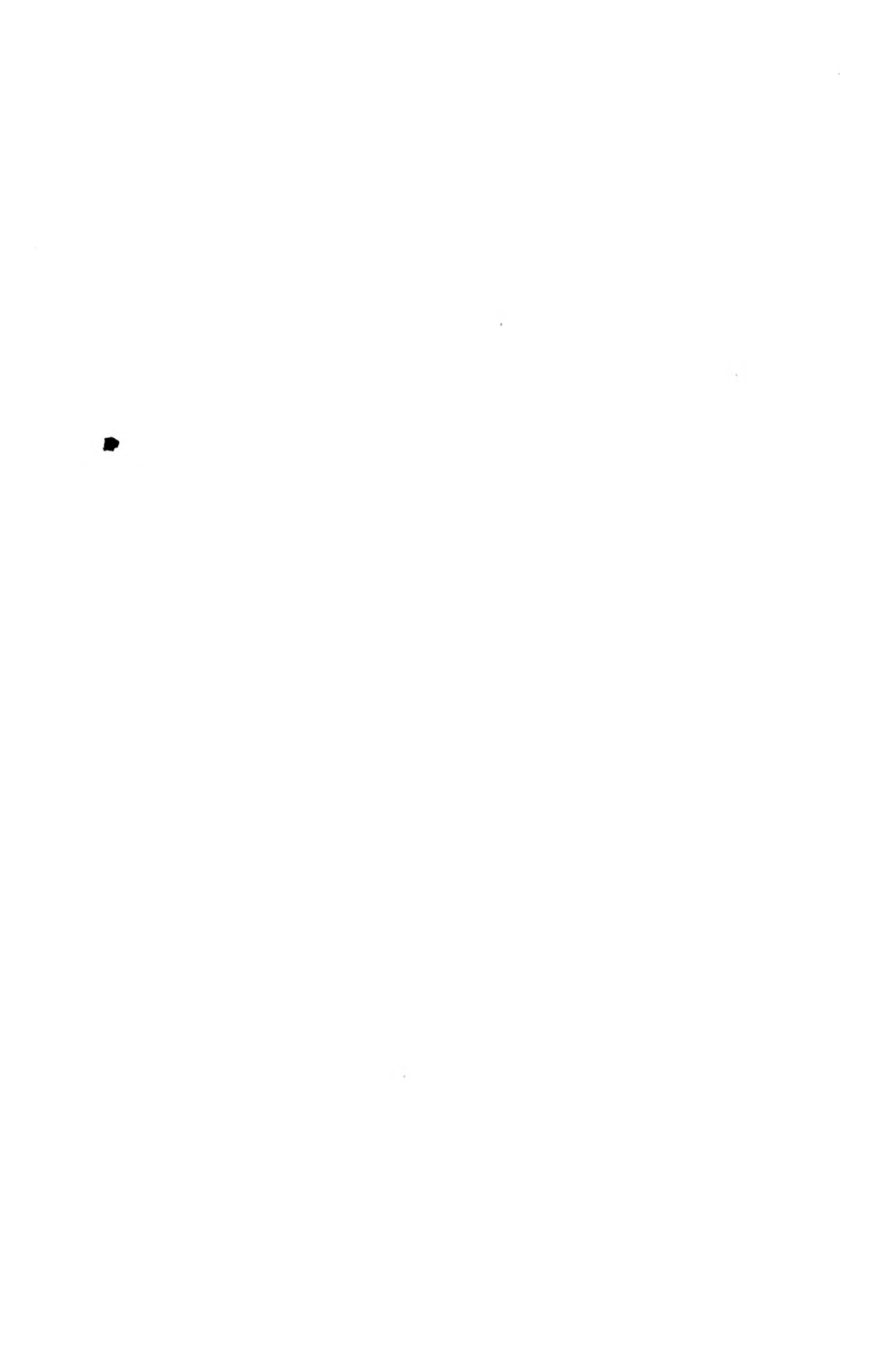
CAMELLIA, MRS. DOMBRAIN.

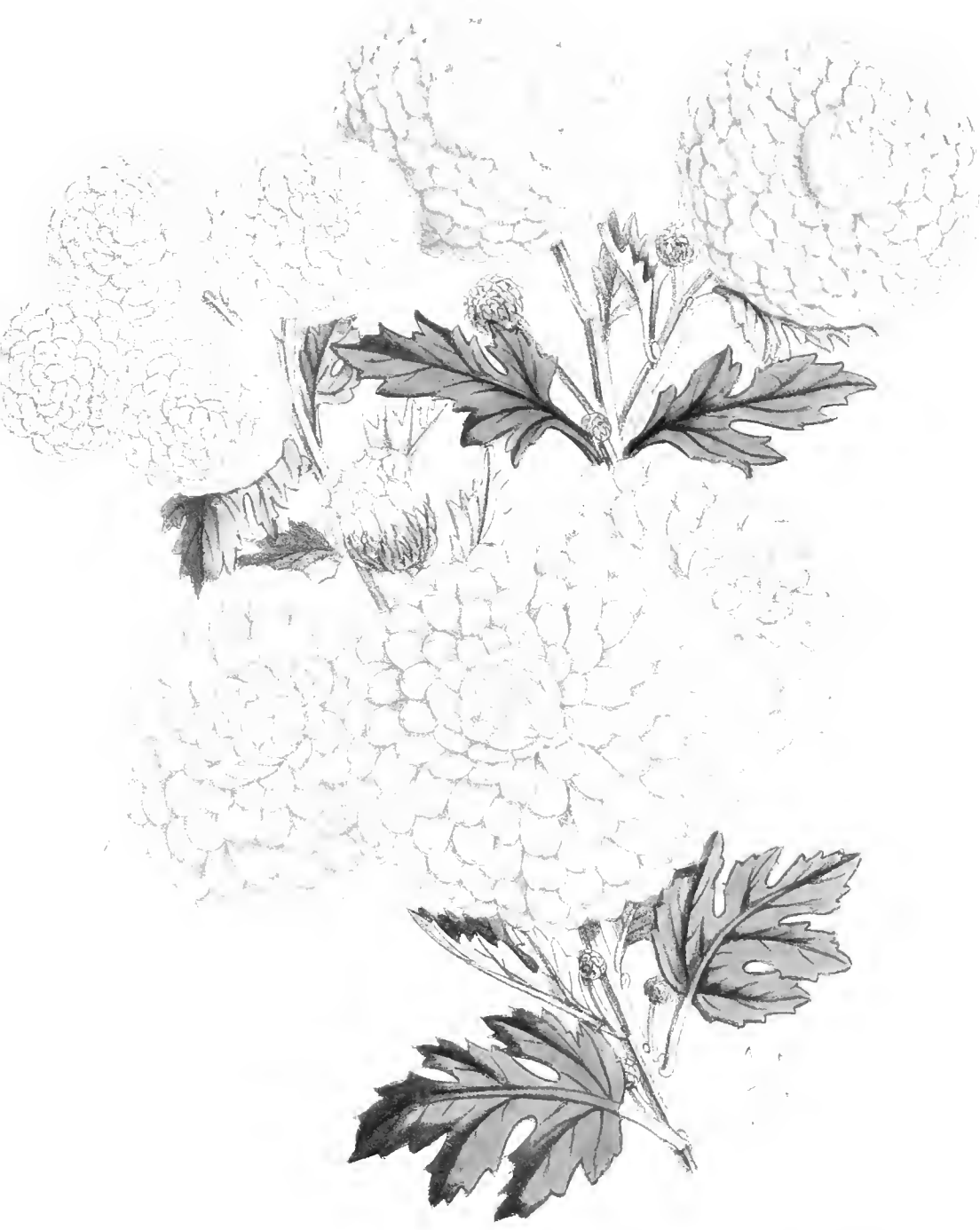
We are indebted to the distinguished horticulturist M. Ambroise Verschaffelt, of Ghent, for the opportunity of figuring this very charming addition to this universally admired class of flowers. He is well known as not only one of the most spirited and enterprising of the Belgian nurserymen, but especially for the great attention he has paid to the cultivation of the Camellia, and for the many new kinds he has introduced; his '*Iconographie des Camellias*,' now comprising many volumes, devoted solely to figures and descriptions of his favourite flower, will long remain a monument of his zeal and industry.

In some of the newer kinds of Camellias, we meet with flowers composed of very large petals, comparatively few in number; and these have, perhaps, the more noble appearance, while, on the other hand, we have those composed of a number of smaller petals, but thoroughly imbricated, and these are probably the most generally admired; such exquisitely-formed flowers as *Sarah Frost* and *Reine des Beautés* will have a greater number of admirers than such flowers as *Mathotiana* and *Countess of Orkney*; and it is to this small-petaled division that *Mrs. Dombrain* belongs.

The complaint, which is often made, that new varieties of Camellias present no novelty, will not, as has been observed by the editor of '*L'Illustration Horticole*,' be made against the variety now figured; it is a beautifully delicate pink, margined with white, and is really novel in character; it was raised by a distinguished Belgian amateur, and has been introduced to the public, during the past autumn, by M. A. Verschaffelt, into

whose hands it passed. The foliage is also somewhat peculiar, the leaves being more pointed than in many of the varieties known, and having very frequently, as shown in the figure, one side of the leaf larger than the other.





POMPON CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

This interesting class of plants is becoming more than ever popular and useful, for many of the varieties obtained now bloom so late, that the period of blooming is greatly prolonged, and hence their value as decorative plants greatly increased. We have again had recourse to the extensive collection of Mr. John Salter, of the Versailles Nursery, Hammersmith, for the subjects of our present Plate.

The past season was a very favourable one for the out-door blooming of the Chrysanthemum; early frosts did not interfere with them, and they continued in great beauty until Christmas; thus we never saw Mr. Salter's collection in greater perfection than it was this year, and that in a situation where frost is very severely felt. Hence we were enabled to see what varieties are most suited for out-of-door purposes, and subjoin a list of those in the Pompon class which we think will give every satisfaction:—*Andromeda*, *Auréole*, *Aurore Boréale*, *Bijou d'Horticulture*, *Capella*, *Citronella*, *Comte Achille Vigier*, *Darvilet*, *Fairest of the Fair*, *François I^r*, *Golden Aurore*, *Julia Engelbach*, *La Vogue*, *Lizzie Holmes*, *Lucinda*, *Madame Fould*, *Marabout*, *Mademoiselle Marthe*, *Minnie Warren*, *Mrs. Dix*, *President Decaisne*, *Rose Trevenna*, *Salamon*, *Little Gem*, *Trophee*, and *White Trevenna*.

The flowers figured in our Plate are *Saint Michael* (Fig. 1), very bright golden-yellow, equal in colour to *Jardin des Plantes* and what is called a full-sized Pompon; the habit is dwarf and the plant very fine. The *Countess* (Fig. 2) is a charming little miniature Pompon, blush, tinted lilac, flowering in compact little bouquets, and sure to be very attractive to ladies; it will

also be a very good one for cutting for nosegays, a service for which the Chrysanthemum is largely used. *Madge Wildfire* (Fig. 3), a vivid red with large golden tips, distinct and novel in colour, and very pleasing.



PLATE 332.

ZONALE GERANIUM, MISS MARTIN.

We are convinced, that although we have recently figured one or two Geraniums in the Zonale or bedding class, no apology will be needed by our subscribers for bringing before them the very beautiful variety we now figure, for there is no class of flowers more popular at the present day than they are. As *Miss Martin* has been raised by a cultivator comparatively unknown, we think it best to let him give the particulars of his success himself, as related in a note by which we have been kindly favoured.

“I commenced,” says Mr. Groom, of Ipswich, “hybridizing Geraniums about twelve years ago, working with the choicest varieties then out. The quantity raised by me every year is between 2000 and 3000; from these I select not more than six plants, which I consider the best, combining good habit of growth and quality of flower; the next season I endeavour to improve on the production of the former one by fertilizing upon my own stock only, so that a pedigree may be said to exist from my own strain. The three varieties to be sent out in the spring are dwarf in habit, although very fine growers, foliage thick and very attractive for their dense zones; I have even proved them as bedders, and Mr. Grieve and other celebrated geranium raisers who have seen them at various periods, pronounce them to be superior to any yet known to the public; this has induced me to offer them with every confidence. For pot-culture they are invaluable, both for summer and winter decoration; they are immensely fine bloomers, and having large trusses for almost every joint. I may also add, that although the last season was exceedingly unfavourable for bedding plants generally, I had a profusion of bloom in my

garden on the three Geraniums alluded to; this was noticed not only by myself but by others also."

Miss Martin is in colour a beautiful soft rosy-peach; flower of immense size, very round, the upper petals overlapping; foliage lively green with dark black zone. The other two varieties are *Sir Fitzroy Kelly*, striking scarlet-cerise, and *Floribunda albo nana*, a pure white bedder. They will all be let out by Mr. Ward, of The Rosery, Ipswich, during the present spring.

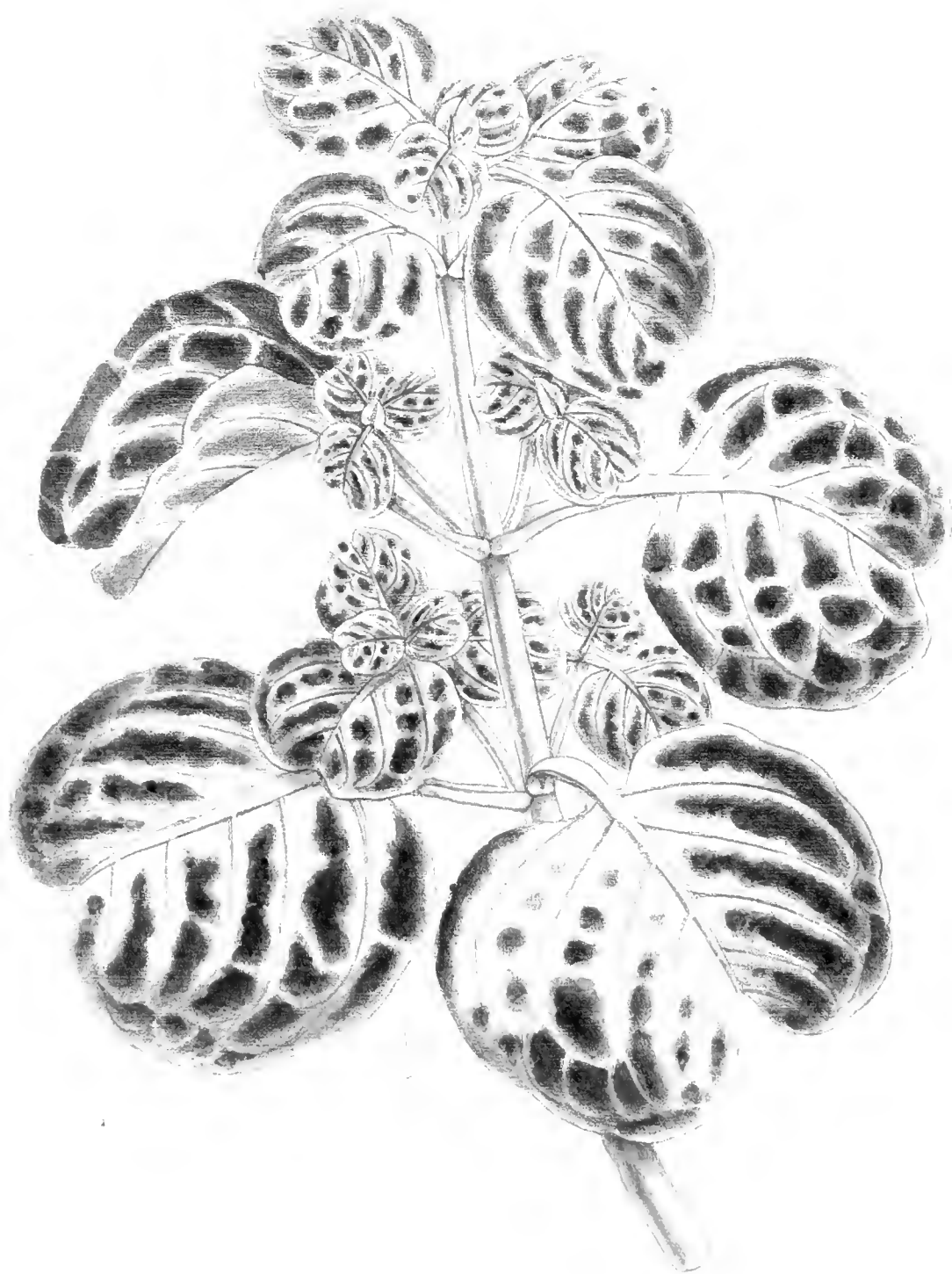


PLATE 333.

IREFINE HERBSTII, AUREO-RETICULATA.

There is no plant of recent introduction about which such different opinions have been entertained as the now well-known *Iresine Herbstii*, or, as it is better known on the Continent, *Escyranthes Verschaffeltii*—a difference of opinion which was shown also with regard to *Coleus Verschaffeltii* and other bedding plants of a similar character. It is to be accounted for, we think, by the fact that the *Iresine* answers very well in a warm dry soil and in a sheltered situation, while in retentive soils and low damp situations it generally is a failure. The variety of it which we now figure is one which we are inclined to think will be found a very useful addition to our bedding plants.

We have been informed by M. Jean Verschaffelt, of Ghent, that it was secured and fixed by M. Vanderhecke de Lembette, President of the Royal Horticultural Society of Ghent, and one of the most distinguished amateurs in Belgium or on the Continent, whose stock passed into M. Verschaffelt's hands; but the plant originated at the same time at the establishment of MM. Jacob Makoy, of Liège, who were the first to announce it. M. Verschaffelt adds, "I have grown it now for some months, and found it to be a very fine and distinct variety. I think it will do very well planted alternately with the type, and make a good contrast."

We saw the plant growing during the winter months at Mr. Bull's at Chelsea, and from one of his plants the drawing was made. It struck us at the time that there was another use which might be made of it, if the plant were well managed and grown specially for that purpose, viz. as a table plant; the contrast of colours, both of them bright, would be thrown

up admirably from a white table-cloth, and the style of the plant is such that it could be easily kept within bounds, very large plants rather spoiling than adding to the effect of table decoration.



PELARGONIUMS, MILTON AND NEGRESS.

In the earlier days of Pelargonium culture, when the improvement commenced which has ended in such magnificent results, there were two names with which every lover of the flower was familiar, Garth and Foster—the former a clergyman in Surrey, the latter a gentleman residing at Clewer Manor, near Windsor. Mr. Garth, for years before his death, had given up his favourites, as least so far as originating new varieties was concerned, and Mr. Hoyle may be said to have succeeded to the position he occupied; while Mr. Foster has been succeeded by his son, who is as ardent a follower of the pursuit as his father was. There was always a very marked difference in the flowers of the two raisers, Mr. Hoyle's in shape being far superior, and Mr. Foster's being mainly noted for colour; and as each kept naturally enough to their own *strain*, there was not a probability of alteration. Now Mr. Foster has, however, we believe, seen that the cupped shape of his flowers and their somewhat narrower petals, was a hindrance to their popularity, and hence, by the introduction of fresh blood into his race, has succeeded in vastly improving the style of his flowers, as will be seen by the figures of the two represented in our Plate, which are, in the estimation of Mr. Charles Turner, of Slough, the best of his productions.

Milton (Fig. 2) is a fine flower of large size and good shape; the upper petals black, with narrow crimson border; the lower petals purplish rose, with pencillings and blotches of deep rose. *Negress* (Fig. 1) is a very dark fine flower, deep crimson-maroon, with white throat, and of a very rich colour. Of these the former will, no doubt, prove an excellent exhibition flower, although we are sorry to see that

year by year the number of exhibitors decreases, and both as growers for sale and amateurs, the lists are now entered by comparatively few competitors—whether because other things are now more fashionable, or deterred by the wonderful cultivation of those who do compete, we are unable to say. *Negress*, like many other very dark flowers, is delicate in habit, and consequently has not been let out this season. It was commended by the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, and *Milton* obtained a first-class certificate.

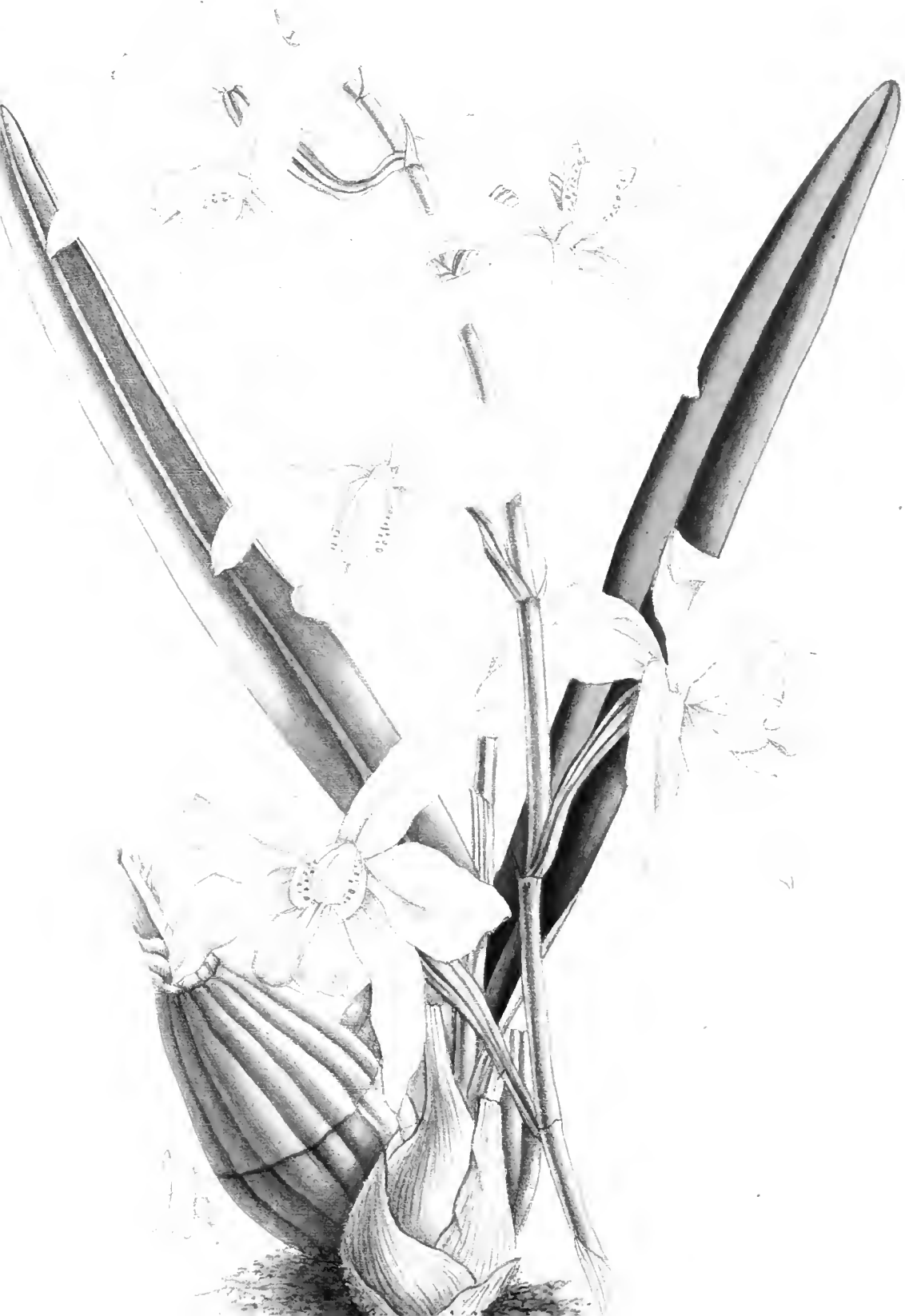


PLATE 335.

LALIA ALBIDA, var. ROSEA.

The variation of Orchids has latterly occupied a good deal of attention, and has led, we believe, in many instances, to the referring of many which were formerly considered distinct species, to their type, and thus reducing the number. No one can have seen a large collection of that beautiful and most useful Orchid *Lycaste Skinneri*—such as that, for instance, of Mr. Veitch, of Chelsea—without being struck with this variation. No collection of florists' flowers, Carnations, Pansies, Pelargoniums, etc., presents a more striking variety; and we may perhaps yet find that the Orchid shares the same fate as other flowers where such variety exists, and collections, with special names attached to them, will be cultivated, as in the case of the flowers already alluded to.

Lalia albida does not, so far as we know, present such a number of varieties as the *Lycaste*, but the present Plate is a proof that it does vary from the type at times. The plant was sent to us by Messrs. Backhouse and Son, of York, with an intimation that they believed it to be a quite novel form of the flower; this, however, they have since found incorrect, and that it very frequently sports in this manner. The normal colour of the flower is that of a yellowish-white, and the addition in the present variety of the beautiful rosy-pink tips to the lip, and edges of the petals greatly adds to the beauty of the plant, which is still further enhanced by the very bright orange-yellow spot in the centre of the lip, with its bright red line.

Lalia albida was one of those plants which, subjected to the uniform treatment that Orchids used to receive in times past, did not display the grace and beauty that it now does when treated, like the *Lycaste* and *Odontoglossum*, etc., in a more

rational manner; it requires a minimum heat of 40° in winter. We lately had the pleasure of seeing at the Bishop of Winchester's a cool orchid-house, in which, managed rationally, and not subjected to *cold*, but cool treatment, the inmates were most flourishing, and it is a system which puts the growth of Orchids within the reach of many who formerly shrank from it on account of the expense.



TAPEINOTES CAROLINÆ.

The family to which this beautiful stove plant belongs furnishes perhaps as large a number of really handsome and valuable decorative plants as any in the whole range of flowering plants. Whether we consider those which are cultivated in the stove, greenhouse, or open air, the Gesneriaceous plants contribute largely to our enjoyment, and this, one of the latest additions to our stoves, fully bears out the statement we have made.

We saw it in flower this season in the establishment of Mr. W. Bull, of Chelsea, and through his kindness we have been enabled to figure it. It has already been figured in the 'Botanical Magazine' (tab. 5623), and from that source we extract the following description:—"It was discovered in Mexico during the Brazilian travels of his present Majesty, Maximilian I., in 1859-60, and was introduced into the Imperial garden of Schönbrunn (Vienna), and published by Dr. Heinrich Wawra, who accompanied the expedition as surgeon and naturalist. It bears the name of the Empress of Mexico (Charlotte)."

From the botanical description, we learn that "it is a small undershrub; stem and branches red-brown, rather succulent, leaves curved towards the end of the branches, dark bluish-green above, and shining, bright red-purple and hairy below. Corolla an inch and a half long, white; tube curved upwards, inflated and gibbous below, bulbous with long hairs, mouth contracted; lobes short, broad, rounded, glabrous." We would add to this that the metallic lustre on the surface of the leaves is very decided, and that in the young growth there is a

brownish-crimson tint which adds greatly to the beauty of the foliage. Whether considered in reference to its foliage, or the profusion of its pure white and curiously-shaped flowers, which, as seen in the plate, are very abundantly produced, we think that it will be considered a desirable addition to our stove plants.



PLATE 337.

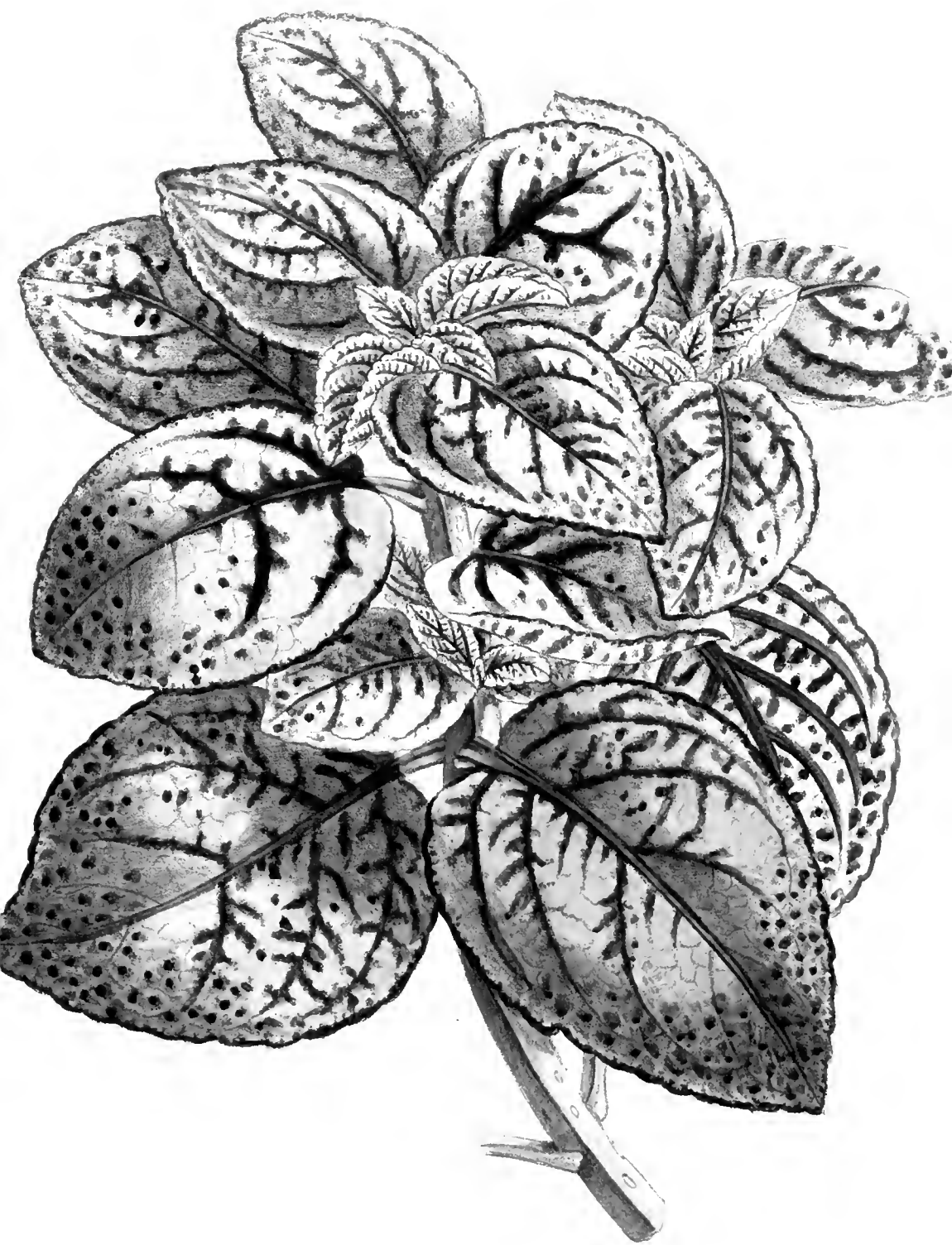
VERBENA, LADY OF LANGLEBURY.

Notwithstanding the disastrous season of last year, which so thoroughly destroyed the beauty of the Verbena beds in every garden which we visited, it still holds a prominent position in the plans of every gardener, and hopes of better seasons encourage its growth and the production of new varieties, and hence from several quarters we hear of new sorts, and some of them which we have seen will, we think, be probably great acquisitions. Amongst Mr. Keynes's set of six are some fine flowers, especially *Mr. Ellis* and *Coleshill*; while in Mr. Perry's collection, sent out by Mr. Turner, of Slough, are some very fine kinds, although more suitable for the exhibition-table than for the garden. Amongst those that are likely to be favourites for both objects is the flower which forms the subject of our Plate.

There are two flowers of a somewhat similar character, *Striata formosissima* and *Napoleoni Rossi*, the former of English, the latter of Italian origin, but for bedding purposes they have both defects,—the former is weak in habit and very subject to mildew, the latter is straggling in growth and not very fine. When then we say that *Lady of Langlebury* is a sport from a bed of *Purple King*,—the very best of all Verbenas for its habit,—we have said enough to show that it is likely to take a good position and to be much sought after.

Lady of Langlebury was obtained, and, as our neighbours say, "fixed" by Mr. Crookshank, gardener to W. Jones Lloyd, Esq., Langlebury, near Welwyn, Herts. It was exhibited last year before the Floral Committee, when it obtained a first-class certificate, and beautiful trusses of bloom were exhibited

this spring at the shows of the Royal Horticultural and Royal Botanic Societies, and were greatly admired, both by the numerous visitors, and also by those whose criticisms are founded on long acquaintance with the Verbena, and whose judgment was that it fully deserved the position given to it.



COLEUS GIBSONII.

We last month figured a new and beautiful sport of *Iresine Herbstii*, believing it to be well suited both for bedding purposes and for pot-culture; we have now the pleasure of figuring another plant which we saw tried with some success last year, and which, should the season be favourable, is destined to be still more grown and better appreciated this year.

Coleus Verschaffeltii has proved itself, in the hands of skilful cultivators, and in suitable situations, to be one of the most valuable and effective of bedding plants, although a great deal of opposition was shown to it from many quarters. The species which we now figure, less brilliant in its colouring indeed, will be found, we hope, valuable for the same purposes.

Coleus Gibsonii was sent home by Mr. John G. Veitch, from New Caledonia, where it was discovered growing in vast quantities, its highly-coloured foliage forming a most striking feature. It is one of the results of the tour made by him in the South Pacific, which we have only to regret, in the cause of science and floriculture, was not more prolonged, and for various causes could not be as effective as he had himself wished or hoped it would be. Sufficient, however, has been done to entitle him to the gratitude of all lovers of plants, and perhaps to encourage some one to ransack those islands for their treasures. In habit, *C. Gibsonii* is quite equal to *C. Verschaffeltii*; being dwarf and very bushy, the leaves are large, often exceeding five inches in length, and are of a light-green colour, distinctly veined and blotched with dark crimson-purple. Mr. Veitch says of it, "that is a most ornamental plant for pot-culture, and can be recommended as an excellent companion to the other species for summer flower-garden decoration, where

from its novel and distinct colouring it cannot fail to prove an acquisition." If persons expect from it so brilliant an effect as from *C. Verschaffeltii*, of course they must needs be disappointed, but if they are contented that it shall occupy a place of interest in the many-coloured parterre they will find it suitable, and we think moreover that it will form an excellent plant for table-decoration.

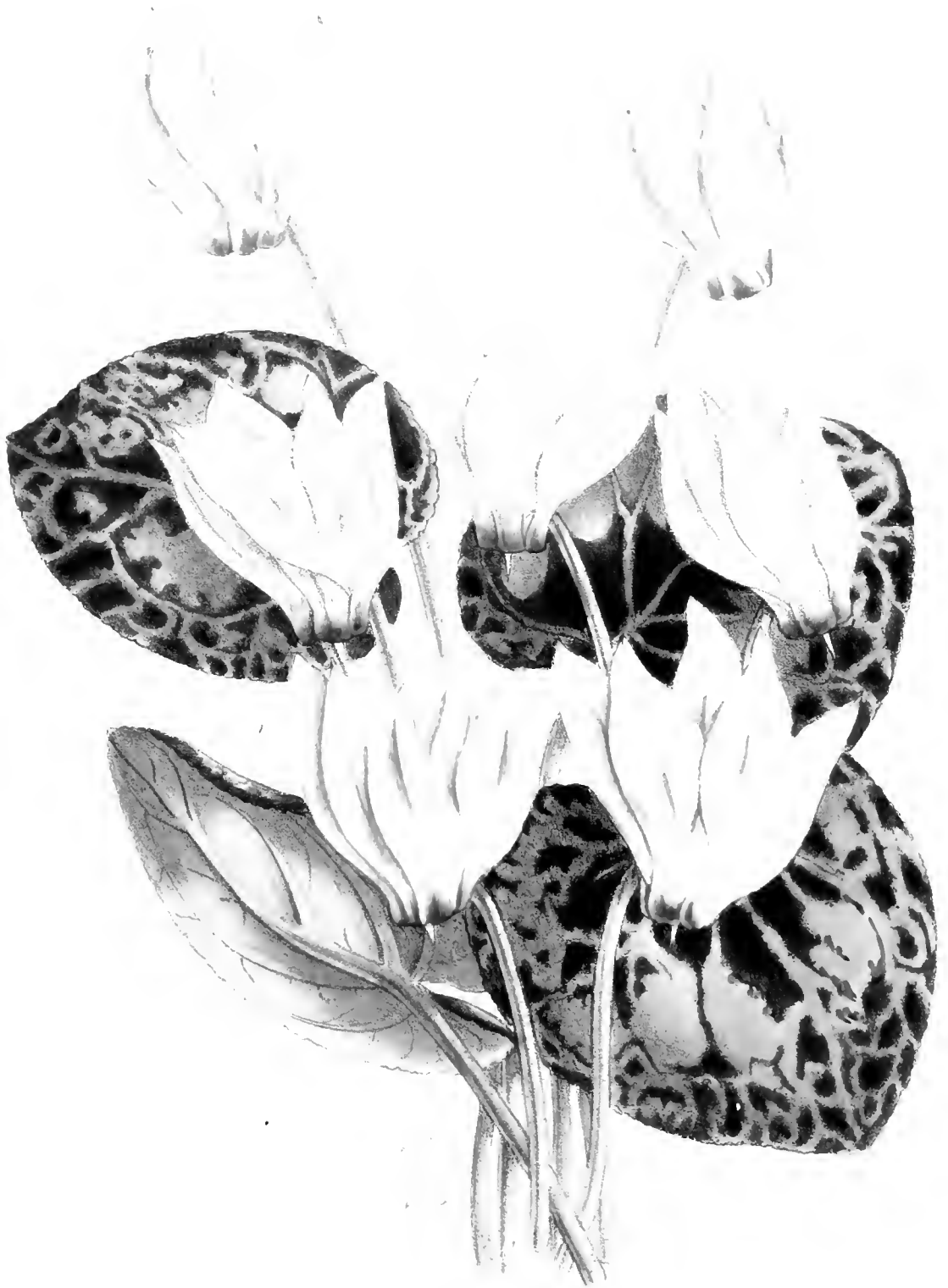


PLATE 339.

VARIETIES OF PERSIAN CYCLAMEN.

We are sufficiently justified in figuring some recently raised varieties of the Persian Cyclamen by the greatly increased interest taken in its growth; this has been evidenced by the large number of plants brought forward at our early spring shows, which have received the warmest encomiums, both from the lovers of plants, and that more numerous body the general public, which admires flowers, but seeks not to enter into the mysteries of their production, habit, or growth.

We are indebted to Mr. Wiggins, gardener to Mr. Walter Beck, of Worton Cottage, Isleworth, both for the opportunity of figuring these varieties and also for the following notes on their culture. Many persons have imagined—and, indeed, the method in growing them has tended to this—that it requires some considerable time to bring them to perfection, while it has been generally recommended to allow them to go to rest after their period of flowering is over, but it will be seen that Mr. Wiggins's plan is entirely opposed to this; he says,—“The plants which I have exhibited in 48s this spring were only in the seed-pan this time last year. In fact, the seed was sown in heat in March, 1866; as soon as the seedlings had attained sufficient size to be handled they were potted off into small thumbs, in a compost of leaf-mould, well rotted cow-dung, loam, and some white silver-sand, they were then placed in good strong heat and pushed on as rapidly as possible; when they had filled these pots with roots they were placed in 48s. in the same compost, and still kept in heat. The result of this generous treatment was that I was enabled to exhibit bulbs about the size of walnuts, with from twelve to twenty blooms on them, in twelve months from the sowing of the seed.”

The varieties figured have been named and are greatly in advance, both in size and quality of bloom; but the difficulty of perpetuating varieties must ever be a bar to their being cultivated as a florist's flower. Pelargoniums we can multiply by cuttings, and Auriculas by offsets; but there seems, at present, no method for propagating the Cyclamen except by seed, and this, of course, will not perpetuate the variety. *Rubrum grandiflorum* (Fig. 1) is a large highly-coloured flower; *Oriflammé* (Fig. 2) in the same style, but with shorter and broader petals. *White Delicatum* is an improvement in shape of petal on the older varieties of the same colour.



PLATE 310.

LALIA PILCHERI.

We noticed in a contemporary lately a reference to the troubles of Orchid nomenclature, and some amusing remarks were made by Professor Reichenbach on the subject. The cause that suggested it was the fact of recently introduced and unknown plants being sold only with numbers attached to them or with the names of the species they were supposed to belong to; and it was suggested to attach to them fancy names, which might be hereafter altered when they were scientifically investigated, or had flowered, and could be referred to the species to which they really did belong. But is there not another point in the same direction which requires consideration, the attaching of scientific or, at any rate, Latin names to hybrid Orchids? In the course of a few years, if the hybridization of Orchids progresses as it has done, how is any one commencing to to grow a collection to know, when he looks down the list, whether *Cattleya Exoniensis* or *Calanthe Veitchii* are species or whether they are garden varieties? The same holds good in other genera as well as Orchids, and we think it would be well if some method of avoiding the endless confusion that promises to be entailed on us could be devised; and will Weigmann's method of nomenclature be generally accepted?

Lalia Pilcheri is another of the successful results of Mr. Dominy's hybridization of Orchids. It is the progeny of *Lalia Perrini* crossed with *Cattleya crispa*. The seeds were sown by Mr. Dominy about ten years ago, and some of the plants bloomed last year for the first time. The plant is a strong grower and does well under the same treatment as its parents. It was exhibited this spring before the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society and obtained a first-

class certificate. The beautiful figure of it by Mr. Andrews hardly needs describing, but it will be seen that the flower is a beautiful French-white in colour, with a lovely purple spot in the lip; it has been named in honour of Mr. Pilcher, gardener to S. Rucker, Esq., of Wandsworth, long known for his valuable collection of Orchids.

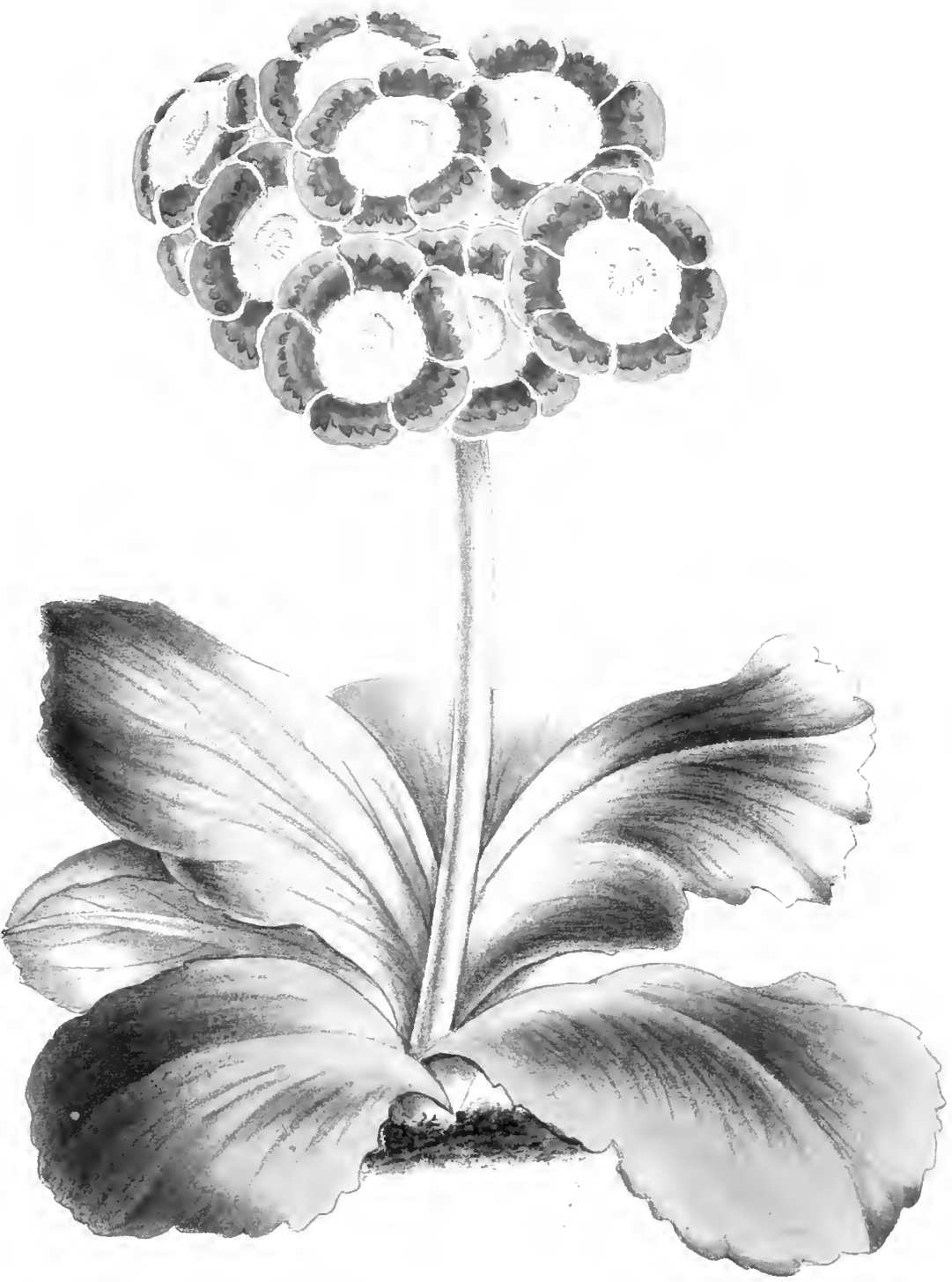


PLATE 34.

AURICULA, PETER CAMPBELL
(CUNNINGHAM'S).

A few years ago we figured an Auricula which brought before us by its name two of the most eminent and successful cultivators of this beautiful flower, *Healdy's George Lightbody*. We now figure another which, in the same way, marks two distinguished cultivators, whose names are not perhaps quite so well known, but who have nevertheless added much to the interest in this flower, especially in Scotland. Mr. P. Campbell, of Falkirk, is well known to Auricula lovers as the raiser of those fine flowers—*Lord Palmerston*, green edge, *Robert Burns*, white, and *Pizarro*, self; while Mr. Cunningham has not only raised this fine variety, but also *John Waterstein*, of which we have heard, although we have not seen it, that it is even superior to *George Lightbody*, which is generally looked on now as the standard of perfection.

When the present rage for bedding has somewhat subsided, and there is a return to the love for those fine florists' flowers which tended so much to increase the love for floriculture in this country, we have no doubt that the Auricula will again be sought after; indeed, we are told that at the Botanic Society's show in April this year, the fine collection exhibited by Mr. C. Turner, of the Royal Nurseries, Slough, attracted so much attention, that a speedy return of them to favour was predicted.

Peter Campbell, raised by Mr. Cunningham, of Brookfield Cottage, near Johnstone, N.B., is a flower of fine properties: the edge a lovely bright green, and the ground-colour a beau-

tiful dark-brown crimson, it is this which marks the flower as one of so much beauty and novelty; and even although other flowers may possess in some points superior properties, yet this stamps it as one which will always make it a pleasing stage variety, on our own stage it was selected by several persons as one of the most striking flowers there.



PLATE 312.

VARIETIES OF EARLY TULIPS.

The rapid strides that spring-gardening has made within these last two years has brought into much more prominent notice the many beautiful varieties of early-flowering Tulips, both single and double, which previously had been only grown as pot-plants, or were to be found only in mixed borders and shrubberies.

Perhaps the most successful attempt to use the early Tulip for decorative purposes, in or near the Metropolis, was that of Mr. Mann, the able superintendent of Hyde Park. That portion of the park bordering on Park Lane was, in the latter part of April and early in May, a blaze of beauty, large masses of one kind of flower, such as *Couleur Cardinal*, *Yellow Prince*, *White Pottbakker*, etc., being employed to give the desired effect; but we question whether, with those whose means are more limited and space confined, it is not a better plan to mix the varieties, and by this means ensure a more continuous bloom; this is the plan we have adopted in our own garden, where we have mainly employed the Tulip as a ribbon-flower. By mixing the various kinds, even the early *Van Thols* and the late-flowering *Duchess of Parma*, we have been enabled to ensure bloom for several weeks; in order to do this the better, they should be planted tolerably close, not more than three inches apart, and in double or treble rows. It is easy, after the earliest-flowering varieties have shed their petals, to go round and cut off the flower-stems, and then all appearance of raggedness is done away with, while, instead of having perhaps a fortnight's or three weeks' bloom, you ensure one to last four or five weeks. After the flowering season is over, the bulbs must be lifted, and either be placed in an airy shed to dry, or else placed loosely in the ground in some out-of-the-way corner, until the leaves are completely withered.

The varieties now figured, for which we are indebted to Messrs. Cutbush and Son, Highgate, were selected by us from the large collection exhibited by them at their annual spring exhibition at the Crystal Palace, as they seemed to be more novel and remarkable in their colouring than many others more brilliant perhaps than they are. *La Plaisante* (Fig. 1) is a large golden-yellow flower, barred at the sides with crimson, and with a broad flame of crimson-lilac in the centre of each petal. *Van Spaindonck* (Fig. 2) is a cream-coloured flower, slightly stained with green, flamed and barred with lilac-crimson.



PLATE 313.

ODONTOGLOSSUM ALEXANDRÆ.

By far the largest number of what are now termed cool-house Orchids are obtained from the tropical countries of New Granada, Peru, Guatemala, and Mexico, but although in the low and flat parts of these countries the temperature is so high, yet in the more elevated regions, where vast numbers of Orchids are to be found, a much more cool and genial climate prevails; but owing to the unseasonable treatment to which these were exposed in former years, few, comparatively speaking, were to be found doing well in Orchid-houses. Even now, owing to their having, when imported, to pass through one of the hottest climates in the world, hundreds of them reach this country in a dead or dying state; we have seen literally hundreds of imported *Odontoglossums* at Messrs. Low's, nothing but a mass of water,—the tissue having been completely destroyed in their passage from the higher regions to the sea-coast.

Amongst the more recent introductions from these regions, *Odontoglossum Alexandræ* has attracted most notice; several plants of it have been exhibited by Mr. Bull, of Chelsea, and others; and from one of the plants shown by Mr. Bull the accompanying beautiful drawing has been made by Mr. Andrews. The marking varies occasionally, and this is more prominently spotted than some that have been exhibited.

We have little to add as to the culture of these plants. *O. Alexandræ* thrives under the same treatment as its congeners, requiring an abundant supply of water when growing freely; the soil should never be dry. In summer they should be carefully shaded from sunshine, and a moist temperature main-

tained, the night temperature being then fifteen or twenty degrees lower than the day temperature; in winter little or no water should be given, and the atmosphere kept as dry as possible. The temperature in winter should be about fifty, and in summer from sixty to eighty; lower than this we know has been recommended, but we believe this to be best suited to a sound and healthy condition, and in this we have seen them flourishing vigorously.



PLATE 311.

HIPPEASTRUM PARDINUM.

There are few flowers in the early part of the year more valuable for their brilliant effect, or more easily managed, than the various kinds of *Amaryllis* and *Hippeastrum*; requiring only the temperature of an intermediate house to bring them to perfection,—throwing up fine noble-looking spikes of bloom, with sometimes four or five blooms, they ought surely to have a more prominent position assigned to them than they have hitherto had. The Belgian and French nurserymen grow them in considerable numbers, and have, by careful hybridizing, originated many fine varieties; while latterly, Messrs. Veitch, of Chelsea, and Mr. Garraway, of Bristol, have exhibited some beautiful kinds, but whether of their own raising or of foreign origin we cannot say.

A remarkable addition to the species of this genus has been exhibited during the present spring by the Messrs. Veitch and Sons, of Chelsea; that which we now figure, *Hippeastrum pardinum*, one of the many fine things which have been sent over to them by their indefatigable and most successful collector, Mr. Pearce, who found it in Peru.

The size of the blooms is considerable, averaging from six to seven inches in diameter, while the form of the flowers is very peculiar, unlike any other species, being quite spreading and open, more like some of the species of *Cactus* or *Cereus*, and thus, instead of hiding its beauties, displaying the whole interior surface. The marking of the flower is also very peculiar, not striped and dashed, as many of the *Amaryllids* are, but spotted all over with small dots, dark crimson-red in colour, on a cream-coloured ground, and even at the edges of the petals, where the crimson more prevails, the spotting also exists.

We saw it as exhibited before the Floral Committee, on the 19th of March last, when it was awarded a first-class certificate; we also afterwards saw several plants of it at Messrs. Veitch's establishment, and quite endorse the opinion that was formed of it at the Exhibition, viz. that few plants of the present season are likely to be more generally and more deservedly useful



PLATE 315.

COLEUS VEITCHII.

The very general demand for plants for bedding purposes, has induced us to give figures of several of those which we believe are likely to prove useful for that purpose, and having already figured *Coleus Gibsonii*, we now add a still more showy variety, introduced by Mr. John G. Veitch from New Caledonia, being one of the novelties obtained by him during his voyage in the southern seas.

When the defects of the system of glaring colours with which the bedding system was inaugurated were pointed out, and the desirability suggested of adding other colours, it was at once seen that foliage would be quite as useful as flowers for this purpose, and that more sombre tones were required to effect this; hence, *Perilla Nankanensis*, *Purple Orach*, *Beetroot*, and other things were suggested and are still used. Then it was found that *Coleus Verschaffeltii* and the scarlet-leaved *Amaranth* would suit admirably for the same purpose, and when Mr. Gibson had arranged his subtropical garden at Battersea, it was seen how largely foliage did come into service; thus, even the geraniums, *Mrs. Pollock*, *Golden Fleece*, and other varieties are used for their foliage and not for their flowers,—the beds in fact looking better when they are denuded of flowers. We cannot but think, then, that the two varieties of *Coleus*, though perhaps not so brilliant as *Verschaffeltii*, will yet be found quite suited for giving a change of colour.

Coleus Veitchii has very large, almost heart-shaped, leaves of a deep chocolate-colour, with the edges of a bright lively green, and with a peculiar gloomy lustre on them; it is a plant

of free growth and good habit, will require, during the winter months, a tolerably warm and dry temperature, and is readily increased by cuttings; like the other varieties named, we believe it will also prove to be a valuable plant for table decoration.



PLATE 346.

CAMELLIA, DUCHESSE DE NASSAU.

Although we have lately figured a new Belgian Camellia (*Mrs. Dombraïn*), yet the great beauty of the variety in our present Plate will be deemed a sufficient excuse for our figuring it also, while its exquisite shape clearly entitles it to be ranked amongst the very foremost in those qualities which constitute a good Camellia.

A great deal of discussion has taken place lately with regard to the proper method of cultivation to be adopted with this universal favourite, and some very opposite methods have been recommended, both as to the time for repotting, and the nature of the soil in which they are to be grown. Mr. Pearson, of Chilwell, Notts, has recommended a plan which, at any rate, has the merit of novelty in it, one which he states he has found most successful, and which we can bear witness to from our own personal experience. He suggests that the soil in which the Camellia is grown is generally too light, that all admixture of peat and leaf-mould should be avoided (although the Belgians, who are very famous cultivators of it, use hardly anything but leaf-mould, so far as we have been enabled to judge) and that loam only should be used; contrary, too, to all the usual directions on the subject, he recommends that instead of "well-rotted loam," it should be used quite fresh as it comes off the pasture, cut about an inch and a half thick, and then torn to pieces about an inch square; that the Camellias should be potted immediately that they have done flowering, kept shaded, cool, and well watered, and that healthy foliage and abundant bloom will reward such cultivation.

We have tested this method in a small way, and so far have every reason to be satisfied with it, especially in the case of a plant which had evidently become diseased, but which on being repotted, as described by Mr. Pearson, has recovered its health, and is now growing vigorously; we believe, therefore, that the treatment is judicious.

Duchesse de Nassau, which we received from Mr. Bull, of Chelsea, is a soft delicate pink, a colour in which we have been somewhat deficient, and the petals at the centre are margined with deep crimson-cerise, giving it a very attractive appearance.



PLATE 317.

BERTOLONIA GUTTATA.

The frequenters of the Metropolitan flower shows during the past season cannot have failed to admire the very beautiful plant which forms the subject of our Plate, so admirably rendered by Mr. Andrews; and also one of still more recent introduction, *Bertolonia margaritacea*, as they have been frequently exhibited by Messrs. Bull, Veitch, and others, to the former of whom we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring it.

Bertolonia guttata was first exhibited by the Messrs. Veitch, and we learn from the 'Botanical Magazine' (in which publication it was figured, tab. 5524), that it was sent to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, as a native of Madagascar, but that it is not so, having been found at St. Sebastian, in Brazil, by the late Mr. Fox, and also in the province of St. Paul, South Brazil, by Mr. Weir, it is therefore to be regarded as a Brazilian plant, requiring a stove temperature, but at the same time somewhat impatient of damp; it will require, therefore, to be somewhat protected in this respect.

The leaves of this very charming plant are dark green above and of a brownish-purple beneath, their characteristic feature being the rows of beautiful rose-coloured spots (in *B. margaritacea* pure white), which seem not as if they formed part of the leaf, but were set on "studded," as the 'Botanical Magazine' describes them, "with rubies," but they are not of quite so deep a colour, being rather of a pale pink. There seems to be some difference of opinion as to the flower; in the plant figured, there was only the single flower, situated in the axil

of the leaves, while in the 'Botanical Magazine,' it is described as bearing a cyme of from four to six flowers; as there figured, it is of a light mauve colour, whereas in Mr. Bull's plant it was a lively carmine-rose, the edges of the petals being deeply marked with bright carmine; it is the foliage, however, which constitutes its chief charm, and which will make it, we believe, to be a very general favourite.

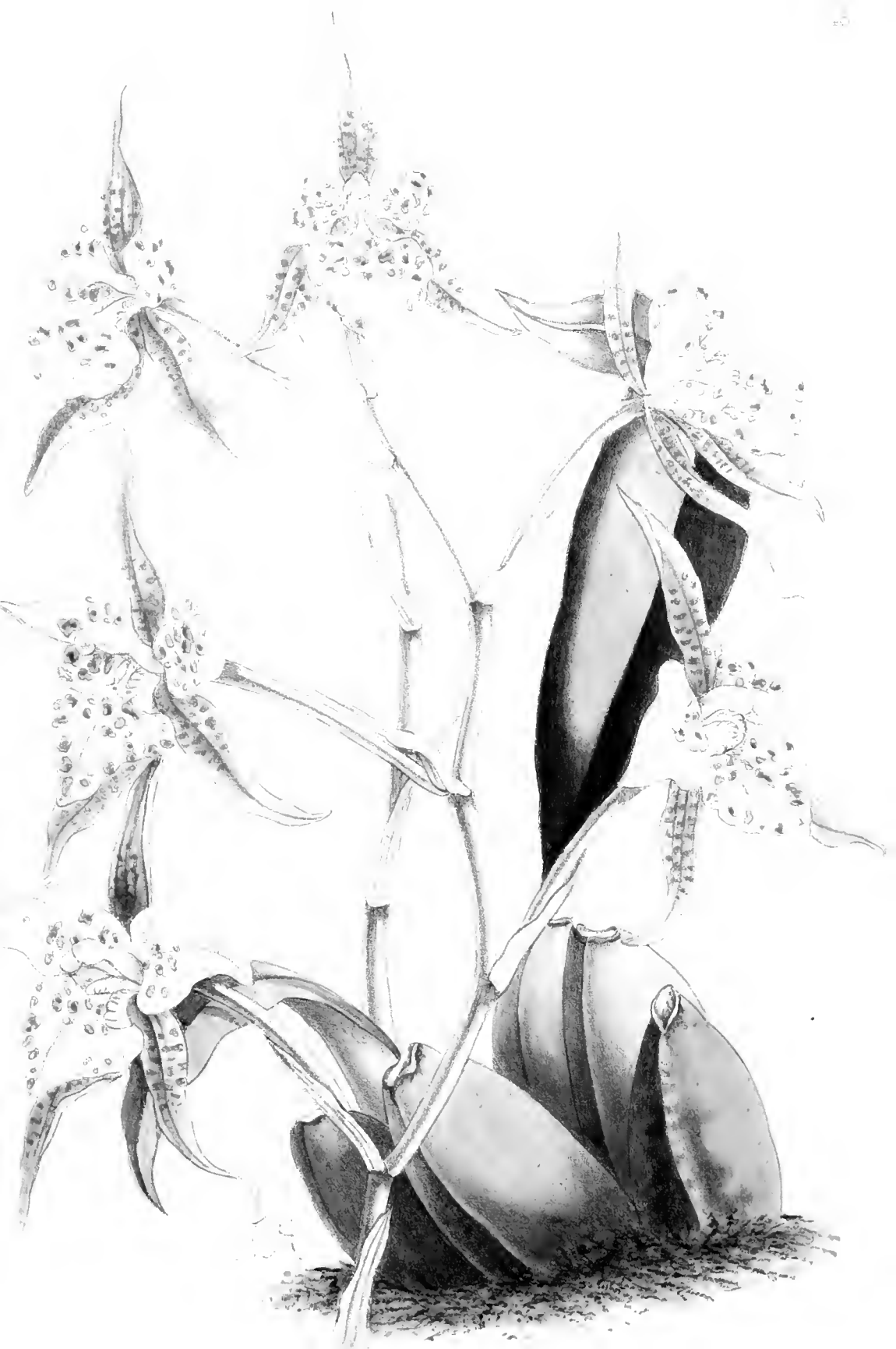


PLATE 318.

ODONTOGLOSSUM MACULOSUM.

That Orchids are increasing in the favour of the public, both horticultural and general, is apparent, we think, from the increasing demand, and also from the appreciative remarks when banks of Orchids are displayed at our great Exhibitions. The present season has been peculiarly unfavourable for this purpose, many persons refusing to allow their fine collections to run the risk of being injured in sending them to the place of exhibition during the very low temperature which has prevailed in the months of May and June this year.

Among the various genera of Orchids, none are becoming more general favourites than the *Odontoglossum*, the great variety of species, their facility of culture, and their great beauty, all tending to this end; moreover, a great impetus has been given to their culture by the magnificent monograph by Mr. Bateman, in course of publication. Some idea of the immense richness in Orchids of the country from whence the subject of our Plate comes may be gathered from the fact, that Professor Reichenbach, in his recently-published work on the Orchids of Central America, enumerates about 300 species, from an area, as we are informed by a contemporary, of not more than 200 miles. There is no doubt that especial attention has been devoted to this quarter of the world, not only because of the number and beauty of the species, but because the greater portion of them will succeed under the more rational and less expensive mode of treatment which has been recently introduced.

Odontoglossum maculosum is an Orchid of a very attractive

character, the spike producing a large number of flowers, the sepals and lip of which are thickly studded with bright brown spots on a cream-coloured ground. While less delicate than *Odontoglossum Alexandra*, it is richer in colour, and will be found a desirable companion for that fine species. Our drawing was taken from a plant in the collection of Mr. Bull, of Chelsea.



PLATE 319.

ANTHURIUM SCHERZERIANUM,

We have many valid reasons for figuring this fine plant, although it has been introduced as long back as 1862 (at the same time as *Lilium auratum*); several of our subscribers have expressed a wish to have a good figure of it, it is now becoming a really popular flower, owing to large importations of it having taken place, its cultivation is better understood, and, as a consequence, the figures which have already appeared of it by no means adequately represent its beauty.

Anthurium Scherzerianum was first figured in the 'Botanical Magazine,' where the spathe was represented as an inch and one-eighth in length, and three-quarters of an inch in breadth. In the 'Florist and Pomologist,' for October, 1865, it was again figured, where that in the 'Botanical Magazine' was spoken of as ludicrously inferior, and a reference made to their own plate, where it was represented as three inches in length, and one and seven-eighths in breadth. Since that period, however, owing to the success that has attended its cultivation, the beauty of the flower has been greatly developed, and it is now no uncommon thing to see it at Mr. Veitch's, to whom we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring the plant, with several flowers, each of which measures four inches, and sometimes even more, in length, by three in breadth.

We are informed at Messrs. Veitch's that the plan adopted in its cultivation is to grow it as a stove plant during the winter months, and then bring it into a cooler house for blooming, where for months it continues to be an object of great interest and beauty,—one remarkable characteristic of it being the great persistency of the flowers, which remain for a period of six and seven weeks without showing the slightest symptom

of decay. It is a native of Guatemala and Costa Rica, and as we observe that large importations have been made of it during the present season by the Messrs. Low, of Clapton, it will now be within the reach of every one who has the command of a small stove.



PLATE 350.

VIOLA PEDATA.

The caprices of fashion are oftentimes productive of strange consequences. The efforts of the pre-Raffaelite school in giving an artistic value to red hair have made that which was formerly, if not considered a defect, at least but little regarded, become the rage, and everything was done to produce that which was formerly despised. In the same way in the realms of Flora; many a plant that has heretofore "bloomed unseen, and wasted its sweetness on the desert air," has been invested with an importance which their intrinsic worth and beauty would never have gained for them.

This has been notably the case with some members of the family of Viola; for example, more was said and written last year upon the claims of *Viola cornuta* as an edging plant than about any other plant of the season. No lady could have been more anxious to declare that she had just exactly that golden tint of hair which constituted the painter's ideal of beauty, than was this and that writer to show that his strain of *Viola cornuta* was exactly the true one, and the very tint that was required. Having tried it somewhat extensively, we can bear witness to its good effect, especially as an edging to *Mrs. Pollock* *Pelargonium*, and its very great duration of blooming, from May to October, gives it a value which many other edging plants are deficient in.

Another member of the family is the plant which we now figure, and for which we are indebted to the Messrs. Backhouse and Son, of York, and whose description of it is as follows:— "By far the most beautiful of any of the American *Violas* which we have seen, and hitherto very rare in this country. The leaves are deeply divided, like the foot of a bird, and the

very large flowers are of the loveliest pale blue, tinted with mauve. Plant compact and dwarf, growing in very sandy soil, where there is but slight shade. It is quite distinct from, and very superior to *Viola palmata* and *Viola pinnata*, and will, we feel sure, become a favourite wherever known." The Plate faithfully represents its very free-flowering qualities, while the shade of colour is one that is very much required in the present style of gardening.



PLATE 351.

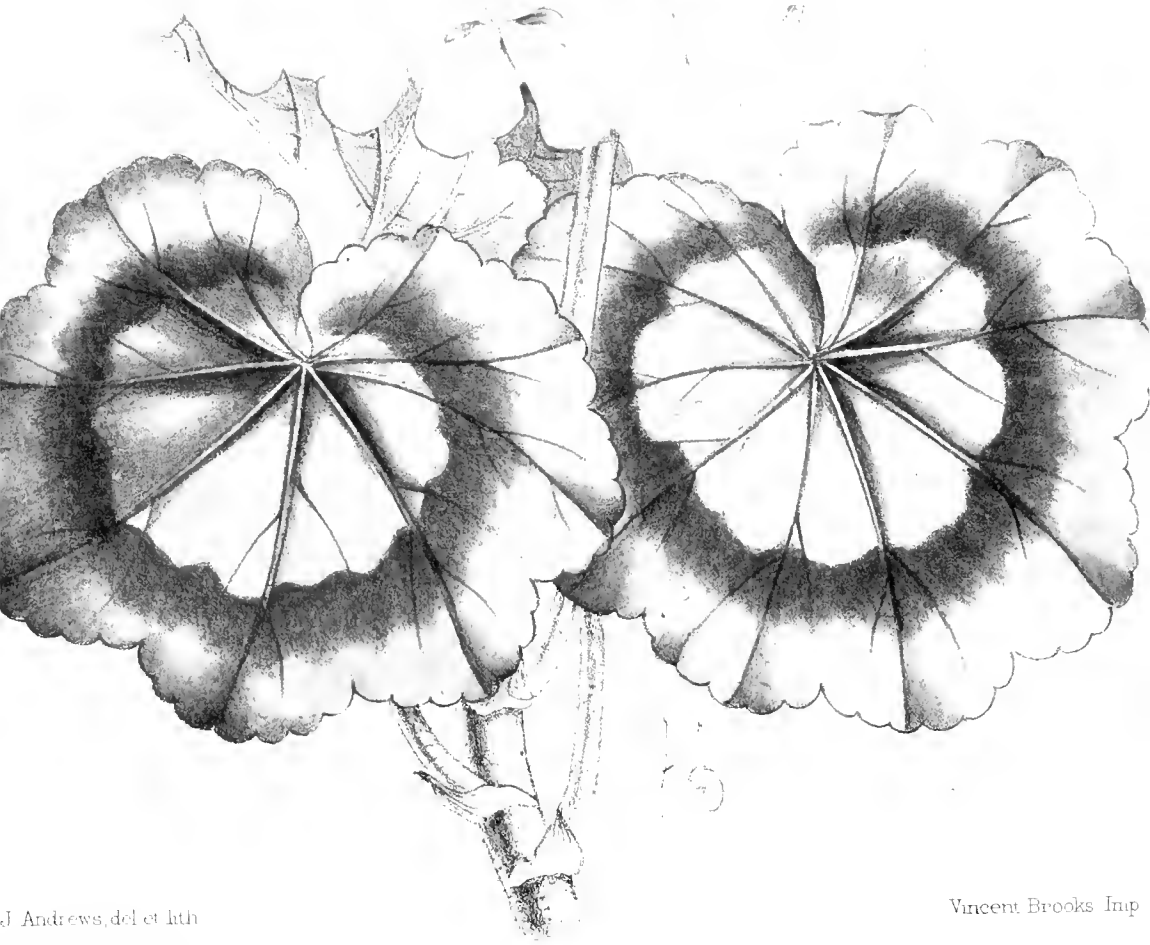
TEA ROSE, MADAME MARGOTTIN.

When we were at Lyons last year, and enjoying a run through the celebrated Rose-gardens of that city, we were very much struck with two tea-scented Roses in the possession of M. Guillot *fils*, and as any addition to that very favourite class is sure to be welcome if it be good, Mr. Andrews has, from flowers supplied from our own garden, given an admirable figure of one of these, which we believe will be a general favourite.

There are some Roses which are known as tea-scented, which are really not so, but noisettes, such as *Gloire de Dijon* and *Maréchal Niel*, the fact of their possessing the delicate perfume of the Tea Rose being probably the reason why they have been so classed. As a rule, the genuine Tea Rose is smaller in habit and leaf, and not so robust in its constitution. *Madame Margottin* is a genuine tea-scented Rose; it is, as will be seen from the Plate, a medium-sized flower, of a delicate primrose-yellow colour, with a most lovely peach-coloured tint in the centre petals. The shape of the flower is good, and the substance of the petals is very firm, and, as a consequence, the individual blooms are not so fugitive as in some of the Teas. The other flower which we have alluded to is *Bouton d'Or*; this is a most exquisite little gold button of a very lively yellow hue, and, for its size, likely to be a great favourite for wearing as a single flower.

We cannot say as yet that we have been greatly impressed with the new Roses; so far as our own experience of them goes, the present season is not likely to produce any very great improvement on our already fine varieties. One Rose, indeed, has appeared of which we hope to give a figure, and which has created quite a sensation as an English-raised Rose, *Miss*

Ingram; but as yet we have not seen anything very remarkable, indeed it is very difficult to surpass some of the Roses that we have, and it must be a very good Rose that will excel *Charles Lefebvre*, *Pierre Notting*, *Comtesse C. de Chabillant*, *John Hopper*, *Maurice Bernhardt*, *Madame Victor Verdier*, and other well-known flowers.



NOSEGAY PELARGONIUM, EMMELINE.

Stella has generally been considered the type of a true nosegay, and "an improvement on *Stella*," "in the same style as *Stella*," has been generally considered the best character which can be given of a new flower. If, then, we describe *Emmeline* as a "Rose *Stella*," we shall, perhaps, best convey the idea of the flower to those who are lovers of the nosegay section, and who have not had an opportunity of seeing it as exhibited this season by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Stanstead Park, Forest Hill, and Edinburgh, who have already by their fine flowers, *Mrs. Laing* and *King of Nosegays*, won a name for themselves in this popular class of flowers.

We cannot do a greater service than give herewith a list of those varieties which are to be sent out by this firm next season, for it will be seen that they have been highly thought of when exhibited: *Countess of Rosslyn*, bright rosy-pink, with a glowing carmine shade; very large leaves and compact habit. First-class certificate, Royal Horticultural Society, Crystal Palace, and Brighton. *Emmeline* (the plant figured), deep rosy-pink, with a violet shade; very large truss; growth vigorous and compact. First-class certificate, Royal Horticultural Society, Crystal Palace, and Regent's Park. *Rose Stella*, light rosy-pink; large truss; very dwarf, compact habit. First-class certificate, Royal Horticultural Society, Crystal Palace, and Brighton. *Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy*, bright glowing orange-scarlet, immense truss, dark zone, and fine habit. First-class certificate, Crystal Palace and Brighton; second-class certificate, Royal Horticultural Society. *Comet*, very dark crimson-

scarlet, with a purple hue; compact globular truss; fine zone; dwarf compact habit. First-class certificate, Regent's Park. *Nosegay floribunda*, bright-orange scarlet; large, compact globular truss; fine habit, and very fine. First-class certificate, Regent's Park. In addition to these, they have amongst Zonals, *Scrapp*, clear bright salmon, fine form; very dark zone; good truss, and very fine. First-class certificate, Royal Horticultural Society. The *Sultan*, dark glowing orange-scarlet, broad petals, large truss, dwarf habit, and very free; and *Tom Thumb* (nosegay), deep crimson-scarlet, plain leaf, very dwarf and fine, not more than six inches high.



PLATE 353.

ROSE, MISS INGRAM.

We have again the pleasure of figuring a Rose of genuine English origin, and one, too, which we are very much inclined to think will prove as great an acquisition as that now famous Rose *John Hopper*, raised by Mr. Ward, of Ipswich, and more especially as it belongs to a class in which we have been deficient,—a class represented by *Madame Rivers* and *Madame Vidot*, neither of which, although very beautiful Roses, are of sufficiently vigorous constitutions to suit all soils and situations.

Miss Ingram owes its origin to one who has been long known as a successful hybridizer of fruits and flowers—Mr. Ingram, the veteran gardener of the Royal Gardens, Frogmore,—and will, perhaps, more tend to perpetuate his name and fame as a raiser, than any of his former productions. It was first exhibited this season at the Royal Botanic Society's June show, where it received a first-class certificate; and wherever it has been shown since, it has received a similar award. It was very greatly admired by all who saw it at this show, and also at the Royal Horticultural Society and Crystal Palace Exhibitions, and has been pronounced by some of our most celebrated rosarians as a Rose of first-rate qualities.

We have seen it ourselves growing in the nursery of Mr. Charles Turner, Slough; and in vigour of constitution and profuseness, it fully equals any of our Roses. One most severe test it has stood; for while nearly all the light Roses were killed in the neighbourhood of Slough during the last winter, *Miss Ingram* was quite uninjured. This is a most important point in its favour, while, as will be seen from the admirable figure of Mr. Andrews, it possesses an admirable contour, as

much cupped as the old Cabbage Rose, the colour being a delicate blush-white, with a deeper tinge of blush in the centre of the flower. It will be, we believe, let out next year by Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, who possesses the entire stock.



PLATE 354.

BEGO LA BOLIVENSIS.

Few collectors have been more successful in adding to our stores of useful plants than Mr. Pearce, who has for so long been engaged in ransacking portions of South America, in the interests of Messrs. Veitch and Son, of Chelsea; his discoveries are such, that they come within the reach of a large number of horticulturists, from their being adapted for greenhouse culture; and in this, one of the most recent of his introductions, we think that we can hail another valuable addition to our new plants.

We learn from the 'Botanical Magazine,' in which it has just been figured (Tab. 5657), that it was discovered by Weddell in the Cordillera of Bolivia; but we suppose it was merely retained as a dried specimen in his herbarium, for it was regarded as quite a new plant when sent home by Mr. Pearce; and we know that when it was exhibited at the Paris International Show in May, it attracted more of the attention, both of botanists and horticulturists, than any plant there exhibited; it was afterwards exhibited at the Royal Horticultural Society at Kensington, and was there greatly admired. The root is tuberous, and the stem rises from it to the height of about two feet, although possibly, under cultivation, it may become larger; the flowers are very freely produced, in groups of two and three, springing from the main stem, and hang down gracefully, displaying their brilliant scarlet colour very well. There is a good deal of peculiarity in the structure of the plant, differing from other Begonias, which makes it a plant of considerable interest to botanists. It often happens with our new introductions, however, that many of them are interesting both to the botanist and horticulturist; this Begonia is one of these.

and as we believe it to be of very easy cultivation, we expect that it will be, ere long, very generally grown; at any rate, by all those who can appreciate this class of plants, it must be regarded as one of no common order of merit. We are indebted to the Messrs. Veitch for the opportunity of figuring it.



DENDROBIUM BENSONIÆ.

So numerous are the species of Orchids, and so eminently popular has the class become, that we constantly hear of persons who take under their special care different families; some are more famous for their *Odontoglossums*, others for their *Dendrobiums*, others for their *Cypripediums*, and so on. By the admirers of Orchids generally, and by the cultivators of *Dendrobiums* especially, the very beautiful plant which we now figure, will doubtless be considered a great acquisition.

We are indebted to Messrs. Veitch and Son for the opportunity of figuring it, and also for the following information regarding its introduction:—" *Dendrobium Bensoniæ* was first introduced by us last spring from Burmah, through Colonel Benson, to whom is due the merit of having discovered several fine new Orchids. Some specimens flowered here soon after their arrival, and its lovely flowers produced in such profusion, at once won for it a high position among our most valued *Dendrobiums*, and decided it to be a most desirable acquisition. It is named *Bensoniæ* by desire of Colonel Benson, in honour of his wife; and has been awarded a Silver Floral Medal by the Royal Horticultural Society, besides several first-class certificates from other societies."

The locality from whence it comes at once pronounces it to be one of those Orchids which require a warm temperature, although considerable modifications of treatment, even in these Orchids, have been made since the introduction of what is known as the cool treatment of Orchids has been introduced. It will be seen from the Plate that the colour is of a delicate

French-white, with a large brilliant orange-yellow blotch on the lip, at the base of which are two irregular deep brownish-crimson spots, giving the plant a most striking appearance, and marking it as one of the most effective of its tribe.

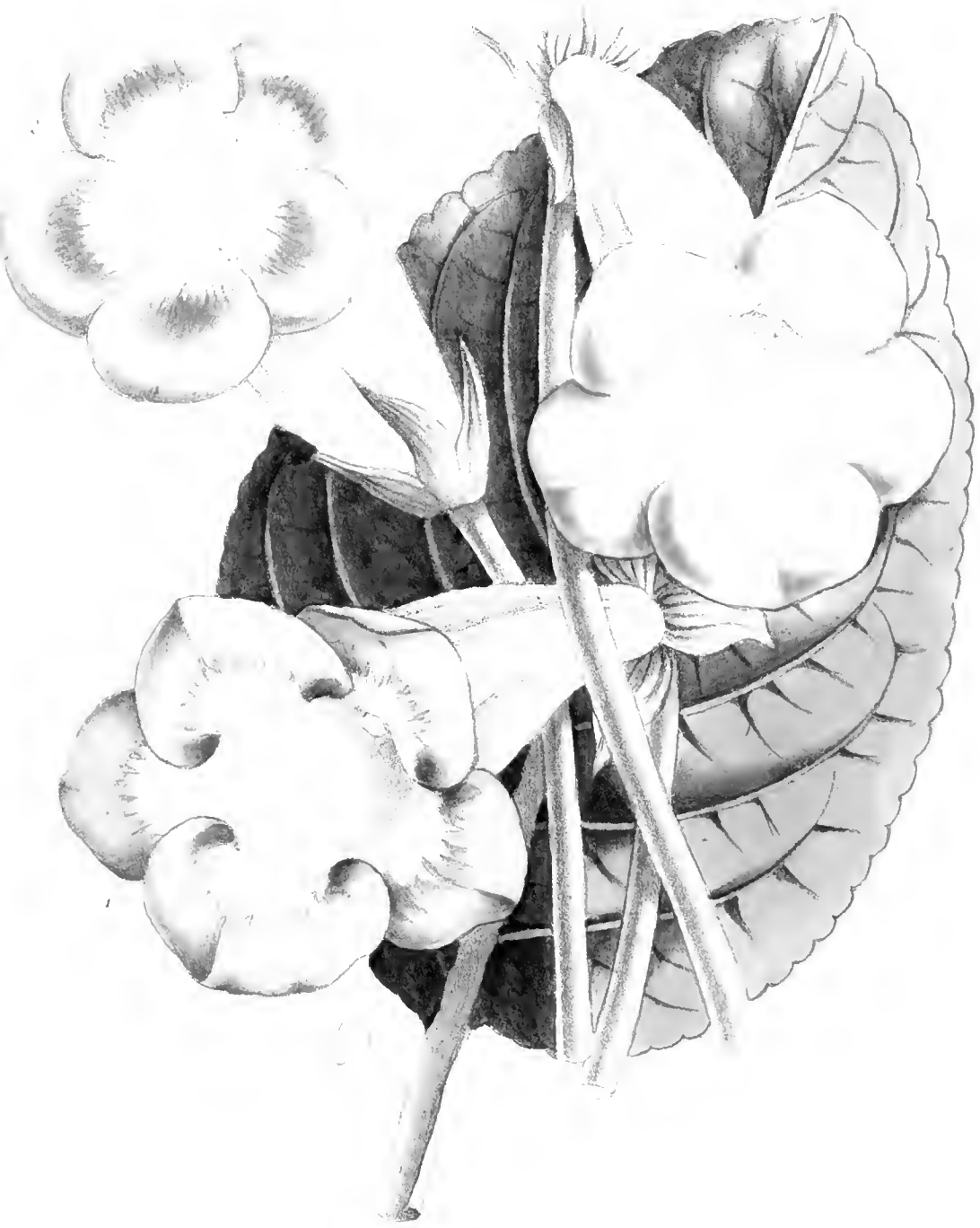


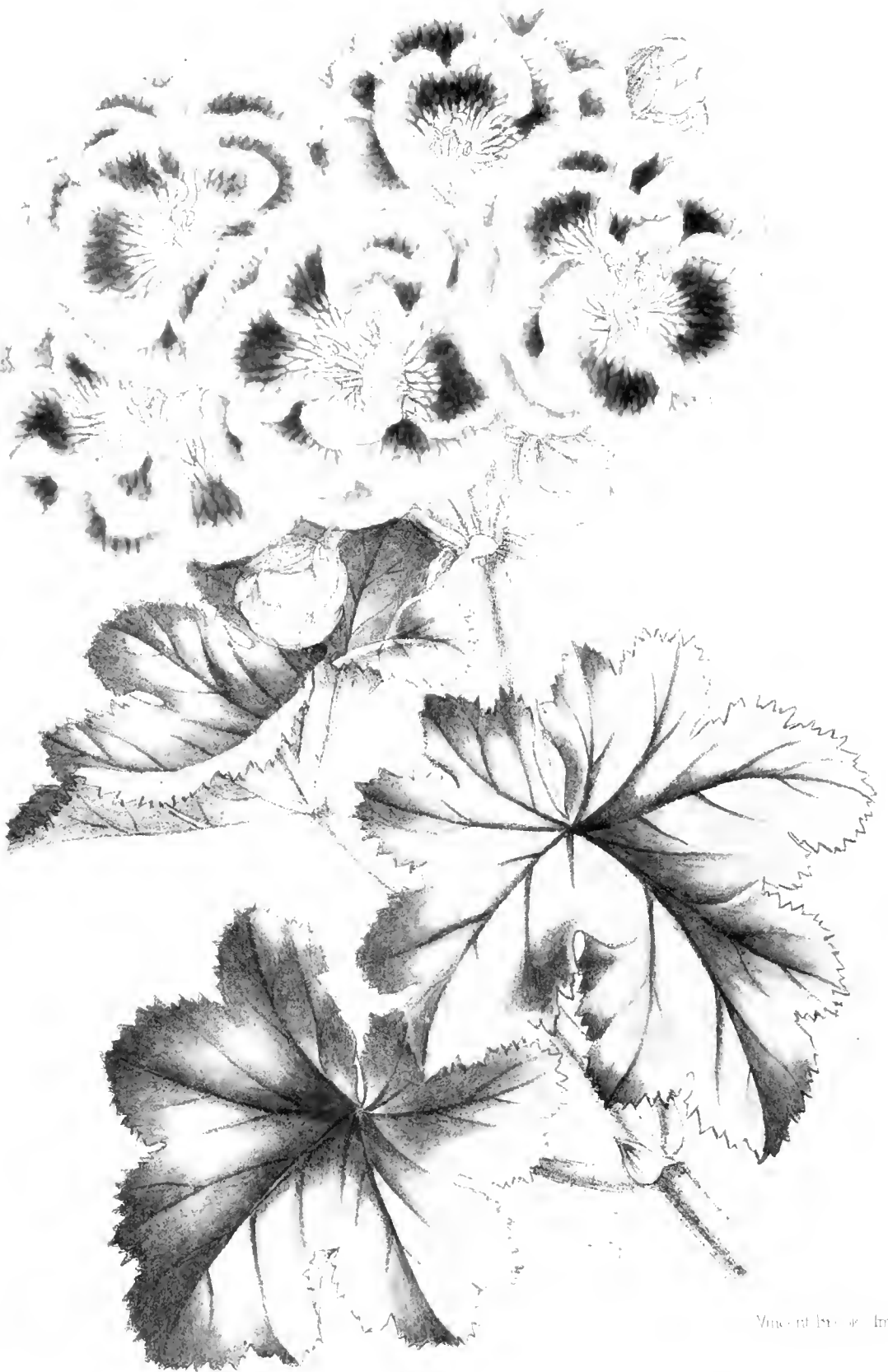
PLATE 356.

GLOXINIAS, MADAME DE SMET, PRINCE TECK,
AND ROSE D'AMOUR.

Although, as a general rule, the period of blooming of the many beautiful varieties of *Gloxinia* is after the great Metropolitan shows are held, and, consequently, they are not so much seen there as they would otherwise be, yet sometimes they are brought forward; and more especially is this the case with new seedling varieties; the same reason, however, indicates their usefulness for the decoration of the conservatory, after the spring and summer occupants have finished flowering, for when *Pelargoniums* have been cut down, and *Azaleas* been put out of doors, then the *Gloxinias* and *Achimenes* take their place, and give, during the later months of summer, a beautiful and interesting display.

The cultivation of the *Gloxinia* is so well known, and has been so often treated of in various numbers of the 'Floral Magazine,' that it will be unnecessary to repeat the directions on this head. It will be seen that *Madame de Smet* (Fig. 1) occupies a somewhat midway position between the upright and drooping varieties. The flowers are of large size, and of great substance; the colour, a beautiful bright lavender or mauve, and very freely produced. It received a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, and at the Royal Botanic Society's June show. *Prince Teck* (Fig. 2) belongs to the upright section, and is a flower of very regular outline, the colour of the lobes being a beautiful bright purple with a deeper shade of the same colour at the base of each. *Rose d'Amour* (Fig. 3) is a large flower of drooping habit, the colour being a brilliant carmine rose, white at the base, and the throat slightly spotted with rose on a yellowish ground; it will thus be seen that three different strains of this

flower are represented by the flowers figured, all alike beautiful, and decided advances on those we already possess. These flowers are all in the possession of Messrs. Veitch and Son, Chelsea.



DOUBLE-FLOWERED PELARGONIUM, PRINCE
OF NOVELTIES.

It is difficult to say what direction the results of hybridizing in this universally popular class of flowers is likely to take. We have seen the most marvellous changes in the leaf-colouring, and the introduction of novel colours into the flowers of the zonal section. And then already in such varieties as *Gloire de Nancy* and *Triomphe de Lorraine*, double flowers have made their appearance; and now, in the case of the variety we now figure, we have, in the larger-flowered section, the production of the same results,—the commencement of a change it is impossible to foresee the end of.

The *Prince of Novelties* is in the possession of Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Son, of Wellington Road, St. John's Wood, to whom we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring it, and is being distributed by them this autumn. We cannot do better than give their description of it. They speak of it as "A very beautiful and remarkable novelty, differing from the ordinary class of Pelargoniums by the usual upper and lower petals, of unequal outline, being transformed into a flat, circular ray of equal-sized petals, forming a diameter in each flower of about an inch and three-quarters in width, and filled up in the centre with small petaloid segments, or flower-lobes. . . . These individual blossoms are produced in trusses of from three to six or nine each, according to the vigour of the plant. The general colour is brilliant carmine tinted crimson, bounded with a blush-white margin, each petal being marked at the base with a dark rich crimson blotch, from which netted lines run over the carmine surface. Its style of growth shows a neat, free, and robust branching habit and flowering in small or medium-

sized plants from nine inches to one, two, and three feet high. Its peculiarly vigorous growth requires a less rich soil than others, and also a more restricted condition of growth, by seldom potting. By adopting these precautions it will be found to retain its rich ample verdure, and form fine plants in smaller pots than the generality of kinds equally robust. Strong vigorous plants should not be potted later than from October to January; and successional ones not later than March."

We had the opportunity of seeing in August the stock of this novel flower; and can bear witness to the accuracy of the description, and its value as a decorative plant.

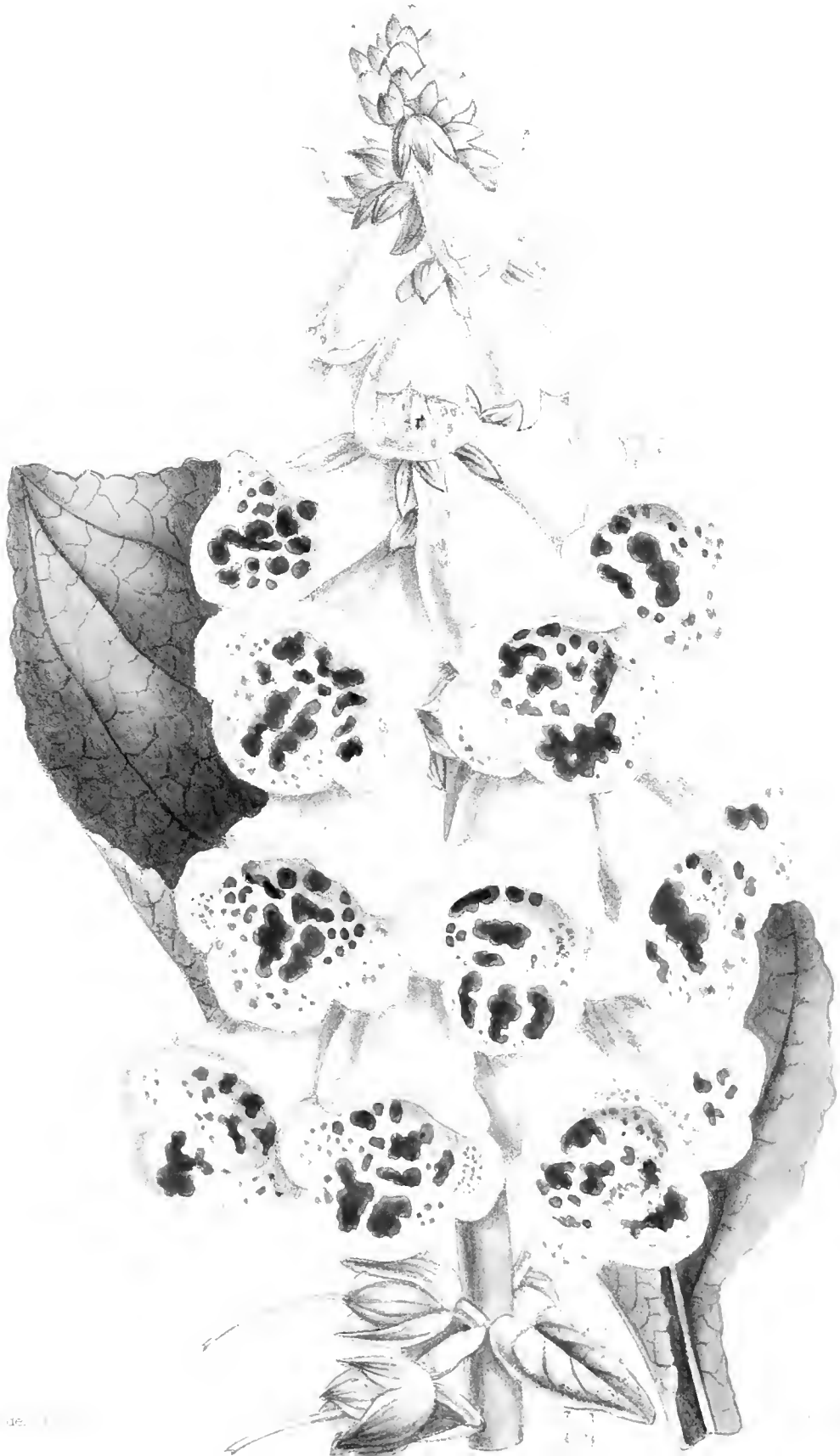


PLATE 358.

NEW SPOTTED FOXGLOVE, BEAUTY OF
DORKING.

The common wild Foxglove is associated, in the minds of many persons, with scenes of wild beauty, and is always sure to attract notice from the boldness of its style of growth and the brilliancy of its colouring; and it was often a matter of surprise that it had not been taken in hand by those who are ever ready to cater for the novelty-seeking desires of the lovers of flowers. The plant itself was so hardy and robust, that it was surmised, that if it could be improved, it would be a very popular flower.

It will be seen from the variety we now figure, that this improvement has at last been commenced, and we doubt not the work of hybridization will go on as it has done in other flowers. The ordinary colour of the wild Foxglove, spoken of by Sir William Hooker as the "most stately and beautiful of our herbaceous plants," is purple, spotted within, while occasionally a white variety is obtained; the crossing of these two colours is sure to produce variety, and in that now figured, we are enabled to trace this effect; we have seen some, of the most varying shades of colour, and doubt not that they will be as much so as the herbaceous *Calceolarias*.

As to the method of cultivation, although a large number of varieties have been already obtained and fixed, and will be cultivated in collections, as has been the case, yet we should imagine, that as it is so very readily seeded, and the plants are likely to bloom the following season, cultivators will prefer doing with them as they have already done with the *Calceolaria*, viz. growing it from seed; and thus from year to

year throwing away the old plants, saving seed from the most remarkable, will have the pleasure of continued novelty. We are indebted to the Messrs. Ivery, of Dorking, for the opportunity of figuring the variety in our Plate.



PLATE 359.

CARNATIONS, TRUE BLUE AND ECCENTRIC.

It says a great deal for the beauty of the Carnation and Picotee that, notwithstanding the scant encouragement offered to them in and around the Metropolis, they still maintain their hold, and that not only are there persons ready to purchase, but amateurs still willing to devote time and attention to hybridizing and obtaining new varieties. It is said that at the Horticultural Show, held at Bury St. Edmund's, on July 16th, there were "some splendid stands exhibited; Picotees without a trace of blotch or bar, reminding one of the floral competitions of old, such a filling-up of these fine old flowers requiring incessant attention, care," etc. Yes, far more than all these fine showy-looking tricolour Geraniums, about which people who sneered at the florist's distinctions as absurd are now quite as enthusiastic as ever any grower of the Pansy or Carnation was in former days.

The flowers which we now figure are unquestionably deserving of the distinguished position they occupy, both having been awarded first-class certificates at the Exhibition at Bury St. Edmund's, where they were exhibited by Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, the largest grower of these beautiful flowers in the south of England. *True Blue* (Fig. 1) is a purple-flake flower of great excellence; the petals large and regularly disposed, with most regular purple flakes in each petal, the colour in no case running or confused. *Eccentric* (Fig. 2) is a scarlet bizarre of good brilliancy, belonging to a class always remarkable for their fine effect, the bright scarlet bars and then the deep crimson ones giving it a very rich appearance; it is remarkable for its substance and good quality.

When we see such flowers as this we do not wonder at the enthusiasm which the growers of them have shown, nor that they should think but lightly of a style of gardening that ignores their beauty.



PLATE 360.

CATTLEYA BRABANTIE.

The work of hybridization in Orchids goes bravely on, notwithstanding the remonstrances of those who deplore the confusion that it is likely to create amongst their favourite flowers,—our pages having already shown that this has been largely done; while in the present Plate we have another instance, although in this case not between different families, but between two species of the same family.

Cattleya Brabantia was exhibited by the Messrs. Veitch, of King's Road, Chelsea, at the June Exhibition of the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park, where it was very much admired, and received a first-class certificate. It is a hybrid variety, raised by Mr. Dominy, and is a cross between *Cattleya Aclandia* and *Cattleya Loddigesii*—both Brazilian Orchids—the former being of a purplish-brown colour, the latter rosy-lilac. We seem to have in *Cattleya Brabantia*, named, we believe, after the Duchess of Brabant, a fair mingling of the two flowers, while the habit is sturdy and excellent.

As both the parents are Brazilian Orchids, it will not come under the designation of cool house Orchids, but will require a warm temperature. Those who are large growers of this singularly beautiful, widespread, and attractive tribe of plants, have their special houses devoted to the various countries from whence they are imported, an East Indian house, a Brazilian house, and so forth; all this requires a very large outlay, but at the same time, with judicious management, those of more limited means may grow some of the different countries very readily, as, indeed, must be done by the great majority of those who cultivate them. We do not imagine that *Cattleya Brabantia* will offer any difficulty in its culture.



PLATE 361.

ROSE, ANTOINE DUCHER.

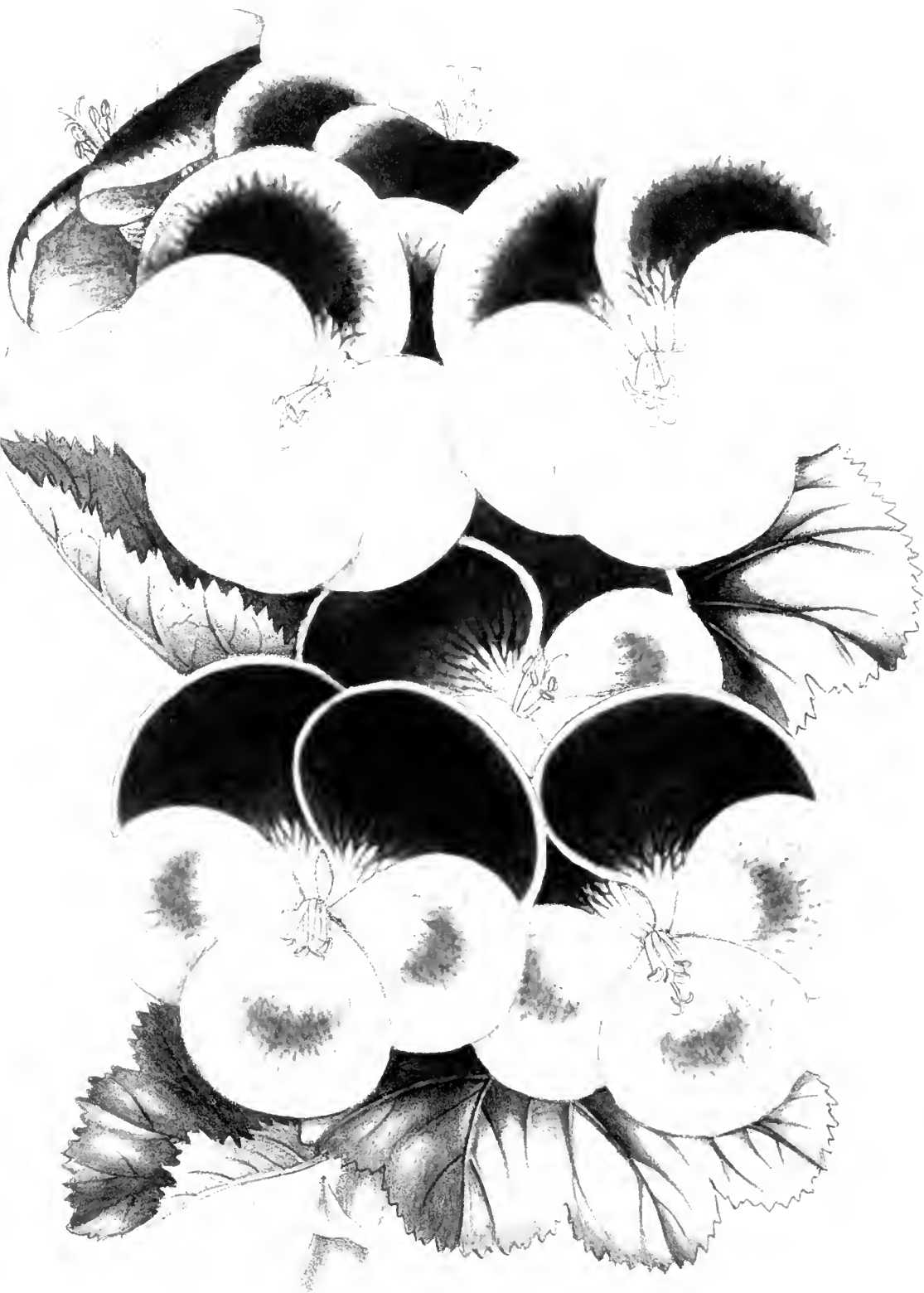
Nothing can be more disappointing than writing about new Roses, except it be growing them; for year after year the most flaming descriptions are given of about seventy or eighty varieties, all of which, were we to believe the raisers, are better than any that have gone before; while at the end of the season we find, perhaps, that if three or four out of the whole number are worth retaining, it is quite as many as we are warranted in doing. Seeing, even, is not believing, here; for although a Rose may look well and be handsome, yet there may be some peculiarity in its growth which prevents it from holding a place in our gardens; such, for instance, as *Napoléon III.*, which, beautiful as it was when we saw it at Vitry last year, and as figured by Mr. Andrews, has too delicate a constitution ever to make it a general favourite.

When visiting the Rose gardens of France last season, we expressed an opinion that the Rose which we now figure, *Antoine Ducher*, would prove to be the best Rose of the season, and we are still inclined to this opinion. Certainly, so far as we have been enabled to see, the two Tea Roses, *Madame Margottin*, *Bouton d'Or*, and the Hybrid Perpetuals, *Horace Vernet*, *Antoine Ducher*, *Mademoiselle Anne Wood*, and *Madame Rival* (perhaps), are likely to prove those best worth retaining.

We have seen only a few of those of the present year, and can, therefore, hardly venture to say much; but as the Rose growers have had the opportunity of a continuous exhibition at the "Exposition Universelle," we may conclude, I think, that those which have obtained prizes there are likely to be good, so that we may hope that *Prince Humbert* and *Duchesse d'Aoste*, raised by our friend M. Margottin, at Bourg-la-Reine, and

Baron Lassus de St. Geniès, are likely to be varieties of merit; and to these we must add *La France*, which we saw with M. Guillof fils, last year, and *Édouard Morren*, which has been purchased by the Messrs. Lee, of Hammersmith, and of which we heard good reports from the Rose growers of Paris.

Antoine Ducher was raised by M. Ducher, of Lyons, and is a seedling from *Madame Domage*, of good shape, and of a vivid red colour suffused with purple.



PELARGONIUMS—HEIRLOOM AND VICTOR.

It is remarkable how some seasons seem more productive of good varieties of florists' flowers than others. Thus, last year was one in which very few really good and first-rate varieties of the Pelargonium were produced, while the present has perhaps been the most remarkable one, in this respect, that we have had for some years past,—both Mr. Hoyle and Mr. Forster having exhibited new kinds, which have received an unusual number of first-class certificates, and been greatly admired by all who have had the opportunity of seeing them.

There can be no question of the great popularity of this beautiful and easily-cultivated plant, and we are sure that all those who do grow it will appreciate the numerous varieties of this season as worthy additions to their stock, whether it be small or large. We, who can remember the earliest stages of that development which has gone on so rapidly of late years, may well be surprised at the amazing change, although from year to year the improvement must necessarily be small. To beat such flowers as *John Hoyle*, *Mary Hoyle*, etc., requires an amount of excellence not easy of attainment, but the florist, no way discouraged, works on, gladly hailing the least advance, until, after a few years, the flowers he once thought unsurpassable, are now thrown into the shade.

The varieties we can figure are, Fig. 1, *Heirloom*, a flower of first-rate character, the shape being all that can be desired, the colour a very rich rosy-carmine ground, with a large blotch in the upper petals, with a clear white throat. *Victor*, Fig. 2, is a very high-coloured flower; the upper petals being of an

intense deep maroon, almost black, with a narrow clear border of deep crimson; the lower petals are of a bright crimson-pink, with a blotch in each petal, with a bright veining of crimson outside. Both flowers have received certificates of merit, and are of good habit of growth.





GLADIOLI—ADOLPHE BRONGNIART, NEWTON.

In order to give a better scope to the abilities of Mr. Andrews in portraying this beautiful autumn flower, we have, in a double Plate, given a representation of two very beautiful varieties, which have been sent out by M. Souchet, of Fontainebleau, of world wide fame as the chief raiser of this lovely tribe.

We have had an opportunity, during the present month, of visiting the extensive collection of M. Souchet, at Fontainebleau, and of hearing from himself the method of cultivation which he pursues,—a method which it would be somewhat difficult for many to follow, inasmuch as he allows the ground to be entirely fallow for a year before planting his bulbs, and never returns to the same ground for three years. He appears to know nothing of the disease which has proved so fatal to the expectation of many growers,—our own amongst the number; nor, when we showed him some of our diseased bulbs, could he account for it.

Adolphe Brongniart (Fig. 1) is the finest Gladiolus that has hitherto been raised; the size of the flowers, the excellence of its form, the variety of its colouring, all give it the claim to be unrivalled; but even it will be eclipsed by a variety we saw the other day at Fontainebleau, "*Semiramis*."

Newton (Fig. 2) is a variety of the preceding year, remarkable for its very deep colouring, and also of good form.

The best of the flowers of 1866-67 are, we think, *Adolphe Brongniart*, *Princesse Marie de Cambridge*, and *Lady Franklin*, while of those of the present year, *Princess Alice*, lilac, lightly tinted with rose, *Norma*, white, sometimes very lightly tinted

with lilac, *Uranie*, white, striped with lively carmine-rose, *Mozart*, lively rose, largely tinted with violet, and flamed with deep carmine, and *Semiramis*, rosy-carmine ground, largely flamed with deep carmine, will, as far as we have been able to judge, be the choicest varieties of the season.

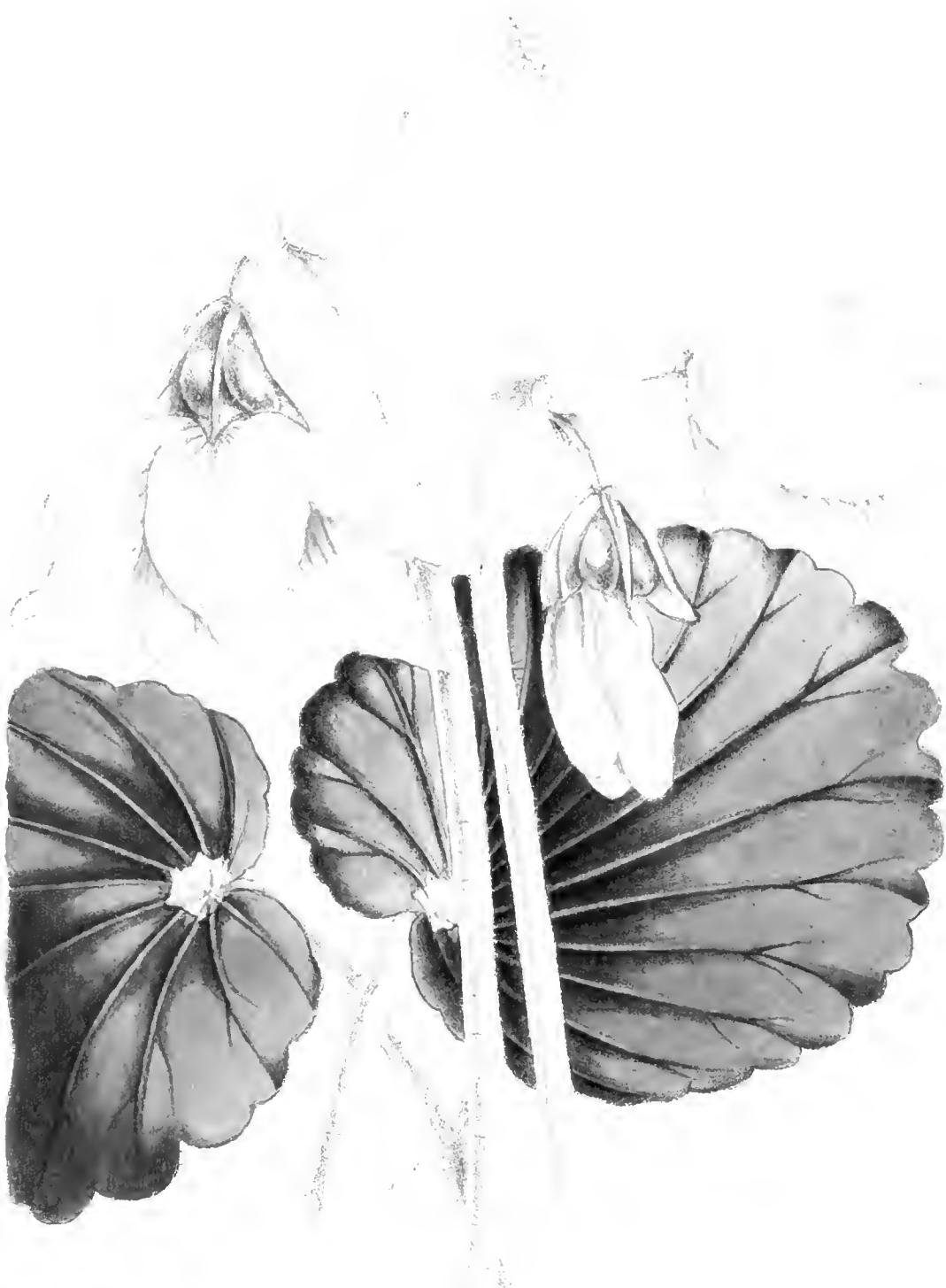


PLATE 365.

BEGONIA VEITCHII.

Again are we indebted to the indefatigable labours of Mr. Pearce, the eminently successful collector of the Messrs. Veitch, of Chelsea, for a most valuable addition to our gardens; the more so, as we are inclined to believe that in many parts of the kingdom it will prove perfectly hardy, and will go far to increase the popularity of herbaceous plants, towards which there seems to be much attention given at present.

As the plant has been already figured in the 'Botanical Magazine' (Tab. 5663), we would here subjoin Dr. Hooker's statement with regard to it and a very closely allied species, *Begonia Clarkii*:—"Of all the species of *Begonia* known, this is, I think, the finest. With the habit of *Saxifraga ciliata*, immense flowers of a vivid vermilion cinnabar red that no colourist can reproduce, it adds the novel feature of being hardy in certain parts of England at any rate, if not in all. It was discovered by Messrs. Veitch's collector, Mr. Pearce, near Cuzco, in Peru, at an elevation of 12,000 to 12,500 feet; and the plants grown in Mr. Veitch's establishment have already given sufficient proof of hardihood, by withstanding a temperature of 25° Fahr. with absolute impunity. Unwilling as I am to pronounce on the probable or possible adaptation of exotic plants to an English climate, I cannot but believe that in the south-western counties, and in the south of Ireland, the *Begonia Veitchii* will certainly prove one of the most ornamental of border plants." Of the nearly allied species, after noticing the points of difference, Dr. Hooker says, in the number for last month (November), where *B. Clarkii* is figured, "Whether this and *Begonia Veitchii*, together with another allied to it from the same country, and hitherto unpublished, will even-

tually prove wholly distinct is, I think, doubtful; they will probably be extensively hybridized."

We do not think it will be necessary to do more now than refer to the exquisite drawing of Mr. Andrews, to bear witness to the justice of these remarks, and to the value of this recent addition to our herbaceous plants.*

* Amongst the many uses to which the houses known as "Hereman's" might be put, that of affording shelter to plants of doubtful hardiness, without interfering with the ordinary purposes of the house, may be mentioned. An admirable pamphlet by Mr. Hereman, written in a plain and easy style, has recently been published, and deserves the attention of all lovers of a garden.



PLATE 366.

VERBENAS, MISS TURNER, THOMAS HARRIS,
AND INTERESTING.

Any person who has visited the autumn exhibition of the Crystal Palace must have been struck by the exceeding beauty of the boxes of cut blooms of Verbena, exhibited by Charles J. Perry, Esq., of The Cedars, Castle Bromwich, near Birmingham; and we may safely say, that in the class to which he has especially devoted his attention, Verbenas for exhibition, he is quite unrivalled. We have, therefore, great pleasure in giving this statement of his method of growing them, which he has obligingly furnished us with.

“The cuttings are struck in March, and the strongest plants are potted into small pots as soon as rooted, and placed in a moderately warm dung frame, they then receive one stop; after they have made a little growth, they are potted into 18-sized pots, and receive another stopping as soon as they have well taken hold of the soil. After they have made some growth, they are finally potted into the blooming-pots, which should be about five or six inches across, *not larger*; and early in May they are placed in a cool, well-ventilated greenhouse. Short sticks are put to each shoot as they grow, for the purpose of keeping the trusses upright. The soil I prefer is old turf mixed with decayed frame-manure; the plants must never suffer from want of water, and must be fumigated whenever an aphid makes its appearance; if properly attended to, blooms may be cut continually from the beginning of June until the end of September, and the plants will form one of the most interesting features of the greenhouse, at a time when few flowering-plants are under glass; the perfume is also parti-

cularly pleasant, the odour of many of the varieties partaking much of that of orange-blossom. The blooms should be continually cut off the plants, and not allowed to go to seed if fine trusses are required; if the plants are well grown, the foot-stalks of the blooms will be sufficiently long for any decorative purposes for which they may be required."

Each year shows that Mr. Perry still improves the character of his flowers; of those exhibited this season, for which he has received several first-class certificates, we have selected three for illustration. *Miss Turner* (Fig. 1) is a splendid white flower, very large, with bright rosy-pink eye; truss large and well-formed. *Thomas Harris* (Fig. 2) is a rich, deep plum of fine form; and *Interesting* (Fig. 3) is a large light crimson flower with yellow eye; all flowers of first-rate quality.



PLATE 367.

CATTLEYA, DOMINIANA ALBA.

We have already, in the present and previous volumes, figured some varieties of this extensive and beautiful genus, and are indebted to the same source for the illustration we now give, viz. the extensive collection of the Messrs. Veitch, of Chelsea; this being one of the many beautiful additions made to our Orchidaceous plants, by the skill and perseverance of Mr. Dominy.

We have noticed that the practice which has for some time prevailed, of giving Latin names to garden hybrids, and against which we protested in a recent number, has been taken up by the most widely circulated of our gardening publications; and we trust something will be done to put a stop to a practice which often proceeds from mere pedantry, and which must, in the case of Orchids, involve unutterable confusion, for it is not with them as with the more evanescent garden flowers. Latin names may be given to Phloxes, Chrysanthemums, Calceolarias, and such-like things; but in a few years they are forgotten, while the Orchid, which has once been considered worthy of being named, will most probably remain for many years; indeed, as long as the original species.

Cattleya Dominiana alba is a hybrid of very great beauty, partaking somewhat of the character of *Cattleya Exoniensis*, figured in Plate 269, and to which attention has recently been drawn by Professor Reichenbach. Although the sepals are broader, and the flower altogether larger, they, as well as the petals, are of a beautifully delicate lavender tint; while the lip, which is very large and much opened out at the apex, is of a beautiful, pearly white, a large portion of it being of a brilliant rosy-lilac, spotted in lines of the same colour. The size of the flower, and its brilliancy of colouring, justly entitle it

to be considered a most desirable variety, and add another to the many proofs given by Mr. Dominy (whose name it perpetuates) of his skill as a hybridizer.



PLATE 368.

LANTANAS, JULIUS CÆSAR, MADAME DUFOY,
AND ADOLPHE HUVASS.

A strange and, as we think, a quite undeserved prejudice seems to exist against the tribe of plants which we now figure; and to remove which, and bring them before those who take pleasure in varied forms of flowers, as plants of real value, has been our object in making them the subject of our Plate.

The Lantana is very largely used in France for decorative purposes, both in pots and for bedding purposes. We saw large beds of them in several of the public parks and gardens of Paris, during the present year; and in a pleasant walk through our world-wide-known subtropical department at Battersea, we found that Mr. Gibson has also used them. We also saw a fine collection of the newest varieties at Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Co., Wellington House, St. John's Wood, and were obligingly favoured by him with blooms of those now figured. We have had also, in our own small greenhouse, plants of them, displaying their gay blooms from the beginning of August until the present time (November 20th). Surely, then, they are deserving of more attention.

We have heard of two objections to them; one, that they have a peculiarly unpleasant odour. We think this must be a matter of taste simply; the flowers themselves have hardly any, and the leaves, when bruised, emit an odour very similar to the black currant, so that this can hardly be called very unpleasant. The other objection has, perhaps, more in it; that as cut blooms they very soon fade: this is true, but then they need not be cut, but merely kept as decorative plants. They have one remarkable feature, viz. the changing character of

the flowers; in some instances this is very great, and adds a pleasing beauty to the plant. *Julius Cæsar* (Fig. 1) is a golden-yellow flower, changing to red. *Madame Dufoy* (Fig. 2) is a pale yellow, changing to rose; and *Adolphe Hirass* (Fig. 3) bright canary, with golden centre. There are many other excellent varieties, and the French raisers are adding to their number yearly.

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