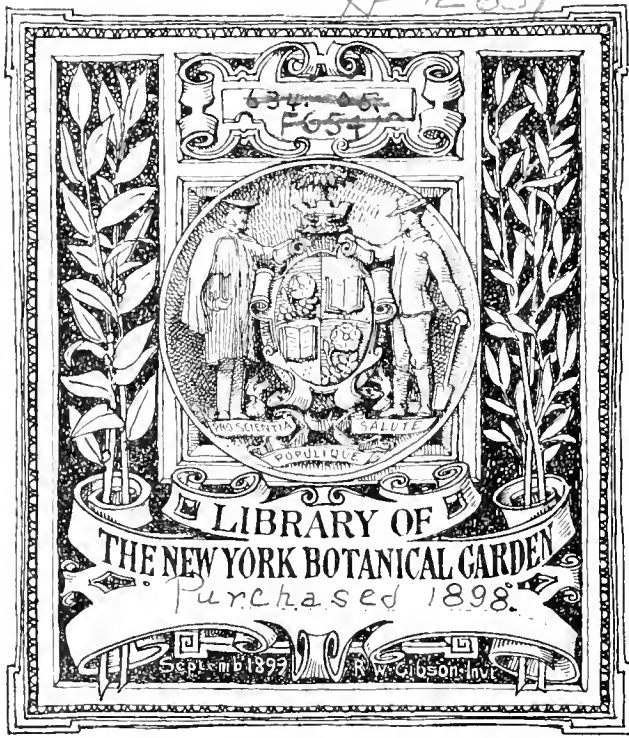
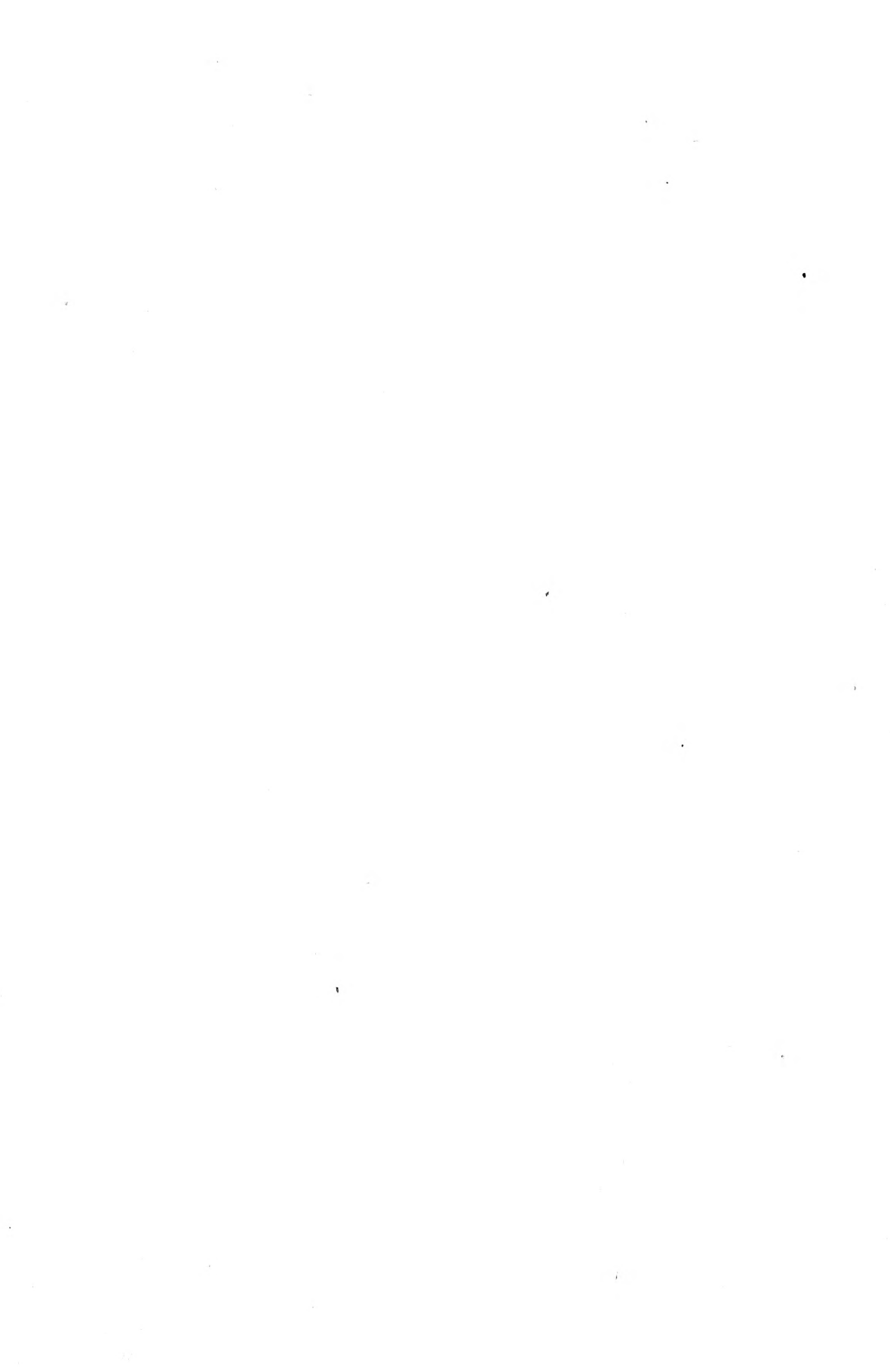




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THE  
FLORAL MAGAZINE:

COMPRISING

figures and Descriptions

OF

POPULAR GARDEN FLOWERS.

BY THE

REV. H. HONYWOOD DOMBRAIN, A.B.

THE PLATES BY JAMES ANDREWS

AND

WORTHINGTON G. SMITH.

VOL. VIII.



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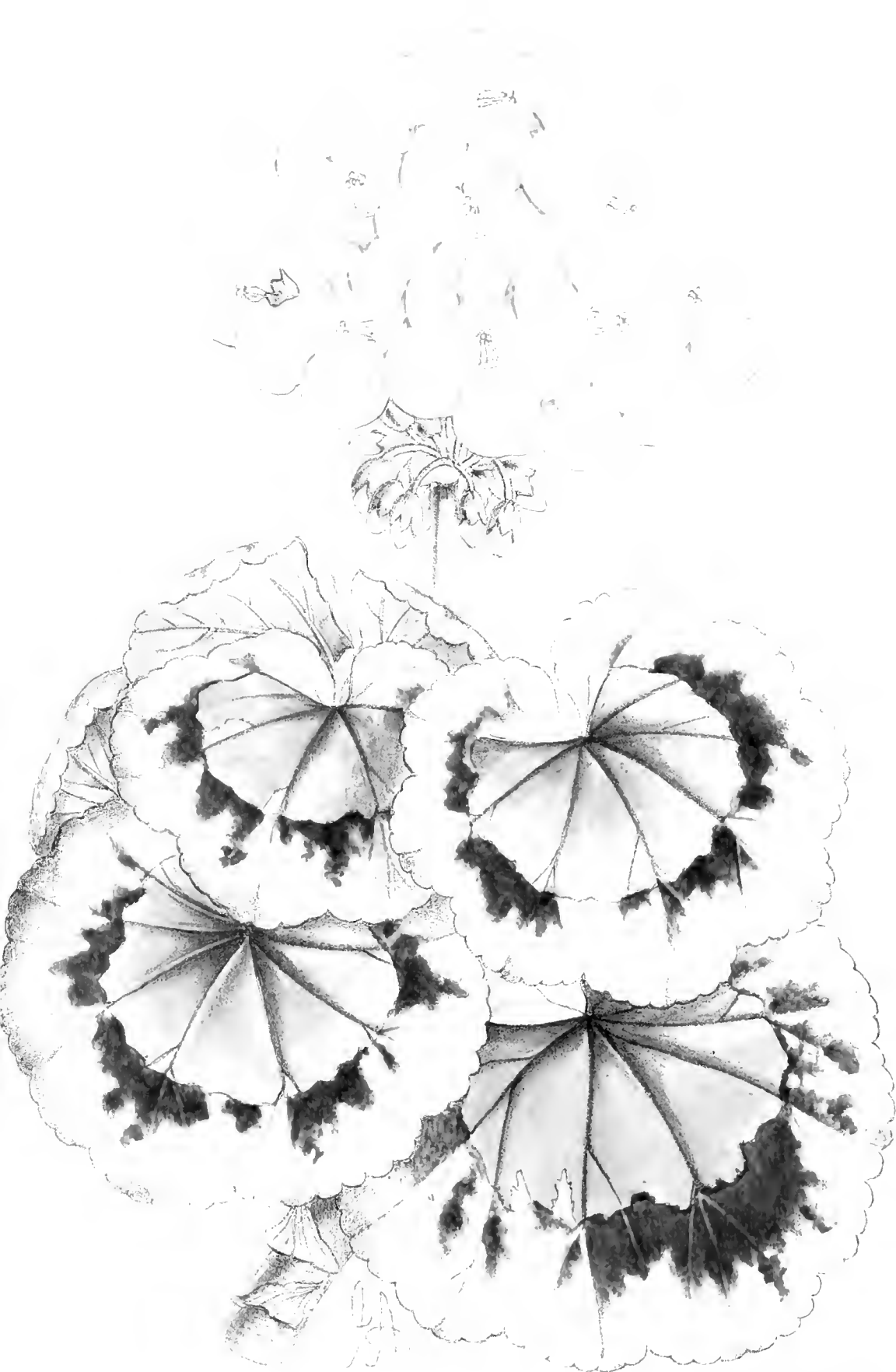
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## PLATE 417.

### TRICOLOR PELARGONIUM, ACHIEVEMENT.

The great favour that has been and is still shown to this most attractive class of plants has induced to give in the opening number of a new volume a Plate of one of the very richest coloured varieties that we have seen, and which, for freedom of growth, combined with brilliancy of colouring, is unequalled, some of those remarkable for the latter being deficient in the former; but in *Achievement* both are combined, and Mr. Turner may well be congratulated on being the possessor of so valuable a variety.

We had the opportunity in September of paying a visit to those renowned nurseries at Slough from whence so many valuable florists' flowers have gone forth to the floricultural world; we then saw a whole house devoted to the culture of gold and silver Tricolor Geraniums, and it was a sight to gladden one's eyes. Mr. Turner has lately taken this class under his care, and we have no doubt will ere long show us such specimens as have never before been seen. We have already remarked that this class requires a much richer soil than the ordinary zonals, that they rejoice in plenty of air and light, but ought not to be exposed to scorching sun; we may now add notes of a few that we saw with Mr. Turner. *Mrs. Healdly* is a vigorous, fine-growing variety in the style of *Mrs. Pollock*, but brighter; *Mrs. Hugh Berners*, very bright zone, dark bronze marking, and bright golden edge; *Mr. Rutter*, very vigorous, dark bronze zone; *Mademoiselle Christina Nilsson*, a very pretty variety, carmine-red zone, shaded with bronze. *Achievement*, the plant figured in our Plate, is, however, the cream of the set: the leaf is very broad, centre light green, with a brilliant fiery crimson zone, irregularly blotched with deep blackish-bronze, and the

margin of the leaf bright golden-yellow ; the leaves are smooth and slightly reflexed ; the habit is very vigorous, and the flowers of a rich deep crimson-scarlet of good form. These varieties will, we believe, be sent out by Mr. Turner in the spring, and will, we are sure, be worthy of the high name he has acquired.



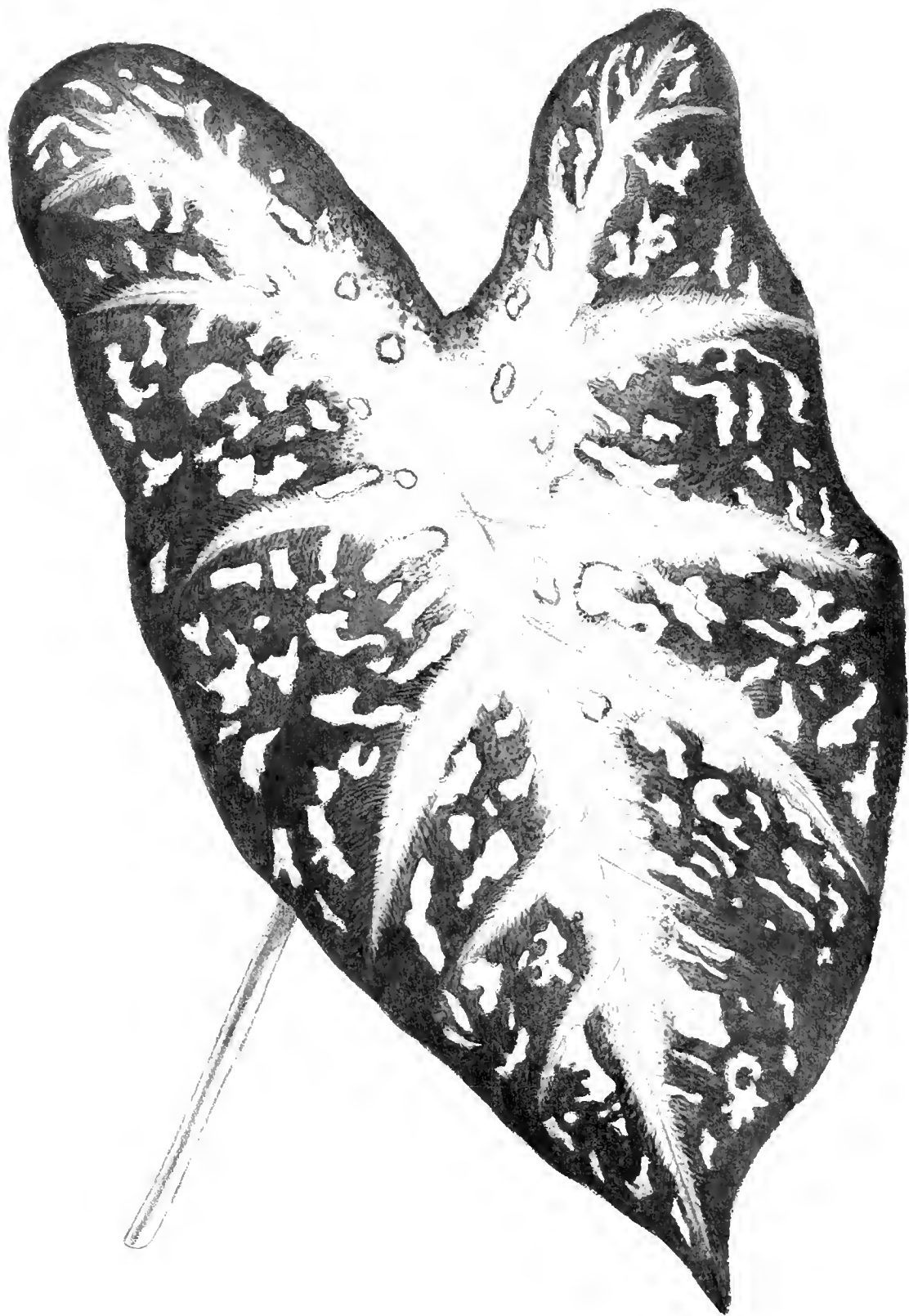


PLATE 418.

CALADIUM, MADAME DOMBRAIN.

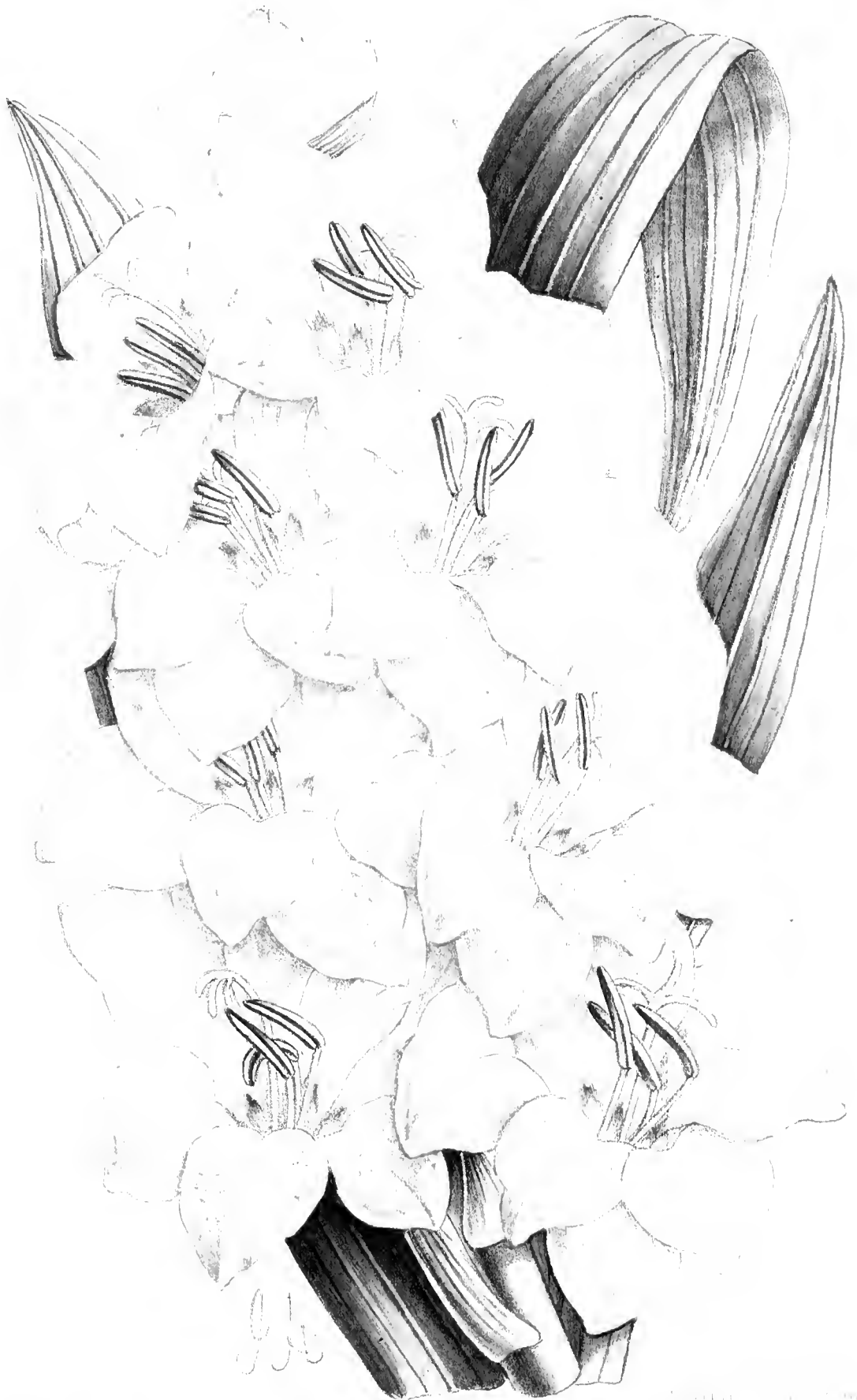
The zeal with which the French horticulturists enter into the subject of hybridizing is not only well known, but is continually being shown in the unlooked-for results which they obtain: recently the double-flowering zonal Geraniums form a case in point, and the same may be said of Caladiums, as testified by the large number of new varieties introduced of late years.

When in Paris during the past year, we were invited by M. Charles Verdier to visit the collection of Caladiums raised and grown by M. Bleu, an amateur of considerable eminence, who had made these plants his *spécialité*, and most interesting it was to see a large house completely filled with the seedlings which he had raised. Many were very fine plants, others in a smaller state, while some very promising seedlings show an entirely new strain; one especially we noted, in which the marginal colouring was a bright golden-yellow, instead of green, and, should this become fixed, it will no doubt open out an entirely new field. M. Bleu was the first person who succeeded in seedling Caladiums, and ever since he has pursued it with increasing eagerness.

The Caladiums require, in order to grow them to perfection, stove heat, with abundance of moisture, and loamy soil broken in good-sized pieces; they are easily propagated by division of the roots. That which we now figure, *Madame Dombrein*, has very fine and handsome foliage; the ground colour of the leaves, a deep olive-green, the midrib being bordered with a broad feathery band of rosy pink, which extends also down the veins on either side, while the green ground is broken by irregular silvery-white spots; so that altogether the leaf is very

striking, and is an advance, we think, on others in the same class which have preceded it, of which *C. Leseschkini*, and some other productions of M. Bleu, will be sent out by M. Charles Verdier in the spring of this year.





lily



PLATE 419.

GLADIOLUS ULYSSE.

We some time ago figured one of the English seedlings raised by Mr. Kelway, of Longport, and we now take the opportunity of placing before our readers an admirable portrait, in Mr. Andrew's best style, of the flower which we consider the best of last season's productions, raised by our esteemed friend M. Souchet, of Fontainebleau, whose name is known in every place where the Gladiolus is grown as the most distinguished raiser of this beautiful autumnal flower.

The culture of the Gladiolus is now so well understood that it would be useless to give any directions concerning it, save that we fear some are manuring too highly, and thereby inducing disease. We shall therefore here notice those novelties of the present season which are considered by M. Souchet himself as the cream of his selection. ARGUS, brilliant, fiery red, with white lines in the lower petals; CIRCE, light rose, slightly tinged with lilac, largely flamed with carmine; HOMÈRE, clear amaranth, flamed with purple, very brilliant; LEGOOVÉ, fiery red, the upper petal separated by a white line, large white spots on the lower petals; MADAME DESPORTES, pure white, the lower petals slightly striped with violet. MADAME DOMBRAIN, violet-carmine, flamed with bright purple; MARIE STUART, white, slightly tinged with rose-colour, and flamed with vivid carmine; MICHEL ANGE, deep crimson, white spots, and highly flamed with brownish-purple on the upper petals, said to be the best of the season; RACINE, cherry-colour, tinged with violet, each petal marked with a white line; SCHILLER, sulphur-yellow, with

large carmine spots ; THOMAS METHUEN, violet, tinged with rose, margin of petals dark carmine ; VIRGILE, bright fiery red. It will thus be seen that there is both variety and excellence in the productions promised us this year.





PLATE 420.

ALLAMANDA WARDLEANA.

A fierce and strong battle has been waged during the last season with regard to the different Allamandas in cultivation, not only as to which was the best, but as to their identity. Into the merits of this controversy it is not our intention to enter, especially as they are now in course of trial at the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Chiswick. We have only to bring under notice one which for its qualities is likely to be a general favourite, and which has been exhibited by Mr. Ranley Tanton, of the Epsom Nurseries, to whom we are indebted for the following remarks:—

“The plant was introduced from New Granada, and is as distinct from all other species as possible; with all the art I can bring to bear upon their culture at the present time, *Schottii*, *Cathartica*, *Grandiflora*, *Parensis*, *Aubletii*, *Nobilis*, *Hendersonii*, are all deciduous and at rest; and in the same stove I have the plant which has been in flower since the 5th of March last, also some young ones, all in full, glossy, vigorous foliage, and in full flower, as exhibited at the Floral Committee, South Kensington, on Tuesday, December 15th. This even of itself is a sufficient guarantee of its being a distinct species. There were upwards of a hundred blooms on the plant exhibited on the above day, and at this season it is really a desirable plant, for the blooms come in now with their unusual colour for dinner-table decoration and for cut-flower work. We exhibited the other day a small plant in sixty pots, bearing a flower from the corymb these blooms had previously dropped.”

We need add nothing to the above, remarking only that the deeper colour of the throat and the deep maroon colour of the outer side of the flower marks its distinctiveness,—but simply that the small outline figure is a correct representation of one of the young plants.





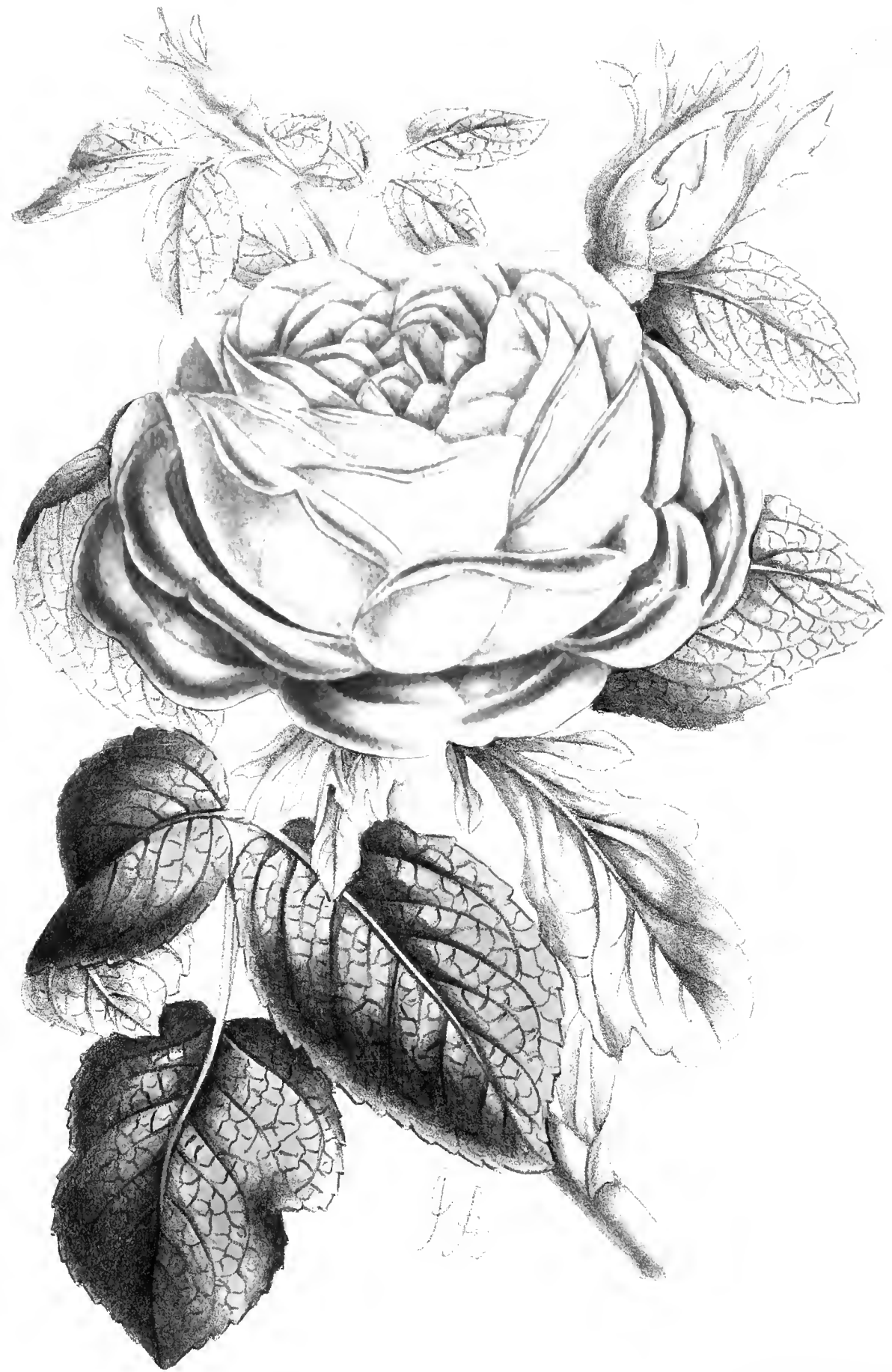




PLATE 421.

HYBRID PERPETUAL ROSE, LORD NAPIER.

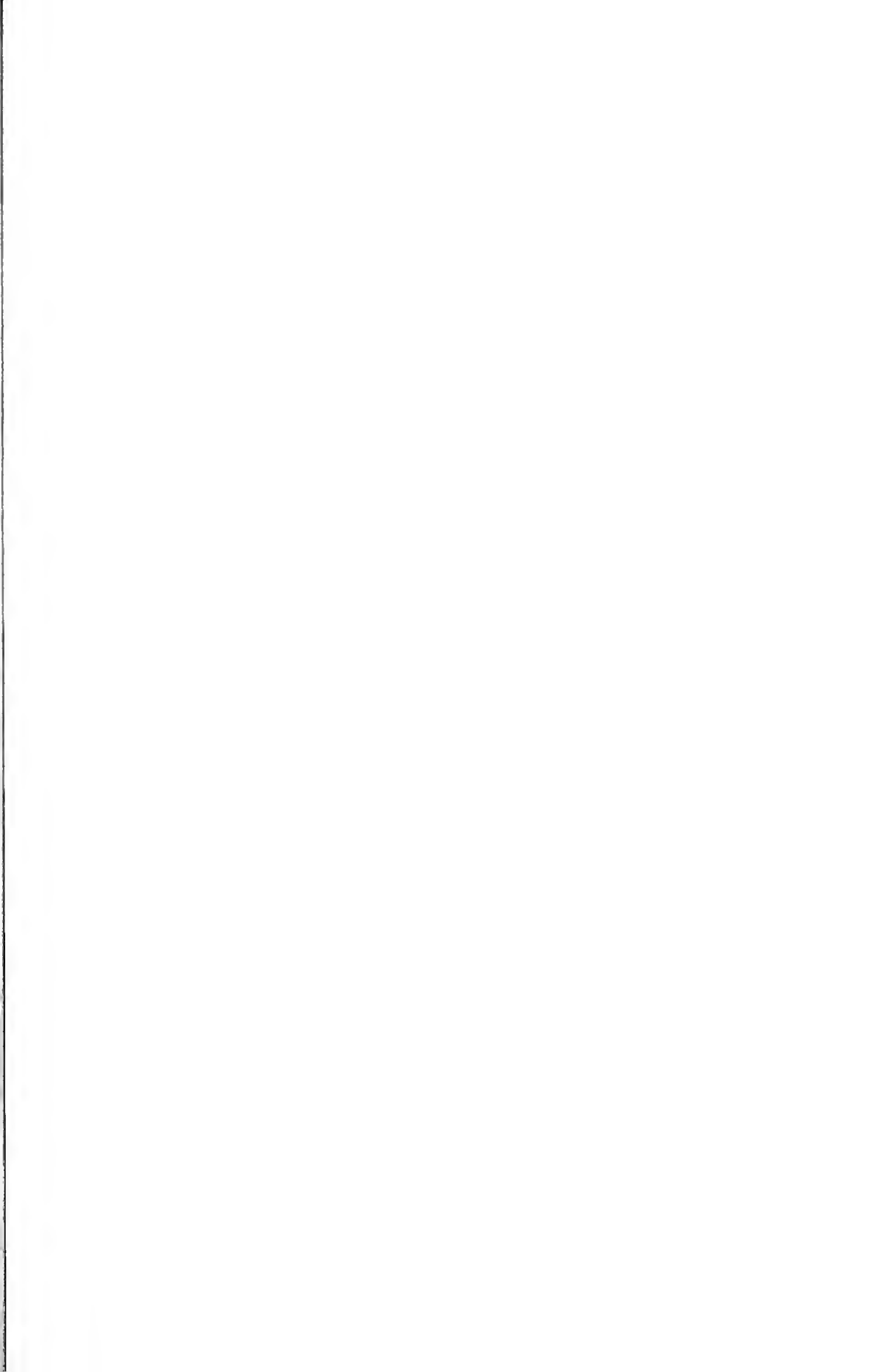
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We are continually receiving proofs that English Rose-lovers will no longer be contented to receive their Roses from France, but are determined to see if they cannot equal those flowers, whose raisers have been for so many years enriching themselves by supplying English growers and amateurs; *bonâ fide* English-raised Roses (not Roses raised in France, purchased there, and then sent out here under English names) have already established themselves as general favourites, and several raisers are attempting the same end, amongst them, Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, to whom we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring one of the brightest Roses that has yet been raised.

There is this advantage to be gained by obtaining varieties in England, that their constitution is likely to be much more vigorous than many of the French varieties, which are all sent over here with the character of being vigorous, although many of them turn out to be far from that when grown over here. We do not think that this is to be attributed to a want of honesty on the part of French raisers, but simply that they do well in their climate, and when transferred to ours are not so well able to bear the vicissitudes to which we are subject, especially the cold nipping winds of early spring.

There is a distinctness or character about the Rose as figured which will, we believe, tend to make it popular,—not only its brightness, but also the very peculiar magenta tinge in the centre of the flower, which we do not quite recollect to be

equalled in any other flower ; there is also a great peculiarity in the foliage, in many instances the leaves being very curiously winged, while there is a stoutness in the wood which argues well for the constitution of the Rose ; and we fully expect it to take its place with those already universally admired English Roses, *Devoniensis*, *John Hopper*, *Lord Clyde*, *Mrs. Ward*, *Mrs. John Berners*, and *Beauty of Waltham*.





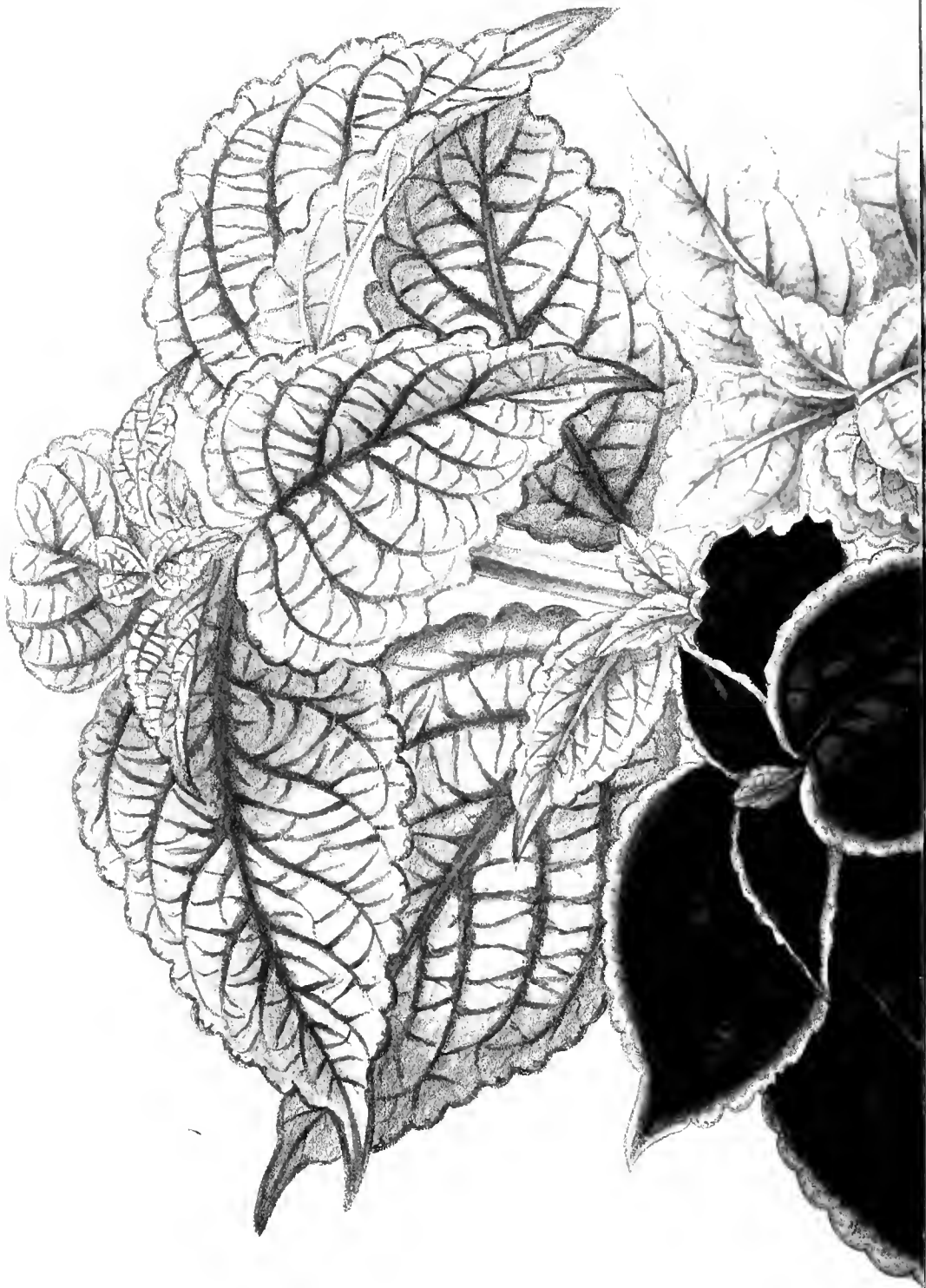
JAPANESE CHRYSANTHEMUMS, DR. JAMES  
SALTER AND HERO OF MAGDALA.

We can well understand any one who had not seen anything of the remarkable varieties of Japanese origin, looking at these strange-looking flowers, exclaiming, What can these things be? are they really flowers, or only some whimsical fancy of the artist? But in very truth they are exact representations of two of the remarkable series of the hybrid varieties which Mr. Salter has been engaged in producing from the Japanese flowers introduced some years ago by Mr. Fortune, disregarded at that time by many, but containing, as we believed them to do, the elements of much future progress; and this they have done far beyond anything that one could have imagined in so short a time.

We had the opportunity of seeing Mr. Salter's collection in November, and, in addition to the flowers now figured, we noticed *Dr. Masters*, a large and fine flower, bronze-red with yellow tips and centre; *G. F. Wilson*, dark golden-yellow; *Purpurea alba*, rich purple, spotted and tipped with white; *Meteor*, bright orange; *Regalia*, fiery-red orange; the *Mokudo*, very large and long orange-yellow petals; whilst *Red Dragon*, *Amentium*, *Leopard*, *Wizard*, and others of last season, were remarkably fine; the two which we have selected, however, seemed the finest we had yet seen. Fig. 1. *Dr. James Salter*, is a flower of remarkable character, the petals being very broad and of a rosy-lilac colour, but without the slightest regularity of outline, the petals being thrown together in the most confused manner, more resembling masses of cut paper than flowers.

Fig. 2. *Hero of Magdala*, is a fine Indian red flower, with the back of the petals yellow; and the whole flower bears a very close resemblance to one of the Actini or Sea-Anemones, that kind so well known on our coasts as *A. crassicornis*. There may be some who will deny the claim of beauty to these flowers, but none can deny them that of novelty.











PLATES 423 & 424.

HYBRID COLEUS, PRINCESS ROYAL, PRINCE  
ALBERT VICTOR, AND REFULGENS.

---

Probably in the whole history of horticulture of late years there has been nothing more extraordinary than the sale of the *Coleus* raised at the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens last year: that a batch of twelve hybrid plants should have sold for nearly £400 was in itself remarkable enough; but that this sum should have been given for plants so utterly useless for the purpose which the buyers supposed them available (out-door culture) is well nigh incredible; yet, having tried them and seen them tried at Battersea and elsewhere, we feel we are not wrong in disregarding them as failures.

It was probably owing to this cause that so very different a result attended the sale of the new set of what we may perhaps call Golden *Coleus*, in December, when a very remarkable lot, hybridized by the same raiser, Mr. Bause, were sold for hardly more than the price of one variety at the former sale. They are the result of crosses between some of his former seedlings and *Coleus Blumei*; and as they promise to be most valuable and attractive plants for the greenhouse, and some of them may also probably be found very useful for the borders, we have selected two for our present Plate, and have added another raised by Mr. Bull. They have passed into the hands of different nurserymen, but all of them are spoken of in very high terms; they are:—Fig. 1. *Prince Albert Victor*, is in the hands of Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Stanstead Park, Forest Hill; it is a variety of very distinct character, bright golden-yellow with very dark pencillings, evidently traceable to the

species called *Gibsoni*. Fig. 2. *Princess Royal*, has a remarkably bright foliage, bright crimson, edged with golden-yellow, and is in the hands of Mr. Charles Turner, of Slough; it bears a good deal of likeness to *Duke of Edinburgh*, which is in the hands of Mr. Bull, and *Queen Victoria*, which Messrs. Lee are about to distribute; while *Refulgens*, one of the best in its style, is a seedling of Mr. Bull's (of Chelsea) raising, and contrasts remarkably well with the other two light-foliaged plants.





PLATE 425.

PENSTEMONS—PURPLE KING AND  
MRS. ARTHUR STERRY.

---

It is now some time since we figured any varieties of this very beautiful herbaceous plant, and a reference to the flowers then figured, as in Plate 224, will show that hybridizers have not been idle, and that very considerable advance has been made, both in the size of the flowers, and the beauty and form of the spike. To Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, who have been amongst the most successful cultivators of this tribe of plants, we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring the two very beautiful varieties in our present Plate.

The cultivation of the *Penstemon* presents no difficulty to the lover of flowers. A hardy herbaceous plant, it is able to withstand the varying character of our climate, and hence it ought to be extensively cultivated, and wherever hardy plants are used, there it should come into more general use. It is also very easily propagated, by division of the roots, in autumn, and, when properly treated, will yield a succession of bloom from June until October.

The French horticulturists have, as well as our English growers, been hybridizing and improving this class, and some of the more recent additions, such as *Baron de Gargan*, crimson striped; *General Prim*, flesh-colour and maroon; *President Silbermann*; and *Souvenir de Marie Crousse* are very good additions, and it is probable that the introduction of new species may lead to further improvement.

The varieties so beautifully rendered by Mr. Andrews in our plate, are, *Purple King* (fig. 1), in which the whole flower, tube and lip, are of a lively bright purple with pure white throat,

large in size and very freely produced in the spike. *Mrs. Arthur Sterry* (fig. 2) has the tube shaded with rose on the outside, the lip a deep rosy crimson colour, and the throat pure white. They will, with several others, be let out in the present spring by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Stanstead Park, Forest Hill, and Edinburgh.

ERRATUM.—In the preceding plate of *Coleus*, fig. 1 is not, as inadvertently called, *Prince Albert Victor*, but *Princess Beatrice*.





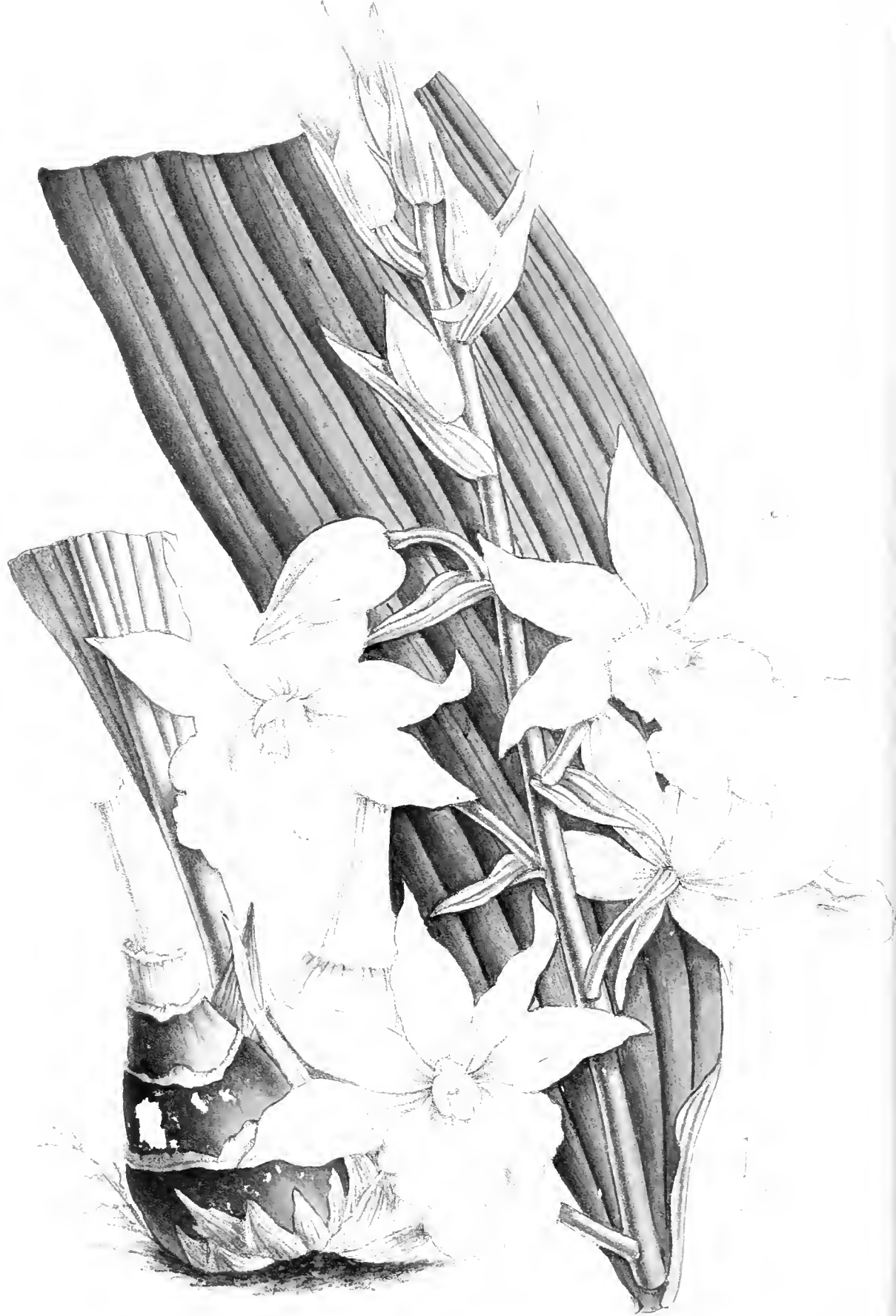


PLATE 426.

PHAIUS IRRORATUS.

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The older varieties of *Phaius* are well known for their stately appearance and for the ease with which they are cultivated, and it occurred to that indefatigable hybridizer, Mr. Dominy, who has, in the course of a long series of years devoted to the subject, produced many striking novelties, such as *Calanthe Veitchii*, *Lalia Pitcheri*, &c., to make it the subject of his skill. He therefore crossed *Phaius Tankervillei* with *Calanthe vestita*, and the result is the very beautiful orchid which we now figure; it has been so well described by Professor Reichenbrach, *fls.*, that we think it desirable to give his words as they appeared in a contemporary; he is the first of living orchidologists, and is well qualified to write upon any matter connected with this very beautiful and varied tribe of plants:—

“This is one of the beautiful evidences of Mr. Dominy’s unrivalled talent in hybridizing *Orchids* in Messrs Veitch’s Royal Exotic Nursery. According to the nomenclature of Wiegmann it must be called *Phaius vestito—Tankervillei* being an offspring of the so-called *Calanthe vestita*, Wall (*Phaius vestitus nobis*), and *Phaius Tankervillei*, R. Br. The creamy-white flowers are intermediate between its parents as regards their expansion.

“Both sepals and petals have a rosy hue over the limb, and there is a pale yellow hue over the disk of the lip. The sepals and petals are oblong, lanceolate, apiculate, with very prominent median nerves. The lip is nearly circular. There are three obscure keels on the base. The anterior part is some-

what crisp, and there are two folds in lieu of the lobes of *Phaius vestitus*. The spur is somewhat compressed and bilobed at the apex, hairy, as is also the stalked ovary. The column is club-shaped, trigonous, white, yellow inside at the base.”





PLATE 427.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS—PINK PERFECTION  
AND STELLARIS.

Strange and fantastic as are the Japanese Chrysanthemums, and possessing, as they unquestionably do, all the charm of novelty, they will not, with many persons, ever supersede the older and more symmetrical varieties, so many examples of which we have from year to year figured, and improvement on which seems at times well nigh impossible. Every now and then, however, flowers of surpassing excellence, either in size or novelty of colour, are reared, showing to us that there is still ground unoccupied to work upon, and in our annual visit to Mr. Salter's Versailles Nursery at Hammersmith, in November, we selected the flowers now figured as amongst the most beautiful novelties of the year.

We have already given a list of some of the best of the Japanese section to be distributed this spring; we now add a description of some of the best in what is now called the English section. *Pink Perfection* (fig. 1) is a beautiful, light pink flower, colour very pure, and form exquisite; it is considered by Mr. Salter, and we think with justice, to be the premier flower of the year, and has obtained a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society. *Stellaris* is a medium-sized flower, Indian red, with the back of the petals deep orange; this colour, as the flower is deeply incurved, is that which most prominently shows when the flower fully opens; it is in the style of *Cherub*, but much better. *Orange Annie Salter*, a fine bronze sport of the old and much esteemed flower, *Annie Salter*. *Rival Little Harry*, a very fine small yellow, of exquisite form, in the style of

*Little Harry*. *Golden John Salter*, fine deep yellow, a sport from *John Salter*. *Beethoven*, fine bronzed red, very double, and fine form. *Finnette*, lilac peach anemone, and *Rotundiflora*, a sport from *Beverley*, a very fine, compact, white flower, quite a ball. It will be thus seen that three of these new flowers are sports from older varieties.





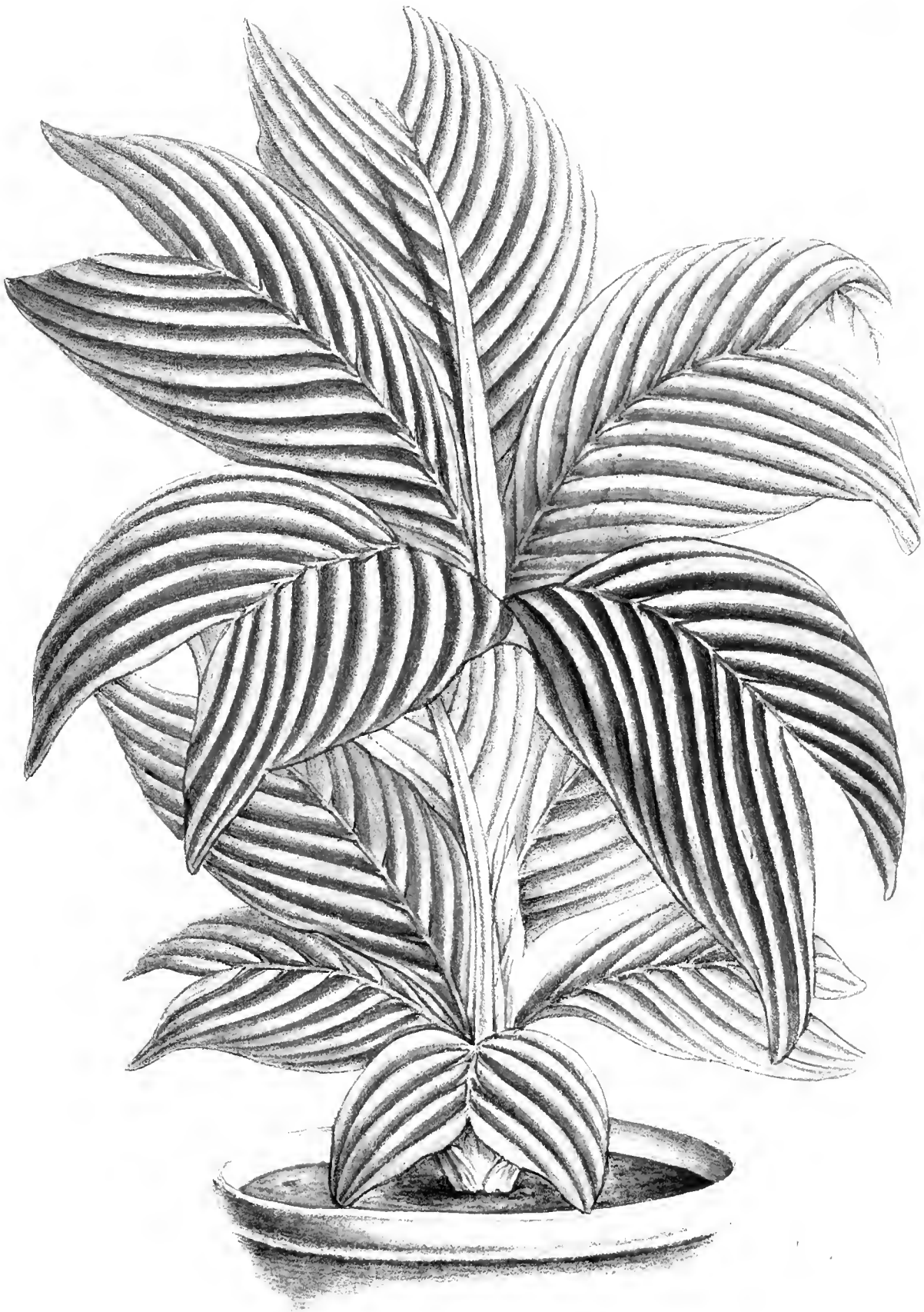


PLATE 428.

GEONEMA SEEMANNI.

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The appearance of a Plate of this very beautiful Palm indicates that there is a change coming over the tastes of people in this country, and that we are desirous of aiding this by presenting from time to time examples of the many additions made by recent explorers to our stock of rare and beautiful species.

For a long time, both in Belgium and France, the various species of palms have been used for the decorations of rooms, and on the occasion of the grand fêtes given by the various public bodies, the halls, the staircases, and rooms are largely supplied with their beautifully graceful forms, adding quite as much to the appearance of the rooms as the more brilliant flowering plants, such kinds as *Chamærops excelsa*, *Cocos coronata*, *Coryphæus Australis*, *Phœnix dactylifera*, *Latania borbonica*, *Areca sapida*, *Rhapis flabelliformis*, and others, are very generally used, and, moreover, as what is called subtropical gardening is now coming so much into vogue, many of these will also be found suitable for it, and are, indeed, used both in Paris and at Battersea for this purpose.

*Geonema Seemanni* is a very distinct and beautiful species of Palm, introduced from Central America by Dr. Seemann, after whom it is named: it is in the possession of Mr. Wm. Bull, of King's-road, Chelsea, by whom it is now being distributed, and we subjoin his description of it:—"The leaves are identical in character, though much varied in size, those first formed being about 2 inches, while the later ones (or young plants) are 10 inches in length, the angular petiole becomes

widened and sheathing at the base, with a broadish scarious margin, and the blade widens from upwards from the top of the stalk, becomes broadish and bilobed, forming two sharp-pointed divisions, the leaves are feather-veined and strongly plaited in the direction of the veins. The singular bilobing of the leaves, and their very obvious plaiting, give them a very marked character, the interest of which is heightened by the comparison between the larger leaves of later development and their miniature representations near the base of the plant."

It is a small-growing species, and is well worthy of cultivation by all interested in this beautiful tribe of plants.



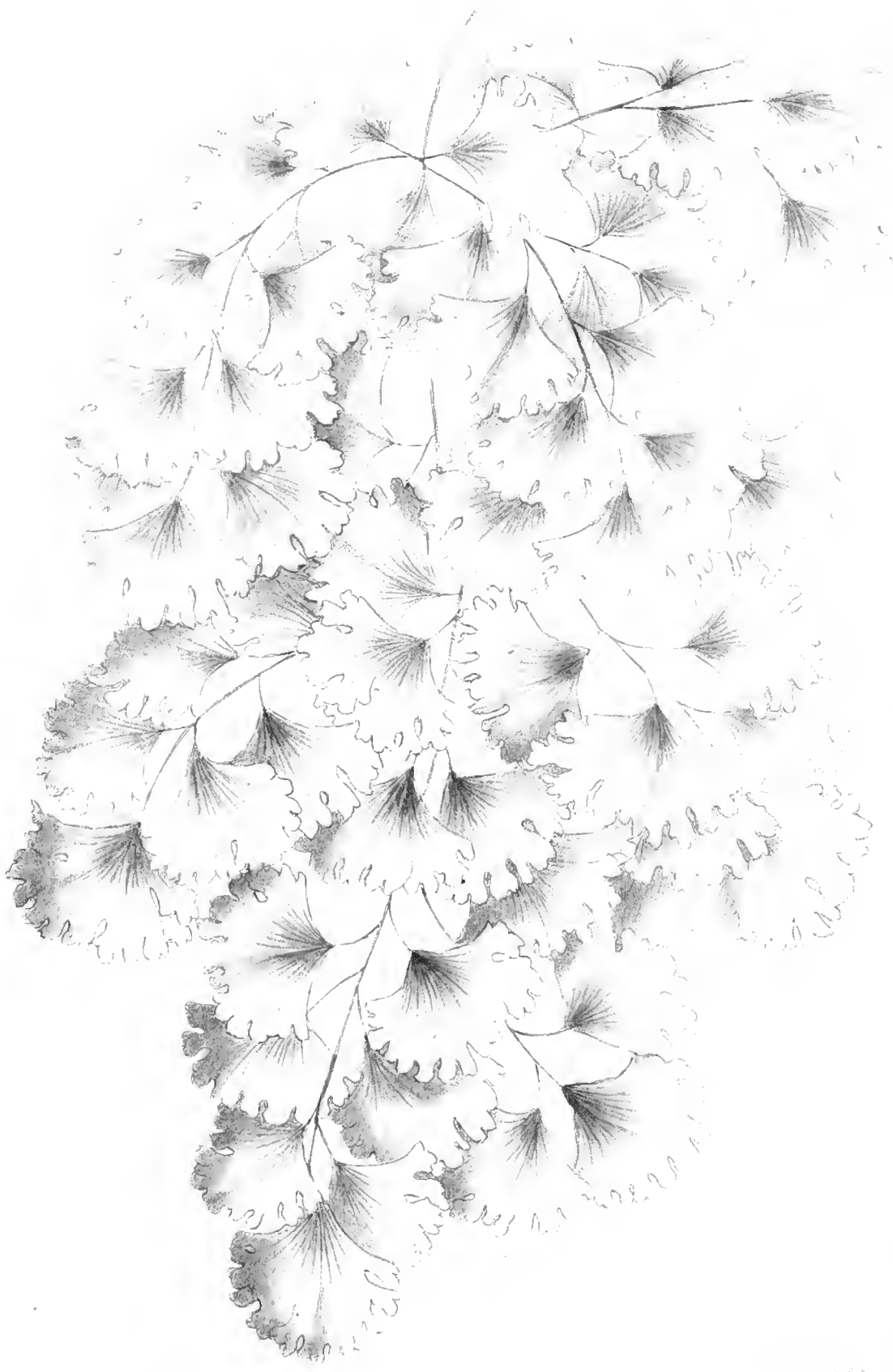


PLATE 429.

ADIANTUM FARLEYENSE.

The very extensive demand that there is for Ferns, and the very prominent position that they hold in all well ordered establishments, will be a sufficient reason for our (after a lapse of many years) again figuring one of their most beautiful forms; wherever there is a stove or greenhouse, one is sure, in the present day, to meet with some of them, while Ferneries both exotic and hardy, are to be seen everywhere; few amateurs, indeed, are able to have them in such excellence as Mr. Bewley of Blackrock, near Dublin, but every one may grow some, and they are always sought after.

Perhaps there is no family amongst them more generally admired than the *Adiantums*; our own native *A. capillus veneris*, or Maidenhair, is very beautiful, and when seen, as we have seen it, in rich profusion in the Isles of Arran, off the coast of Galway, one feels that it is very difficult to see anything more graceful. Then *A. cucullatum* is one of the most useful plants that we possess; beautiful in itself, it is so admirably adapted for bouquets, that nothing seems to take its place, while it is so accommodating in its habits, that for two out of the three years in which a prize was offered at the Royal Horticultural Society for a plant grown in a drawing-room, it took the first prize.

*Adiantum Farleyense*, however, at present stands unrivalled in this beautiful and numerous class for its wonderful beauty and gracefulness; there is a softness and tenderness about it,

that gives it a peculiar charm, while its pendant habit, similar to *cuneatum*, *concinnum*, and others, leaves nothing to be desired ; it requires a stove, and succeeds best, as the rest of the family, in peat and sand. During a recent visit paid to the establishment of Mons. Linden, at the Jardin Zoologique, Brussels, we saw some fine forms of *Adiantum*, which will, we think, be as popular as *A. Farleyense* is likely to be. We are indebted to Mr. Bull, of King's-road, Chelsea, for the opportunity of figuring this beautiful Fern.







PLATE 430.

CAMELLIA LA MÆSTOSA.

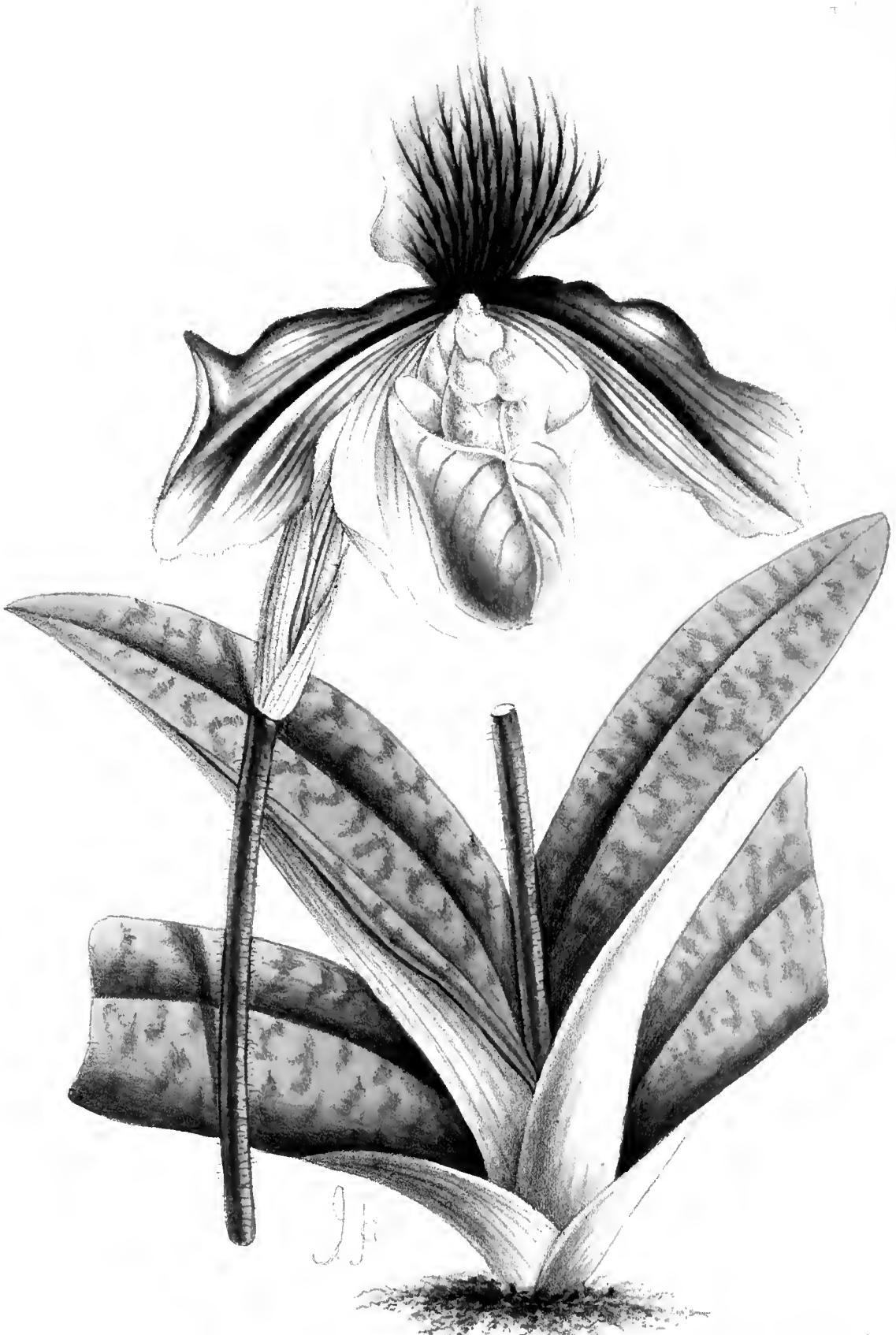
The culture of the Camellia does not make that progress with us that its merits so justly entitle it to; blooming at the season at which it does, giving flowers of such exquisite form and such beauty of colour, it is assuredly a plant which ought to be everywhere well grown, nor does it present any difficulties in cultivation, for we are persuaded that there is not one that will endure anything like the treatment that the Camellia will. We have seen it well grown in dusty rooms, and miserably grown in well-built greenhouses, while all kinds of soil are used, and it endeavours to accommodate itself to all.

A great deal has been said and written lately on the subject of Camellia culture and the dropping of the flower-buds, of which so many have to complain, and many reasons have been given for this. There are a few things which we consider are oftentimes overlooked, and on which good culture a great deal depends: in the first place, we think, as a general rule, Camellias are *over* potted with us; we have seen, both in Belgium and France, very large plants grown in comparatively small pots, and we believe that there is not the necessity that some imagine there is for an annual potting of the plants, as good top-dressing would be, we think, sufficient every alternate year; then there is no question, that the Camellia will take a great deal more moisture than it oftentimes gets, especially when the buds are swelling; moreover, we think that very often sufficient care is not taken to prevent the ingress of worms into the pots, and when much water is required, good drainage (which is apt to be

disturbed by worms) is most essential ; it is oftentimes put behind a hedge and left to take its chance, and when the buds begin to colour then the neglect tells. However this may be, or from whatever cause, we hardly ever see at our London spring shows any Camellias worth notice.

*La Mastosa* is a beautiful deep earmine crimson variety, with rich dark-coloured foliage, the petals have occasionally a splash of white on them, and are remarkable for their great size and substance. It is of Italian origin, has been exhibited by Mr. Wm. Bull, and has gained a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society.





Andrews del. et lith.

Vincent Brook Day & Son, Imp.

PLATE 431.

CYPRIPEDIUM HARRISIANUM.

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The exquisite drawing by Mr. Andrews faithfully represents one of the latest triumphs of Mr. Dominy's skill, and we cannot do better in recording it, than give the remarks supplied by Mons. H. Reichenbach *filis*, to a contemporary.

This hybrid was obtained by applying the pollen of *C. barbatum*, to the stigma of *C. villosum*. The colours are much brighter and darker than those of *villosum*, and as large as the largest varieties of *barbatum*, and in the botanical description given of it, by Mons. R., he shows that it is a true hybrid, partaking very distinctly of the character of both plants; he then adds: "We have to thank Messrs. Veitch for some of the showiest plants ever obtained in gardens. They have from the beginning candidly stated what kind of plants they were. May such interesting experiments be often repeated; it is not only the desire of getting valuable camellias we allude to; no, a higher wish is, that by such continuous experiments we may by-and-by get quite new views about the limits of genera and species; the grand question about the limits of species will be more and more elucidated by such cross fertilization. Some grave doubts about the limits of genera, apparently weakened by some so-called species, will be solved by the hybrid nature of the intermediate connecting links."

These splendid acquisitions are due to the unrivalled skill and sagacity of Mr. Dominy. And we are told it was Dr. Harris of Exeter, who gave Mr. Dominy the idea of hybridizing orchids,

at a time when we knew nothing about the European Orchid mules and when there was not the least indication of the present great excitement as to the limits and origin of species. The showy plant now described, could not, as Mr. Dominy well observes, bear a better name than that of the gentleman to whom we are indebted for so much. The beautiful drawing of Mr. Andrews will be the best description we can give for general readers.







PLATE 432.

CLERODENDRON SPECIOSUM.

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We some time ago (plate 255) figured a very beautiful plant of this family, *Clerodendron Thompsoni*, var. *Balfouri*, the beautiful contrast of whose white and crimson flowers has made it a striking object wherever it has been grown or exhibited. We have now the pleasure of drawing attention to another hybrid variety, which comes from the prolific establishment of Mr. Wm. Bull, of Chelsea, and it is surely a strong proof of the horticultural skill and perseverance of the present day, that no sooner does a plant make its appearance, than it not merely receives its highest development under the hands of our skillful plantmen, but it is immediately seized upon by those who are for ever catering for novelties, for the purpose of hybridizing, and the value of a plant is estimated now-a-days not only for its intrinsic beauty, but for its capabilities for cross-breeding.

This new variety may be regarded as one of the gems of the season as a handsome and effective exhibition plant. It is a cross between the well-known *C. Balfouri* and *C. splendens*. It partakes of the character of the latter in the immensely large and dense dichotomous cymes, from which the flowers are produced; in this variety, instead of the calyx being pure white, as in *C. Balfouri*, it has a reddish hue, and the corolla, instead of a bright scarlet, is a deep rose, slightly shaded with violet, the marginal portions being of a bright vermilion.

The foliage is smooth, oblong-ovate, of a rich dark green,

and, as the plant possesses a free habit, it makes an exceedingly beautiful stove climber. The flowers are produced in the greatest abundance, as in *C. Balfouri*, so that the merits of this variety, when grown as a specimen for exhibition purposes, can scarcely be over-estimated.



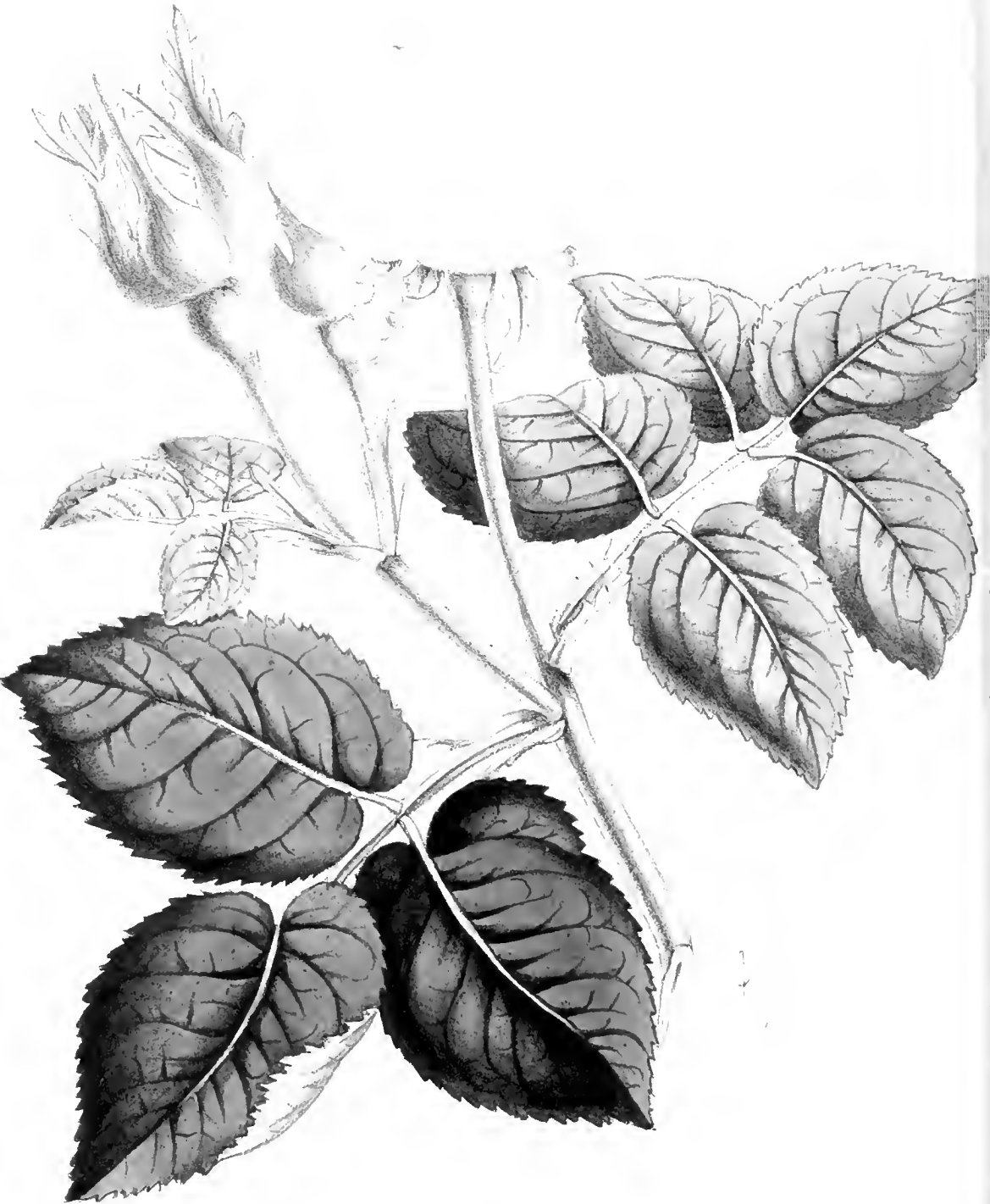


PLATE 433.

ROSE—SOUVENIR DE MONS. POITEAU.

During the autumn of 1867 when on a visit to Paris, we went, as is our wont, to the Rose garden of our excellent friend Mons. Margottin, of Bourg la Reine, and although it was somewhat late in the season, were enabled to see a bloom of this rose, which then struck us as of a very peculiar shade of colour, and when we again saw it in the collection of cut roses exhibited at Kensington by Messrs. Paul and Son, of Cheshunt, our opinion was fully confirmed, and we are inclined to think it will prove one of the favourites of the year. As usual, there are various opinions as to the merits of the new roses, and so little was seen of them last season in France, that it is, perhaps, more than any former year, a matter of question.

The love for this Queen of flowers is by no means on the decline; on the contrary, there is an ever-widening circle of admirers and growers; for those who admire, cannot but, if at all possible, grow them; and since the introduction of the Manetti stock it is not a matter of so much doubt as formerly; and so thorough has been the attention paid to them, that we can hope for but little advance in the method of cultivation. It is now thoroughly established that it is well-nigh impossible to give them too much manure; while the experience of the past summer has taught us the value of watering—these are two cardinal points. With regard to green-fly, there is no more certain method of getting rid of them than by good syringeings; should this not be effectual, there are now some preparations of

tobacco (such as Pooley's Tobacco Powder) which are certain death to them, and are easily applied.

*Souvenir de Mons. Poiteau* is a rose of excellent qualities; there is a peculiar salmon tinge about the centre of it which quite entitles it to be considered a novelty, and we look forward with some interest to its more frequent appearance. Mons. Margottin himself considered it the best rose he had reared since *Jules Margottin*, a rose which, amidst the multitude of new flowers, still holds a foremost place.





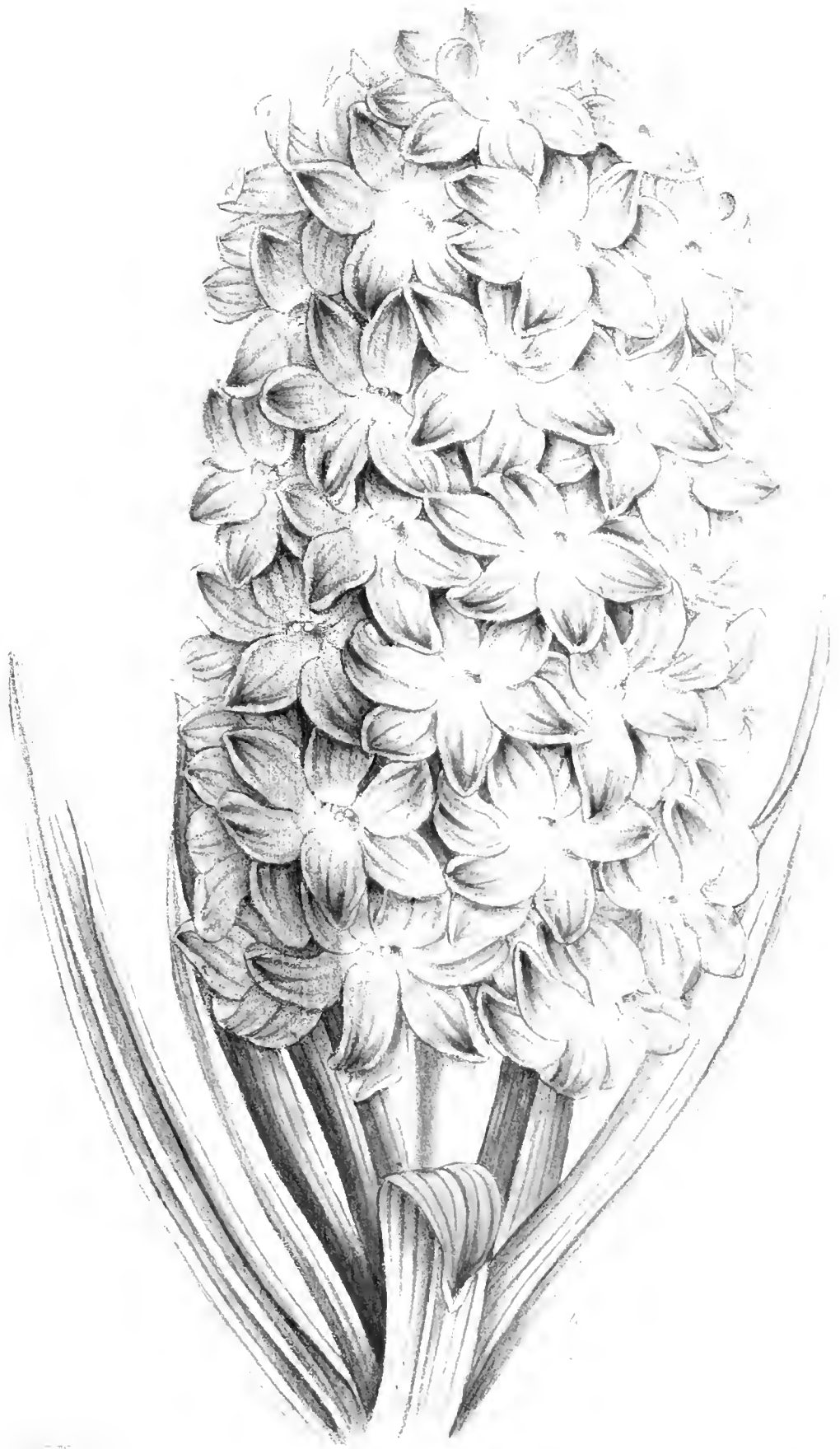


PLATE 434.

HYACINTH—LORD PALMERSTON.

Certainly never since the Hyacinth has been grown has such an exhibition of this splendid spring flower been brought together as at the Spring Show of the Royal Horticultural Society at Kensington on March 13th. The Dutch growers had no doubt contributed very much towards this by offering a large sum to be competed for in special prizes, for this had stimulated to greater exertions than ever our most celebrated exhibitors, so that the Dutch growers, who came over to witness the effect of their liberality, confessed themselves astonished at the marvellous specimens of culture which they then saw.

No firm has contributed so much to the popularity of the Hyacinth as Messrs. Cutbush and Sons, of Highgate; not only have they themselves shown what can be done in the way of producing the most splendid spikes of flowers, but they have enabled others to enter successfully into the field of competition, for all the 1st class prizes taken by amateurs have been with bulbs supplied by them; and it is worthy of notice that so far from it being necessary to obtain new and high-priced varieties, the finest spikes exhibited on this occasion were, with few exceptions, those of old favourites, which can be obtained at a cheap rate.

There was one exception to the excellence of the exhibition, and that was in the class for new flowers not yet in commerce. There was only one collection staged, by Mr. Wm. Paul, and this contained but one flower of any value, *Hector*; but

amongst new flowers, so new as not to be as yet priced in the catalogue, some excellent varieties were exhibited; amongst them was the very fine blue flower figured in our present plate. It was exhibited by the Messrs. Cutbush, and was very much admired: through their courtesy we are now enabled to figure it. It is somewhat in the style of *Argus*, and is a flower of first-rate properties.



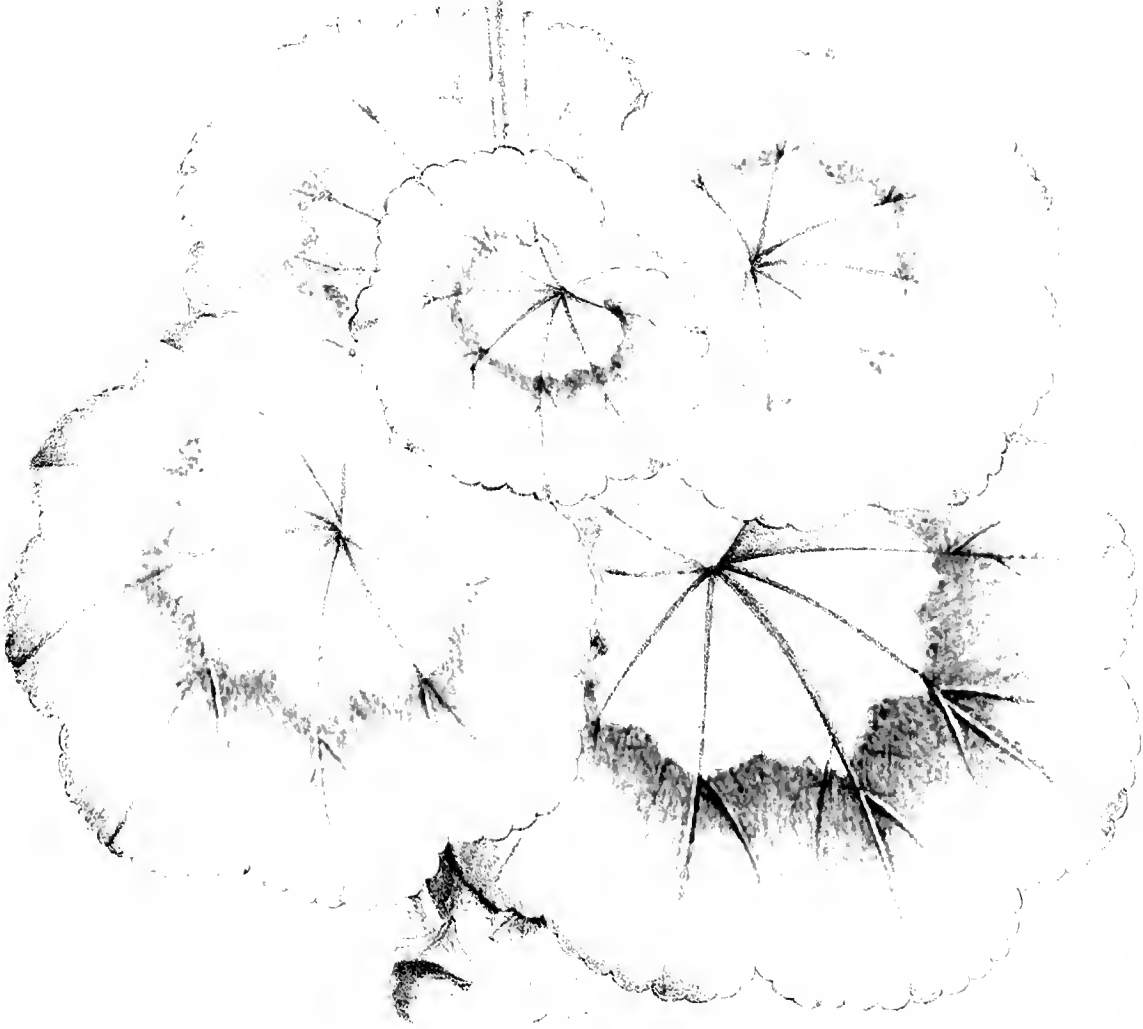
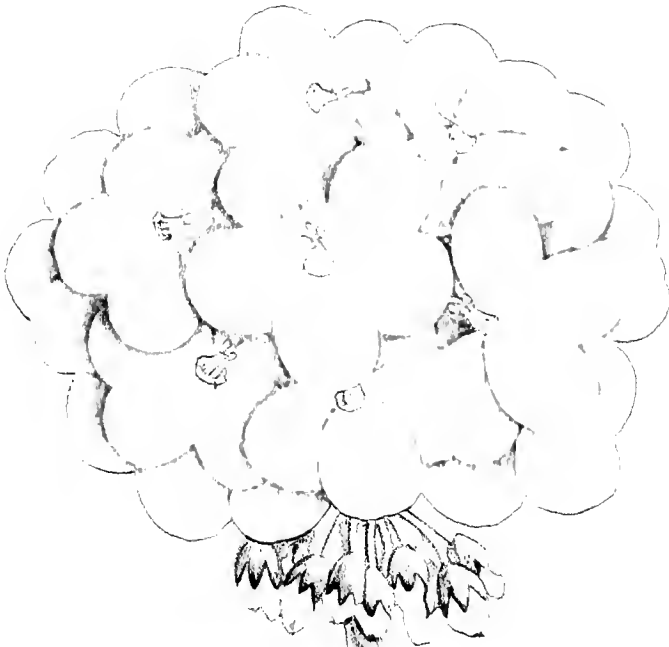


PLATE 435.

BICOLOR PELARGONIUM—CROWN PRINCE.

Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the correct name to be given to pelargoniums of this class, there can be none as to their beauty and value. As pot plants they are remarkable enough, and do not require the same careful treatment as the Golden Tricolors—a tolerable proof that the very beautiful marking of that class results from disease; while as bedding plants they are perhaps more effective than the more aristocratic tricolors.

Several growers have been successful in raising varieties of this beautiful class, and we may say that, without doubt, the Messrs. Smith of Dulwich, and Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Stanstead Park, have taken the foremost place. Other growers are following in their steps; and in a tour made some time ago in the West of England, we noticed some remarkably fine ones with Mr. Sampson of Yeovil, which he is now introducing to the public—the success of some, stimulating others to attempt the same.

There can be little doubt that, hardy as the pelargoniums of the general sorts are, yet these more refined classes are greatly benefited by moderate heat, especially in the winter months; we say a moderate heat, because if too much fire heat is given it takes all the colour out of the foliage; and in a stove one can hardly recognise them as the same plants; while in the summer months judicious shading and plenty of air, but not draughts, seem greatly to improve their growth and appearance.

We know no better way of growing them than under lights, where the air has a free circulation round them.

*Crown Prince* has a very deep black or bronze zone, and will be sent out with other fine varieties by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing during the present month.







PLATE 436.

DOUBLE-FLOWERED FERN-LEAVED  
PRIMULA.

There is no flower more popular or more useful for the Spring decoration of greenhouses and conservatories than the Primula, and it has certainly rewarded in a remarkable manner the attention that has been paid to it of late years. Those who can recollect the small meagre blooms which used to be tolerated as Chinese Primroses, can appreciate the immense difference there is now, in the large finely formed flowers and ample foliage that we meet with everywhere, while intensity has been added to the colour, and new shades have been introduced; then by a judicious crossing with the double Chinese herbaceous primrose a strain of double and semi-double flowers was introduced, some of which we have already figured in our pages. After some time a remarkable difference in the foliage appeared, and what were not inaptly termed Fern-leaved Primulas, coming true from seed, were introduced by Messrs. E. G. Henderson & Son; and now a still further step has been made, and double flowers have been produced on the same foliage.

The Messrs. F. and A. Smith of Dulwich, who had previously either raised or introduced some of these novelties, are the possessors of this new strain, and recently exhibited a plant at a meeting of the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, where they gained a first-class certificate. We are informed by them that it will be some time before they are able to distribute it to the public, but with the skill that they have

acquired in the management of these plants, we are quite sure that all difficulties in the way of its propagation will be overcome. The flowers of this fine kind are similar to some of those which have already appeared, but it is the fact of obtaining fine double blooms on the very striking foliage that makes this such an acquisition.

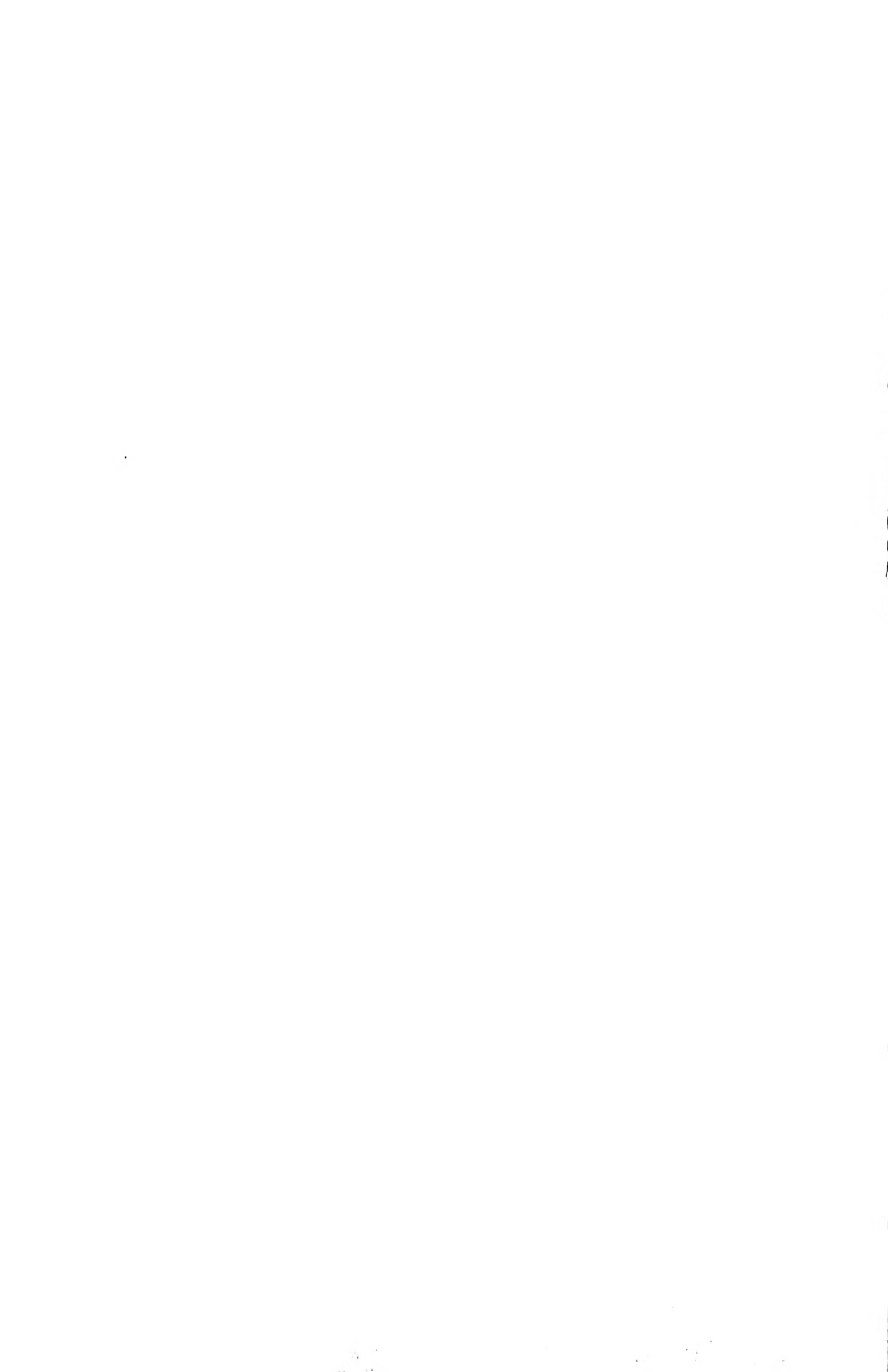




PLATE 437.

PELARGONIUM—GOLDEN TRICOLOR,  
THE MOONSTONE.

The interest which has been created in this very beautiful section by no means diminishes, the circle of raisers is constantly increasing, and the varieties are now becoming so numerous that it will be necessary to considerably weed them out: this is always a difficult and trying process, especially when the plants are so beautiful. To give two or three guineas for a geranium and then to throw it away because others still more attractive have been introduced requires some courage, and yet it must be done, for we believe it would be very difficult in many instances, were the names changed, for the owners to recognise them.

We have lately had an opportunity of seeing some of the most beautiful and novel of these beautiful plants, at Messrs. F. and A. Smiths', Messrs. Carter, and Messrs. Rollisson and Co. of Tooting. At the former place we saw *Achievement*, in the way of *Lady Cullum*, but not with so dark a zone. *Jetty Lacy* very beautiful; *Coronet* very high in colour, with deep maroon zone; *Sultan* very rich bright zone; *Flamingo*, *Vivid*, and many others. Messrs. Carter have *Sir Robert Napier*, very rich and dark; *Prince of Wales*, a grand foliaged plant; and *Mrs. Dunnett*, beautifully round and compact. These have all obtained first-class certificates. At Messrs. Rollissons' we saw, besides other well-known kinds, the variety now figured, *The Moonstone*. It will be seen that it is one of the *Mrs. Pollock*

section, with leaves very round and convex, a beautiful golden edge, and dark chocolate zone, splashed with bright crimson shading off into lake; it bears a good deal of analogy to *Lucy Greice*, but unlike that variety, which is remarkable for its delicate habit, *The Moonstone* is very vigorous, and is therefore likely to be attractive for all purposes for which these plants are grown; their value as decorative plants has been fully proved, but they require it is evident a higher degree of temperature than the ordinary zonal pelargonium to grow them in perfection, and indeed more generous treatment as to soil, which they amply repay by their increased vigour.



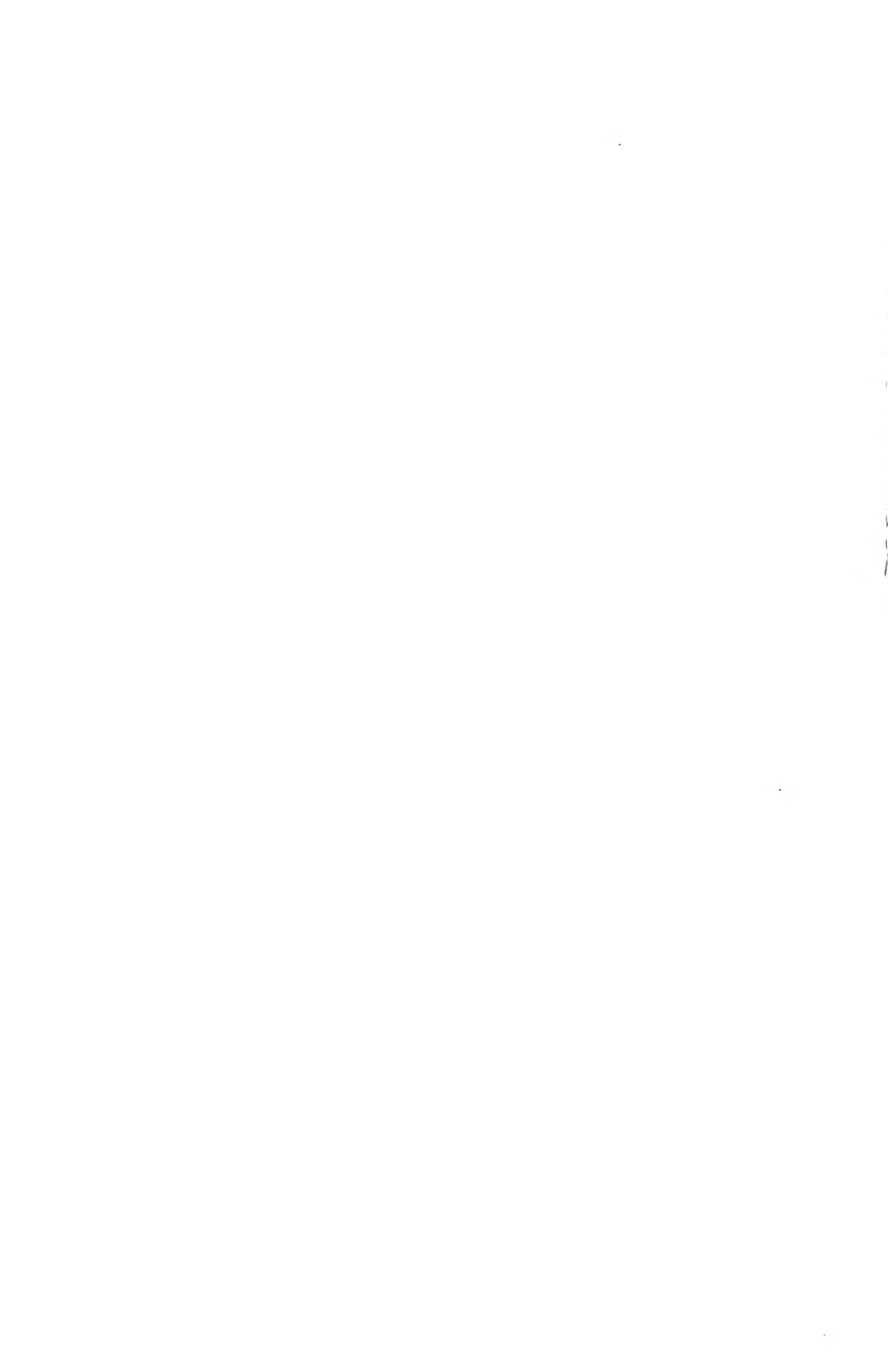




PLATE 438.

CINERARIAS—PANDORA, INO, AND  
ROYAL PURPLE.

It is a very common practice nowadays to discard the notion of growing *Cinerarias* from plants, and instead of it to trust to seedlings saved from the best kinds; and so far has this been carried, that rarely do we now see a good collection of these beautiful spring flowers. Yet when we visit places where they are grown as seedlings, we generally find a large number of utterly worthless, staring, ugly flowers, and very rarely any that fulfils our notion of a good *Cineraria*. The reason given for this is that it is so much easier, which it no doubt is, and when so much is required of gardeners as there is in the present day, this is a matter of some consideration. It is, therefore, to the credit of Messrs. F. and A. Smith of Dulwich, that they have steadily pursued the course of improving the *Cineraria*, until they have reached a measure of success which amply rewards them for all their trouble.

In the varieties which we figure, it will be seen that size and colour have been attained beyond anything formerly known; and we can testify that combined with this they have a dwarfness of habit, which adds considerably to their value. *Pandora* (fig. 1) is white with a heavy tip of deep claret crimson, the habit of the plant is excellent, and carries a very large head of bloom. *Ino* (fig. 2) is a large white flower with tip of light crimson. *Royal Purple* (fig. 3) is a very remarkable flower, being in fact a tricolor, and is of a richly shaded purple and puce,

with ring of rich crimson and inner circle of pure white ; it is a very attractive flower. We have also seen another, *Orb of Day*, which is perhaps even finer than these. They have all obtained certificates from the Royal Horticultural Society, and have been greatly admired by all who have had the opportunity of seeing them. Those who prefer growing from seed, will have the advantage of knowing that seed saved from the collection of Messrs. Smith has produced these fine flowers, and no time should be lost in sowing it, in order to produce good plants for next spring. But our advice would be to have a few good plants, of whose merits there can be no doubt, rather than a number of indifferent ones.



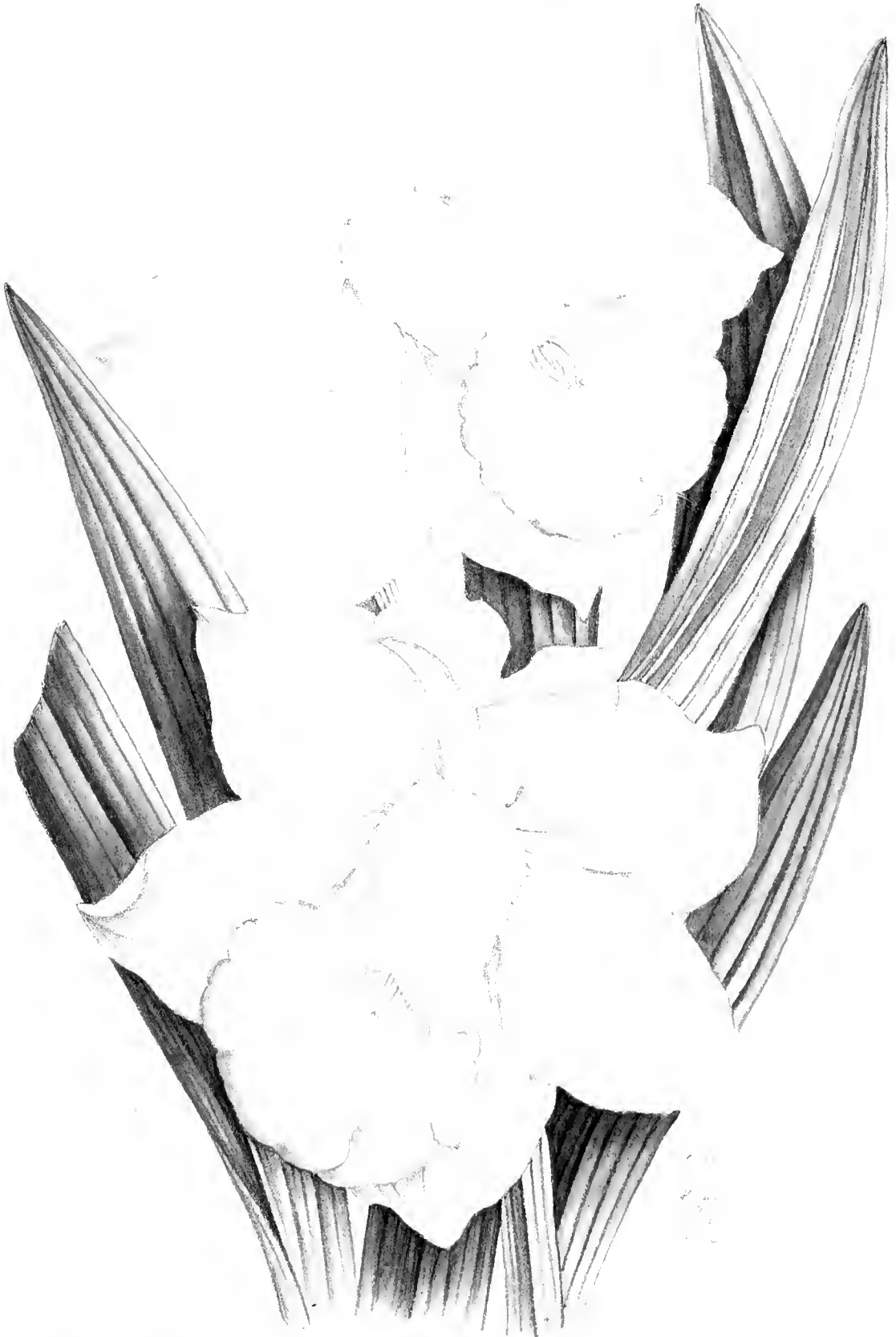


PLATE 439.

HYBRID NARCISSI—EMPEROR AND  
EMPRESS.

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We are indebted to the eminent firm of Backhouse and Son, of York, for figuring the two remarkable hybrids in our plate, and for the following information with regard to them:—

“These two fine hybrid Daffodils were raised by the late William Backhouse, of St. John’s, near Wolsingham, a most persevering and successful amateur cultivator of bulbous plants, to which for nearly or quite twenty years he gave large attention; they are crosses between *Narcissus bicolor* and *Narcissus, pseudo Narcissus*, or *Narcissus Ajax*. These are the finest specimens known, and the children are finer still. It will be seen that the *Empress* (fig. 1) does not differ materially from its parent *Narcissus bicolor*, but it is distinct as a seedling, both in constitution and in being far finer than its parent; being of much more vigorous habit, larger in flower, and a more abundant bloomer. The *Emperor* obviously differs from its parent in the same particulars, and in having broad yellow petals. In addition to these we have another named *Stella*, the largest flowered *Narcissus* in diameter of the Daffodil section that we know, and is very striking; it is in the style of *Narcissus poeticus* and *Narcissus incomparabilis*, but half as large again, and with narrow petals, contrasting beautifully with the broad petals of the *Emperor* and *Empress*.”

Considerable interest has been aroused in this class of flowers in consequence of a prize being offered for the best collection of

the species—a matter very difficult to manage, as they bloom at various times. Many of them, and the hybrids raised from them, are very effective in the early spring. When grown as pot plants, they tend very much to make a house look gay, and have a delicate perfume; they are very easy to cultivate, and ought to be more generally grown than they are.





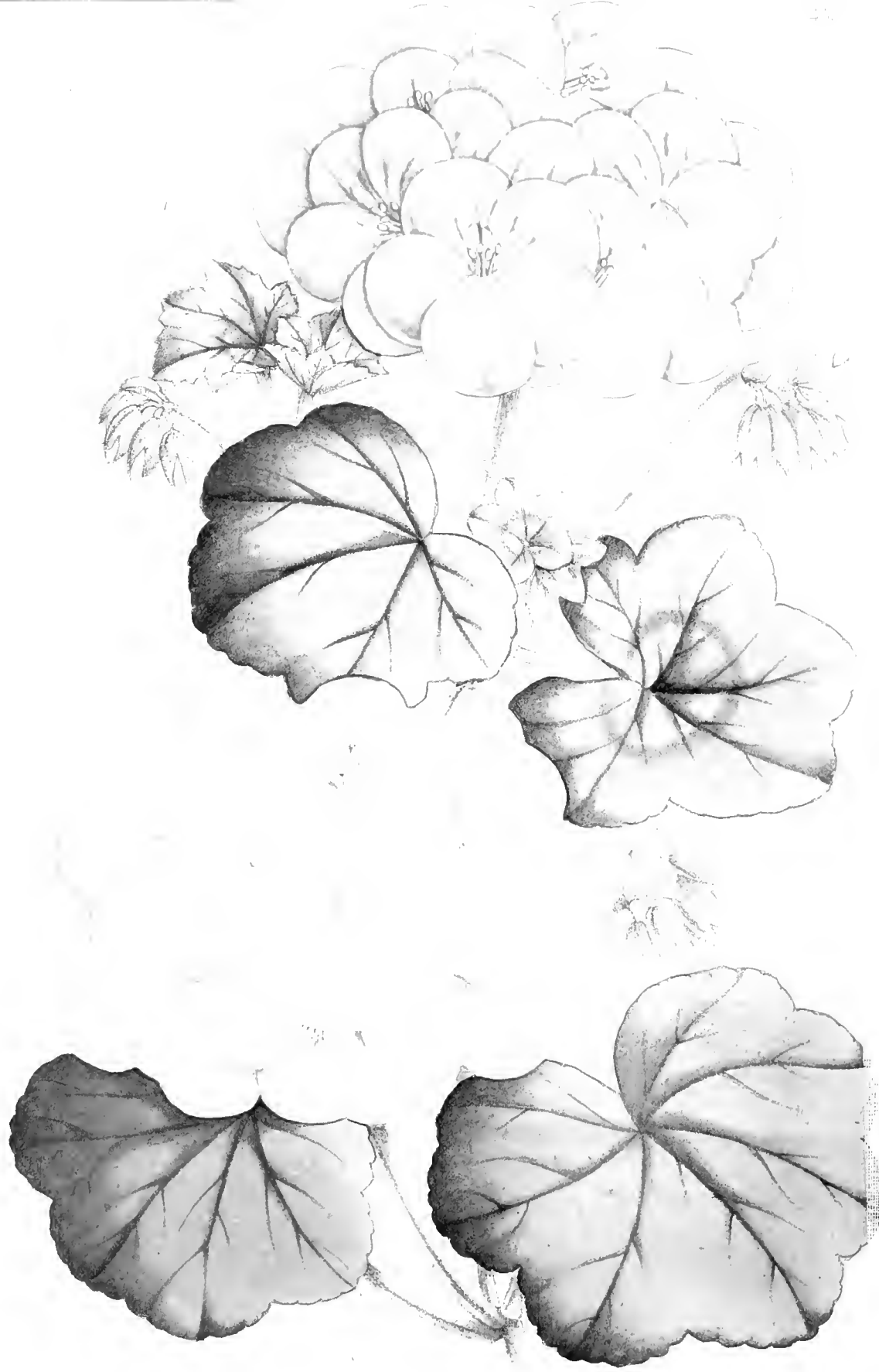


PLATE 440.

HYBRID PELARGONIUMS—WILLSII AND  
WILLSII ROSEA.

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The two most popular flowers of the present year are the Rose and the Geranium; popular, too, in the best sense of the word, for they can be grown by nearly everybody, and in nearly every place. The Rose, it is true, refuses to display its beauties amidst the smoke and dust of our large towns, yet even it may be caused to grow in places apparently most unsuited for it, and where a little shelter can be afforded to it it does not fail to repay its owner. The Geranium can be grown anywhere, and even some of the choicest varieties do not disdain to show themselves in full vigour in the cottager's window or in the crowded court. This popularity we bear witness to in having two Plates of Pelargoniums, most distinct, in our present number.

For many years, we believe upwards of fifteen, Mr. Wills, well known in the horticultural world for his skill and ability both as a grower and hybridizer, has been impressed with the idea that it would be a most desirable thing to obtain the growth and thick fine leaves of the Ivy-leaved section combined with the flowers of the Zonal, and he has not only thought about it, but acted on it. Many were the failures, but at last his perseverance has been crowned with success, and a portion of the result we now chronicle in the two varieties figured in our Plate. It will be at once seen that they are distinctly hybrids, the foliage, while chiefly maintaining the appearance of the ivy-leaved section, has yet a mixture of the zonal in it,

and is distinguished for its remarkably fleshy character, thus ensuring its being able to withstand the influence of the weather. In *Willsii* the flowers are of a deep scarlet, and quite of the zonal type, while in *Willsii rosea* they are, although similar in shape and character, of a delicate salmon rose; they will be sent out, we believe, by Mr. Wimsett, of whose establishment at the King's Road, Chelsea, Mr. Wills is now the manager. They may be regarded as the forerunners of an entirely new type of bedding geranium.





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PLATE 441.

IREGINE ACUMINATA.

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Nothing has been more remarkable in the history of modern gardening than the manner in which foliated plants have gradually won their way to a large share in producing the beautiful results we everywhere see effected; in ribbon borders, in separating the groups of flowering plants, and in masses by themselves, they are general favourites; in few gardens can good effects be realized without *Iresine Herbstii*, *Perilla Nankinensis*, and *Coleus Verschaffeltii*.

Some years ago when we figured *Iresine Herbstii*, grave doubts were expressed by some, as to whether it could answer the purpose for which it was intended; but it has by degrees established itself in the good opinion of most gardeners; and although in some localities it does not succeed well, yet in many others we have seen it in great perfection, especially in the autumn months. The golden variegated sport of it, has, however, generally failed, though we had hoped it would have made a useful change, but it soon becomes dirty and therefore useless.

*Iresine Acuminata*, which we now figure, has been introduced by Mr. William Bull, to whom we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring it, and we believe it will take its place amongst our most valued bedding plants. The intense richness of its colour, the freedom of its habit, and the pointed form of its leaf, mark it as essentially distinct from other plants used for a similar purpose; it is as easily propagated as the

older form, while the character of its foliage is a vast improvement on it. It is now being sent out by Mr. Bull, and will doubtless find its way into many gardens during the present season.\*

\* We believe it is also introduced under the name of *Æscyranthis acuminata*.







## PLATE 442.

### VARIETIES OF PERSIAN CYCLAMEN.

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We have again to record the vast progress that the Persian Cyclamen is making as a decorative spring plant. The success which has attended the exertions of Mr. Wiggins and other raisers has met with a response in the wide popularity of the flower, and at the same time increased vigour has been thrown into the plants, so that they are most readily grown and flowered. It was formerly considered that unless they had been grown for three or four years it would be impossible to get good flowering plants, whereas, even in the course of a year, good blooming plants can be obtained from seed.

In the collections exhibited this season, it is noticeable that the size of the flower, especially in the width of the petals, has been greatly increased, that a deeper shade of colour has been gained in the red and rosy-purple varieties, while spotted flowers are now taking their place amongst the other varieties. Formerly these spots were very irregular, and seemed to be rather the results of disease, but in the varieties figured on our plate it will be seen that this is no longer the case, the spots are distant and regularly placed, and when these flowers are produced in large masses, as in Mr. Wiggins' plants, exhibited this season, the effect is singularly beautiful.

We have but little to add as to culture. Mr. Wiggins, to whom we are indebted for the flowers figured, has shown that by generous treatment and constant growing they can be readily made into large and vigorous plants, that they do not require

the period of rest which used to be given to them, and that beauty of foliage as well as freeness in flowering can be obtained from seedlings, so that there is no necessity for attempting to propagate them—a slow and difficult process.



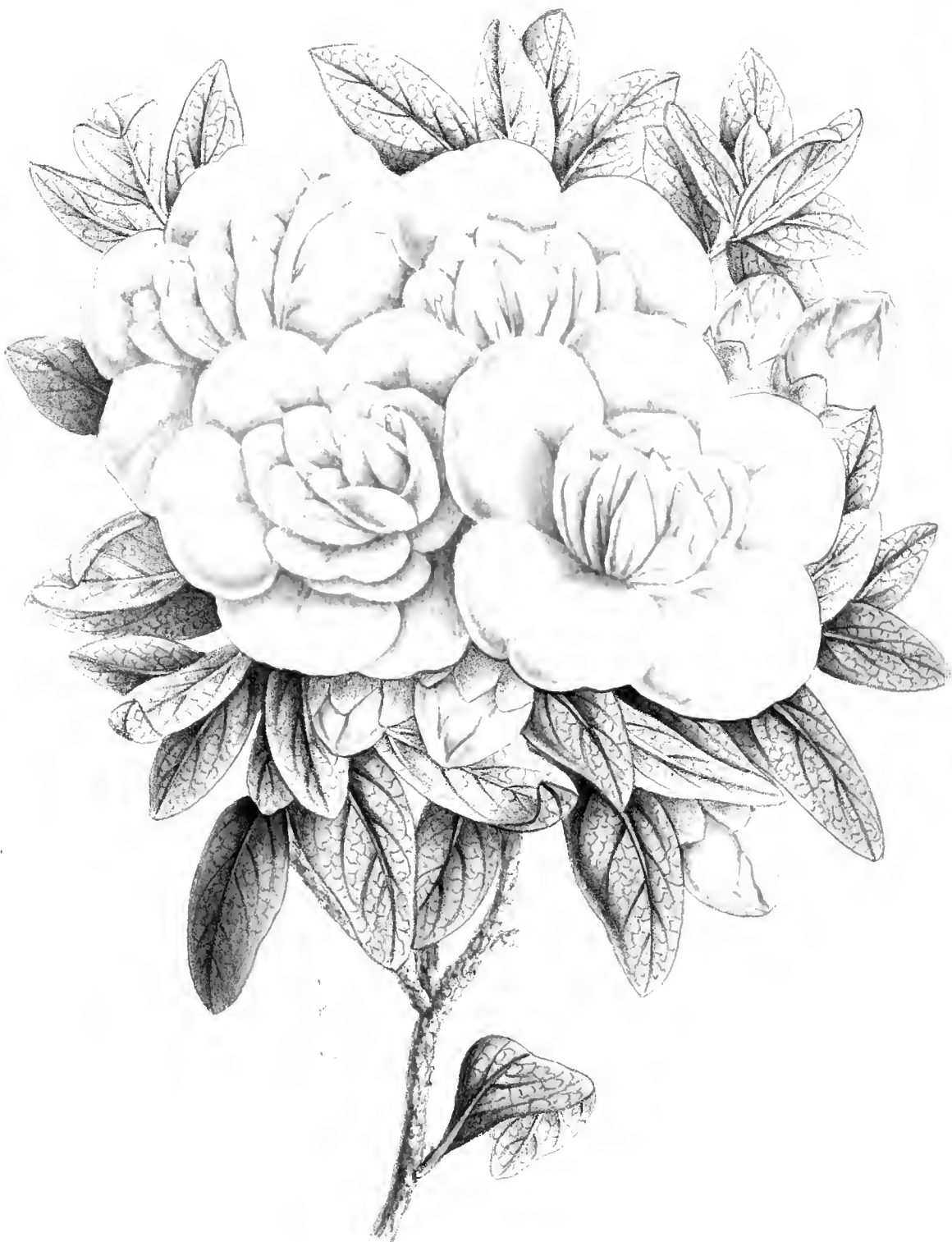


PLATE 443.

DOUBLE AZALEA—FRANCOIS DEVOS.

There may be some difference of opinion as to the relative progress made by English and French growers in the production of new varieties of *single* Azaleas; there can be none with regard to the double section. Certainly of late years we have had, comparatively speaking, but few English-raised seedlings; and although objections have been brought against the Belgian flowers that they are not as good in form as the English varieties, yet there can be no question that *Charmer*, *Fivid*, *Reine des Roses*, *Madame Dominique Terraene*, and others of a similar class, make most showy and striking plants, while in the class of double varieties the Belgians stand alone, for it is a singular fact that hitherto no double variety has been raised in England, while *Souvenir de Prince Albert*, *Grande Duchesse de Bade*, and others, have been raised in Belgium.

We are indebted to the eminent horticulturist M. Ambroise Verschaffelt, of Ghent, for the opportunity of figuring the very beautiful variety which Mr. Andrews has so faithfully represented in our plate. It is unquestionably the very finest of all the double varieties, the beautiful regularity of the flowers and the roundness of the petals have not before been obtained in any of the double varieties, while the intense richness of the colour is unsurpassed by any of the single varieties. We can bear witness, too, to its great freedom of flowering; two plants of it in our greenhouse having been covered with bloom, and were at once marked as a remarkably good market

plant, for which purpose, we believe, that it will be largely used.

We have only to add that it has been named by M. Verschaffelt after his able and intelligent foreman, under whose care his Azaleas have been grown for many years.





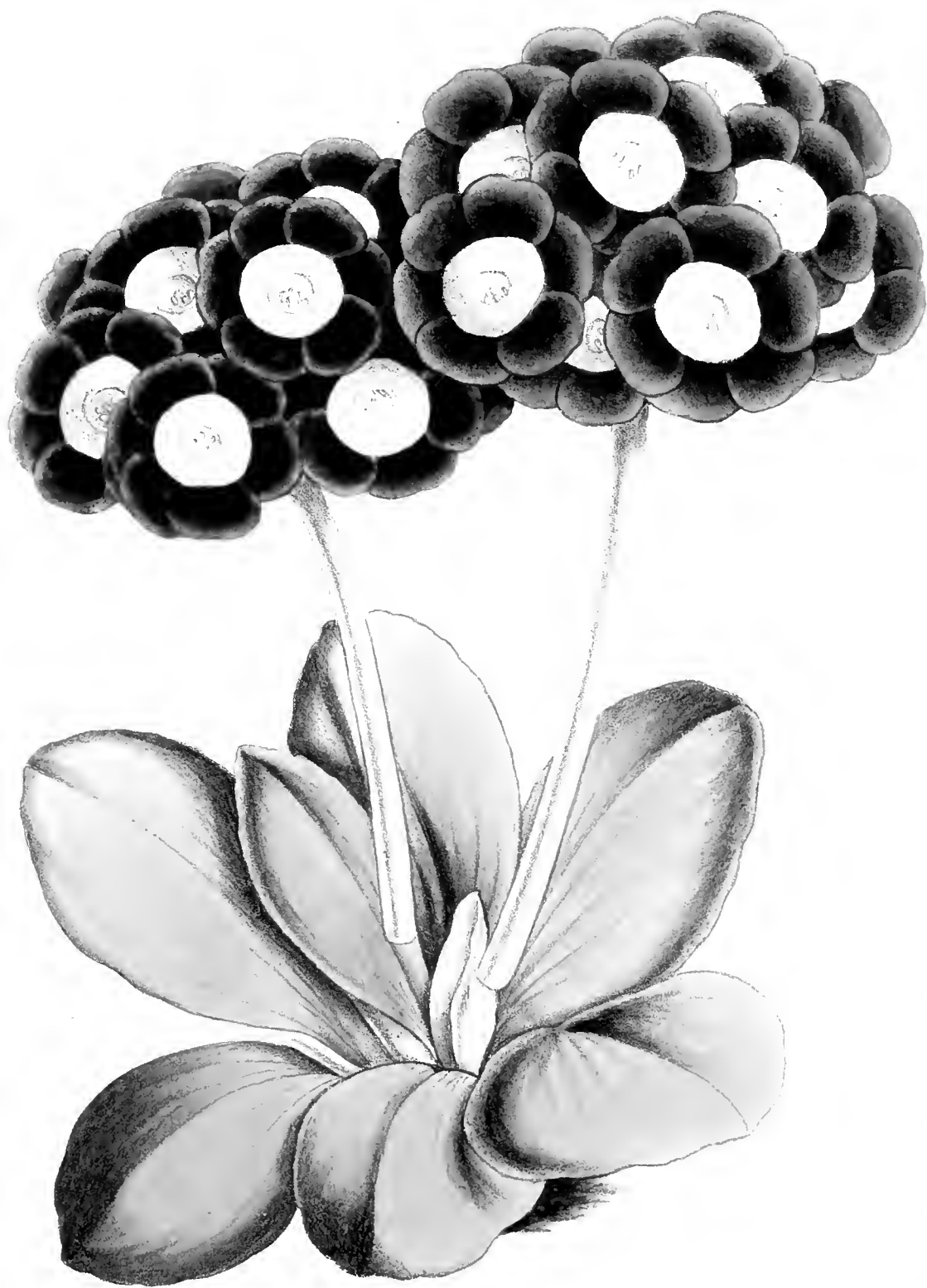


PLATE 444.

ALPINE AURICULAS.

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We have already noticed in former volumes the great advance that has been made in the character of Alpine Auriculas under the care of Mr. Charles Turner, and the present year has witnessed a still further progress in the same direction. In the collections exhibited by him at the Crystal Palace and at other Metropolitan Shows, we have this year seen some remarkably fine flowers; excellence in form and brilliancy of colour being combined in them, while their greater easiness of culture will tend to make them very general favourites.

The general bloom of Auriculas in the southern part of England was very indifferent, the excessive heat of last summer compelled so much watering that the soil was exhausted, and consequently the bloom was very poor; very many of our own plants never bloomed at all, and the same complaint was made by Mr. Charles Turner and other growers; consequently but few really good flowers were exhibited at the Spring Shows this season, but the Alpines were shown in good condition. Such flowers as *Gaiety*, *Goliath*, *Superb*, and those figured in our plate have never been before exhibited, and their appearance amongst the edged varieties imparts great life and brightness, although some growers will not allow them on their stages for fear of spoiling the seed.

Of the varieties figured in our plate *Monarch* (fig. 1) is a genuine Alpine, with yellow paste and deep purplish edge, somewhat in the style of that old flower *Miller's Conspicua*;

while *Brunette* (fig. 2) is apparently an approach to the self-coloured varieties of show flowers, the paste being white, but the edges beautifully shaded: it is a very rich deep plum colour, darker towards the base of the petals, and altogether a very remarkable flower.





PLATE 445.

NEW DOUBLE PYRETHRUMS.

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We have again to notice the great improvement that has taken place in the double feverfew, which Mr. Salter of the Versailles Nursery has already done so much to improve; the varieties we now figure being in advance of those already raised by him, and in the hope of encouraging their growth, we have given a plate of three of the most distinct of the newer varieties.

The Pyrethrum is of very easy cultivation, as easy indeed as the Chrysanthemum, which it so much resembles; cuttings should be made from strong vigorous shoots about three or four inches long, and placed in a shady position out of doors, in a soil composed of one-half light sandy loam, and one-half leaf mould and sand; water gently, and cover with a frame or hand-glass; after a little while air may be admitted, or they may be struck in a gentle hotbed, at any time from May to October. Should it be thought desirable to winter them in pots, they should be placed in a cold frame and kept free from damp during the winter, and planted out along with other herbaceous plants in the spring. Like the Chrysanthemum they require a good deal of water, and should the weather be dry, this ought to be supplied to them liberally, but they do not absolutely require to be grown thus, as they are perfectly hardy, and may be planted out in October, and will form thick and bushy plants by the spring.

Of the varieties figured, Versailles Purple (fig. 1) is a fine ranunculus-shaped flower of deep purple colour. Lutea plena (fig. 2) is a yellowish white, approaching to a colour very much

wanted in the Pyrethrum, a yellow ; while Princess Teck (fig. 3) is a dark crimson-coloured flower. Besides, we may mention as good kinds, Desdemona, Dr. Livingstone, Herman Stenger, Madame Furtado, Roseum plenum, Rev. J. Dix, Fascination, Belle Gabrielle, Darius, Boule Soufflé, Madame Boucharlet, Henri Murger, and Princess Metternich.





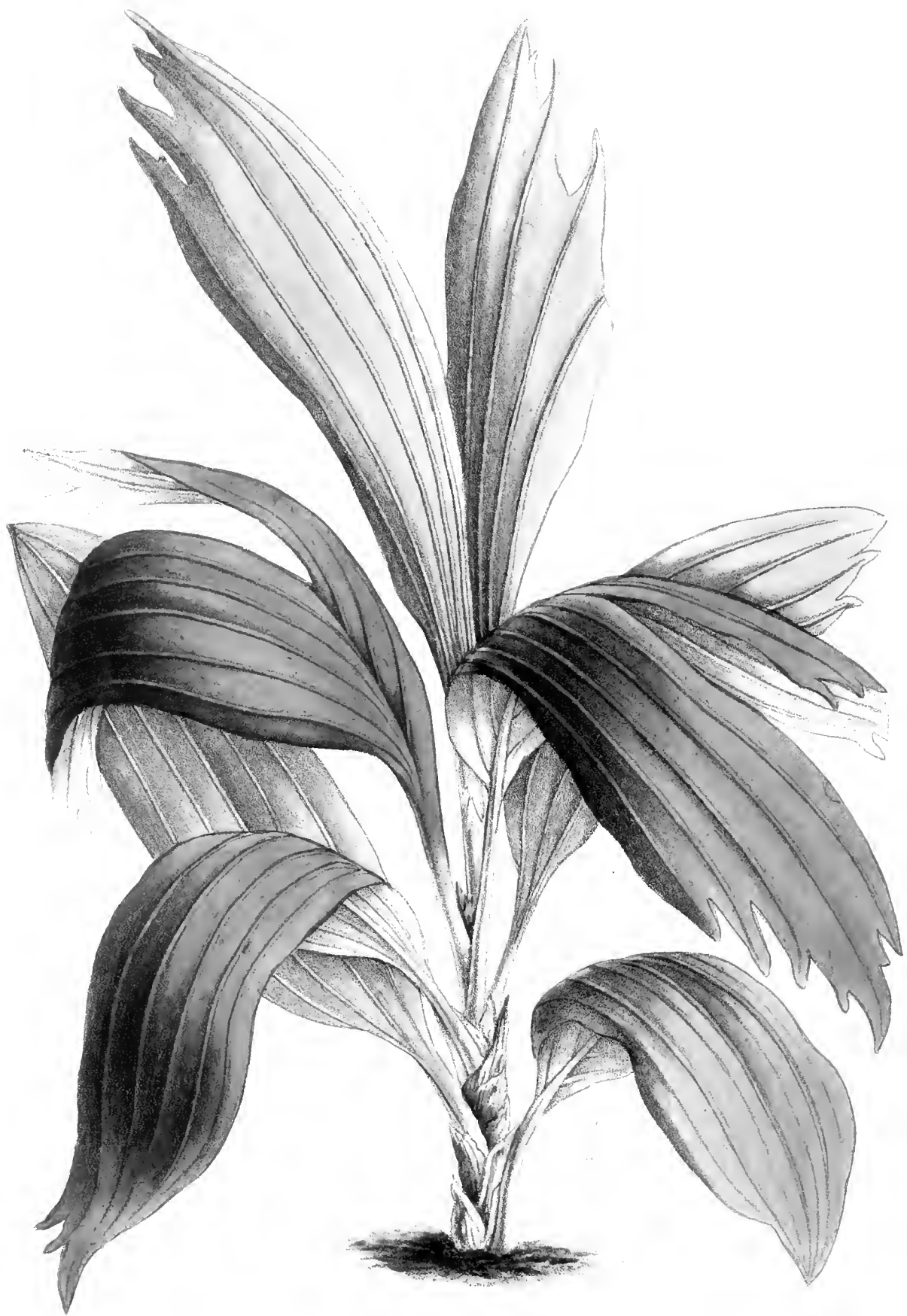


PLATE 446.

GEONEMA LACERATA.

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The researches of the learned botanist, Dr. Seeman, in Central America, have added considerably to our list of Palms; and as many of them seem to be calculated for decorative purposes, they come at a time when they are more likely to be appreciated, than had they been discovered a few years ago; for, as we have already indicated, the taste for these plants has much increased of late, and we are evidently taking a lesson from our Continental friends, who have for a long time largely used them. We saw at the establishment of M. Linden, at Brussels (who has now, we perceive, joined to his own the well-known and highly-valued establishment of our friend M. Ambrose Verschaffelt, at Ghent), upwards of forty new species, and many of them highly ornamental.

*Geonema lacerata* is in the hands of Mr. W. Bull, of King's Road, Chelsea, to whom Dr. Seeman's discoveries have been consigned, and is thus described by him:—"A neat growing stove Palm of distinct character, and apparently of a dwarf habit of growth; the leafstalks are broad, and sheathing at the base, flattened and slender upwards, and angular on the dorsal side; the leaf-blades are broad and bilobed with an excurrent thread on the sinus, the lobes (in the young plants) upwards of an inch across, and laceraately split at the apex, while the surface is ribbed so as to appear plicate. Its apparently dense, close habit of growth recommends it as a useful and distinct de-

corative Palm. It is a native of Central America, whence seeds were brought home by Dr. Seeman."

Amongst other new plants likely to be useful as well as beautiful are *Dæmonorops plumosus*, *Geonema elegans*, *Stevensonia sechellarum*, *Thrinax elegans*, *Verschaffeltia splendida*, *Calamus dealbata*, and *Corypha Australis*.





PLATE 447.

ORCHIS LATIFOLIA, VAR. LAGOTIS.

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The cultivation of terrestrial orchids, especially those belonging to the European Continent, has latterly attracted a good deal of attention, and both Mr. Backhouse of York, and Mr. Buckley of Messrs. Rollisons and Co., Tooting, have been very successful in gathering together a number of species and varieties. Their culture used at one time to be considered very difficult, but it is no longer so: and although requiring an amount of care which all orchideous plants more or less require, yet if the main point, attention to drainage, is regarded, they can be cultivated as readily as most herbaceous plants.

For this fine variety we are indebted to Messrs. Backhouse and Son, who have imported it from Mont Cenis, and in forwarding it to us they have accompanied it with the following remarks: "This orchis is quite new, though the species is well known and common in England. It is the *Orchis latifolia*, var. *lagotis*, of Reichenbach (in the opinion of Professor Oliver of Kew). Instead of having the plain green leaf and rosy or flesh-coloured flowers of the British *Orchis latifolia* and its variety *incarnata*, it has brilliant purple flowers and the most beautifully spotted leaves that I ever remember to have seen in any orchis. Even the very bracts, which are long and protruding, are blotched or spotted with deep purple. It is certainly a beautiful acquisition, and the variety has never been seen before in this country, I make no doubt."

*Orchis latifolia* succeeds best in moist peat and grit, and

when the roots are in contact with a perpendicular rock, or with the sides of the pot. Amongst other hardy orchids well worthy of notice are *Cypripedium acaule*, *calceolus*, and *spectabile*, *Epipactis grandiflora*, *Ophrys apifera*, *fucifera*, and *lutea*, *Orchis incarnata*, *maculata*, *nigra*, and *pyramidalis*, and wherever an alpine border is contemplated these orchids ought to find a place.







## PLATE 448.

### PELARGONIUMS, SULTANA AND HAROLD.

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In once more figuring varieties of the Greenhouse or Show Pelargonium, we cannot but express our regret that our most celebrated raiser has retired from the field. Our excellent friend Mr. Hoyle of Reading is no longer to be counted as a seedling raiser. After having for a long course of years maintained the foremost place, and sent into cultivation a larger number of really good varieties than (we may say) all other raisers put together, he has now retired with all his honours—his greenhouses are pulled down. He will carry with him the best wishes of all who are interested in that beautiful class of plants which he has done so much to popularize and improve, and will leave to other and younger hands to continue the work he has so successfully prosecuted for so long a time.

It is not to be denied that the Pelargonium has shared in the general decadence that has befallen all florists' flowers more or less; and that neither the growers nor exhibitors are as numerous as they used to be. Time, which makes many changes, will most probably bring a change in this respect also; in the mean time we see that, notwithstanding the perfection to which they have been brought, improvements are still being made, the size of the flowers being increased, and the richness of the colouring also more marked.

Sultana (fig. 1) is a richly painted flower, the top petals being a very deep maroon with a narrow margin of bright crimson,

the throat pure white, and the lower petals a deep carmine crimson with a blotch in the centre of each, and the veining strongly marked. Harold (fig. 2) is a still more highly coloured flower, the top petals being of the same deep rich maroon, the throat pure white, while the lower petals are of a very deep carmine, with a deep carmine blotch, and the veining very distinct, the lines crossing one another, and giving a great appearance of richness to the flower.





PLATE 449.

HYBRID PERPETUAL ROSE—EDOUARD  
MORREN.

There are some of our older roses which, notwithstanding the very numerous varieties of great excellence which we are continually receiving from abroad, are still looked up to as models of excellence and beauty, and are to be found in almost every winning stand of flowers at the various exhibitions held throughout the country; amongst these is *Jules Margottin*, raised many years ago at Bourg la Reine. When then we were told that a flower larger, more refined in colour, and as vigorous in growth, had been exhibited at the Great Rose Show held a couple of years ago at Brie Comte-Robert, and had gained the medal of honour, we were prepared to look for something of surpassing excellence. It was understood to have been purchased by the Messrs. Lee, of Hammersmith, and to have been raised by Mons. Grainger.

The exceedingly unpropitious nature of last season prevented it from being seen in its true condition, and this year it has not been exhibited very freely; one box of it was at the Great Rose Show of the Crystal Palace; many of the blooms, as was the case with most roses this season, showed a green eye, but there were some very excellent ones, and they were, as has been stated, of unusual size. It is, we believe, a mistake to regard a rose only in its aspect as an exhibition flower; there are thousands of rose lovers who never exhibit, and, for ourselves,

we are contented to have many in our garden which could never figure at a flower show, but for effect in a garden are not to be surpassed. *Jean Cherpin*, *Fisher Holmes*, *Duc de Cazes*, and others are of this nature, and among such flowers for effect, we are inclined to think that *Edouard Morren* must be classed, its vigour and floriferous character are very remarkable, its colour is pleasing, and it will, we think, merit a place in every rosarium.





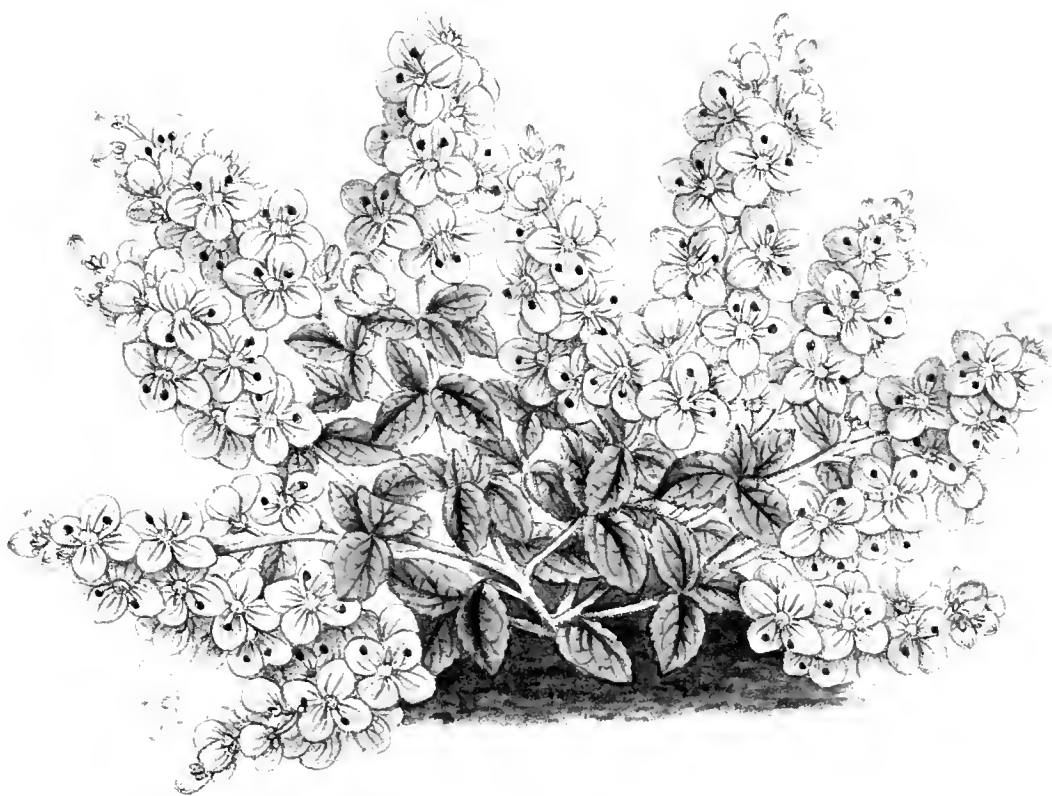


PLATE 450.

VERONICA PROSTRATA.

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There is no family more widely distributed than that to which this plant belongs. They exist in various forms in all portions of the globe. Greenhouse herbaceous species are met with in New Holland, Van Diemen's Land, and especially in New Zealand, the flora of which island is remarkably rich in them; while in the hardy herbaceous section they are to be found in the wild regions of Siberia, as well as in the Southern parts of Europe. Many of them are minute in form, and except in very few instances, the flowers are blue. *Veronica incana* has of late years been very much used as an edging plant, for which its hoary foliage makes it peculiarly suitable.

The plant from which the drawing was taken was forwarded to us by Messrs. Backhouse & Son, of York, who are well known for their most extensive collection of herbaceous and Alpine plants, with the following remarks:—"We have forwarded you a plant well worthy of a place in your Magazine, *Veronica prostrata*; of all the spiked Alpine species we have seen, this is, we think, the best for rockwork. It is just like the very beautiful *Veronica saturefolia* or *Veronica Teucria* in miniature, as regards size of plant (for the stems are only two or three inches long!), but with flowers full size and in dense clusters. It is a really valuable addition, and as far as we know, it is now blooming for the first time in England." After such an opinion from perhaps our most eminent growers

of Alpine plants, it were needless for us to add anything further, except to say, that as far as cultivation is concerned it partakes of the same character as the other Alpine species, and succeeds best in moist loam and grit, and in moist situations in the rockwork, if such can be procured.





PLATE 451.

AZALEA—MRS. TURNER.

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At the Great Quinquennial Exhibition held at Ghent in the spring of last year, a large number of new Azaleas, as might have been expected in that city of Azaleas and Camellias, were sent in for exhibition, and as many English nurserymen were there, it was equally natural to suppose that, considering their enterprise and desire to cater for the rage for novelties which always possesses the horticultural world, some of them should have passed into their possession. Amongst those who then purchased some of these Belgian novelties was Mr. Charles Turner, and the Azalea named *Mrs. Turner*, we are inclined to think, is the finest of his acquisitions.

*Mrs. Turner*, as will be seen from the figure, belongs to that class of Azalea already represented by such flowers as *Etoile de Gand*, *Variegata*, &c., but it is in advance of any yet in growth; there is not merely the substance of the petal to be considered, but the extreme regularity which the bright pink marking takes on the petal: it does not run off in flames and bars as in some varieties, but is regular, scarcely varying in any one petal in the flower, the edge of the pink marking being deeply serrated, the margin of the flower pure white; the upper petals are deeply spotted with purplish crimson, which adds considerably to the effectiveness of the flower. Altogether it may be considered as a first-class variety; the habit of the plant

is vigorous, an important point, as in some of the older varieties of this section there was a good deal of constitutional delicacy.

We are not aware that any English-raised seedlings of any great merit are to be brought out this autumn ; at any rate we have not seen them at any of the exhibitions, and we are therefore the more glad to be able to introduce foreign flowers of such merit as *François Devos* and *Mrs. Turner*.





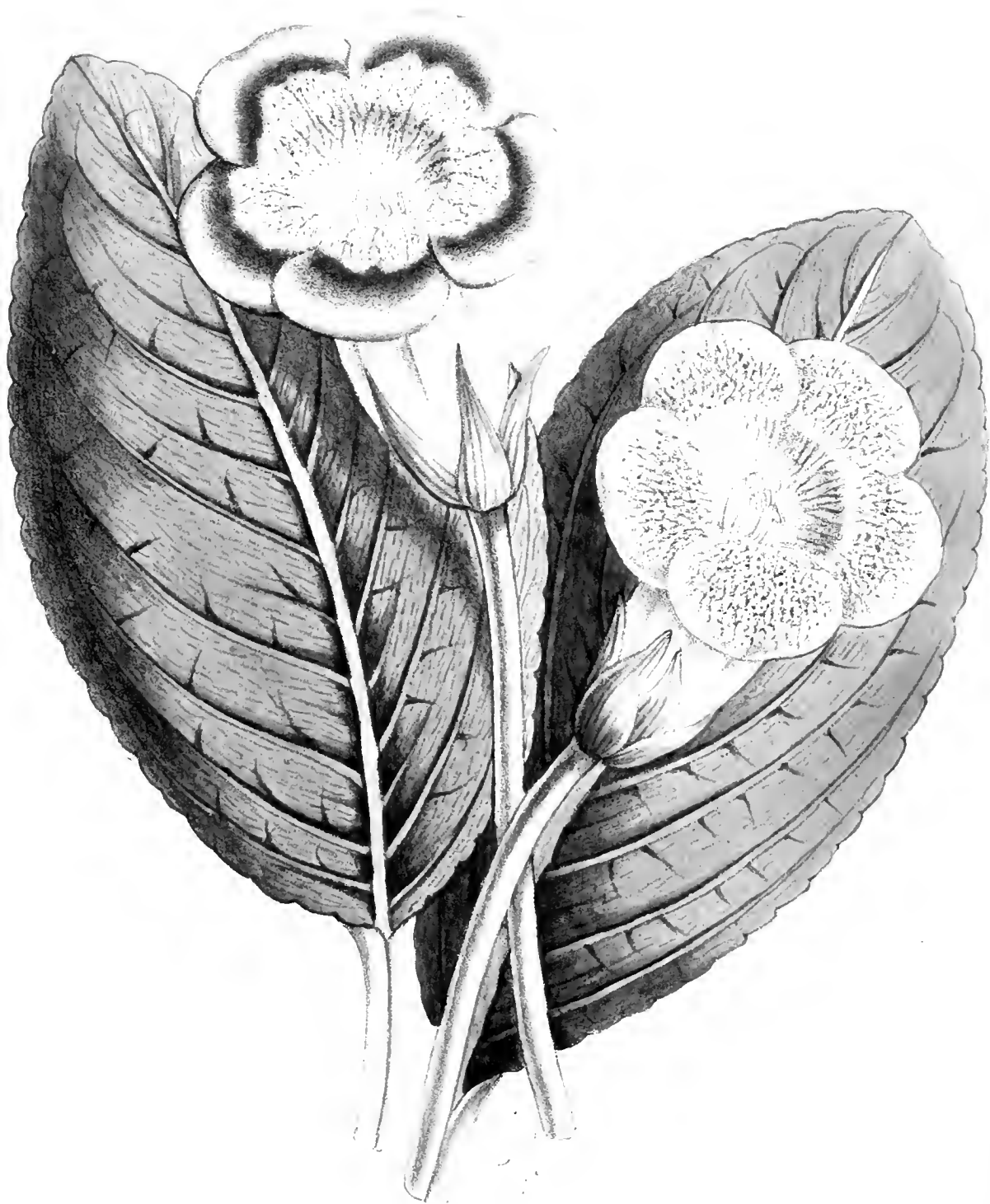


PLATE 452.

GLOXINIAS—MONS. VASCONIELLOS AND  
MONS. BRONGNIART.

To those who have the advantage of a warm greenhouse, there is no flower that ought to be a greater favourite than the Gloxinia; the length of time during which it remains in bloom, the comparative ease of its culture, and the exceeding variety and beauty of its many forms, claim for it a first place in the regard of all lovers of greenhouse plants.

In order to have such a succession of plants as may prolong their blooming during the summer months, it will be necessary to pot the tubers at three different periods; say during the months of January, February, and March: they delight in that soil which suits so many plants, peat, loam, leaf mould, and well-rotted cow manure. Two methods are adopted with regard to potting—one is to place them at once in the blooming pots, the other to pot them in small pots and shift them on into larger ones; for the purpose of starting them, it is necessary to have a good bottom heat, while afterwards, if they are to be grown to perfection, they must have a temperature of not lower than  $50^{\circ}$  at night. They may be bloomed, we know, in a lower one, but they do not like it, the blooms are inferior, and the foliage is apt to become rusty-looking. Care must be taken with regard to watering and syringing, for although this latter is desirable before coming into bloom, yet from the thick woolly

nature of the leaves, they are apt to damp if it be not carefully done.

The varieties which we now figure were sent to us by Messrs. Backhouse and Son, of York, and are of French origin. We regret that owing to circumstances over which we had no control, we are unable to do as we proposed, give a plate of six of the varieties, and can therefore only say that the others are all in the same remarkably distinct style.



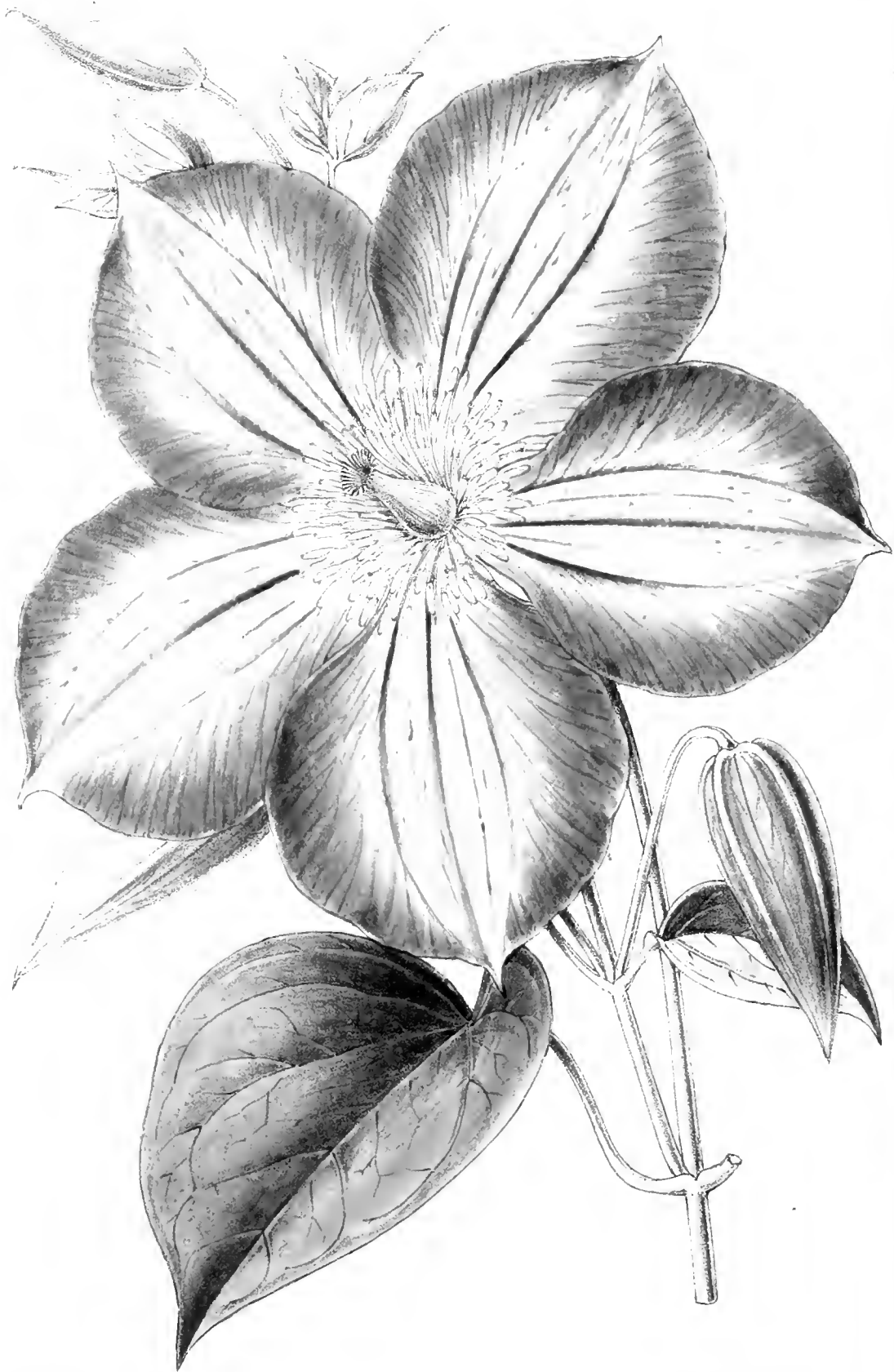


PLATE 453.

CLEMATIS MAGNIFICA.

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The results of Mr. Jackman's successful hybridization are by no means exhausted; each year adds to the beautiful series of hardy climbing plants that he has produced. We have already figured *Jackmanni*, *rubroviolacea*, *rubella*, and *Lady Bovill*, and we have in the present plate an entirely distinct variety in *Magnifica*.

No plants have been more widely distributed than the Woking seedlings; supplying as they did colours much needed in our gardens, they have been eagerly seized upon for various objects, not merely for their proper purpose as climbers, and for covering trellises, but also for bedding; while the varieties of colour being introduced amongst them will add greatly to their value. There is a wide difference between the soft slaty-blue of *Lady Bovill*, and the rich suffused purple of *Magnifica*, with its dark crimson bars; and again, the deep blue purple of *Jackmanni* differs from both. We have seen other seedlings at Woking, again distinct from these, so that there seems a prospect of a very great variety.

We have seen lately at the garden of His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, at Eastwell, a very successful method of increasing these plants; the very intelligent gardener, Mr. Woodford, having tried various methods, has adopted the plan of grafting it on the wild *Clematis* or *Virgin's Bower*, and has been most successful in so doing; and as in every hedgerow this plant

abounds, it is easy enough to obtain the stock. They were grafted in heat, and afterwards removed to a cool place.

*Clematis Magnifica* is a very large and handsome variety : the colour is a deep purple, suffused with crimson ; while the centre of each petal is barred with a broad feathery bar of Turkey red. It has obtained a first-class certificate, and is in constitution one of the most vigorous of the Woking seedlings.







PLATE 454.

TEA-ROSE—MADEMOISELLE ADRIENNE  
CHRISTOPHLE.

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The additions made the last two or three years to our tea-scented roses, bid fair to drive some of the older varieties out of cultivation; many of them were very delicate in habit, and the flowers very flimsy and loose, whereas we are now getting stout-petalled flowers of the same colours, and with good habit of growth. We shall not care soon to have to humour such varieties as *Madame William* or *Elise Savage*, when we can get such flowers as *Madame Margottin*, or the very beautiful variety figured in our plate, and so admirably rendered by our artist.

We have had a fine plant of *Mademoiselle Adrienne Christophle* blooming in our garden during the summer, and nothing could be more beautiful than its flowers. Sometimes the centre was of a beautiful salmony pink colour as figured, sometimes a rich coppery rose, and at other times a soft peach, and now at the end of September it is putting forth a fresh supply of shoots and blossoms which will make the plant gay until the frost overtakes it; for this is one of the best qualities in these fragrant roses, that they are *true perpetuals*, many of those so-called being only so in name.

This beautiful rose was raised by our friend Mons. Guillot fils, of Lyons, and adds another to the triumphs which he has obtained as a raiser of new roses; leaving aside roses of an older date, *La France*, *Horace Vernet*, *Madame Margottin*, *Mons. Furtado*,

and *Mademoiselle Adrienne Christophe* will be sufficient to show how very successful he has been. We understand that he has other new flowers to be sent out this autumn, which we doubt not will maintain his past reputation. It has been exhibited in the stands of new roses this season, and has been much admired.





PLATE 455.

PICOTEES—ADMIRATION, AND  
MISS TURNER.

We enjoyed this year a treat which we have not had for some years past, that of seeing the collection of picotees and carnations of our friend Mr. Charles Turner of Slough, in full bloom; and although the season had been anything but a favourable one, we were greatly charmed at the excellence of the bloom and the extensive character of the collection, and we could not help feeling deep regret that so little is done to cultivate a taste for this lovely flower in and around the metropolis. We remember in our early days the beautiful stands that used to be exhibited at various shows about London, and we are quite sure that with a little stimulus given to their cultivation the same might be seen again.

While going through the varied and extensive collection of our friend, we were ever and anon struck by a rich, highly-coloured, purple-edged flower, which appeared also to be of fine constitution, and on inquiry found that it was a new variety not yet sent out, and figured in our plate—*Admiration*. It is a very broad, purple-edged flower, of great substance; the ground-colour a beautiful pure white and the edge well defined, not a single bar going into the ground colour of the petal, while the shape of the petals is perfection, a beautiful smooth rose leaf without any serrature. There was also a very fine light-edged red flower called *Miss Turner*, which we have also figured. It

is also a first-class flower ; clear white ground, well-defined edge, and good substance.

Although there is not much encouragement given to the growth of this flower about London, yet we are informed by Mr. Turner that he cannot supply the demand that there is for them, especially among the colliers of Merthyr Tydvil and similar places. Men of this class have long been noted for their love of flowers, and the auricula, tulip, polyanthus, carnation, and pink have been and are still great favourites amongst them.

We have only to add that *Admiration* has received first-class certificates from the Royal Horticultural Society, and indeed wherever exhibited.





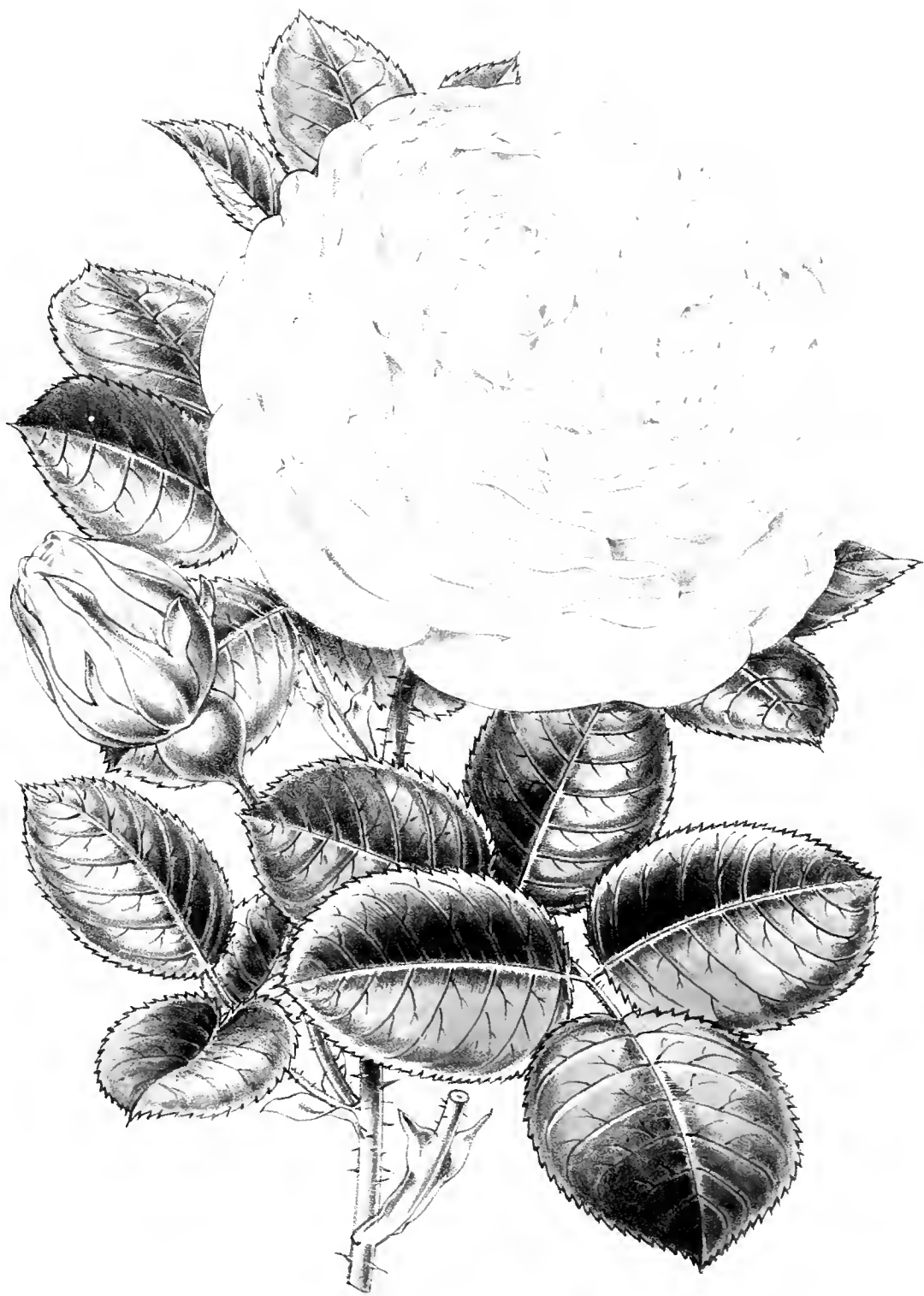


PLATE 456.

HYBRID PERPETUAL ROSE—THYRA  
HAMMERICK.

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Those who know the great popularity of the queen of flowers will not be surprised that we should so often use it as the subject of our illustrations ; they vary so much in colour, size, and shape, that they continually afford great interest, while their wide and increasing circle of admirers insures for them a welcome reception. What can be more distinct than those figured in our present number,—both desirable, nay, we may say, in their class, unsurpassed, yet so unlike to one another ?

When in Paris last summer, we heard a great deal from many growers of the beauty of a new rose, raised by an amateur, from *Duchess of Sutherland*, and said in every way to surpass that fine old variety. We afterwards heard that it had gone into the hands of Mons. Charles Verdier ; and we have had during the season the opportunity of seeing it flower in our own garden, where it has fully borne out the character given of it ; having, besides its other good qualities, the merit of blooming freely in the autumn. The colour of the flower is a beautiful bright clear pink ; the back of the petals being a light silvery pink. The form of the flower is that of the *Duchess of Sutherland*, not exactly globular, but sufficiently cupped to preserve a good shape, without becoming flat.

Among other roses of last autumn which promise well, are *Reine Blanche*, *Marquise de Mortmarte*, *Nardy Frères*, and

*Madame Creyton*, but it is, as yet, quite impossible to decide as to their real merits ; the flowers that are placed for exhibition the first year affording by no means a correct idea of them ; and had we not had the roses figured in the present number growing in our own garden, we should not have been able to give so decided an opinion on their merits.



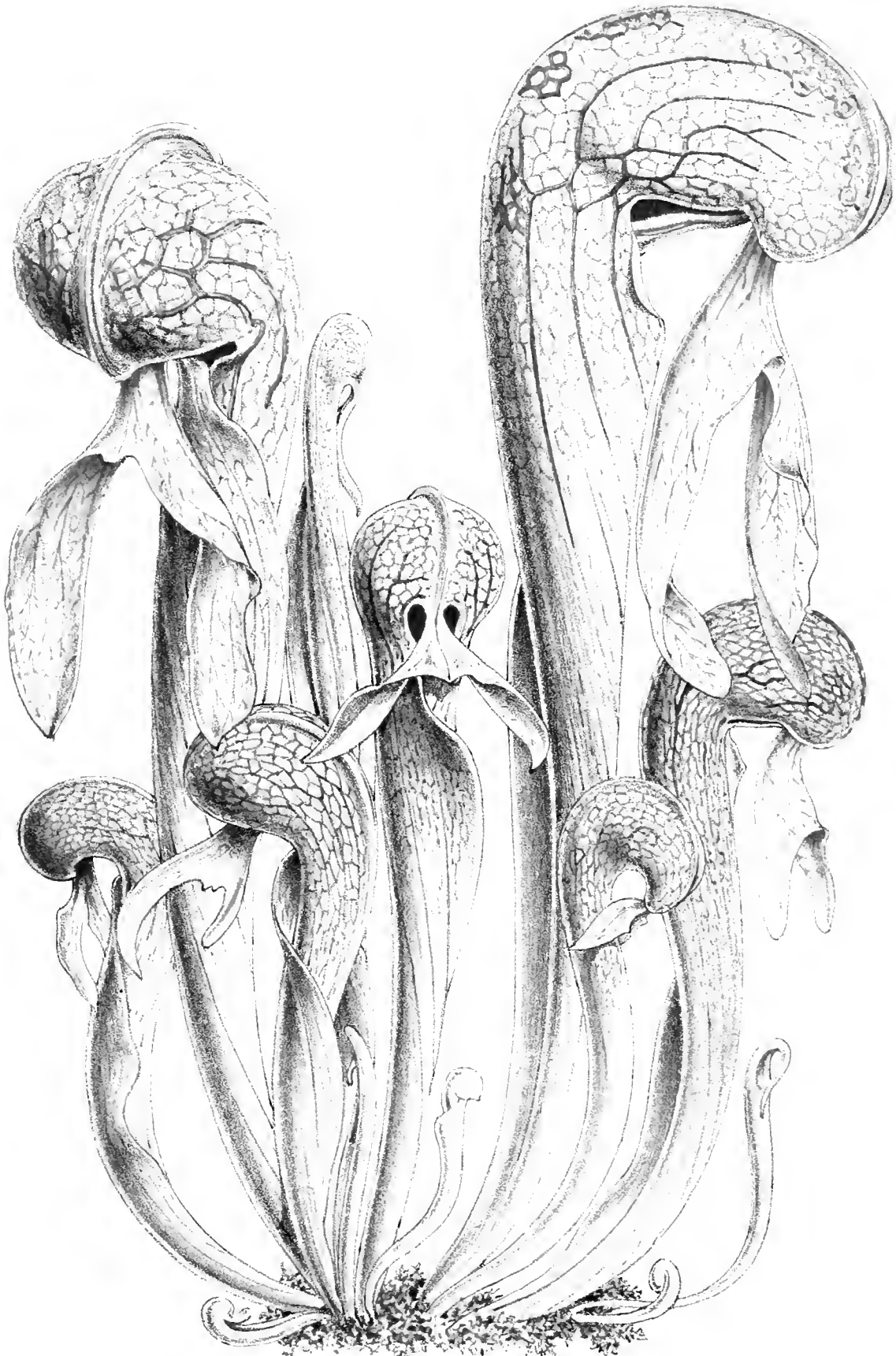


PLATE 457.

DARLINGTONIA CALIFORNICA.

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Of all the singular forms that the so-called pitcher plants assume, none is perhaps so much so as that now figured. We have already figured the curious *Cephalotus follicularis* of Australia, the remarkable *Sarracenia Drummondii* of North America, and now we add thereto this most singular Californian species, closely allied to *Sarracenia*: and for the opportunity of figuring which we are indebted to Messrs. Veitch and Son, of Chelsea.\*

No words that we can use could enable us to describe adequately the very strange appearance of this rare plant. The bird-like appearance of the pitchers, with their remarkable appendages, almost like the wattles of some of our domestic fowls, combined with the singular network of colour that appears in every part of the leaf, combine to render it justly one of the curiosities of vegetable life; and as such it will be eagerly sought after by those who delight in surrounding them-

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\* It is impossible for us to name this distinguished firm without alluding to the loss that Horticulture has sustained in the sudden death of its eminent head, Mr. James Veitch. His name will ever be remembered as that of one of the most enterprising men in his profession, while by his untiring energy and shrewd knowledge of men and things he has raised his establishment to the very foremost place not only in England, but in the world. For ourselves, we have to acknowledge the extreme courtesy ever extended both to our artists and ourselves; and the numerous figures of plants from his establishment which have enriched our pages will bear witness to the large extent to which we have been indebted to him.

selves with the rarer and more curious forms of plants and flowers ; but if we are correctly informed, it will be some time before it can be found generally in such collections. We are informed that it thrives perfectly with the *Sarracenias*, likes a small pot, and a compost composed of fibrous peat, with moss and sand, and a good drainage. It delights in wet at the roots, and grows in a house with Australian *Araucarias* and *Cephalotus*.







PLATE 458.

DOUBLE PETUNIA—ABBÉ D'OSSEAUME.

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We have never been able to understand why it was that the *Double Petunia* had so short-lived a popularity. At first it seemed as if it were likely to be one of our most popular flowers; but after a few years it gradually receded from public favour. Possibly the fact that it is unsuitable for bedding purposes may have somewhat to do with it, for so great has been the rage in this direction, that a plant which could not be used in this manner was considered almost valueless, while everything that could in any way be brought into use for that purpose, no matter how trifling, was considered an acquisition; but whatever the reason, the fact is so.

We think this is a great mistake; there are few flowers more useful for the decoration of the conservatory or greenhouse, during the early autumn months, than the *Double Petunia*: the size of the blossoms, the ease with which it is grown, and the length of time which it remains in bloom, are all points which give it a claim to our favour; and mingled with fuchsias, Japanese lilies, &c., they tend to keep up the blaze of beauty which can be had in one way or another all through the year; and it is with this idea that we have chosen for one of our illustrations this month one of the latest and best additions to the class.

*Abbé d'Osseaume* (for the opportunity of figuring which we are indebted to the eminent firm of Carter and Sons, Holborn,

and Crystal Palace Nursery, Forest Hill) is, like most of the *Double Petunias*, of French origin. It is described by the raiser, M. Readatler, as being of a white ground, blotched with carmine purple ; but this is not its general character. We have had some plants of it in bloom this season, and saw a large quantity of it at Messrs. Carter's, at Forest Hill, and their flowers were all similar to those now figured—a beautiful carmine-purple, with the margin of the petals edged with a clear line of white, it forms in this character a most striking plant. We have also seen a very rich self-coloured flower, called *Princess*, which we received from the same source, and which forms a fitting companion to the plant figured.





PLATE 459.

TEA-ROSE—MADEMOISELLE MARIE  
SISLEY.

The warm sunny climate of Lyons seems most favourable for the production of Tea-scented roses; and from the number already sent out, and others announced, it would seem that some of the Lyons raisers are turning their attention to the production of new varieties in this most beautiful and favourite class.

The rose we now figure is one of the most distinct of this class that has been raised for many years. The ground-colour is a most delicate primrose-yellow, and each petal is edged with bright pink, a combination of colour rarely seen, and, as we can testify from our own observation (as we have had it growing in our garden), most charming. The habit of the plant is vigorous, and, like the rest of its race, very free-flowering, continuing in bloom up to very late in the season. It was raised by Mons. Guillot fils, the successful raiser of *Mademoiselle Adrienne Christophe*, figured in our October number.

We have already received the accounts of the new roses, and find that Tea-Roses, and their allies the Noisettes, are largely represented, there being thirteen Tea-Roses, and two Noisettes. Of these, eight are sent into commerce by Mons. Ducher, and three by Mons. Guillot. Those raised by the former are *Madame Ducher* and *Tour Bertrand*—both seedlings from *Gloire de Dijon*—*Jeanne d'Arc*—of the same race as *Pactole*—*Chamois*, *Le Mont*

*Blanc*, and *Sulphureux* (Teas), and *Lamarque Jaune* and *Rève d'Or* (Noisettes); while Mons. Guillot has *Madame Hippolite Jamain*, *Catherine Mermet*, and *Unique*. Two of these are of the peculiar character of *Marie Sisley*—one white, with the extremities of the petals rose; the other white, largely edged with rosy purple, and said to resemble a tulip in appearance. Assuredly then, we may expect something novel and excellent in these new roses.







PLATE 460.

MESEMBRYANTHEMUM CORDIFOLIUM  
VARIEGATUM.

A numerous and wide-spread family is that of the Mesembryanthemum. We have but to open any dictionary, or list of plants, to see this; and we have been often surprised that, amidst the anxiety to procure new plants for the ornamentation of the garden, none of this family has been mentioned. Latterly, too, succulent plants, *Echeverias*, *Sempervivums*, *Sedums*, &c., have been so largely used, that we felt sure the Mesembryanthemum would not long be neglected; and now from the establishment of Mr. Ball, whence so many of our really valuable bedding-plants have issued, we have this variegated form of one of the numerous members of the family.

The culture of the Mesembryanthemum is very easy, either from seeds or cuttings. In the latter case, the cuttings should be allowed to become dry at the base, and should then be inserted in a compost composed of loam, sand, lime, rubbish, and old cow manure, taking care that the pots are well drained: as they are inhabitants of the Cape of Good Hope, they ought not to be subjected to a lower temperature in winter than about 40°, while in summer they will thrive in the sunniest parts of the garden on rough rockwork &c.

Of *Mesembryanthemum cordifolium variegatum*, Mr. Ball says—  
“It is a procumbent, herbaceous, greenhouse succulent plant, remarkably well adapted for outdoor summer bedding, or basket-

culture in the greenhouse. The branches are furnished with flat, fleshy, heart-shaped leaves, distinctly margined with cream-colour, and form a diffuse yellowish mass, entirely covering the surface of the ground. This has proved one of the most distinct and attractive bedding plants of the season ; indeed it is difficult to convey an adequate idea of its effect when used as an edging or in groups by itself." We have but to add that the entire stock is in Mr. Ball's hands, and that it is now being distributed by him.



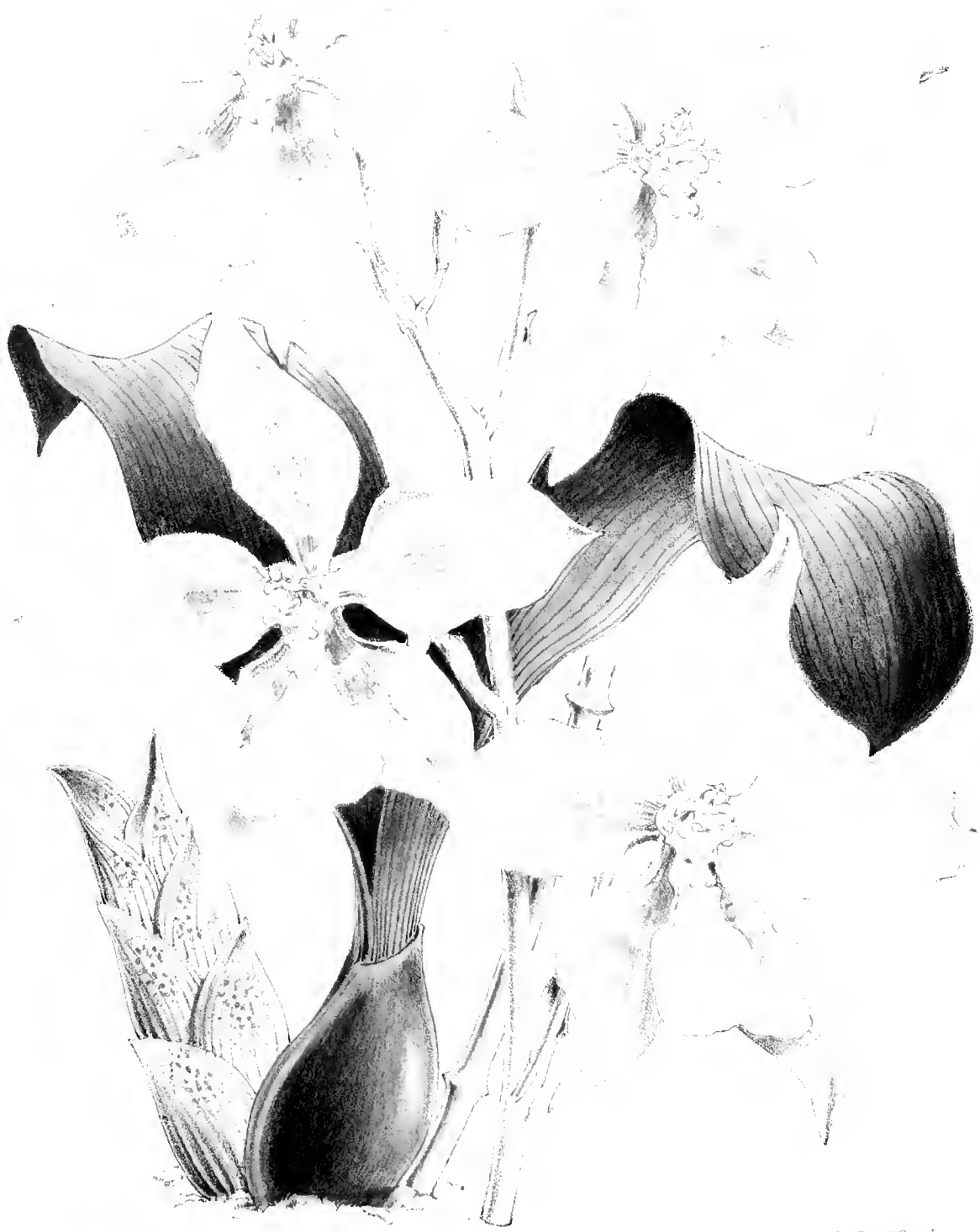


PLATE 461.

ODONTOGLOSSUM SCHLEIPPERIANUM.

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If we may judge from the experience of the last few years, there is no more prolific family amongst tropical plants than that of Orchids. Scarcely a meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society takes place without some novelty being produced; and on a visit we paid to M. Linden's establishment at Brussels last autumn, we found some fifteen or sixteen new species which have not yet been introduced into commerce.

The genera of *Oncidium* and *Odontoglossum* have produced a large number of these novelties, and amongst them have been some remarkably fine yellow and orange-coloured flowers. We have already figured the splendid *Oncidium macranthum* and the pretty little *Oncidium calanthum*; the one remarkable for its long scape of brilliant yellow flowers, the other for its delicate primrose-coloured bloom; and now in the odontoglot figured we have a fine and striking plant of a different shade of colour, but equally remarkable for its brilliant appearance.

*Odontoglossum Schleipperianum* was introduced by Mr. W. Bull, of the King's-road, Chelsea, from whose establishment of new and rare plants so many first-class novelties have been introduced. It is a native of Costa Rica, and flowers in July and August; the ground colour of the entire flower is a deep red orange-yellow extending even to the stalks; the sepals and

petals are barred, with irregular patches of yellowish colour ; the flower scape is long, and doubtless under improved or rather more lengthened cultivation it will exhibit still further its free-flowering qualities.







PLATE 462.

AGERATUM—IMPERIAL DWARF.

Among the many desiderata of modern gardening, there has been one which hitherto has not been found, that is, a dwarf blue or lavender-coloured flower to take what is called the second row in ribbon borders. We have the blue *Lobelia* for the front row, and the tall *Ageratum Mexicanum* for the back rows, but nothing between the two. This hiatus has now been supplied; and in the Dwarf Imperial variety of the older flower we have exactly what was wanted. No wonder, then, that when it was exhibited by Mr. Chater it should have been hailed as such an acquisition. We have now great pleasure in giving a figure of it, as we feel sure it is one of the best bedding plants of the season.

“The *Imperial Dwarf Ageratum* is a seedling from *A. Mexicanum*, and similar to the parent in every respect, excepting its extremely dwarf habit, and the abundant manner in which it blooms (for every small shoot throws up a blossom at about the first or second joint)—so much so, that it is difficult to obtain cuttings from it in autumn. So profusely has it bloomed with me this summer, that from all the stock I had planted out, I have only obtained two pots of cuttings; but I take up the old plants, and from them in the spring I can obtain any amount of stock; and I prefer spring-struck plants myself to any others, as it cannot be grown too freely.” So wrote Mr. Chater; and when we add, that all who saw it when it was exhibited at

South Kensington pronounced it to be one of the greatest acquisitions we had had in bedding plants for many years, and that it received a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, we need nothing more in favour of our assertion, that it is an immense acquisition to all lovers of the modern system of gardening.

We would take this opportunity of noticing an invention, which we think is likely to be very useful, amongst other things for the hardening of bedding plants in the spring—we mean Rendle's Plant Protectors. *Ageratums*, and such-like plants, might be placed either in pots, or planted singly under them, and then when the time for planting out came, they could be taken up with a good ball, and would never feel the removal; a considerable expense in frames, &c., might be thus spared.











PLATES 463, 464.

GLADIOLUS—MADAME DOMBRAIN AND  
LEGOUVÉ.

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There does not seem to be any diminution of the interest excited about these beautiful autumnal flowers, and although no opportunity of exhibiting them presented itself during the past autumn in the metropolis, except at one of the Tuesday meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society, yet a considerable number of flowers were then exhibited. We ourselves had the pleasure of seeing the grand and unrivalled collection of M. Souchet, at Fontainebleau, and of seeing in large quantities those novelties of which growers here have only one or two bulbs.

The cultivation of the Gladiolus is so well understood that it is unnecessary to add anything on that subject; we may however say that we have found the plan which we adopted of placing five or six inches of cow manure about eight inches underneath the surface to have answered well, and that we shall adopt that plan in future. The following notes on the varieties of last season may be, we venture to think, depended on. *Michel Ange*, is a grand flower of an entirely new character, breaking away from the ordinary type of Gladiolus, and having more of a lily-like character. *Homère and Thomas Methven* are both flowers of a deep rosy violet, with the extremity of the petals of a deeper shade. *Marie Stuart* is a beautifully-shaped flower, with a light blush ground, and slightly tinted with rose and carmine. *Schiller*, a light saffron ground, with carmine

red spots, very distinct. *Virgile*, bright red scarlet. *Madame Desportes*, very large and well-opened flowers, pure white, lower divisions lightly-striped with violet. The flowers figured are, fig. 1, *Madame Dombraïn*, a violet carmine flower, shaded with purple, deeper in colour in the centre. *M. Legouvé* (fig. 2), flowers very large, perfect in form, very lively fiery red, the petals marked with a white line, and in the centre of the lower petals a large pure white spot. There is a large number of new varieties to come out this season, among which many will be found first-rate.







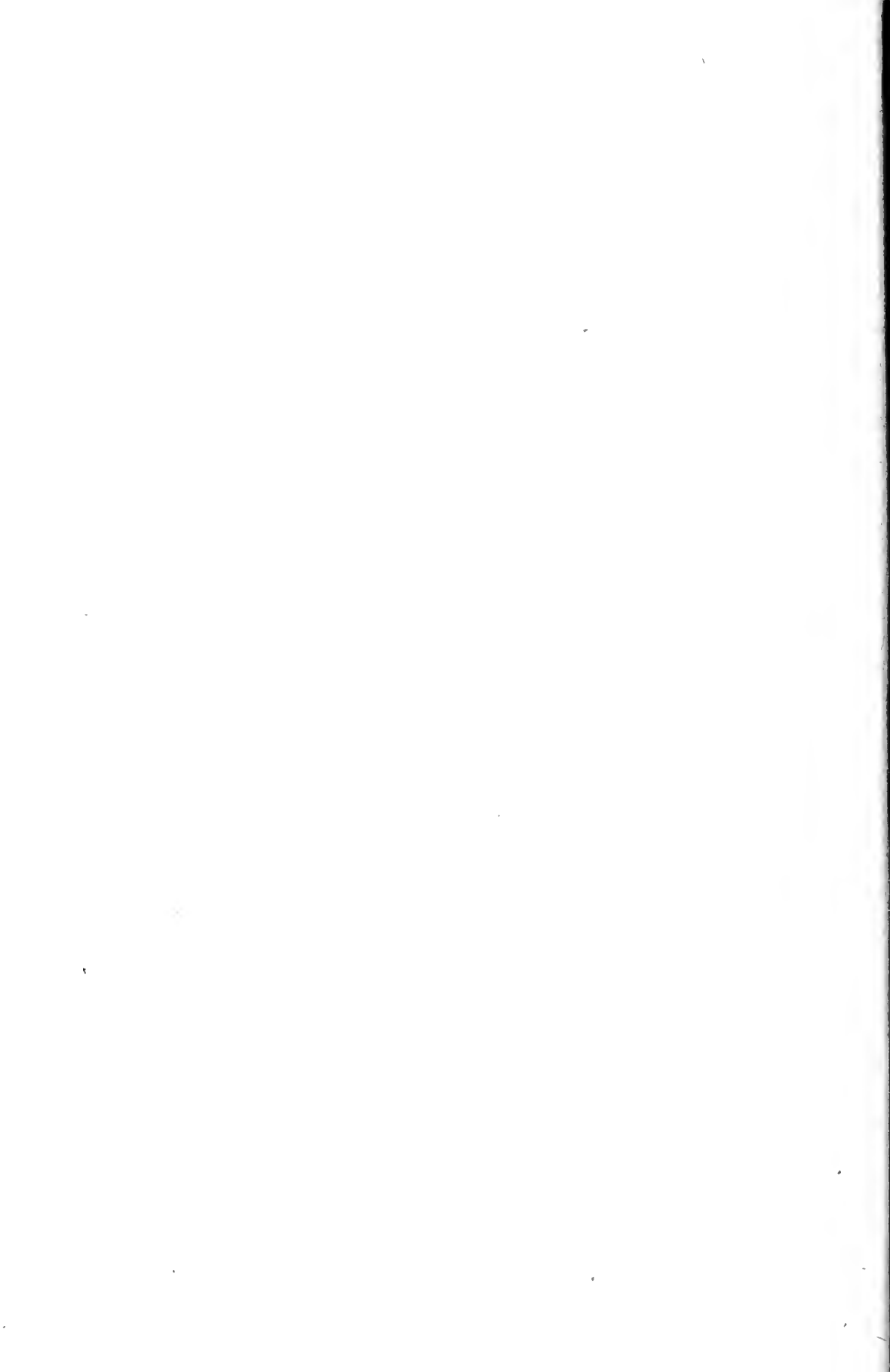












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