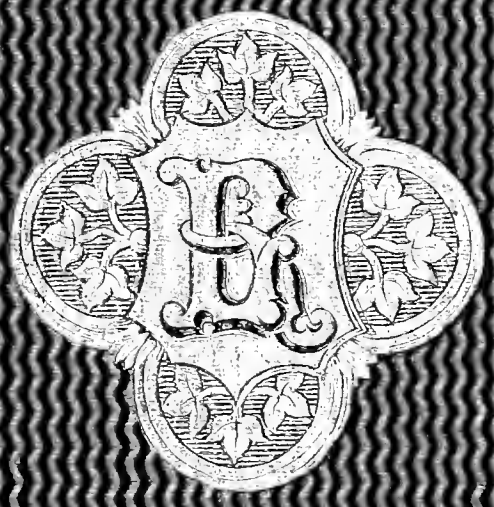

1624

THE

FLORAL MAGAZINE:

BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY

COMPRISING

Figures and Descriptions

OF

POPULAR FLOWERS.

BY THE

REV. H. HONYWOOD DOMBRAIN, A.B.

THE PLATES BY JAMES ANDREWS, F.R.H.S.

VOL. IV.

LONDON:

LOVELL REEVE & CO., 5, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN.

1865.

JOHN EDWARD TAYLOR, PRINTER,
LITTLE QUEEN STREET, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS.

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BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 193.

AZALEA (FORGET-ME-NOT, IVERY'S).

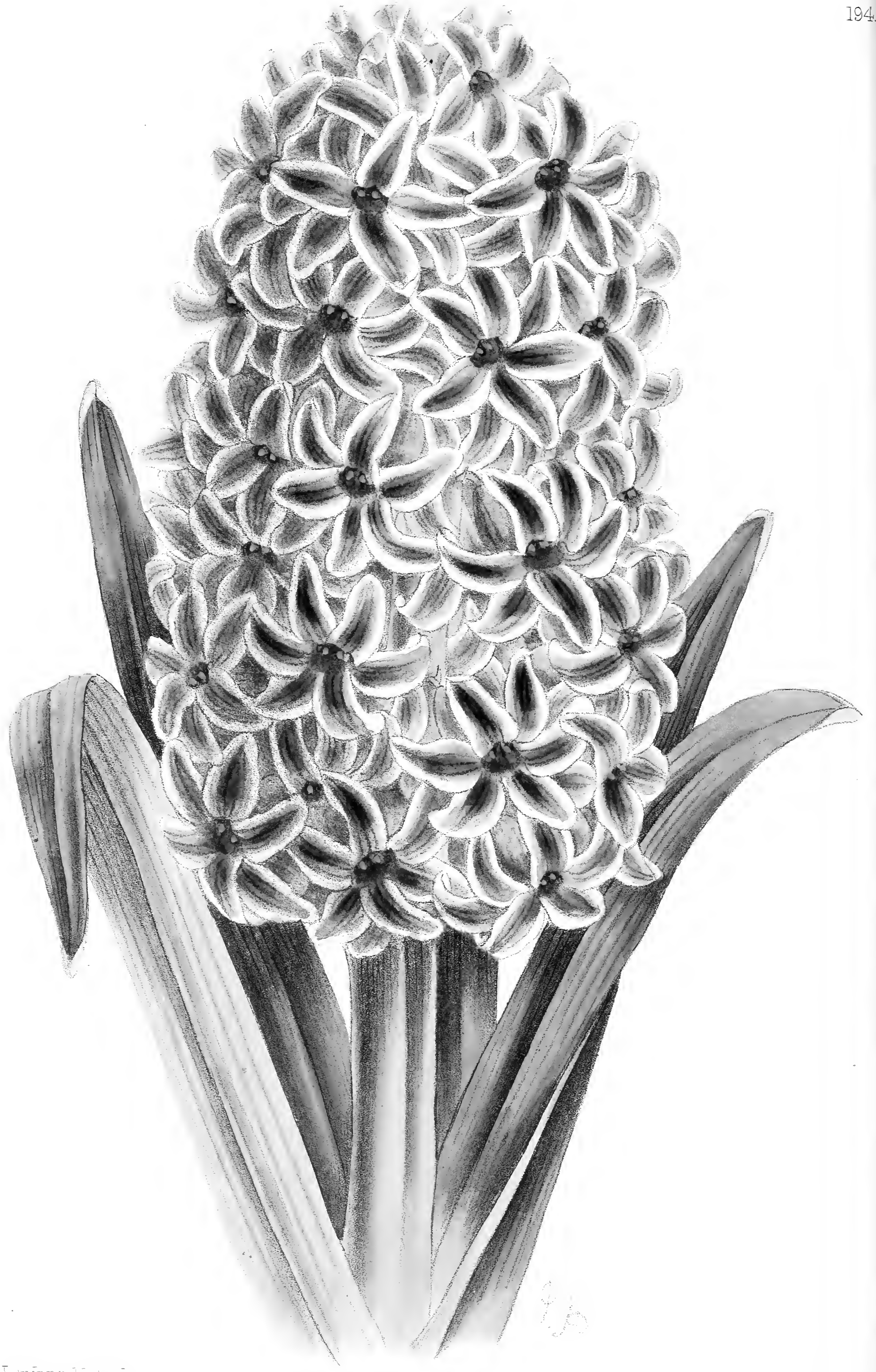
Probably no English grower has been so successful in raising seedling Azaleas as Mr. Ivery, of Dorking, the many fine flowers which have proceeded from his Nursery holding a foremost place in all collections, for who can have a collection of which *Gem*, *Iveryana*, *Criterion*, *Carnation*, and other fine flowers, do not form a part? and we never see a good set of plants staged for exhibition in which some of his flowers are not to be found. That which we now figure will show that he has not forsaken their culture, but that in it and in others which he has already exhibited this season, he is prepared to maintain the high character which he has so long had as a raiser and grower of Azaleas.

This beautiful spring flower, which forms so prominent a feature at our various exhibitions, and both from its beauty and its fragrance is so generally admired, is by no means difficult of culture for those who are contented with ordinary cultivation. t of course, like every other plant, pays for the care bestowed upon it, and those mountains of bloom which are produced every year at the metropolitan shows are only the result of unceasing care and attention. The great enemy to their cultivation is the thrips, and we have observed, in a series of admirable articles by that well-known Azalea grower, Mr. Barnes, of Camberwell, that he advocates fumigation in preference to any other process, for keeping this under, and considers that it ought to be repeated two or three times so as to ensure the destruction of this pest. Various other plans have been proposed, such as dipping them in a solution of Gishurst compound, and other preparations of a similar character; but, independently

of the discoloration of the foliage resulting from this process, he has not found it sufficient to kill the thrips.*

"Forget-me-Not" is described by Mr. Ivery as of "dwarf, compact habit, with small neat foliage, the colour a purplish-red, with rich markings in the upper segments, and quite distinct from any other kind." We do not hesitate to say that we think it will be a general favourite, for it is one of those flowers that keep a long time in bloom. We believe it will be sent out in May of next year.

* The process of fumigation is a very unpleasant one, and it is therefore with considerable satisfaction that we can recommend an improved fumigating bellows, recently brought out by Messrs. Barr and Sugden, of King Street, Covent Garden. The case to hold the tobacco is made of solid brass, so that there is no fear of its giving way with heat, and as it is supplied complete for a small sum, it will be acceptable to many amateurs. We have used it with much effect in our own greenhouses.



J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 194.

HYACINTH, ROBERT FORTUNE.

Considerable discussion has arisen during the past two seasons as to the class instituted at the Royal Horticultural Society for new Hyacinths, the difficulty of determining what was new, and the questionable nature of the class altogether, being the points about which the discussion has arisen. Having ourselves carefully watched the plants exhibited during that time by our two principal growers, Messrs. Cutbush, of Highgate, and Mr. William Paul, of Cheshunt, we must record our decided opinion against the advisability of continuing it, as it is only calculated to mislead the public; and it was on their behalf that the class was originally formed.

The Hyacinth is in some respects unlike other flowers. It is slow in its increase, and consequently a new bulb can only, for some years at any rate, remain in the hands of those who grow for exhibition; nor is it like the Tulip, for when one or two guineas have been paid for it, it is with the certainty that only one year's bloom can be obtained from it, whereas the Tulip may repay the purchaser by its offsets alone, and hence absolutely new varieties have but little interest. And then, again, there is the temptation to put into the class a number of inferior bulbs, and indeed this has been the case, many of the flowers exhibited during the present season being by no means equal to those which have been for some years in the hands of every grower of Hyacinths. We therefore hope to find that it will for the future be put into the same position as other flowers, and be judged simply as to its individual merits.

Various flowers have been considered of first-rate merit, and will probably, in a few years' time, come into general growth. *Lord Palmerston* is a good blue, although we do not consider it

worthy of the very high commendation it has in some quarters received. *Josephine* is a bright orange-red; and although it had not a very large spike, yet was very attractive. The same may be said of a lilac flower, *Henrietta Elizabeth*. The large-belled kind of the Pieneman type was represented by *Thorwaldsen*, a light-blue flower; but this class is not by any means to our mind so attractive as those with smaller pips and a fuller truss. We have reserved our notice of *Robert Fortune*, the subject of our Plate, for the last, as we believe it to be the very best of those exhibited as novelties. The colour is quite new; the spike well filled up, and large; the individual pips not very large, but of a tolerably good form. The colour is very difficult to describe; some have called it a puce mauve, others, a crimson-lilac; each segment has a deeper stripe in the centre, while the margin fades off into a lighter shade, almost white. It is somewhat in the style of that old flower *Haydn*, but infinitely preferable to it, and we have no doubt that, when plentiful, it will be eagerly sought for, for collections. It was exhibited by Mr. Cutbush, of Highgate, and received a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society.

MUSEUM

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 195.

NEW ITALIAN VERBENAS.

Amongst the flowers exhibited at the Paris Exhibition of the Imperial Society of Horticulture in last May, we particularly noticed some Italian Verbenas which seemed to us to be in an entirely new strain, being mottled, striped, and dashed in a very peculiar manner. We obtained some of the most remarkable of them from the well-known establishment of Rougière-Chauvière, and of them we have selected the three most meritorious for our present illustration.

We understand that they, with many others of a similar character, were originated by the firm of Cavagnini Brothers at Brescia, and while in many respects defective in the eye of a florist,—for they want that shape, contour, and substance which are obtained in the self-coloured varieties of English and French origin,—yet, as indicating a step in an entirely new direction, they are very valuable. It has generally happened that the first flowers of these variegated kinds, in whatever section they have originated, have generally been deficient in these points, but the skill of hybridizers, and the impulse given by the great demand there is for anything of novelty of really sterling merit, has soon overcome this. Fancy Pansies are the latest evidence of this. They were at first complete "ragged jacks," but, owing to the perseverance of Mr. Dean and others, we are now obtaining them with outlines almost as good as the older varieties. The very few striped flowers amongst Verbenas make us feel the more desirous of seeing these novelties more cultivated. If we could obtain flowers with white grounds, striped with scarlet, crimson, blue, etc., as regularly as *stricta perfecta*, a great gain would be made; and knowing what has been done, we do not despair of seeing this accomplished.

Pallavicini di Brescia (Fig. 1) is the best-formed amongst those that we have seen, but then it is not so regularly striped as the others. It has a white ground with a brilliant crimson blotch in the centre of the pip, more or less filling it up, while it is also blotched and spotted with the same colour on the edges of the segments. *Conte Bernhardino Lecchi* has a white ground striped with crimson-violet; the pips are small, but round, while *Caroline Cavagnini* (Fig. 3) is irregular in shape, but distinct in colour, being a white ground striped with scarlet. As far as habit is concerned, we do not think, save *Pallavicini di Brescia*, that they are as vigorous as the older varieties. This we had blooming in our own garden during the past summer, and it was fully equal in this respect to the general run of those in the same bed with it.

J.Andrews del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 196.

CAMELLIA, CONTE DE GOMER.

We have been very much surprised to find that, notwithstanding the liberal encouragement given by the Royal Horticultural Society to the exhibitors of Camellias, they have been brought forward so sparingly. In several cases no competition has taken place, and in others where prizes have been awarded, as in cut-blooms, the flowers were by no means of that first-rate character that we should have expected, and yet there is not a flower more universally admired, or which, when well grown, with its beautiful glossy foliage, makes a more conspicuous object; nor can it be for want of novelty, for many new and beautiful varieties are being continually introduced from the Continent.

In visiting the new plant establishment of Mr. William Bull, at Chelsea, in the month of March, we noticed, amongst other interesting plants, the new variety of Camellia which we now figure, and which will be found, we think, an interesting addition to those already grown. The striped varieties have of late years been more of those on white grounds,—such flowers as *Countess of Derby* and *Contessa Lavinia Maggi*,—most beautiful, indeed, and well meriting the favour with which they have been received, but in *Conte de Gomer* we have a flower of an entirely different character. It was raised in Brescia (Italy) by Conte Bernhardino Lecchi, a well-known and ardent horticulturist. The colour is a soft beautiful rose, striped with both broad and narrow bands of crimson; it is of large size; the shape of the petals is good, and the flower itself well imbricated. It was a little confused in the centre when we saw it, but probably that was an exceptional case. The foliage is large and handsome, of a deep green colour.

We have so frequently reverted to the cultivation of the Camellia, that we can add but little to that which we have before given. They are, in truth, very easy to manage, the main points to be careful about being a nice rapid growth when they have done flowering, with abundance of syringing, and a gradual hardening in the open air, or under tiffany; the intrusion of worms into the pot must be carefully guarded against, as derangement in the drainage is thereby caused, and this will cause the bloom-buds to fall off without coming to maturity, a frequent source of disappointment to growers, and more generally attributable to this than to any other cause.

J Andrews, del et lith

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 197.

VARIETIES OF EARLY TULIPS.

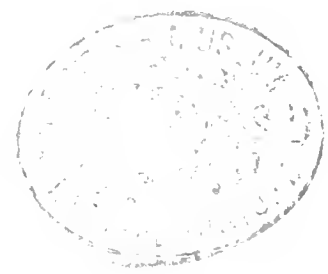
Few flowers are more effective for the early decoration of the greenhouse or garden than the many beautiful varieties of early Tulips, and we have therefore selected three from the extensive collection exhibited by Messrs. Cutbush and Son at the spring shows of the Royal Horticultural and Botanic Societies, as the subject of our present illustration, and are indebted to our friend Mr. James Cutbush for the following notes on their culture :—

"We have divided this very beautiful class of early-flowering bulbs into two sections, the *first* being those which will bear a moderate degree of forcing, and may be had in bloom, under careful culture, as early as the Hyacinths. The *second section* contains those better adapted for blooming in March. We select the bulbs early, and pot three bulbs in a pot in good turfy loam, mixed with a good proportion of rich decayed manure and silver-sand about the first week in October. The *first section* might be potted a fortnight earlier with the first batch of Hyacinths. After they are potted, select a level plot of ground, sheltered from rain and frost, and plunge them in old tan or coal ashes some six inches deep for a month or six weeks; after, remove them and clear away all impurities, and place them in a cool house, and gradually introduce them into the forcing pit, observing *great care* that the temperature be not too high, say 55 degrees, increasing to 65, giving plenty of *clear* water, and keep near the glass, to prevent them from drawing; when the bloom is so far advanced above the bulb as to be *distinctly* seen, remove them to a cooler house, that they may expand their flowers and ensure a better colour. A little very weak manure water may with advantage be used in *this*

stage, but not earlier, and it will be found to materially assist their development, both as regards colour and substance. We find about half a bushel of fresh cow-dung, in a 36-gallon cask, filled to the brim, the strength they appreciate.

"If these cultural remarks are rigidly adhered to, we feel confident that they will form excellent companions to those lovely harbingers of sunny times (Hyacinths) and other spring flowers. Nothing possibly can exceed the brilliancy and purity of colour and chasteness of form of those that will be found enumerated in our catalogue."

The varieties figured are—(Fig. 1) *Proserpine*, rich silky rose; (Fig. 2) *Keizerkroon*, yellow and red; and (Fig. 3) *Roi Pepin*, pure white, flaked with crimson.



Vincent Brooks Imp

Plate 198.

ROSE, MADAME VICTOR VERDIER.

There is no season more generally looked forward to by the flower-loving public than the Rose season. Many are the inquiries as soon as the month of May opens. "What are the prospects of rose-growers this year; what new Roses are likely to be useful; what shows will be the most successful?" are amongst the many inquiries, which clearly indicate that the Rose justly claims the honour of being considered the Queen of Flowers; and, judging from our own prospects, we are likely to have one of the most brilliant seasons we have ever known. Nothing can exceed the vigour and promise of bloom of those collections which we have seen; while, as the number of amateurs has been gradually increasing every year, we may expect a much larger number of exhibitors than have ever before contended together for honours at the various metropolitan shows; while in the provinces, exhibitions for the Rose alone are each year increasing in number.

The Rose which we now figure was sent to our artist by Mr. Charles Turner, of Slough, with the character of being the very deepest rose he ever saw,—not in colour, but in what florists call "build," being in fact to Roses what *Lord Derby* is to Dahlias. It was sent out by M. Eugène Verdier, *fils aîné*, of Paris; and although it is of a shade of colour in which we have a great many varieties, yet this characteristic in its shape will probably lead to its being considered worthy of a place in our select lists. It will be seen that this character of depth has been admirably preserved by our artist.

The immense number of new varieties which each year introduces to the notice of rose-growers is becoming more and more a source of perplexity; and as it is very likely that as the

impetus has been given to obtaining new varieties in England,—and last season was a very favourable one for maturing seed,—we may expect a large number of home-raised seedlings. It will be therefore more than ever needful to exercise caution in the selection of new varieties. Several of those of last season have been already exhibited, and although we cannot determine much from flowers grown under glass, yet the following gave promise of being good:—

Tea, *Alba*; Bourbon, *Rev. H. Dombrain*; Hybrid Perpetuals, *Alpaïde de Rotalier*, *Amiral Lapeyrouse*, *Maréchal Forey* (Margottin), and *Bernard Palissy*. The stands of new varieties will be looked forward to with more than ordinary interest this season, and we hope to chronicle the results at some future period.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks Imp.

Plate 199.

LAPAGERIA ALBA.

Many years have not elapsed since the Messrs. Veitch, of Chelsea and Exeter, received from their collector in Chili, Mr. Pearce, the beautiful climber *Lapageria rosea*, which, to the character of being one of the most exquisite climbers known, added the most desirable requisite of being a greenhouse plant, and hence has soon established itself in all the best collections in the country. Nothing can exceed the beauty of its lovely, soft, rosy-coloured bells, as they hang in profusion from the roof, while, as we have seen it exhibited as a pot plant, trailed on a trellis, it was almost equally beautiful.

About two years since, on the same day that Mr. Veitch exhibited the magnificent *Lilium auratum*, the splendid plant which we now figure was also shown, under the name of *Lapageria rosea*, var. *albiflora*. It had been also discovered by Mr. Pearce in the same country, and sent home by him. The name has since been altered to *Lapageria alba*, and we do not doubt that it will ere long be as largely cultivated and as widely grown as the rose-coloured variety.

There are some few things necessary for the successful culture of both these plants. They are impatient of bad drainage, and therefore ought to have extra good drainage, while some lumps of charcoal in the soil, about the size of a walnut, tend to secure this. This soil should consist of loam and peat in about equal proportions, and some leaf mould and silver sand may be added, but no manure. They should have plenty of space for the roots, and therefore succeed best when planted out, although for three or four years they will succeed very well as pot plants. They also rejoice in a light house, although they do not like the scorching rays of the sun. Although impatient of

bad drainage, they require a good deal of watering, and hence the necessity for great care. When growing, the water should be given very abundantly. If, when they are commencing to grow, a little heat can be given, they will be improved by it, although this is not absolutely necessary. Attention to these few points will ensure success. We do not say anything about cleanliness, for no good gardener will allow his plants to get dirty, however great may be the difficulty sometimes of overcoming greenfly and thrips, and no plant can be neglected in this respect without injury.

BRITISH MUSEUM

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 200.

CINERARIAS, FLOWER OF THE DAY, REMBRANDT, AND ELIZA.

The opinion was expressed to us some time ago by one of the most successful raisers of Cinerarias, that we had reached the Ultima Thule in their growth; that neither in form, size, nor colour was it possible to exceed those already in growth. From this opinion we dissented, and when, at the exhibition of the Royal Botanic Society on April 30th, we with him stopped opposite to one exhibited by the Messrs. F. and A. Smith, of Dulwich, figured in our present Plate (*Rembrandt*), and saw a first-class certificate appended to it, he, too, retracted his decision, and said that it richly deserved it for its novelty and distinctness.

There is, in truth, no possibility of placing a limit thus, and saying that further improvement is impossible. We remember the same being said years ago of the Pelargonium, and figures of flowers then published were confidently appealed to in proof of this, but if we take these figures now and compare them with the flowers of the present day, or with the drawings now published, we do not wonder that the names even of those flowers have gone from our lists, so superior are those which have been raised of late years in every point which the florist deems of importance; and so in the same way with the Cineraria and other flowers. When a certain point has been reached, the improvement of necessity must be slow; but if we compare those of the present day with flowers of a year or two back, we see at once that progress has been made, and there is so great a tendency to *sport* that we can never know when some fresh strain may be obtained. While this is the case, however, we do feel that, as far as regards the *plants* set up for exhibition,

there has not been this tendency to improvement, nay, it rather strikes us that those now shown are not at all equal to what they were a few years ago. It may be because some of the most successful exhibitors of those days do not now exhibit, but still the fact appears so to us.

Of the varieties now figured, all raised by Messrs. F. and A. Smith, of Dulwich, *Flower of the Day* (Fig. 1) is a rich violet plum, with broad band of pure white surrounding a darkish disk,—fine form and substance, and quite new in colour. *Rembrandt* (Fig. 2) is an intensely deep mulberry-crimson, with a white ring surrounding a very dark disk,—a large flower of fine form, great substance, and novelty of colour. *Eliza* (Fig. 3) is a very large smooth flower, deep rosy-crimson, with very broad band of pure white surrounding a blackish disk, very dwarf, and of compact habit.

J. Andrews, del et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp

Plate 201.

AZALEA, SOUVENIR DE PRINCE ALBERT.

As a general rule, amongst what are called florists' flowers, double flowers are preferred to single ones. In the Dahlia, Pink, Hollyhock, Carnation, Picotee, etc., this rule holds good; while amongst some of the more tender classes of the same, such as the Pelargonium and the Azalea, the reverse is the case. Several fine sorts of double Azaleas are however now in cultivation, and when in large plants are very effective. We need only mention that very fine white variety sent out by Messrs. Smith, of Dulwich, *Flag of Truce*, to bear out the truth of this; nothing can be conceived more lovely than a plant naturally grown, covered with the pure white flowers of this fine sort.

We have said *naturally* grown, for the conviction is, we think, forcing itself upon the minds of all who are interested in the beauty of our exhibitions, that an alteration is required in this respect. Since we last figured an Azalea, and mentioned this subject, the great Spring Shows have been held; and while everybody stood in wonder at the huge masses of bloom which the immense plants of Messrs. Turner, Veitch, Green, and others exhibited, yet the question was universally asked, Why is it necessary that these pyramids of bloom should be exhibited in this shape? It used not to be so, in Chiswick days, when Mrs. Lawrence, of Ealing, was so constant and so successful an exhibitor. Her plants used not to have this character; they were full of bloom indeed, but their foliage was to be seen, and plants were not tortured into the shapes of crinolines or sugar-loaves. To effect a change, the initiative must be taken by the Societies themselves. If they discourage it, the growers will at once fall into the arrangement, for this present system

entails an immense expense, many of these large plants requiring one man for a whole week to tie them out; but unless this is done, one grower will hardly venture on making the change and run the risk of being beaten by another who adheres to the present system.

The Azalea which we now figure is of Continental origin, and has been highly spoken of. As a decorative variety, it seems to us to possess great merits. The colour may be described as having a white ground, with the centre of the petals blotched with bright rosy-pink extending towards the edge of the petals, and in some of the petals with deeper crimson spots. The plant is a profuse bloomer, and close and compact in habit.

J. Andrews, del et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 202.

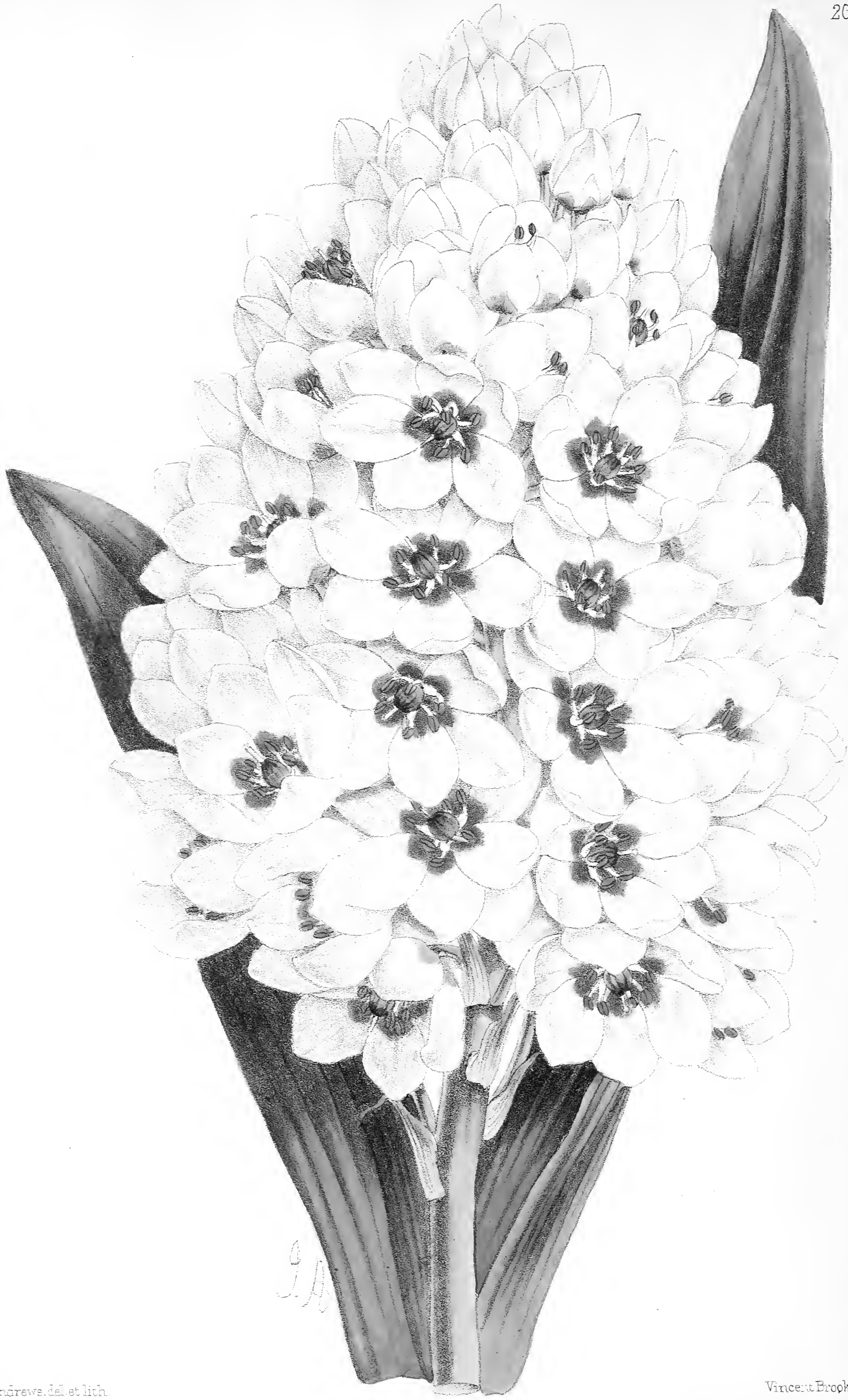
AURICULA, LORD CLYDE.

The National Auricula Show having been again held this year in London, a good deal of interest in this beautiful spring flower, so rapidly increasing in popular favour, has been excited. The long range of plants exhibited, attracted throughout the day a large number of admirers, many of whom were evidently ignorant of the great beauty of the many varieties sent in by amateurs and dealers both north and south.

A considerable difference of taste exists between northern and southern growers as to what constitutes a good Auricula for exhibition, the former having been in the habit of greatly reducing the number of the "pips," as the individual flowers are called, so as to make a truss consist of but three or five flowers, and looking more to the quality of the pip than to the size and effect of the plant as a whole; while the latter have regarded these as essentials, and have been more inclined to obtain large flowers than small ones. The friendly intercourse that has taken place between them both in these exhibitions has had the good effect of modifying both these views, and we doubt not that permanent good will result from it. There can be no question that refinement is the one remarkable characteristic of the Auricula; and if a flower be naturally coarse, or be made so by cultivation, it very materially detracts from its beauty, and, moreover, the effect of high stimulants on the Auricula is to alter completely the character of the colour, so that they are, for these reasons, to be avoided. We think, too, that the opinion is now winning its way amongst northern growers that to cut down the number of pips, as they have been in the habit of doing, is also wrong, inasmuch as it gives them a very bald appearance.

Amongst the flowers exhibited on the occasion alluded to were several new ones of excellent quality, and when we speak of *new* Auriculas, it is not as in the Verbena, Geranium, etc., where the novelties of this year are considered old next season; but in the Auricula a flower may be considered new for eight or ten years, so slow are they to increase. Of these we would mention *Turner's Buckstone*, a fine grey-edge flower, which took the premier prize; Headly's *George Lightbody*, also grey; Pohlman's *Garibaldi*, a dark self; and Lightbody's *Lord Clyde*, the subject of our present Plate. This latter is a fine dark flower of a maroon shade of colour, well formed, and of good substance; the paste is somewhat too angular, but is solid. We think the flower is destined to hold a high place amongst self-coloured varieties, a class generally very much admired.

BRITISH MUSEUM
(NATURAL HISTORY)



J Andrews. del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 203.

ORNITHOGALUM THYRSOIDES.

At all the great Spring Shows this season, Messrs. Carter, of Holborn, have exhibited a group of fine blooms of this old but very much neglected flower, and as it has received the approbation of the various gardening periodicals, and obtained special certificates from the Royal Horticultural and Royal Botanic Societies, and is moreover a plant of a highly decorative character, we have considered that it would be serving the interests of horticulture to figure it.

Although by some writers this variety has been called tender, we have the authority of Messrs. Carter for asserting it to be hardy, although we dare say that, like most of the spring flowering bulbs, it will well repay the protection and care of a cold pit, from thence to be brought into the greenhouse and conservatory, as occasion may require, or the plants arrive at their blooming period. The bulbs should be potted in the autumn in good-sized pots, and in a compost composed of sandy loam, with a little leaf-mould and peat, and the ordinary attention required for Tulips, Hyacinths, and Dutch bulbs, will be sufficient for them. If they are planted out, it should be on a dry border, and protection should be given to them in wet and frosty weather during winter. But, for ourselves, we prefer, whenever it is practicable, to take up bulbs rather than to leave them in the ground, as worms are so apt to make holes in them, and so destroy the bulb.

One great advantage that this variety of Ornithogalum possesses is the permanence of its bloom, not merely from the large number of individual flowers, but from their durability, spikes of it continuing from three to four weeks in perfection,

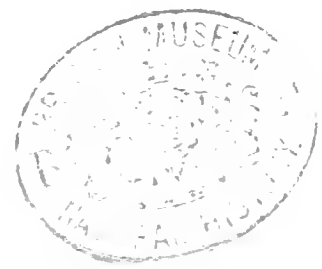
and when brought into the greenhouse amongst other spring flowers it will be found very valuable, and we do not therefore wonder that the special certificate should have been awarded to it.*

* We have been favoured by Messrs. Carter with the following notes :—

"The bulbs from which we raised our stock of *Ornithogalum thyrsoides* were sent to us from a correspondent in Natal, and were planted at once in pots and placed in a cool vinery. They soon started into a most vigorous growth, and about Christmas last some of the forwardest showed signs of blooming, throwing up stems from 1 to 1½ feet high, having a fine thyrse of pure white flowers with a bronze-yellow centre, opening from the bottom, and having in most cases 90 to 100 flowers on each spike, two-thirds of which were generally expanded at one time, and surpassing in loveliness any known white half-hardy bulb. We have seen the bloom continue expanding for three weeks if not exposed to too much sunlight, and cut blooms will keep in full beauty for a month in water. For conservatory decoration we know of nothing to equal it if grown three to five bulbs in a pot, and introduced among the dark foliage of the Camellias or any groups of conservatory plants, and being of a character so distinct from most other plants in bloom at that time of year. We believe, with judicious management, it may be had in bloom from the end of January to the end of June, and is of most easy culture, succeeding well in a mixture of sandy loam and leaf-mould; and if potted up in autumn and started in a cool vinery, will, without any further extraordinary attention, succeed well."

Extract from Shirley Hibberd's 'Gardeners' Weekly Magazine,' April 23: —"We must only mention one more subject, and strangely that ought to have been mentioned first instead of last, for it is Messrs. Carter's Great Gun of 1864. *Ornithogalum thyrsoides* is a nearly hardy species, with a grand spike of snow-white flowers two or three feet high, regally set in the form of a sceptre; the individual blossoms large and neatly formed; the whole plant possessed of a superior air, that befits it for the noblest purposes of spring decoration. The specimen seen had been drawn longer than its usual habit under glass in heat."

Extract from 'Gardeners' Chronicle,' May 14, p. 463:—"There is now in bloom here quantities of the showy flowering bulb *O. thyrsoides*, the great conical-shaped snow-white flower-heads of which, borne well up on stout stems, are conspicuous even at a distance; and intermixed with other plants on a greenhouse shelf, have a fine effect."



J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 204.

FUCHSIA, CLOTH OF GOLD.

It is curious to remark the various steps in the progress of variegated plants: take, for example, the Fuchsia we first figured, Carter's *Meteor*, a plant on which the flowers were totally useless, and only the foliage of any account. Last year we figured Smith's *Pillar of Gold*, in which the flowers were tolerably good both in form and colour, while in the present variety we have a clear and good variegation, with a flower of first-rate character; for it is a sport from that old and well-known and valued variety, *Souvenir de Chiswick*.

Fuchsia *Cloth of Gold* was originated by Mr. Stafford, of Hyde, near Manchester, the raiser of those two excellent flowers *Aurea floribunda*, Calceolaria, and *Stafford's Gem*, fancy Dahlia; and we are indebted to him for the following notes concerning it:—"It originated (like other sports) from a cutting on a large plant of *Souvenir de Chiswick* coming accidentally variegated. The cutting was struck, and grown into a plant two or three feet in height. Another plant struck from it, grew three feet, and as it showed no inclination to vary, it was at the end of last summer propagated for sale, and sixty or eighty young plants grown through the autumn, most of them flowering; and neither then nor at any time since has it varied, except occasionally to get so yellow in the young plants as to refuse in that state to grow; but this does not matter in an old plant, but is rather an improvement. Of course no deciduous variegated plant is so permanent in colour as variegated evergreens, but this retains it as well as it is possible for any variegated Fuchsia to do. I believe if I had twice the stock, and continued to advertise it, I should have sold it. Smith's *Pillar of Gold* now shows the red veins, and comes more yellow,

and the two make a very beautiful pair, both being sufficiently similar, and yet sufficiently distinct, Smith's having the advantage of red veins and very strong close habit, and mine of more regular, and I believe more permanent variegation and better flowers."

In Mr. Stafford's circular he thus describes it:—"A golden variegated-leaved sport of *Souvenir de Chiswick*, retaining all the fine properties of the original, with leaves all constantly variegated, some in way of *Golden Chain*, and other similar to *Cloth of Gold*, Geranium, but brighter, and during three years' trial has never shown a green leaf. It is not only by far the best, but the only variegated-leaved Fuchsia ever sent out with really fine variegated leaves, large fine flowers, good habit, and free bloomer. It will prove a most useful market plant, as, among other Fuchsias, it is as striking as a fine variegated Geranium among green sorts, and as a specimen, which may be grown up to 6 or 10 feet, will be one of the finest ornamental greenhouse plants, and useful also as a bedding plant on account of its compact habit, and being easily and cheaply grown and propagated." We can, from having grown it ourselves, personally testify to the correctness of this description. Mr. Stafford's having sent out *Aurea floribunda*, Calceolaria, and *Stafford's Gem*, Dahlia, is a sufficient guarantee of the soundness of his judgment in this case.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 205.

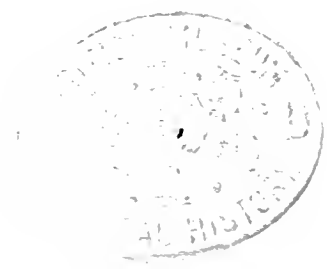
FANCY PELARGONIUMS, ANNE PAGE AND EDGAR TURNER.

It is now nearly two years since we figured any flowers of this section, not because there has been any diminution of interest in them, but the perfection to which they have, by careful hybridizing, been brought, is so great, that improvement is indeed most difficult. The flowers which we now figure seem, however, to present to us this improvement: one has been awarded a certificate by the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, and the other, from its colouring, seems to us worthy of a place in our collections.

The position which Mr. Turner (the raiser of these flowers) has so long occupied, both as a grower and an exhibitor, has been somewhat interfered with this season, he having been absent from many of the metropolitan shows, and only taken second prizes in others. The cause of this affords a useful lesson, and is an illustration of the need of attending to the old adage, "Let well alone." In order to give greater vigour to his plants, and make them surpass themselves, he used, this season, some of the chemical manures, in solution. The result of this was to give an immense impetus to the growth of his plants, and nothing could promise better than they did in the early part of the month of May; but it will be remembered that during that month we had some very hot weather. The effect of this on his plants, so treated, was to hurry them into bloom, and to burn and wither the foliage, so that by the time the exhibitions were taking place, his plants had either gone out of bloom or were in a condition unfit for showing. Had the cooler weather lasted a little longer, as might, under ordinary circumstances, have been supposed, they would have been

wonderfully fine; as it was, they were so forced into bloom as to be deficient in quality of flower and foliage; and however useful these manures may be for some things, he is convinced that for soft-wooded plants they are ill-suited.

Of the two varieties which we now figure, *Anne Page* (No. 1) is a beautifully-shaped light-coloured flower, very round in outline, bright crimson-rose top petals, the lower ones marked and veined with the same shade on a lighter ground, the edges of all the petals being white. *Edgar Turner* (No. 2) has very dark-crimson top petals, with a fiery crimson edge; the lower petals with dark blotches of the same, shaded, like the top, with black, and with a clear white throat; this will be, we think, a valuable plant for exhibition purposes, an opinion which Mr. Turner also entertains.



J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp

Plate 206.

RHODODENDRON, PRINCESS ALICE.

Amongst the many beautiful varieties of Rhododendron, none has been more coveted for the size of its flowers and for the richness of its perfume than *R. Edgeworthii*, and therefore it is not surprising that hybridizers have attempted to use it for the purpose of producing free-flowering plants of dwarf habit.

It was not likely that horticulturists so successful as the Messrs. Veitch would omit such an opportunity, and they have consequently, by crossing *R. Edgeworthii* with *R. ciliatum*, been enabled to obtain the very beautiful variety which we now figure, *Princess Alice*, and which has been very largely exhibited by them, during the last two years, at the various horticultural exhibitions held in the metropolis. We were particularly struck with some small plants, from nine to twelve inches high, which were exhibited by them at the Royal Botanic Society during the present season, and had all of them a fine head of bloom; this, for small greenhouses and conservatories, will make them very effective plants, while the delicacy of their perfume adds an additional charm to them.

It will be seen that the flowers of this fine variety are large, and, when fully expanded, pure white; when they first open there is a faint pink tinge on them, which, however, gradually fades away. The tip of the bud, when unexpanded, is bright rosy-pink, and affords a pretty contrast to the pure white of the open flowers. The plant has been awarded a first-class certificate wherever exhibited.

There is little that can be added to what has been already given with regard to the cultivation of these greenhouse varieties of the Rhododendron. The cooler they are kept, so as to be free from frost, the better will they succeed; and we are in-

clined to think that it is with them as with many other plants, that they have oftentimes been too much indulged and petted, and thereby made more difficult of cultivation than they really are. A more rational method is now, however, being generally adopted, and increased success may therefore be looked for.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 207.

IRIS, MADEMOISELLE PATTI.

Amongst the tribes of plants for which Mr. Salter's Versailles Nursery is celebrated, the Iris holds a conspicuous place; and as it is one which is deserving of more extended cultivation than is at present given to it, we have figured the present beautiful variety. It was our intention and wish to have introduced two into the Plate, but we could not do so without overcrowding and spoiling the effect, so we have been contented with one, a very beautiful variety, *Mademoiselle Patti*.

Mr. Salter has kindly furnished us with the following notes:—"The varieties of *Iris Germanica* are perfectly hardy, and will grow in almost any soil; indeed, I have seen them growing and flowering well on the top of a high wall; but they are peculiarly adapted for large borders, or the front of shrubbery, blooming, as they do, in early summer; while the variety and gay colours of the flowers are distinctly seen from a distance. The best time to form plantations is in early autumn, for then the young tubers begin to throw out roots; but any time in autumn or winter will do, although the earlier the operation can be carried out the better, in order to ensure good blooms for the following season. They do not require to be planted deep, and should be taken up and separated every third year. The variety now figured was raised from seed here about four or five years ago, seedling plants generally blooming the second or third year. The seed will sometimes lie dormant in the ground a whole year, and therefore I have found it better, in order to save time, to sow the seed as soon as ripe. The *Iris Germanica* does not like fresh manure; indeed, in any tolerably good soil, it flourishes better without any." Where a plant is so easy of cultivation as this, and is moreover of great beauty,

it is surely surprising that it is not more cultivated. Mr. Salter has a rich and varied collection, and we have also seen some fine stands exhibited by Messrs. Barr and Sugden, of King Street, and Messrs. Hooper, of Covent Garden.

The variety now figured, *Mademoiselle Patti* (Salter), has the upper petals of bright orange-yellow, the lower petals claret, very distinctly and prettily veined with darker veins of the same colour. The base of the petals yellow, with claret veins. The flower is large, and the colours are very distinct and showy.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 208.

SARRACENIA DRUMMONDII.

The impulse that has been given to the cultivation of pitcher-plants by that zealous and indefatigable friend of horticulture Lady Dorothy Neville, has induced us to give a representation of one of those whose cultivation comes within the reach of those amateurs who possess nothing more than an intermediate house; for while the different varieties of Nepenthes require the treatment of a stove, the Sarracenias will flourish, some of them, in a warm greenhouse, and others even in cold frames or pits.

We are indebted to Mr. B. S. Williams, of Holloway, one of our ablest and most experienced plantsmen, for the following notes on their culture:—"The genus Sarracenia comprises perhaps some of the most curious and interesting plants that we have, and one which is much more rare than it need be, owing to the mistakes that have been made with regard to their culture; for notwithstanding that they are mostly North American plants, and consequently are subject to great variations of temperature, they have been generally treated as stove plants. But it has been found with them, as with many of our Orchids, that the high temperature to which they have been subjected is not only not necessary, but does not suit them so well as a lower one. My method of procedure is, to put them in a soil composed of good fibrous peat, sphagnum moss, and leaf-mould, in about equal proportions, well mixed but not sifted. Plenty of broken pots and charcoal should be used for drainage, for on attention to this point depends a good deal of the success of their cultivation. Being bog plants, they require a great deal of water; and if there be not good drainage, the soil is apt to become soured, and the plant to be injured, if not destroyed.

I generally re-pot them about every six months, and find that the place most suitable for them is a cool greenhouse, avoiding a current of air passing directly on them. In this situation, they will flourish well; and their curious appearance will amply repay any trouble taken in their cultivation."

We have felt considerable difficulty as to the best method of figuring this plant, as it is from eighteen inches to two feet high; our artist has therefore given drawings of the curious pitchers, which are green, the extremity white curiously netted with green. He has also represented the flower in the centre of the Plate, and in the right-hand corner has given an outline sketch of the plant in its growing state,—this will give a very correct idea of its singularity of appearance.

BRITISH MUSEUM
(NATURAL HISTORY)

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 209.

UNITED ITALY, PELARGONIUM.

No class of flowers is more popular at the present time than that which is commonly known as the bedding Geranium (the term *scarlet* Geranium being now clearly incorrect, inasmuch as colours of all hues, pure white, salmon, pink, rose, crimson, as well as scarlet, are to be found in them), and whether for the adornment of the flower garden or conservatory during the summer months, they are especially valuable, combining great brilliancy of colour, easiness of growth, and profusion of bloom.

This popularity has induced the promoters of our great flower-shows, during the present season, to offer prizes for collections of both the plain-leaved and variegated kinds; but we must express our decided opinion that the plants exhibited were, with very few exceptions, quite unworthy of the class and of the skill of the exhibitors,—that terrible love of formality which has so hindered the natural, and consequently beautiful, growth of many of our exhibition plants having completely spoilt the effect. In many cases they were trained, or rather tortured, into flat table-like shapes, like the specimen plants of Pompon Chrysanthemums we have seen formerly. In one instance the flowers were tied across, so that the eye was arrested by a series of sticks and stalks, and all for the purpose of getting the blooms into their proper place. Thus fine plants were entirely spoilt by the love of formality. Plants in our own greenhouse, which have been left to themselves, are now full of bloom, and vastly preferable to most of those which we saw at the metropolitan exhibitions.

Amongst the plants which are most suitable for pot culture, the tricoloured-leaved varieties are very conspicuous. These are now divided into two sections; those with the edges of the

leaves of a golden hue, as *Mrs. Pollock*, which has had a greater run than any other variety of the tribe; and those with white or light-sulphur edge, such as *Attraction*, *Picturata*, etc.: to this latter section *Italia Unita*, or *United Italy*,—for it has been called by either name,—belongs, and is one of the most attractive of the number. It was exhibited both last season and this by Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Son, of the Wellington Road Nursery, and has been greatly admired. The margin of the leaves is of a delicate sulphur-white, within that a broad zone of bright crimson-pink, marked with bronze, and the centre of the leaf green. The habit of the plant is dwarf and compact, and as a pot plant is unsurpassed in its class, but, like a good many of the silver tricoloured-leaved varieties, it loses much of its beauty in the open air. The flower is small, of a dark-crimson colour.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 210.

TEA ROSE, ALBA ROSEA.

Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the value of Tea Roses as cut flowers when exhibited by themselves, there can be but one opinion, we think, as to their beauty and to their value as pot plants (this difference of opinion not arising from anything in the flowers themselves, but from the great similarity of colouring that exists amongst the different varieties, —it having been found as yet impossible to obtain any high-coloured flowers in a class in which so much beauty and delicacy of tint already exists). Attempts in this direction have been made both in England and in France, but as yet unsuccessfully. We must not despair, however, for the skill of our horticulturists has achieved greater results than this.

While hosts of hybrid perpetuals come to us every year from France, puzzling us by their similarity, and causing oftentimes grievous disappointments, Tea Roses have been but sparingly sent, and even then sometimes there is a doubt as to their novelty, for it does now and then happen that a good Rose has been, comparatively speaking, almost unknown,—been raised perhaps in the provinces, and not much valued by the Parisian growers; but after a year or two it attracts notice, and then comes out as a new Rose. Thus that very beautiful and useful Noisette, *Celine Forestier*, had been "let out," and brought over here, but received little notice; but a couple of years after our friend Mr. Standish met with it, and brought it before the English public, and no Rose has been more successful or given greater satisfaction than it. So, again, M. Eugène Verdier is bringing out a Tea Rose this season, *Maréchal Niel*, which is not absolutely new, but of which we entertain the opinion that it will be found to be a really good and useful flower.

Alba rosea was chiefly exhibited by Messrs. Paul and Son, of the Old Nurseries, Cheshunt, who have taken the greater portion of the first prizes for cut Roses this season at the various rose exhibitions, and was considered by the best judges as a valuable addition. It bears a great similarity (and this is its chief defect) to that fine old Rose *Madame Bravy*, being, however, more robust in growth. It will be noticed, too, from the admirable figure of Mr. Andrews, that it is very fine flowering. The drawing is not so large as we have seen the flowers exhibited, but the bloom was taken somewhat late in the season.

ORAL HISTORY

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 211.

VARIETIES OF FANCY PANSIES.

The two chief sources from whence we derive the improved varieties of this useful flower, are Mr. Wm. Dean, of Shipley, near Bradford, and Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Stanstead Park, Forest Hill, and Edinburgh. We last year gave a plate of the new varieties raised by Mr. Dean, and we now figure four of the new sorts about to be sent out by Messrs. Downie and Co.

The stands of this new strain of Pansy which have been exhibited during the present year have shown a marked improvement in the shape and substance of the flowers, while new and curious tints of colour have been introduced amongst them. A glance at our Plate will be sufficient to show the truthfulness of this; for while deficient in many of the points which a florist looks to as belonging to his ideas of correctness, yet the roundness of the flower and the proportion of the petals are much nearer the standard than they have previously been.

But it is not as exhibition flowers only that these flowers are valuable; they are admirably adapted for spring-flower gardens, blooming, as they do, very profusely, and growing with a great deal of vigour. For this purpose it will not be necessary to have the named varieties,—a small package of seed will amply suffice. Let it be sown now, and the plants, as soon as they are large enough, be potted off, and planted out about the middle of October, and a good display will be obtained in the months of April and May; while the plants, after they have done blooming, may be thrown away, to make room for the summer bedding-plants.

Of the varieties now figured, *John M'Nab* (Fig. 1) is a flower of really good shape and substance: ground, a pale-sulphur,

the petals have a broad border of rosy-purple, margined with a narrow line of white; eye large and dense. *Mrs. Dombrain* (Fig. 2) is a pale-yellow, somewhat rough on the edges, but with a very large eye and spot of deep purplish-black, radiated, and with deep orange centre. *Mrs. R. Dean* (Fig. 3) is a pure white, with large dense eye and spot of violet-purple, shading off to a lighter tint of the same colour. *Mrs. Scott* (Fig. 4) has a pale cream-coloured ground, the petals being all margined with brilliant violet-purple, shading off lighter to the inner margin, the eye and spot being of the same colour, with a deep orange centre. Both the growers named have many other varieties coming out this autumn. We should add that *Mrs. Dombrain* has received a certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society.

NATURAL HISTORY

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Plate 212.

VARIETIES OF PYRETHRUM.

Since we last figured some varieties of this pretty herbaceous plant, considerable progress has been made by Mr. Salter, of the Versailles Nursery, Hammersmith, in their improvement; and from the very large collection of named sorts which he has been enabled to raise, we have selected three for our Plate: their size and globular outline sufficiently testify to the improvement.

We have noticed that both in the 'Gardeners' Chronicle' and 'Journal of Horticulture' allusion has been made to Mr. Salter's collection, and the desirable qualities of this summer-flowering plant have been pointed out. It is so easy, too, of cultivation, that we should think it must soon be very generally grown; and indeed we learn from Mr. Salter, that his collections are now being widely distributed, both in England and Scotland. It affords another field for the skill and enterprise of the florists, who are rapidly bringing so many flowers under their control, that any new field of operations will be gladly welcomed.

The Pyrethrum commences its blooming season in the month of May, and, as has occurred with other flowers, some sorts have evinced a tendency to early and some to late blooming, and consequently their season of continuance is greatly prolonged, some of them following in succession until quite late in the autumn. Thus, in those gardens where herbaceous plants are cultivated, and everything has not been sacrificed to the bedding-out system, their hardy nature, easy culture, abundance of blooms, and variety of brilliant colours, make them very desirable additions.

The varieties now figured, and which Mr. Salter considers as

amongst the most perfect that have as yet rewarded his efforts at hybridization, are—No. 1. *Annie Holborn*, a large and very double white flower, with delicate lilac centre. 2. *Fulgens plenissima*, a large and very fine dark-red crimson, throwing up a succession of blooms throughout the summer and autumn. 3. *Nemesis*, a large rosy-red, with lighter centre, and of great depth.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 213.

ROSE, KING'S ACRE.

That our English rose-growers are determined not to allow the French nurserymen to have all the honour and profit of introducing new Roses has been already demonstrated; and we can now with some degree of confidence appeal to our judgment in this matter, as having been abundantly confirmed by the experience of the past season,—those which have already been figured by us, *John Hopper* and *Lord Clyde*, having taken a prominent position at the various rose-shows held throughout the kingdom this year. We have now great pleasure in adding another to the list, with the belief that *King's Acre* will prove a worthy compeer of the two already named.

The continued drought of the past summer acted very injuriously on the autumn blooming of the Rose: in some very extensive rose-grounds that we visited in the latter part of August the flowers were very scarce and very much out of character, and the autumn exhibition at the Crystal Palace bore testimony to the same fact, even although the copious rain had put an end to that long season of dry weather which had previously prevailed. It was then with no little surprise that about the middle of August we received a box of very beautiful blooms from Mr. Cranston, the well-known rose-grower of King's Acre, Hereford. There was something so fresh and beautiful about them, the colour was so bright and fresh, and the shape was so good, that we immediately hailed it as a valuable addition to our English-raised Roses. It was accompanied by a note from Mr. Cranston, stating that the habit of the plant was very vigorous, the foliage large and good, and that it had withstood, as a seedling, the terrible winter of 1861. He also added, what we can well believe, that during the proper Rose

season it was far finer than when we saw it, and that it was in truth a superb Rose.

We may here say that, amongst the new Roses of the past season, we have, in addition to those mentioned in a previous number, seen very fine *Pierre Notting* and *Kate Hausbury;* but from the large number of flowers sent over we do not think that above six or seven are likely to obtain a permanent place in our rosaries.

Mr. Cranston says: "*King's Acre* is a fine bright vermilion rose; reverse of petals satiny; the flowers are extra large, cupped, of remarkable depth, and exquisitely formed, having large, smooth, shell-shaped petals of fine substance; the foliage is ample, and of a fine rich dark-green colour; the habit of growth is vigorous and robust, flowering abundantly and throughout summer and autumn."

MUSEUM

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 214.

LINUM CHAMISSONIS.

Amongst the many collectors sent out by our chief nurserymen, few have had the good fortune to send home prettier and more generally useful plants than Mr. Pearce, the indefatigable collector of Messrs. Veitch and Son, of Chelsea. Our pages have already been enriched by drawings of some of his plants, *Ourisia Pearcii*, *Mimulus cupreus*, etc., and we now have the pleasure of adding another to the list, in the very pretty orange-yellow *Linum* which, under the name of *L. Chamissonis*, he sent home in 1860.

Many collectors visit the warmer portions of our globe; and although in grandeur of foliage, and singularity and splendour of flowers, Borneo, Madagascar, and Brazil may justly claim the pre-eminence, yet their productions are such as only the wealthy can hope to cultivate; not so, however, such countries as Japan, North China, and the higher ranges of the Andes,—there, owing to the low temperature, their flora is such as will either bear transferring to our gardens, or at most will require the protection of a greenhouse, so that all persons of moderate means may be benefited by the researches of those who visit them; hence their much greater value in the eyes of the floricultural public. Take, for example, the very curious *Ouvirandra fenestralis*, or Lattice-plant of Madagascar,—in how few places is that to be found! while *Lilium auratum* will in a very short time find a home in every greenhouse in the kingdom: one is the plant of the select few, the other, that of the many.

Many of the species of *Linum* are exceedingly ornamental. The little Alpine Flax is a very pretty plant; even the common Flax of commerce is highly ornamental, with its delicate foliage and pale-blue flowers, amongst annuals there are few more

effective things than the beautiful crimson *Linum grandiflorum;* and we think that the plant now figured will be also a very pretty addition to the already known members of the family. Mr. Veitch says of it: "We received it from our collector, Mr. Pearce, who sent it from Peru in 1860. He describes it as a beautiful species, with large flowers about an inch in diameter, and growing in a good loamy soil. It is a very free bloomer indeed, and the plant we exhibited in the summer is still in bloom (September), and will, we think, be a capital greenhouse decorative plant. We have not yet sent it out, but shall be able to do so, we hope, next season."

We have only to add, that it has received a certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, when exhibited before them during the present year.

BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 215.

CLEMATIS RUBRO-VIOLACEA.

Some years ago the introduction of *Clematis lanuginosa* added a very handsome and hardy member to our flowering climbers, and very lately Mr. Fortune brought from Japan those two very beautiful varieties, figured by us in a former volume, *C. florida Standishii* and *C. Fortunei*, while the skill and energy of our cultivators at home have produced such plants as *C. Reginæ*, raised by Mr. Anderson Henry, and which we have also figured; and quite recently Mr. Geo. Jackman, of the Woking Nursery, has exhibited two very beautiful varieties raised by him, called *Clematis Jackmanii* and *C. rubro-violacea*, the latter of which forms the subject of our present Plate.

Selecting as the parent of his intended family *C. lanuginosa*, Mr. Geo. Jackman, jun., hybridized it with *C. Viticella*, and has given an interesting account in the pages of the 'Gardeners' Chronicle' of the result of his experiments, which have quite equalled his most sanguine expectations. His batch of seedlings flowered for the first time in 1862, and comprised every shade of purple, from the very lightest up to dark maroon, and from them he selected two, of unquestionable merit, which were named as we have already stated. They were shown before the Floral Committee in August, 1863, and were then awarded first-class certificates.

We have seen both varieties, and hardly know to which we should award the palm; and we are told by a contemporary, that a plantation of these seedling Clematis, supported on stakes six feet high, has produced during the present season, at Mr. Jackman's nursery, thousands of blooms, and that the effect has been wonderfully beautiful. Nor is there any reason why the same should not be obtained in every garden. These plants

are perfectly hardy, and will be the more appreciated on that account.

The flowers of *Clematis rubro-violacea* are of a beautiful rich reddish-violet colour, and when not fully expanded are still deeper in colour, being then almost maroon. The petals are very thick and velvety in appearance. The general verdict of the public has been such that Mr. Jackman has been obliged to withdraw from his lists the smaller plants, and has now only those at the higher price to dispose of; they thus bid fair to be most widely circulated, as their merits justly deserve. We subjoin Mr. Jackman's description of both varieties.

"*C. rubro-violacea*, a seedling between *Viticella atro-rubens* and *C. lanuginosa* (the seed-bearer). Leaves slightly hairy, as also the stalks, of a moderate size. Flowers of four to five inches in diameter, of a maroonish colour when first opened, shading off to a reddish-violet, always retaining a rich velvety surface, the centre of each sepal being veiny and of a deeper red hue. Bine robust, making a growth of seven to ten feet this summer. Perfectly hardy; stood in the open ground last winter. Flowers from July to the autumn. Very distinct from *C. Jackmanni*. Hybridized in 1858 at Woking Nursery. Flowered first time in 1862.

"*C. Jackmanni*, a seedling between *C. Viticella Hendersoni* and *C. lanuginosa* (seed-bearer). Hardy and vigorous climbers, planted in the open ground, and standing uninjured last winter, and made a growth this summer seven to ten feet of bine. Flowers from five to six inches in diameter, of rich velvety violet-purple colour, with four to six sepals; the centre of each sepal has a veiny and reddish hue. Flowers from July to October. Foliage ovate and slightly hairy, measuring a little over two inches in length. Flowers abundantly many times this season; have had one hundred flowers or upwards on a plant at the same time. Hybridized at Woking Nursery in 1858, and flowered for the first time in the summer of 1862."

BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 216.

PELARGONIUMS, BRITISH SAILOR AND JOHN HOYLE.

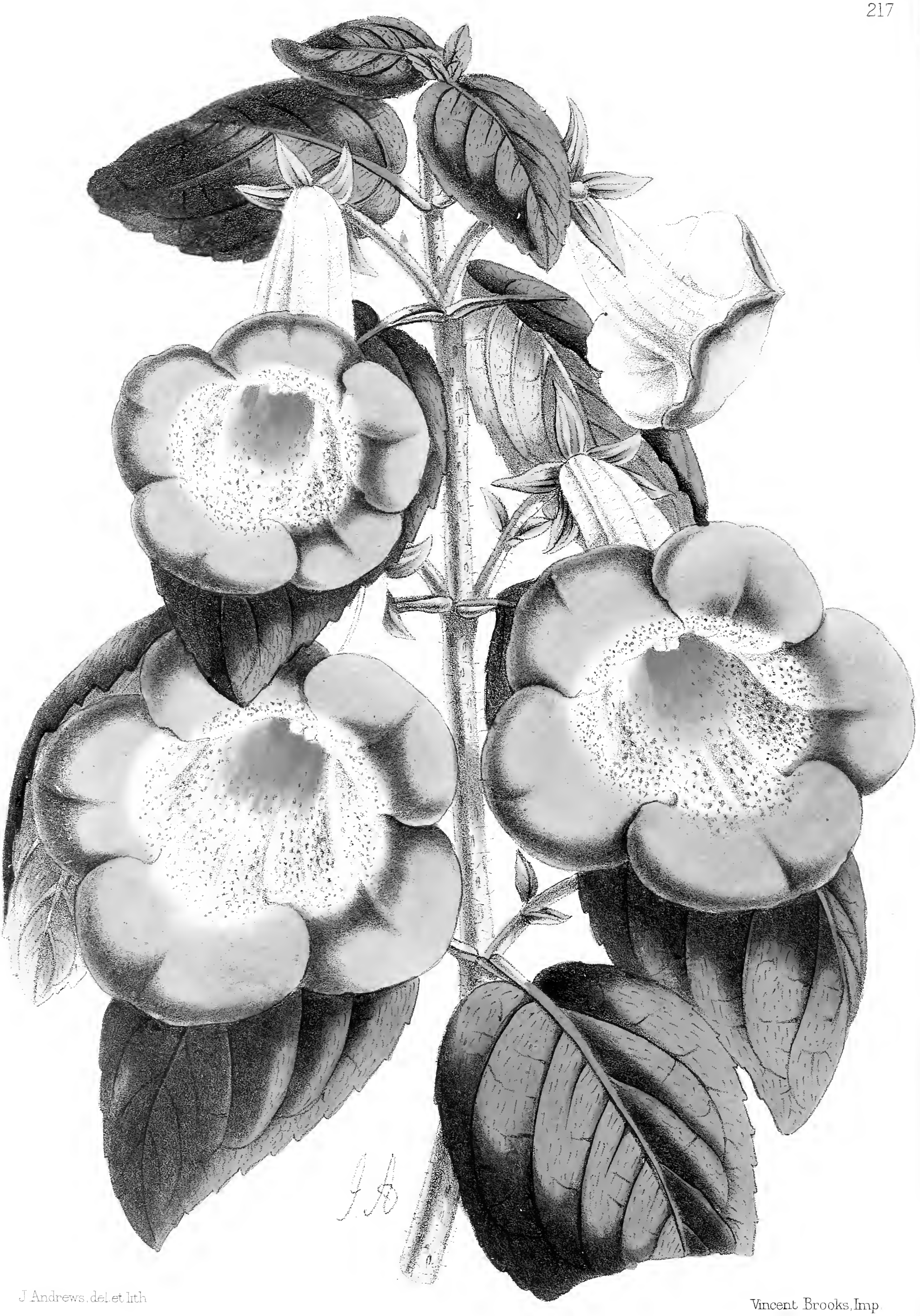
The past season has not been so prolific in the production of seedling Pelargoniums as some of its predecessors, but we think it may justly lay claim to having seen one of the very finest of all Pelargoniums brought forward, by that most successful of all our seedling raisers, G. W. Hoyle, Esq., of Reading,—the unanimous verdict of the horticultural press, and the public in general, having awarded that place to the very fine flower we figure, *John Hoyle*.

It is not to be supposed that such flowers are merely the production of chance; Mr. Hoyle, and indeed all scientific hybridizers proceed on regular principles, for sometimes there is a difficulty arising from this excessive high breeding, that a delicacy is engendered which makes it very difficult to grow the plants successfully. This was the case with that strain of flowers represented by *Beauty of Reading* and *Achilles*, where the most splendid and brilliant colouring is found; but the habit of the plant is so delicate, that years elapse before a full-sized exhibition plant is produced,—this does not affect so much the ordinary grower, who is content with smaller plants and greater variety. In the case of both the flowers we now figure, there is combined with great beauty of colouring vigour of constitution and excellence of habit.

British Sailor (Fig. 1) is a flower of the *Diadem* class, somewhat similar to that fine variety, but having a more distinct spot, the colour being a lively purplish-crimson, with good white throat. *John Hoyle* (Fig. 2) is in every way a remarkable flower, of the class technically known as *painted* flowers. The form and substance of the petals are unimpeachable, exhibiting

that complete rotundity so dear to the florist. The colour of the upper petals is a very dense maroon, almost approaching to black, with a bright carmine margin. The lower petals are bright pinkish-scarlet, veined and painted with dark crimson. Besides these, there have been exhibited *Profusion*, very free blooming rosy-scarlet; *Sunny Memories*, orange-scarlet; *Mary Hoyle*, very large and bright, with good white centre; this is likely to be a very useful flower, although not of the high quality of the flowers figured. There are other seedlings of the same raiser, which have passed into Mr. Charles Turner's hands, from whose nursery they will be distributed in the course of the present autumn.

MUSEUM



J Andrews, del. et lith

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 217.

ACHIMENES ROLLISONII.

There seems to be always a danger in pronouncing how far flowers are capable of improvement, and when the limit of progress has been reached, for it has been said frequently that we could not expect anything further in this section of plants, while in various quarters this year some very decided advances on former varieties have been made.

We were much interested, for example, when in Paris this summer, by seeing, at the celebrated establishment of Thibaut and Keteleer, some very curious varieties of both *Achimenes* and *Tydæa*. Those in the former section had been obtained by crossing *Achimenes* with *Sinningia*, the result of which had been a number of varieties most curiously spotted, and retaining the characteristics of both parents. Then we have also seen that Mr. Parsons, of Welwyn, so long and so favourably known for his success in hybridizing these beautiful flowers, has brought forward some very fine varieties, amongst which *Rose Queen* seems likely to hold as conspicuous a place in its class as *Mauve Queen* has done; while the Messrs. Rollison have also struck out into a new path, the result of which is shown already in the very beautiful variety now figured.

"*Achimenes Rollisonii*," say the raisers, "is a cross between *Achimenes gloxiniflora* and *Achimenes Shearii*, raised by us. It flowered for the first time in June last, and is without exception the largest and most beautiful variety obtained by seed from the Achimenes section of plants. It flowers during the months of June, July, and August, and will be found an invaluable acquisition to the greenhouse and conservatory, being robust in habit and a very free-flowering plant. The colour is a purplish-lavender, the lobes being very large and smooth on the

edge; the throat is yellow, while the centre of the flower is thickly spotted with purplish-crimson spots; the diameter of the flower is large, and altogether it is a very striking plant."

It has surprised us much to see the very inferior specimens of this beautiful flower that have been brought forward at some of the metropolitan shows, the drawn and lanky appearance of many of them seeming to show that the culture of the plant had been but little understood; and yet few are more easily grown. The mistake is too often made of giving them more heat than they require, and the result is inferior plants; at any rate, we have seen at many provincial shows specimens far better grown than those which are sent in to some of our metropolitan exhibitions. We must refer to former volumes, where the treatment practised by some of our best growers has been given.

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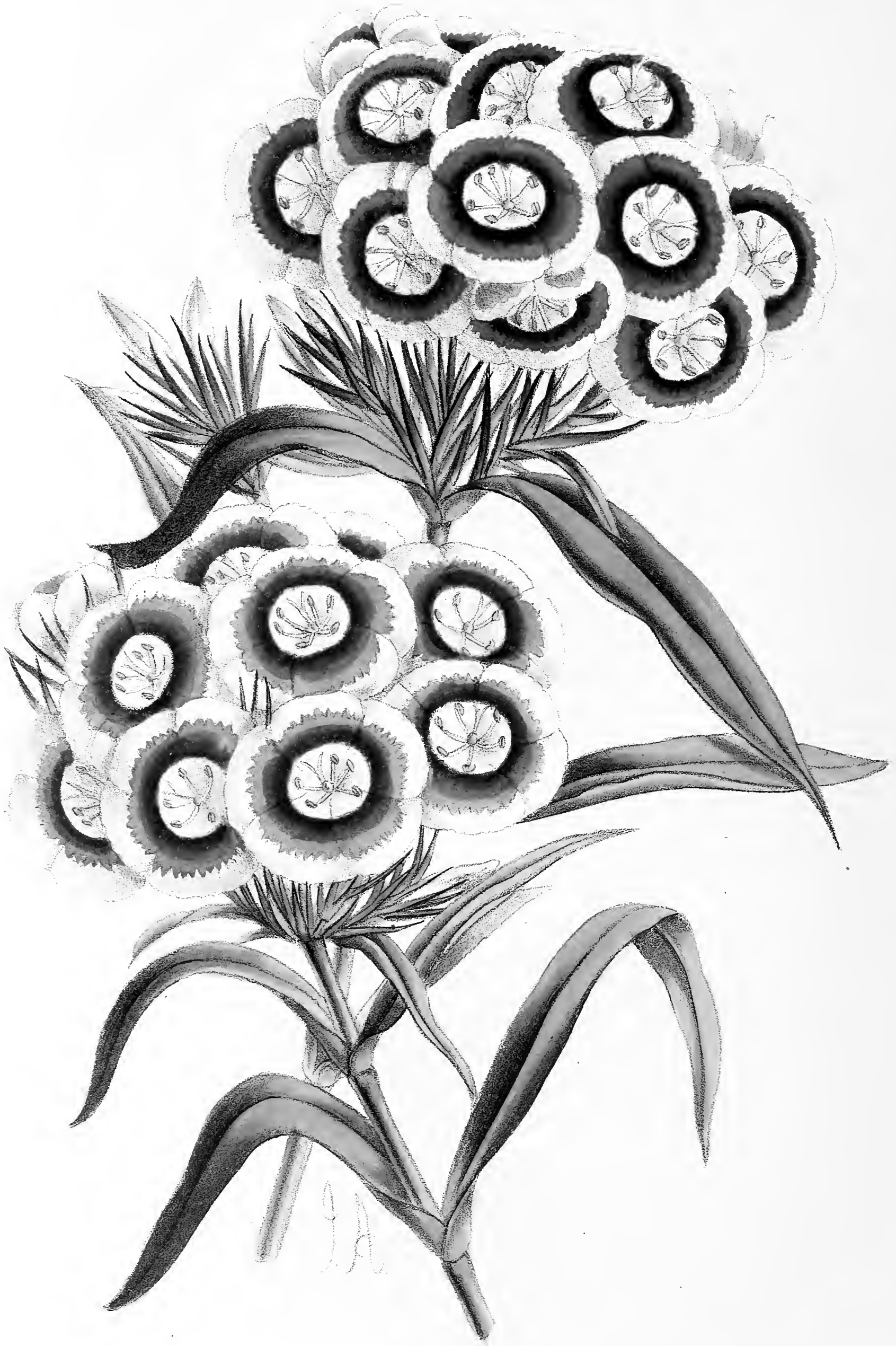


J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 218.

VARIETIES OF SWEET-WILLIAM.

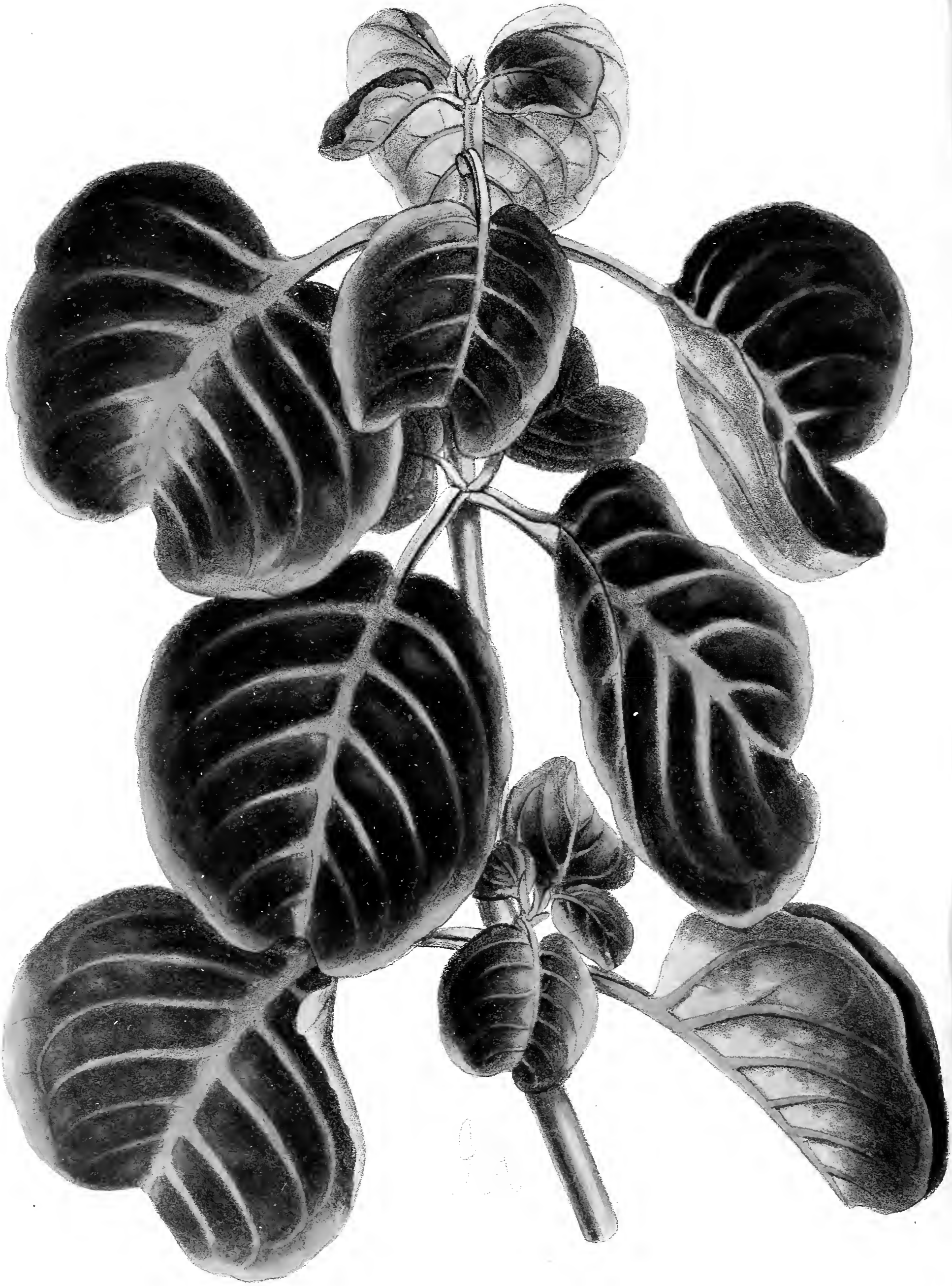
There are some flowers which are popular because of their rarity, and others because of their commonness, and a few perhaps for the associations that are connected with them; for there are few things with which the memory of past days is more thoroughly connected than some of our commonest flowers. The garden of our childhood, the place where we have gathered some and seen others growing, are amongst those things which cling the closest to us; and few flowers are in the latter sense more popular than the Sweet-William.

But we should not for such reasons as these have decided on figuring this pretty flower, but because it has shared, amongst others, the skill and energy of the hybridizer, and can boast of great improvement and progress. Some years ago it was taken in hand by Mr. William Hunt, of High Wycombe, who established for himself a reputation connected with the flower, having obtained both brilliancy of colour and rotundity of form. Since then various other growers, both in the north and south of England, have followed in the same course, and from time to time many beautiful stands have been exhibited at the various horticultural exhibitions, where they have always attracted great admiration. The stand exhibited by Mr. Hale, of Stoke Pogis, near Slough, was amongst those florists' flowers so much admired by the Princess of Wales at South Kensington in July last, and from it we have selected two varieties for our illustration.

Like the Calceolaria, there is no necessity for obtaining varieties, for from a package of seed as good flowers can be obtained as from cuttings, and hence the value of these improved sorts; and then they are so perfectly hardy that they may be

left very much to themselves. The seed requires to be sown in summer, and when the young plants are sufficiently large to handle they should be pricked out into a seed-bed, and then again removed to the place where they are to bloom. Like every other plant, however hardy it may be, it is sure to compensate the grower for any extra trouble bestowed upon it. A careful preparation of the soil, and attention to weeding and watering, will always ensure a finer bloom; treated in this way, it will continue to produce in succession fine heads of bloom; and although deficient in that which many of its allied species possess in perfection, fragrance, it yet, by its masses of flower and splendour of colour, compensates for this defect.

The two varieties which we have figured will give a fair idea of the sort of flowers which may be expected from Mr. Hale's seed. The colours are disposed with as great regularity as in the Auricula, and hence the name has been given to them of Auricula-eyed Sweet-William.



J Andrews del et lith

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 219.

IRESINE HERBSTII* (*Hooker*).

The desire of making variety in those brilliant flower-gardens which are now so much in vogue, and especially of contrasting something more sombre with the bright and glaring reds and yellows that predominate, has led to the introduction of many plants with dark foliage, such as *Perilla Nankinensis*, *Coleus Verschaffeltii*, and *Amaranthus melancholicus ruber*,—the latest addition being the plant which we now figure, introduced by Mr. Herbst from Brazil, and to which has been awarded a first-class certificate by the Royal Horticultural Society.

When a large bed has to be made, it is an admirable plan to trace out the outline of the figure with one of these dark-foliaged plants, as we saw it most artistically done at Linton Park, by Mr. Robson, the very able and intelligent gardener of Lord Holmesdale. There Perilla was employed, and when the immense bed was looked down upon from the terraces the tracing of the pattern was vividly and beautifully seen. The Iresine is as yet an untried plant, but its hardiness is much in its favour, and for this reason it may be more useful perhaps than some of its predecessors.

We are indebted to Mr. Herbst, of the Kew Nursery, for the following account of it:—

"This plant forms a soft-wooded shrub of from twelve to eighteen inches high, and is without any trouble grown into a perfect specimen of the most globular form, as it produces a branch from the axil of every leaf. In a house too warm and close it no doubt would grow taller, but even then the stopping of the terminal shoot would make it branch very easily. The stem and branches are of a most beautiful almost

* Figured in 'L'Illustration Horticole' as *Achyranthes Verschaffeltii*.

transparent carmine, while the leaf itself, strongly bilobed, is of a purplish-crimson underneath, dark maroon on its upper side, with its many broad ribs of a very prominent carmine. There is not a green spot on the whole plant, and whether placed in the shade or in the most brilliant sunshine, it produces a most admirable contrast with plants of a lighter colour. It has neither the gloomy appearance of the Perilla nor the woolly leaf of Coleus, and is by no means so susceptible of cold and dampness combined as this latter plant. Another advantage it has is, that it does not flower either out-of-doors nor in a warm greenhouse, where I have introduced several strong plants on purpose to induce it to flower, but without success. The flowers which I have seen on some dried native specimens were very small and insignificant, of a greyish-white, and very numerously produced on a loose panicle of about eight inches long.

"The Iresine was introduced by me from the River Plate, and Sir W. Hooker also possesses a native specimen from Peru, gathered by Matthews; but incorrectly, he says, placed in his herbarium as *Iresine diffusa;* and I am at a loss to find how I deserve the compliment paid me by Sir William by naming the plant after me, unless he meant it as an acknowledgment for the many contributions in plants which I sent to Kew Gardens during my eight years' stay in Brazil.

"The plant coming both from Peru and the River Plate will no doubt stand our climate better than the Coleus, and I may add, that in my nursery-ground, in close vicinity to and almost on a level with the Thames, open to all winds and weathers, without trees or protecting walls, it stood uninjured the slight frost which occurred in August last, while the leaves of *Coleus Verschaffeltii* were entirely spoiled, and those of *C. nigricans* dropped off. I am persuaded that the Iresine will maintain a first place in every collection where plants are grown for decorative purposes, and I am informed that it will be largely planted next season in some of the most celebrated metropolitan gardens."

BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 220.

RHODODENDRON, PRINCESS HELENA.

The raisers of both hardy and greenhouse Rhododendrons seem to be vying with one another as to who shall produce the greatest novelties in their respective classes, and our pages testify with what great success; Mr. Rollison's *Prince of Wales* and Mr. Veitch's *Princess Alice* amongst the more tender kinds, Mr. Prince's *Countess of Devon* and Mr. Young's *Princess of Wales* amongst the hardy ones which we have already figured, displaying great variety of colour and beauty of appearance; while that now presented to our friends in the exquisite drawing of Mr. Andrews will show that the improvement has by no means reached its limit.

Messrs. Veitch and Son, of Chelsea, are the fortunate raisers of this most beautiful variety, and to them we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring it and also for the following notes concerning it:—"*Princess Helena* is a seedling, reared from *Rhododendron jasminiflorum*, crossed with a scarlet species imported by us, but never sent out. The tubes of the flower are much longer than in any other variety that I know, and the flowers are of a more glossy colour than in any that we have before obtained. It is a very free bloomer, and I am confident will be a great acquisition. It is of course more nearly like *Rhododendron Princess Royal* than any other, but it is quite distinct from that variety in shape of flower, habit, and foliage, as well as colour." It will be seen that the colour both of the tube and lobes of the flower are of a delicate soft pink, striped with darker shades of the same colour and most delicately tinted. The foliage is of a rich dark glossy green, which throws up the colour of the flower with great effect, and altogether we

must concur in the very high estimate which has been formed of it by the Messrs. Veitch.

The cultivation of greenhouse Rhododendrons calls for little remark, and we should think must be pretty generally understood; yet the plants which are exhibited from time to time in collections do not seem to manifest that skill which we might expect. Probably the more free-flowering character of many of the new varieties may lead to our seeing better plants, as they can thereby be exhibited in dwarfer character than the older ones; and if the ideas of exhibiting plants in a more natural form than they have been of late years are carried out, some of these fine showy flowers may take the place of many of the *weedy* plants, which are only tolerated because they will bear twisting and torturing to any extent.

NATURAL HISTORY

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

PLATE 221. Japonica tricolor

SAXIFRAGA FORTUNI.

One of the most remarkable things connected with the recent discoveries of botanical treasures in Japan by Mr. R. Fortune and Mr. H. J. Veitch was the immense variety of variegated plants which were there cultivated. This variegation was to be seen not only in shrubs of all kinds,—for there were variegated Camellias and Tea-plants,—but in forest trees, the beautiful *Thuiopsis dolabrata variegata* for example; while *Retinospora*, *Osmanthus*, *Acer*, and other fine trees were found with golden and silver markings, and even such humble things as the Saxifrage,—almost justifying the statement of Dr. Siebold, that he could make a variegated form of any plant.

It is surely strange that while we, with our advanced tastes on the subject of horticulture, are only just now beginning to see the advantage of introducing these variegated forms into our landscape gardening, for centuries this singular people have been quite alive to their value, and have cultivated so many forms of variegated plants, many of which, if proved to be hardy in our climate, will be very valuable; and great as are the treasures which have been brought to us by the indefatigable labours of our countrymen, there is good reason to hope that the recent operations in Japan, the opening-up of the inland sea, and the greater facilities likely to be given to European enterprise, may be the means of adding still further to our list of useful and beautiful things,—not so much so perhaps as in other countries, for the Japanese being great lovers of gardening, are likely enough to have obtained from their own country those things most useful to them, as well, as we know they have done, importing them from other countries.

The humble little Saxifrage is a general favourite amongst

cottagers, where suspended in the window it grows vigorously and freely; its place is likely, we think, to be supplied ere long by the curious and pretty *Saxifraga Fortuni* we now figure: the beautiful and bright variegation of the leaves varying from white to bright pink, with the under side of the foliage a lightish crimson, being likely to make it a general favourite. Its cultivation will be of the very simplest character, but care must be taken not to pot it into rich soil, for the tendency will be then to return to the plain-leaved form; it is also easily propagated, producing as it does many little plants in the form of runners, in the same manner as the older and well-known plant.

BOSTON MUSEUM
OF
NATURAL HISTORY

J. Andrews del et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 222.

GLADIOLUS, ELEANOR NORMAN.

Although but scant favour has been shown to autumnal flowers this season around the Metropolis,—the exhibition at the Crystal Palace being the only one worthy of the name, for the miserable display at South Kensington did not deserve to be called an exhibition,—yet in various parts of the country where autumn shows are always popular, fine collections of beautiful Gladioli have been staged. We had ourselves the pleasure of carrying off first prize at Brighton in a class open to all England, and amongst the spikes then much admired was one of the very beautiful variety figured in our present illustration, one of the numerous fine seedlings produced by the successful hybridization carried on by Mr. John Standish, of the Royal Nursery, Ascot.

We have again taken the trouble to compare some of the finest of Mr. Standish's seedlings with those which have come to us from the Continent, principally raised by M. Souchet, of Fontainebleau, and we do not hesitate to say that the English flowers are quite equal to the foreign ones; and as so many new flowers are raised every year, we think it is time that there should be more discrimination practised as to what should be let out and grown than formerly. There can be no question that those varieties which produce their flowers on opposite sides of the stem are very inferior in effect to those which present but one face, and hence, as we have so much variety, all these "winged flowers," as they have been called, ought to be discarded,—a process which we are about to begin in our collection, they having been simply tolerated at present until the same colour was produced in the better-arranged flowers.

Again has the question been mooted as to the best way in

which the Gladiolus should be exhibited,—the discussion having arisen from the fact of one of the exhibitors at the Crystal Palace placing his flowers in the concave leaves of the Aloe, and thus showing those flowers which were double-faced to a single front. We think that they ought to follow the example of all florists' flowers, and be shown without any foliage, for we believe that then the true character and value of the varieties would be better seen.

Eleanor Norman is a flower of great delicacy of colour, and indeed quite unique. The ground colour is white, but so largely suffused with pink and flaked with pink stripes as to leave very little of it to be seen; in the centre of each of the lower petals is a bright crimson feather, while in the sprouts there are semi-circular spots of deep crimson. It obtained a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, and has been greatly admired wherever exhibited.

J Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 223.

DISA GRANDIFLORA, *var.* SUPERBA.

It is now upwards of three years since we figured this beautiful Orchid in its normal condition, when indeed it was not known that there was any variation in the colouring. At that time it was so scarce that not only was it not in any catalogue of our leading firms, but none of our amateurs (save one) who spare neither trouble nor money in adding to their collections had it in their possession.

Since then, the liberality of the gentleman who first showed how this lovely plant might be successfully treated, our friend Mr. Charles Leach, of Clapham Park, and the enterprise of one of our leading nurserymen, Mr. James Veitch, of Chelsea, have combined to make it better known; the former has presented it to many of our best Orchid-growers, and also to the Royal Horticultural Society, through whom it has been distributed amongst the Fellows, and the latter has imported a quantity of it from the Cape of Good Hope, and has now a good stock of it in various-sized plants, ranging in price, according to size, from one to three guineas; and in accordance with the wishes of many of our friends we have given a figure of the more beautiful variety, named *superba*.

We had the pleasure the other day of seeing Mr. Leach's stock of this Orchid, comprising upwards of a hundred plants in various stages of growth, and on inquiring of him whether the past three years had led him to suggest any alteration in his method of treatment, he said, "No; some had spoken of giving the plants rest; mine appear to require none; at all events they do not get it, if by rest be meant diminution of watering: mine are syringed over two or three times a day all the year round, young fry being in their several stages always in a grow-

ing state, and the young plants, the offsets from the parent bulbs, being generally an inch high before the old flower-stems have died down. I finished my repotting and taking off offsets or runners about a fortnight ago, and should no mishap befall me during the winter, I shall be almost driven to plant them out in the spring and make a bed of Disas instead of or beside a bed of Geraniums;"—thus bearing out the anticipation we formed three years ago, that it might hereafter be used round small pieces of ornamental water in gardens.

The variety now figured has larger and better-proportioned flowers than the ordinary one, while the colour in all the parts is much richer, and the green tips which exist in the lateral sepals of *grandiflora* are wanting in *superba*, which obtained a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, when exhibited by Mr. Leach. We should add, that the Plate gives a very inadequate idea of the beauty of the plant, as six, seven, and in some instances eight flowers are produced on a single stem.*

* A magnificent drawing of it appears in part ix. of Warner's 'Orchidaceous Plants,' just published, from the artistic pencil of Mr. Andrews.

BRITISH MUSEUM

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 224.

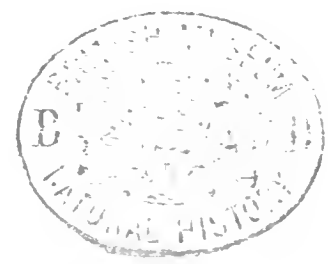
PENTSTEMONS, PRINCESS OF WALES AND ATTRACTION.

Amongst the many herbaceous plants to which the attention of the hybridizers has been directed for some years past the Pentstemon has not failed to secure a place, and has been in their hands greatly improved. Messrs. Downie and Co., Mr. Bull, and others at home, and several Continental raisers have brought forward annually a considerable number; it is one of the flowers also to which Mr. John Salter, of the Versailles Nursery, Hammersmith, has paid particular attention, and from his varied and beautiful collection the two varieties in our Plate have been selected.

There is little to be said on the subject of cultivation with regard to plants so easily grown as most of our herbaceous plants are; the Pentstemon requires therefore but little care. It is easily increased by division of the roots or by cuttings, while those who are anxious for novelty and the little excitement of seedling raising may easily gratify their wishes, as seed is produced very freely, and by at first only growing a few that are really of good properties; the seed, when gathered, will produce flowers fully equal to those in cultivation, and probably in advance of some; or, if preferred, any respectable nurseryman who grows them will supply seed of good quality; but where time is not of so much consequence we should prefer the former method.

The varieties now figured are—*Princess of Wales* (Fig. 1), having a white tube and throat, lips edged with pink, the plant is very dwarf, free, and with large flowers; *Attraction* (Fig. 2), light rose-pink tube, with pure white throat, an improvement

on *Victory*, taller and more vigorous than the preceding, and very free-flowering. The following list of good varieties, taken from a contemporary, may be relied on:—Purple and violet shades of colour, *Goliath*, *Mon Caprice*, *Orientale*, *Mrs. Lees*, *Kellermanii*, *John Foggo*, *Monsieur de Poupart*, *Jeffryanum*, *Azurea verticillata*, *Clio* and *Blue Beauty:* in Scarlets, *Vivid*, *Arbele*, *Rose of England*, *Rubrum magnificum*, *Meteora*, *Illuminator*, *Mrs. Stevens*, *Robert Highet*, *Amabilis*, *Coccineum magnificum*, *Brilliant*, and *Comte de Lambertye;* to these we would add *Admiral Jarvis*, *Charles Watson*, *Cyrus*, *Flora*, *Dr. Hogg*, *Juno*, *Leon Kern*, *Purple Prince*, *Scarlet Gem*, *Sultan*, *John Salter*, *Tyninghamii*, *Carl Appelius*, *Albicans*, and *Mrs. Hope.*



J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 225.

VALLOTA EXIMIA.

Among those numerous varieties of Cape bulbs which we have had for so long a time in our greenhouses, there is not one more worthy of cultivation than the well-known *Vallota purpurea;* and yet it is not by any means so extensively cultivated as we might have expected, for it presents no difficulty in its treatment, and with even a small number of bulbs a succession of bloom may be kept up for a long period, and that at a time of the year when flowers are more scarce than in the summer.

The method of treatment which we have ourselves adopted is of the very simplest character. As soon as the bulbs have done flowering we cut off the flower-stem as low down as possible, and then re-pot them (this occurs generally some time in November, although we have even now, in the middle of December, bulbs in bloom). The compost that we use is one composed of good yellow loam and leaf-mould, in about equal proportions, with a good mixture of silver sand. As soon as the bulbs are potted they are gently watered, and placed in the greenhouse, where they will be excluded from frost, and kept in a growing state all the winter, although it will be necessary to be cautious in not over-watering them. They will, it is true, take a good deal, but no plant will endure for long defective drainage. As soon as the days begin to lengthen and more sunlight is obtained, we water more freely, and thus excite their growth. They may, during the summer, be placed in a cold pit out of doors, or in a cool part of the greenhouse, and during this period may receive a plentiful supply of water, and be kept in a vigorously-growing state. As they show their flower-stems they may be brought into the greenhouse or

sitting-room, where they will expand their beautiful crimson flowers very rapidly, the number on each stem varying from four to eight, according to the size of the bulb, about half the number being expanded at one time, and with even a small collection we have had bulbs in flower from the beginning of September to Christmas. Another recommendation that this bulb has, is, that it increases very rapidly, throwing off a number of offsets, which, if the above management be adopted, very soon make flowering bulbs.

The variety of Vallota which we now illustrate is named *Eximia*, and was exhibited by Mr. Wm. Bull, of King's Road, Chelsea, at a meeting of the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, for whom it obtained a first-class certificate. It is of the same shade of colour as *Purpurea*, and is chiefly distinguishable for its white throat, with crimson feather, not unlike what is seen in some varieties of Gladioli.

J.Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 226.

CLEMATIS JACKMANII.

Few flowers have so rapidly come into favour as the two varieties of Clematis raised by Messrs. Jackman and Son, of Woking, one of which, *Clematis rubro-violacea*, we have already figured (Plate 215); and, in accordance with wishes expressed to us, we now add that of its equally beautiful (and indeed, if possible, more beautiful) companion, *Clematis Jackmanii*.

Hardy climbers are evidently much wanted; and when any possessing the remarkable qualities of these new varieties of Clematis are produced, we do not wonder at the rapid sale they meet with. It will undoubtedly happen that the success which has attended these will stimulate others in the same field, so that we may expect additions to our lists from year to year. (It will not be easy, however, soon to surpass in size and brilliancy the splendid variety we now figure.) As a proof of this, we may mention that Mr. Wm. Bull has lately received from the Continent a pure white variety, called *Clematis lanuginosa candida*, and said to be a hybrid between *C. cærulea* and *C. lanuginosa*. It has downy leaves, while the flowers are open, of a pure white, and equal in size to *C. lanuginosa*. Another from the same source has been received by Mr. Bull, called *C. lanuginosa nivea*, but its character is not sufficiently determined.

C. Jackmanii has flowers fully expanded, and measuring from five to six inches across; the number of petals varies from four to six, the bloom figured in our Plate having five; the colour is a beautiful violet-purple, or, as it is now the fashion to call such colours, a bright mauve; the back of each petal is marked by three ribs, which show slightly through on the face of the flower, and tend in some degree to heighten the brilliancy of

its appearance. It received equally with *C. rubro-violacea* a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, when exhibited before them in August, 1863.

As we perceive by Messrs. Jackman's advertisement that their plants have been very widely distributed in all parts of the country, their merits are likely to be well tested during the ensuing year, and we have every confidence that they will give general satisfaction.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 227.

CALCEOLARIA, BIRD OF PARADISE.

The modern style of gardening known as the bedding-out system has had a severe trial during the past season, the extreme dryness of the summer having in many cases entirely spoiled the effect, and especially where laid out in grass, as this suffered perhaps more than anything from the want of rain. Thus, at the Crystal Palace, where the system is carried out in perfection, the beds appeared as if set in brown soil, rather than in the bright green they usually do.

There are two methods in which this system is carried out; one, where the effect to be produced is obtained by the employment of large quantities of only a few flowers, arranged and combined in various methods. This we have seen in its perfection in the beautiful grounds of Lord Holmesdale, at Linton Park, under the able direction of Mr. Robson, whose skill in this department is unrivalled. His large and magnificent bed, which at once strikes the eye as the very perfection of colouring, is composed of only some six or seven different flowers. The other method is the employment of a large number of plants, with differing shades and tints of colour, giving greater beauty to the parterre, although perhaps not producing so good a general effect. Each system has its advocates, and, we may add, its advantages.

To those who adopt the simpler system, the flower which we now figure would be useless; for one rule connected with it is, never to employ those with two shades of colour; while to those who adopt the more complex plan it will be a great acquisition. Some years ago flowers of this shade of colour were raised by Mr. Cole, but, owing to their delicacy of constitution, they were found to be of little use. The flower which

we figure is of a different character, being robust in habit, bearing large masses of bloom, and the individual pips of good size, the colour a bright orange-red, with a margin of yellow, the whole flower being minutely punctured. As a pot plant also it will be found very useful.

Calceolaria Bird of Paradise is quite a new flower, and is in the possession of Mr. B. S. Williams, of Paradise and Victoria Nurseries, Holloway, by whom it will be distributed in the spring.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 228.

VARIETIES OF TREE CARNATIONS.

The production of flowers that will bloom during the dark and dreary months of winter has become more than ever an object amongst our cultivators, since no fête, whether public or private, is considered complete without a supply of natural flowers. Amongst those which have become valuable for this purpose, we know of none more worthy of a place in our greenhouses than the numerous varieties of Tree Carnations and Picotees, three of which form the subject of our Plate.

Messrs. E. J. Henderson and Son, of the Wellington Road Nursery, have been the means of introducing this very desirable flower to our greenhouses, the greater portion of the varieties having been obtained from the Continent.

It will be at once seen, by a reference to our Plate, that they are very unlike in colour to the ordinary varieties of Carnations, although some varieties approach them very nearly, being regularly flaked, while others are as regularly picoteed. They are also very rough on the edge, as compared with florists' flowers of the same class.

We have found the following to be the best method of cultivation. As soon as the cuttings are struck, which should be about July or August, they should be potted off into small pots, in a good soil composed of loam and well-rotted manure and leaf-mould, in equal proportions, with a little road-grit, to keep it open; then gently watered, and placed in some cool place, either in the pot or out of doors. The flower-stems should be pinched off as soon as they appear, as we never allow them to flower during the first year, the object being to get them to make wood and to run up in a tree-like form. In the following spring we re-pot them into larger pots, and allow them to

grow, which they will do rapidly. They should then be well staked, and brought into the conservatory as their flower-buds are produced. By this treatment good plants are obtained, which give a succession of flowers during the dreariest winter months.

The varieties which we now figure are all from the collection of the Messrs. Henderson, and are—*Delicatissima* (Fig. 1), a very pretty pink flower, having the petals thickly barred with a deep pink or light-crimson; *Victoria* (Fig. 2), is a beautiful light-crimson flower, flaked with dark crimson, approaching to black; while *Princess Alice* (Fig. 3) is a bright yellow, with red bars and flakes, forming a very pretty and attractive flower.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 229.

ROSE, BERNARD PALISSY.

As no flower is so extensively cultivated as the Rose, we feel that there are few, if any, of our subscribers who will not feel an interest in seeing some of those new varieties which from time to time are introduced by either home or foreign raisers of seedling flowers; and as we have lately figured an interesting variety of English origin, we now give one of the best French varieties of the past season, a flower that doubtless will appear in many a winning stand at the exhibitions of the present year.

It has been frequently observed, and with a great amount of truth, that it is very difficult to form a correct judgment of new Roses, from the blooms exhibited during the first season, when they only appear in the stands of some of the leading growers, for sale; when, however, a flower has acquired a good name when first shown, it is rarely that it loses it afterwards, although many flowers have had to endure neglect for the first season, their merits being only discovered later; and hence, when judgments are passed on new flowers, it very often happens that lovers of the Rose in various parts find fault with it. We may, with perhaps but little fear of being very far wrong, consider the following as amongst the best of the seventy or eighty varieties of last year:—*Alpaïde de Rotatier*, clear rose with satin-like gloss; *André Leroy d'Angers*, rich dark velvety purple; *Duchesse de Morny*, a fresh pale-rose, reverse of petals silvery, shape excellent; *Claude Million*, an imbricated crimson-scarlet flower; *Kate Hausburg*, clear rose-coloured flower; *Eugène Verdier*, deep violet-purple, of excellent form; *Madame Derreulx Douvillé*, bright pink or tender rose, shape excellent, and large, very free blooming; *Madame Victor Verdier*, a bright cherry-red, figured by us last year; *Pierre Notting*, deep blackish-red,

of good form and substance, one of the best Roses of the year. There are others which are well spoken of, but we have not had an opportunity of seeing them, and without that it is impossible to form an opinion, the description of the French raisers being of a most high-flown character.

Bernard Palissy, raised by our friend M. Margottin, of Bourg la Reine, near Paris, is a seedling from that fine flower of M. Margottin's raising, *Jules Margottin*, but it differs from it very much in shape, being an expanded Rose, somewhat flat, instead of being cupped, the colour is a bright reddish-carmine, the habit of the plant is excellent, and we are convinced the flower will add to M. Margottin's fame as a raiser.

BRITISH MUSEUM

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

PLATE 230.

PETUNIAS, JUBILEE AND CHARMING.

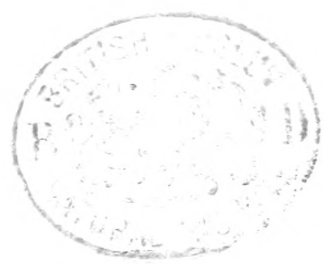
Every year witnesses the production of a large number of seedling Petunias, both single and double, although the latter have very much lost ground in public favour, (few, if any, of them surpassing one of the earliest raised, *Inimitabilis flore pleno*, and figured by us more than three years ago,) while amongst the single varieties, the striped flowers, in the way of *Madame Ferguson*, *Mrs. Smith*, etc., have been more generally grown, and deservedly so, for a plant of this strain well managed makes a very pleasing object for the greenhouse or conservatory.

The varieties which we now figure are, however, entirely distinct from the striped class, and may perhaps rather be called pencilled or reticulated flowers, being distinguished by very beautiful and delicate veining; they have been brought forward by Mr. William Bull, of Chelsea, and have been much admired, their form, size, and colouring, being alike excellent.

It is not likely that in the cultivation of a flower so easily grown as the Petunia, any novel methods of culture are likely to be discovered, and we have, therefore, no further remarks on this head to make to those already given in former volumes; it may perhaps be interesting to note a few of the leading varieties for the guidance of purchasers: amongst *double* varieties, *Ariadne*, *Boule de Neige*, *Duc de Guise*, *Inimitabilis flore pleno*, *L'Impératrice*, *Madame Bouchardat Aîné*, *Prince of Wales*, *Madame Rendatler*, are perhaps the best; while of the single varieties we should prefer *Distincta*, *Mrs. Smith*, *Flower of the Day*, *Mrs. Ferguson*, *Mrs. Sherbrook*, *Shrubland Rose*, and *Venus*.

Of the varieties now figured, *Jubilee* (Fig. 1) is a rich rosy-red of good shape, with a distinct bar of dark crimson in each lobe, the space between the bars being very largely and deli-

cately veined with crimson-maroon, while *Charming* (Fig. 2) is a beautiful pure white with rosy-crimson bars delicately veined also, leaving the edges of the flower perfectly free from marking; this is a very chaste and attractive flower, it is large in size and of good shape and substance. Mr. Bull has other varieties to send out, but we have selected these as the best.



J.Andrews, del.et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 231.

AZALEA, FASCINATION.

We have in former years figured different varieties of variegated Azaleas, but we have never had the opportunity of noticing so fine a flower as the one which forms the subject of the present Plate, for it has been universally pronounced to be the very first in the class to which it belongs, and fortunate indeed is Mr. Ivery to have raised so lovely a flower.

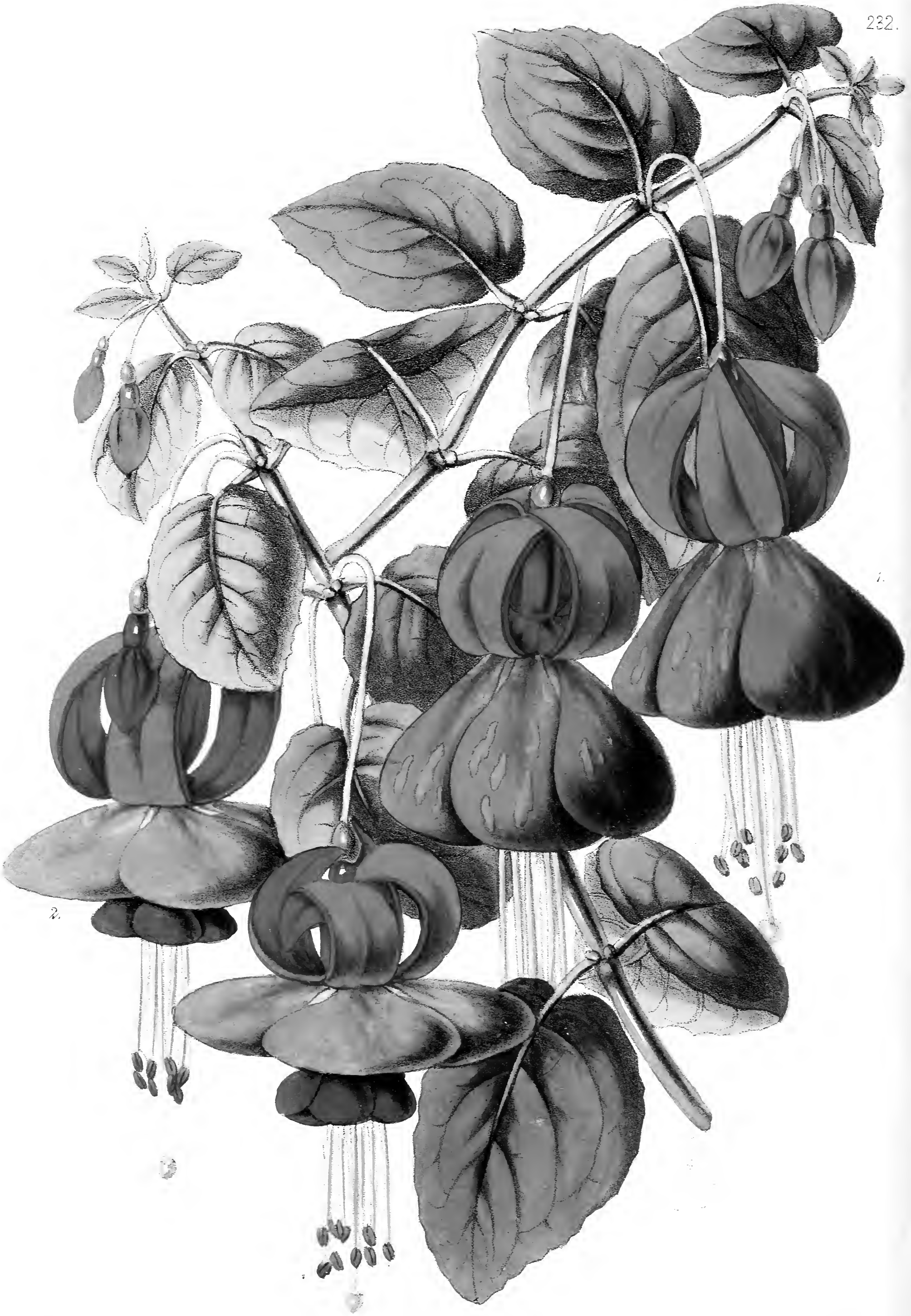
It is well known that many of the variegated varieties of Azaleas are merely "sports;" a shoot of a red or pink variety has become blotched, or in some cases white, portions of this shoot have been propagated, and thus a supply of a new variegated variety is obtained. Unhappily there is a great tendency in such kinds to return to their original character, and their flowers are to some extent uncertain; when such varieties are introduced, as they frequently are, from the Continent, their character ought to be given with them, whether they are really seedlings or sports, as this would prevent much disappointment in regard to blooming.

Notwithstanding all the discussion that has taken place with regard to the manner in which Azaleas should be exhibited, and the fault that has been found with the huge masses of *crinolined* and hooped plants which every year in still larger and ever-increasing proportions are brought forward, there does not seem at present as if any change would take place, but the non-exhibitor, who grows for his own gratification, is happily not bound by these inexorable laws, and will in his home natural though not overgrown plants, find a more beautiful and pleasing object; in time, perhaps, exhibitors and the public will come to the same conclusion.

Fascination is, as we have said, a flower raised by that well-

known and most successful cultivator and raiser, Mr. James Ivery, of Dorking; it was exhibited by him at the spring shows of the Royal Horticultural and Royal Botanic Societies, from the latter it received a first-class certificate and was regarded as one of the very finest Azaleas ever raised; it was raised in 1860 from a pod of seed of *A. tricolor* impregnated with *A. Criterion;* the shape is perfect, the form of the petals round, the colour a bright rosy-pink with deep crimson spots in the upper petals,—the edges of all the petals being white, and the pink colour of the ground being marked off in irregular bands. Messsrs. Ivery and Son hope to let it out in the ensuing autumn.

BRITISH MUSEUM



J. Andrews del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 232.

FUCHSIAS, LUCREZIA BORGIA AND FANTASTIC.

There seems to be really no limit to the variations that take place in the very simple flower which is seen in every garden and which bears the most opposite extremes of climate, for we have seen it during the past year, luxuriating as large shrubs twelve and thirteen feet high, in the wild and stormy mountains of Mayo and Donegal, and adorning in immense quantities the park and squares of Paris; and we may well ask, who would recognize in the curious and beautiful forms that now adorn our greenhouses the same plant that years ago they had cultivated originally with its narrow yet pretty flowers, its crimson sepals and darker tubes? See what changes either hybridizing or chance have wrought in it. We have it attaining a size which a few years ago would have been deemed chimerical; its sepals, from being pendent, have become reflexed like a Turk's cap; and in lieu of flimsiness, we have now great substance, the tube has increased in size and substance in proportion as the sepals have increased, the corolla has instead of being closely folded round become expanded, like a parachute or crinoline, or has become doubly increased in the number of its petals, while, as in the variety figured in our Plate, it appears in another and most curious form. An equal variation has taken place in the colouring: we have had white sepals, and corollas of crimson, violet, and purple; we have had, on the other hand, dark-crimson sepals and white corollas; and we have in *Lucrezia Borgia* a tendency to produce striped flowers which may yet create a revolution in the colouring and marking; and, as we have given evidence in our pages, the foliage has also added variety, and in such flowers as *Meteor*, *Pillar of*

Gold, and *Cloth of Gold*, we have another remarkable class of plants.

Lucrezia Borgia (Fig. 1) is a flower raised by our friend and neighbour, Edward Banks, Esq., of Sholden, and is of great size and substance; the sepals are broad and well reflexed, the corolla is also large, of a rich violet-purple, with blotches and stripes, of light crimson-pink, these markings are irregularly produced, but are indications of a change in colouring which may yet produce some further novelties; it received a certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society. *Fantastic* (Fig. 2) is a flower raised by Mr. George Smith, and well deserves the name he has given it; the sepals are reflexed in the ordinary way, but it is in the corolla that the curious change has taken place; instead of being pendent, it opens out nearly horizontally, while underneath is what has the appearance of a second corolla, with the petals folded round in the ordinary manner, the colour being a deep-lavender: a reference to the Plate will at once show the very curious and fantastic appearance that this produces, and we have little doubt that this will ensure its being a general favourite.

J. Andrews del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 233.

ACHIMENES, PINK PERFECTION, AND GRANDIS.

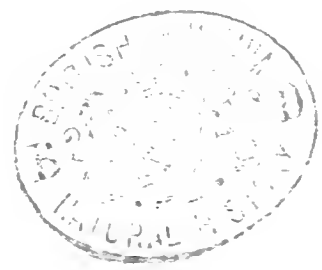
Those who are able to afford the luxury of a house where a moderate amount of heat can be obtained for a short period of the year, know how very valuable for the summer decoration of their houses are the tribes of *Achimenes*, *Tydæa*, and *Gloxinia*, in all of which great improvements have taken place during the past few years, as our pages have given abundant testimony to in the fine varieties we have from time to time figured.

Achimenes have been the more especial care of Mr. Parsons, of Welwyn, and to him we are indebted for some of the finest varieties in cultivation, for when we mention *Mauve Queen*, *Carminata splendens*, *Dazzle*, *Rosea magnifica*, and *Meteor* (a few of Mr. Parsons's seedlings), it will be at once seen how very largely he has contributed to their present advanced character as exhibition flowers, and in our last volume (Plate 180) will be found figures of two very excellent varieties, *Purpurea elegans* and *Leopard*, which, with *Magnet*, *Scarlet Perfection*, *Vivicans* and *Eclipse*, form the most admired and newest of the section; they were let out by Mr. B. S. Williams, of Holloway, and still will hold that position, for we are informed by Mr. Williams that the varieties now figured, together with some others, of Mr. Parsons's raising, will not be distributed this season, the stock being small, so that exhibitors must be contented for the present with those already out.

It has been Mr. Parsons's great object, not only to increase the beauty of colouring in the *Achimenes*, but also to obtain that size which, when combined with brilliancy and form, so materially adds to the effect of a plant, and it will be seen that in the present instance he has made a great step in that

direction, for in *Pink Perfection* we have the forerunner, probably, of a race of flowers of large size, combined with that brightness of colouring hitherto only found in such small flowers as *Dazzle* and *Meteor*.

As we have nothing to add to the former remarks we have made on the subject of the cultivation of *Achimenes*, it remains merely to say that *Pink Perfection* (Fig. 1) is a fine, well-formed flower, of nearly three inches diameter, of a deep, rosy-pink colour, throat yellow, spotted with orange; while *Grandis* is a somewhat smaller, but still very fairly-sized flower, of a purplish-lilac, or deep mauve-colour, with orange-spotted throat. Both varieties are very free flowering, and will be valuable additions to the class.



J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 234.

VARIEGATED VERBENA, POPULAR.

The great favour with which variegated plants have been received during the past few years has led to the introduction of plants of nearly every tribe in cultivation, whether in the hardy, or half-hardy, or greenhouse section; to these the Japanese have largely contributed, while the vigilance of our home gardeners has led to the production of many others. Perhaps no greater proof of the extent to which this has gone can be adduced than by looking at the section in Mr. John Salter's catalogue devoted to hardy variegated plants; in this list are enumerated about three hundred different varieties, and in it are Daisies, Chrysanthemums, Strawberries, Fuchsia, Wood Anemones, Ivies, Iris, Nettles, Phlox, Ribes, Veronicas, etc.

It is not surprising then, that with a flower so universally grown and admired as the Verbena is, there should have been a desire to obtain a good variegated-leaved form of it, and we believe that in more than one instance this has been done, but the character of the variegation has not been sufficiently permanent to make it of any value. Thus we remember seeing, with our friend and neighbour, Mr. Banks, of Sholden, a plant of *Defiance*, much variegated; after however propagating it for some time, he found that it was not constant, and so discarded it. The subject of our present Plate is in the possession of Mr. Wm. Bull, of King's Road, Chelsea, the well-known introducer of new and rare plants; it *is* permanent in its markings, and when bedded out, the golden variegation of the leaves, with the brilliant scarlet of the flower, will tend to make it one of the most effective of our bedding plants.

In a visit we paid lately to Mr. Bull's establishment we saw this Verbena in course of propagation, and also some very inter-

esting variegated plants; thus there was a form of *Aubrietia purpurea*, which showed the most beautiful and constant variegation imaginable, and with its bright purple flowers and dwarf habit, will be very valuable; there were also a neat shrubby-growing Sedum, and some beautiful gold and silver variegated Rhodeas, and perfectly distinct male Aucubas, of Von Siebold's introduction from Japan. It will thus be seen that lovers of this style of plant will have no difficulty in gratifying their taste. It remains but to add that this *Verbena* will be let out in April, by Mr. Bull, together with his other new plants.

BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY

1.

2.

J.Andrews,del.et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 235.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS, GOLDEN BALL, AND VENUS.

The favour with which the Chrysanthemum has been regarded for so many years seems to be increasing rather than diminishing, and, if one may judge from the number of new varieties which are being introduced by Mr. Salter, this is more especially the case with the large-flowering section, for while he announces only four new Pompons, there are no less than twenty-eight large flowers, of which those in our Plate are, we are inclined to think, amongst the finest.

We had an opportunity in November of inspecting Mr. Salter's rich and varied collection in his winter garden,—one of the choicest treats to a real lover of the flower that London affords at that season of the year, and far to be preferred to any exhibition, in our humble opinion, for the plants are much more naturally grown; and the advantage of novelty is also added, for here one may see at a glance, not merely the best flowers in growth, but also those which are to be sent out in the following spring. We had ourselves grown a good selection of the new varieties of last season, and can strongly recommend amongst large-flowered varieties—*Prince Alfred*, a splendid rosy-crimson, finely incurved, and the best purple in growth; *Princess of Wales*, pearly-white, tinted with rosy-lilac, of beautiful form, broad petals, well incurved, a splendid flower; *Lord Clyde*, fine, bright crimson; *General Bainbrigge*, dark orange-amber and gold centre; *Bernard Palissy*, fiery orange, good pot-plant; *Sam Slick*, ruby, with bronze tip; *Saint Margaret*, orange anemone flower, with stiff guard-petals and high centre; *Florence Nightingale*, a fine pot-plant: while among Pompons, *Lizzie Holmes* stands pre-eminent, although it came everywhere darker than last year.

The flowers which we have selected for our Plate are, *Golden Ball* (Fig. 1), a bright orange, with golden back and tips, beautifully incurved, and a perfect model of form, of extra large size, and great brilliancy of colour; *Venus* (Fig. 2), large, delicate lilac-peach, finely incurved, a beautiful show flower, and decidedly the best in its colour. Besides these, we noticed and can recommend—*Blanche of Castile*, pure white; *Golden Dr. Brock*, golden-yellow; *Prince of Wales*, dark purple-violet; *Mrs. Kaimes*, blush; *Mr. Brunlees*, large, Indian red; *King of Denmark*, rosy-lilac; *Albert Helyer*, rosy-purple; and *Attraction*, a reflexed flower.

We are glad to be able to announce that Mr. Salter, than whom no one is so well qualified for the task, is about to publish a history of the Chrysanthemum, from its introduction to the present time, illustrated by our artist, Mr. Andrews, a work which will form the text-book on this subject for many years, for it will embrace its culture in every manner and for every purpose.

NATURAL HISTORY

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 236.

BEGONIA DIGSWELLIANA.

Flowers derive their value from various considerations and properties, some for their brilliancy of hue, others for their delicacy of perfume, others for the singularity of their forms, others for their hardiness, and some for the period of the year at which they bloom. When flowers are plentiful, and every parterre shines with the most brilliant hues, or when greenhouses are so filled that it is wellnigh impossible to display all to advantage, then it will happen that some flowers, which at another time might attract attention, are pushed aside; but when all out-of-doors is dreariness, and within scarcity of bloom prevails, then a flower which will adorn the house, even although it may lack the brighter hues of its summer rivals, is eagerly welcomed.

We have seen an immense change in the manner of decorating rooms; for fêtes of all kinds nothing now is of any service but natural flowers and plants,—the day for tolerating artificial flowers is past, and hence a great demand is everywhere made for cut flowers and plants. Let any one but see the business that is transacted in Covent Garden for such things for decorative purposes, and the effect of this change is at once apparent: the flowering section of Begonias then is very useful for this purpose,—far more interesting, to our minds, than the ornamental-foliaged section, which was so much in vogue a year or two ago, but which has rapidly receded in public estimation.

The Royal Horticultural Society has attempted the plan of holding weekly exhibitions devoted to special plants, and amongst them the Begonia; but, like most of their plans, however well-intentioned, it seems to have been a complete failure. Thus, at

the Begonia show, we are told, none were exhibited save a few from the Society's own garden.

The variety now figured is in the possession of Mr. B. S. Williams, of Paradise and Victoria Nurseries, Holloway; it is described to us by him as being of a dwarf and free-flowering habit, the colour being a light pink, the edges of the petal being deeper, and when contrasted with the deeper pink of the unopened buds, it forms a pretty object for the greenhouse or drawing-room, and makes it also useful for cut flowers for bouquets.

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 237.

TEA ROSE, MARÉCHAL NIEL.

When in Paris last year, M. Eugène Verdier brought to us some of his new Roses, which were to be let out in the autumn. The majority were Hybrid Perpetuals; but with them there was a tea-scented Rose of great beauty, which we at once regarded as the cream of the set, and one likely to be a great acquisition, and this we selected for our illustration.

Yellow Roses have always been considered a great desideratum, but unfortunately the best of them have some serious defects. *Cloth of Gold*, or, as it is called in France, *Chromatella*, is unquestionably a most difficult Rose to bloom; it will grow rampantly enough, but few are able to induce it to flower well; when it does, there is no yellow Rose to equal it. *Isabella Grey*, which a few years ago was introduced from South Carolina, gave great promise of supplying our need; but, alas! it too was found hard to open, and shy in flowering. *Smith's Yellow*, again, rarely flowers well. *Solfaterre*, a light shade of yellow, is too loose and ragged a flower to please the fastidious eye of the rosarian; and, indeed, in the *Noisettes*, *Celine Forestier* and *Triomphe de Rennes* are the two most satisfactory flowers of this colour. Pure yellows amongst Tea Roses are scarce. *Vicomtesse Cazes*, which is very bright, is also very ragged. *Boule d'Or* is very difficult to open. *Eliza Sauvage* and *L'Enfant Trouvé* are both of delicate habit; while *Gloire de Dijon*, splendid Rose as it is, can hardly be classed amongst pure yellows. The accession, then, of a flower like the one now figured, if true to the description given with it, must be hailed with satisfaction by all lovers of the Rose.

Let it be however said, that while it is, as far as we were able to judge, a valuable Rose, there are one or two points

which make us hesitate about it. It is said by M. Verdier to have been raised in the south of France, and consequently there must be some doubt as to the certainty of its opening well in England; for *Boule d'Or*, which we have seen in perfection in the neighbourhood of Paris, will not, without a great deal of coaxing, display its beauties with us, and then it is unquestionably, both in foliage and form of flower, *very like Isabella Grey*, and therefore we fear is likely to partake of the defects of that flower. We may be mistaken, but time will tell. Its growth is evidently vigorous, and no one looking at the beautiful drawing of Mr. Andrews can fail to see that it is a very fine Rose.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 238.

HOVEA PUNGENS MAJOR.

We remember, many years ago, what a difficult plant *Hovea Celsi* was considered to be, and we believe deservedly so; the beauty and attractiveness of its bright-blue pea-shaped flowers led many to attempt its culture for exhibition, but it was rarely that one saw a good plant of it, while fewer plants were more subject to the attack of thrips and red spider, which oftentimes completely disfigured it. The species which we now figure is not of so difficult character, and although not a new plant, it is one of those which amidst the multitude of novelties has been overlooked, while others of far less merit have been grown.

Mr. Frazer, of Lea Bridge Road Nurseries, has, during the present year, exhibited it at the weekly meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society, where it was greatly admired, and rewarded with a certificate; and we have also noticed that in the gardening periodicals it has been favourably mentioned. We feel, therefore, that we are bringing under the notice of our subscribers a plant which, from the period at which it flowers, as well as from its own beauty, ought to be generally grown.

We have been favoured by Mr. Frazer with the following notes:—"*Hovea pungens*, introduced from the Swan River, in 1837, is one of the most beautiful of all the fine plants from the same locality. The variety now figured is *Hovea pungens major*, introduced some years after the original species. Nothing can possibly be of more value than this *Hovea;* it not only blooms freely in the winter, without more heat than an ordinary greenhouse or conservatory affords, but its colour is so very attractive. This pretty plant, associated with winter-flowering Heaths, Epacris, Camellias, and other winter and spring flower-

ing plants, will greatly help to make a rich display in places where there are no houses for forcing flowers. Its culture is not difficult. Supposing a plant to be purchased in flower, after the bloom is past the shoots should be shortened back below the part where the flowers have been produced, and when the plant begins to grow—say in May or June—it can be shifted (if required) into a larger pot and placed in a pit or frame for the summer, where it can be protected from the excessive heat of the sun and sheltered from very heavy rains; it should, however, be exposed at night, so that it may have the benefit of the dews, which will make it grow robust and healthy. In a general way the plant does not require stopping, but should a shoot or two start away from the rest it will be well to stop them, so as to equalize the growth and get the plant as compact as possible. A mixture of good fibrous peat and sand is the most suitable soil for growing it in, to which, if the peat is very light and poor, a little loam may be added. All the *Hoveas* are straggling growers, and this sort is especially so, and perhaps it is on this account that it has not met with so much attention at the hands of plant-growers as it deserves. The only really good specimen of it that I have ever seen was several years ago, in one of the greenhouses of the late Mrs. Laurence, of Ealing Park, and she thought more of this *Hovea* than of any dozen plants in her magnificent collection."

J.Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 239.

VARIEGATED CHRYSANTHEMUM, SENSATION.

We have usually at this period of the year given a group of the newer varieties of Pompon Chrysanthemums, but as the number of seedlings in this class is (as we observed last month) considerably less than in the large-flowered section, we have this year departed from our usual custom, and instead thereof given a Plate of a curious and interesting sport which Mr. Bull, of Chelsea, has obtained, adding another to the many variegated plants now to be met with in every section of gardening.

With those who grow the Chrysanthemum for their own pleasure only, without a view to cut blooms for exhibition, the Pompon varieties are much greater favourites than the large-flowered section, their dwarf habits, profusion of bloom, and compact shape, fully entitling them to this preference; and their suitableness for bouquets, despite to some their unpleasant odour, gives them an additional claim to our attention, at a period of the year when flowers are comparatively speaking scarce. We have had, too, some good additions to the class during the past few years, making it a matter of exceeding difficulty to obtain anything that may be a decided advance. One of the very best is the fine variety *Lizzie Holmes*, which we figured last year, and which has everywhere maintained its character as a very desirable variety. A variegated plant in this class, then, will not only be a novelty, but, we should think, a general favourite.

It will be seen that the variegation in this variety is not a mere blotch, but that each leaf is regularly and broadly margined with silver white, and that this variegation is quite constant we can testify from personal observation. Mr. Bull anticipates that not only will it be found a useful plant for the

greenhouse or conservatory, but that it will also be desirable for ribbon bordering, on account of the constancy of its variegation, and the neatness of its habit. The flowers are well formed, Ranunculus-shaped, full to the centre, and pure white, so that in every respect it seems to be a very desirable and useful plant. It will be let out in the present month.

BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 240.

VERBENAS, GEORGE TYE, CHARLES TURNER, AND QUEEN OF PINKS.

It is extremely difficult when flowers have reached the perfection that the Verbena has, to produce new varieties which shall be very decidedly in advance of the older ones: we must be contented if we can make a little progress, and either in colour, shape, habit, or size, strain a slight improvement, and perhaps there is no one more likely to effect this than Mr. C. J. Perry, of The Cedars, Castle Bromwich, near Birmingham, the raiser of the three varieties now figured.

While adding so much by their continuous blooming and diversity of colour to the gaiety of the garden during the summer months, no dependence in our variable climate can be placed on these out-of-door plants for blooms for exhibition—a slight shower of rain is quite sufficient to destroy all the beauty of the blossoms, and hence those fine and fresh-looking flowers which we see so constantly at the various exhibitions, are the produce of plants grown either in pots or in a frame,—we believe Mr. Perry's plan is the latter. A common cucumber frame is filled with good compost, and the Verbenas are then planted out at regular intervals, abundance of room being given to them, and pegged down as they grow. Great care is needed against thrips and green-fly, and the frames must therefore be well fumigated from time to time as soon as ever there is the slightest indication of either; indeed it is better to fumigate at regular intervals, on the ground that prevention is better than cure.

George Tye (Fig. 1) is a large and finely-formed deep lavender-coloured flower, with well rounded pips, and a large lemon-coloured eye. *Charles Turner* (Fig. 2) has been most favourably

noticed by most of the horticultural journals, and has obtained a first-class certificate. In colour it is a French white, with a bright carmine centre; the truss is large, and the petals are very slightly notched. Altogether it is a very fine variety, and likely to be a general favourite. *Queen of Pinks* (Fig. 3) is another fine flower of a bright-pink, shaded with a deeper tint of the same colour, with a small bright-yellow eye, and the habit of the plant good; altogether we feel convinced that these will add to Mr. Perry's fame as a raiser of Verbenas. They are in the hands of Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, and will be let out during the present month; for exhibition we believe these varieties will be most desirable.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 241.

ODONTOGLOSSUM PESCATOREI, Var. SPLENDENS.

We are glad again to embrace the opportunity given to us by the new cool treatment of Orchids, of figuring one of the genus which has proved itself most amenable to the method of culture, and that, one of the most beautiful of its tribe. For this we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. James Veitch, of King's Road, Chelsea.

As might have been expected, a change so great as that proposed in the treatment of many of those Orchids which had heretofore been subjected to a high temperature, was likely to meet with opponents, and also to be carried to extremes by its advocates; but we have seen enough during the past winter to convince us of its practicability and success, for we had an opportunity of seeing the establishments of perhaps the two largest Orchid-growers in the neighbourhood of London, amongst public and private cultivators,—Mr. Veitch's, of Chelsea, and Mr. Rucker's, of Wandsworth,—and in both we saw abundant evidence of the successful adaptation of this method of culture. In the garden of the latter gentleman we saw a span-roofed house or pit divided into two compartments: in the first compartment the temperature had been maintained at from 45° to 50°, and here Lycaste, Odontoglossum, Barkeria, etc., were flourishing and flowering in great vigour; in the second house the temperature had been about 5° higher, and in it many varieties of Cypripedium, Calanthe, Dendrobium, Leptotis, and Cattleya were in equally vigorous health. Surely this is a great point gained; and we hope the extreme views which many will be apt to rush into, of subjecting Orchids not suitable to it and then proclaiming its failure, will not prevail to prevent its

adoption. With a very small amount of heat, especially if Mr. Bewley's system of double roofing be used, any one may, at a small expense, grow a nice collection of this interesting tribe of plants.

Odontoglossum Pescatorei splendens differs from the normal condition of the plant in the delicate mauve-coloured spots, as shown in Mr. Andrews's very beautiful figure. This marking seems to be irregular, but, as contrasted with the delicate flesh-white of the ground, adds greatly to its beauty. As we have already stated, its cultivation is comparatively easy, although at present it is very scarce. It received a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society.

BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 242.

CAMELLIA, CONTESSA DI GONDA.

The additions which are each year being made to this most lovely and interesting tribe of plants, bid fair to put into the shade many of those older beauties which have hitherto been grown, and we are glad to find that those to which we have hitherto given a place in our Magazine are establishing themselves as general favourites.

The most beautiful sight in the way of Camellia-culture that we have seen for some time was in the garden of Mr. Sigismund Rucker, West Hill, Wandsworth. A large house was entirely devoted to them, and nothing could exceed the healthiness of the trees and the profuseness of the bloom, while the varieties grown were all excellent and many of them quite new. Mr. Rucker is well known for his liberal encouragement of horticulture, and hence nothing of real merit is likely to be found absent from his collection. Among them we saw splendid plants of *Countess of Orkney*, striped; *Fimbriata*, white; *Centifolia alba*, white; *Mathoniana*, deep-red, of immense size and substance. There were also amongst newer varieties, *Queen of Beauties*, blush; *Contessa Lavinia Maggi*, very distinctly striped and of large size; *Comte de Gomer*, striped and distinct; *Duchesse de Berri*, fine white (these three have been figured in our pages). There were also *P. Aldobrandini*, blush; *Madame Strekatoff*, light blush; *Sarah Frost*, bright pink, of exquisite form; *Mrs. Abby Wilder*, striped (*Duchesse de Berri* is a sport from this). We also saw at Mr. W. Bull's, Chelsea, a new shaded Rose, *Prince Camilli*, and we are quite sure that any one wishing to add to their collection may safely add these newer and most desirable varieties.

Contessa di Gonda, which, like many of our latest novelties,

is of Italian origin, has the ground-colour of a beautiful delicate salmon-pink, flaked with deeper stripes of the same colour. We saw it in flower at Mr. Wm. Bull's establishment for new and rare plants at Chelsea, and from the novelty of its colour we think it is likely to prove a desirable acquisition.

BRITISH MUSEUM
(NATURAL HISTORY)

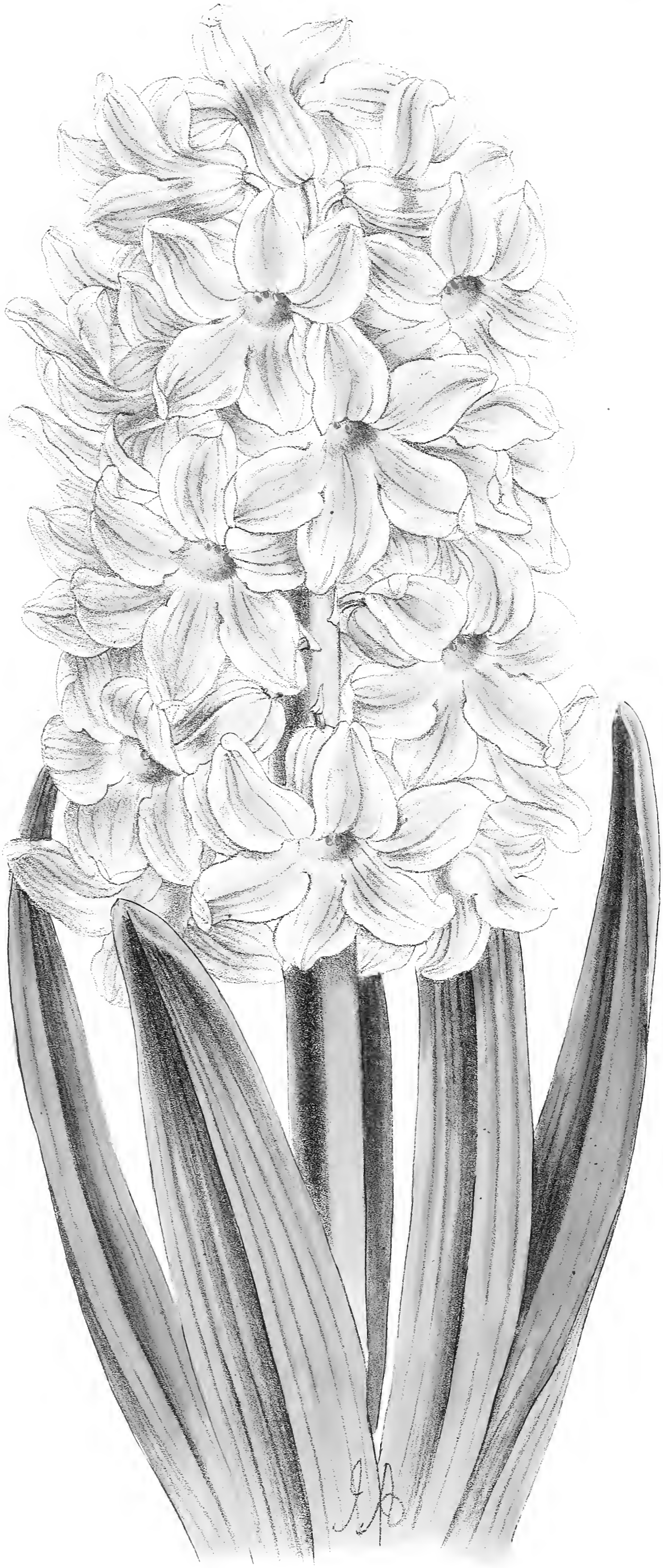


Plate 243.

HYACINTH, THORWALDSEN.

Although we have not had the opportunity of visiting the two great spring exhibitions of the Royal Horticultural and Royal Botanic Societies this season, we have enjoyed that which, to the lover of the Hyacinth, is perhaps the greatest treat to be had in or near London,—the exhibition of Hyacinths and other spring flowers which Mr. James Cutbush annually provides for the florists of the metropolis, at his well-known nurseries at Highgate, and it was there that we selected for illustration the very beautiful Hyacinth which forms the subject of our Plate.

The annually increasing interest in the culture of spring bulbs, both for the open air and the greenhouse, is manifested in the immense demand made on the growers in Holland for the supply of bulbs, oftentimes leading, we fear, to the supply of immature and enfeebled roots, while the craving for novelty leads to the bringing forward of many worthless varieties. This was seen at the Great Horticultural Exhibition at Amsterdam during the present season, where, we are told by credible witnesses, "the prizes awarded for seedlings new to commerce were given, in the case of double Hyacinths, to a dirty-white variety, so utterly wretched, that how the judges could possibly have awarded it we are utterly at a loss to understand; the second went to a semidouble red, of good colour, but also a very poor flower."* "While of all those shown as new," the writer adds, "we were much disappointed at the Hyacinths shown in these two classes, as there were none worth introducing into England." The same writer observes that the Hyacinths exhibited were by no means so well grown as those seen in London, grown

* 'Journal of Horticulture.'

by Messrs. Cutbush and Mr. William Paul,—an observation which holds good, as far as we have been able to judge, with the greater number of plants, of whatever class. Nowhere are such fine specimens of cultivation to be seen as in this garden-loving country.

Thorwaldsen is one of those very attractive blue flowers which are always sure to please, although it is very difficult to do justice to its delicate colouring. The ground colour is a delicate slate-blue, and the centre of each petal has a broad stripe of deep azure. The flower has been frequently exhibited by Mr. Cutbush, and has been favourably noticed wherever it has been shown.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 244.

CLARKIA INTEGRIPETALA, *flore pleno.*

It is very interesting to mark the improvement that takes place from time to time in various classes of plants, where either careful selection or skilful hybridization has been adopted. Amongst other flowers, annuals have not been uncared for, and we are perhaps most indebted to the Messrs. Carter, of Holborn, for the great improvement that has taken place in them.

Some two or three years ago we figured the double-flowered *Clarkia pulchella*, which we then described as of a deep-rosy colour, and having three or four rows of petals, forming a tolerably well developed double flower. Previous to that they had introduced *Clarkia integripetala*, so called from the petals not being deeply notched, as in the ordinary varieties then in growth. It is from a sport from this variety that the flower we now figure has been raised, and should it come constant in character there is no doubt, we think, that it will be the finest of all the tribe of *Clarkias.* We know, indeed, that very often this is not the case with such flowers, and unless great care is taken in the saving of seed they are apt to become very inferior, and it is to this want of care that a great deal of failure is to be attributed. It is always better to save a small quantity of good seed than a large quantity of inferior, and if those plants are marked where better flowers are produced, or indeed the individual flowers themselves marked, a great deal of disappointment will be saved. It is by such careful selection that many of our most valuable productions have been obtained, and it is surely worth while to use the same care where ornament is concerned.

The description given by the Messrs. Carter of their new

Clarkia integripetala, *flore pleno*, is as follows:—"To the fine class of entire-petaled *Clarkias*, of which we were the original producers, we have this season the gratification of adding this magnificent double variety, which is by far the finest of its genus. The bloom is very double, large, of a rich magenta colour (we should call it a bright rosy-crimson), and produced in the greatest profusion. We anticipate that this will supersede entirely every other variety of *Clarkia* in cultivation, as soon as its great merits have been observed."

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 245.

RHODODENDRON, PRINCESS ALEXANDRA.

This is another of the beautiful greenhouse novelties which have been brought forward by the Messrs. Veitch, belonging to the East Indian, and consequently warm greenhouse section, which, from its delicious fragrance and delicate colour, is likely to be much valued by lovers of this interesting group of plants.

There is hardly, perhaps, a more varied and beautiful tribe of plants than the one to which this belongs, from the dull-coloured hardy varieties to the magnificent Bhootan and Sikkim species, many of them of surpassing beauty and grandeur. We had thought, indeed, that nothing could exceed the size and beauty of *R. Nuttallii*, a fine plant of which we saw at Mr. B. S. Williams's, of Holloway, with about one hundred trusses of bloom opening on it; but on a visit to the Royal Dublin Society's Gardens, at Glasnevin, near Dublin, we there saw some blooms of another variety, *Rhododendron Jenkinsii*, in which the individual flowers were as large as *Lilium candidum*, and the purest ivory-white. What a grand sight a large plant of this would be. The habit of the variety now figured, however, is not of that large character, as it forms a neat shrub, well covered with bloom, and therefore within the powers of those who have not an abundance of room.

Rhododendron *Princess Alexandra* has been exhibited both before the Royal Horticultural Society and at the late exhibition at Amsterdam, where, however, it failed to obtain that recognition of its merits which, in the opinion of competent judges, it richly deserved. It was, so we are informed by Mr. H. J. Veitch, raised by the late Mr. Veitch, of Exeter, between *R. jasminiflora* and a species which had never been sent out. It is similar in habit to *Princess Helena*, which we have already

figured. The flowers are of a delicate white, with a beautiful pinkish tinge, which Mr. Andrews has well preserved, and it is moreover deliciously sweet-scented. It received, as it greatly merited, a first-class certificate.

J. Andrews. del. et lith

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 246.

ZONALE GERANIUM, VENUS (*Halley's*).

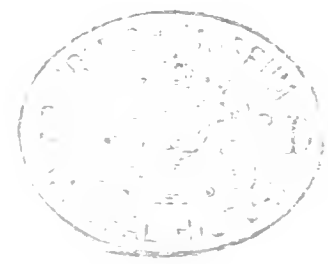
There can be little doubt that amongst the most popular flowers of the present day, the Zonale or bedding Geranium must take a prominent place. The advertising columns of the different gardening periodicals sufficiently attest the number of new varieties that are yearly produced, while every garden in the kingdom shows how largely—nay, universally—they are cultivated. Amongst those newer varieties, the productions of Mr. Halley, of Blackheath, take a conspicuous place, and we have therefore selected one of them, which seems to combine the requisite properties of good habit and excellence of bloom, for illustration.

A report on the different varieties on trial at the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Chiswick has been recently published by the Floral Committee, and, while it is evidently the result of careful examination, there are, we believe, many omissions of good varieties, and many which occupy a higher place than they will be found entitled to. Habit is one of the most important elements in the goodness of a plant, and this ought to be especially attended to, for grossness of habit for bedding purposes completely destroys the effectiveness of the very best variety in other respects.

The culture of this class of plants in pots has latterly made considerable progress, and they are well worthy of any care and attention that may be bestowed on them for this purpose, as they make, during the later summer and autumn months, most admirable plants for the decoration of the greenhouse, conservatory, or drawing-room. The best plan for producing good specimens is to plant out those varieties which are most approved of in a good open airy situation in the garden, and as

they grow to pinch them in, so as to form close compact plants. A little attention during the summer will effect this, and then early in autumn let them be taken up (say about the middle of September) and potted in a mixture of loam, leaf-mould, and well-rotted dung. Some advise them to be put at once into the pots they are to bloom in the following year, while others advise a smaller size; but in any circumstance they should not be over-watered, and kept in an open and airy part of the greenhouse. In February they should be cut back, and they will then soon start into growth and make fine plants,—much finer than if they had been kept in pots all the time.

Venus (which seems as if it would be admirably suited for pot purposes) is dwarf and compact in habit, with a broad, dark horseshoe, the centre of the leaf yellow-green, which becomes more yellow when planted out, while the horseshoe breaks into blotches of brown and buff. It received a first-class certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society. Besides this, Mr. Halley has *Red Riding Hood*, *Enamel*, and *Robin Hood*. We have also seen *Luna* and *Little Treasure* (Saltmarsh), each excellent in their way. Mr. Bull has some fine varieties, and so has Mr. George Smith, among which we may specify *Highgate Rival*, the *Clown*, and *Glory*, so that there is little probability of the love of novelty being ungratified this season.



J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 247.

HEPATICA ANGULOSA.

When the long dreary winter months are passing away, and we are anxiously looking out for signs of returning spring, there are no flowers more readily welcomed than the Hepatica,—none more readily gathered as proofs that the winter is passing away,—and therefore any addition to them of a really good character will be at once recognized as a desideratum. And this is, we believe, the character of *Hepatica angulosa*, lately brought before the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society by Messrs. Backhouse and Son, of York.

There is another reason that makes any addition to our spring-flowering plants of great importance, and that is, the greater attention that is now being given to spring gardening. Since the new bedding-out system has driven out of the field the old mixed herbaceous borders, it has been felt to be a disgrace to our English gardeners and gardening that for six months of the year the parterres should be as bare as a ploughed field, and various plans have been adopted for the purpose of remedying the defect. By no person has the reproach been more felt and the remedy been better applied than by Mr. Fleming, of Cleveden, and his experiences in spring gardening have been brought before the world, and led to many attempts at following in his steps. Clumps of this fine Hepatica will be by-and-by very useful in adding to the effect.

Hepatica angulosa was introduced by Messrs. Backhouse and Son, of York, and is said by them to be a native of North America and Hungary, but believed to be scarce in Europe. It is thus described in the Royal Horticultural Society's Proceedings:—"The leaves and flowers are about twice the size of the common *Hepatica triloba:* the former three inches broad,

three-lobed, the lobes commonly crenated and again obscurely lobed; the latter numerous, each upwards of an inch and a half across, consisting of nine or ten (the numbers seven and eight being also found) oblong sepals, of a pale blue-lilac colour, prettily relieved by the central tufts of yellow styles. One of the finest hardy plants of recent introduction, and of a sturdy vigorous habit." It was awarded a first-class certificate.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 248.

DOUBLE-FLOWERING MIMULUS.

Some time since, when visiting Mr. Bull's establishment for new and rare plants at Chelsea, he pointed out to us some plants of what he believed would be considered a great novelty, and his anticipations have been fully realized, for no plants of the present season have excited more interest than the very remarkable double or hose-in-hose Mimulus, three of which are represented in our Plate.

As these very showy flowers have been well described in a contemporary, we cannot do better than transfer the description here:—"This is a veritable duplex monkey-flower, a thorough hose-in-hose, as though the calyx, justifying the name, had taken to mimicking the corolla. In this remarkable curiosity the corolla exactly resembles some of the forms commonly known in gardens as *Mimulus maculosus*, but instead of the calyx being of its usual form and green colour, this organ is converted into a coloured body, almost exactly like the corolla in size and form, and, like it, brightly coloured and handsomely spotted. Looking at the Mimulus as a decorative plant, this new feature is a very great advantage. No one can doubt or dispute the beauty of some of the fine varieties of Mimulus, but the defect of a plant, from a garden point of view, is that the flowers droop too soon,—the beauty is not enduring. Now leaving out of question altogether the fact that here the ornamental part of the plant is at once doubled in quantity, there remains the very important fact that be the corolla ever so fleeting and evanescent, when it falls, the plant, to all intents and purposes, still remains in flower: the calyx is virtually in itself a flower, as far as ornament is concerned, and this part does not fall like the corolla, but lasts as long as its substance will endure. The

great merit of the new race is that the flowers, as represented by the outer of the two floral whorls, remain persistent for a period hitherto unknown amongst Mimuli."

Some of these varieties obtained when they were exhibited a first-class certificate, and we believe there are twelve varieties at least which Mr. Bull intends to distribute.

J. Andrews, del et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 249.

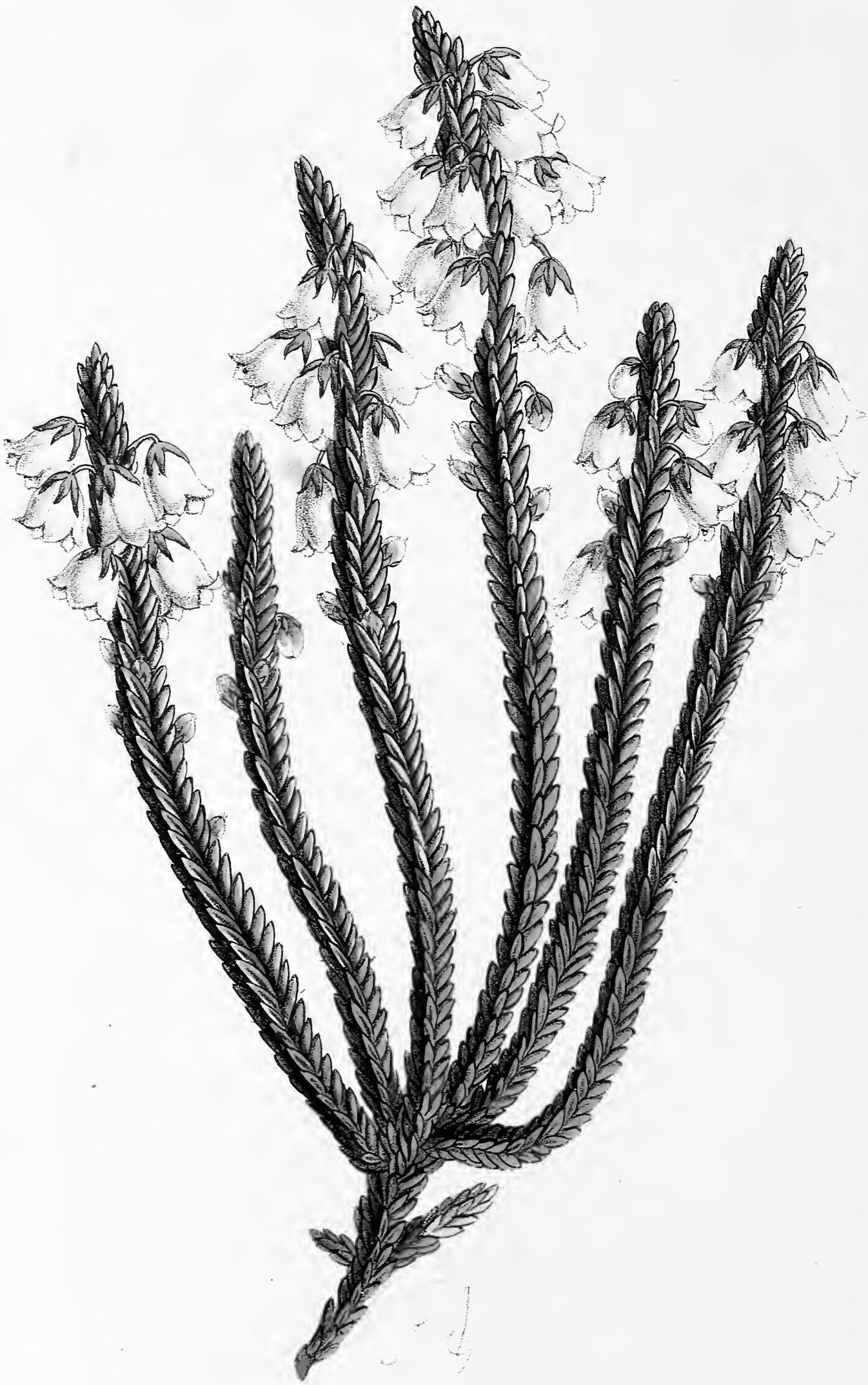
PRIMULA CORTUSOIDES, *var.* AMŒNA.

By little and little, the treasures gathered in Japan by Mr. J. G. Veitch and Mr. Fortune are finding their way into public favour, and it is astonishing how they have embraced almost every department of the vegetable kingdom, from the lofty Pine to the lowly Saxifrage; and thus we have now the pleasure of figuring a very beautiful Primula, which has been exhibited by Mr. Veitch during the present season, and for which he has obtained a first-class certificate.

The old *Primula cortusoides* is an established favourite amongst all lovers of herbaceous plants, and these varieties of it which have been introduced by Mr. Veitch cannot fail to be attractive. (We hope to see the growth of herbaceous plants gradually increase, for there are many very beautiful things amongst them, and if encouragement were given to them at our Spring shows, we are quite sure that it would give a great impetus to their growth.) There are no less than three of these new varieties, *P. cortusoides grandiflora*, of a lilac-purple colour, very large, and drooping in habit, *P. cortusoides albida*, a greyish-white, and *P. cortusoides amœna*, rich purplish-rose or magenta colour, very showy and attractive. All of these have been exhibited before the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, and have all obtained first-class certificates.

The cultivation of these plants hardly calls for any remark, as it is very simple and easily managed. The soil should be light and open, and well drained, and all are the better for protection, not from frost so much as from the sharp and cutting winds which we so often have to experience in our climate in spring. When grown in pots, they form very attractive

objects for early spring, owing to their freedom of flowering; and any one who saw the beautiful mass of plants exhibited by Mr. Veitch could not fail to see how valuable they are likely to be. Of the three varieties named, Mr. Veitch has, we believe, the largest stock of *amœna*, and it will therefore probably be the one which will first find its way to the collections of those who value herbaceous plants.



J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp

Plate 250.

ANDROMEDA TETRAGONA.

On a recent visit paid to the Botanic Garden of the Royal Dublin Society at Glasnevin, amongst many other plants (which, under the skilful direction of Dr. Moore, the valued curator, have been grown and flowered there, and to which our attention was directed), we saw the very pretty heath-like shrub which forms the subject of our present Plate, and which, from its early-flowering habit and duration of blooming, was greatly esteemed there, it will, we believe, be found very useful to all who are looking for some improvements in the appearance of their gardens during early spring; and considering that many of our subscribers are interested in this subject, we obtained permission from Dr. Moore to figure it. It is also in the very extensive and valuable collection of hardy perennial plants cultivated for sale by Messrs. Backhouse and Son, of York.

There are two or three species of Andromeda which might be cultivated to advantage on rockwork, or any dry, well-drained spot. Messrs. Backhouse and Son advise them to be grown in sunny, well-drained fissures, in clean grit, stones, and peat, the grit that they recommend being coarse sandstone, crushed. In such places they will flourish well, and will amply reward the care bestowed on them. *Andromeda fastigiata* is somewhat similar to the subject of our present Plate, although obtained from the Himalayas, while *A. tetragona* is a North-American plant, but is more robust in habit, and with somewhat larger flowers. On the other hand, *Andromeda hypnoides*, which has been exhibited by the Messrs. Backhouse this season, is much smaller than *A. tetragona*, and quite different in habit. It "forms soft, light-green mossy tufts, two to four inches high,

from which arise a profusion of slender, hair-like crimson stalks, each bearing a snowy-white bell."

Andromeda tetragona is a native of North America, having bright-green quadrangular shoots, six to eighteen inches high; it bears numerous white bell-shaped flowers, and it continues for a long period to send forth fresh bloom-buds down the stem. We were informed by the foreman at Glasnevin, that he had found that the only way to propagate it was by layering, as cuttings invariably failed.*

* The following note is from Dr. Moore:—"The beautiful Ericaceous plant you are to figure is a native of the Himalayas, where it grows at a great elevation on the mountains at Gossain-Than, Kamaon, and also in Chinese Tartary. It is *Andromeda fastigiata*, Wallich, and *Andromeda cupressiformis*, of the same author; *Cassiope fastigiata*, Don. The only plant known to have yet been raised in Europe was grown in this garden from seeds sent hither by the late Major Madden, who collected them at an elevation of eleven thousand feet above sea-level, near 'Kamaon. The few plants which have got about were from the one raised here. It is quite hardy in Ireland, where it grows in ordinary peat-mould without protection, and flowers profusely every spring. The blossoms continue from three to four weeks, and have a very sweet perfume."

J.Andrews, del et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

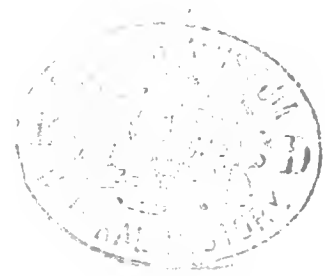
Plate 251.

ANEMONE FULGENS.

We have again taken one of the many new spring flowering-plants which have been brought forward lately by Messrs. Backhouse and Son, of York, for our illustration, and, although not remarkable for its rarity, we are inclined to believe it will, for the brilliancy of its colouring, be a valuable acquisition.

There are already two varieties of Anemone well known to our gardens, the common garden Anemone, *Anemone coronaria*, distinguished for its brilliant scarlet flowers (and of which many fine varieties have been recently imported from the mountains of Greece), and *Anemone hortensis*. This differs considerably from the previous variety, as the flowers are of a delicate shaded rose, ruby or rosy-purple, the petals more numerous and narrower than in *A. coronaria*. The species now figured has been recently imported by Messrs. Backhouse from the mountains of Greece, and is thus described in the Report of the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society:—"*Anemone fulgens*, exhibited by Messrs. Backhouse and Son, of York. This beautiful Anemone had been imported last year from the mountains of Greece. It was closely allied to *A. stellata* or *A. hortensis*, which it resembled in foliage; but the numerous large flowers, which sprang up in a tuft to the height of six inches, were of a brilliant crimson, with a centre of black stamens. . . . This will be a charming flower for the spring garden, in which probably it may require a sheltered situation. It received a first-class certificate."

All who know what pretty and brilliant objects the Anemones are for early spring flowering, will agree in the estimate thus formed of it; and as Messrs. Backhouse, who are no mean judges on such points, say that as a scarlet flower it is unrivalled, it will no doubt be largely grown for spring gardening purposes.



J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 252.

BERBERIS STENOPHYLLA.

Flowering shrubs are always objects of interest, and few of those of late introduction have attained so much favour as *Berberis Darwinii*, the profusion of its bright apricot-coloured blossoms, and its pretty plum-coloured berries, making it at both the season of flowering and fruiting an interesting object; and therefore a hybrid like the present, which combines with its excellencies other good qualities, is well deserving of the distinction that it has obtained, wherever exhibited.

Berberis stenophylla was raised at the Handsworth Nursery, near Sheffield, by Messrs. Fisher, Holmes, and Co., and is a hybrid between *B. Darwinii* and *B. empetrifolia*, and evidently partakes of the character of both parents; the foliage is very distinct from *B. Darwinii*, the leaves being about half an inch long, and rolled backward on the edge, so as to give the appearance of being cylindrical, and the spines are not nearly so numerous or so strong as in *B. Darwinii*. The flowers partake of a good deal of the character of that species, being of a fine deep apricot, and produced in clusters of three to five at the axils of the leaves. The flowers are followed by small round berries about the size of black currants, of a deep purplish-black, and covered with a delicate bloom, as in the black grape. Surely these characters mark it as a very desirable plant; but besides this, the flowers are sweet-scented, and the plant itself is perfectly hardy. Moreover, as it grows in moist situations and soils, under trees, or in dry banks, and as its berries are likely to be as palatable to pheasants as its congener *B. Darwinii*, it will be seen how generally useful as well as ornamental it is likely to be.

We fear that the fine Japanese varieties, *B. Bealii*, *B. inter-*

media, and *B. Japonica*, will hardly suit our climate, for, although not killed, their foliage is so much defaced by frost and wind, that they never present an attractive appearance. We are informed by Messrs. Fisher, Holmes, and Co., that the plants produced from seed of *Berberis stenophylla* do not come true, so that it must be propagated by cuttings in order to ensure its being true to character.

T. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 253.

RHODODENDRON THIBAUDIENSE.

A Rhododendron! would be, we doubt not, the involuntary exclamation of any one on first seeing this remarkable species, far more resembling, in its flowers at least, a Correa or Thibaudia than any of those many varieties of Rhododendron known to our gardens or greenhouses. It was exhibited at a meeting of the Floral Committee in May of the present year, and attracted a good deal of attention from its "variety, beauty, and remarkable form;" and a first-class certificate was awarded to Mr. Wm. Bull for it.

A somewhat interesting notice of it appears in the 'Scottish Farmer,' in which the writer questions, whether "it be really a new species, but a specimen of the rare *Rhododendron Keysii* at a less advanced stage of flowering than that from which Sir Wm. Hooker took the drawing of *R. Heysii* figured in the 'Botanical Magazine,' t. 4875; at the same time we admit that this is not altogether clear, and that Mr. Bull has better grounds for holding his specimen to be a distinct species than the makers of many species which have never been challenged." The writer then proceeds to notice the peculiarities of each of the two varieties, and especially remarks on one remarkable distinction, viz. that *R. Keysii* has the trusses of flowers on the old wood, while those of *R. Thibaudiense* are terminal. We believe that the opinion of English botanists is in favour of their being distinct.

"We do not know," the writer adds, "any Rhododendron which more directly and, as it were, by its mere outward appearance, vindicates the title of the genus to be classed among the Heaths. It is no uncommon thing to hear non-botanical horticulturists wonder what Rhododendrons have

in common with Heaths, except liking a peaty soil. If we could show them this plant in flower, no other answer would be needed. No great heat is required in its cultivation; it was in a cool greenhouse covered with a Vine that the plant which Sir Wm. Hooker described was grown. Mr. Bull's treatment of his plant was also what is called cool treatment—protection from frost or cold, but very moderate heat."

Rhododendron Thibaudiense is a native of Bhootan, from whence so many forms of the genus have been introduced.

NATURAL HISTORY

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 254.

AQUILEGIA CÆRULEA.

"In a genus noteworthy for including in its limits some of our most popular hardy perennials the *Aquilegia cærulea* stands conspicuous, if not pre-eminent, for its striking and highly ornamental features. Though perhaps rivalled in point of beauty by the well-known Siberian species, *A. glandulosa*, it possesses a great advantage over that plant (which, as every gardener knows, is a shy bloomer) in the facility with which it yields its flowers under the simplest conditions.

"Its most salient feature, as our Plate will show, is the long spurred petal so characteristic of the genus, and which in this species attains its maximum development and attenuation. In most specimens the tube of the spur is fully two inches long, and a graceful outward curvature adds considerably to the effect produced by this extreme length. It is scarcely less remarkable for the reversed position of the flowers at the time of their expansion. As our readers are aware, in most, if not all the other species of this genus, the fully expanded flower is pendent until fertilization is effected and the blossom begins to wither, when it assumes an erect position. In the *A. cærulea*, on the other hand, the bud only is drooping, but as the period of expansion approaches the flower gradually becomes nearly erect, thus presenting its mouth to the observer and exhibiting more fully the contrast of colour between the white limb of the spur and the violet-blue of the sepals.

"This leads to the remark that in a few instances the cærulean tint is replaced by a blush colour, and the plant is known to exist in a wild state with deep-yellow flowers. The singularly inappropriate specific name needs therefore hardly be pointed out, and it is the more inapplicable that in so many other species

the blue or violet colour more or less obtains. As the name of *cærulea* has, however, the right of priority, we have thought it inadvisable to substitute Sir W. J. Hooker's far more judicious designation of *macrantha*, abandoned, as it appears to be, by botanists.

"The *Aquilegia cærulea* is a native of elevated regions of the Rocky Mountains, in about lat. 40°, having been originally discovered by Dr. James, subsequently by other explorers. By the collector Burke it was found just twenty years since near Medicine River, growing in rich loamy soil in great abundance, and was described by him as being in his opinion 'not only the Queen of Columbines, but the most beautiful of all herbaceous plants.'

"Though this eulogium may now appear somewhat exaggerated, the award of two first-class certificates at the exhibitions of the past spring will doubtless be received as evidence that it was in a great degree merited. The plants in question had been raised by the writer from seeds collected in 1862, by Dr. Parry, in the district where the species was first discovered by Dr. James."—W. T.

We have only to add that Mr. Thomson, of Ipswich, to whom we are indebted for the above, remarks that the plant attains, in good loamy soil, a height of twelve to eighteen inches, yielding its flowers in April and May, and, like the other species, it is readily increased by seed, or division of the roots, when these have become sufficiently strong.

Though introduced at the date just mentioned to the Royal Gardens, Kew, it does not appear to have come into general cultivation.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 255.

CLERODENDRON THOMSONIÆ, Var. BALFOURII.

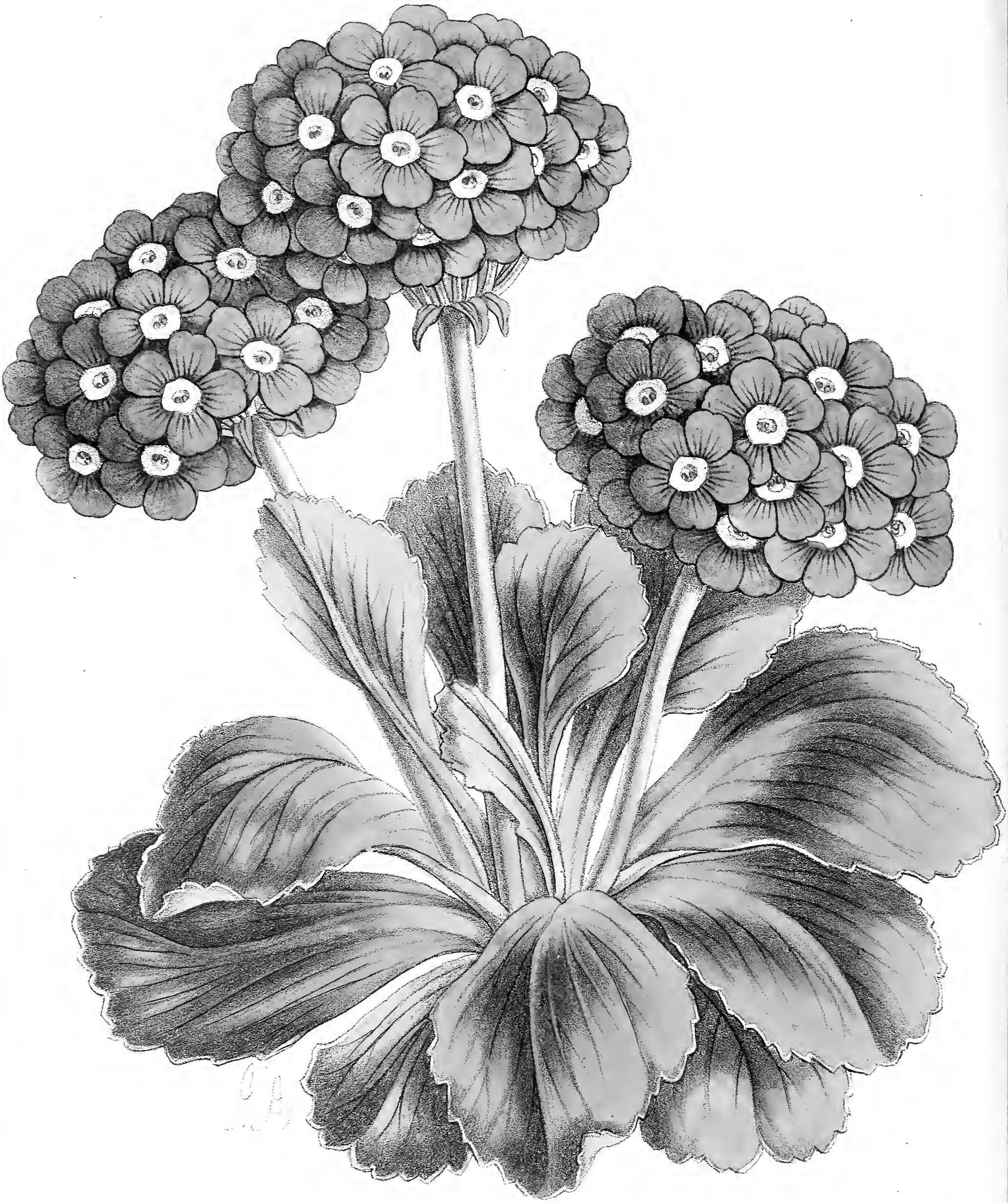
The appearance of this plant in our pages indicates a change in the character of our Magazine, which we hope will make it still more interesting to our numerous friends. We have hitherto confined ourselves to those plants which were cultivated in the open air or greenhouse, but we have felt for some time that as the efforts of the hybridizers were no longer confined to these, but had extended to the denizens of the stove and orchid-house, and that owing to the more wide-spread taste for horticulture a larger number of persons cultivate these flowers than formerly, we should meet their wishes and give a greater variety to our Magazine, by figuring from time to time such plants as were valuable for their decorative effect, and not mere botanical curiosities. In so doing we shall endeavour to avoid clashing with any other periodicals of a similar character.

Clerodendron Thomsoniæ has been exhibited during the present season in some of the collections of stove and greenhouse plants which have appeared at our great metropolitan exhibitions, but nowhere have we seen it so effective as in a small pit, at the establishment of M. Ambroise Verschaffelt, at Ghent, in Belgium, where it was trained along the rafter (in the same manner as we have seen the beautiful *Lapageria rosea* at Messrs. Henderson's), and the charming clusters of white and crimson flowers profusely borne on it made it a very lovely object, showing also that it is of easy cultivation and free habit.

"*Clerodendron Thomsoniæ*, var. *Balfourii*, now figured, is exactly like the normal form, excepting that its flowers are large, and being stronger the crimson and white are fuller and clearer. It was raised from seed by Mr. M'Nab, of the Edin-

burgh Botanic Gardens, who also raised *C. Thomsoniæ*." So writes Mr. Jackson, of Kingston, by whom the plant was exhibited during the present season, when it obtained a first-class certificate.

Mr. Jackson has kindly given us the following notes on its cultivation:—"The cultivation of *Clerodendron T. Balfourii* is very simple. Pot in free rich mould. During the summer give strong heat, a liberal supply of water, and as much light as possible: keep the plant well spurred. In August ripen off the growth that has been made by withholding water and giving more air. During winter, if the wood is well ripened, it may be kept in a temperature of fifty degrees, and break stronger than if kept in greater heat."



Vincent Brooks, Imp.

Plate 256.

PRIMULA INTERMEDIA.

We last month figured one of the Japanese varieties of *Primula cortusoides*, which have been recently introduced by Mr. Veitch; we now give the figure of a more humble but equally pretty member of the same family, which is shortly to be sent out by Mr. Wm. Bull, of Chelsea, and for which he has received a first-class certificate.

All the members of this family, from their early-flowering habit, are favourites with all lovers of flowers,—the pretty wild Primrose is hailed as the harbinger of that season to which all look with pleasure, while few florists' flowers have been cultivated with greater zeal or are more highly prized than the Auricula. Those persons whose stoves, orchid-houses, and conservatories can be kept gay from one year's end to the other, can little appreciate the pleasure with which a cultivator of these flowers looks forward to their opening blooms through the long and dreary winter; they have had to watch over perhaps a few frames and pots without a flower to gladden them, but when spring returns and the Pansy, or the Auricula, or the early-flowering herbaceous plant begins to show its blooms, there is a zest added to their enjoyment which in vain the wealthier horticulturist looks for; hence plants like the one now figured will be valued by many whose means do not admit of their looking to a stove or greenhouse for their enjoyment.

Primula intermedia was raised by Mr. Fullar, of the Exotic Nursery, Headingley, and has from him passed into the hands of Mr. Wm. Bull, who has distributed so many good plants. It will be seen to have a good deal of resemblance to a small-flowered Auricula, both in the truss, which is, however, com-

posed of a very large number of pips, which are of a beautiful mauve colour; the foliage is a bright-green, leaves serrate, and the edges slightly tinged with white, as in *Richard Headly* and some other of the Auriculas. We have no doubt that it will prove a very general favourite.