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MEETING OF FLORESIS IN THE OLDEN TIMES.

THE

FLORIST, FRUITIST,

AND

GARDEN MISCELLANY.

1851.

LONDON:

CHAPMAN AND HALL, 193 PICCADILLY.

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1851

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## FLORIST, FRUITIST, AND GARDEN

*Miscellany.*

WE shall be much gratified if the present Series meets with as favourable a reception as its predecessor has done; and it is with unfeigned pleasure we find that all our old and valued Contributors are not only quite willing, but anxious to afford us every assistance in their power.

If we have enlarged the sphere of our labours, it is with the hope that we shall be able to render as good service in the diffusion of sound information upon Fruit, as we have hitherto done upon Flowers, amongst a class to whom a monthly periodical like ours affords a sufficient supply of information for their wants, and to whom a weekly paper would be a burden rather than a pleasure. Experience has taught us that the latter is the proper receptacle for communications of a controversial character, and also for the reports of horticultural and floral exhibitions. The value of the latter very much depends upon their speedy appearance in print; and in cases involving and requiring discussion, much that is of temporary interest is unsuitable for a work which, though issued in monthly parts, is intended to form an elegant volume at the conclusion of each year.

No country in the world can boast a greater zeal in horticultural pursuits than our own; and this is evidenced in a striking manner by the number of periodicals devoted to the science, as well as the almost universal taste for gardening which prevails in all classes.

For three years the *Florist and Garden Miscellany* has held a conspicuous place amongst gardening publications, and has found numerous readers ready to welcome its appearance on the first of each month; and we believe the number would be greatly increased, if a knowledge of its existence was more generally diffused.

May we therefore request the assistance of those who feel interested in its prosperity, in making it more extensively known? To carry out our views we require a large sale; and we wish it *at once*, that we may be spared the mortification, at some future day, of seeing a larger demand than we can supply. This has happened with our First Volume of the Series just concluded, which was published at 13s. 6d.; from being quite out of print, it has since realised from 21s. to 25s. In the full confidence of success derived from past experience, we shall provide for a large number of subscribers; and we depend upon giving them general satisfaction, unless they are much more unreasonable than we have hitherto found them.

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### CALCEOLARIAS.

HAVING intimated that I would give a descriptive list of a few good varieties for exhibition, with notes on their habit and culture, I now redeem my promise. The following list includes such varieties only as have already been let out, all of which may be had at moderate prices. For notes on the new varieties, see the *Florist* for December, Vol. III.

MASTERPIECE (*Kinghorn*). Let out in 1847. A fine large bold flower, of good outline and shape; yellow ground-colour marbled with brown, rather dull; habit good, and makes a nice specimen plant. Will bear high culture.

VAN TROMP (*Kinghorn*). Let out in 1848. An excellent variety, and of fine habit; stem strong, erect, and branching; colour yellow ground, with light-brown markings; a profuse bloomer; shape and substance good: requires tolerably rich compost. A nice variety for exhibition.

BARON EDEN (*Pennycook*). Let out in 1849. A very superior dark variety, of splendid habit, and may be grown to almost any size with good compost and plenty of pot-room; blooms large and well inflated; outline good. Makes a fine specimen plant.

HAMLET (*Holmes*). Let out in 1849. A very superb light flower; blooms large and well inflated, colour light ground; with rich claret blotches and spots in front; a profuse bloomer; flower-stems rather slender, but when well grown make a fine specimen. This variety does not bear very high culture. See drawing in *Florist* for last month.

SIR H. SMITH (*Holmes*). Let out in 1848. A plant of excellent habit and free bloomer; flower-stems strong and erect. A nice dark variety, and when bloomed early very rich in colour, but the bloom is not sufficiently inflated. A desirable variety in a collection.

SUPREME (*Major*). Let out in 1849. A very attractive variety, and of fine habit; the flowers are of good substance, but rather defective in outline; colour bright sulphur yellow, with bold irregular



blotches and spots in front of rich reddish brown; plant rather shrubby, and requires high culture.

*AURORA* (*Dickson and Co.*). Let out in 1848. A beautiful little flower, as round as a cherry; ground-colour yellow, with stripes and blotches of brown in front well defined; habit tolerably strong; stems short and branching, forming a very graceful plant.

*VILLAGE MAID* (*Dickson and Co.*). A nice delicate white-ground variety, in the style of *Aurora*; habit not so good; nevertheless a very pleasing and desirable variety. It requires a sandy peat soil, not over rich.

*NE-PLUS-ULTRA* (*Gaines*). Let out in 1850. An attractive variety; ground-colour primrose, heavily marbled with crimson; good shape and habit; tolerable culture.

*JOHN DEANS* (*Wilcke*). Let out in 1850. A most splendid dark variety, in the style of Kinghorn's Emperor; outline and shape excellent, and colour bright dark cherry, slightly mottled with yellow, and rich in the extreme; the habit is not very strong, and requires growing in light sandy peat; a free bloomer, and indispensable variety.

*TRICOLOR SUPERB* (*Holmes*). Let out in 1848. A fine rich flower, but not of very strong habit. See drawing in the *Florist* for February 1848.

*SYMMETRY* (*Kinghorn*). Let out in 1847. A profuse bloomer; yellow-orange ground, and spotted in centre with tiny brown spots; flower-stems slender, but when nicely grown makes an attractive specimen.

*Whitby, December.*

M. WOODHOUSE.

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## THE GLOXINIA.

BEAUTIFUL plants are these, and of easy culture where stove-heat is at command, for in warmth and moisture do they luxuriate. I am now, in December 1850, just starting my plants, never allowing them a long rest. As soon as they have done flowering, I place them under the wooden tank which heats one of the greenhouses, where they remain until the foliage has all died down. I then clear off the soil from below the crown of the bulb (as I have had them rot when taken out of the pots before they had started into growth), and place them under the heating-tank in the stove, where they remain till well started. Then I turn them out, clear away all the mould from them, and repot into equal parts peat, loam, old cow-dung, and silver-sand.

Treated thus, the following varieties will well repay the attention of the cultivator: *Cartonii*, *C. robusta*, *Fyfiana*, *Handleyana*, *Maxima alba*, *Teuchlerii*, *Victoria Regina*, *Wortleyana*, and *Insignis*.

*Worton Cottage, Isleworth.*

J. DOBSON.

## LISTS OF FIRST-RATE FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

The lists of Florists' flowers which we shall give from time to time will be compiled from the returns obtained by Mr. Edwards, and which were published in July of last year. Those varieties marked \* are added from our *Note-Book*. They were seen last season, and merit general cultivation.

## CARNATIONS.

## SCARLET BIZARRES.

- Admiral Curzon (Easom).
- \* Bolingbroke (May).
- \* Captain Edwards (Summercales).
- Duke of Sutherland (Ellbott).
- \* Emperor (Puxley).
- \* Excelsior (Kay).
- \* Howard (Puxley).
- \* Knosthorpe Pet (Schofield).
- \* Lord Lewisham (Bunn).
- Lord Raneliffe (Holliday).
- Prince Albert (Hale).
- Splendid (Martin).

## CRIMSON BIZARRES.

- \* Black Diamond (Haines).
- Count Pauline (Holmes).
- \* Duncan (May).
- Georgiana (Jacques).
- \* Gladiator (Slater).
- \* Jenny Lind (Puxley). See Plate.
- Lord Milton (Ely).
- \* Owen Glendower (May).
- \* Queen Victoria (Puxley).
- Rainbow (Cartwright).
- Thomas Hewlett (Holliday).
- \* Vivid (Hepworth).

## PINK BIZARRES.

- \* Cyclops (Hughes).
- \* Henry Kirk White (Taylor).
- Prince Albert (Puxley).
- \* Princess (Taylor).
- Princess Victoria (Smith).
- Sarah Payne (Ward).
- \* Twyford Perfection (Young).

## HEAVY RED.

- Goliath (Brinklow).
- Isabella (Wildman).
- \* Isabella (Kirtland).
- \* James II. (Norman).
- King James (Headley).
- \* Mrs. Norman (Norman). See Plate.
- \* Mary Ann (Parkinson).
- Prince of Wales (Marris).
- Sebastian (May).
- Schamel (Read).

## PURPLE FLAKES.

- Beauty of Woodhouse (Mansley).
- Earl Spencer (Barringer).
- Lord Byron (Taylor).
- \* Mayor of Oldham (Hepworth).
- \* Mayor of Lichfield (Clark).
- Premier (Millwood).
- \* Perfection (Puxley).
- Poins (May).
- Queen of Purples (Holliday).
- Rev. J. Bramhall (Clark).
- Squire Meynell (Brabbin).
- Squire Trow (Jackson).

## SCARLET FLAKES.

- \* Cradley Pet (Wallis).
- \* Crusader (Puxley).
- Dr. Pattison (Hardwick).
- \* Dido (Hollyoake).
- \* Duke of Devonshire (Barringer).
- Firebrand (Hardwick).
- \* Justice Shallow (May). See Plate.
- King of Scarlets (Ely).
- Lydia (Addenbrook).
- Queen Victoria (Simpson).
- \* Sir Harry Smith (Hale).
- \* Splendour (Kaye).

## ROSE FLAKES.

- Ariel (May).
- \* Antonio (May).
- Flora's Garland (Brooks).
- Lady Ely (Ely).
- Lovely Ann (Ely).
- Lorenzo (May).
- \* Madame Sontag (Puxley).
- Princess Royal (Puxley).
- \* Romeo (May).

## PICOTEES.

## LIGHT RED.

- Duchess of Sutherland (Burroughes).
- Ernest (Edmonds).
- Gem (Youell).
- Jenny Lind (Edmonds).
- Ne-plus-ultra (Matthews).
- \* Margiana (Burroughes).

## HEAVY ROSE.

- \* Alice (Dodwell).
- \* Captivation (Headley).

- \* Mrs. Hemans (Marris).
- Princess Royal (Marris).
- "    "    (Willmer).
- Queen Victoria (Green).
- Venus (Headley).

LIGHT ROSE.

- Lady A. Peel (Burroughes).
- Lady Dacre (Garratt).
- Mrs. Barnard (Barnard).
- Mrs. Trahar (Dickson).
- Miss Rosa (Merryweather).

HEAVY PURPLE.

- \* Alfred (Dodwell). See Plate.
- Constance (May).
- \* Ernestine (Turner).
- \* Fanny (Dodwell).
- \* King of Purples (Garratt).

- \* Lord Nelson (Norman).
- \* Lady Harwood (Schofield).
- Prince Albert (Marris).
- Princess Alice (Wood).
- Portia (May).
- \* Viola (May).

LIGHT PURPLE.

- Any (Burroughes).
- Ann Page (May).
- \* Amethyst (Matthews).
- Delicata (Holiday).
- \* Echo (Matthews).
- \* Exquisite (Hudson).
- \* Jane (Norman).
- Juliet (May).
- Lorina (Burroughes).
- Lady H. Moore (Turner).
- Regina (Cox).
- \* Witch (Matthews).

ZAUSCHNERIA CALIFORNICA.

THIS charming Californian introduction, if well managed, makes a beautiful autumnal bed. About the beginning of October last year I procured a plant which had been kept in a conservatory for some months, and a short time in a stove. The person of whom I procured it assured me that it had only shewn one or two small blooms, and these only while it was in the coolest part of the conservatory. Immediately after it came into my possession I planted it out in common kitchen-garden soil, which was slightly protected from the north by a wall; and in this situation it withstood all the frost, snow, rain, and storms of last winter, without suffering the least damage. During the spring it progressed vigorously; and as the side-shoots advanced in length, I pegged them down, leaving only a few shoots in an upright position. At the end of May all the layers, with the exception of one or two, were well rooted. I separated them from the old plant, planted them in a bed about six inches apart every way; and by the latter end of August they were nearly all touching each other, and now they are a complete mass. They flowered from June until the beginning of this month, and some are still in blossom.

Those who wish for a continuance of bloom should keep an old plant, or rather a stock-plant, and layer all the shoots as soon as they are fit for the operation. When struck, they should be potted singly, in order that they may be removed at any time; they may be kept in pots until May, and then planted in the beds after Hyacinths, Tulips, &c. This plant will, I am sure, be found a great acquisition, not only for its easy culture, but for its long season of bloom.

H. S.

November.

## DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

No. I.

## THE STRAWBERRY.

WITH the exception of the Apple, the Gooseberry, and the Currant, no fruit is so universally cultivated as the Strawberry; and it may be safely affirmed, that among the many readers of the *Florist*, there is scarcely one possessed of a garden who does not grow his favourite sort of this delicious and wholesome fruit. For this reason, it is thought that a short account of the most useful among the multiplicity of varieties which have of late been brought under the notice of the public might be of service to those who never had an opportunity of testing the merits of the different sorts. As, however, some that are now considered *old* possess more merit than many of more recent origin, I shall include such in my list; for a new fruit ought not to be permitted to supersede an old one, for no other reason than because it is new.

1. *Keens' Seedling*. This useful Strawberry was raised by, and called after, a market-gardener named Keens. Its merits are so well known, that it is unnecessary to say more than to give its correct name and origin (about which some misapprehension exists), and to state that it is still one of the very best we have for forcing.

2. *Princess Alice Maud*. In foliage this variety so closely resembles the preceding, that if the plants once get mixed, the most experienced cultivator cannot separate them; the fruit also is a good deal like that of Keens' Seedling, readily distinguishable by the more conical and slightly flattened shape and more shining surface of the Princess. It is a good Strawberry, bearing freely, and ripening about the same time as Keens'. For forcing I think it preferable, as it ripens equally soon under glass, is brighter in colour, and has a brisker flavour,—that is, if forced Strawberries can be said to have any flavour.

3. *British Queen*. This delicious Strawberry would soon drive most others out of our gardens, were it not for an unfortunate peculiarity of constitution, which unfits it for some soils and situations. In the poor sandy ground of the garden under my charge it cannot be made to thrive; while in the deep and strong loam of the Royal Gardens at Frogmore it grows most vigorously, and bears fruit in profusion. The British Queen, however, deserves good treatment; therefore those who desire to do it justice should well trench the ground it is to occupy, mixing some good rotten dung with the soil as the work proceeds, and then plant strong runners two feet asunder, keeping the plants single during their after-growth, and covering the surface of the ground, soon after the fruit is set, with the short grass swept off the lawn. Plants treated thus (if they like the soil) will produce noble fruit, which, through free exposure to light and air, by the plants being kept clear of runners, will acquire a deeper colour, and ripen better at the point, than it does under

less favourable conditions. Being rather a late Strawberry, it does not answer well for early forcing; but when grown in pots, and slightly forwarded in heat, the fruit comes in very conveniently between the latest forced crop and the earliest from the open ground. This Strawberry was raised by Mr. Myatt of Deptford,—a gentleman who has done more to improve the race of *large* Strawberries than any other person. Similar in colour and in flavour, and of a better shape, is Myatt's Globe; but being a shy bearer, it will never become a general favourite.

4. *Myatt's Eliza* is another of those pale-coloured peculiarly-flavoured Strawberries obtained from seed by the same fortunate cultivator. Had there been no other of its class, this would have obtained considerable celebrity; but coming into competition with the British Queen, to which it is inferior both in size and flavour, it never became a general favourite, and is now not so much grown as it deserves to be. It is not so good a bearer as Nos. 1 and 2.

5. *Old Pine*. Called also the Carolina Strawberry by some. One of the oldest, and at the same time one of the best kinds in cultivation, although now seldom seen in gentlemen's gardens, larger and more showy sorts having unworthily usurped its place. To my taste, no Strawberry excels this in flavour when thoroughly ripe; and if grown in good loamy ground, the plants bear plentifully, and the fruit attains a respectable size. Treated in the manner before recommended for the British Queen, by which its good qualities would be fairly developed, the Old Pine would again become a favourite, especially with those who grow fruit to be eaten rather than to be looked at. It ripens about the same time as, or a little later than, the British Queen, and with that kind makes a good succession to Nos. 1 and 2.

6. *Comte de Paris*. This variety was originated in France, along with (I believe) another, called Princess Royal, which has a good reputation, but is unknown to me. The Count, at any rate, is well worth growing, on account of its large size, handsome form, bright colour, and shining aspect, although in flavour inferior to many of home origin. Another desirable property is the length of its fruit-stalks, by which the fruit is prevented from lying flat on the ground. It ripens about the same time as the British Queen.

7. *Elton*. On account of its great size and late period of ripening, this Strawberry is most extensively grown for the supply of the London markets; and the same qualities entitle it to a place in private gardens, although the too great acidity of its juice makes it unpalatable to many persons. To remedy that defect as far as possible, the plants should be allowed plenty of room, and the fruit must not be gathered till it has acquired nearly a black colour. Its season might be prolonged to the beginning of August, by making a plantation on a north border. This sort has been recommended for preserving; but housekeepers (the great authority in such matters) say that its dark colour unfits it for that purpose, as no care or skill can prevent the jam from looking dull and treacly. The Elton is the only one of the many varieties raised by Mr. T. A.

Knight which is now generally grown, although another very good and peculiarly flavoured late Strawberry, called the Downton, raised by that gentleman, is equally deserving of cultivation.

8. *Deptford Pine*. Another of Mr. Myatt's productions, and a good late Strawberry, considerably resembling the Elton. As it is not in any respect superior to that sort, there is no necessity for noticing it at greater length.

9. *Mammoth*. Those who covet *size* at the expense of *quality* should grow this and the two following sorts. This especially attains an enormous size, which is all I can say in its praise. It was raised by Mr. Myatt.

10. *Myatt's Eleanor* is very large and very acid, added to which the fruit has a pale, dead-looking aspect, by no means inviting. It is fashionable just now, I presume on account of its size, as I cannot discover any other valuable quality in it.

11. *Hooper's Seedling*. This variety also produces a great bulk of fruit, being very large and a profuse bearer. Its colour is very dark, and its flesh firm, but acid. As a large Strawberry, it is better worth growing than either of the two last mentioned, the more especially as it is said to make good jam; for this purpose, however, some of the varieties of Scarlet Strawberries are generally preferred, particularly those known as the *Old Scarlet* and the *Grove-End Scarlet*, the latter of which has recently obtained increased notoriety, by being sent out at a high price under the new name of the "Aberdeen Beehive."

12. *Bicton Pine*. This is the best *white* Strawberry known, which, however, is only faint praise, all the others being utterly worthless. It can only be tolerated for its novelty.

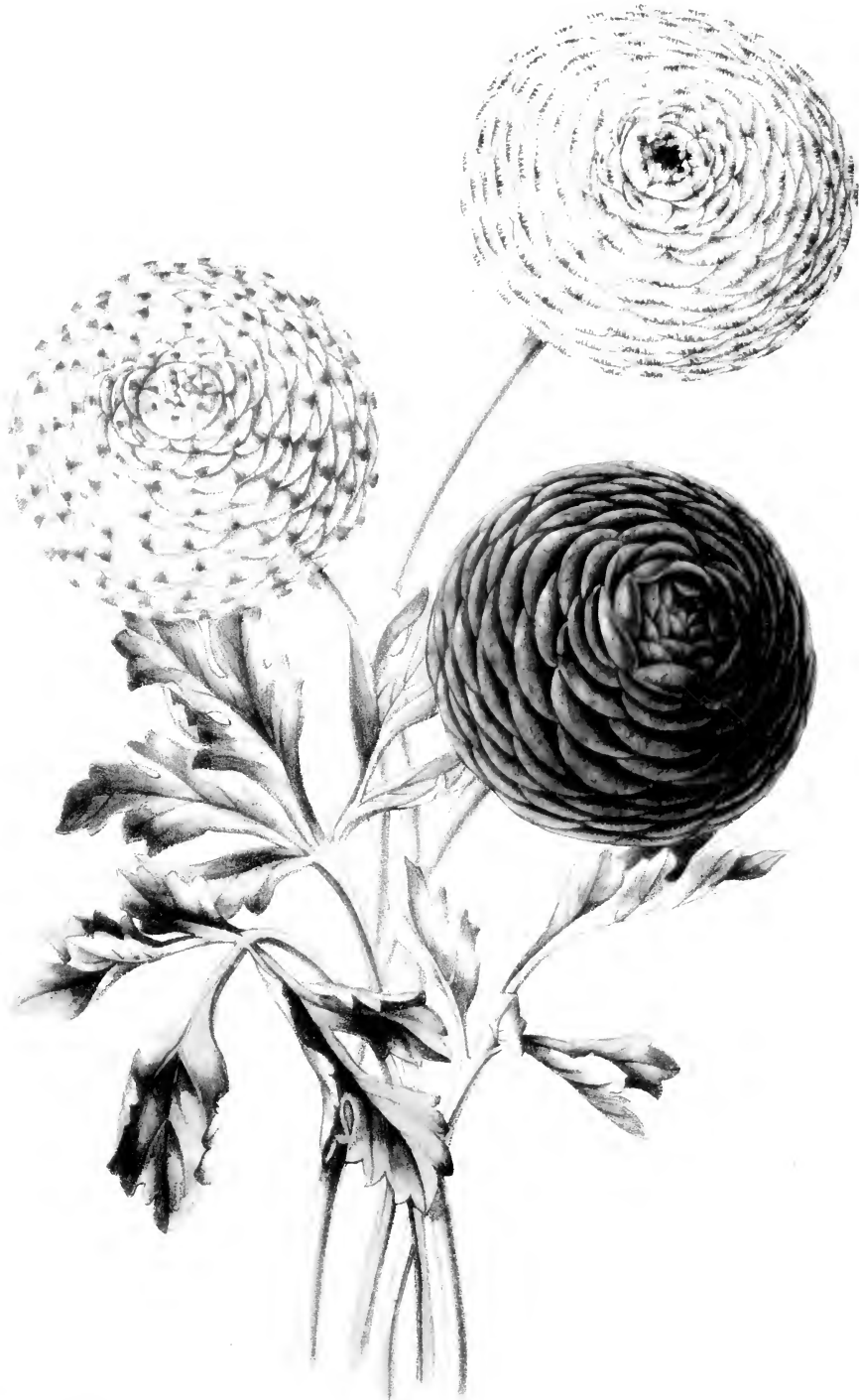
Several comparatively new Strawberries are at the present time advertised for sale in the gardening newspapers. I have not fruited those sorts, and consequently am not warranted in giving a decisive opinion upon their merits, further than an inspection of the fruit at the London Horticultural Exhibitions enables me to do so; what I have to say concerning the following kinds must therefore be taken "under correction."

*Cuthill's Black Prince* receives an excellent character from its proprietor and the *Gardener's Chronicle*. If it ripens under the same circumstances earlier than Keens' Seedling, it will be a great acquisition; if not, it will be of little or no use.

*Wilmot's Prince Arthur* is a middle-sized, well-formed, dull-coloured fruit. It is said to be a profuse bearer, and to bear carriage well, for which reasons it will probably be a good *market* Strawberry; but by private growers it will not, in my judgment, be much sought after.

*Kitley's Goliath* seems to be rather a misnomer, as the fruit I have seen exhibited did not equal in size that of several other sorts shewn on the same table. It is reputed to be an improvement upon No. 3, inasmuch as the plants are hardier and more productive; and if that allegation should prove to be correct, Kitley's Goliath will certainly take precedence of all the Princes and Queens in our list.





W. Andrews, Lill & Sons

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The Queen's  
Exhibition  
MAY 1862



Mr. Myatt also advertised another new Strawberry; and if it is one of two seedlings to which certificates were awarded at the Royal Botanic Society's Exhibition in July 1849, in the matter of *flavour* purchasers of it will not be disappointed.

As a selection from the foregoing, I recommend Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 for a principal plantation; and it may be worth while to give the four newer kinds last mentioned a trial.

J. B. WHITING.

### SHOW RANUNCULUSES.

IN my summer wanderings in search of floral gems I met with and noted a score of Ranunculuses, for the most part novelties, and all of them considerably in advance of the sorts found in ordinary cultivation. I therefore forward the description of them, with a hope that it may prove useful to your readers who cultivate this favourite of the open garden, and give them a stimulus to seek after the recently raised varieties that so brilliantly illustrate this interesting family.

At the Regent's Park Exhibition were.—Festus, large flower, yellow ground, with reddish-brown spots, smooth petal, without indentation at the spot, as is sometimes found in this class; Berinus, distinct spot on deep yellow ground, but not so high crowned as Festus; Exhibitor, yellow with red clouded spots, possessing very fine properties, noted extra at the Upton-Park Show last year.

At the Royal South-London Exhibition were three Prince Alberts;—this fact suggests the propriety of raisers keeping clear of royalty in their nomenclature; endless mistakes arise from the multiplication of Princes, &c.;—Albert the first (probably Wylie's), a pretty white ground with purple spots; Albert the second (probably Airzee's), a good yellow ground with brown edging; Albert the third (perhaps Kilzour's), white ground with purple spots; Mrs. Neilson, a favourite of a few years standing, white ground, brilliantly edged with carmine; Eliacine, fine white, well edged with purple; Earl Grey, white ground, distinctly spotted with red; Parody, cream ground, with purple edging; Princess Royal, cream ground and clouded purple spots, high crown and well filled, but rather small; Beauty of Suffolk, white, edged with rose; Elegance, pure yellow, delicately edged with red; and Claimant, yellow ground, spotted with red.

At the beds of Messrs. Tyso, Woollard, Costar, &c. I remarked: Director, yellow, with distinct bright red-edge; John Waterston, white, purple edge; Marquis of Hereford, self crimson; Emperor, yellow, red-edged; Flaminius, yellow, with brown spots; Napier, lemon, faintly edged with red; Lord Gough, buff, edged with purple; Bijou, white, crimson-edged; Emily, white, rose-edged; Indicator, yellow, spotted with red; Pleaser, yellow, edged with red; Tindal, sulphur ground, rosy crimson spots; and Salome, cream, edged with crimson.

OBSERVER.

## REMARKS ON BRITISH FERNS.

## No. I.

## ASPLENIUM.

THE different species of this genus have for the most part the clusters of fructification of an oblong shape, with their involucre opening towards the mid-rib.

1. *A. ADIANTUM NIGRUM*. In this I fear I shall have to dispose of a rather perplexing subject, inasmuch as in some stages of its growth it is but too often confounded with *A. lanceolatum*, which is not to be wondered at, so far as the young cryptogamist is concerned; for even now I, for one, am willing to admit, that I am frequently at a loss how to distinguish the two, *i. e.* in certain stages of their growth, whereas in others, again, I find but little difficulty; but by the latter remark I wish it to be understood that I am speaking of the two plants in their extreme states of growth, when I think but few botanists could confound them. Respecting the extreme state of *A. adiantum nigrum*, I can have but little hesitation in asserting that it is neither more nor less than the supposed variety occasionally found with linear pinnules, and which was extremely plentiful some years ago in this part of West Kent; in fact, in one of my first botanical excursions I detected many splendid specimens growing on a dry sandy bank; but unfortunately they have since been entirely eradicated by the hawkers who frequent the neighbourhood in quest of Ferns. In this stage of the plant's development it is invariably more divided in the fronds than *A. lanceolatum* in the same state; and although in this condition they may readily be distinguished by the experienced botanist, there is yet a very strong affinity in every other stage of their growth. It is much to be regretted that this elegant state of the plant is not more permanent; when taken under cultivation, it gradually runs back, year after year, until it becomes far less divided both in the fronds and pinnules; and the latter often acquire a leathery texture somewhat similar to those of *A. marinum*. It will grow in almost every soil and situation, from the wall-top to the dry sandy bank, and hence the innumerable forms we find it affecting to grow in; but not one of these have I yet proved to be constant in cultivation; notwithstanding that I have had seedlings and old plants from many parts of Britain, still they all arrived at nearly the same state.

2. *A. LANCEOLATUM*. In maturity the fronds of this are much narrower and less divided than in *A. adiantum nigrum*; indeed in some of my specimens from Cornwall they are nearly linear, with the pinnae and pinnules very much bent back, so much so as to give them a convex appearance on the upper side, which I consider to be the result of extreme old age. I am not certain that I ever detected the plant in the same state at Tunbridge Wells; but there it was growing on the south face of a rock, whereas I consider the Cornwall plants to have been taken from a bank, which may in a great

measure account for the difference. It is rather more difficult to cultivate than *A. adiantum nigrum*; but in a sheltered spot in the fernery it will succeed very well, if planted in a sandy loam with a portion of peat.

*Nursery, Fooks-Cray.*

ROBERT SIM.

## THE FRUITIST.

The articles under this head will be devoted to esteemed varieties of Fruits not sufficiently known or appreciated.

**THE WALBURTON ADMIRABLE PEACH.** This most excellent late Peach was raised from seed at Walburton near Arundel, Sussex, a few years ago. It seems to be a seedling from the Noblesse Peach, which it much resembles in size and appearance, in the hardy habit of the tree, in its serrated glandless leaves, in the melting quality of its flesh, in its parting freely from the stone, and, what is more, in its delicious flavour; but its most valuable quality is its ripening from three weeks to a month later than the Noblesse, or about the same time as the late Admirable Peach, which has hitherto been considered the finest late Peach known, and is still considered as such by the pomologists of France. Our Peach is, however, an English variety, a seedling recently raised, and with all the hardihood and vigour generally found in seedling fruits raised in this country. A knowledge of this fact ought to induce every lover of fruit-tree culture to raise seedlings, to prove them, and thus in time to raise a new and hardy generation of all our esteemed fruits. This season, 1850, its fruit was in fine perfection the first week in October. I may add, that it is now well known in the principal nurseries, and cannot be too widely disseminated.

**THE JEFFERSON PLUM.** I received this variety eight or ten years ago from America; and being then rather sceptical as to the pomological judgment of our friends across the Atlantic, I neglected it, and forgot it till aroused by a description and figure of it published by the London Horticultural Society. I know of no plum more worthy of extensive cultivation. In the south of England and in the midland counties, it succeeds perfectly as a standard or pyramidal tree in the open quarters of the fruit-garden, and bears most abundantly. Coe's Golden Drop requires a S., S.W., or S.E. wall to ripen its fruit perfectly; but the Jefferson, quite equal to it in flavour, ripens eight or ten days earlier even on a standard or pyramid, and is always delicious: in shape it is oval; in size nearly equal to Coe's Golden Drop; in colour deep yellow, spotted with amber. Any lover of good fruits, with even a small and very select collection, may plant a tree of this variety of plum with a certainty of receiving satisfaction. It forms a very handsome pyramid, and with annual root-pruning may be made to occupy a very small space in the suburban fruit-garden.



## NOTES FROM THE LOG-BOOK OF AN ERRATIC MAN.

The series of papers of which the present one is the commencement are offered to the readers of the *Florist* with a hope that they may serve to beguile a leisure moment, when they shall be seated in their arbours, after the swallow has returned to us from over the sea. It must be understood that some of the number will bear no more relation to horticulture than a fish-hook does to an anchor. After this statement, if they are objected to, the Superintendent has but to consign the remainder to the fire.

### No. 1.

#### THE SCARLET GERANIUM AT SEA.

IN the year 1825 I sailed for America in a ship conveying emigrants to Canada, all of them humble people from a rural district, to whom the inside of a ship or the waves of the sea were as strange objects as a sight of the man in the moon would have been, or a slice of the green cheese of which, according to nursery traditions, it is composed. Fine hearty sturdy country people they were, as rich in children as they were poor in pocket. Most of them had connexions in the land they were going to; but beyond a belief that there were no taxes in America, and consequently there could be no want, their ideas on the subject of emigration were vague enough.

It was an amusing sight to an unreflecting young fellow, as I then was, to see their bits of furniture brought on board,—the old carved chests containing their wardrobes, their various cooking utensils, and the little things with which they could not part, because “they had had them so long.” Amongst these were various birds, a cat or two, and a dog; one little girl had a field-mouse in a cage; and a nice matronly woman had a Scarlet Geranium.

Now my mother had been fond of Geraniums, and she had often permitted me when a child to water them as they stood near a spot

where she was engaged with her household duties; so that it was like an old acquaintance, this said Geranium, in its green-painted tub. Its owner had been repeatedly told "it would die" on the voyage. "Never mind, then; let it die, so long as it dies with me," was her reply, as she fastened it up in a corner of the rude deck on which these poor emigrants were to live for seven long weeks. And so, with a strong breeze and a flowing sheet, we left the harbour together.

The fair wind with which we sailed soon shifted into an adverse quarter, and off the coast of Scotland (for we were going north about), it became a dead *noser*, with all the usual amount of miseries. To a set of poor country folk, what can exceed the miseries of the temporary lower deck of a collier converted into an emigrant ship,—hatches battened down to keep out the washing seas or heavy rain, foul air, sea-sickness? Miseries indeed! The word as understood when applied to felons in gaol, or paupers in a workhouse ashore, conveys no conception of the wretchedness in question.

It was soon found of no use to contend with the violence of the elements; so, when things were at the worst, the captain ordered the helm to be put up, and we made a fair wind of it by running to the south.

As soon as the ship was fairly before the wind, the hatches were unbattened, light and air were admitted, and an attempt was made to get things snug. As a sailor-boy, part of this *pleasing* duty fell to my lot; and well do I remember the thoughts of my comfortable home which were awakened when, amidst the desperate confusion of that lower deck, the old Geranium caught my eye. It had flowers on when it came on board; they had soon fallen off; day by day it sickened and languished; the colour went little by little out of its leaves; then they dropped off altogether, and were succeeded by smaller and feebler ones, till at last all appearance of life had entirely vanished. Still it was kept. It had flourished for years in the cottage-window of its owners, which looked out upon pleasant green fields. That cottage and those fields, now tenanted and tilled by others, still lived in their recollection, and were associated, no doubt, with the plant in question. And so it went with us; crossed the wild dark ocean, accompanied us up the St. Lawrence, and there we parted, for it went ashore with its owners. Yet I saw it once again; for being on shore upon some duty, I went upon Goudie's Wharf, where I found a family group sitting upon their effects preparatory to embarkation up the river in a steam-boat. They were part of our emigrant passengers. And standing by the side of their bedding and boxes was my old acquaintance, the Scarlet Geranium—dead, dead, looking as hopeless and miserable as the unhappy exiles themselves. But if, as I have little doubt, they have long ere this made for themselves a happy and independent home in the western solitudes, it may be hoped that with the Scarlet Geranium they did not lose the last link which bound their affections to their fatherland.

## PICOTEES.

It is now some years since that, by the advice of my medical attendant, and from debilitated health, I exchanged a clerkship in the City for a similar position in one of the midland towns; and as this gave me comparative scope, a long pent-up feeling burst forth, and I speedily became engrossed in the pursuit of floriculture. Carnations and Picotees more especially attracted my notice; and as there is a very general opinion that these flowers require excessive attention, I will briefly state how, consistently with my regular duties—of ten hours' close application,—I contrive to attend to my collection, not large certainly, but embracing 500 pairs, and am enabled to occupy a respectable place amongst my brother cultivators.

It is not my purpose to write an essay on their management, the soil in which they should be grown, or the structures in which they should be wintered. These have been often described, and I can add nothing to the excellent directions of the *Florist*. Light, air, cleanliness, and sweet loam, with old manure and leaf-soil, forming a free but rather *unctuous* compost, are the desideratums for the Carnation and Picotee; and any structure which will give the former, or compost which will realise the latter, will supply all that is required, provided always that *that attention* which is necessary to insure *cleanliness* be not withheld. To shew, then, how I give this attention, and to commence with the present time, November, let me say that my plants are all potted, and in their winter quarters, that is, common two-light *well-glazed* garden-frames. The pots, standing on a stage at a similar inclination with the pitch of the lights, are on sawdust and sand. Abundance of air is given to the plants when it is necessary to protect them from heavy falls of rain by raising the lights on pantile-laths stretched from end to end of the frames, both back and front. A free circulation of air is indeed requisite at all times, except during cutting winds or severe frosts. In this situation I have ready access to them, and at a glance detect any which require the brush or the scissors. These, during the day, when at home for the purpose of refreshment, I remove to the house, and leave in any convenient spot till I return for the evening. And now comes my practice and the secret of my success. The tea-things being removed, and my wife with her maids around her engaged with their sewing or other household duty, I place upon the table my little potting-board (quite clean), and bring forth my treasures. One of our party takes from the side-table "Shakespear" or "Sir Walter Scott;" and whilst delightedly listening to these "men for all time," I carefully examine and remove from my pots every decayed or decaying leaf, or other extraneous and injurious substance. Then brushing them free from dust, I look with delight upon their vigour, and paint in pleased imagination their coming beauty.

Now it is my Alfreds, now Mrs. Normans, then Justice Shallow and Jenny Lind, which absorb my attention; and anon it is Prince of Wales or Mrs. Barnard, Lord Milton or Lorenzo, Ariel or Apollo,







Beauty of Woodhouse or Black Diamond, Premier or Perfection, Prince Albert or Princess Alice, Lady Harewood or Lovely Ann, Dido or Duke of Devonshire, Romeo or Rainbow, Juliet or Jessica, King James or Venus, Gem or Queen Victoria, which passes under review, and as each becomes the object of attention, imagination busily speculates upon its origin, and endeavours to suggest some *cross* which shall surpass their beauty.

And is this not delightful? will Carnation-growers not recognise a pleasure in it? And more, may not others do thus, and, with me, realise the delight their cultivation affords? I anticipate the answer and proceed. A few such evenings, and "lo, the winter is gone,"—the time of the Florist is come.

By the middle of March the weather is usually so open that "potting for bloom" is imperative. The days are not, however (ten hours being subtracted), sufficiently advanced to allow of any considerable portion being potted by daylight. Imagine me, therefore, established in some outhouse or inferior apartment, as this operation is necessarily not so cleanly as the preceding, and here, with my compost at hand, which has been thoroughly sweetened by repeated turning during frosty weather—(a *moonlight* evening affords an admirable opportunity for such operation)—I commit to their blooming quarters the plants which have been the subject of my care thus far. When the lengthening days and genial weather allow of the necessary attention being given out of doors, the bracing air of the morning invites to early rising, and repays me with increased health and strength.

As the season advances, remembering always the necessity of cleanliness, the syringe is freely used; and I know of no sight more beautiful to a Florist than their vigour and *visibly expressed enjoyment*, at early dawn, after such application on the prior evening. At length the bloom bursting forth amply repays for every feeling of anxiety, and creates renewed delight. Then is the triumph of the Florist—my triumph—in the wonder and delight and praise of my many visitors. And beyond all this, there is the gratification which successful exhibition produces, the earnest and careful study for new *crosses*, and the quiet speculation for the future. Oh, could I but describe the delight, could I but paint the pleasure consequent upon the pursuit, how many who now stand afar off would come in to partake of it! To all such I say, with hearty earnestness, "Come, the way is very easy, and we have room to spare."

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## NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,

AND OF NEW PLANTS FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

**PANCRATIUM CARIBÆUM.** A bulbous herbaceous stove-plant, attaining the height of about two feet, having large white fragrant flowers, produced in umbels of from ten to fifteen in each, and each individual flower eight or ten inches long, with narrow petals, a cup-shaped centre, and orange-coloured anthers. Numerous plants of this species have been flowering in the Great Palm-house

during November and December, and being intermixed with the foliage of dwarf Palms have a very striking appearance.

**IBERIS SEMPERFLORENS.** This dwarf evergreen shrubby Candytuft, generally treated as a greenhouse plant, attains the height of two or three feet, with racemes of white flowers, which are in perfection nearly the whole year. It is not very attractive; but if planted out against a wall where it can be a little protected during severe frost, it becomes an ornamental object, and the flowers attain much greater perfection. A plant of this kind, against a west wall, is now (December) literally covered with its snowy flowers.

**ECCREMOCARPUS SCABER.** This evergreen climber has long been introduced to Britain from Chili; it being of a somewhat straggling habit and rapid growth, is admirably adapted for covering trellis-work, pillars, high walls, or other unsightly objects. It has a neat foliage, and racemes of orange-coloured flowers that are to be found in perfection nearly the whole year. A plant of this species was planted near two years ago in a border, and trained against the back wall of the Camellia house, where it closely covers an area of 28 feet by 12, and would cover double that extent if space were allowed. The flowers begin to develop themselves early in spring; and now, in December, the plant is studded over with numerous racemes fully expanded, which being of a rich colour, are valuable amongst other kinds in the formation of "bouquets." By a little summer and winter pruning it is kept within due bounds, presenting a neat lively appearance at all seasons. If planted out during summer, it flourishes and flowers freely, but is destroyed by frost if not protected during winter.

**PHARBITIS LIMBATA.** A half-hardy free-growing climber, well adapted for trellis-work, or a south wall during summer: it is one of the handsomest of the genus. The flowers are large, spreading, and funnel-shaped, of a crimson colour inside the tube, shading into a deep violet, with a broad interrupted pure white border. It is a native of Java, and was imported by Messrs. Rollisson, Tooting. Figured in the *Magazine of Botany*.

**BERTOLONIA MACULATA.** This very handsome little stove-plant belongs to the family of Melastomas. It is the least of all the tribe at present in cultivation, is an evergreen herbaceous plant, attaining the height of but a few inches, having a short decumbent hairy stem; leaves cordately ovate, acute, 5-nerved; the upper surface is of a dark velvety green, beneath of a reddish purple. The inflorescence is a one-sided raceme, with flowers of a rose-colour. This is a new plant, sent out by Messrs. Henderson, of the Wellington Road Nursery, under the name of *Eriocnema æneum*. It is a native of Bahia and Pernambuco in South America.

**OXYSPORA VAGANS.** An evergreen stove-shrub, very showy, belonging to the natural order Melastomaceæ. It grows from three to five feet high, loosely branched, with terminal drooping lax panicles, often a foot long, of pale rose-coloured flowers. It was raised at Kew from seed sent by Dr. Hooker from the hilly country bordering on the plains in the approach to Darjeeling.

**PRIMULA CAFITATA.** A half-hardy evergreen Primrose, rather pretty, approaching in habit our indigenous species, *P. farinosa*: the flowers are of a purple colour, with a yellow centre, and form a compact globose head, similar to many species of *Allium* or *Armeria*. It was raised at Kew from seed transmitted by Dr. Hooker from Lachen, Sikkim-Himalaya, one of the passes into Thibet. These three are figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for December.

**POINCIANA GILLIESII.** This species is decidedly one of the most beautiful of all our half-hardy flowering shrubs. It is an old plant, a native of Mendoza, an arid province of the republic of Chili, and has been introduced many years. It is one of the pea-tribe (*Leguminosæ*), having a neat foliage, and racemes of large yellow-coloured flowers, with very long red stamens. A plant of this species was planted in a border and trained against the front of a hothouse, where it has flowered freely and regularly for many years; the only protection required is a little fern to cover the roots, and a mat-covering over the branches during severe frost.

**VIBURNUM PLICATUM, var. DILATATA.** A deciduous shrub, supposed to be hardy, forming a bush eight or ten feet high when full-grown, and having some resemblance to *V. dentatum*. It blossoms very freely, having numerous heads of snow-ball flowers like the common Gueldres Rose. It is a native of the

northern part of the Chinese empire ; has flowered in the greenhouse of the Horticultural Society, Chiswick.

*EPIDENDRUM LONGIPETALUM*. A rather pretty Orchid, and a very distinct species, having a long straggling panicle of flowers very sweet-scented ; petals of a dull brownish purple and green ; lip white, beautifully marked with straight crimson veins on a yellow ground. It was obtained by the Horticultural Society from Guatemala. These three are figured in Paxton's *Flower-Garden* for December.

*BARBACENIA ROGIERII*. A very handsome flowering dwarf stove-plant, similar to *B. purpurea*. The flowers are much larger, very showy, and of a rich velvety purple, blended with maroon. It was introduced to English collections in the early part of 1850 from the nursery of M. Van Houtte of Ghent ; its native country is tropical America. Figured in the *Magazine of Botany*.

*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.*

J. HOULSTON.

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## REVIEWS.

*A Synopsis of the Coniferous Plants grown in Great Britain*, by Messrs. Knight and Perry, King's Road, Chelsea. Longman.

A NEAT quarto consisting of 64 pages, in which will be found numerous details concerning the genera of Conifers, and the species or varieties included under them, together with a few general remarks on their cultivation. It is furnished with a good index ; and will, we are sure, be highly useful to all lovers of the interesting tribe of plants to which it relates.

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*Hints on the Culture of the Anemone, Double and Single*. By Carey Tyso, Wallingford. London, Jackson and Walford ; or the Author.

A VERY useful little publication, that ought to be in the possession of every one of our readers. The simplicity of its style is not the least of its merits. Though a dealer, Mr. Tyso tacks on no low-priced Catalogue to his little treatise, for which we highly commend him. He tells his readers how to grow the flowers, leaving them to judge for themselves where to purchase. We propose, with the author's permission, to make an extract or two when we are less pressed with matter.

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*The Art-Journal*. London, George Virtue.

HAPPILY it is not within our province to criticise this work, which has regularly reached us during the past year. Although fond of paintings, engravings, and woodcuts, we profess no critical knowledge upon the subject. After this candid acknowledgement, as our praise would be worthless, so we are spared the task of finding fault. We will, however, venture to offer a humble opinion and a mite of advice arising from a real interest in the success of the *Art-Journal*. It ought, in its illustrations, to represent to all the world the state of

British art in every department embraced by the work,—that is our opinion: our advice is,—make it such, regardless of expense, and it will repay its spirited proprietors.

We know some little of the anxieties and trouble attendant upon a publication where artists are so much concerned. We know also how to sympathise with men to whom art should be a pleasure, not a trial; but those halcyon days when it was such (if ever they existed) are gone; and its votaries, with a few exceptions, are now amongst the number of the hardest-worked and worst-paid labourers of these toiling times.

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*The Midland Florist*; conducted by Mr. Wood, of the Coppice,  
Nottingham.

THREEPENCE per month, or free by post for fourpence, and the purchaser has, in the above, an amusing and instructive little work, which may be bound up for a trifle at the end of the year, and will form a book of reference upon floral and gardening subjects. It is not very creditable to Florists of all classes, that it does not contain much more original matter. In our opinion, considering its large circulation, it should be crowded with such communications: that it is not so, cannot be laid to the Editor's charge; the fault lies with his readers.

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#### A PACKET OF SEEDS SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER.

This little work, a portion of which will appear monthly in our pages, was originally published by Chapman and Hall, and has sold very largely. Being nearly out of print, the Superintendent effected an arrangement for its republication in the *Florist*, combined with a portion of the remaining ms. from which the selection was originally made. In doing this, he would offer one word to those who have attributed to him the authorship of the *Packet of Seeds*, and have thence taken occasion to say that he has desired to degrade the character of gardeners in the eyes of their employers. If such is the tendency of the work, it ought to have been conclusive evidence that he was not the writer, as his views on the relation of the employer and employed are pretty well known to gardeners through many of their own number.

MANY talk about the good old times. I remember times sixty years ago, and I can't call them good times; and if what I write is read by young gardeners, I think they'll say with me that *my times*, any how, sixty years ago, were bad times. I shall never forget them till I forget my mother. She was a good poor man's wife; did for him well; fetched him from the public-house on Saturday nights; took out of his pocket what money she could find when she got him home to bed, and made the best of it. Little schooling I got; and what I did get cost nothing, and was worth less; for the master, who was too stupid for sexton and clerk of the parish, and so lost the place, made us all learn by heart what we did not understand with the head more than the hazel-stick that he thrashed us with. But if my schooling cost nothing, I can't say so of my victuals; and my mother dying, my father took more to drinking, and less found its

way to the cupboard; and he was glad when a gardener, who was in our parts on a holiday, and used to drink with him, said he would get me a place under him; which he did, and to which I went near forty miles in a road-wagon. All my clothes went in a handkerchief bundle, and no large one neither; and my father could ill bear to see it, for he said, "Jem," as we went to the wagon,—“Jem,” said he, “take care of drink; ’tis that makes your bundle so small. Promise me that, and never learn to swear.” He was a kind, honest-hearted man, ruined by drink and *good fellowship*, as it was called in the “good old times.”

My heart was very heavy all the way; and none the lighter when I got to my journey’s end, for it was late, and my father’s friend took me into a shed at the back of the greenhouses, and shewed me a crib of a place where he told me I was to sleep; and giving me something to eat, said I must be tired, and had better go to bed. It was a light summer’s evening; and how the birds did sing, after a little rain we had; but how heavy it made my heart to be left in that place all alone! But I said the prayer my mother taught me, and in I got upon the bass mats that made the mattress, with a blanket and coverlid for bed-clothes. My wages was to be five shillings a-week, and find myself; and that was the reason the gardener said why I was to sleep there, because I couldn’t pay for lodgings. I was tired, and soon fell asleep, and forgot all about wages and every thing else. I was safe and sound when a strange face called me in the morning to get up, and then I soon found out all about it. I was to fetch and carry from the garden to the house, sweep paths, and beat mats and carpets, and at spare times learn to dig. And these things I did many a long day; and they that recollect what a growing body and great appetite can do at the bread, let alone the beef, may guess how I felt sometimes on five shillings a-week to find all. Many a time I’ve seen the squire push up the dining-room window and throw the dogs that lay about on the lawn bones that I should have been glad to pick; and many a time I’ve felt queer when he has called out to me, “Hoy! lay down your broom, and come and take these bones off the grass,” which the dogs had done with; and then he’d be stroking them, and saying, “Good dog, good dog;” and they so fat, and I so lean; they so sleek, and I so patchy, I often felt quite mangy among them. But I’d a bold heart—my father was a pensioner for wounds in battle—and carried my head up as well as I could. From the kitchen I got nothing, except a cuff from the cook, which she never did twice, however, for she liked the advantage, which that time she didn’t get. But I managed pretty well, especially in hard weather, when mine and the birds’ appetites were the keenest; for then I caught them, ay and cooked them too; and this was my plan:—I’d pull a lot of sparrows, or maybe some blackbirds and thrushes, and then cut ’em down the back, and fill their bodies full of bread; put them in a tin dish, cover another over them, and put the lot pretty close up to the bars of the stoke-hole on the top of a bank of hot ashes. When done, and it did not take long, there was a supper for my

master, if he had but had my appetite and my teeth, for they made bones of nothing. Two years I had of this dull work; for I'd a proud heart, and did not care to go among the boys in livery that were with the horses, for they were a bad lot: and I've noticed all my life that horses seem to spoil any body that has much to do with them, whether master or man.

[To be continued.]

## OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

Under the above title we intend to give our readers from month to month such general instructions as, we trust, will not only be found useful to them in their floral avocations, but as will also afford them some little assistance in the routine management of their gardens and greenhouses; and in pursuance of our object we will at once begin with

**AURICULAS.** Mild weather sometimes causes them to push up their bloom-stems. It is not advisable to cut them off; if allowed to remain, the greater number will survive the winter, and flower finely at the proper season. Protect from wet; but if the weather is not frosty, allow a free circulation of air during the day. The frames need only be closed when harsh drying easterly and northerly winds prevail. Draw on the lights about three or four o'clock in the afternoon. Give plants that are getting dry a little water; and towards the end of the month water may be given more freely, for the fibres by that time will be moving. Sow seed, the earlier the better. The best soil for it is three parts leaf-mould and one of silver-sand; it should be passed through a fine sieve, for on the first germinating of the seeds, they have not strength enough to penetrate a close soil. Drain well. The pans may be filled one-third of their depth with potsherds broken rather small, then filled up to within one inch of the top with any good sweet compost well shaken down; finishing with the leaf-mould and sand. The surface being levelled and slightly pressed, and the seed being regularly distributed, it should also be pressed into the compost sufficiently to bury it level with the surface, and be thinly covered with leaf-mould and sand, not deeper than the thickness of three sheets of writing-paper. Place the seed-pans in a western or north-western corner of the garden, protected (in a cold frame, or under a hand-glass) from heavy and moderate rains; but keep the soil in a continued moist state, or the seed will not swell. Water with a very fine rose, and at every opportunity allow it to receive light misty showers; or, if such occur, a fall of snow now and then will be still more beneficial.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** Cut off all fogged and decayed foliage, and keep free from insects. Shift all seedlings when the pots are filled with roots, and frequently lift and examine plants of both sorts kept in frames; because without lifting you will not detect any mischief that may be going on at the neck of the plant.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTÉES.** The soil should be frequently turned, and exposed to all weathers, except heavy rain and snow. Give all

the air possible to the plants, and keep them clean and moderately dry.

**CINERARIAS.** Pick off decaying leaves, and keep down insects; give air at every opportunity, so as to keep the leaves as dry as possible; but do not neglect the roots if they want water: on these two points will hinge the future health of the plants.

**COLD FRAMES.** The present is a most trying season for such persons as have to preserve greenhouse and half-hardy plants in cold frames. Frost and damp will require to be guarded against with watchful diligence, especially the latter. It is easy to exclude frost; plenty of clean dry straw with which to cover the glass, and a thickness of 12 or 18 inches of any nonconducting material placed against the sides of the frame, will leave little to fear from the intrusion of the ice-king; but be careful that he does not pay you a visit while you may have neglected these precautions. If a light waterproof cloth be applied to cover the straw, it will be found highly beneficial. Damp will probably prove the most troublesome and destructive agent of the two; this is more effectually guarded against by the constant application of forethought and preventive measures, than by any means which can be applied after the enemy has fairly got possession; and unless the most rigid attention has been paid hitherto to such means, the number of deaths will probably be great. Never water any plant which does not absolutely require it; water early in the morning; and never allow this element to fall upon any plant or part of the interior of your frame which does not need it: very little water will be sufficient until the sun acquires strength. Let no favourable opportunity for giving air escape; and give it as liberally as possible. Remove all decaying leaves the moment they make their appearance.

**EPACRISSES.** The flower-buds will ripen and expand more freely in a temperature of 45° or 50° than in a lower one; but they will nevertheless succeed very well with less heat. Water sparingly; and when air is required for a short time in the middle of a sunny day, give it from the roof. Have fuel, to light a fire before going to bed, should the thermometer be approaching freezing.

**ERICAS.** Keep the temperature low, and give air on all fitting occasions, but avoid the freezing-point; every day will increase the risk of injury to flowering growth by exposure to a temperature below 32°. In wet and close weather the fire should be lighted in the morning, to dry the plants and floor of the house, taking care not to raise the temperature: dry low temperature and free circulation are the greatest enemies to mildew, to which the Heath is subject.

**EVERGREENS.** Reminiscences of Christmas festivities, and associations of fireside comfort, are of old connected with cheerful British Evergreens; and of all others the present is the season in which we most admire their rich masses. Owing, however, to their not being so pleasing at other seasons of the year as many of our deciduous shrubs and trees, particularly such as produce blossoms, they are not introduced into gardens generally so liberally as they deserve to be; and without attempting to detract from the beauty of

our deciduous flowering trees and shrubs, we should suggest that the latter are frequently planted too largely by amateurs, to the all but entire exclusion of Evergreens; and were many to set about planting an abundance of the latter in appropriate situations, they would add greatly both to the beauty and interest of their gardens. What have we at the present season, even in the most extensive and best-kept grounds, that can be compared with a well-arranged and luxuriant group of Evergreens? A mass comprising the following plants in the following order might be introduced into many gardens with good effect. Let the back consist of Evergreen Oaks (*Quercus Ilex*); flanking these let there be some fine examples of Phillyrea, which might be succeeded by bushes of Arbutus or Strawberry Tree, whose tempting and not unwholesome fruit renders it highly interesting during the autumn. In front we would have a quantity of Laurestinus, with here and there a few deciduous flowering shrubs; between them, the Arbutuses; Laurestinus and the latter being planted alternately with *Pyrus japonica*. Such an arrangement offers many attractions; but we would not recommend its introduction in situations where the plants would not have space to obtain their natural size, or develop their massive forms. We have, however, seen few places in which such plants might not with propriety be made to supersede more common things. But there is another tribe of Evergreens, which, in their way, are perfect gems, and which are seldom found to grace the amateur's garden. We mean, the varieties of coniferous plants which grow in a pyramidal form, and which, from the small dimensions which many of them attain, are remarkably well fitted for planting in little places. And when so arranged as to be seen to good advantage, they never fail to please. To beginners, *The Synopsis of Coniferous Plants*, lately published by Messrs. Knight and Perry, will be found a useful guide both as to culture and selections of sorts; and the Horticultural Society has also given in its *Journal* a capital list, with synonymes; a thing which we all stood much in need of.

**FLOWER-GARDEN.** At this season few floral attractions remain in the open garden; hence much necessity exists for having every spot in the neatest possible order. Collect fallen leaves, and store them in some back corner, where they can remain until they become decayed, when they will be found invaluable for many purposes. Sweep walks, divest them of weeds, and keep them hard and smooth by frequent rollings. Grass will be benefited by occasional sweepings and rollings; without such attentions it will neither look well at present, nor be easily put into proper order in spring. Avoid such work, however, in frosty weather, or the evil will be augmented by breaking the grass, and giving the whole the appearance of having been burnt. Flower-beds, or portions of them not occupied by plants, should be dug up roughly, in order to expose the surface as much as possible to the influence of frost; and it is of importance that they be dug deep. Two feet is a very proper depth; and if this be secured in a soil moderately good, very little manure will be necessary. We have only twice applied slight dressings of thoroughly



decomposed leaf-soil to the ground used for bedding plants during these last seven years; but it has been dug two feet deep every other year; and nothing could have been more satisfactory than the result has been. The application of manure in such cases tends to the production of gross luxuriant growth, which is invariably followed by a poor display of flowers. If, however, the beds be in such a condition as to require some fertilising substance, use decayed leaves, &c., and thoroughly incorporate them with the whole depth of soil. In herbaceous or shrub borders, where it is inconsistent with the well-being of the constant occupants to dig deeply, an annual dressing of leaf-soil will prove highly beneficial.

**FUCISIAS.** Those first put to rest should be the ones selected for forcing into early flower. These may now be potted, cutting back their roots pretty hard, and using a small-sized pot, to be shifted on into larger ones as the roots find their way to the outside of the ball; spur them back, confining any branch that may not seem disposed to take the direction you would wish; place them in a temperature of  $50^{\circ}$  by day, dropping to any point short of freezing by night. Seed should be sown this month in a similar heat. Of seedlings that did not flower last year, strike a cutting or two from each, destroying the old plant; by this means much room is saved; for a plant obtained in this manner will bloom earlier, and in a much smaller pot, than the parent would have done.

**GREENHOUSES.** In these fire-heat can generally be applied to warm and dry the atmosphere; but do not use it over liberally. For the majority of plants usually grown by amateurs a temperature from  $35^{\circ}$  to  $40^{\circ}$  will be found more conducive to health than if a higher temperature were maintained. Water must be carefully applied; for although a small supply will be sufficient, this is often so administered as to drown some plants, while others are perished through the opposite extreme. Whenever it is necessary to water, give sufficient to moisten the whole ball of soil. It will be necessary here, as in the case of frames, to keep a watchful eye upon damp. A little fire-heat applied when air can be given will, with proper attention to removing decaying leaves, prevent all danger from this enemy.

**PANSIES.** Very little attention will suffice this month. Prepare the soil, and keep it dry for repotting those intended for blooming under glass; which operation should be performed about the 1st of February, if the weather prove mild. Seedlings should be looked over twice a week, pressing those firmly in the soil that have been loosened by worms. Give but little water to those in pots; should severe frosts occur, the plants in the open ground will require some protection.

**PELARGONIUMS.** The plants which have not been stopped back since heading down will now require a little attention, to spread out their branches, that air and sun may be freely admitted. The way in which this is done is as follows: tie a piece of twisted bast round the outside of the pot just under the rim, and then fasten down each branch to it at proper distances apart. This is at the first going over them. At the second time, when the shoots are too long

to draw down in this way, lay some sticks across the top of the pots, securing them to the bast under the rim. By these attentions the plant soon attains its required form, and the young shoots in the middle of the plant, where they were crowded before, have that light and air admitted to them which is so essential for their health and vigour. Where sticks are required in training these young shoots, carefully avoid pushing them amongst the roots. Get soil ready for shifting, and put it into the house, that it may acquire a similar temperature before beginning the operation, which you may do any time towards the latter end of the month. Look over seedlings frequently; pick off fogged leaves; water only when absolutely required; turn the plants round occasionally, and break up all variegated-leaved ones, and those that throw blind shoots, or have cankered stems.

**POLYANTHUSES.** These plants may be kept moderately moist if under pot-culture, but in other respects they should be treated as Auriculas. Those grown in borders should be looked to; see that the stems of the plants are not exposed, and if so, earth them well up to the foliage before frost sets in.

**PINKS** do not suffer much from still frost, strong cold winds are far more injurious; any protection that can be given to break this force will be attended with advantage—such as branches of fern placed on the northern and eastern side of the beds, or between the rows.

**RANUNCULUSES.** If the beds are not ready, lose no time in the preparation of them. If the soil of the garden be not good loam, or somewhat retentive in quality, such must be procured. It ought not to be used fresh from a pasture, but laid up in a ridge, turned over, and reduced by exposure to air and frost till brought to a uniform texture. Old manure must be added, mixing it well with the loam. Make the beds two spits deep, and fill up with compost to about the level of the paths. As much of future success depends on making up the beds well, the attention of the Florist is urged to this particular. Do not spare a little trouble or expense in beginning well.

**ROSES IN BORDERS.** Prune at two different times, the hardy varieties immediately, and the more tender ones in February. Protect the latter from frost by fastening about their heads fern or spruce and yew boughs; but not so thickly as to prevent some little circulation of air. Those plants in pots which were cut down early will be starting their eyes, and the little Rose-maggot will soon be found busily at work. Look sharp after it, not once, but frequently, or it will soon destroy the blooming-buds. Keep green-fly down by fumigating on their first appearance.

**TULIPS.** Mild weather sometimes causes the green-spike to appear above ground earlier than is desirable; when this is the case, they must be protected from frost by double mats on low hoops, or by wrapping them up in straw or felting; but all these must be removed in mild weather.





Cattleya Pinellii

## HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

It may be taken as a rule, that wherever societies of this kind flourish, there the best gardening, in all its branches, will be found. When from mismanagement, or want of efficient support, they languish or decay, there the growing of fine fruits, flowers, and vegetables, is proportionately neglected. These things are really worth the attention of the wealthy and influential classes, who ought to take the lead in promoting and liberally supporting these institutions in their respective neighbourhoods. Experience has taught us that the one great difficulty is the work of collecting the subscriptions. This too often lies very heavily upon one or two individuals; and where the society embraces a wide district, it is found a serious task. Members, instead of making it a point of honour to keep their subscriptions duly paid, are often very negligent in this respect. Therefore, we strongly recommend the employment of a paid collector, who should also act as secretary. He should be a person of some address and tact, and prepared to advocate the advantages of the institution he represents. We part with our money, even for taxes, with less repugnance (more pleasure we dare not say) to a pleasant good-natured collector of her Majesty's revenue, than to an ill-skinned surly fellow, who seems to enjoy the reluctance with which we draw forth the needful to satisfy his ever-recurring demands. Such an officer as we recommend acts as a very fertiliser to the subscription and prize-list, as no doubt many of our readers can bear witness.

“Owe no man aught but love,” is a good text for horticultural societies to adopt as their motto. We are great advocates for keeping the expenditure always within the income. Nothing is more discouraging than to find balances in favour of treasurers, instead of in favour of the societies; there is no pleasure in reading reports where these deficiencies figure, whereas there is a natural pride in being connected with a body possessed of funds to pay all claims on demand, and to leave a good balance in hand afterwards. We know what can be advanced on the other side of the question; but societies, like individuals, should learn to be just before they are generous; and though at first their progress may be slow, the result will be perfect success in the course of time. More; if a portion of the income, however small, was annually reserved to form a capital, and was properly invested; by the aid of *donations* of liberal individuals, a sum would soon accumulate sufficient to make a society thus managed partially

independent of its annual and fluctuating subscriptions, and eventually a permanent institution, with an income derived from property alone sufficient to maintain its efficiency. Had this plan been adopted with the Horticultural Society of London and the Royal Botanic Society, neither of them would now be struggling against debts, which, though in course of liquidation, are still heavily pressing on their resources. It is true their development would have been delayed, and the impetus they have given to horticultural and botanical science would have been less than it has been; still we are not sure that there would have been much loss in this respect.

But it is matter for honest congratulation that our country supports so many flourishing societies, to which in a great measure we owe the almost universal taste for gardening which prevails in the United Kingdom; and a case in point, shewing how a neighbourhood may become eminently floricultural through their means, lies before us in the Highbury and North-London Horticultural Society, which, although only established in 1850, numbers nearly two hundred members, comprising the *élite* of the neighbourhood, and expects to double them in the present year. It has distributed 225*l.* 19*s.* in prizes at its first two exhibitions; it has promoted the erection of a considerable number of new greenhouses, and more are in contemplation; and it has had placed at the disposal of its committee the grounds in the rear of Highbury Crescent for the purpose of holding *three* large exhibitions in 1851, to follow the days of the Royal Botanic *fêtes*. What a contrast does this present to some localities we could name, where there is neither taste nor money lacking, but a sad want of energy and public spirit upon the question!

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#### SELECT ROSES.

My friend Mr. Rivers has done good service to the cause of Floriculture by his pithy article on Roses, which appeared in No. xxxvi. of your last year's volume. It is high time that amateurs should understand the value of *selections* over *collections*. At least one half the number propagated for sale by our eminent cultivators might be dispensed with forthwith, and the remaining half considerably reduced, without disadvantage. An enthusiastic admirer of this, the "queen of flowers," I have for some years past devoted the little leisure time at my disposal to its cultivation; but I am satisfied that, in common with most amateurs, I have crowded my garden with too many *so-called varieties*.

My object in troubling you on the present occasion is, that I may be enabled, through the medium of your pages, to assist such of

your readers as may be desirous to possess *a few of the very best Roses*, in making a selection at a trifling expense. With this view I subjoin a list of fifty of the finest Roses in cultivation, comprising individuals of each family, free bloomers, constant, and ("O word of fear!") *distinct*.

The taste of the present day inclines strongly to the autumnal-blooming Roses, and with good reason, for they are "beautiful exceedingly." But let us not too hastily discard their more evanescent sisters; for though the period of their splendour is brief, it is to our Summer Roses we must look for that *profusion* of bloom which, in mid-summer, makes our gardens one blaze of beauty.

The following list comprises an equal number of each division:

## PROVENCE AND THEIR HYBRIDS.

Blush }  
 Celina } Moss.  
 Cristata }  
 Madame l'Abbey.  
 Princesse Clementine.  
 Rose Devigne.

## GALLICA.

Boule de Nanteuil.  
 D'Aguesseau.  
 Kean.  
 Sanchette.

## HYBRID CHINA.

Blairii, No. 2.  
 Chénédolle.  
 Brennus.  
 Double-margined Hip.

## HYBRID BOURBON.

Charles Duval.  
 Coupe d'Hébé.  
 Paul Perras.  
 Paul Ricaut.

## ALBA.

Madame Audot.  
 Madame Legras.

## DAMASK.

La Ville de Bruxelles.  
 Madame Zoutmann.

## AUSTRIAN BRIER.

Persian Yellow.

## CLIMBING.

Crimson Boursault.  
 Félicité Perpétué.

## HYBRID PERPETUAL.

Baronne Prevost.  
 Duchess of Sutherland.  
 Géant des Batailles.  
 Jacques Lafitte.  
 La Reine.  
 Madame Aimée.  
 Madame Laffay.  
 Mrs. Elliott.  
 Robin Hood.  
 William Jesse.

## BOURBON.

Acidalie.  
 Bouquet de Flore.  
 Dupetit Thouars.  
 George Cuvier.  
 Henri Lecoq.  
 Menoux.  
 Souchet.  
 Souvenir de la Malmaison.

## CHINA.

Clara Sylvain.  
 Cramoisié supérieure.

## TEA-SCENTED CHINA.

Devoniensis.  
 Eugène Desgaches.

## NOISETTE.

Cloth of Gold.  
 Lamarque.  
 Solfaterre.

The above are really first-rate Roses, and are perfectly hardy, with the exception of the five last enumerated. These, if planted against a south or west wall, will do well without further protection. I have said they are all *free-blooming* varieties: perhaps Cloth of Gold should be excepted. For some time I could do nothing with this Rose; but four years ago I budded it on one of the lower shoots

of an immense Crimson Boursault, which covers a somewhat unsightly building. It bloomed the year it was worked, and has never since failed to yield a moderate quantity of flowers—and such flowers! I would not discard it if it only gladdened my eyes with one of its magnificent blooms in the space of ten years.

A. S. H.

### HINTS TO FLORISTS.

AMONG the popular themes of the day we find “what to eat, what to drink, and what to avoid.” So in floriculture, “what to grow” has been ably given from your “Note-Book;” will you allow me to direct attention to “what to avoid?” I will commence with Carnations and Picotees, flowers which I have cultivated and exhibited for the past ten years, and of which goodly lists are given in your last Number.

It is not sufficient that a variety shall possess one or two good qualities, as a fine white, bright well-defined colour or colours, a smooth edge, a good-shaped petal, and a sufficiency of them, colour solid on the edge, a good pod, fine habit, and a good grower: these must be combined in a desirable variety; and to cultivate others is but to increase difficulties, which at all times are numerous enough in the path of an exhibitor.

Discard then, or avoid, in *Scarlet Bizarres*, Brilliant, Don John, Harlequin, Isonia, Juba, Omnium Primus, Prince of Wales, True Briton (Lodge's), Whipper-in;—*Crimson Bizarres*, Duke of Roxburgh, Edgar, Hugo Meynell, Nulli Secundus, William Caxton;—*Pink Bizarre*, Princess Royal;—*Purple Flakes*, Bonny Bess, Duke of Wellington, First-Rate, John Wright, Lady Dacre, Miss Thornton, Mango, President (both Martin's and Puxley's), Prince de Nassau, Solander;—*Scarlet Flakes*, Hannibal, Lephare, Mary Ann, North Midland, Pyreanthus;—*Rose Flakes*, Apollo, Fairy Queen, Lancashire Witch, Marquis of Westminster, Oberon, Rosetta, Sylvius.

*Purple Picotees*, Augusta, Bendigo, Brunette, Coronation, Fairy Queen, Favourite, Field Marshal, Helen, Jenny Lind, Miss Duke, Mrs. Fenton, Mrs. Lilley, Norwich Rival, Nottingham Hero, Nulli Secundus, Prince Royal, Queen Victoria, Sylph, Sarah, Wedding Dress;—*Red Picotees*, Antagonist, Countess de Grey, Criterion, Isabella (Tolworthy), Maid of Honour, Mrs. Meynell, Northampton Bride, Queen of England, Richard Cobden, Sir R. Sale, Sir W. Middleton, Unique (Hudson), Ditto (Barringer), Yorkshire Hero;—*Rose Picotees*, Miss Osborne, Mrs. Trahar, Proconsul.

Even with this wholesale annihilation, I find myself “nursing in pots,” in Carnations, S. B., 25 varieties, 160 pairs; C. B., 15 varieties, 70 pairs; P. B., 9 varieties, 60 pairs; P. F., 15 varieties, 100 pairs; S. F., 12 varieties, 80 pairs; R. F., 10 varieties, 70 pairs. Purple Picotees, 30 varieties, 250 pairs; Red P., 20 varieties, 180 pairs; and Rose P., 20 varieties, 150 pairs; total, 156 varieties, in 1120 pairs; and yet I pride myself on growing a *selec-*



tion, and heartily abominate a *collection*. 1851 will have its duty to perform, for there are many on *one trial more*. As with Roses, Orchids, Ericas, vegetables, fruits, so it is with Pinks, Pansies, Picotees, Carnations, Tulips, Dahlias, &c.; and with permission, I propose to supply lists "to avoid," following in order, as you furnish your ever-valuable and acceptable information from "Our Note-Book."

If other growers would but favour us with "what to avoid," stating the locality from whence they write, a short season would suffice to clear the trade-catalogues of many treacherous varieties.

*Wace Cottage, Holloway.*

J. EDWARDS.

### REMINISCENCES.

THERE is no tribe of plants which has been so overlooked and neglected as the smaller species of Cacti, viz. the Echinocacti and Mammillariæ (at one time included under the common name of Melo-cacti). There is but one establishment in or near London where there is a collection kept,—that is at Messrs. Lee of Hammersmith; their collection is a good one, though not embracing one-third of the varieties known. As to amateurs, there are not, I believe, a dozen collections of these plants in England; I mean, any thing approaching to a full assortment. This *can* only be accounted for by the generality of amateurs not knowing any thing about them. No plant requires less care in growing, and it will grow any where, if the place be *light, warm, and dry*; a sitting-room window, especially if the plants have the protection of a glazed case, to keep them clean, will do very well; indeed, so fine and delicate and pure in colour are the down and wool and silky hair of many of the more rare sorts, that such protection would be indispensable. My object in now writing is, to make known to, and to intercede with amateurs, forthwith to commence the growing of this most interesting and most wonderful tribe. No plants are so calculated for the drawing-room window-garden, and for the delicate care of our fair friends.

I know but of one family of plants that equals or surpasses them in variety or interest, viz. the Orchidaceæ; indeed, the interest and pleasure afforded by the cultivation of each of these tribes is closely akin; and I am slow to admit that, in endless variety, wonderful configuration, singularity, and beauty, these species of Cacti can be surpassed. Nay, so extraordinary, and in many cases so beautiful, are the plants themselves, that many are content to rest their admiration here, and to choose a variety solely for the form and beauty of the plant, not even caring to inquire about its inflorescence; though in some instances this is so remarkable an attribute, that a single flower nearly equals in size, and frequently exceeds in length or height, the whole plant.

In Mammillariæ the flowers are comparatively small, yet always

pretty, and generally numerous, and of longer duration; while in Echinocacti they are for the most part large, and often of singular beauty both in form and colour; and as every thing is extraordinary in this curious tribe, so do we see in some plants the flowers protruding from their surface without stalk or stem, as if they had accidentally fallen thereon; while in other instances the flower-stalk or tube exceeds the height of the whole plant, and exhibits every variety and combination of colour,—white, yellow, green, primrose, scarlet, crimson, &c. &c. But as a friend of mine, looking at my collection, lately remarked, “they are *always* in flower; the whole plant is so attractive, and what is more, it is always so throughout the year.” Those who have seen but a few trifling things in Covent Garden, or the common kinds for sale in Wardian cases, may suppose this to be but hobbyhorsical language; could they, however, but see an amateur’s *selection* of a few hundred varieties, so arranged as to present every variety of contrast, in the form of the plants, the size, form, and colour, now of spines, now of wool, now of hair, and now the strange and singular admixtures of all of these, they would not be disposed to question my friend’s declaration. As Sir W. Hooker has observed, no account or verbal description can convey an adequate idea of this wonderful tribe,—they must be seen, or we must resort to drawings.

I may give an account of their cultivation and a list of the finest varieties, &c. in a future Number. In urging the readers of the *Florist* to taste a new pleasure (truly a new one), in the cultivation of this tribe of Cacti, I should in fairness give the caution, that no one should do so who is not prepared to ride hobbyhorsically; for there is such fascination in their endless variety, “alike, but yet how different!” such a multiplicity of rare, singular, yet beautiful forms, that the desire of adding a new feature to the collection is constantly recurring; and as there are frequent difficulties in obtaining some of the rarer sorts, so are desire and anticipation constantly on the alert, and the pleasant hobbyhorse kept going at a gentle pace.

*Hull.*

F. R. HORNER, M.D.

[The collection of Cacti at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is a very good one; and among amateurs may be mentioned that of Charles Palmer, Esq., of Shacklewell. This gentleman is one of the oldest collectors of this extraordinary tribe; and although there are still many splendid collections on the continent, many have been much reduced, and others discontinued altogether within these ten years. Mr. Palmer has availed himself of these opportunities of enriching his collection, which is now considered to be one of the most complete in existence.]

## NEW FLOWERS IN THE NORTH.

THE last season has not been very productive of novelties in the northern counties, at least of varieties that manifest any marked improvement on older kinds. Many raisers of seedlings appear reluctant to exhibit their productions, and consequently flowers are often sent out that have never been heard of before, and with nothing but the raisers' descriptions to recommend them. No doubt in many cases these may be honest; but the known partiality which raisers naturally have for their own flowers too often leads them to *overrate* them, and the purchaser is doomed to disappointment. Amateurs are therefore cautious in purchasing new varieties until their merits have been tested; the best test being, in my opinion, seedling exhibitions.

Those who have been in the habit of visiting collections of seedlings are well aware of the above-named partiality, and the surprise manifested when the visitor is not able to echo the raiser's laudatory sentiments is sometimes amusing. Some will admit the possibility of their opinion being rather partial, but still stoutly contend for the superiority of their own flowers, by expatiating largely on their good properties, all the while appearing quite ignorant of their defects. The fact is, seedling raisers become so accustomed to look for good qualities in their productions, that they are sometimes quite blind to glaring imperfections, which are immediately detected by the *disinterested* connoisseur. It would be pardonable in a nurseryman giving a flattering description of his flowers, were it not for the many facilities which are now afforded for having their character fairly proved before they are sent out.

Amongst Auriculas, Mr. George Lightbody of Falkirk has two or three fine things, and particularly a seedling green-edged variety named *Sir John Moore*. It is a fine flower; the colours are good and well proportioned; size large, and outline circular; and whether from the side or centre the pip is invariably correct. Apparently it is an excellent trusser. *Beeston's Apollo*, another of Mr. Lightbody's, is well spoken of.

Mr. John Harrison of Darlington has a few seedling Pansies very promising, among which is a light-ground variety in the style of *Mrs. Beck*; a large circular flower, dense eye, and clear of the belting. Not named when exhibited. Also a very beautiful yellow Dahlia named *Harrison's George Elwin*. As a yellow self this is a very desirable variety; shape good, and well up in the eye. It obtained the premier prize at the Darlington Dahlia Show, and an extra prize at Whitby.

Mr. William Frankland of Whitby has a number of seedling Pansies of excellent properties, several of which were favourably noticed last season by the *Florist* and *Gardener's Hive*. As these flowers are intended to be exhibited in the spring, I shall not at present particularise them.

Mr. James Neilson of Falkirk is sending out three seedling Pan-

sies which have been well reported upon, and one of which, *Jerome*, was awarded a first-class certificate by the Scottish Pansy Society.

Mr. W. Willison of Whitby has raised a semi-double *Potentilla* of very beautiful colours. It was exhibited at Worton Cottage last season, and reported as "well worthy of cultivation." It is a seedling from *M'Nabiana*, crossed with a semi-double flower.

Mr. John Willison has a seedling *Cactus*, the most brilliant of this gay family. Dr. Lindley says it is "a brilliant scarlet *Cactus*, with firm broad round petals. A great improvement in shape upon older kinds."

It is to be hoped the forthcoming season will prove more prolific in good things than the last.

*Whitby.*

M. WOODHOUSE.

## NOTES FROM THE LOG-BOOK OF AN ERRATIC MAN.

### No. II.

#### THE LOVES OF AN OLD SAILOR.

(A PAPER FOR ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.)

DAVY was a Welshman, and a seaman of the old school; he had fought with Nelson at Copenhagen, and with "Neddy" Pelew at Algiers; had an unutterable contempt for coasters, though he had spent all his time in them since he came out of a man-of-war; called all the boys in our brig a set of haw-bucks; and if he said little of the wound he had received in action, it was from no modesty in any sense of the word, but simply because it was in a part not considered the most honourable, though perhaps better adapted in many respects to receive a ball than any other. Well, Davy was growing old and tired of the sea, and had conceived a violent affection for a couple of widows, both washerwomen, one of whose mangles he thought he could turn, or whose barrow he could wheel, instead of going to sea in the winter; whilst a trip or two in the summer would help the exchequer, and bring him back fresh, as he called it, to his married life: the difficulty lay in making a choice, since he could not marry both, and married he determined to be.

One of our boys (an old one to be sure, for he had not come to sea till he was above twenty,) was entrusted by Davy to carry on the correspondence between the widows, one living in Wales, the other in London; and he could not have chosen a greater monkey of an amanuensis, for Jem was as full of mischief as a soldier's jacket is of pipeclay—the least touch set it flying in all directions. Davy's instructions were, to keep both the widows in tow, because, as he said, he could easily cast off either when he had made up his mind. In my chest I carried a small folding-desk, containing all the necessary materials; and with this upon his knees, Jem used to write the most inflammatory epistles, while old Davy sat by his side rolling his quid about, ejecting the tobacco-juice, and nodding his approval of what was read, which was a deal less ardent, if the truth be told,

than Jem had written. The answers, of course, passed through the same channel, and Davy prided himself no little upon the conquest he had made in both cases, little dreaming how much his agent was committing him to marriage, and a hundred things of the tender devotional kind, when the stars which ruled the old sailor's destiny should grant him a happy meeting with them again.

But the brig went to London, and there the die was cast in favour of the Dutchman's widow, for such was the one residing in Wapping. It seems he had left a chest of capital clothes behind him, which required no alteration to fit the person of old Davy, who was willingly adopted by the bereaved one to supply the vacant place in her affections. The rigging turned the scale; and a day's liberty on shore ended in the old tar's returning on board a married man, and—O shame to a seaman!—wearing a pair of short black gaiters, which soon caught the eye of the boys, and elicited the malicious inquiry if they were the “dead Dutchman's?” to Davy's violent wrath and indignation. However, the marriage wore well whilst we remained in London; and being summer-time Davy went with us to the westward, and, as luck would have it, afterwards to Wales, to the very port where the deceived one was only too happy to have the opportunity of upbraiding him; for both the widows being Welshwomen and from the same place, his infidelity had soon reached her ears.

Having no cargo on board, we did not haul into the quay, but lay at anchor at some distance from it. The hands were idling about the decks—for there was little to do—when a boat was seen coming off to the brig. Of course all eyes, for want of something to look at, were turned upon her; a man rowed, and a woman sat in the stern. As she approached the vessel, old Davy was seen to leave the deck, and quietly take his way up the fore-rigging, where he folded his arms, and leaned upon the top-rail, casting his eyes below. By that time the boat was alongside, and with very little help the lady found her way upon deck, and inquired for him. He was pointed out to her, quite out of harm's way as regarded her talons, but not of her tongue, for she let that loose in a most marvellous torrent of Welsh gutturals, which Davy received without answering a word, patiently waiting for the squall to blow over. At last he replied in a gentle tone, apparently to appease her wrath, but it was only to rekindle it and to divert it from himself upon Jem, on whose luckless head Davy had laid all the blame, asserting his ignorance of what had been written, from his being no scholar. However, the old adage proved good in this case, for between the two stools she fell to the ground, and returned ashore protesting that she did not value the loss of him a cockle, and only lamenting that she had wasted the mittens and sundry other articles of woollen comfort which she had made to keep his old bones warm.

How long his married life lasted and how it wore, I am unable to tell; for shortly afterwards I left the brig, and saw him no more for years, when we accidentally met by the side of the City Canal in London. I offered to obtain him a berth well suited to his age and his experience as a first-rate seaman, in the East-India ship I

belonged to ; but he shrunk, I suppose, from being under the control of one he had domineered over in former days. He did not keep his appointment to meet me in the dry dock where my ship lay repairing, and I have never met with him since.

### CAMELLIA SEED.

THE first indication of seed being set is the flower being thrust off, as it were, by an enlargement of the seed-vessel, which, if healthy, is of a deep green colour, round and glossy. It swells rather rapidly till it has attained the size of a small crab-apple. As the seed approaches maturity, which is generally in five or six months, it assumes a dull red colour, and ultimately partially divides in two equal parts ; this indicates ripeness in the seed and time of gathering. When the case or shell is separated at the time of planting, which should be in February, one, two, three, or more cells will be found, each containing a seed of an egg shape, and about the size of a small horse-bean. Sometimes as many as eight or ten cells will exist, in which case the seed is usually compressed a good deal, and forced into all sorts of indescribable forms. This, however, will not affect its vitality.

Plant each seed separately in a thum-pot about one inch deep in a light open loamy soil ; cover with a suitable glass, and shade from the direct rays of the sun. A moderate bottom-heat will facilitate germination, which, under favourable circumstances, will take place in about eight or ten weeks. The plants may then be gradually exposed, and shifted into larger pots as soon as the roots appear.

*Whitehill, Newton Abbott.*

W. H. STORRY.

### PANSIES IN POTS.

THE time has now arrived for shifting the plants into the pots they are intended to bloom in ; and as the Horticultural Society has offered prizes for the best twelve in 8-inch pots, no doubt more than usual interest will be taken in the Pansy this spring : the 3d of May will soon be here, and there is no time to be lost.

Growing them in pots is also by far the best method for obtaining early bloom, if cut flowers only are required ; in this case, pots one size less will be sufficient to grow them in, and the pit or frame will hold more plants,—no small advantage.

Those that intend exhibiting plants must be careful in potting, as from the large size of the pots, more drainage will be required, combined with rather light and fibrous soil. They should not be pressed very hard when potting ; and another important point will be to select plants that have at least five leading shoots, if more, the better, provided they are tolerably equal in length, as the small shoots usually growing in the centre of the plant will not flower in

time, and should be cut away. There is some difference of opinion respecting the effect that Pansies will produce when thus shewn; my belief is that they will look exceedingly well; but I do not see the reason why cut blooms should not be shewn also. Twenty-four finely grown and well-arranged varieties form a beautiful and interesting object; and the great number of admirers usually seen crowding round them at the exhibitions proves this in a very satisfactory manner.

*Royal Nursery, Slough.*

CHARLES TURNER.

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NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,  
AND OF NEW PLANTS FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

AMONGST the herbaceous plants that bloom during the winter months are the various kinds of Hellebore, commonly known under the name of Christmas Roses, on account of their flowers being developed about that period. They are hardy, evergreen, dwarf in habit, and well adapted for beds or borders; some of them have very showy flowers, which remain for a considerable time in perfection. The following are a few of the best, and are well worth cultivation. If planted in light soil and in a somewhat sheltered situation, they produce abundance of large showy blossoms in the dreary months of the year.

**HELLEBORUS OLYMPICUS.** This species grows about a foot high, with five or seven serrated radical leaves on the apex of a footstalk. The flowers are two inches and a half in diameter, of a light pink, and are terminal, on an erect branching leafy stem. It is a native of India.

**H. NIGER.** This is a native of Austria, and is generally well known; it has smooth serrated shining radical leaves, and large whitish flowers two inches and a half in diameter, one or two being placed on an erect scape, which grows about six inches high.

**H. RUBESCENS.** A very pretty species, having smooth serrated radical leaves, and purplish red flowers which are terminal, on an erect branching stem, about a foot high.

**H. ATORRUBENS.** Grows about a foot high, is very showy, and has serrated radical leaves, with terminal flowers two inches and a half in diameter, of a dark red colour, on an erect branching stem.

**H. VIRIDIS.** An ornamental species found in Germany, Italy, France, and England. It grows a foot and a half high, and has green terminal flowers on a branching stem.

**CHIMONANTHUS FRAGRANS.** This beautiful hardy Japanese shrub is one of the earliest flowering kinds we possess. It is nearly allied to the Calycanthus, or American Alspice. When trained against a wall, it has a charming effect at this season. The flowers are produced copiously along the branches without leaves, they are of a yellow and brown colour, and have a delicious fragrance. This is an old plant, but it is one that merits extensive cultivation.

**GLADIOLUS NATALENSIS, var. ROSEO-PURPUREUS.** Few bulbous or tuberous plants so amply reward the cultivator, with abundance of showy flowers as the Corn-flag. Many of them are extremely beautiful; and when planted in beds or borders of light soil, they produce a profusion of richly coloured flowers towards the end of summer. The present variety has flowers about three inches in diameter, of a deep rose-red marked with deeper purple-red. *Oldfordiensis* is another beautiful variety. The flowers are about three inches in diameter, of a delicate salmony flesh-colour marked with purple, and they are arranged in a dense spike near eighteen inches long. Both these varieties were raised by Mr. Cole, gardener to J. Willmore, Esq., of Oldford. Figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for December.

**ODONTOGLOSSUM CITROSUMMUM.** One of the most showy of the genus, and the

most lovely of all Mexican Orchids. The flowers are large, lemon-scented, produced on a pendulous raceme, from one to two feet long; the sepals and petals are white tinged with lilac, and the labellum is yellow, with lilac or rose-colour. Figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for December.

*ONCIDIUM VARIEGATUM*. A very pretty dwarf Orchid, having an erect panicle a foot and a half high of flat pink flowers richly stained with crimson. It is a native of the West Indies, and was first introduced by Sir C. Lemon from the Havannah. *Paxton's Flower-Garden* for January.

*DIDYMOCARPUS CRINITA*. An interesting evergreen stove herb, growing only a few inches high, having an erect stem, and leaves of a dark coppery green, with a velvety lustre, and purplish red beneath. Various species of dwarf plants are in cultivation that are exceedingly beautiful in foliage, but the flowers are generally of an insignificant description and void of beauty. In the present species they are white. It is a native of Pulo-Penang and Singapore.

*HYDROMESTIS MACULATUS*. A soft-wooded evergreen stove under-shrub, rather showy, belonging to Acanthads. It is a free-flowering plant in a young state, but like the generality of the order, soon becomes naked at the bottom, unless kept cut back. The flowers are of a bright yellow, and spring from a singularly nitid imbricated spike of large bracts, like the scales of some Pine cone. A native of Mexico.

*MYRTUS ORBICULATA*. An erect and much-branching glabrous evergreen stove-shrub, attaining the height of from six to seven feet, having thick roundish coriaceous leaves, and yellowish white flowers, resembling the common Myrtle, and very sweet-scented. This is an old plant, having been introduced to Kew in 1824 from the Mauritius. Its season of flowering is late in autumn. The above three plants are figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for January.

*MOUTAN OFFICINALIS, ATROSANGUINEA*. A very large showy double-flowering variety of tree Peony; the flowers have dark blood-coloured petals, which are nearly as broad in the centre as at the edge, and much resemble the common Moutan papyraceæ. It is quite hardy, of vigorous growth, and has foliage of a deep green tinged with red. This is one of the finest varieties introduced by the Horticultural Society, through Mr. Fortune, from China.

*IONESIA ASOCA*. This is stated to be one of the most beautiful of flowering trees in its native climate. It is an evergreen stove-tree, with orange-scarlet flowers, which are sweet-scented. It is a native of various parts of the East Indies, and has flowered at Chatsworth. The two last-named plants are figured in *Paxton's Flower-Garden* for January.

*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.*

J. HOULSTON.

## DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

No. II.

PEARS.

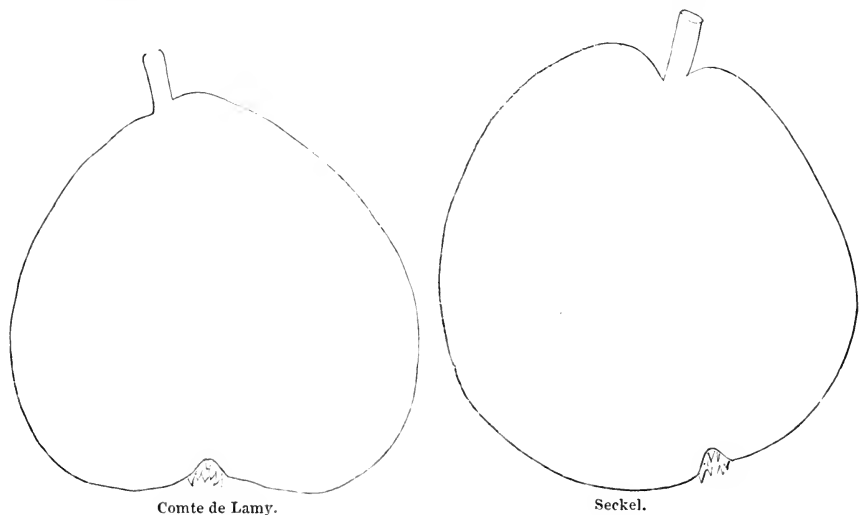
FOR some years after the establishment of the Horticultural Society of London, a part of its extensive resources was employed in getting together every known variety of all the fruits usually cultivated in British gardens; and the result was, the most extensive collection that perhaps ever existed in one establishment. After a considerable time spent in proving these numerous varieties, such as were found to be the most worthy of cultivation were distributed amongst the fellows of the Society; and by this means most of the best kinds then existing, especially of Pears and Apples, were made extensively known. But although widely distributed, many of the most useful sorts are less generally known than they deserve; in fact, there are gardens in remote country districts where even the Marie Louise,



Glout Morceau, and others common in the London markets, are at this present time as totally unknown as though they had never been introduced, and where the only good Pears that now find a place are those ancient favourites the Jargonelle, Brown Beurré, Crassane, Gansell's Bergamot, and Colmar, to the exclusion of newer varieties that surpass them in hardiness and productiveness, and at least equal them in flavour. To assist, therefore, in making these improved sorts better known, it is proposed to give outline figures of some of the best, which, being accompanied by accurate written descriptions, will, it is thought, be more useful than a mere list, to amateurs and others who are not well acquainted with Pears.

By a judicious selection of sorts, Pears can be obtained for dessert from the season of the Jargonelle in August, with but little intermission through the months of September, October, November, December, January, February, and March, and in some soils and situations still later,—a recommendation which of itself is sufficient to justify the prominent place this fruit is about to occupy in the *Florist and Fruitist*.

It is necessary to mention here a fact, that persons who have not had considerable experience in the culture of fruits may not be aware of; which is, that soil and situation exercise so much influence over the quality of Pears, that a sort which in one garden is first-rate, might in another be scarcely eatable; and many a good Pear has got a bad local character through the grower of it not being aware of this. The sorts best adapted for particular places can, however, only be ascertained by actual trial, although in a well-sheltered garden, where the soil is a good loam, and under proper management as regards training, &c., every kind of Pear might reasonably be expected to attain perfection in the midland and southern



counties, without the assistance of walls. Long-keeping Pears, such as the Easter Beurré, Passe Colmar, Glout Morceau, Winter Nelis, and Beurré Rance, are, however, equally as deserving of a wall as a Peach-tree.

1. *Comte de Lamy*. Rather below the middle size, roundish obovate, having full swelling sides like the Bergamots; narrow at the stalk, and often a little oblique. Eye large, in a wide depression; segments short and broad. Stalk very short, inserted in a shallow cavity. Skin yellowish green, with a little russet sparingly distributed over it, thickly dotted with greyish points, and occasionally very slightly stained with red on the side exposed to the sun. Flesh buttery and rich. Generally fit for table in the early part of October, and is not excelled by any Pear of its season.

2. *Seckel*. A small roundish-obovate fruit, with a convex crown, and a broad oblique base. Stalk short, deeply inserted in a regular cavity. Eye not sunk; segments particularly short. Skin yellowish brown, studded with small grey dots, and thickly covered with deep red on the sunny side. The flesh abounds in juice, and is almost of the sweetness of honey; but combined with this there is a slight muskiness, which to some palates is not agreeable. It is fit for table from the middle to the end of October, and should be eaten directly it becomes soft, or its flavour will be quite lost. One of the very few American fruits that succeed in this country.

J. B. WHITING.

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## REVIEW.

*The Orchard-House, or the Cultivation of Fruit-Trees in Pots under Glass.* By Thomas Rivers. Longman, London.

THIS is a pamphlet of twenty-seven pages, written in Mr. Rivers' usually instructive style, and containing information which must be acceptable to every one who has a garden; but more especially to persons of limited means, who, while they would like to have fine fruit, and with certainty, cannot afford the expenses of putting up costly erections for its production. For the latter class Mr. Rivers' orchard-houses will be found invaluable, not only for the growth of fruits, but also for that of many things which a little ingenuity will very soon suggest. In houses of this kind Mr. R. has ripened Peaches, Nectarines, Apricots, Vines, Plums, Cherries, Pears, and even Apples, Figs, and Strawberries, which succeed well on the borders, into which their roots enter and feed, while they have plenty of light and air to give colour and flavour. In fact, any thing that does well in the open air about Provence may be produced in perfection in these orchard-houses, whose climate (without artificial heating) is stated to be equal to that of the south of France.

The cost of such houses may be judged of from that of one 21 feet long, 12 feet 6 inches wide, 2 feet 9 inches high in front, and 7 feet 6 inches at the back, being only 17*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* The pamphlet

contains a plan of such a house, as well as representations of "brick Arnott stoves," which are used for heating *forcing* orchard-houses; for, made a little closer than ordinary, they may also be employed for that purpose.

We would gladly have shewn our readers how these cheap houses, which we are sure must become very popular, are constructed; but in the mean time we would rather refer them for information on this point, as well as for a knowledge of the way in which the trees are managed, to the pamphlet itself. We are anxious that it should have an extensive sale, for the profits to be derived from it are to be devoted to a praiseworthy object, viz. to repairing the old parish church (that of Mr. Rivers' forefathers, and probably that of his children's children), which had fallen into a dilapidated state. On this account, therefore, independent of its other value, it comes with an especial claim to our notice and acceptance, and we trust all will avail themselves of this opportunity of aiding a good cause.

## LISTS OF FIRST-RATE FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

### No. II.

#### PANSIES.

##### CLASS I. SELFS.

- \*Augustus (Dickson), dark.
- \*Blue-eyed Maid (Major), dark.
- Disraeli (Hunt), dark.
- \*Duke of Perth (Handasyde).
- Emma (Lane), yellow.
- \*Joseph Hunt (Bragg), dark.
- Lucy Neal (Scotcher), dark.
- Ophir (Widnall), yellow.
- Polyphemus (Thomson), yellow.
- Rainbow (Hall), dark.
- Sambo (Hale), dark.
- White Sergeant (Cook), white.

##### CLASS II. YELLOW GROUNDS.

- Addison (Turner).
- \*Cardinal Wiseman (Brown).
- \*Cicero (Hunt).
- \*Commander-in-Chief (Youell).
- Constellation (Thomson).
- \*Conductor (Hooper).
- Duke of Norfolk (Bell).
- \*Flying Dutchman (Hooper).
- Juventa (Hooper).
- \*Lady Franklin (Thomson).
- Leader (Hooper).
- \*Lord Walsingham (Thomson).
- \*Madame Sontag (Major).
- \*Marchioness of Normanby (Frankland).
- Masterpiece (Hooper).
- Milton (Major).

- Miss Edwards (Turner).
- \*Mr. Beck (Turner).
- Mrs. Bragg (Bragg).
- \*Neptune (Hooper).
- Ophelia (Fellows).
- \*Rubens (Turner).
- \*Sir J. Franklin (Major).
- Supreme (Youell).
- \*Thisbe (Hooper).
- Viceroy (Turner).
- Wonderful (Hooper).
- Zabdi (Thomson).

##### CLASS III. WHITE GROUNDS.

- Almanzor (Le Messurier).
- Ariadne (Cook).
- Aurora (Bell).
- \*Caroline (Thomson).
- Climax (Bell).
- Duchess of Rutland (Thomson).
- Helen (Hunt).
- Jenny Lind (Thomson).
- \*Luna (Thomson).
- \*Miss Thomson (Thomson).
- Model of Perfection (Chater).
- Mrs. Beck (Turner).
- Mrs. Hamilton (Nasmyth).
- Penelope (Thomson).
- Princess (Turner).
- Queen of England (Fellows).
- \*Shylock (Hooper).
- \*Sir R. Feel (Hale).

## A PACKET OF SEEDS SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER.

[Continued from p. 20.]

THESE boys were a terrible plague to the only friend I seemed to have in the world that wore a petticoat: they were always tormenting her and calling her a witch; and they had nearly persuaded me too that she was one, when she first took me up. She'd lost her husband not long before I came, and having nobody else to scold, she seemed glad of me to keep her tongue in tune; and yet in a little while I found it was only a habit of hers, and a cover to a deal of real kindness. One while she'd scold me for not being clean, another time because my clothes were dirty or ragged, and then she'd scrub my head or neck, or wash my linen, or put a patch here and a darn there; and take so little of my money for doing it, that she was another mother to me for these matters.

This poor woman's work was weeding in the garden and shrubbery walks, or sometimes round the plantation hedges; and what with sun and wind and old age, she was like a shrivelled apple with a little red colour left in its cheeks. The only place she could go to for dinner was the shed where I slept; and there, over the stoke-hole, we used to sit and eat together; and many's the tale of trouble that poor creature's told me, especially in winter, when we were both of us the worst off. If it hadn't been for her, I'm sure I should have gone off to sea, or for a drummer-boy, spite of the horrid tales I'd heard my father's old comrades tell about the wars, when they used to be drinking together after they'd drawn their pension-money. And talking of that, I've never read of any bloody murders to match things I've heard some of them boast of doing, and glory in too. Not my father, he was the wrong sort of man; and often, after I'd been listening, he would say, "Bad work, boy, bad work; and who's to account for it by and by I don't know; but I hope not me, though I've had so much to do with it."

And I must say, that, to this day, I can't quite see how that which is so dreadfully wicked for a man to do to serve his own ends can be any thing else but wicked when it's done for some trumpety little quarrel between one country and another, such as I have read about in histories. But I must not forget this poor old woman. I've said the stable-boys called her a witch; and to prove it, they said the cats would always get about her if they could, and she could handle snakes without their hurting her; and one boy said he once caught her with a great ugly toad feeding out of her hand. At last the kettle got too hot to hold the water, and blew the lid off, for all the horses were taken bad together; and the coachman complained to the squire that it was all because he had offended the old woman, and she had bewitched them.

The squire, for fun, I suppose, called old Mary to book; but she soon shewed him that it was because she gave the cats mice and little birds that they purred about her; and if she handled snakes, it was only the harmless sorts, and not vipers. About the toad she

amused him a good deal, by fetching a handful of tan out of one of the pits, that was full of sow-bugs, and bringing him out of the flower-pot he lived in, she put it before him, and, as the squire said, he stood like his pointer would have done at a pheasant, only turning his bright eye, and sending out his long tongue, and licking the sow-bugs up with a click, one after the other, before they could run out of his reach. It taught me a lesson, if it didn't any body else; and that was, to look into things myself, and not take all for granted people say; and I believe if all of us that are gardeners did this, we should find many things we think bad, like little birds, frogs, toads, efts, lizards, and snakes too, are good things in their places.

I was glad to find my old friend come off so well, for I couldn't have borne to have stopped where I was without her; and we went on very comfortably together till she died, when, for a while, it was like losing my mother again, I was so very lonely.

But this kind of life was oddly brought to a close. One November night I was fast asleep, when I woke and thought the world was come to an end. A furious gust of wind had blown the top off a great elm that hung over the furnace-shed where I slept, and crushed in one end of the roof, smashed the glass of the greenhouse, and ruined the whole concern. This worked my deliverance; for the squire coming with my lady to look at the mischief in the morning, saw my crib, and said, "What's that hole for?" (His sporting dogs' kennel was a beauty to it.) I was by, and answered, "It's my bed-place, sir." "The ——— it is!" said he. "Why didn't you complain to me about it?" I began to tell him that I had once asked for a little more wages, when he had only said, "That be ———." But before I had said as much he moved away. Now, he was not a bad-hearted man, but he never looked into such things, as he did into things about his dogs and horses; and if he used foul language, in "the good old times" I suppose it was thought "the thing." This I know, every man and boy about the premises did the same, and tried to improve upon it; and that's another thing I've learnt, that let servants try to imitate "their betters" in any thing else, they were always beat; but at swearing and the like, Jack was as good as gentleman; and if nothing else didn't make the quality leave off the habit, I wonder that didn't; for suchlike persons as our squire like to see a distinction, as much as any of the florists.

[To be continued.]

## REMARKS ON BRITISH FERNS.

(Continued from p. 11.)

### No. II.

**ASPLENIUM ALTERNIFOLIUM.** That this apparently scarce British Fern has every appearance of being an intermediate form between *A. septentrionale* and *A. Ruta muraria*, and more especially the latter, I

suspect but few British botanists will be inclined to deny, considering that the extreme states of many of our Ferns, exotic as well as British, are so very different to the young states of the same plants. I am not, however, at present exactly disposed to assert that such is actually the case, as I have not yet had sufficient opportunity afforded me to establish the fact. Notwithstanding, if we are led by analogy, it is just possible that it may yet prove to be such, as undoubtedly there is a wider difference between the same states in *A. adiantum nigrum*, as will be seen by the remarks in my last article on that plant. I have repeatedly detected *A. Ruta muraria* in the south of England approaching very closely upon our present subject, the principal difference resting in the pinnules, which are rather wider in *A. Ruta muraria* than in *A. alternifolium*: can that constitute a specific difference?

To me this is rather an interesting plant, as I happened many years ago to be located in the vicinity of its habitat, as given by Mr. Dickson, on Tweed-side; still I was never fortunate enough to detect it, although I made many anxious attempts, in fact such as might have been expected from a young and enthusiastic botanist in quest of a stranger, for such it really was to me at that time and for very many years afterwards. I am, however, of opinion, that the form was seen near Kelso by Mr. Dickson, as it was several years afterwards that I visited the spot; besides it was nothing particular for me to have overlooked it, as I have apparently done so with respect to some of the other habitats lately given, and I have no doubt correctly, for the same plant in Scotland; and that it will be found in other stations ere long is my firm conviction, as it is at times very difficult to account for the various transitions in a plant from one form to another; and hence, in my opinion, the many unexpected and extraordinary discoveries of late years in the way of new species and varieties of British plants in general.

In cultivation it requires the same treatment as its co-partner *A. Ruta muraria*; light sandy loam and peat suits it, either in a pot or otherwise. I must, however, here remark, that some of our Ferns, whose habitats are the crevices of rocks and old walls, submit but very reluctantly to any state of cultivation, arising doubtless from the difficulty experienced in making them adhere to the soil at first. In this case it would be advisable to pot them, and retain them in the pots until they are thoroughly well rooted before planting out, giving them at the same time a well-sheltered roof on the fernery.

*A. RUTA MURARIA.* This Fern is very plentiful in certain localities, but only in a few where really good specimens of it are to be met with; and as its favourite haunts appear to be the mortar of old walls, it is not very likely that it will often be found in a very luxuriant state. I have often lost two-thirds of a given quantity before I could establish it in a pot. As I had occasion to refer to this plant in my remarks on the preceding, it is not necessary that I should say more at present upon this subject.

*Foot's Cray.*

ROBERT SIM.

## THE FRUITIST.

**THE COSFORD NUT.** This most excellent of all the true Nuts is but little known; it, however, deserves a place in every garden for its abundant bearing, its sweetness, and excellent flavour, and for its very thin shell. In size it is between the common Hazel-nut and the large Cob, and is slightly cleft at its extreme end, so that it will open with a smart pressure of the finger and thumb. For garden-culture, in common with the Filbert, it is better to graft it on straight stems four to five feet in height, raised from seed of the Spanish Nut; it must, however, be grafted by approach, or inarched. Pretty round-headed trees are soon formed, occupying but little space, and abundantly prolific.

**THE PURPLE-LEAFED FILBERT.** This is commonly known in nurseries as the Purple-leafed Nut; it is, however, a true Filbert, of the same excellent flavour as the red and white Filbert. Hitherto it has been considered merely an ornamental shrub, which indeed it is, with its large purple leaves; but it well deserves a place in the fruit-garden, and more particularly as a standard, as recommended for the Cosford Nut. As it is, however, impossible to procure plants tall enough to inarch a stock four feet in height, dwarf plants may be potted, then placed on a platform or any four-legged stool three feet in height, the stocks planted close to the platform, and the shoots thus brought to the proper height, so as to be easily inarched.

T. R.

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 OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS** will require protection from cold winds, &c. As the fibres move, a mat or two should be thrown over the frames at night; and towards the latter end it may be increased to three. Give air whenever the weather will permit, but close the frames against frosty winds. More frequent supplies of water may now be given, and the quantity increased as the plants advance in growth. Rain is more beneficial than artificial waterings. Top-dress if the weather is open; look over the young stock in small pots at the same time, and select those most likely to throw good blooms, or all that have filled their pots with roots, and shift them into a size larger. This should be done without breaking the ball of earth; and if the fibres are much entwined among the drainage-crocks, do not disturb them, the crocks will do no harm; cleanse all pots before using them a second time, prepare tallies, crocks for drainage, and have every necessary in readiness before commencing the work. Remove the top-soil down to the roots, which should be disturbed as little as possible. Take away all offsets that have a shoulder or tap formed, in order to strengthen the plant for blooming, and fill up with fresh soil a little above the bottom part of the foliage, covering the stem well. Plant the largest and best-rooted offsets in separate pots, and those with fewer fibres two or more in a pot. Protect them in a cold frame, or under a handglass, till they have become established.

The unrooted should be planted round the sides of small pots, and plunged in a south border up to the rim; place a piece of tile or slate between each to prevent the entry of worms, and cover them with small Carnation-glasses. Keep the soil only moderately moistened; they will root more quickly than if kept in a wet state: neither night-covering nor shading will be required. Secure the plants from slugs, by pressing the soil firmly round the rims of the glasses. Let the composts for offsets be, three measures of leaf-mould, one of medium loam, and one of silver-sand; and that for top-dressing equal parts of decomposed sheep-manure, cow-manure, and loam of medium strength; or nightsoil, cow-manure, and loam equal parts. Horse-manure may be used as a substitute for either of the above, if not at hand. The best and safest mode of taking offsets is carefully breaking them out of the old stem, and filling the wound with a little finely-pounded charcoal. If the knife can be dispensed with, all the better. The sap flows from a cut wound for a considerable time, weakens the plant, quickly decomposes, and in many instances ultimately destroys the plant; while from the broken wound the sap dries up immediately, and becomes sound, although presenting a rough appearance to the eye. Seed, if not already sown, should be put in at once. See that the soil in the seed-pans last month is kept moistened. As soon as it makes its appearance, give a slight sprinkling now and then of manure-water, *i. e.* an ounce of saltpetre of the oil-shops dissolved in a gallon of clean soft water, but carefully avoid exceeding these proportions.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** Shift all plants required for exhibition, as in this month they will commence growing freely, and must not be allowed to get pot-bound. Draw the syringe over them occasionally towards evening when shut up, as they enjoy it, and repay such little attentions.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES** should be entirely open on every favourable occasion, and may be allowed to receive a little soft rain; take care, however, that they do not get too much; as the time is near at hand that they will be exposed to all weathers, the more hardy and exposed they are grown, the better. Keep the mould and pots dry, in readiness for potting; and free the plants from decayed foliage.

**COLD FRAMES.** The long continuance of mild weather during the past month has tended to encourage a degree of growth in the occupants of these structures; the consequence of which is, that their tissues are full of sap, particularly in instances where air has been admitted rather sparingly; and in this state they are less able to resist either frost or damp, than if they had experienced harder treatment. Precautionary measures, as regards protection, must therefore still be adopted; have sufficient covering materials at hand, wherewith to bid defiance to frost; water sparingly and carefully; remove decaying leaves the moment they make their appearance; and admit air freely whenever the weather will permit. Should green-fly appear, fumigate; but be careful in performing this operation not to admit smoke in too warm a condition; better fumigate on two successive evenings than run any risk of injuring the plants by



one strong dose. It is usual to syringe the plants after fumigating; but at this season, unless a bright day occurs, this must be avoided, owing to the encouragement it would give to damp. A pair of strong bellows freely used among the plants will remove the dust which may have lodged upon the leaves, and also the greater portion of the dead insects, and the syringe may be used any morning afterwards, when there is a prospect of getting the damp dispelled during the day. Towards the end of the month preparations should be made for potting off the stock early in March; for this purpose, sufficient soil of a suitable character should be stored in a dry place; pots and crocks should also be in readiness. And it may be advisable to encourage a little growth in the plants previous to potting; this may be accomplished by giving less air during the day, and shutting up early in the afternoon. Those whose "bedding-out plants" are scanty must make provision for increasing their stock. For this purpose a little heat will be necessary; and this may be obtained by means of a hot-bed, which may be composed of two parts fresh tree-leaves and one part rank stable-dung. These should be well intermixed and thrown up in a heap to heat, when the bed may be formed of the required dimensions. It must be borne in mind, however, that a bed to retain heat during the changeable weather which we usually experience at this season, must not be less than six feet long and five feet wide, and three feet six inches high in front; the back should be as much higher than the front as will cause the frame to incline to the south at an angle of from  $25^{\circ}$  to  $30^{\circ}$ . A bed of these dimensions will afford a sufficient amount of heat for the purpose, particularly if it is thatched all round with two or three inches of straw. This would guard it from piercing winds, and would prove a great saving of trouble and expense, which otherwise might be required in the shape of linings. As soon as the heat rises, a covering of sifted coal-ashes three inches thick should be placed upon the dung, and pressed closely against the sides of the frame; this will serve as a medium for plunging in, and also prevent the ingress of rank steam from the dung, &c. The plants from which cuttings are wanted should be encouraged to make wood; and if the hot-bed is properly managed, it will afford ample heat for this purpose. When the cuttings are removed, they should be inserted in pots filled with silver-sand or light sandy soil covered with a bell-glass and plunged in the coal-ashes. Nothing will be gained, however, in point of time, by separating the cutting from the parent plants until the wood is tolerably matured. Have the pots filled with the soil, &c., and placed in the frame two or three days before they are required; this will warm the material, and prevent the cuttings from receiving a check, which they would do if they were inserted in cold damp soil. It is presumed that there will be nothing to fear from frost as regards the propagating frame, but damp will require to be carefully guarded against. If the temperature inside the frame averages at  $60^{\circ}$  without sun heat, it will be sufficiently high, and will allow of air being admitted rather freely during sunshine; but cold currents must be avoided; and to effect this, give air by raising the sheltered end of the sash, or by hanging a mat over the opening;

the glasses with which the cuttings are covered should be frequently taken off and wiped dry; and water must be very carefully applied, indeed very little will be required.

**DAHLIAS.** Observe if any choice variety is decaying or rotting downwards from the stems, in which case it should at once be placed in heat, to make growth before it has gone below the eyes.

**EPACRISES.** No alteration will be necessary till the blooming season is over, and spring sufficiently advanced to give them their annual shift.

**ERICAS.** Give air when it can be done with safety; have all things ready to begin potting in March.

**FLOWER-GARDENS.** The present month, although still characterised by a paucity of flowers, will furnish more than the last. The gay and varied-coloured Crocus, if provision was made at planting time for a display of its showy flowers, will supply a rich mass of colour. The Snowdrop will also be in full blossom, and no garden ought to be without an abundance of it. The winter Aconite will also lend its mite of interest and variety to the scene. These are all plants of easy culture; and they may be removed after flowering to a spare corner, where they will perfect their growth, and prepare for the next February. They are cheap, and they propagate themselves rapidly. Get every corner dug, so that the soil may be exposed to the influence of the weather. Sweep and roll gravel-walks and grass, and keep every spot in the neatest possible order. If any alterations are projected, they should be proceeded with as rapidly as possible; all should be finished in the course of the month. If a supply of the early-blooming annuals was sown in the reserve-garden last September, these should be transferred to the beds towards the end of the month; or if sown now, they will come into flower towards the middle of May, and will be acceptable during the time in which the beds would otherwise be very deficient of flower.

**FUCHSIAS.** Should the month prove genial, the plants that have been wintered in cold frames will begin to push: turn them out, reduce the ball, cut back the roots, and repot them. Spur them back in a way best calculated to form a bushy head, place them for a week or two in a moderately warm house, or, if returned to the frame, keep it close; water sparingly. Those selected for early bloom have, or ought to have been ere this, started in heat, and made sufficient growth to render occasional stopping necessary; this should not be neglected. Do not force too much at first; like a skilful whip, rather increase the speed as you proceed on the journey; a maximum temperature of 50° by day, and a minimum of 35° at night, is most suitable. As the roots strike the side or bottom of the pot, shift to the next size larger, using compost that has been shut up for at least a fortnight in a stove. Cuttings may be struck in gentle heat, covering with a handglass. Sow seed in pots in heat to induce early germination, or in all probability the plants will not bloom till the following year.

**GREENHOUSE.** As the amount of solar light will be considerably more this month than last, the temperature may be allowed to range some 5° or 10° higher, but be sparing in the application of fire-heat.

If it is desired to encourage growth in some of the inmates, as will probably be the case, such plants should be collected and placed together at one end of the house, where very little air should be given, and a little fire-heat might be used, which, with a little management, might be made to maintain a temperature at the warm end, such as would greatly assist in forwarding the progress of the plants; and air might be admitted to those in the cool end of the house, so as to prevent their being affected by the fire-heat. Plants that are pot-bound may now be shifted into larger pots; but remember that upon the proper performance of this operation depends, in a great measure, future success. It will be advisable after potting to place the plants in the warmest end of the house, in order to encourage them to strike root into the fresh soil. Great care must be observed in watering newly-potted plants; if too much is given, the fresh soil will become sodden, in which case the death of the plant is all but certain, and, on the other hand, the old ball may become too dry. A great help towards avoiding both these extremes will be found in raising the new soil about an inch higher than the old ball; this is best done by placing turfy pieces upon the fresh soil, neatly and closely packed together, and made to stand about an inch higher than the old ball; these will prevent the water running off through the fresh soil, and will force it to find its way through the ball where the mass of the roots are. Those who are fortunate enough to possess a stock of Japan Lilies—and every amateur should strive to have them—should see that they are potted in fresh soil, as they will soon be making roots; a few might be encouraged to start into growth, so as to have them in flower some time previous to their ordinary blooming season. The general stock will require more water this month than last; water only when necessary, and then thoroughly; and endeavour to water during the early part of the day, when air can be given, to prevent damp settling upon and spoiling the flowers.

**PANSIES.** If the weather be severe, protect them with inverted flower-pots. Repot those for blooming under glass into 7-inch pots, in soil similar to that for blooming Carnations in, but with more sand. If the plant is long, peg it down; if otherwise, secure it with a small piece of deal stick, or they will often be injured by rocking to and fro, for they must be kept open generally, or they will draw. There will be a few vacancies to fill up in the beds, and the seedlings will require looking to.

**PELARGONIUMS.** Plants stopped for June flowering will have broken well by this time, and should be shifted, as well as all young stock-plants that have filled their pots with roots. If the latter are in 4-inch pots, shift into a 6-inch size; if they were struck from cuttings of last summer, it is as large as they require to bloom in. In shifting, rub off the outside and top of the ball. Plants which were finally shifted in autumn will require thorough watering, in order to moisten the ball throughout: this is of much importance. Seedlings as last month.

**PINKS.** Press the soil to those that have been loosened by frosts. In severe weather give extra protection to delicate varieties.

**POLYANTHUSES** in pots should be top-dressed with a compost of equal parts cow-manure, loam of medium strength, and leaf-mould. Remove a little of the top soil, pick off decayed foliage, and earth up a full half-inch above the stem of the plant, that the young spring roots may early receive the benefit of the compost. Polyanthuses require more water than Auriculas; when they require it, let them receive refreshing showers in temperate weather. Those in borders, if not already done, should be earthed up forthwith; slugs should be killed by watering with lime-water. Sow Polyanthus seed, if not already done.

**RANUNCULUSES.** About the middle of the month, with a coarse rake proceed to make the surface of the beds level, and not more than an inch higher than the surrounding walks. If the quantity of tubers be small, they may be planted with a dibble, so that the crowns of the tubers are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in depth, and  $5 \times 5$  or  $6 \times 6$  inches apart. Seedling roots, though small the second year, require an inch more space than older varieties, in consequence of their subsequent vigour. If the quantity of roots be large, make drills a full inch deep, and press the claws of the tubers carefully into the soil, in order that the crowns may be the requisite depth, and the tubers secured from rising by the natural swell occasioned by rapid absorption of a large amount of moisture. Rake level, and keep an eye to the operations of lobworms.

**ROSES IN POTS.** As last month, be careful when watering, &c. not to break off the lengthening shoots, which the slightest touch will readily do. Fumigate for green-fly.

**SHRUBBERY.** Where this department has been judiciously planted and properly managed, it will be at this season the most interesting part of the garden. The old and all but neglected Mezereon will be,

"Though leafless, well attired and thick beset  
With blushing wreaths investing every spray."

One of the most delightfully fragrant plants which finds a home in our climate will also be in flower during the present month, viz. *Chimonanthus fragrans*. This well deserves and should receive the shelter of a wall with a southern aspect, where it might have the protection of a mat or a wooden shutter in case of severe weather. It will thrive in any light sandy soil. *Jasminum nudiflorum* is a plant well deserving of a place in even small collections; it flowers early, and is of considerable beauty. These, with the beautiful *Laurestinus*, should be abundantly planted about every villa garden. Planting should be finished as speedily as possible, as every day which this is delayed after this month will increase the risk of failure. In planting, have a careful eye to the future size and habits of the plants. But never plant without previously having the ground properly trenched and prepared. In pruning, cut away such branches of the less valuable sorts as will afford space to the more desirable varieties. Avoid deep digging of shrubbery borders. If the spade is used at all, it should be merely to turn over the surface, so as to give a fresh appearance.

**TULIPS.** Guard them from frost; stir the surface of the bed on a mild day.

## HEATING HORTICULTURAL BUILDINGS,

PARTICULARLY UPON THE TANK SYSTEM.

THERE are a variety of plans for heating glass erections. First, we have the old-fashioned flues; and whatever may be said to the contrary, if they are well constructed, they answer the purpose entirely. Many of the late John Wilmot's houses, in which were produced the fruit for which his name was so famous throughout the country, were heated in this primitive manner; and we know several amateurs who quite prefer this plan to hot water circulating in pipes. We do not agree with them; on the contrary, we should never think of heating a new house with flues, although one of our old erections so heated contains plants which, for health and luxuriance, are undistinguishable from any other portion of our collection. Of Polmaise we can say nothing favourable, having never seen a house heated entirely upon the principle, although we have seen many modifications of it which were called Polmaise, and to which we should prefer flues. Arnott's stoves we have seen fixed at considerable cost, and we have also witnessed their removal to make room for hot-water pipes. But of the tank system we can speak in the most unqualified praise; and, after many years' experience, without the slightest failure, pronounce it unequalled for the general purposes of amateur gardeners. Believing that many of our readers are similarly interested in the question with our esteemed correspondent, we print a letter of inquiry we have received upon the subject, and gladly give such information as we possess.

I am about to build a small tank, about 18 feet in length, and 9 feet in breadth, and of proportionate height, chiefly for the purpose of growing a few Orchids and Ferns, as well as for striking cuttings, and hastening into bloom plants for my conservatory. I am especially anxious for the benefit of your judgment and experience as to the material of which the tank should be made, whether of wood, slate, or iron.

Tanks are beginning to come into great use at this place, and some difference of opinion exists as to the proper material of which they should be made. Two friends of mine had them made of wood; but they soon began to leak, so that they were taken up, and replaced by iron ones. Another friend has one of wood, and it answers well. Slate has not been tried yet, though recommended by yourself for many garden purposes.

You will confer a very great favour on myself and on many others, by giving, at an early period, full and complete instructions on tank-building. I ask the favour somewhat confidently, knowing,

as I do, so well, your readiness and desire to promote the interests of all gardening pursuits.

*Hull.*

F. R. HORNER, M.D.

We have a range of narrow lean-to houses in three divisions of about 50 feet each, respectively heated with iron, wooden, and slate tanks. In addition, our Orchid-house is furnished with two wooden tanks with a path between them. They were originally contrived as beds in which Roses in pots were plunged and brought forward by gentle bottom-heat; but they fully answer the purpose to which they are now applied. With the experience these houses give us, we proceed to a little description. Any one intending to erect a tank should first carefully consider what his wants are. Dr. Horner requires one to afford him atmospheric as well as bottom heat, and therefore we say, use iron; for when the surface of the tank is covered with a material in which the pots are plunged, there will be abundant radiation from the bottom and sides to heat the atmosphere, which perhaps will not be the case if the tank is constructed of wood. Slate is entirely unfit for the purpose: it cannot be depended upon; for it splits with expansion from heat, and from contraction in suddenly cooling. We have made ours tight at last, after much trouble and expense, by doubling it, with a waterproofing material placed between the two thicknesses, and in this manner it answers admirably. For greenhouse purposes, when the house is used merely as a conservatory for plants in the winter, wooden tanks, in our estimation, are superior to every thing else. For instance, the portion of the 150-foot range so heated alluded to above, is on the following plan. Upon some  $3 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch oak posts, 21 inches above the ground-line, with bearers framed into the same  $3 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch placed edgewise, is fixed a tank, formed of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch best yellow deal, entirely free from sap, dead knots, and shakes. For the bottom, the boards are placed lengthways, ploughed and feather-tongued, and bolted together with  $\frac{3}{8}$  bolts and nuts; sides and ends the same, 9 inches deep, put together with back nails and white-lead in all joints. Down the inside and centre of the tank, to within 6 inches of the end farthest from the boiler, runs a  $1\frac{1}{4}$ -inch board on edge, 6 inches deep, with fillet round the sides of the tank of the same height. On these rest half-inch slates laid crossways, and beneath them 5 inches of water circulates through a boiler, the flow-pipe from which is introduced on one side of the division at the end of the tank, about 2 inches from the bottom, whilst the return-pipe is fixed in the bottom itself, and on the other side of the division. This forms the heating apparatus; but to make a plunging bed for propagation, the tank is deepened by

removable sides, 7 inches deep, stayed by light iron bolts here and there, tightened by a nut and screw, to prevent their spreading outwards, whilst they are firmly secured on the top of the heating tank by wooden studs. From the edge of the tank spring a series of shelves, rising with the pitch of the roof to the wall.

Now for the advantages of this plan over hot-water pipes; and we particularly request the attention of our readers to this point, assuring them that we have never used any fermenting material, such as dung or leaves, from the day we set our first wooden tank at work, and consequently we have neither had the trouble nor litter they once occasioned us. During the season when our wooden tank-house is required as a greenhouse, the plants are placed upon the shelves as in any common erection of the kind, and the heat radiated from the surface of the slate efficiently excludes any amount of frost we are liable to. The flowering season over, the three lower shelves are removed, the surface of the tank is covered with the plunging material to the edge, and in this the cutting-pots, or whatever may require bottom-heat, are placed and covered with hand-lights. Here at once we have a propagating pit of the best description; for the sides of the tank being of wood, a non-conductor of heat, a small quantity of firing is sufficient for two or three days' gentle heating. When the business of propagation is over, the plunging material is removed, the shelves are replaced, and the young plants are arranged upon them. The space beneath the tanks is occupied by Gloxinias, Achimenes, Lilliums, &c., which are placed there as they go out of bloom, as an entirely dry spot, where they are admirably rested for the winter.

Now if the tank required by Dr. Horner was made of wood, as we said before, we fear he would at times be short of atmospheric heat, which cannot be the case if iron is used in its construction. The best arrangement of all would be a wooden tank for the bed, and hot-water pipes to heat the air, all communicating with one boiler, and with stop-cocks on both flow-pipes, to insure a perfect control over the whole arrangement.

Another word in favour of well-constructed wooden tanks. If we were dropped down in a spot far removed from any thing in the shape of an engineer, we should, with the aid of a carpenter and a plumber, and a large-sized strong copper boiler of Stephenson's, such as we have long had at work, be able to garden away under glass most merrily. Wherever wooden tanks have failed, the fault has been in construction. The four we have had in use for years are as sound and as free from a leak as any other apparatus on the premises.

## NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

It is with very great satisfaction we inform our readers that the preliminary steps have been taken by some influential Florists to form a Floricultural Society for the whole kingdom, upon the most enlarged and approved basis. The use of the Horticultural Society's exhibition-room, 21 Regent Street, has been obtained, and a better one for the display of Florists' productions could not be found in all London. Its immediate vicinity to the Universal Office, Regent Circus, from which conveyances are constantly running to and from all the railway termini, is no small advantage. We understand a preliminary meeting will shortly be held, and as soon afterwards as possible, a public one will be called, which we hope will be very largely attended. It would be premature in us to assume what rules and regulations may be proposed; every thing of the kind will no doubt receive the fullest consideration, and every suggestion offered to the promoters of the society will be gladly accepted and duly weighed. Every one must see the absolute necessity of such a society being formed, if the best interests of floriculture are to be promoted. Raisers are tired of this and that editor's opinion upon seedling productions, and of certificates granted by societies, which, costing nothing, are worthless. All want what the proposed society is calculated to afford,—public exhibitions in broad daylight, in a first-rate situation, paid judges, disinterested reports, and full and free discussions conducted in a proper manner. Purchasers will hail with pleasure its establishment, and look carefully over its reports before they buy what is advertised. We can easily imagine that opposition will arise; but that may very easily be lived down. The door will be left open for every well-disposed Florist to enter; and we anticipate no little pleasure from attending meetings, where will be gathered, from far and wide, the productions of the whole country, as well as many of our most eminent Florists. It is very desirable that those gentlemen who are taking upon themselves the labour of the preliminary arrangements should have the countenance and support of every one who sees, with us, the necessity of a central and universal society. Until the thing is brought into more shape, we shall be glad to receive and hand over to the parties alluded to, any thing that may be forwarded to us, whether names as subscribers, or suggestions. For ourselves, we shall gladly subscribe, and exhibit every thing we produce, promising to submit, without any repining, to the decisions of the censors, whoever they may be. We wish it was in full operation at this time, that we might exhibit a quantity of seedling *Cinerarias*, now in full bloom, many of which we would gladly submit to its censors.

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## NOTES FROM THE LOG-BOOK OF AN ERRATIC MAN.

No. III.

## WEEDS OF THE OCEAN.

IN a large and well-appointed ship, when the commander really takes an interest in his crew, and feels it no less his duty than his pleasure to attend to their moral as well as physical condition, a Sabbath at sea is, under most conditions, a delightful day.

In a vessel of this kind to which I once belonged, a free-trader to the East Indies, the performance of divine service on Sundays was never omitted, unless in very bad weather indeed. At a quarter to eleven the bell tolled for church, and at the hour, the crew, after being mustered in their best clothes, which were warm woollen or white duck, according to the climate we were in, took their seats on forms ranged across the quarter-deck; on each side the passengers and officers, with the servants, were seated; the capstan was covered with the ensign, and served for the reading-desk; and from this place the captain read the service, one of the officers or the steward acting as clerk. Beautiful and impressive as the service of the Church of England is, no prayer in the whole collection ever found such a place with me when on the wide ocean, as that one specially appointed to be read at sea, varied as it should be to suit the merchant-service. And as it has happened to me to be afloat on a Sunday when a passenger in a large steamer, and the clergyman who officiated appeared ignorant of its existence, or if not, neglected to read it, I shall introduce it without further preface, recommending my clerical readers not to forget it on the like occasions:

“O eternal Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens, and rulest the raging of the sea; who hast compassed the waters with bounds, until day and night come to an end; be pleased to receive into Thy almighty and most gracious protection the persons of us Thy servants, and the ship in which we serve. Preserve us from the dangers of the sea, and from the violence of the enemy; and grant that we may return in safety to enjoy the blessings of the land, with the fruits of our labours, and with a thankful remembrance of Thy mercies, to praise and glorify Thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

Well, it was a lovely Sunday morning, just as the order was given at the conclusion of divine service to “clear away the church,” that the officer of the watch presented himself, and reported to the captain, “We are in the weed, sir.”

What is a weed? Every body seems to understand the word, and to feel an instinctive aversion to the idea; but to explain it leaves many a dictionary at fault. All the rarest and most cherished objects of horticulture are but weeds of another clime. The fact is, that all small plants out of their place are branded with the name; but in its place there is nothing in creation so despised or so insig-

nificant as not to have its claims upon our sympathy and regard. Now, of all the tribe of weeds, there is a proverb of 2000 years' standing, that those belonging to the sea are of least account; and yet doubtless many that "go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters," can with me bear witness to the deep feelings of interest, even to emotion, they are calculated to excite.

For instance, when the above announcement was made, "We are in the weed, sir," many amongst our number were soon looking over the ship's side; those who were returning to England for the first time mechanically followed. Yet what was there to see? Scattered upon the face of the glittering waters, in single pieces and in patches, was a yellow sea-weed. And was that all? Yes, and a delightful all it was. India had been left, the Cape rounded, St. Helena called at for letters, the line crossed, the southern constellations had given place in our night-watches to Charles's Wain and the Polar Star; and here we were on a Sunday morning, with delicious weather, looking upon a simple yet unerring sign that we were now fast and assuredly drawing towards Old England. It spoke to all

"Of home, and friends, and that dear time"

long looked forward to; and many of us blessed the stream of the Gulf of Mexico for bearing us this certainty of our whereabouts.

For myself, I spent that afternoon in one of the boats on the quarter, looking with delight at our noble ship, as with well-filled sails, low and aloft, she made music with the merry waves which seemed to laugh around her and wish her joy, as she pressed through them, flinging them from her broad bows in foam and showers of spray.

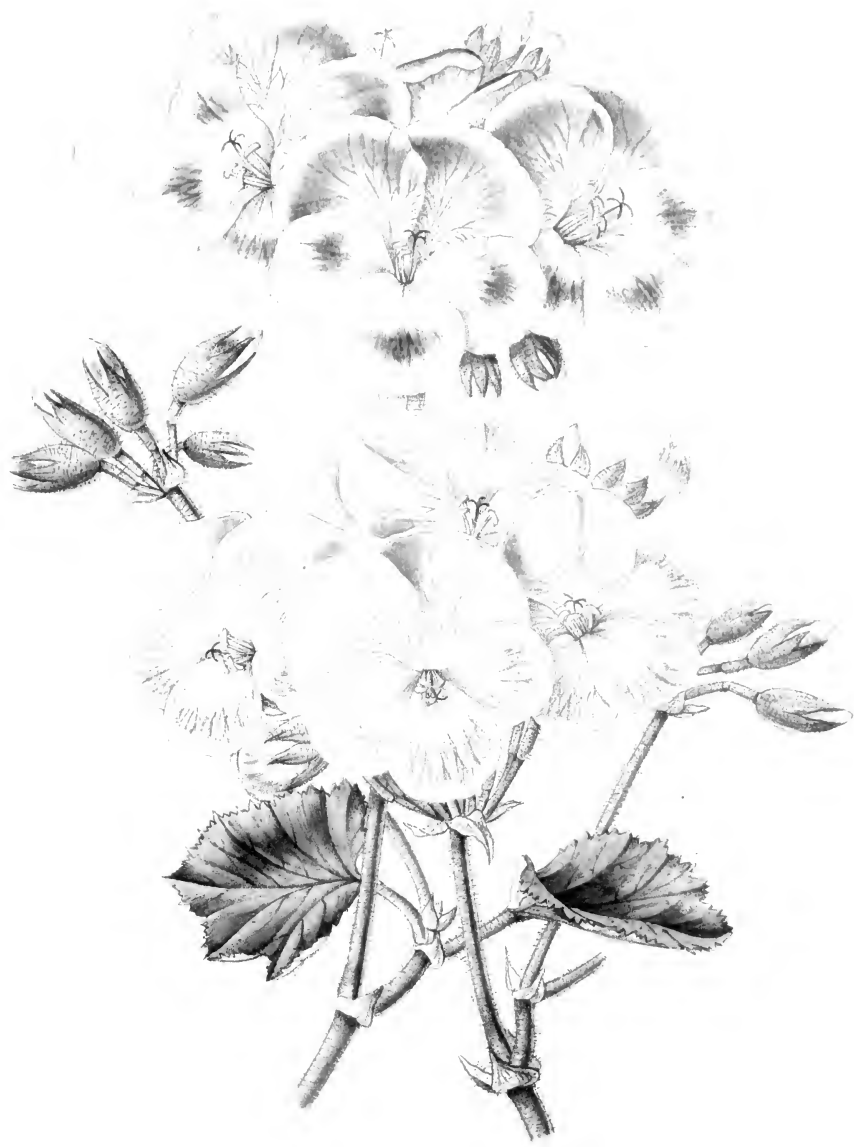
I have grown, and successfully too, many flowers; have enjoyed floricultural triumphs; but I can truly say, that nothing of the kind has ever produced in my mind such exuberant delight, such emotions of hope and anticipated enjoyment, as were always created by a sight of these

WEEDS OF THE OCEAN.



### DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF FANCY PELARGONIUMS.

BEFORE proceeding to give the list in detail, it may perhaps be as well to say a word or two respecting the flowers which form the subject of our Plate. They were raised by Mr. E. G. Henderson of the Wellington Nursery, St. John's Wood, who has been very successful in producing many fine seedlings of various kinds, and were figured from plants exhibited at the Worton-Cottage Meetings. As the Plate will speak for itself, it is unnecessary to say any thing respecting the flowers represented, beyond stating, that being compact and handsome growers, they will be found useful additions to every collection. Annexed is the list alluded to:—



*John Andrews Delt. & Sculp.*

*Printed by G. Huber.*

*telargoum.*

1 Beauty of St. John's wood 2 Exquisite



**DEFIANCE.** Very dark maroon, with white belt all round, and pure white throat; size and form good, and a profuse bloomer.

**FORMOSUM.** Beautiful rosy crimson, upper petals shaded with purple, white ground, bottom petals clouded with the same colour; good in habit, and a free bloomer.

**PICTURATUM.** Upper petals rosy carmine, white ground, lower petals distinctly spotted with cherry; very dwarf in habit, and an abundant bloomer.

**JENNY LIND.** Ground-colour white, upper petals beautiful carmine with white margin; lower petals spotted with bright cherry; fine in form, and robust in habit; very free bloomer.

**MODESTUM.** Ground-colour white, upper petals bright rose, with white belt; fine in form; very dwarf in habit; an abundant bloomer, both early in spring and late in autumn.

**QUEEN SUPERB.** Ground-colour light flesh, upper petals spotted with bright rose, and having a white belt; good in habit, and a free bloomer.

**FAIRY QUEEN.** Ground-colour white, upper petals bright crimson with white margin, under petals spotted with crimson; very showy, and a profuse bloomer; perhaps the best flower for general purposes yet raised.

**MINERVA.** Ground-colour rosy lilac, upper petals veined; a profuse bloomer.

**GARLAND.** Rosy-purple ground, clouded with violet; dwarf in habit, and an abundant bloomer.

**ALBONI.** Upper petals rosy purple with an edging of blush, under petals blush, sometimes blotched; good in habit, and a free bloomer.

**HERO OF SURREY.** Upper petals nearly black, and belted with white; lower petals white with a crimson spot in each; a free flowerer, and good in habit.

**ANAIS.** Upper petals bright rosy pink shaded with purple, light ground, lower petals rosy pink with a light margin; good in habit, and a free flowerer.

**STATIASKI.** Upper petals maroon with light margin, lower ones dark crimson with light margin; fine in habit, and an abundant bloomer.

**ZELIA.** Upper and lower petals rosy pink, with a light throat and margin; fine in form, and a free bloomer.

**MADAME MEILLEZ.** Upper petals dark crimson, lower ones light crimson, throat and margin light; form indifferent, but an abundant bloomer and good in habit.

**ORESTES.** Upper petals bright rosy crimson with purplish spot, under petals crimson purple with white centre; a fine showy flower, and a very free bloomer.

**REINE DES FRANÇAIS. BOUQUET TOUT FAIT.** Of these two I have not a flower at present whereby to judge of their colours.

The above are all distinct and fine, and tolerably free growers.

## PROPERTIES OF THE CALCEOLARIA.

HAVING frequently heard conflicting opinions respecting the properties of the Calceolaria, and my own opinion having been often solicited in the matter, I venture to lay it before the public through the medium of the *Florist*. An opinion has long been entertained that this flower, to be perfect, ought to assume a globular form, even to the roundness of a cherry. Now this I think a decided error; for even were such a form attainable, in order to carry out a corresponding uniformity it would seem to require more than one orifice, and similar markings all round the flower, which could not be characteristic, inasmuch as the markings would not be fully displayed; and certainly the clouded and belted varieties would be much deteriorated, as truth and beauty could not be so boldly and clearly developed in flowers of so crippled or contracted a surface as those of a globular form would present. Before I proceed to describe the properties of the flower, it may not be improper first to mention that the Calceolaria ought ever to be of a shrubby or half-shrubby character, with broad willow-like or neat ovate leaves, differing as much as may be in foliage from the coarse broad leaves of the herbaceous kinds. From this criterion we have all more or less diverged, and ought now to retrace our steps till we have regained a habit similar to one I first raised, and sent out under the name of "Majoriana," whose habit was freer, and whose leaves were larger, than *Rugosa*. It is doubtful, were we to fall back upon real hard-wooded varieties like *Rugosa*, whether we should not be deficient in magnitude of flower. However, I hardly need say it is certain that magnificent blooms can be obtained without being obliged to cultivate the cabbage-like herbaceous kinds which I have at all times made a point of discarding. I may here state that the plants should be free and healthy in growth, exhibiting their blossoms loosely and freely on strong footstalks, sufficiently long to allow their blossoms to hang elegantly, shewing the face of the flower as much as possible.

With regard to the properties of the Calceolaria: 1. Its outline ought to be a perfect circle; but in varieties such as this, breadth in form being preferred to length. 2. The flowers must be thick and firm in texture, and well inflated, shewing a swell both back and front, and the upper or front surface must be especially bold, swelling gradually from the edge or outline of the flower to the centre, and well filled about the orifice or throat, which should be perfectly smooth and round, and not too large. 3. The outline of the flower must be even and without notches, and the surface smooth, without ribs or furrows. 4. The lip or cap ought to be round and even, and not larger than what might seem to form a proper lid for the orifice; and not too long in the neck, so as to fall back, but rather low or squat, so as to seem to hang over the orifice, and not to disfigure the circular outline of the flower. 5. (This head will be best illustrated by referring to the flowers figured in the *Florist* for December 1850.) When the flower is marked or spotted equally all over the surface, as

at figs. 2 and 6 in the plate, then the cap or upper lip ought to be nicely spotted or marked, as they are there represented; but when the markings are densely gathered into the centre only, as at fig. 1, then I think it would be decidedly out of character to have the cap marked, as that would break the continuity of the belting. Although the ground-colour of the margin of figs. 3 and 7 is a little broken by spots, yet the dense markings in the centre, and the prevailing quantity of ground-colour in the margin, warrant the cap to partake of the ground-colour free of spots. Figs. 4 and 5, being more regularly marked all over the surface, would have been more in character with marked or spotted caps.

In selfs or clouded varieties—varieties much wanted—clearness, richness, and brilliancy of colour are essential points.

I know no family of plants in which so many distinct varieties may be produced without perplexity or confusion, nor one in which so many decided improvements have been made as regards form, markings, and richness of colour. And still much remains to be done; and I think we ought to be particularly careful, while we aim at perfection, not to discard for some trifling defect, new, rich, and distinct varieties, until decidedly better flowers in the same class are produced. Up to the present time, attention to form has prevailed to the almost total exclusion of beauty and richness of colour in the markings. Form is undoubtedly a grand desideratum, but beauty and richness of colour are, in my opinion, at least its equals, and neither should prevail to the total exclusion of the other.

*Knosthorpe near Leeds, Jan. 7, 1851.*

HENRY MAJOR.

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## REMARKS ON BRITISH FERNS.

### No. III.

#### ASPLENIUM.

**A. SEPTENTRIONALE.** In the wild state of this truly Alpine British Fern, we usually find the fronds once divided, with the segments toothed at the extremity; but I have nevertheless had it under cultivation with the fronds repeatedly divided, and each division having several linear segments, which were also deeply toothed at their extremities, and in this state of development it forms a very handsome tuft from three to four inches high. It requires to be well established in pots, if intended for the fernery; and then, notwithstanding that it is an inhabitant of bleak, arid, and lofty mountains, it requires a well-sheltered nook, with a soil consisting of peat, loam, and silver-sand. Like most other Ferns, out-of-doors it requires to be protected from the attacks of slugs. It is not particularly rare; but its habitats are not always very accessible to the collector.

**A. VIRIDE.** This pretty little Fern for the most part inhabits the crevices of moist shady rocks in sub-alpine countries; and in some of these I have seen it extremely luxuriant, in short producing

fronds from six to nine inches high. I am not aware that there is any thing particularly attractive about its roots to induce grubs to attack them; but I have had my entire stock destroyed more than once by their attacks, and that too before I was aware of their presence, as the fronds continued green and upright for some time after the roots were entirely gone; on removing the soil, however, I soon discovered the cause. This is doubtless chiefly the reason of its being said to be difficult to cultivate. When planted out, it is not so subject to their attacks. Young plants are at all times preferable to old ones; a fact which I have often proved. The fronds are pinnated, the pinnæ roundish, and the whole plant exhibits a pleasing green.

*A. TRICHOMANES.* Much like the preceding, but generally stouter, and differing in the shape of the pinnæ, which are dark green, with the rachis black. It appears to submit to cultivation much better than *A. viride*, and readily produces an abundance of seedlings, which appear, at least so far as I have seen, to come exactly like the original. Its habitats are rocks and old walls, both in the shade and out of it.

*A. FONTANUM.* In this elegant little Fern we have a rather doubtful native, indeed I am inclined to believe that few, if any, botanists of the present day have been fortunate enough to meet with it in a truly wild state. I have, it is true, both heard and read of its being detected in certain localities, but no further notice appears to have been taken of such discoveries. In short, I never considered it a really British plant, notwithstanding that I have known it for nearly forty years, and I believe I have successfully cultivated it for nearly as many. It readily adheres to a soil of peat, loam, and silver-sand, and consequently is not impatient under cultivation.

*Foot's Cray, Kent.*

ROBERT SIM.

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#### WINTERING THE CARNATION.

No one, I should imagine, who has at all studied the nature of the plant will doubt its perfect hardiness. Carnation-frames do not require guarding so much from frost as from excessive wet. My own frames are constantly thrown open when the atmosphere is clear and dry, though the frost may be severe. I prefer narrow frames of considerable inclination, hinged to a hanging stile at the back, to the ordinary cucumber-frame; for when the lights are propped in front two or three inches, there is still sufficient slope to throw off the rain. Such frames, after being placed in an aspect as near north as possible, are filled as close to the top as will allow the lights to be closed if necessary without crushing the plants, with finely sifted cinders, which are watered with a rosed watering-pot, and rendered somewhat firm by gently beating with the back of a spade. They are then holed with a hollow tapering tube of tin or copper, which is, in fact, the old-fashioned Tulip-planter, and the pots are plunged to within about half an inch of their rims.



By this means a cavity is left below the bottom of the pots which ensures perfect drainage. The surface-soil can be kept moderately dry, as the roots receive sufficient moisture through the sides of the pots from the surrounding bed of ashes, rendering watering unnecessary from the time they are finally arranged, about the end of October, until the first genial shower from the southward, in the latter end of January or beginning of February, occurs, when it may be permitted to fall on them for an hour or two together. Plants so wintered will be found to resist the cutting east winds of March, and, of late years, of April also, better than those which have been rendered tender and delicate by injudicious confinement, and which are excited to premature growth by winter and early spring sunshine.

*Woolwich.*

J. W. NEWHALL.

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### THE FRUITIST.

**THE OCTOBER GREENGAGE PLUM.** This, the "Reine Claude d'Octobre" of the French, is one of the best autumn Plums. I introduced it from France some five or seven years since. In shape and colour, even to those pretty spots of amber which are generally found on a well-ripened Greengage Plum, it is exactly like its favourite namesake; but in size and season it differs widely; it is scarcely more than half the size of a large Greengage, and ripens towards the middle of October, when Greengage Plums are almost out of mind as well as sight; this renders it peculiarly valuable. In flavour it exactly resembles its near relative; but in cool wet autumns it is not so rich. South of the Trent it bears most abundantly either as a standard or pyramid; further north it ought to have a wall either s.w. or s.e. For cultivation in pots in the orchard-house it is admirably adapted, as its fruit may be preserved on the trees till November.

**THE MIRABELLE PLUM.** This, which ranks among the oldest varieties of Plums, is but little known in England, although in France it is, and has been for many years, a universal favourite, not as a dessert Plum, but for tarts, compotes, and preserving, as it forms a most delicious preserve. It is oval in shape, and in size it about equals a small oval Damson; colour yellow, with brown spots: it ripens from the middle to the end of August, and bears most abundantly in the south of England, either as dwarf bushes, pyramids, or standards. In cool climates it should have a wall with a warm aspect. The tree is rather dwarf in its habit, its leaves are small, and its buds are placed exceedingly close to each other. No Plum forms such a compact pretty little pyramid. Large quantities of this pretty little Plum are grown in France. I remember seeing, when in the Fruit-garden at Versailles in August 1847, numerous large baskets full of it destined for the royal kitchen. The gardener, I recollect, said that no preserved Plums equalled les Petites Mirabelles.

T. R.

## THE CHINESE PRIMULA.

At a season when all nature appears dull and almost inanimate, this beautiful plant makes our greenhouses lively and attractive; and much as has been said respecting its culture, no mode of treatment which I have seen advocated appears to me to possess advantages like that which I have been in the habit of pursuing.

I sow the seed in a gentle heat in the beginning of April. As soon as the plants are up and sufficiently large to handle, I prick them out under handglasses at the bottom of a west wall, and shade them for a few hours during the day while the sun is powerful, giving them now and then a sprinkle with a fine-rosed watering-pot, and keeping them close. When they begin to grow, the glasses are removed at night, as the dew of the morning greatly strengthens them, and it is astonishing how fast they advance in growth. When sufficiently large, I pot them into 4-inch pots, and place them in a close frame until they have become established a little, after which the lights are drawn off every night in fine weather, and air is given in the daytime by tilting the lights at the back, shading the plants lightly during the hottest part of the day. When the pots have become filled with roots, I repot into 6-inch pots, in which they are flowered. When they come into blossom, the most fimbriated and best-coloured ones are carefully selected and marked.

After they have done blooming, and rested for a short period, the greater portion of the soil is removed from the roots, which are cut pretty close in; at the same time the stems of the plants are cleared of all old leaf-stalks, and every thing is made clean and neat. They are then repotted in the following compost: equal parts turfy loam and peat, with a portion of well-decomposed cow-dung, and silver sand in it. The compost is used in a rough state, with broken crocks below it for drainage; and the pots employed vary from six to eight inches in width, according to the strength and size of the plants. After potting they are placed in a close frame and treated exactly as recommended above. In this way I have grown splendid plants; and some have done better the third year than the second, but I have never tried them for a longer period. By following the same plan every year, fine plants and good sorts are secured. R. FIELDER.

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 DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

No. III.

## THE GOOSEBERRY.

THE Gooseberry is another of our common fruits, which, in consequence of its extensive usefulness, and the manageable size and easy culture of the plant, is peculiarly fitted for gardens wherein the necessary space cannot be afforded for many fruit-trees of larger growth. Several of the best sorts are cultivated in almost every garden, while many others of equal merit are rarely seen; and to make these latter

better known, is the principal purpose of the following list, from which, however, well-known sorts of proved excellence will not be excluded. It is not intended to give a minute description of every peculiarity belonging to the variety, but merely to mention the size, form, colour, and quality, or any other striking characteristic of the fruit; and only a few of the largest class will be noticed, because the middle-sized and small sorts generally are much superior to them in flavour, and therefore preferable for the dessert.

1. *Red Champagne*. The berry is below the middle size, roundish oblong in form, hairy, light red, but attaining a much deeper colour when suffered to become thoroughly ripe, in which condition it is one of the very best-flavoured Gooseberries known; it also makes excellent jam. It may be kept two or three weeks by matting up the trees; but for that purpose the next sort is preferable. In the north it is frequently called the Irononger, which is a very different variety, and much inferior to this.

2. *Red Warrington*. Resembles the preceding in colour, form, and hairiness, but the fruit is considerably larger. Ripens late, and hangs well upon the tree when matted, by which means, or by training the trees against a north wall, and covering them with nets when the fruit is ripe, its season can be prolonged three or four weeks. Flavour very good, although not quite equal to No. 1 in that respect; for jam this is one of the best.

3. *Rob Roy*. Another small hairy red sort, rather obovate in shape. Although not equal in flavour to the two preceding, this is a very good variety, and especially useful on account of its early ripening.

4. *Melling's Crown Bob*. A very large oblong hairy berry; red in colour, but much intermixed with green towards the stalk end. Ripens late, and is well-flavoured for so large a Gooseberry, it being one of the Lancashire prize kinds, in which *weight* is considered the first quality; this, however, is worth growing for the dessert.

5. *Farrow's Roaring Lion*. Fruit of the largest size, oblong. The skin is thin, smooth, and of a dull-red colour. Ripens late, and is tolerably well-flavoured. Another prize Gooseberry, which ranks amongst the best of its class; it is also a very fair table-fruit, for which use its size and appearance recommend it.

6. *Berry's Farmer's Glory*. A large roundish-oblong Gooseberry, which ripens earlier than Nos. 4 and 5. The skin is rather thick, downy, red, slightly intermixed with green. As few, if any, of the large red Gooseberries equal this in flavour, it is well deserving of cultivation.

7. *Leigh's Rifleman*. A large roundish-oblong berry. The skin is thick, hairy; colour red, slightly intermixed with green. Ripens late, and has a brisk agreeable flavour. This variety, from its merit and fine appearance, is grown extensively for the London markets.

8. *Woodward's Whitesmith*. Fruit large, roundish oblong, white, thin-skinned, very downy. Occasionally the exposed berries assume a brownish tinge when very ripe, and they are then exceedingly high-flavoured. One of the very best dessert Gooseberries, which ought to be in every garden.

9. *Saunders's Cheshire Lass*. Fruit large, oblong, white; skin downy and thin. Ripens early, is very well-flavoured, and is therefore a very desirable sort.

10. *Cleworth's White Lion*. A large oblong or obovate berry, with a thin transparent white skin, which is generally slightly hairy, but sometimes smooth. A very good Gooseberry, the value of which is increased by its late period of ripening.

11. *Taylor's Bright Venus*. The berry is rather below the middle size, obovate in form, very slightly hairy. Colour dull white; but when very ripe the fruit is overspread with a thin bloom, and in that state the flavour is exquisite. Ripens about the middle season of Gooseberries; and the fruit will hang upon the tree in dry weather till it shrivels.

12. *Cook's White Eagle*. Fruit large, obovate. Skin thick, smooth; colour white. Ripens late, and is well-flavoured; which qualities, combined with its large size, make it valuable.

13. *Early Sulphur*. Fruit small, almost round, but many berries are rather oblong. Skin thin, pale yellow, very hairy. Ripens very early, for which reason it is desirable; but in regard to flavour, it is not so good as the next variety.

14. *Yellow Champagne*. Resembles the preceding sort, but the fruit is not quite so large; ripens ten days or a fortnight later, and is better flavoured.

15. *Beaumont's Smiling Beauty*. Fruit large, oblong, generally narrowest at the base. Skin thin and smooth; colour light yellow, or rather yellowish white. Ripens early, and is one of the best-flavoured of the large yellow Gooseberries.

16. *Early Green Hairy*. A small round hairy dark-green thin-skinned berry. Ripens early, has a sweet and agreeable flavour, and is therefore a desirable table sort.

17. *Parkinson's Laurel*. Fruit large, roundish oblong; skin thin, very downy, pale green, or nearly white. Ripens late, and is well-flavoured.

18. *Massey's Heart of Oak*. Berry large and oblong, with thick tapering footstalks. Skin thin, smooth, green with yellowish veins; flavour very good.

19. *Pitmaston Greengage*. A small obovate berry. Skin rather thick for a small fruit, smooth, green, but generally covered with bloom in the same way as No. 11. Ripens late, and will hang on the tree some time afterwards. An excellent-flavoured sort.

20. *Rough Red*. Berry small, nearly round, very hairy, dark red; skin thickish. Ripens early, and has a brisk agreeable flavour; it is, however, chiefly esteemed for making jam.

Among the twenty varieties above described are included most of the best dessert Gooseberries, several that are excellent for the making of jam, and a few of the highest-flavoured of the large sorts that were formerly grown for prizes in Lancashire, but are now mostly superseded by newer and still larger ones. Those who think twenty sorts too many to cultivate, may take Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 17, which comprise the earliest, latest, and best-flavoured.

J. B. WHITING.

## A PACKET OF SEEDS SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER.

[Continued from p. 41.]

IN the afternoon the butler came to me, and said I was to go and lodge at a cottage on the green. It belonged to our master, and he let a widow woman live in it rent free, because her husband, who was once coachman in the family, was killed by one of the horses flinging him at exercise. The butler was to give me the offer of a place too in the stable, and out of livery; but I begged off, for I did not like stable ways; and I knew that at exercise before breakfast the coachman and grooms always had something to drink at a public house they passed by; and I hadn't then forgot what my father said at parting about drinking, and its making my bundle so small. So I begged off; and when I told the reason, the butler said I was a great fool, for "what harm did a glass do a man?" and yet all the while his nose and face were giving the lie to his tongue.

After work I went to my lodgings; and queer enough I felt when I went in with my bundle of little better than rags, for I'd my best on my back. I hadn't the heartiest of welcomes. The old lady did washing for the Hall servants, and the cottage wasn't the largest. She had two sons; one was coachman to the squire, and one a servant somewhere else; and she had one daughter who helped at home. This girl was two years older than me, and so marked with the small-pox, that the other girls in the village used to call her "Pock-pitted Bet." You never saw any of them keep company with her in going to church; (she kept no holidays;) she was so plain, and she dressed so plain too and so neat. And there was something in that; for any body that passed her and looked back at her face wasn't disappointed at all. It's often set me wondering how ordinary people can be so foolish as to dress so fine, and sometimes outrageously grand, as if to call people to look at their want of beauty; and many a laugh I've seen at some of the Hall folks on this score. And not at the Hall folks only, for I've often seen the same in other people; if you looked at the things on their backs, and their airs, you'd surely have taken them for quality; and if you only watched 'em long enough, you'd see 'em slip into some little poking place, and no occasion to walk in after them to see if it was clean and all to rights; for I always noticed that when people make themselves so fine for the sake of being looked at, they're sure to spend a deal of time looking at other people. Somebody goes by the window, up they jump; and that look's not enough, they must go to the door, or to the bedroom up-stairs; and if they once get their elbows on the window-sill, no more hearty work that day. But Elizabeth was none of this sort, and though she was so common-looking in her face and dress, and, as I said, none of the other girls kept her company, yet I always noticed, that when any of them were in any trouble, (and they were safe to be after our young gentlemen had been home from college,) they were sure to find their way to her to make her their friend.

But what's all this to do with flowers or gardening? Wait a bit, and you shall see; and if young gardeners cannot learn a lesson from what I've noticed, they can't do what I did. That first evening I went in, I sat still and out of the way, till I saw the old woman going for some wood to make up the fire for her irons (she and her daughter were ironing), when up I got, and fetched it for her; and after a while, and some supper, I went to bed,—and such a bed! after my hole in the shed, it was like a nobleman's to me. Next morning, when I went to work, I was told by the head-gardener, that the young man above me was gone into the stable, and I was to have his place, and ten shillings a-week, out of which I was to pay one shilling and sixpence a-week to the widow for lodging and washing. This was a fine lift for me in all ways; for now I was to work in the houses as well as the grounds. Three months only I had in this place before the under-gardener left, and I got his situation. And now I found the use of having amused myself in reading and writing; for I had for a long time before put down every night what I had seen done or done myself in the day (though it was in a poor way of writing to be sure), and this helped me wonderfully.

[To be continued.]

#### CARNATION AND PICOTEE SOCIETY.

THE frequent commendations which you have bestowed upon my seedlings, and the distinguished place which you have given them among the Illustrations of the *Florist*, demand my best acknowledgments. I would gladly contribute to your pages some new information upon the culture of the Carnation and Picotee, and point out to your readers by what means they might improve the growth, and multiply the varieties of, in my opinion, the fairest flowers in creation; but as far as their management is concerned, I have nothing new to impart, nothing that has hitherto escaped the observation of gardeners and amateurs. So much has been said, and well said, in the *Florist*, on the culture of Picotees and Carnations, that I must be permitted, for the present at least, to take my position rather as a pupil than as an instructor. It is well known that these flowers require extraordinary care, from the time the seed is sown until the bloom is produced; and I attribute my success rather to great attention devoted to a single flower, than to any peculiarity of treatment of which other cultivators may be ignorant.

While, however, I am in possession of no secret with which to enlighten your readers, I yet believe it will be doing good service to bring under their notice some account of a society which was formed last season, after the "Grand Trial Exhibition" took place at Slough, solely to promote the growth of the Picotee and Carnation. That such a society was needed will not be disputed, when we reflect on the benefits which have been derived from the numerous floricultural exhibitions which have taken place throughout

the country, while the means at their command for rewarding successful growers in the varied productions which have come before them, have not unfrequently fallen short of the demand; and while improvement in all art is mainly determined by the extent of competition, adequate reward is the great lever to set the latter in motion.

To no flowers does this remark apply with greater force than to the Picotee and Carnation, which demand far more care, labour, and watching, than any other out-door inhabitant of the garden. Their multiplication is limited, their season of flowering short, the number of blooms extremely few; who, therefore, does not feel that these disadvantages demand the counterpoise of peculiar encouragement, which it is impossible that the claims of other flowers can permit general floricultural societies to afford? At the present moment, not only is the cultivation in question much restricted, but in numberless instances, growers will not exhibit. They will not sacrifice for a prize comparatively insignificant the pride of their stages. They prefer to enjoy at home what has cost so much pains and attention.

The new society for the encouragement of the Picotee and Carnation will be supported by the annual subscription of its members, who alone will be qualified to compete. Being thus devoted to one object, it is hoped that it will be able, not only to stimulate, but handsomely to reward merit; and in this way to draw within its circle all who produce or admire the beautiful flower which it has taken under its guardianship.

MORGAN MAY.

## NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,

### AND OF NEW PLANTS FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

**BROWNEA COCCINEA.** This is one of the best stove-shrubs in cultivation. It is an old species, a native of the West Indies and South America; but it is seldom grown so as to form a compact handsome-looking plant. It requires great heat, with plenty of moisture and abundance of pot-room, to bring it to perfection; the foliage is of a pleasing green, somewhat pendulous, and the flowers are produced from the stem at the axils of the leaves, in pendulous clusters of a bright scarlet, with brown scales at their base. A large plant of it has been flowering profusely at Kew during the dreary months of winter, and a truly beautiful object it makes.

**ADENOCALYMNA COMOSA.** This is an excellent species for planting in a stove and training up pillars or against rafters. It is a large-growing free-flowering Bignoniad, having flowers of a bright yellow, enlivening the stove during the early portion of the year. It is an old species, and is a native of Brazil.

**LUCULIA GRATISSIMA.** When well cultivated, few evergreen flowering-shrubs surpass this in beauty. No conservatory or greenhouse should be without it, as it grows freely, and flowers abundantly even when in a young state. The flowers are produced in large corymbs on the apex of almost every branchlet; they are light pink, and very fragrant. When planted out, or allowed plenty of pot and head room, it forms a very handsome bush five or six feet high; numerous plants of it have been flowering at Kew during the last two months. It has long since been introduced to English gardens from Nepal.

**SCHÆNIA OPPOSITIFOLIA.** A tender greenhouse annual, equal in beauty to the *Rodanthe Manglesii*. It is an erect-growing branching plant, with a terminal inflorescence, the flowers forming a broad handsome corymb of a yellow and

rose-colour. It was raised at Kew from seed sent by Mr. Drummond from Swan River. Figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for February.

*LILIUM WALLICHIANUM*. A scaly bulbous large-flowered lily, attaining the height of four to six feet, and having narrow leaves and solitary terminal drooping fragrant flowers nine to ten inches long, of a creamy white, with large yellow anthers. It resembles the habit of *L. longiflorum* and *speciosum*. It grows freely, is very showy, and will prove an acquisition for the greenhouse during autumn, as it is a late-flowering kind. It is a native of the north of India. Figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for February.

*VANDA CERULEA*. A noble and exquisitely beautiful Orchid; it has the foliage of *Aerides odoratum*, with flowers three to four inches in diameter, of a bluish lilac, and they are produced abundantly on upright spikes. It is a native of woods on the Khasya Hills of India, and is one of the many valuable exotics introduced by Messrs. Veitch of Exeter through their collector Mr. T. Lobb. Figured in *Parton's Flower-Garden* for February.

*BANKSIA OCCIDENTALIS*. A pretty flowering evergreen greenhouse shrub, belonging to Proteads. It is an erect hard-wooded shrub, forming a bush six to eight feet high in its native sandy peaty grounds in New Holland. This species belongs to a tribe which is but little cultivated unless in large collections, although many of them are elegant shrubs for decorating the conservatory or greenhouse, forming large handsome bushes with a neat foliage and richly coloured flowers. The present species is one of the best, and richly deserves a place in all collections. Its flowers are collected into elongated clusters, and are of a rich red. Figured in *Parton's Flower-Garden* for February.

*BILBERGIA MORELLIANA*. An evergreen stove-plant, belonging to the pineapple family. It is one of the showiest of the genus, bearing a large pendulous panicle of flowers, a foot or more long, of a reddish-pink and blue colour, with many large reddish-pink bracts (not much unlike those of *Medinilla magnifica*). This species has recently flowered in one of the stoves at Kew. It was received from the continent under the name of *Tillandsia Morelliana*. Figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for January.

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

J. HOULSTON.

## WHY DO CARNATIONS RUN?

I HAVE cultivated (writes a Correspondent) Carnations for about six years, and with very indifferent success, though I have taken the greatest pains with them. I have been supplied by Ely, Norman, Holland, Groom, and Turner. I have an undue proportion *run* both in rich, middling, and poor compost, both in the open ground and in pots. Would you be good enough to say what compost you think least likely to cause this defect, and whether you consider want of shading from powerful sun when the buds are swelling could have any thing to do with it?

This last season I had Lord Milton grown in pots in compost of three degrees of richness, as subjoined, and with the following results :

|                                     |                           |                              |                          |                              |                           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Loam . . . . . $\frac{2}{3}$        | } <i>slightly</i><br>run. | Loam . . . . . $\frac{1}{2}$ | } <i>greatly</i><br>run. | Loam . . . . . $\frac{1}{3}$ | } <i>slightly</i><br>run. |
| Hotbed-dung . . . . . $\frac{1}{3}$ |                           | Dung . . . . . $\frac{2}{3}$ |                          | Dung . . . . . $\frac{2}{3}$ |                           |
| Sand . . . . . $\frac{1}{6}$        |                           | Sand . . . . . $\frac{1}{6}$ |                          | Sand . . . . . $\frac{1}{6}$ |                           |

Would you consider the undecayed fibre in sods twelve months dug injurious? Do you think it would be better to have it picked out? I have now two heaps of compost prepared as follows :



- |                                                                                                                                                            |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Sods dug and chopped up in February last . . . . .                                                                                                      | 4-5   |
| Fresh stable-dung . . . . .                                                                                                                                | 4-5   |
| Sand . . . . .                                                                                                                                             | 1 1/2 |
| 2. Sods with all the grass and a great deal of the rooty<br>fibre picked out: the sods dug in October, and only<br>taken four or five inches deep. . . . . | 4-5   |
| Stable-manure put together under a shed last February                                                                                                      | 4     |
| No sand.                                                                                                                                                   |       |

Any hint that can be given me will be gratefully received.

LISTS OF FIRST-RATE FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

No. III. PINKS.

- |                                   |                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *Achilles (Looker).               | Laura (Willmer).            |
| *Attila (Turner).                 | *Lola Montez (Costar).      |
| *Agitator (Tyso).                 | Lord Valentia (Kirtland).   |
| Alfred Morrison (Costar).         | *Lord Norreys (Looker).     |
| *Bob Tickler (Craigy).            | *Magnificent (Keynes).      |
| *Brilliant (Ellis).               | *Morning Star (Turner).     |
| *Charles Peers (Looker).          | *Mr. Edwards (Turner).      |
| Criterion (Maclean).              | *Narborough Buck (Maclean). |
| Diana (Smith).                    | *Pindar (Colcutt).          |
| *Duchess of Kent (Harris).        | Prince Albert (Kirtland).   |
| *Duchess of Marlborough (Looker). | *Post Captain (Ellis).      |
| George Glenny (Bragg).            | Queen of England (Hale).    |
| Great Britain (Ward).             | Rubens (Hembrey).           |
| *Harkforward (Smith).             | *Sappho (Colcutt).          |
| Harriet (Kerr).                   | *Surplice (Willmer).        |
| *Hon. Mrs. Herbert (Keynes).      | Whipper-in (Smith).         |
| *Huntsman (Smith).                | *Winchester Rival (White).  |
| *Jenny Lind (Read).               | XX (Young).                 |
| King of Purples (Harris).         |                             |

LISTS OF WHAT TO AVOID.

No. II. PANSIES.

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Arethusia (Brown).        | Kremlin (Lane).           |
| Alpha (Schofield).        | Lady Sale (Hooper).       |
| Attila (Hooper).          | Lanei (Lane).             |
| Alexis (Gossett).         | Lord J. Russell (Bell).   |
| Blooming Girl (Hooper).   | Lucy Ashton (Byne).       |
| Blue Perfection (Byne).   | Lady Lacon (Bell).        |
| Celeste (Bragg).          | Mary Jane (Hooper).       |
| Curion (Brown).           | Negro (Schofield).        |
| Commodore (Turner).       | Optimus (Turner).         |
| Candidate (Thomson).      | Pliny (Thomson).          |
| Dr. Wolff (Backhouse).    | Pizarro (Thomson).        |
| Emma (Youell).            | Polynices (Gossett).      |
| Earl Clarendon (Chaplin). | Princess Royal (Attwell). |
| Fire King (Turner).       | Queen of Iver (Thomson).  |
| Glory (Hine).             | Shakspeare (Thomson).     |
| Julien (Schofield).       | Smut (Hooper).            |
| Jenny Lind (Weatherall).  | Sylph (Turner).           |

## OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS.** From the early part of this month till the pips are in danger of injury from rain (which will not be the case while the calyx covers the tube or pipe), Auriculas should be allowed the benefit of warm showers. Keep up a good supply of moisture; the demand will be greater daily; and in harsh drying windy weather give water between the pots, that the bottom of the frame may be continually moist. By the middle of the month, or thereabout, the trusses will have risen out of the hearts of the plants. At this period plants intended for exhibition should be selected. If for London shows, be sure they have seven pips. Give the preference to plants with level trusses, the buds well formed, round, and uniform in size. As soon as it can be safely done, cut away any ill-shaped pips, such as are likely to disfigure the symmetry of the truss; and as soon as the trusses have so advanced in growth that the pips begin to separate, they may be thinned out by removing a few of the smaller ones least likely to be useful. During the day, let the glasses be drawn off as soon as possible, and remain so as late in the evening as convenient, if the weather be mild and open; but if cold and severe, cover early with sufficient matting, or other material, to secure them from frost. Uncover in the morning as soon as the atmosphere is congenial. Towards the end of the month, shading for an hour or two in the middle of the day will be necessary, if the sun be shining powerfully. Give air by degrees to the rooted offsets taken last month before finally repotting them. Many will put forth new fibres by this time. Examine the unrooted ones also, and give water when necessary, but do not exceed moderate moisture. Destroy slugs, &c. under the glasses. Transplant seedlings while in the seed-leaf, particularly if sown thick. Numbers will be found on the surface, not having penetrated the soil; and if not transplanted they will perish. Keep the soil continually moist, and well protect them from the mid-day sun.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** General attention is required to specimen plants. Examine them frequently about the surface of the pot, both stem and leaves. If the weather is brilliant, as it sometimes is in March, shade the plants in the middle of the day from powerful sunlight. Seedlings should be shifted as they may require. If in the pots they are to bloom in, so much the better.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.** If the weather is open, commence repotting for bloom immediately. The mould and pots having been kept dry, as before recommended, this important part will be done with much less trouble, and will give the plants a better chance. Begin with those that are strong and healthy. The weakly kinds should be deferred. If possible, shelter them from bad weather, should it set in after the repotting. Attend daily to watering as long as they are in small pots.

**CINERARIAS.** Shift those plants that are becoming too large for the pots; where this is inconvenient, a larger supply of water must be given. A little weak manure-water occasionally will greatly assist

them, both in bringing out their colours and maintaining the plants in health. Watch narrowly for the green-fly and the mildew.

**COLD FRAMES.** Plants which have been kept in the cutting-pots during the winter, should now be potted off. For Verbenas and other bedding plants, four and five-inch pots will be sufficiently large; but the drainage should be so arranged, as to be effective and in a small compass; therefore place one flat piece of crock over the hole in the bottom of the pot, and upon this drop a few finely broken pieces and then some rough fibrous bits of soil. In this way the largest possible portion of the contents will be available for the support of the plants, and as the latter will have to exist in these small pots for some eight or ten weeks, it will be worth a little trouble to secure sufficient support for them. Use rich light soil. After potting, the plants may require a little artificial warmth, but this will altogether depend upon circumstances; if they are strong and healthy, and the weather continues mild, a sufficiently high temperature will be obtained by keeping the frame rather close during the day, and covering it at night. It is a very common error in the management of bedding plants, to consign them after potting to a place where the temperature would suit tropical plants; here they make rapid progress for a few weeks, and fill their pots with roots; they are then unceremoniously placed in some sheltered spot, where, with their tissues full of sap and their roots confined to a few inches of exhausted soil, the effects of the change of climate is soon manifested in their impaired health. Plants thus treated are technically termed *hardened*, and very properly so, as they invariably remain *hard* for weeks after they are planted in their summer quarters. Such plants will require the protection of evergreen branches, to shade them from the rays of the sun, and with all possible care they remain long in a miserable state of existence; whereas plants propagated last autumn and kept growing slowly until they are planted out, will be sufficiently hardened and vigorous to enjoy the full strength of a June sun, and will not be in any way injured by a slight hoar frost; but such would prove the death of the *hardened* tribe. The proper management of such plants is, to propagate them early; this will allow of their being kept hardy without hardening them. But where such things have to be propagated during the spring, it will be necessary to subject them to a warm moist atmosphere, particularly in instances where the cuttings have to be grown as well as rooted and established. Where such work has yet to be done, no time must be lost. The best method at this season is to insert cuttings of the half-ripened wood, in pans well drained, and filled with silver-sand; this allows of their being removed for potting without breaking or injuring the roots. The propagating frame should be kept warm ( $60^{\circ}$  at night, and  $75^{\circ}$  with sun-light), and as soon as the plants are rooted, air should be freely admitted; this may be done without allowing the temperature to become very low, and the plants will gain size without being so full of sap and so tender as would be the case if warmth and moisture were applied to them. Inure them to the full force of the sun and air as soon as possible,

avoiding, of course, cold drying currents of wind. If green-fly appear in the propagating-frame, fumigate at once. More water will now be necessary. See that the plants are all moist, without being soddened.

**DAHLIAS.** Cuttings of new varieties, or others much valued, should now be put-in in large numbers. There is much less trouble in striking them early in the season, before the sun has great power; yet there is a difficulty attending early propagation, in keeping the plants dwarf, and also in preventing their becoming stunted in the heart: avoid the two extremes. Common border-flowers should be started in a little heat, that the root may be divided, leaving one shoot to each division.

**EPACRISES.** Many will be in bloom; the only attention necessary during the blossom-season is, to see that water is administered when necessary, which will be more frequently required during the usually drying winds of March. The stock-plants may be now shifted, stopping all shoots that may be soaring above their fellows; by attending to this little matter now, the whole of the summer's growth will be usefully developing itself, and all cutting back by and by rendered unnecessary. Admit air freely upon all fitting occasions; preventing the entrance, however, of cold, cutting winds.

**ERICAS.** As the spring-blooming varieties are now fast advancing, it will be necessary to look them over; finally arrange every branch, supporting those needing it with thin green-painted sticks, placed as inconspicuously as possible. Give the plants the benefit of all air free from frost, avoiding side-draughts; an increased supply of water will be needed this month: do not deprive the plant of the smallest portion of sunshine. The shifting of "stock" may now be proceeded with on mild days, also the late-blooming sorts towards the end of the month.

**FLOWER-GARDEN.** If any alterations in this department are in hand, they should be finished with the least possible delay, more especially if they involve removing or planting shrubs. This kind of work should be performed during autumn; but with great care and a plentiful supply of water it may be done at almost any season. Finish pruning tender Roses, &c., and get every spot into the neatest possible order. Vacant ground, intended for the reception of "bedding plants," should be lightly dug as soon as the surface becomes somewhat firm and dry. This will greatly improve the texture of the soil, especially if it is of a heavy nature. Hardy annuals may be sown where they are intended to bloom. If an abundance of such things as Stocks, China Asters, Marygolds, &c., are sown in some spare corner, they will be found useful. Make a memorandum of any attractive plant which may be in flower during the month, particularly such as can be easily removed to make way for the bedding plants, and attend to the propagation of such at the proper season. Clean and roll gravel and grass if necessary. Remember that if grass is to be under good keeping during any part of the season, there is nothing gained by allowing it to get six inches high before it is cut. If not already done, dress ground occupied by herbaceous and American plants. Leaf-mould is an excellent article

for this purpose. Use the spade sparingly among the latter. Half-hardy annuals should be sown during the present month. These afford a variety of colour which cannot be obtained in the flower-garden without them. They will require a little warmth to get them established, and should be placed in the propagating-frame until potted off, when they must be gradually inured to air and sun.

**FUCHSIAS.** Continue the treatment recommended last month. Seedlings should be potted off singly into 2½-inch pots, shifting as often as the roots make their appearance on the outside of the ball. Keep up, indeed rather increase the temperature recommended last month.

**GREENHOUSE.** Repot all plants which require it, but be careful before potting to have the balls in a proper state as to moisture. Never pot a plant about whose existence you care any thing while the ball is either too dry or too wet. Hard-wooded plants, intended to form specimens, should now be encouraged to make free growth. Plants in a growing state will require an abundant supply of water; but be careful, for it is easier to over water now than it will be two months hence. Wash and clean the foliage of all plants which require it. Fumigate as soon as green-fly make their appearance, and spare no exertions to keep the stock healthy.

**HARDY FRUIT-TREES.** Finish pruning and nailing. Protect trees in blossom from frost: branches of the Spruce Fir or Yew will be found useful for this purpose. We use a light canvass, which costs 4½*d.* per square yard. This is easily arranged so as to be let down at night and removed in the morning, and with care it will last for many years. It is an excellent plan to bring this into use as soon as the weather tempts the blossom-buds to swell; but in this case it should be let down during bright days, and removed at night, so as to retard the blossoming as much as possible. Trees so treated will often be from a week to a fortnight behind others upon the same wall which have been exposed to the sun. This advice is, however, too late for this season, except in very late localities. Top-dress and lightly dig the ground among small fruits, but use the spade sparingly in such places. Trees intended to be grafted should be headed down at once, and the grafts may be put on as soon as the sap is in motion.

**PANSIES** will now begin to be very interesting. Grow them in pots as hardy as possible; turn them round occasionally; water sparingly, unless in very growing weather. As soon as sufficiently dry, the beds will require top-dressing with rotten manure, previous to which fill up all vacancies, and look well for young slugs, and destroy them before they have commenced their depredations, as a small piece eaten out of the bud in a young state will be a great disfigurement in a fully-expanded bloom. Seedlings wintered in pans should now be planted out, and side-shoots taken and put in as cuttings, if increase is required; there will be little trouble in striking them, if put in early in this month.

**PELARGONIUMS.** About the second week stop back the plants required for blooming in July. Give air at all opportunities, opening early in the morning, and shutting up early in the afternoon, say

three or four o'clock, according to circumstances, shutting out all cold easterly winds. Draw the syringe over the plants once or twice a week after shutting up with plenty of sunlight and warmth. The May plants will be fast shewing their trusses. When the plants require water, give them sufficient to moisten the whole ball.

**PINKS.** Protection must be continued through this month. Earthing-up is a great security against wind. Seed may be sown about the middle of the month in any light and sweet soil; if composed of a little leaf-mould, it will be all the better; sift a little rather fine for the surface. By placing the pots or boxes in a western aspect, much trouble in shading will be saved, and the seed will germinate equally well. Cover with a flat sheet of glass or a hand-light, and be sure to keep the soil moist.

**POLYANTHUSES** are not so liable to injury by rain as Auriculas; let them have showers more frequently until the pips begin to expand. Shelter and protect as for Auriculas. Due attention to watering must be observed; the soil should be well moistened. Earth-up Polyanthuses in borders, if not already done. Carefully mark all seedlings that possess any claim to perfection, either as show or seedling varieties, and discard at once all of inferior stamp; by this precaution you will improve the strain.

**RANUNCULUSES.** Plant any out of the ground immediately; the roots planted in the middle of last month should be looked over.

**ROSES IN POTS.** Give abundance of air when the weather is favourable. If plants are required for exhibition, or a display in June, they should be pruned about the second week of this month.



## NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

IN our last we stated that the preliminary steps had been taken for the formation of this Society. Since that time many well-known and influential Florists, amateur and professional, have been indefatigably at work in preparing the rules and regulations for its conduct. These may be had by prepaid application to the Honorary Secretary (*pro tem.*), Mr. Edwards, Wace Cottage, Holloway; and we tell our readers very plainly, that in our opinion there never was a fairer prospect for the true interests of floriculture than the establishment of this Society affords, and that it is the duty of all to promote its success by every means in their power.

Let us inquire what it is the promoters and supporters of this institution propose to do by its establishment.

First, to have one central tribunal, composed of men from all parts of the country, to which shall be submitted for judgment all seedling productions, before they are sold out to the public.

Secondly, to have meetings for their exhibition, and for the finest varieties already out or going forth, with which seedlings can be compared.

Thirdly, to supply in printed reports the real character of the productions brought before this tribunal.

There is not a raiser or purchaser who must not see at a glance how valuable such a central society must be. No expense will be spared to obtain the services of first-rate judges, as far as the funds of the Society will warrant their engagement from distant parts; and as the expenses will be jealously watched over, nothing but the greatest supineness on the part of those most interested, in delaying to forward their names as subscribers, will stand in the way of the most perfect and entire success. As to pleasing every body, that no one expects; but every one may rest assured that the executive will make every effort, guided by experience, to meet all difficulties. The meetings being in Regent Street, and in the best room in the metropolis for the purpose, will be most interesting and attractive; and they will be conducted with all that propriety and decorum which characterise those of the Horticultural Society. To these any member will be at liberty to introduce his friends; and when we consider the publicity which will be given to any fine varieties which may be exhibited, from the personal observations of visitors, in addition to the printed reports, we may naturally suppose that there will be no want of productions, if raisers are alive to their own

interest. Let us hope that nothing will prevent the cordial co-operation of all those interested in the prosperity of floriculture. We congratulate the Society upon obtaining the services of Edmund Foster, Esq. as its president, as well as upon those of the other officers whose names are already published; and we look with much interest for the result of the meeting which is to be held before this is in the hands of our readers, but a report of which we are unable to publish, being obliged to go to press before the day.

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### THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.

THE *Chrysanthemum indicum* was introduced into the gardens of Europe about the year 1760, and a few years later *C. sinense* followed it: these two, *C. indicum* yellow, and *C. sinense* rosy-purple, form the type of all those beautiful varieties which adorn our gardens and conservatories from October until the end of December; just at the time when scarcely any other flower is to be seen, and none of such gay and varied colours. Like the Dahlia, it has been so improved by the Florists of Europe as hardly to be recognised by the gardeners of China; and while the latter remain contented with the original type and some ill-formed semi-double varieties from it, we have obtained flowers of surpassing beauty, perfectly double, and exhibiting almost every shade of colour; and, what is of more importance to an amateur, such a regularity of petals as nearly to approach perfection in form. We must not, however, be contented with that; we must aim at producing a perfect flower of different colours; the prize is before us, but not yet won; for now that the *Chrysanthemum* is admitted into the society of Florists' flowers, and claims her days of public exhibition, her motto must be, "*Aide toi; le ciel t'aidera.*" The last exhibition at Stoke Newington must have astonished those who visited it for the first time; and even such as had marked the annual progress of the shows were hardly prepared for so great an improvement or so fine a display of stands and specimen plants. The object of this notice, however, is not to enter into the merits of the flowers then exhibited; suffice it to say, that Queen of England, Goliath, Vesta, Duke, Annie Salter, Golden Cluster, Beauty, Warden, Princess Marie, and Madame Poggi, were shewn in splendid style; some blooms of Queen of England measured more than six inches in diameter.

The *Chrysanthemum* Annie Salter, represented by your Plate, was raised by my father at Versailles in 1843, and sent to England in 1845; it is now in almost every collection, and has been perhaps more extensively cultivated than any other variety. Its value as a show-flower is admitted by all; it was in every stand and collection at the late exhibition; and although its properties may not be altogether in accordance with the standard laid down (not being incurved,





*Chrysanthemum*

(Pom-pom) N°2. Annie Suter.



but reflexed), yet its circular form, regularity of petal, high and full centre, beautiful colour, and constancy, render it absolutely necessary to every exhibitor; while its value as a garden-variety or market-flower is equally acknowledged; and its dwarf habit and profusion of perfectly double flowers make it an universal favourite.

The Pompon Chrysanthemum Pouledetto, associated with Annie Salter, was raised in 1849 by Mr. Lebois of Paris, an ardent lover of this tribe of plants, and to whom we are indebted for many fine varieties; it is a seedling from Mr. Fortune's Chusan Daisy, a pretty little variety distributed by the Horticultural Society of London a year or two ago.

ALFRED SALTER.

*Versailles Nursery, Hammersmith Turnpike.*

### ON THE RUNNING OF THE CARNATION.

THE experience and observation of some years incline me to reject the idea that composts can in any material degree either induce or prevent the propensity to sport observable in the Carnation, which we term 'running.' I have, by way of experiment, grown them in soils of various enrichment, from pure sandy loam to unalloyed decomposed animal manures, with about equal results in that respect.

Take a given number of plants propagated from the same original, pot them into the same pot, and some will probably be run; I cannot, therefore, understand why, if the compost were in fault, the effect should be partial. I have also observed, that in some summers the complaint of an unusual number of run flowers will be pretty general in a particular district; and as it is barely possible to suppose that the composts used by several growers were all precisely the same, it appears to me that we must look elsewhere for a solution of this mystery. I view it simply as a natural tendency to sport (observable in other flowers besides the one in question); and though that inclination most frequently is to return to the natural self-colour of the original type, yet instances are not wanting of its taking an opposite direction;—thus Ely's Lady Ely (R.F.) is a sport from Ely's Duke of Bedford (C.B.), as Fletcher's Duchess of Devonshire (R.F.) is also from Gregory's King Alfred; while Puxley's Prince Albert, classed as a P.P.B., is often a very high-coloured C.B., and has positively sported to an S.B. Moreover, it does not follow that because the one or two leading blooms which the flower is alone suffered by Florists to bear happen to be run, that the lower ones, if they had been permitted to remain, would have been in that condition. I have seen a leading bloom of Beauty of Woodhouse (P.F.), a purple self or clove, and the second flower on the same stem a pure white. I turned out last season into the border what I supposed from the bloom in the pot to be a run Ward's Sarah Payne, but late in autumn it produced a bloom low down on the stem perfectly clean.

Flaked flowers are not to be condemned as run if you can perceive the smallest stripe of pure white in them; I have observed that the progeny of such is usually finely marked the ensuing season. Do not, however, mistake white spots caused by thrips for the natural white of the flower.

Many sorts supposed to be run will return. This has happened with Martin's President (P.F.), Sharpe's Defiance (S.B.), and many others. Your chances of clean flowers are not equal whether you propagate from run or clean stools; by which I mean to intimate my opinion, that as many plants will probably return to fineness from the one as from the other.

As for your Correspondent's composts, I should pronounce half dung to be excessive, as far as the ultimate soundness of his stock is concerned; and he should by no means deprive his loam of any fibrous or rooty matters which it contains; that I consider to be by far its better part.

J. W. NEWHALL.

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I regret that I am unable to offer your Correspondent any satisfactory solution of the problem proposed,—the *running* of Carnations being one of those subjects which seems to defy explanation; and hitherto experiments have been so loosely conducted, or under such varying circumstances, that no positive deduction can be obtained from them. My impression is, that Carnations are run more frequently by the use of *crude* material than from any other cause. For instance, the loam has not been sufficiently ameliorated by the action of the atmosphere, or the manure not sufficiently decomposed, or the mechanical arrangement of the soil has prevented a proper drainage, and the removal of the fibre is likely to lead to this.

To obviate this, therefore, should be our object; and the first care is the compost. For this I look out for the best pasture I can obtain, choosing, when practicable, a yellow loam. This I get cut and stacked in August, or early in September, when quite dry; and in this state, sheltered from heavy rains or snows, it lies till the succeeding August, when I chop it down, and mix it with very old decomposed manure (not spent, but quite decomposed, and pliable when rubbed), in the proportion of two-thirds loam, one-third old manure and leaf-soil; about one part in three of the latter. To this I add sand, if necessary, to make it more porous; but in general a good sweet loam, with plenty of fibre—a most important point—will render the whole quite open without sand.

This is my practice, and I am well satisfied with it. I should on no account advise the picking out the "rooty fibre:" almost all vegetation will flourish in it. Neither do I consider *continued* shading of the buds advisable; an hour or two during the extreme heat of the day may be beneficial.

I think it likely your Correspondent has erred in not getting his compost well mellowed; and I advise him to give his attention to that point.

Derby.

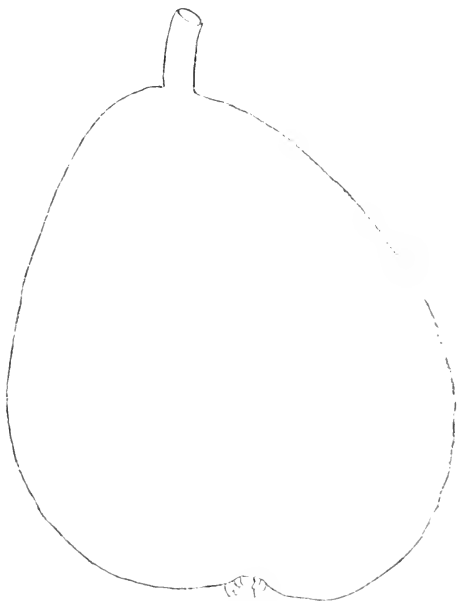
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## DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

No. IV.

PEARS (*continued from p. 38*).

3. *Fondante d'Automne*. Fruit middle-sized, regularly obovate in form, but often a little oblique, rounding off gradually to join the short thick stalk. Eye in a broad and very shallow depression, open; segments erect, short and stout. Skin smooth, light-greenish yellow. Flesh white, not always perfectly buttery, but abounding in sweet and pleasant juice. A very handsome and good Pear, in the end of September and beginning of October.



4. *Passans de Portugal*. Fruit small, roundish oblate, generally oblique at the stalk end. Eye rather large, often without segments (the remains of the calyx), seated in a broad shallow basin. Stalk about half an inch long, strong, inserted in a broad shallow cavity. Skin of a greenish-yellow colour, thickly studded with minute dots or points of a russet colour, which on the sunny side often become brownish red. Flesh white, juicy and melting, sugary and agreeably flavoured. Ripens in the end of August, and may be kept during part of September. One of the best early autumn Pears; and the trees are very productive as dwarfs or pyramids.

J. B. WHITING.

## NOTES FROM THE LOG-BOOK OF AN ERRATIC MAN.

No. IV.

## THE DESERTED SHIP.

OFTEN, when I have finished my employment amongst my plants, I resort to my quarter-deck, as I call it — a path immediately in front of one of my greenhouses, where, in the language of Wordsworth,

“ I pace unwearied and alone,  
In that habitual restlessness of foot  
With which the sailor measures o'er and o'er  
His short domain upon the vessel's deck,  
While she is travelling through the dreary sea.”

When thus occupied I have my “reminiscences;” and though far less floral than those of many of your excellent correspondents, I hope they may serve by contrast to shew the Florist the happiness of his situation, and lead him, when surrounded by the beautiful objects of his care, to remember those to whom our gardens are so much indebted for the productions of other lands.

Sailors, perhaps more than any others, have to see the closeness with which in this world sunshine and storm, security and danger, hope and fear, life and death, go hand in hand. Whatever use may be made of their opportunities, it is certain that the vicissitudes and uncertainty of human life are obtruded more frequently upon none than upon them; and it sometimes happens that in the most cloudless serenity of their course, a melancholy and silent record of some past disaster that has befallen others in the same path of life as their own, has told of what, but for the preserving care of God, might have been their own lot.

It was a gloriously fine morning on the 1st of June, 1826, with a rattling breeze just enough to keep all the light sails stowed out of the way; every body, from the captain to the cook, in the highest spirits, so exhilarating is such weather to the homeward bound. The merry laugh was present among the passengers, for whom the sea-breezes had done more in the way of restoration to health than all the calomel of India. And if the passengers were light-hearted, so were the men; in fact, there was an air of cheerfulness through the whole ship, which all have known who have been much at sea, and particularly when, after a continuance of adverse gales, a favourable one is speeding them on their way homeward. The sun and moon were in distance for obtaining lunar observations, the officers were on the poop with their sextants, the doctor held the time-piece, the captain had said, “Are you ready?” when a man on the fore-castle sung out, “Boat right a-head, sir.” Down went the sextants. “Boat!” said the captain, “what boat can be here? a Scilly boat? or can it be a pilot-boat so far to the west'ard? hand me up my glass.” “Boy,” cried the chief officer to his servant, “bear a hand and bring me mine for'ard;” and he left the poop, and went aloft to the fore-topsail-yard. By this time every body was upon

deck. " 'Tis a boat," said the captain to himself (though heard by every one about him); "'tis a boat; yet it cannot be," said he, keeping the glass to his eye. "She has no canvass on her; what can she be after, rolling about there in this breeze?" By this time the chief officer had made her out, and the captain going into the waist received his report from aloft. "She's a wreck, the hull of a ship, sir; fore-mast gone by the board, stump of the main-mast standing, no sail set, nobody to be seen a-board, the sea going clean over her decks, bulwarks all gone; we're nearing her very fast." "Clear away the first cutter," said the captain; "get a breaker of water in her, some bread, and a bottle of brandy, and see all clear for lowering; and, Mr. C.," addressing the chief officer, who was now again at his side, "choose your boat's crew, and see all clear for bringing the ship to the wind." In a moment volunteers pressed forward, and whilst the rest of the ship's company went to their stations, they saw all ready for going away to the wreck. By the time sail was shortened, we had run nearly alongside her and rounded-to, crossing her bows. Every soul in our ship was clustered upon her side; and what a fitting quietness there was in every countenance, voice, and action,—for 'twas indeed a melancholy sight! There she lay, with the waves washing over her bleached decks, and falling in cascades over her sides, as she slowly and heavily pitched and rolled with the action of every following sea. That she had been long in this condition was evident from the barnacles attached to her whole length, which gracefully waved with her motions like a beautiful fringe-work of flowers, their white shells glistening beneath the sparkling waters, bathed in the intense light of a cloudless sun, which shone as in mockery upon that hapless ship. What was her tale? where her crew? Nothing could have existed below, for she was a timber-loaden ship and full of water, and her deck was as clear and desolate as a half-tide rock. There she lay all solitary in that wide sea, in the very track of hundreds of homeward-bound ships, an *unknown*, and by night an *unseen* peril of the worst description. How many a ship reported missing, and fate unknown, has perished with all her crew from striking on such a *floating rock*! Well might we congratulate ourselves on making her out in daylight and clear weather, for she lay right in our course. Satisfied that no one was on board, and sure that she had been overhauled, from every piece of rope being gone from her, the helm was put up, the yards squared, sail made, and she was soon left far astern. Yet there were gallant hearts amongst our number that would readily have volunteered and attempted to carry that lone ship into port, if our commander would have furnished the needful supplies to have enabled them to make the attempt. We heard that her ultimate fate was to be stranded on the west coast of Ireland. We found also on our arrival that she had been reported at Lloyd's as boarded two weeks previous to our seeing her, when no one was on board, and nothing belonging to humanity was found but some long hair.

## THE AMHERSTIA NOBILIS.

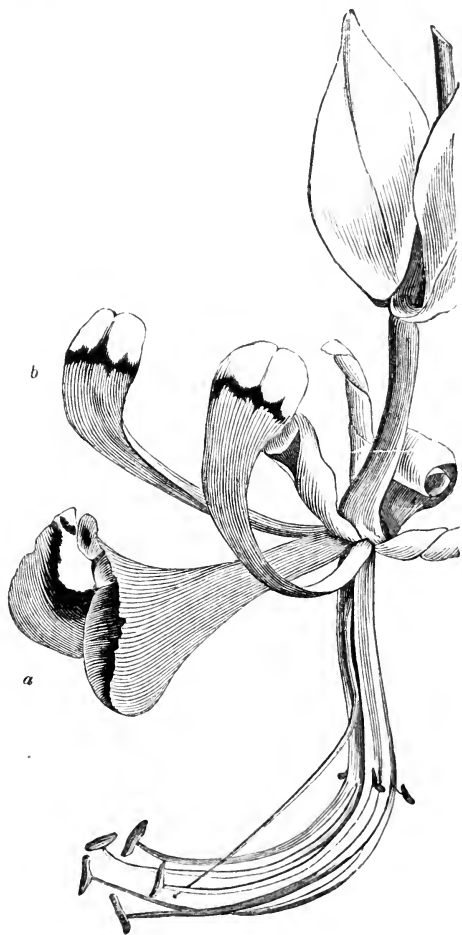
To Mrs. Lawrence of Ealing Park belongs the merit of first flowering this fine leguminous plant in this country. Three bunches (one of which was presented to the Queen,) of most beautiful flowers were first cut off it early in 1849. During that season many more succeeded them; and this year it has produced blossoms in such profusion, that, at a late meeting of the Horticultural Society, that lady was able to exhibit not one bunch but several, charmingly adorned with scarlet and yellow flowers. This floricultural achievement has been brought about by Mrs. Lawrence in a very short period of time, as the following brief history of the plant will shew. When received at Ealing Park in July 1847, it was only 18 inches high, with eleven leaves on it. In the beginning of September 1848, such was the rapidity with which it had grown, that it measured 6 feet 7 inches high from the pot, about 10 feet through, and was profusely clothed with luxuriant foliage. Many of the young leaves measured then 2 feet 4 inches long, with leaflets 11 inches in length. After it had received a shift or two, it soon became too large for the house it was growing in, and, in order to give it room, a compartment was formed for it in the large Orchid-house. Here the tub in which it was growing was placed on low brick pillars, in order to secure for it perfect drainage. To assist the bottom-heat, a bed of tan was formed round the tub; and a hot-water pipe, over which were placed zinc evaporating troughs, ran round the tan. The ground temperature was thus kept up to between  $80^{\circ}$  and  $90^{\circ}$ , and the top-heat  $75^{\circ}$  to  $80^{\circ}$ , and even to  $100^{\circ}$  and  $110^{\circ}$  with sun-heat. While growing fast, it received plenty of water; but as the wood began to ripen, it was kept somewhat drier. Such is the treatment this truly fine tropical tree has received at Ealing Park, and the results have been all that well-directed skill could have desired.

Dr. Wallich says: "The first notice I had of the existence of this magnificent tree was at Rangoon, in August 1826, when Mr. Crawford favoured me with some dried unopened flowers, together with the following account, taken from a statement of his visit to the province of Martaban: 'At Kogun, on the Saluen river, is a garden belonging to a neighbouring monastery. The only plant in it which struck me as remarkable was a tree about 20 feet high abounding in long and pendulous panicles of rich geranium-coloured blossoms, and long and elegant lance-shaped leaves. It is too beautiful an object to be passed unobserved even by the uninitiated in botany. Handfuls of the flowers were found as offerings in the cave before the images of Buddha.'" In his report of a journey on the river Saluen, undertaken in March 1827, Dr. Wallich again says: "In about an hour I came to a decayed kioum (a sort of monastery) close to the large hill of Kogun, distant about 27 miles from the town of Martaban. I had been prepared to find a tree growing here, an account of which had been communicated to me long ago by Mr. Crawford, nor was I disappointed. There were two individuals of this tree



here; the largest, about 40 feet high, with a girth (at 3 feet above the base) of 6 feet, stood close to the cave; the other was smaller, and overhung an old square reservoir of water lined with bricks and stones. They were profusely ornamented with pendulous racemes of large vermilion-coloured blossoms, forming superb objects, unequalled in the Flora of the East Indies. I call this tree *Amherstia nobilis*; the Burmese name is Thoka. Neither the people here nor at Martaban could give me any distinct account of its native place of growth, but there is little doubt that it belongs to the forests of this province. The ground was strewn even at a distance with its blossoms, which are carried daily as offerings to the images in the adjoining caves." Such is Dr. Wallich's account of this tree, of which he only met with two specimens; but we have heard that it was found plentifully in the woods of Moulmein by the late Dr. Griffiths. The specimen in Mrs. Lawrence's garden is now nearly 16 feet in height, 14 feet across at the base, and is clothed with perfect foliage. Indeed it is scarcely possible to conceive any thing more beautiful than the young leaves when they first unfold; and even if the tree bore no flowers at all, it would be worth cultivating for the beauty of its foliage alone. The latter hangs down, together with the shoots, to which it is attached in a most graceful manner. The flowers are individually large, as will be seen by the annexed woodcut, rosy pink, with the vexillum (*a*) and two wings (*b*) tipped with yellow, and scentless. They are borne in loose pendulous bunches beneath the foliage.

The soil in which



it has succeeded so well is Epping loam mixed with crocks, sand, and Wimbledon peat (the fibry part), to the extent of about one-third its bulk. As in all climates, with few exceptions, plants have a period of growth and rest, these conditions have been imitated in the artificial culture of the *Amherstia*. While it is growing it likes plenty of heat and moisture. This, indeed, will be readily conceived when it is remembered that it comes from the warm province of Martaban, near the gulf of that name, where the annual fall of rain is perhaps five or six times that of London, whose yearly average depth is about 24 inches.

Magnificent, however, as the noble *Amherstia* certainly is, it will be unsuitable for the conveniences of many of our readers; and we do not anticipate that any but those who can afford it large accommodation and much heat will attempt its cultivation. Nevertheless we have thought it right to introduce to their notice, in the manner we have done, a novelty which has lately occupied much attention in the horticultural world, and from which much is yet expected.

Since the above was in type, we have learned from the *Gardener's Chronicle* (to which periodical we are indebted for our woodcut) that the *Amherstia* has flowered in the Royal Gardens at Frogmore. The first raceme was taken to Buckingham Palace on the 7th ult., and others have unfolded their beautiful blossoms since. In its cultivation Mr. Ingram has found it necessary constantly to shade it from the rays of the sun, otherwise the young pendulous leaves are apt to get their edges scorched. It grows luxuriantly in a moist heat of from 65° to 70° Fahr.; it likes a good supply of water, and sometimes a little liquid manure.



## DESTRUCTION OF APHIDES.

As the time is approaching when one of our most mischievous pests, the aphid, takes the field, permit me to impart to such of your readers as still burn expensive tobacco so ineffectively for its destruction, an easy and certain method of completely and with little trouble placing the whole legion *hors de combat*.

For a small greenhouse or moderately-sized pit, dissolve an ounce of saltpetre in a common teacup of hot water. In the solution steep two ounces of cheap tobacco, till the latter absorbs all the liquid; open and spread the tobacco, which should then stand in the sun, or before the fire, until *nearly* but not perfectly dried. Place it in an old plate or pan, not too close to the plants; ignite with a match, and shut close. In a few minutes so dense will be the obscuration that nothing within the house will be perceptible; and next morning, not only will you find every plant perfectly clean, but for weeks—sometimes for a whole season—there will be no necessity for a repetition of the process. In late autumn and during the winter months, I would not advise the use of the prepared tobacco in shallow frames, the nitre acting injuriously on the damp foliage of tender plants; at

other times it may without risk supersede the old expensive and unwholesome method of fumigation. In larger structures the same quantity may be fired at the same moment in two or three parts of the house.

K.

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## REMARKS ON BRITISH FERNS.

No. IV.

ASPLENIUM.

*A. MARINUM.* This constant inhabitant of our rocky shores submits to cultivation with reluctance. Although I have been tolerably successful with it under hand-glasses out-of-doors, still it will not luxuriate so freely as when kept in slight heat. But it may be said, and with propriety, this is not our object so far as British Ferns are concerned. Nevertheless, if such plants as *A. marinum* can be established on the fernery in any way so as to develop themselves as well as they do in their native habitats, it would be a great acquisition; I therefore cannot see that a bell-glass in a sheltered part of the fernery would be very objectionable, or even much out of character in such a place. Undoubtedly most Ferns, both native and exotic, are more or less fond of heat, but it does not follow that they all require a high temperature to bring them to perfection; on the contrary, heat absolutely drives some of them out of their natural habits; and besides it is a decided denial to their numerous admirers, who may not all be prepared to give them a tropical climate. I have seen the present plant growing beautifully in a Wardian case, and to me it appeared that no Fern in the collection did so well; in short, it may be said to be similarly situated in some of its native caves by the sea-side. I have been told that it will never succeed well out-of-doors if separated from the sea air; but I consider this to be rather the exception than the rule, as we have very many plants, inhabitants of the sea-shores, which thrive extremely well when cultivated in inland districts. To prove this I need only instance *Cystopteris fragilis*, var. *Dickieana*, which has been detected in similar habitats to those of *A. marinum*, and yet no Fern with which I am acquainted will succeed better or look more handsome on the fernery. I have seen the extreme state of the plant, wherein the pinnæ were much longer, narrower, and more deeply toothed than in the young state, with fronds from six to eight inches in height; and by those who had never seen it in that condition it might be considered a variety.

*Foot's Cray.*

ROBERT SIM.

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## FLORAL NEWS FROM MOUNT BARKER IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

*May 25th*, 1850.—We have just received five Numbers of the *Florist*; and the more we read and see of the work, the more we feel

our vast inferiority, and the nothingness of our flower-gardens. We have Pelargoniums, but they are poor affairs; and the same may be said of Tulips, Ranunculuses, and Dahlias. We sometimes have wondered how it is that every flower and flowering-plant here should be represented by the meanest individual of its family; but this is doubtless owing to the hardihood of the more inferior sorts, whose constitutions enable them to endure a voyage over half the globe better than the finer kinds. Nature here has herself been sparing of flowers; they have not been strewed so lavishly over this country as over some; it is a plain pastoral country, rich in grasses, the varieties of which are innumerable.

But I may be hasty in saying that we are not rich in flowering-plants; for I believe that, taking the country through, and particularly amid the most wild and woody parts, many singular shrubs might be found. I have myself travelled little; but in the scrubby wilderness country I have passed through, I have frequently met with plants which I should have liked to introduce into my garden. I have, however, mostly found this difficult to accomplish, for the plant being in flower, I could get no seed; and being two or three days' journey from home, roots were too troublesome to carry. Growing among the Gum scrub may be seen profusions of a dwarfish tuberous-rooted Pelargonium; and then we come among innumerable bushes of the Correa, of which I have seen three varieties. Two of these are in our neighbourhood: one of them very much resembles the plate in the *Florist* of 1848, but it is not quite so brilliant; the other has an erect blossom of similar colour, but the habit of the plant is low and rather crawling. In the blossoms of both, the stamens are

much more elongated than in the figures alluded to. The accompanying sketch represents both of them, they being now in blossom in my garden. I will try to save some seed of them. Of the pendent-blossomed one I may say, of a dozen plants which we brought from the top of Mount Barker no two are exactly alike; some of the flowers are much more curled in the lip than others, some are shorter in the tube,



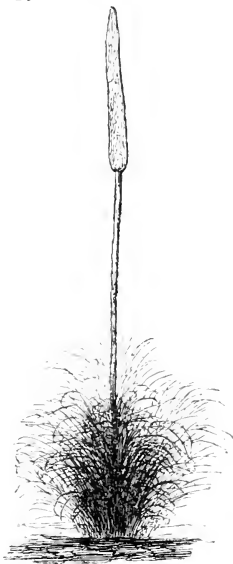
others longer, and some are much disposed to be deformed, thus; so that I suspect it is a flower which a Florist would find very tractable in the way of producing varieties. The leaf of the plant is highly aromatic. The native habitat of these Correas being nearly close at home, we have been able readily to get them into our garden; but I have seen other plants and shrubs much farther off, which I should have liked to have obtained for cultivation. I believe there is no plant of the Rose genus in the



country. The native Violet has no scent. A great many plants and shrubs have the pea-shaped blossom, but the Acacias have the Mimosa flower. We have here two or three species of the Bush Mimosa, and some of them are pretty little shrubs, the flowers being mostly shades of yellow.

I think I mentioned before the peculiarity of the *Zantherrea* not sending up its flower-stalk unless a bush-fire had passed over the plant in the previous summer. In the stringy back forests these plants abound. The road to Adelaide passes through ten miles of such country, and in passing along in the winter or following spring, on one side of the road the forest which was burnt the previous summer will exhibit these plants all alive and flowering, while on the other side of the way all are dull and asleep; there is not one sufficiently awake to lift up its head; and they will remain in this condition for years, unless the fire awakens their dormant energies. I suppose the real state of the case is, that they are too much asleep to be able to flower, and in throwing up fresh leaves after their tops have been burned off, they send up a blossom-stalk too. The latter resembles a tall bulrush; it is eight or ten feet high, and is thickly set at the top with small white flowers.

Our garden now (June 1) looks wintery; the fruit-trees and vines have nearly lost all their leaves, and a strong wind today has been whirling them all about the garden; but the weather thus far has been most delightful, more like spring than winter. Fuchsias and Pelargoniums are in flower in the open ground, and have scarcely yet received a check; the Pelargoniums in particular are as vigorous and fresh as ever. With regard to the Fuchsias, I think a little more frosty weather would be acceptable; for, flowering as they do from early spring till late in autumn, they seem to need a sound winter's sleep; with us they have just sufficient frost to make them shed all their leaves, and keep them in sound repose for three or four months. But this season has been unusually mild, and the poor Fuchsias seem lingering out their day's work, but evidently now reluctantly, as if they wished it was over. We, however, much want some finer varieties. The Pelargoniums do not make sound enough wood to stand much continued frost. The Aloes, and the more hardy species of Cacti, thrive well with us, and they are a handsome and singular addition to a garden; but they are rather spiny, and their spines being barbed, they require some care in handling. I will now wind up for the present, wishing prosperity to the *Florist* and its Conductor.



## LISTS OF WHAT TO AVOID.

## No. III. PINKS.

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bates' No. 2.             | Lord Hardinge.             |
| Beauty of Bath (Parker).  | Mary Anne (Looker).        |
| Berkshire Hero (Mahar).   | Matilda (Fisher).          |
| Bob Lawrence.             | Merry Monarch (Norman).    |
| British Queen (Looker).   | Miss Jeans (Willmer).      |
| British Queen (Hillyer).  | Miss Blackstone.           |
| Conqueror.                | Mrs. Fry.                  |
| Coronation (Holmes).      | Mrs. Edwards (Keynes).     |
| Dr. Coke.                 | Omega (Unsworth).          |
| Dr. Daubeney.             | Prince Albert (Ibbett).    |
| Duke of Wellington.       | Prince of Wales (Willmer). |
| Earl of Uxbridge (Dry).   | Pride (Hooper).            |
| Edward Bennett (Bennett). | Prince Albert (Garratt).   |
| Elizabeth (Stowe).        | Princess Alice (Looker).   |
| Elizabeth (Willmer).      | Princess Alice (Willmer).  |
| Fanny (Bell).             | Prima Donna.               |
| Forget-me-not.            | Queen (Henbrey).           |
| Gauntlet.                 | Queen of Purples (Bell).   |
| Henry Steers (Norman).    | Rosalind (Marris).         |
| Hero (Young).             | Sarah.                     |
| Hotspur.                  | Sir George Hoste (Norman). |
| J. Dickson.               | Superb (Costar).           |
| Jenny Lind (Parker).      | Squire Hetherington.       |
| Joseph Sturge (Lee).      | Tom Davey.                 |
| Lady F. Hastings.         | Triumphant (Ibbett).       |
| Lady Hallowell.           | Unique.                    |
| Lady Dartmouth.           | W. Cobbett.                |

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### POT-CULTURE OF THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.

THE following lecture on this subject was delivered by Mr. James at a late meeting of the Stoke Newington Chrysanthemum Society. Being one of the best cultivators of this autumnal favourite, his instructions may be followed with advantage.

“The cuttings should be clean, strong, and short-jointed; not suckers, but strictly speaking cuttings. As soon as a sufficient quantity can be secured, which should be effected by the middle of March or the beginning of April, proceed with the striking as quickly as possible. When properly rooted, pot them, either singly or three in a pot, as the varieties may respectively require. In my opinion, some kinds succeed best potted singly, and make finer specimens; while, on the other hand, others do best three in a pot. The varieties I should advise to plant singly would be, Pilot, Queen of England, Annie Salter, Defiance, and Vesta: of such sorts as Golden-clustered Yellow, Madame Poggi, Gipsy, Madam Camerson, and Harris's Queen Victoria, I should by all means recommend three plants to be placed in a pot. I use 5-inch pots; when thoroughly established in these, I at once shift them into the pots in which they are intended to bloom, which should either be 11 or 9-inch pots, ac-

ording to the inclination or convenience of the cultivator ; if smaller pots are employed, it will be found extremely difficult to maintain a healthy and vigorous foliage on the plants ; and although a good head of bloom may be secured, yet I think it will be admitted that this with bad foliage is unsuitable for an exhibition-table ; foliage, more especially, is what I aim at, almost at the expense of bloom. The soil I use and prefer is, maiden loam and dung, three parts of the former to two of the latter, with the addition of charcoal-dust and coarse sand. Be particular as to drainage, or the foliage will be sure to suffer.

With respect to watering, I apply water as often as is necessary, whether it be in the heat of the day or in the cool of the evening. I frequently use the syringe from the time they are potted till the time they are in bloom ; its application tends much to improve the colour of the foliage, and has the additional advantage of keeping the plants clean and free from insects. I am an advocate for the use of liquid manure, and I give a decided preference to sheep-manure water. It may be, and I believe is not so powerful as guano, but I consider it a much safer manure, more especially in the hands of an amateur ; I also think that it has the effect of securing a neater and more compact growth, which is of importance in a specimen-plant. I would advise the application of manure-water from the middle of July up to the time of exhibition.

Stopping the plants appears to me to be altogether wrong, although the practice is strongly recommended by many writers on gardening. I have tried it, and can speak confidently as to the result, which has invariably been a decided failure.

Be particular in tying out the plants properly in every stage of their growth ; you should begin at the beginning, for if the operation is neglected until the plants have attained size, it is extremely difficult to make them assume the desired shape. By tying, in addition to form, you secure the branches from accident by wind or from other causes ; and it also ensures a free circulation of air among the foliage and branches. I find three sticks to each pot, placed in the form of a triangle, sufficient ; through these sticks I pass three rings of wire, one at the middle, the others near the top and bottom of the plant ; the advantage of this mode of tying is, that it does away with the necessity of using so many sticks, and in consequence gives the plant a more natural appearance.

I would recommend plunging the pots, but be sure you have a dry bottom : in such a situation the roots are kept cool without being wet ; plunging has also the advantage of preventing the plants from being blown about by wind : be careful, however, not to plunge in a wet, cold, badly drained soil.

The time for housing the specimens depends very much upon circumstances ; as, for instance, the weather, the precise date on which they may be required, &c. Housing will have the effect of slightly forwarding them : be careful not to shelter them too soon ; if you do, you will lose in a few days what has been the aim of a whole season to obtain, viz. good healthy foliage.

The varieties suitable for specimen-plants are the following: Vesta, Annie Salter, Gipsy, Golden-clustered Yellow, Defiance, Queen of England, Madam Camerson, Pilot, Madame Poggi, the Duke, and Harris's Queen Victoria. I prefer growing two pots of each of the above sorts, which I can with confidence recommend.

And now permit me to state, in conclusion, that the grand secret of Chrysanthemum growing (for I should be sorry to keep back any information that is at all calculated to enlighten you upon the subject), is time and attention. These constitute the keystone of success."

## THE BEST TWELVE CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR EXHIBITION,

SUPPLIED BY MEMBERS OF THE STOKE NEWINGTON CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY.

NAMES.	CALLAHAN.	CROXFORD.	HOLMES.	JAMES.	MERRY.	SANDERSON.	TAYLOR.
Annie Salter . . . .	"	"	"			"	"
Beauty . . . . .	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Campestroni . . . .	"	"	"			"	"
Cloth of Gold . . . .				"		"	
Defiance . . . . .	"	"	"		"	"	"
Duke . . . . .	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Dupont de l'Eure . . .				"			
Gem . . . . .					"		
Golden-clustered Yellow	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Goliath . . . . .	"	"	"		"		"
Imperial . . . . .				"			
King . . . . .	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Lucidum . . . . .					"		
Madame Chauvière . .		"					
Pilot . . . . .		"	"			"	
Princesse Marie . . .	"	"		"	"	"	"
Queen of England . . .	"		"	"	"	"	"
Two-coloured Incurved	"		"	"	"		"
Vesta . . . . .	"	"	"	"	"		"
Warden . . . . .				"		"	

## NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,

AND OF NEW OR RARE PLANTS

FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

**EUPHORBIA JACQUINIFLORA.** This is a very pretty stove-shrub; its flowers are of a bright scarlet, and remain a long time in perfection; they are produced copiously from the axils of the leaves, on slender and rather pendulous branches, which have a very graceful appearance. The plant requires to be treated like the West Indian Cacti, or it may be managed like an ordinary stove-plant. It grows freely, but soon becomes naked at the bottom, unless it is stopped back,



which should be done when it is at rest. Plants of it have been flowering at Kew for these last two months, and are now in great perfection.

**PHAIUS WALLICHII.** This stately Orchid belongs to a genus which contains some of the most ornamental plants in cultivation. They are natives of the East Indies and China. Potted in turfy loam, intermixed with rough peat and a little sand, they grow vigorously, and produce abundance of large rich-coloured flowers.

**PHAIUS GRANDIFOLIUS** (or the Tankerville Phaius), although an old plant, richly merits cultivation. Several plants of it are flowering at Kew in great perfection; some of the flower-stems are five feet high, with eighteen expanded flowers on them.

**PHAIUS INTERMEDIUS** resembles the other two in habit, and is a very handsome species. The leaves are from three to four feet long; the flowers are large; the sepals and petals are white externally, and of a yellowish brown within; lip whitish, mixed with purple.

**PHAIUS BICOLOR.** This is a very elegant species, much resembling *P. Wallichii*, but of a somewhat dwarfer habit; it grows about two or three feet high; sepals and petals pale yellow externally, and of a deep chocolate-brown within; lip yellow, white, and rose-colour. Several other species belong to the genus, but these four may be considered the best for general cultivation.

**LUPINUS HARTWEGII** is a half-hardy annual, and very showy. If raised in a frame and bedded out, it attains the height of one and a half or two feet, and has a raceme of brilliant blue flowers tinged with red or purple. Its native country is Mexico.

**LUPINUS PUBESCENS.** A half-hardy species, allied to *L. Bogotensis*. It requires a treatment similar to *L. Hartwegii*; it grows from one to two feet high, and bears a raceme of violet-blue flowers. Native country Guatemala. This and *Hartwegii* are figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for March.

**THIBAUDIA MACRANTHA.** A rather straggling evergreen stove or warm greenhouse shrub, of easy cultivation, allied to the common Bilberry. It is one of the handsomest of the whole tribe, having large pendent flowers two inches and a quarter long and one inch in diameter, of a red, yellow, and pure china white, beautifully marked with wavy red lines, resembling some handsome pieces of porcelain. They are produced from the woody portion of the stem, extra-axillary, two or three springing from the same point. It was raised from seed imported from the Kola mountain, Moulmein, by Messrs. Veitch of Exeter.

**MEDINILLA JAVANENSIS.** An erect evergreen stove-shrub, having a terminal or lateral panicle of pale rose-coloured flowers. It was imported by Messrs. Rollisson of Tooting from Java. This species belongs to a genus which contains some very magnificent flowering plants; the present one, although forming a handsome shrub, is not one of the most showy kinds.

**SOBRALIA SESSILIS.** A terrestrial Orchid, rather pretty, of erect growth, about two feet high, and having small flowers produced on the apex of the stems. The sepals and petals are nearly white; tinged with rose lip yellow, deeply stained with rose-purple. It is a native of British Guiana, and was introduced about ten years ago.

**ECHINOPSIS CAMPYLACANTHA.** A very handsome flowering-plant of the Cactus tribe, about a foot high, between ovate and globose. The flowers are produced near the summit of the plant; they are funnel-shaped, nearly six inches long, with pale rose-coloured petals. It is a native of the Argentine province of Mendoza, at the eastern foot of the Andes. The above four plants are figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for March.

*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.*

J. HOULSTON.

## A PACKET OF SEEDS SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER.

[Continued from p. 64.]

THE head-gardener was a kind man, and took as great pains to teach me as I did to learn. He was no one's enemy but his own, only in one way, and that was his example, which was bad for others. He must have had a good temper once; but his drinking habits killed all his respect for himself, and then he forgot his respect for others, and was very violent to his under-men. I was eight years with him, and did all I could to keep things straight; but the more I did, the worse he got; for when he found things done, he kept more away from his duty, till affairs went back for want of help, and matters got very unpleasant indeed. Just as they were about the worst, I got another place, and that all in a hurry. I'd often wondered if ever I should better myself; and just when I had least hope, I got what I wanted, without asking.

One day a friend of my master's was walking round with him, and just as they came where I was nailing some wall-trees, the gentleman said, "I want a good gardener; does your man know one?" "There's one," said the squire; "you may have him if you like." A few words settled it, and I was to go in a month upon trial. I don't know what else my master said, but I did hear him say, "He's a methodistical fellow, and that'll just suit you."

It was the fashion fifty years ago to call any body a methodist that kept decent, and didn't go to church. The methodists had turned an old barn outside the village into a meeting-house, and a good many poor people used it, and very angry it made the parson and the gentry; but they took an odd way to put it down, for they would give none of the charities to such as went to hear the preacher, nor let them have any of the allotments. It mattered not how good the people were, go to church they must, or nothing for them; but let a man be ever such a blackguard, if he did but go to church, he got the coals and bread and allotment. All this was no use, it only made folks like a spiteful donkey at a hedge,—be as sharp as you will about him, there's his heels ready for you. Some labourers got discharged because they would go to meeting, and that made martyrs of them, but a poor kind; for if it hadn't been for the notice they got, and being made something of, they'd soon have gone to church again of their own accord. Two things I noticed, and I've always found it the same every where :

"When the parson goes much to the Hall,  
The poor parishioners go to the wall;  
And when a labourer's made a deacon,  
It always spoils his stomach for bacon."

A word or two more, and I've done about this matter. If the Church-of-England ministers would only save seed more carefully, and sow it more industriously, they'd see a deal better crops; and if

we poor folks only *talked* religion less, and *did* religion more, we shouldn't hear so much sneering at meetings.

About a week after I got engaged, my old landlady died very suddenly, which was a great blow to her daughter, for it turned her upon the world; but she got lodgings, and the promise of all the washing, and the house was to be given up when I went away; and till then an aunt came to stop with Elizabeth. She and her mother had been all along very kind to me; and when the day came for me to go, it seemed another leaving home, for I had looked so long at that face, that I knew every pockmark upon it. I helped to get her washing-tubs, lines, and things to her new home, and then bid her good-bye. I thought I saw a tear when she said, "I wish you well, or I would not say, Don't you be caught by Margaret."

I went off rather affronted at this, saw Margaret and some more, and started for my new place, near eighty miles off. It was morning when I got there, and early, so I had a good look round, and found every thing very badly done: all was slovenly and dirty, and at sixes and sevens, and yet there was a good deal for that part and those days; there was a conservatory, greenhouse, and pits, with two houses of grapes. It was November, and not a flower. As soon as my new employer was up, I was ordered in. He first asked me how I liked the look of things, and I told him very well indeed. He said he was glad of that; his old gardener that had died was "a very clever fellow," and he hoped I should be as good. And I have heard this same said many a time since by gentlemen over as stupid fellows as ever robbed a *real gardener* of a place. He told me, in a way I was quite strange to, that he wished to see every body about him happy and comfortable, and that he must have no quarrelling; and if those under me did not believe as I wished, I was to tell them civilly, and if they did not mend then, to bring them before him. He said I must join a benefit-club that the clergyman managed, and try and save something beside. "And mind," said he, "though you are upon trial, what you are at first is your own pattern, and I must have all the piece like it." He then told me to go to the butler, and have my breakfast in the servants' hall. It *was* a hall to the one I'd left; for though I never eat in that one, I knew those that did by heart, and pleased enough I was to see the difference. I don't mean that my new acquaintances were extraordinary, not a bit of it; only there was something about 'em that made you feel comfortable, and they had no stupid airs.

Now here's another thing that's no puzzle, and yet I'll set it for an answer. How do you account for some hall-porters and livery and other servants being so saucy to decent people in some places, when in others, ay and very often where there's real rank too, all the servants are so civil and respectful? I've seen so much of *this*, that let me see the servants, and I'll tell you what the masters and mistresses are without seeing *them*.

[To be continued.]

## OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS.** Protect them from storms, and cover from night-frosts ; but take every opportunity of drawing off the lights in the day-time when it can be done with safety. Moisten the bottom of the frames between the pots, and keep up a humid atmosphere, to counteract the effects of parching winds. Water the plants liberally once or twice a week ; use the liquid manure mentioned below for seedlings, and at the same time sprinkle the foliage with it, but avoid touching the blooms : it is best applied in the evening, when the frames are being shut up. Where the plants are grown on a stage, the under part should be well wetted now and then ; the saltpetre-water is best for this purpose. A temporary stage, consisting of two rails the width of the hand-glasses, and supported on short pegs, should be erected in a north aspect, for the hand-lights to stand upon over the plants. As soon as the first pip begins to expand, place the plant under the hand-glass, that it may be secure from injury : be sure the glasses are sound on the top, and free from drip, for the blooms dislike wet. The flowers expand most freely when in a humid and still atmosphere ; notwithstanding, air must be admitted, but not to the extent that will blow the blooms about. Let down the side-boards with which this temporary protection should be provided in calm weather, and close them when boisterous cold winds prevail. Cover up from night-frost, water, &c. as when the plants were in the frames. Select a few healthy plants for seeding ; look to the off-sets plunged in the south border, and transplant all that are rooted. About the second or third week shade the glasses on the south side, and let the shading remain till the plants are fit to remove. Transplant seedlings. An occasional sprinkling over head with saltpetre-water will be found of service ; it may be used with safety if the proportions given (1 oz. to a gallon) are not exceeded.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** Fumigate for green-fly, and clean the plants thoroughly with soft water next morning. All plants not shifted into their blooming-pots should be done without delay.

**CARNATIONS** and **PICOTEES**, whether in pots or the open ground, ought to be in their blooming quarters ; if any are in small pots, shift them into larger ones. The size of the bloom mainly depends on the plants taking good hold of the soil before they spindle for bloom. In an exposed situation, the tall-growing kinds, such as *Flora's Garland*, should be secured with small sticks. Sow seed in gentle heat ; let the soil be fine, and water sparingly when the plants are first appearing.

**CINERARIAS** should now have plenty of air by night as well as by day, when it can be safely given them ; shade from brilliant sunshine, for they love the shade, particularly when in flower ; give sufficiency of water.

**COLD FRAMES.** The season when the winter occupants of these structures will be required to take their places in the flower-clumps

being near at hand, every effort must be used to bring them into such a state as will enable them not only to outlive the change, but to be altogether unhurt by it. It is very desirable that plants which have received some seven or eight months' protection under glass, and much care and attention while there, should come into perfection, or at least produce some agreeable effect, very soon after they are placed in their summer quarters; but their future progress will very much depend upon their condition when planted. If strong healthy plants can be obtained without the aid of artificial heat during this month, they will speedily strike root, make rapid growth, and will afford some recompense for the care and attention which they may have received; whereas plants taken from a frame which has been kept close and moist to within a short time of their being fully exposed to wind and sun, will look more like rubbish for the dung-heap than ornamental subjects; and unless much care and attention is bestowed upon them, they may prove as bad as they look, at least a large proportion of them. It will be advisable to take an early opportunity to go over the stock intended for clumps, and select all the plants that are well established, and either place them in some sheltered spot where they can conveniently receive protection at night, or at one end of the frame, where they can have more air, and be gradually inured to the full influence of the sun. Spring-rooted cuttings must be encouraged to make growth, and every effort used to get them established singly in pots towards the end of the month, so as to allow of their being gradually prepared during the first fortnight of May for their summer quarters; and as soon as they are rooted in their pots, they should be freely exposed on all favourable occasions; for their progress after planting out depends much more upon their being hardy and vigorous than upon size. Many plants usually wintered under glass may now be planted out, such as Pentstemons, Snapdragons, &c. and their place will afford space for cuttings, or it may be occupied with Balsams, Fuchsias, &c. for the autumn decoration of the greenhouse and sitting-room. Verbenas, and many other bedding-plants, are very subject to the attacks of aphides about this season: should these make their appearance, they must be destroyed at once. Brown's Fumigator will be found very useful for this purpose.

**DAHLIAS.** Put in cuttings of these; repot as soon as they are struck, and harden off as soon as they are sufficiently started in growth. Never allow them to stand in cold frames in very small pots, otherwise they soon become stunted. The roots will generally part, and make from three to six strong plants after they have done their work in producing cuttings. Sow seed without delay, in dung-beds strongly heated. If the bed is a proper one, the young plants will make their appearance in five or six days. Transplant as soon as the rough leaf appears. Beds intended for Dahlias should be turned over now, and broken fine.

**EPACRISES.** As they go out of bloom, except one or two kinds, cut them back hard, leaving a necessary quantity of spurs to break from. Give the annual shift, say from a 6 to a 9-inch pot, and in the

same proportion for larger or smaller plants ; tie out the main branches to give air to the centre ; a strong break will be much facilitated by a month or six weeks' confinement in a stove heat ; water liberally, but avoid the direct influence of the sun's rays. Cuttings taken from half-ripened wood will strike tolerably free in silver-sand, covered with a bell-glass, and placed in a shady part of a stove. In potting Epacrises, use the compost as for Ericas.

**ERICAS.** Water freely ; air during mild days. Shift "stock," and later-blooming specimens.

**FLOWER-GARDEN.** Swelling buds and expanding blossoms render April one of the most delightful months of the year. True, the best-furnished gardens will be deficient in floral beauty compared with future months, but there will, nevertheless, be enough of colour and variety to afford much gratification to the simple lover of nature. Many of the early Tulips are exceedingly beautiful ; these, with Hyacinths and other spring bulbs, together with hosts of bright-coloured perennials, will yield a rich return for the little attention which their cultivation demands. But these things are mentioned here more for the purpose of calling attention to the loss sustained by those who neglected to provide for a display of them, than with the view of giving directions concerning them. An occasional visit during the month to the garden of a neighbour who cultivates such things will do more to recommend them than any thing in the shape of written directions or advice. Choice Annuals may be sown any time during the month where they are intended to flower. Secure abundance of Mignonette and Stocks, which are among the sweetest and best of our Annuals. It is a very good plan to sow a quantity of the better sorts of Annuals upon a bed of light soil in some spare corner, where they can be thinned so as to keep them dwarf and bushy ; and should it be found that the stock of half-hardy plants is insufficient to meet the demand, these may be transplanted, and with a little care and a few waterings, they will suffer nothing from removal. Get ground intended for the reception of plants wintered under glass into the kindest possible state ; heavy soils will be greatly benefited by an occasional digging when the surface becomes dry, and a dressing of quick-lime when the ground is in that condition will render such soils much easier worked. The pruning of tender Roses should be completed at once, if not already done. Any plants upon walls should have their shoots regulated ; and every thing should be got into the neatest possible order. Box will require to be trimmed, and grass edgings cut straight, and lawns should be rolled and cut regularly during the month. Gravel-walks will also require cleaning and rolling.

**FUCHSIAS.** Keep them growing ; syringe overhead at least once a day, also sluice the paths of the house to increase humidity. In giving the final shift, add a double handful of bone-dust to about a bushel of compost,—it is an excellent support to the plant during its flowering season. Water once a fortnight with a weak solution of guano-water. Shade in sunny weather ; admit air in the middle of the day from the roof ; never let them flag for want of water.

**GREENHOUSE.** At no season of the year is good management of greater importance than during the present month. If hard-wooded plants can be brought into vigorous growth during this month, they will, if properly attended to, make an astonishing progress during summer and autumn. Carefully examine the whole stock, and repot all such plants as have filled their pots with roots; after potting, it is advisable that they should be kept somewhat warmer, which may be effected by giving less air where they stand. Water must now be applied carefully, as plants frequently suffer much from an insufficient supply at this season. With the increased amount of sun-light which we now experience, the temperature may be allowed to range considerably higher than during the early part of the season. The leaves of Camellias, Oranges, &c. should be thoroughly cleaned by means of a sponge and soft water; such plants are greatly benefited by a thorough cleansing at least once a year, and it is hardly possible to have them in perfection unless they receive it. Fumigate whenever green-fly appears. Provide plants for autumn flowering; few things will be found more serviceable at that season than the varieties of Japan Lilies; these, and the beautiful *Salvia splendens*, are of the easiest possible culture, and should be plentiful in every amateur's garden.

**HARDY FRUIT-TREES.** Grafting and nailing should have been completed before this time; but if any work of this kind remains to be done, forward it as speedily as possible. Continue to protect wall-trees for some time longer, but endeavour to arrange the covering so that it will admit light freely during the day-time. Peach-trees will be ready for disbudding towards the end of the month; this should be performed at three or four different times, allowing about a week to elapse between each disbudding; when done in this gradual manner, the sap does not receive so severe a check as when the tree is denuded of the greater portion of its leaves at once. Watch carefully for insects, and use tobacco-water directly they make their appearance. Examine Apricots for caterpillars, which are so destructive to them. Never allow insects to gain a footing, unless you are willing to lose your crop of fruit. Recently transplanted trees will be greatly benefited by a liberal watering, if the weather should prove dry; and it will also be advisable to mulch the ground, which will prevent the necessity of watering so frequently as might otherwise be necessary. The mowings of the lawn will be very suitable for this purpose.

**PANSIES.** If flowers are required of *large size*, thin out the side-shoots, whether they be wanted for cuttings or not. Sow seed in pans, in gentle heat. A bed may now be planted in a north aspect for summer bloom.

**PELARGONIUMS.** Several varieties that have not been stopped back since heading down will be coming into flower this month; it will be well, where shading is used, to put the sashes on at once; and especially where the houses are glazed with sheet-glass, shading keeps the flowers much longer in perfection. Destroy green-fly before they come into flower; fumigate two nights successively, and

on the following morning wash thoroughly with rain-water; water occasionally with clear liquid manure-water, consisting of three parts sheep-dung, one cow-dung, one horse-droppings, and a small quantity of unslacked lime, to a sufficiency of rain-water to render it weak enough; use it a fortnight after it is mixed. Where a succession of flowers is required, if a few plants are shifted into pots two sizes larger than those they are in, and stopped back in the last week of this month, they will flower in the middle of August. After these have well broken, keep them in as cold a place as possible; if it is in the north side of the house, and protected from heavy rains, so much the better.

**PINKS.** If the beds have not been top-dressed, do it the first dry day. Hoe the surface, and destroy insects. Pinks preserved in pots through the winter should now be put out; be careful not to break the ball of earth more than is possible, for the less the fibres are disturbed the finer and more correctly will the flowers lace. It is not too late to sow seed. The snail, the slug, and the woodlouse devour young Pinks: the best protection against them is to fix the pans over water.

**POLYANTHUSES** in pots should be treated as Auriculas; but they will require more water. Preserve the named flowers in beds from slugs. Look over seed-beds, and mark promising sorts.

**RANUNCULUSES.** If the soil runs or cakes, it should be scratched over with a small fork, and about three quarters of an inch of fine sand added as top-dressing. Protect choice beds from late frosts. Seedlings should be watered regularly, and shaded; one dry day without protection is sufficient to ruin a spring-sown crop. A little rich fine mould should be sprinkled over the young plants as a top-dressing.

**ROSES IN POTS.** Keep a sharp look-out for young shoots as they start from last month's pruning, for the rose-maggot will be busy at work before the shoot is unfolded. Water once a week with liquid manure.

**TULIPS.** Stir the surface carefully, to prevent it becoming crusted, particularly before blooming time. It is to be presumed that your covering is in its place, and is used for the necessary protection; frosts will prove its usefulness against both cold and cats. If the latter end of the month is very dry, give a slight watering in the evening over the foliage through a fine-rosed water-pot, and immediately cover the beds with the mats. The freshness and vigour consequent on this will be apparent in the morning.









ms. Andrews, Delt & Zucc

Painted by Chittos

*Caloglyphis Maculata*, Var

## CÆLOGYNE MACULATA.

THOSE of our readers who possess an Orchid-house, and nearly every garden now has one of some kind, will do well to add to their collection this charming little plant, which is certainly one of the most beautiful of the genus to which it belongs. In habit it approaches nearest to Wallich's *Cœlogyne*, or rather perhaps to *Præcox*; but in our opinion it is far better worth cultivating than either of those species. Its finely-formed lip, together with the beautiful contrast of colours which it presents, cannot fail to render it an especial favourite; and if proper skill is but applied, we do not anticipate that it will be more difficult to manage than some of the less handsome kinds. Mr. Williams, gardener to C. B. Warner, Esq., of Hoddesdon, flowered it with facility a few months after it was imported, and from this plant our representation was prepared.

Mr. Williams says, "This beautiful Indian Orchid blossoms in November and December on the young growths, and it will last in beauty several weeks, provided the flowers are kept free from damp. Being deciduous, it requires to be treated differently from some of the other *Cœlogyne*s. Our plant was imported by Messrs. Veitch, and sold at one of Mr. Stevens's sales, where Mr. Warner purchased it.

"As soon as I received it, I washed all the pseudo-bulbs, and then potted them in rough fibrous peat, placed on good drainage, which is of great importance in the successful growth of this tribe of plants. I introduced at the bottom of the pot about three inches of drainage, on which I placed a layer of sphagnum moss, and then filled the pot with peat, on the top of which I set the plant, fixing it in its position with a strong peg, and covering up the roots. The plant should be elevated about two inches above the rim of the pot. After potting, a little water should be given it—just enough to moisten the peat, but be careful not to wet the pseudo-bulbs, that being very injurious to fresh-imported Orchids. After our plant had begun to grow and make roots, I gave it more water; and when the growth was about two inches in height, I gave a good supply at the roots, but not over the leaves. After potting, the plant was put into the hottest house along with the East Indian Orchids, such as *Aerides*, *Saccolabiums*, &c., and there it succeeded admirably, making fine pseudo-bulbs and leaves. After it had finished its growth, I removed it to a cooler house, the temperature of which varied from 50° to 60°, placing it near the glass, in order that it might have all the light pos-

sible during its season of rest. While it is in this condition it should receive just sufficient water to keep the pseudo-bulbs from shrivelling, and no more. When symptoms of growth began to exhibit themselves, I moved it back into the East-Indian house, but did not give it too much water at first. When the shoots had got about two inches in height, a good supply was administered until the plant had finished its growth, when water must be given sparingly, and the plant should be put back into the cool house, in order to give it a good season of rest, so as perfectly to prepare it for the next flowering."

The above is Mr. Williams's mode of treating this pretty little plant. We had hoped to have given a similar account along with our plate of *Cattleya Pineli*, inserted in No. II. of the present year's volume; but unfortunately the statement did not reach us until after the Number was published.

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#### ON THE RUNNING OF THE CARNATION.

IN curtailing my article at page 75 you have made me contradict myself in the last paragraph but one. What I did write was, that I was not sure, in the case of Cartwright's *Rainbow* and another flower, that the chances were not equal of obtaining clean stock from run as from fine stools.

I certainly do not hold, nor did I express, the opinion, that this case applies generally. My view in writing thus was to draw the attention of growers to the varied freaks in which the flower displays its sportive propensities, as I believe that many fine plants are doomed to destruction on the slightest suspicion of being in a run state; and I quoted one or two instances of flowers coming under my own observation favouring a different view, presuming it fair to suppose that others might be in a similar condition.

I also wish, if your space will allow me, to explain that I did not intend to confine the presence of "the smallest stripe of white" absolutely to "flaked flowers," as indicative of a probable return to fineness. That class, when it runs, I believe invariably goes back to a clove or self; at least I do not remember an instance of the white flushing and leaving the stripes or flakes visible.

Bizarres, however, sport: 1st, to a flake, losing the dark or bizarre stripe; 2d, to a flake, losing the lighter colour. In this case it is most commonly a coarse marine flake, with a dingy white; some P.P.B.'s, however, will sport to good P.F.'s; 3d, to a striped flower, having the white suffused with a lighter colour; and 4th, to a clove or self.

In the first case, it is not desirable that they should return to the original. In the second, it is, I consider, hopelessly and irrecoverably run. In the two last, I incline to think that the presence of "the smallest stripe of white" is indicative of a probable return to fineness.

*Woolwich, April 4th.*

J. W. NEWHALL.

## CULTURE OF THE DAHLIA FOR EXHIBITION.

THE following concise rules, to be observed in the successful culture of the Dahlia for exhibition, are not presented so much for any novelty in the practice recommended, as to point out a few of the most essential things to be done at the proper time.

For economy in carriage, the plants are grown and sent out in small pots; therefore, on receiving them from the nursery, place them in a close frame for a day and a night to recover them from their confinement; then repot them into 4-inch pots, using rich soil: the pots should be drained with coarse partly decomposed leaf-mould, so that in planting out there will be nothing to abstract from the ball of earth. A good start is of great importance; therefore care should be taken that the plant is grown to a fair size without drawing during the time it is in the pot; the stouter it is the better, without being tall; and it should not be pot-bound at the time of planting out: both the roots and the point of the plant should be in a thriving condition, and free from aphides.

It may perhaps be unnecessary to state that the plants must be carefully hardened off before they are turned out. If the soil and plants are in a proper state, the first week in June will be a good time for the general planting, which, with ordinary care and attention, will produce good blooms in time for the earliest exhibition.

A short period will suffice to have plants of a good size; but it should be borne in mind that hours lost in repotting them when in a young state will make a difference of days in the time of blooming, and it is important that this should be clearly understood, that no neglect in the matter may be permitted to take place. Examine the plants often to see if any require water; by no means let them become dry so long as they are in pots. Secure them with proper and strong fastenings at the time of planting; water whenever they require it, and sprinkle the foliage slightly almost every evening with soft water. Tie out the branches, and, as the plant increases in size, secure the side-shoots firmly to extra stakes. Cut away all superfluous small shoots. Some varieties have scarcely any to remove, while others have a considerable number. Fearless is of the class which has but few shoots requiring the use of the knife; but such kinds as Shylock require it freely. Indiscriminate pruning must therefore be avoided. Study the habit of the plant, and consider if the flower will be improved by increased size; all varieties need some thinning and disbudding, which should be effected at different periods. Small flowers require it as soon as the young shoots and buds can be removed, while large flowers, such as Thames Bank Hero, Princess Louisa, and many others, would be rendered coarse and valueless for the purposes of exhibition if a number of buds were not permitted to remain till the plant was coming into bloom. Size in this case would be gained at the expense of quality; besides, there is the advantage of having three blooms where two would be grown. On the other hand, size, in moderation, must not be lost sight of. It was not with small

blooms that I have taken first prizes for these last fifteen years. I would therefore advise the young grower to avoid the two extremes.

In shading blooms for exhibition, as a general rule, they should be one-third blown before they are put under the shade; and take care to secure such as appear to be coming good, and at the time they are required, from injury by friction.

Slugs and earwigs are very destructive, and must be perseveringly kept down from the time the plants are put out till the end of the season.

If you should be annoyed by a small black insect (which is often the case in July), use every means to encourage the plants to make rapid growths, by watering and syringing them overhead, and by brushing the depredators from the points of the shoots. Snuff, tobacco-water, and various other remedies are often resorted to; but these, if effectual in killing the pests, generally destroy the points of the shoots: if the plants are in a thriving condition, they will soon recover themselves. If the season proves dry, water freely two or three times a week; but never let it be done by halves: give a good soaking when you do water, if that should not be so often.

Employ manure-water once a week as soon as they begin to throw up their buds; but it should be used in a weak state at the commencement.

Before concluding these remarks, permit me to bear witness to the increasing interest taken both in the culture of the Dahlia for competition and in the raising of seedlings. The enjoyment and pleasing recreation attending the cultivation of Florists' flowers add numbers to the fancy; and I have much satisfaction in stating that no flower is more generous in repaying the enthusiastic Florist for his labour than the Dahlia.

*Royal Nursery, Slough.*

CHARLES TURNER.

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## DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

### No. V. GRAPES.

THE Grape occupies so important a place at dessert, and is moreover such a universal favourite, that it is considered expedient to go more into detail in describing the peculiarities of the varieties recommended for cultivation in the following list than I have hitherto done as regards other fruits. To assist in clearing up the confusion that has been caused by giving numerous names to one and the same sort, I shall copy the *synonyms* (or false names) of each sort from the Horticultural Society's Fruit-Catalogue, adding such observations upon them as my own experience has satisfied me are correct. In that catalogue as many as eighty-six sorts are described; and the names of a considerable number are given to which no descriptions are appended, making in all over a hundred varieties, of which only about a dozen are worth cultivating under glass; and some six or

eight more may be grown against south-aspected walls in the southern parts of the kingdom, with some probability of the fruit acquiring an eatable state of ripeness in favourable seasons.

In the subjoined list all the most esteemed varieties are noticed, with the exception of a few new sorts, whose merits have been highly extolled by some persons, but which have not yet been sufficiently tested to warrant me in recommending them.

1. *Black Hamburgh.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Catalogue :

Warner's, Warner's Black Hamburgh, Purple Hamburgh, Red Hamburgh, Brown Hamburgh, Dutch Hamburgh, Hampton-Court Vine, Valentine's, Gibraltar, Black Gibraltar, Black Portugal (of some), Black Teneriffe, Salisbury Violet, Victoria, Admiral, Frankendale, Frankenthaler, Frankenthaler Gros Noir, Trollinger, Blue Trollinger, Pale-wooded Trollinger, Troller, Languedoc, Malvasior (of some).\*

Bunch large when well-grown, and then the shoulders are large also; berry large, varying slightly in form, but generally nearly round, and sometimes there are little flat spaces on the sides as though the berry had been hammered; the skin is thick, dull black, tolerably well covered with bloom; pulp sweet and very agreeable, but not highly flavoured; juicy when just in perfection, but after hanging on the vine a month or so after ripeness, part of the juice exhales, and the pulp becomes much more fleshy. The leaves are large, coarsely serrated, smooth. On vigorous vines the young wood is strong, and more pithy than that of many other sorts.

Unquestionably this is the most useful black Grape in cultivation, and its merit is in a manner indicated by the numerous names it has received, for it is the fate of every superior variety of fruit to be repeatedly renamed and resold by ignorant or interested persons. Of the synonyms given above, that of Frankenthaler appears to be the name by which this Grape is generally known in Germany; Hamburgh is therefore merely a provisional name, taken from the town it is supposed to have been obtained from. It is maintained by many that two or more distinct varieties of the Black Hamburgh are cultivated, while others, again, assert that no greater differences exist than might have been caused by dissimilar soils and management. Without attempting to decide this vexatious question, I would suggest that those who suppose they possess distinct varieties should graft them all upon one vine, when accordingly as the supposed differences are found to be permanent or transient, the dispute would be decided. One of these subvarieties has lately been loudly trumpeted under the name of "Wilmot's New Black Hamburgh," which some, again, say is nothing more than the old Dutch Hamburgh. Connected with this question the following fact may be worth mentioning. Several years since, the late Mr. Wilmot of Isleworth was employed by a gentleman in this neighbourhood to superintend the

\* I have omitted about a dozen names, chiefly German, as it is not supposed that any Englishman will ever try to pronounce them.

making of new borders, and to supply young vines for planting three new vineries, and amongst those plants were two of "Wilmot's New Black Hamburgh." Names were not attached to the vines when planted, and now the gardener, who has had the management of them for seven or eight years, cannot distinguish Wilmot's from the common Black Hamburgh.

### 2. *White Muscat of Alexandria.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Catalogue: Alexandrian Frontignan, Muscat of Jerusalem, Tottenham-Park Muscat, Lunel, White Tokay (of some), White Muscat of Lunel, Malaga, Passe-Musquée, White Passe-Musquée, Passe-longue Musquée, Muscat Eschcolota, Zebibo of Sicily.

Bunch large and long, generally having wide-spreading shoulders; berry very large, oval; skin thick, yellowish when quite ripe; pulp rather fleshy, exquisitely flavoured; leaves large, deeply lobed and acutely serrated; young wood strong, very firm when properly matured.

The name of White Tokay is familiarly applied to this variety in the north of England, and my belief is that they are one and the same sort, notwithstanding a different Grape having been lately exhibited at the Horticultural Society's rooms under the name of Tokay. Judging from the notice of that Grape in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, it is very likely to have been a firm-fleshed, late-keeping, but little cultivated sort, indiscriminately called White Hamburgh or White Raisin. Muscat Eschcolota, or Eschcollata, is a catchpenny name given to the White Muscat by a dealer not inaptly named "Money," who, under the plea that the fruit would ripen against open walls, managed to convert his pretended new variety into a goodly number of guineas. The Tottenham-Park Muscat was sent out many years ago as a distinct sort, said to have been raised from seed in the Marquis of Ailesbury's garden; but if a seedling, it has been found not to differ from its parent. I have also seen this Grape bearing the names of Athol's Nonsuch and Thorne's House Tokay.

This admirable kind is generally acknowledged to have no equal; and it would doubtless be so universally cultivated as to exclude most others, only that a high temperature is absolutely necessary for its perfect maturation. It is an excellent sort for late keeping, provided it is well ripened early in autumn. I have frequently cut fruit in December which was eatable in the beginning of August.

### 3. *Canon-Hall Muscat.*

Bunch longer and generally less broadly shouldered than the preceding sort; berry very large, oval, but more blunt at the ends than that of the White Muscat; skin thick, dull white, acquiring a yellowish tinge when thoroughly ripe; pulp firm, partaking of the peculiar flavour of the White Muscat, although not equally so to that sort.

In all respects there is a great resemblance between this Grape and its probable parent—the White Muscat; the principal differences being in the Canon Hall having larger and more obtuse berries, and



in its wood and all other parts being more gross; it is also tenderer in constitution, demanding more heat to bring it to perfection than any other variety I ever cultivated. Although a noble Grape in appearance when well-grown, it is certainly inferior in general merit to No. 2; therefore one vine is as many as need be coveted even by a grape-fancier, and that should occupy the warmest situation which can be appropriated to it.

#### 4. *Grizzly Frontignan.*

Synonyms: Red Frontignan, Red Frontignac, Red Constantia, Grizzly Frontignac, Muscat Gris, Muscat Rouge.

Bunch rather below the middle size, long in proportion to its breadth, being generally but little shouldered; the branches of the fruit-stalk, including the pedicels, are stiff, which gives the bunch a rigid appearance; berry middle-sized, very nearly round; skin thick, peculiarly coloured, the ground being dull yellowish, which is thickly and closely marked with pale red, imparting to the whole a sort of "grizzly" hue,—in well-coloured fruit the red is deeper and brighter, from which accidental circumstance one of its false names has arisen; pulp juicy and rich, having much of the esteemed flavour of the White Muscat; seeds large in proportion to the size of the berry; the leaves are moderately large, smooth above, and nearly so beneath, with their indentations very sharply cut.

From the above list of synonyms several of Italian and German origin have been omitted, as being of little consequence to the British cultivator. Nearly all the works on gardening that have come under my notice in which Grapes are described make no less than *five* varieties of Frontignan Grapes, viz. the black, white, grizzly, blue, and red. In the last edition of the Horticultural Society's Fruit-Catalogue, the red is rightly made a synonym of the grizzly, thus reducing the number to *four*, which, however, is still one more than really exists. Considerable experience among Grapes has satisfied me that there are no more than *three* Frontignans, and these are the black (sometimes called the purple), the white, and the grizzly, which resemble each other as closely as possible in all their characters except in colour. The sort called Blue Frontignan in the above-named catalogue is not a Frontignan at all; that is to say, it does not possess in any degree that particular musky flavour which characterises all the *true* Frontignan Grapes, and consequently it is not entitled to the same appellation; in appearance, however, it is considerably like the Black Frontignan; but besides differing in flavour from that variety, it can be further distinguished by its berry being more disposed to an oval form, and by the skin being of a more intense and shining black colour, resembling that of the Black Prince, whereas the skin of the Black Frontignan is a dull reddish black. Some writers on Grapes call this variety the Black Constantia, which is a much more appropriate name than Blue Frontignan.

All the Frontignans are generally highly esteemed, although they are less inviting in appearance than many comparatively inferior sorts. The vines are more tender at the root than most others, and never succeed well in heavy ill-drained borders.

5. *Chasselas Musqué*.

Synonyms: Josling's St. Alban's (according to some); Wilmot's New Muscat.

Bunch rather large, broadly shouldered and rather loose; berry middle-sized, round; skin thin, dull yellowish green, thinly covered with a whitish bloom; pulp juicy and highly flavoured, resembling the White Muscat in the latter particular, but inferior to that sort; the leaves are middle-sized, smooth, and rather thin in texture.

The merit of this otherwise valuable Grape is much lessened by an unfortunate tendency in the skin to *crack* when just on the point of ripening. I have had very fine bunches so much disfigured by this defect, that when quite ripe they were totally unfit to send to table. Possibly if the vines were planted inside of the house, where the supply of moisture to their roots would be under control, the fruit might be less liable to this failing. As regards its name, this Grape has acquired some notoriety. In the first place, it was sold some years since at a high price as a new Muscat; and latterly it is said to have obtained another new title—that of Josling's St. Alban's. Respecting the latter, however, it is no more than fair towards Mr. Josling to state, that previous to selling what he still maintains was a seedling Grape, he submitted the fruit to the inspection of competent judges, who did not recognise it to be the Chasselas Musqué, nor is it yet clearly ascertained, although strongly suspected, that the two are identical. Even if such should eventually prove to be the case, those who know how difficult it sometimes is to identify a single specimen of any sort of fruit, will readily excuse the mistake.

6. *Black St. Peter's*.

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Catalogue: Saint Peter's, Black Palestine, Oldaker's West's St. Peter's.

Bunch large, generally having wide shoulders; the pedicels being short, the berries stand out stiffly, without drooping; berry rather above the middle size, nearly round in shape; skin thin, intensely black, and covered with a fine bloom; pulp very juicy, not highly but agreeably flavoured, its sweetness being nicely blended with a little acidity, and this pleasant briskness is not dissipated by long keeping; the young wood is dark brown, and short-jointed; the leaves are bright green when young, becoming deeply tinted with crimson-purple in autumn, smooth and shining; petioles short.

An excellent very late Grape, perhaps the best in cultivation, but requiring a warm vinery to ripen it in perfection. When well matured by the beginning of November, it will hang upon the vine till the end of the following February. It was first brought prominently into notice by Mr. Oldaker (then gardener to Sir Joseph Banks, at Spring Grove), who wrote a description of it in the *Horticultural Transactions*, under the name of "West's St. Peter's." Some years afterwards the Mr. Money before alluded to advertised for sale a different Grape (see No. 7) by the same name, and that created considerable confusion, which was increased rather than abated by Mr. Loudon, in the *Gardeners' Magazine*, designating one of these

Grapes "Money's West's St. Peter's," and the other "Oldaker's West's St. Peter's." The name given above has been restored by Mr. Thompson in the Horticultural Society's Catalogue.

7. *Black Lombardy.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Catalogue :  
West's St. Peter's, Money's West's St. Peter's, Raisin  
des Carmes, Raisin de Cuba, Poonah.

Bunch moderately large, generally but little shouldered; berry very large, oval; skin thin, dull reddish black, thinly overspread with bloom; pulp juicy and tender, delicately but not highly flavoured; the leaves are middle-sized, of a deep green colour, slightly woolly on the lower side, and their serratures are shallow.

This kind is seldom seen, and yet it is well deserving of cultivation, being showy in appearance, and of considerable merit; it, however, requires a warm temperature to bring it to perfection. In London's *Gardeners' Magazine*, vol. v. p. 737, it is said, on the authority of Mr. Money, that this Grape was raised from seed by a person named West, and that the original plant grew and ripened its fruit against the wall of a dwelling-house,—a statement which must be considered rather apocryphal; for, growing in the same house with the Black Hamburgh, it requires two or three weeks more time to acquire maturity; besides, its present name, if correct, indicates a foreign origin.

J. B. WHITING.

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## REMARKS ON BRITISH FERNS.

No. V.

### ADIANTUM.

IN this genus the clusters of fructification are usually of an oblong shape; and the involucre of a beautiful texture on the margins of the lobes of the pinnules, but not formed of them.

A. *CAPILLUS VENERIS*. This is the only *Adiantum* as yet detected in Britain, and may very justly be said to be one of the most handsome, if not the handsomest of all our British Ferns, and it is associated with a family, the exotic species of which are almost unparalleled in beauty in the way of Ferns. *Adiantum Capillus Veneris* appears, from what I can learn, to be very widely distributed over the globe; as a correspondent told me a short time ago that he had seen it in great abundance in some parts of India, which I had no reason to doubt, since I have had both Mosses and Lichens from that country identical with some which I had formerly collected in the mountainous parts of Scotland.

I cannot at present charge my memory with ever having seen a British form of this elegant little Fern, at least constantly apart from the original. I have, however, been kindly favoured by H. B. Ker, Esq. with a stout form of it, brought by Mrs. Ker from Cintra in Portugal, where that lady detected it in great abundance growing upon an old damp wall; and doubtless it must have been very fine,

if we are to judge from the specimen forwarded to me. In this form the pinnules appear to be much larger, and more deeply lobed, as well as serrated, which may be attributed to the plants growing under more favourable circumstances than Britain can lay claim to. It will, however, be readily admitted, that Mrs. Ker is too accurate a botanist to be much deceived in her exotic Fern of *A. Capillus Veneris*. From its altogether apparently stronger habit, I would fain hope that it will prove to be a plant of easier cultivation out doors than our British form, which is at the best but a troublesome subject in the fernery, if not provided with a well-sheltered and constantly damp corner, which is not constructed without a considerable degree of both trouble and expense. In a mixture of heath-mould, light sandy loam, and silver-sand, it will submit to pot-culture freely. I have seen it very fine in a Wardian case, where it was not too closely shut up.

#### CETERACH.

*C. OFFICINARUM*. This pretty little Fern is said by some to have no real involucre; but, in fact, the whole underside of the frond is very conspicuously covered with chaffy scales, some of which may perhaps perform the part of an involucre. Be this as it may, the plant has from time to time been referred to other genera, and under such circumstances it perhaps cannot be better arranged than where it now is. However, if associated at all, I for one should be disposed to refer it to *Scolopendrium*, as what I consider, if not mistaken, to be an involucre, corresponds better with that genus than any other. It submits to cultivation readily, and forms a handsome and very distinct object in the fernery. I can well remember many years ago having seen it growing in great profusion on some rock-work in the gardens at Sion House, where many of the plants were undoubtedly seedlings. It is not a scarce Fern.

*Nursery, Foot's Cray.*

ROBERT SIM.



#### HOW TO OBTAIN THE BEST

#### CUT BLOOMS OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR EXHIBITION.

At the risk of being blamed for devoting so many of our pages at this season to the *Chrysanthemum*, we cannot refrain from furnishing such of our readers as did not attend the last meeting of the Stoke Newington *Chrysanthemum* Society with the admirable lecture delivered on that occasion by Mr. Taylor, and which is as follows:—

“I shall confine my remarks to the practice I have pursued in producing the beautiful blooms of this flower, for which our annual exhibition is distinguished. That perseverance and watchfulness are the only means by which we can hope to obtain success in our labours is evident to all engaged in the cultivation of flowers; without assiduity on the part of the gardener or amateur, nothing beyond

ordinary results need be expected, and this is pre-eminently the case with the *Chrysanthemum*. I stated last year that the cut blooms produced by me at the exhibition of 1849 were from cuttings struck on a hot-bed, mostly as late as March, and afterwards gradually hardened off; but further experience has led me to prefer propagating as soon after the blooming season as I can get cuttings; as by striking early it enables the plant to store up sufficient matter in its young state to meet the demands made on it in the growing season; for in my opinion the plant cannot be too strong, if the production of large and perfect blooms is the object in view. In selecting cuttings, I prefer the strongest suckers, with a portion of root attached to them; I then fill some 3-inch pots with sandy loam, and in each of these I insert three cuttings; they are then placed in a cold frame and kept rather close for a short time. I am opposed to striking in heat, as it deprives them of that robust habit in the early stage of their growth, which is necessary to ensure superb blooms. In April most of them will require potting; I then prepare a compost, consisting of one-third yellow loam, one-third rotten turf, and one-third rotten manure, mixing all well together, and adding sufficient rough sand, or grit, to make the whole porous. I shift them out of the 3-inch pots into 6-inch ones, care being taken not to disturb the young roots.

After potting I place them in the open air, in a situation sheltered from easterly winds, and sufficiently distant from each other to prevent their growing up weakly. During their growth I frequently alter their position, in order to rightly balance their shapes, and to prevent their rooting through the pots into the ground. In the end of June or the beginning of July, if all goes on well, they will be ready for receiving their final shift. This is effected by providing some large pots in which there is plenty of drainage, and using the compost mentioned above, but in a much coarser state; I then place them in a situation fully exposed to the influence of the sun, adopting the same practice as before, and into each pot I fix stakes for tying the plants as they may want it. Requiring, as the *Chrysanthemums* do, a liberal supply of water during the growing season, they should not, under any pretence, be permitted to suffer from drought; if this is the case, deformed blossoms will often be the result; but, on the other hand, the soil should not be so drenched as to become soddened, for that would also prove injurious to a fine bloom, as well as to the health of the plant. If they are well established in their pots by the end of August, I commence supplying them with liquid manure at least once a week, beginning with it rather weak at first, but increasing its strength in proportion to the growth of the plant. I discontinue the manure-water when the blooms expand, previously diminishing its strength gradually until the supply is cut off.

Constant attention is essential in the early stage of the growth of the plant. Without it the blooms will be indifferent. As laterals are produced, I pinch them off; but I never stop the main stem. As soon as the blooming stems become visible, I remove all but three or four, according to the strength of the plant. When the flower-buds

can be discerned, I thin them, leaving one bud on each stem. I prefer leaving the centre bud if it be round and perfect; but if at any time afterwards the buds shew signs of being deformed, I remove them at once. At this stage of the plant's growth the earwig will commence the work of destruction by eating the buds. My traps consist of bean-stalks placed among the branches; they creep into these at night, and in the morning I blow them into a bottle of warm water, which kills them, and replace the stalk. As the blooming season draws near, I remove the plants into the greenhouse. My object being to obtain large flowers, they are not checked in their growth by stopping; they are therefore tall, and, to some, might appear unsightly; but to remedy this defect I intermix Camellias with them, the beautiful leaves of which afford an agreeable screen to their tall stems. By having the flowers on a level with the tops of the Camellias, a pleasing contrast is created, which is very effectual. I have cut some of my finest blooms from plants grown under a south wall, where they were treated exactly as under pot-culture; as soon as the blooms begin to expand, they must be protected from wind, rain, and all kinds of inclement weather. Some of the varieties which flower early require shading from the sun; the later flowers should have a glass fixed over them, in order to enable them to fully develop themselves by the time fixed for exhibition. I need not say that a little attention should be paid to tilting the glasses, so as to allow the condensed moisture in them to escape, or it will destroy the under petals before the upper ones are in perfection.

The following list contains the varieties which I consider most suitable for cut blooms. I have divided them into the two classes of cupped (or curved) and reflexed flowers.

CUPPED.		REFLEXED.
King.	Beauty.	Salter's Annie.
Queen of England.	Campestroni.	Jenny Lind.
Princess Marie.	Defiance.	Phidias (new).
Duke.	Pilot.	Rabelais.
Goliath.	Warden.	Rebecca.
Two-coloured Incurved.	Sydenham.	Cloth of Gold.
Dupont de l'Eure.	Lucidum.	
Vesta.	Formosum.	
	Golden Clustered.	

In regard to the properties which constitute a perfect bloom, I consider that each petal should be broad, thick, smooth at the end, and a little cupped or curved, but not so as to shew the under part too much; the centre should be good, the whole flower forming little more than half a ball. Vesta, in my opinion, nearest approaches these properties. As we cannot do without reflexed flowers at present, they should have broad thick smooth petals lying regularly one over the other, and the centre of the flower should be good, as, for example, Salter's Annie; all loose flowers, and those that have notched petals, should be disqualified, as, for instance, such varieties as Zoe, General Marceau, Perfection, &c. The Anemone, or Aster-flowering varieties, should either be distinctly classed at exhibitions, or entirely discarded."

## AN AFTERNOON AT DRAYCOTT.

DRAYCOTT is a pleasant little village some six miles south-east from Derby, and here Mr. Allestree lives, a gentleman very famous in this neighbourhood for his Roses; to describe which is the object of this paper.

As an exhibitor Mr. Allestree has invariably taken a high place at the shows held here; and it was therefore with much pleasure I received an invitation to visit his collection. A few minutes' ride by rail sufficed to bring me to the village of Borrowash, from whence a stroll of half an hour's duration, through rich meadows and fertile fields, brought me to my destination. Entering from the high road, the Rosery lay immediately before me, about half an acre in extent, and sloping gently to the south-east. The ground round the house is laid out in tastefully-formed beds and clumps; farther removed it is divided into quarters, one being assigned to each division of the Rose family. On the right, and masking the boundary-wall, were some noble specimens of Pillar-Roses, luxuriant in health, and literally covered with flowers. Amongst others, I jotted down as more especially fine, Paul Perras, Charles Duval, General Jacquemont, Great Western, La Calaisienne, Leopold de Bauffremont, Triomphe d'Angers, General Kleber, and Hypocrate. In front of these were the Bourbons, consisting of some fifty varieties, among which Souvenir de la Malmaison, Armosa, Splendens, Augustine Lelieur, Le Grenadier, Paul Joseph, Madame Tripet, Edouard Desfosses, Reine de Congres, George Cuvier, Souchet, and Queen, were conspicuous for their beauty and promise. On the opposite side of the lawn, facing these, were some fine clumps and beds of Hybrid Perpetuals, which comprised magnificent examples of the following: Baronne Prevost, Clementine Seringe, Comte Egmont, Comte de Montalivet, Comte de Paris, Comtesse Duchatel, Cornet, Dr. Marx, Duc d'Aumale, Duchess of Sutherland, Jacques Lafitte, Lady Alice Peel, and La Reine, the flowers of the latter were exceedingly large and perfect. Géant des Batailles demands a special notice, three small plants having upwards of twenty fully expanded blooms on each, and its freedom of flowering, combined with its constancy in giving forth autumnal blossoms, must make it a *sine qua non* to the Rose-grower. I had almost omitted my old favourite, Madame Laffay, which I thought finer than I had ever before seen it. Robin Hood, Marquise Boccella, Sydonie, &c. were good. Amongst newer varieties which were pointed out as desirable, I remarked Cymedor, Duchess de Praslin, General Negrier, Madame Trudeauux, and Standard of Marengo,—the latter is something like Géant des Batailles, having stiff, finely-formed petals, and being of good shape. Of the Damask Perpetuals, Bernard and Mogador seemed the only varieties *now* desirable to retain.

The Summer Roses were superb; in fact, they were one vast sheet of bloom. In Mosses, Laneii was most beautiful, and must undoubtedly become a favourite. Blush, too, was fine; as were also

Eclatante, Alice Leroy, Princess Royal, De Meux, Prolific, and the common Provence, Crested Queen, and the common Moss. This last was truly magnificent, rich alike in growth and flowers. Of French Roses, Œillet Parfait, Schismaker, Boula de Nanteuil, Cynthia, D'Aguesseau, Grain d'or, Grandissima, Kean, Letitia, Ohl, and Shakspeare, were distinct and fine. In Albas, my attention was most attracted by Felicité, Josephine, Beauharnais, Madame Audot, Madame Legras, and Sophie de Marsilly. Among Damasks, I saw nothing better than La Ville de Bruxelles, Madame Zoutman, Madame Hardy, and Semiramis; and in Hybrid Provence, I liked Emerance, Comte Plater, Blanchfleur, and Pauline Garcia, the most. Among Chinas, I saw nothing superior to the well-known Cramoisie Supérieure and Madame Breon. In Tea-scented, there were fine plants of Devoniensis, Safranot, Bougere, Pactolus, Mansais, and Clara Sylvain, all of which had withstood the severe winter of 1849 and 1850, and were flowering well. There were large beds of others which had been wintered in frames and turned out; but these were not in flower.

Mr. Allestree, who is a keen experimentalist, had worked many of the stronger-growing varieties on the Dog-Rose, hoping thereby to obtain additional hardihood, so as to enable the plant to withstand a midland-counties winter. I also remarked a long wall planted alternately with Climbing and Bourbon and Perpetual Roses, Mr. A.'s object being to obtain (by crossing) a Climbing Perpetual.

Adjoining the Rose-garden, but separated from it, is a large plot devoted to the raising of young stock. Here there were large "quarters," or "flats," as they are termed, of plants budded during the past season, the whole in the finest health. Indeed I was struck with the luxuriance and health of the whole stock, not an aphid being visible. Mr. Allestree attributed the health of his plants, and their freedom from fly, entirely to *thorough trenching* of the ground,—a point, to use his own words, "indispensable in the successful cultivation of the Rose." Z.

### Derby.

[Since the above was in type, the following list of "Roses to avoid" has been kindly furnished by Mr. Allestree himself.]

Some five or six years ago, owing to a change of residence, I was released from the management of a large farm; and having only some grass-land to attend to, I had comparative leisure, and became a Rose-grower; although previously, in common with most farmers, either from want of time or inclination, or both, I had paid very little attention to gardening. Well, my first lot of four dozen were procured from an eminent cultivator of the queen of flowers, the selection of sorts being left to himself. Rose-catalogues were afterwards searched, and those described as "superb," "beautiful," "excellent," were speedily added. Mr. Rivers', and more recently Mr. W. Paul's, work on the Rose, together with the reports of metropolitan exhibitions, were consulted, and in a short time my collection amounted to rather more than four hundred varieties, scarcely one of them being



without a recommendation of some kind. Of course I had a great many beautiful sorts, but I found that many were of middling quality, and others were so much alike as to be scarcely distinguishable, while in about fifty or sixty sorts defects were so glaring that they were discarded after the first flowering. Since then new varieties have been added; but as I consider it far better to have several of a first-rate sort than a great number of varieties, many of them of an inferior kind, my new manuscript catalogue contains only 150 sorts, which alone will be propagated with ten or twelve new Roses "on trial," which will be inserted or rejected as they prove first-rate or otherwise. The following are kinds to avoid, at least I shall avoid them:

*Provence.* Curled, Sylvain, Unique, Petite Mignonne.

*Moss.* Aixa, Comtesse de Murinais, French Crimson, De Metz, Etna, Grandiflora, Luxembourg, Malvina, Pomponfeu, Princesse Adelaïde, Renoncule Pourpre, De Vicillard, Unique, Sage-leaved.

*French.* Celestine, Columelle, Cambroune, Duc de Trevis, Eblouissante de Laqueue, Enchantresse, Feu Brillante, General Damremont, Guerin's Gift, La Calaisienne, La Jeune Reine, Latour d'Auvergne, Matthieu Molé, Oracle du Siècle, Pharericus, Pierre Jaussens, Triomphe de Jaussens, Village Maid, Village Maid (new), Wellington, Aglae Adanson, Nelly, Rien ne me surpasse, Tricolor.

*Alba.* Duc de Luxembourg, Fanny Sommerson.

*Damask.* Arlinde, Bachelier, Calypso, La Cherie, Leda, Pope.

*Hybrid Provence.* Aspasia, Duchesse d'Orleans, La Ville de Londres, Madame L'Abbey, Mrs. Rivers.

*Hybrid China.* Beauté Vive, Brennus, Fulgens, Hippocrates, Jenny, Petit Pierre, Triomphe d'Angers, Velours Episcopal, Riego.

*Hybrid Bourbon.* Belle de St. Cyr, Edouard Delair, Eliza Mercœur, Great Western, Hortense Leroy, Richelieu (Duval), Celena plena, Las Casas.

*Climbing.* Bennett's Seedling, Dundee Rambler, Ruga, Splendens, Amadis, Rampant, Queen of the Prairies.

*Damask Perpetual.* Antinous, Laurence de Montmorency.

*Hybrid Perpetual.* Aubernon, Bouton de Flore, Commandant Fournier, Comte d'Egmont, Comte d'Eu, Comte de Montalivet, Comte de Paris, Cornet, Dr. Marx, Earl Talbot, Edouard Jessy, Lane, Louis Bonaparte, Madame Dameme, Marquise Boccella, Mrs. Elliot, Princesse Helene, Psyche.

*Bourbon.* Alfred, Amenaïde, Crimson Glebe, Dr. Blandin, Duc de Chartres, Gloire de Paris, Grand Capitaine, Impératrice Josephine, Lady Canning, Lavinie d'Ost, Leveson Gower, Madame Aude, Madame Lacharme, Miss Fanny, Princesse Clementine, Princesse de Modena, Reine des Vierges, Theresita, Vicomte de Cussy.

*China.* Abbé Mioland, Beau Carmin, Belle Emilie, Fabvier, Henry V., Marjolin du Luxembourg, Meillez, Napoleon, Tancrede.

*Tea.* Abricote, Bardou, Caroline, Clara Sylvain, Hardy, Mansais, Marie de Medicis, Nina, Princesse Helene.

*Noisette.* Clara Wendel, Du Luxembourg, Fellenberg, La Biche, Pourpre de Tyre, Solfaterre, Victorieuse.

It may be imagined by some that beauty in flowers is a mere

matter of taste, and that the points of excellence insisted on by the Florist are founded in caprice; but it might be asserted with equal reason that inferior paintings are as beautiful as the productions of the best masters, because they may happen to be considered such by the uninitiated. In the case of the Rose, what constitutes perfection is obvious at first sight, viz. flowers circular, petals of good substance, entire, symmetrically arranged quite to the centre, with good habit and abundance of bloom. And in other Florists' flowers, stout petals, entire margins, circular outlines, intensity and regularity of colouring, will remain the foundation of what constitutes perfection so long as floriculture shall be the pursuit and delight of refined and intelligent minds.

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### DAHLIAS.

THE following have been sent out since the lists were published at p. 114, in 1849, and should be in every collection grown for exhibition.

Blanchfleur (Morley).  
 Charles Turner (Turvill).  
 Duke of Cambridge (Fellows).  
 Duke of Wellington (Drummond).  
 Earl of Clarendon (Union).  
 Elizabeth (Daniels).  
 Fame (Turvill).  
 Fearless (Barnes).  
 Frederick Jerome (Widnall).  
 John Edward (Salter).  
 Magnificent (Keynes).  
 Mr. Seldon (Turner).  
 Mrs. Seldon (ditto).  
 Mrs. C. Bacon (Whale).  
 Negro (Fellows).  
 Princess Louisa (Fellows).  
 Queen of Lilacs (Turner).  
 Queen of the East (Barnes).  
 Queen of the Isles (Skynner).  
 Seraph (Fellows).  
 Sir F. Bathurst (Keynes).  
 Snowflake (Dodds).  
 Thames Bank Hero (Robinson).  
 Utilis (Drummond).

#### FANCY DAHLIAS.

Comte de Flandre (Van Renynghe).  
 Conspicua (Salter).  
 Elizabeth (Prockter).  
 Floral Beauty (Whale).  
 Forget-me-not (Hooper).  
 Gasparine (Sieckmann).  
 General Cavaignac (Hunt).  
 Highland Chief (Keynes).  
 Jeannette (Fauvel).  
 Lady Grenville (Bragg).  
 Lady Cullum (Barnes).  
 Madame Bresson (Dubras).  
 Mademoiselle Eberts (Deegen).  
 Miss Compton (Liddiard).  
 Miss Blackmore (Dodds).  
 Miss Stevens (ditto).  
 Mrs. Labouchere (Turner).  
 Picturata (Barnes).  
 Postsecretaire Hane (Deegen).  
 Princess Helena (Turner).  
 Striata Perfecta (Batteur).  
 Unique (Turner).

The following new varieties were most conspicuous at the Exhibitions last season.

Admiral.  
 Barmaid.  
 George Glenny.  
 Hon. Mr. Herbert.

Napoleon.  
 Nepaulese Prince.  
 Nil Desperandum.  
 Queen of Beauties.

Regina.  
 Roundhead.  
 Sir Charles Napier.  
 Summit of Perfection.

#### FANCY DAHLIAS.

Elegantissima.  
 Kingfisher.  
 Miss Weyland.

Mrs. Hansard.  
 Mrs. Willis.

Pretty Polly.  
 Queen of the Fairies.

## THE FRUITIST.

**THE BRITISH-QUEEN STRAWBERRY UNDER GLASS.** This most undoubtedly finest of all strawberries—and indeed, in my opinion, finest of all known fruits of English growth—is but seldom tasted in full perfection. Owing to an uncertain climate, it requires protection from the accidents of “flood and field” to have all its peculiarly delicate, yet rich, flavour fully preserved; and glass alone can do this—not to force it, but fully to mature its fruit. The following simple method will give results all that can be wished for. As soon as the runners are long enough—and this will be by the middle of June or beginning of July—take them, and place one on the centre of a pot filled with mould. Employ as many pots as you please; but, mind, there must be only one plant to a pot, and that in the centre. A small stone placed on the joint of the runner will keep it in its place. Water daily in dry weather, and the runners will soon fill the pots with roots, and be in a fit state to be separated from their mothers in August. And now as to the mode of filling the pots, and compost. Take 6-inch or 8-inch pots—the latter the better, if you wish for very strong plants; place two or three large pieces of broken pots at the bottom; then mix your compost two-thirds loam—not too light and sandy—and one-third rotten manure; put in a handful of it, and pound it with a wooden pestle, and so keep on a handful and a pounding till your pot is full of well-compressed compost as hard as a barn-floor. As a severe winter often injures the young plants of this Strawberry, it is by far the best method to plunge the pots in coal-ashes or old tan, in a garden-frame, or any where under glass, giving them abundance of air at all times, unless the frost is very severe. In February remove them to a shelf near the glass, in a greenhouse or vinery where no fire-heat is employed. Let them have plenty of air, and only the assistance of glass to ripen them; they will come in only a few days before those in the open air, and be all that can be wished for in size and flavour. A common garden-frame will ripen them as well as a vinery or greenhouse; in fact, any glass structure will do, for all they require is to be near the glass, and to have abundance of air.

T. R.

## NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*March 27.* Mr. Arthur Henderson in the chair. At this, the first general meeting, the minutes of the preliminary one were read and signed, and such other arrangements as were considered necessary to commence the business of the Society on April 3d, were completed. In addition to the fifty-four members already enrolled, the names of forty-four new candidates for election were proposed.

*April 3.* Mr. Veitch, jun., in the chair. Forty-four members were elected on this occasion; and the names of forty-eight more

were placed on the lists for election. Large collections of seedlings and named varieties of Cinerarias were contributed by Messrs. Dobson, Smith, Lane, Keynes, Copeman, Henderson, Macintosh, Rogers, Layton, Ivery, Robinson, Gaines, and Parr; Pansies were furnished by Messrs. Bragg and Turner, and by the Rev. C. Fellowes, Norwich; Camellias, Geraniums, Polyanthuses, Auriculas, Hyacinths, Epacrises, Gloxinias, by Messrs. Story, Veitch, Turner, and Henderson; Azalea vittata, by Messrs. Standish and Noble; *A. rosea striata*, by Mr. Wood. Rhododendrons were communicated by Messrs. E. G. Henderson, nurserymen, St. John's Wood. The following awards were made: certificate to a Cineraria, Queen of Beauties, from Mr. Smith, Tollington Nursery, Islington; this was a white self, of great purity, good in habit and shape. Certificate to Cineraria, Orpheus, from Mr. Ayres, of Blackheath; this was good in habit and general form; colour, lilac purple, with a light disk. Certificate to Rhododendron, Superbissimum album, from Mr. E. G. Henderson; this had a fine truss of blush-white flowers, which were deeply spotted with dark crimson. Mr. Turner sent a promising Pansy, named National, a white-ground variety. Mr. E. G. Henderson, Cineraria, Loveliness, a good flower, as was likewise Christabel, from the same establishment. Mr. Rogers, of Uttoxeter, forwarded Lady of the Lake, Cineraria; promising, but insufficiently in flower. Mr. Story's Camellia, Exquisite, had fallen entirely to pieces. Many written instructions were destroyed by using the paper on which they were written as the wrapper for tin and other boxes. Contributors should take care to avoid such errors. A Primula and Polyanthus, in a cut state, were contributed by Messrs. Chater. In addition to the group of Seedling Cinerarias, Mr. Ayres sent several named kinds, among which Madame Meillez, Blue Perfection, Electra, and Adela Villiers, were the most remarkable; also a fine specimen of *Pelargonium Quercifolium coccineum*.

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### OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS.** As soon as the flowering is over, they should be repotted. Many dispute this, and prefer the month of August, assigning as a reason that it prevents their blooming in autumn; but experience proves that autumnal potting only partially prevents autumnal flowering. Besides, the second blooms from spring-potted plants are frequently exhibited, and have taken prizes; while the second blooms from the autumn-potted plants are seldom, if ever, fit to exhibit. In repotting old plants, shake out the greatest part of the old compost from between the roots, and examine the tap-root. If long and aged, break off a joint or two, and dip the end into pounded charcoal to prevent bleeding.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** If large specimens are desired, shift at once into 12-inch pots, and use compost consisting of equal quantities of rotten turf, leaf-mould, good sandy peat, rotten cow-dung, and silver-

sand. Never allow a curled leaf to escape attention, but see if the green-fly does not occasion it. This pest must be kept down by fumigation. Before smoking, elevate the large lower leaves with sticks, to ensure the tobacco-smoke reaching them.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.** These should be staked. The foliage will now be fast decaying, and should be removed. Many of the strong plants will throw up blooms from the bottom, which should be stopped. The surface-soil will require stirring; top-dress with rotten manure and loam mixed.

**CINERARIAS.** Make notes of the varieties you see in bloom. "Whatever you cultivate, let it be the best of its kind." Air well, shade from bright sunshine, and keep down insects.

**COLD FRAMES.** "Bedding plants" must be prepared as speedily as possible for planting in their summer quarters. Such portion of the stock as may be already well established should be freely exposed to sun and air, merely guarding against the effects of frost at night, which may yet occur. Should we experience the bright sunshine and parching winds which sometimes characterise the first weeks of May, the exposed plants must be very carefully and liberally supplied with water, otherwise the small quantity of soil in which their roots are confined will become so dry, as to be unfit to afford sufficient nourishment, and the result will be a severe check, which will greatly retard their progress after planting out. If any portion of the stock is not yet sufficiently established to be risked in the open air, considerable care will be necessary, in order to encourage it to make rapid growth, without at the same time rendering it too tender. Such plants should be freely supplied with air on all favourable occasions; for it will be found that there is no object gained by keeping plants in a close moist atmosphere until within a few days of their exposure to our changeable climate. Aim at obtaining well-rooted, hardy plants, and if they are small when planted out, with ordinary care they will strike root, and grow without any seasoning-time; whereas plants hurried along in a close warm frame will, heedless of all care, for weeks after planting out, refuse to move, save in the way of growing smaller. Before the work of planting out is commenced, carefully examine the whole stock, and if it is found to be the least infested with aphids, fumigate with tobacco-smoke directly. After planting their beds, &c. gardeners invariably have a considerable reserve stock, with which to supply the place of any plants that may die; therefore, should any remain after the beds are filled, take care of them until it is clear that they will not be wanted. As the frames become empty through the removal of "bedding things," they may be used for the growth of plants for the autumn decoration of the greenhouse; for which purpose they are far more suitable than more expensive structures usually are. Balsams, Lobelias, Globe Amaranthus, Fuchsias, *Salvia splendens*, Japan Lilies, and the lovely varieties of Achimenes, will, with a little management in the way of giving less or more air according to their various habits, thrive luxuriantly in cold frames. Indeed most plants will do so during the summer months.

**DAHLIAS.** Endeavour to have fine plants ready to plant out by the end of the month; they will not be safe sooner, unless they are protected at night. Shift, therefore, all that have been struck in small pots into 5-inch pots. The soil should be light and rich. Great care should be exercised in hardening-off seedlings; keep them growing, without allowing them to draw. The old roots which have been employed to produce cuttings may be divided; they will form, when potted, strong plants with little trouble. Level ground that has been ridged-up during winter, preparatory to its being finally dug at planting-time, and have plenty of rotten manure prepared to set the plants in. Free from slugs and green-fly the moment they appear.

**EPACRIS.** Give them a general shift, as the plants have made new growth, and are hardened off. Give a few days' shading, and shelter until there is no longer fear of frost: a cold frame is the most fitting place; then the shady side of a hedge or shrubbery for the remainder of the summer, taking care that they never suffer from drought or saturation.

**ERICAS.** Small plants, not arrived at a flowering state, may now be shifted, as also those varieties that bloom in July and onwards. *Aristatas*, *Odoratas*, *Vestitas*, *Ventricosas*, and their varieties, must be deferred for six weeks or so. Tie any straggling branch requiring support; remove decayed leaves, weeds, &c.; attend to watering; give all the air the weather will permit; and the moment mildew presents itself, kill it with sulphur.

**FLOWER-GARDEN.** If any thing can be done to the soil in order to render it more suitable to the early growth of the plants which are soon to be consigned to it from the frames, proceed with it at once, so that every thing may be in readiness, and in the best possible order for the reception of the plants. There is one very material point in the arrangement of the flower-clump too frequently neglected by amateurs, viz. the proper arrangement of the plants. Space will not admit of directions about their proper distribution as regards colour, height, &c.; but this is the less to be regretted, for amateurs can arrange those things in a very superior manner, if they will only give their attention to it at the proper time. It will be found of great assistance in deciding upon the arrangement of the colours to use a rough sketch of the ground to be planted; upon this pieces of coloured paper may be arranged and re-arranged until they are suitable; but due attention must be paid to the height of the plants which are to produce the different colours, otherwise the arrangement may be very perfect as respects colour, and still be far from satisfactory. As regards the proper time at which to commence or finish planting out the half-hardy plants, so much depends upon circumstances that no definite time can be stated. Most persons commence early in the month, if the weather is favourable; but it will be safe to reserve the less hardy portion of the stock till after the middle, especially if they have not been well inured to sun and wind. After planting, it will be necessary to give a gentle watering to settle the soil about the roots, and, should the weather prove as dry as it

sometimes does at that season, water must be frequently and liberally applied until the plants are fairly established in their fresh quarters. As soon as the planting is finished, have all the shoots which are long enough pegged down in a regular manner. Annuals which have come up thick should be thinned out so as to allow them sufficient space for their full development. A further sowing may be made for autumn flowering. Grass and gravel will require constant attention, and the scythe and broom, or mowing-machine and roller, must be used freely if neatness is desired. The Rose-maggot will be particularly busy, and will do much damage; and unless a careful and almost daily war of extermination is maintained against this pest, "Roses in June" may be hardly worth the name. Many plants which serve to enliven the parterre during the early spring months will become somewhat unsightly, as they will have done flowering, and the foliage of many will soon become brown. All such things should be removed, taking care to lift them with as little injury to their roots as possible, and to plant them in some well-prepared soil, watered and shaded from the sun, until they can emit fresh roots. Very many of our spring-flowering plants may be thus removed without their sustaining the slightest injury, and they can be returned to where they are wanted to flower when the autumn frost has cut off the half-hardy plants.

**FUCHSIAS.** Those that have been forced for early flowering may shortly be removed to a cool house. Should any plants not have been removed from their winter-quarters, pot and trim directly; they will bloom well in September, October, and November. Shift seedlings; keep them pretty close during this month; towards the end of the month remove to a cool house, beginning with the strongest plants; they will bloom between July and September.

**GREENHOUSE.** The proper treatment of the greenhouse at this season depends so much upon its inmates, and the purpose for which it is used, that it is very difficult to give such directions as will be applicable to all cases. Much assistance will be derived from careful attention to other portions of the Remembrancer. If the house is used for the accommodation of a general collection of young growing plants, strict heed should be paid to their natural habitats, and they should be arranged with as much regard to this as circumstances will allow; less or more air can be given by the different ventilators, according to the wants of the plants which are opposite them; and although this arrangement does not afford the opportunity of treating the plants so nicely according to their wants as if they were placed in different houses, it will, with assiduous attention, be found useful. Camellias and Azaleas which have done flowering should be placed in the closest end of the house until their growth is completed and their flower-buds formed. While growing they will be greatly benefited by a liberal use of the syringe during morning and evening; and the same may be observed in regard to nearly all young growing stock. It will be of great advantage to such things if they can have a slight shade against the violence of the sun during bright days; but this ought not to be applied early in the morning, nor allowed

to remain after three or four o'clock in the afternoon. In cases where it is desirable to have the greenhouse for the accommodation of plants in flower, its general treatment must be very different to what would be proper if it contained an ordinary collection of growing plants. If used for this purpose air must be very freely admitted, and the shade may be used more freely. The passages should be frequently sprinkled with water during the day and the house kept as cool as possible. Attend to shifting the growing stock as its appearance indicates that it requires more pot-room. Never shift a plant at this season until you have rendered the ball rather wet than dry. Red spider will be very apt to make its appearance during the month, and must be destroyed before it gains a footing. If any particular plant is found to be infested with it, lay it down upon its side, and play upon it with soft water from a syringe as powerfully as it will bear without breaking the sprays or injuring the leaves; and do not be afraid of using too much water, but stand behind the plant, so as not to dash the water against the soil, which in that case might sodden it. Have an eye upon green-fly and thrips, and treat the harbingers of these pests with a dose of tobacco-smoke. Should insects make their appearance upon any of the plants which have been removed out of doors, their destruction must be attended to, but if the plants are clean when turned out, they will probably not be much trouble in this respect. Many ordinary greenhouse plants may be removed towards the middle or end of the month to a suitable situation out of doors; but be careful not to expose plants too suddenly, which, either from having been crowded in a shady house, or from being in a soft-growing state, are somewhat tender. Be attentive and careful in the application of water; give abundance without giving too much.

**HARDY FRUIT-TREES.** Continue to protect the blossom and young fruit against frost. So far the season has been favourable, but it must not yet be concluded that all danger is past. It is a bad practice, however, to allow even the slightest covering to remain upon the trees during the day, or to use it save in cases of necessity. Proceed with the disbudding of Peach and Nectarine trees, but do not disbud a tree at one operation; remove only a portion of the superfluous shoots at various times, which will not check the sap and cause gumming, evils frequently the case when the work is begun and finished at once. As soon as green-fly makes its appearance apply tobacco-water. Apricot-trees are very often infested with a species of caterpillar, which if not detected and eradicated immediately upon its appearance does great damage, by devouring the leaves and eating a portion of most or all of the young fruit. This small enemy is a busy one, able to destroy the fruit of a very fine tree in a few days. Pear-trees will require to be regularly attended to, and to have the ill-placed and useless shoots rubbed off, and others stopped. They should be gone over in a regular way once a month during the growing season. This will hardly occupy more time than is expended by those who allow them to become a perfect forest before they attempt to do any thing for them. Disbud and lay in the shoots of vines upon walls.



**PANSIES.** Examine seedlings, and weed out inferior plants; assist promising ones by placing a little dung round them. During the first two weeks of this month most varieties will exhibit their true character. Put in as many cuttings as can be procured.

**PELARGONIUMS.** The plants which have not been stopped back since they were cut down will now be fast coming into flower. Bees must be excluded from the house by netting; for if allowed access, they fertilise the flowers, and they soon fall. Fumigate the May plants, whether you see green-fly or not; and if you have several houses, smoke them all; for we are apt to carry plants from one to the other without thought, and so introduce tenants whose room is better than their company.

**PINKS.** Keep the beds clean. The surface of the soil must be kept open, and in dry weather water liberally, and mulch in light soils; the bloom-stems may be thinned out when about four or five inches long. If fine blooms are required for exhibition, those varieties that produce but few petals may be reduced to one stem, such as Hedge's Gem, Headley's Duke of Northumberland, and others. On the more robust sorts, that produce a superfluous number of petals, two or three may be left, according to the strength of the plants. While putting this into practice, remember the number of shows you have to attend, and leave some backward shoots to come in late, and some for the early exhibitions. Prick out seedlings an inch apart.

**POLYANTHUSES.** Part and transplant them. Plant out early-sown seedlings. Water them, and keep them free from slugs and snails.

**RANUNCULUSES.** The Ranunculus, though hardy, will be benefited by a slight protection from late frosts; one unfortunate late frost is sufficient to blight the hopes of the cultivator. Imperfectly formed buds are to be attributed to frost. A close covering would weaken both foliage and blooms. Flake-hurdles, which admit air and light, will be found sufficient. They should be supported just above the foliage, on short stakes driven into the beds. The Ranunculus delights in a moist soil; and if there be deficiency of rain during the month, water must be liberally supplied. Apply it between the rows, and not over the foliage. If the weather be mild, water in the evening. Stir the beds, and trap wire-worm by means of moist bran, or sliced potatoes or carrots. About the middle of the month plunge the seed-boxes or pots in the open ground in a sheltered place.

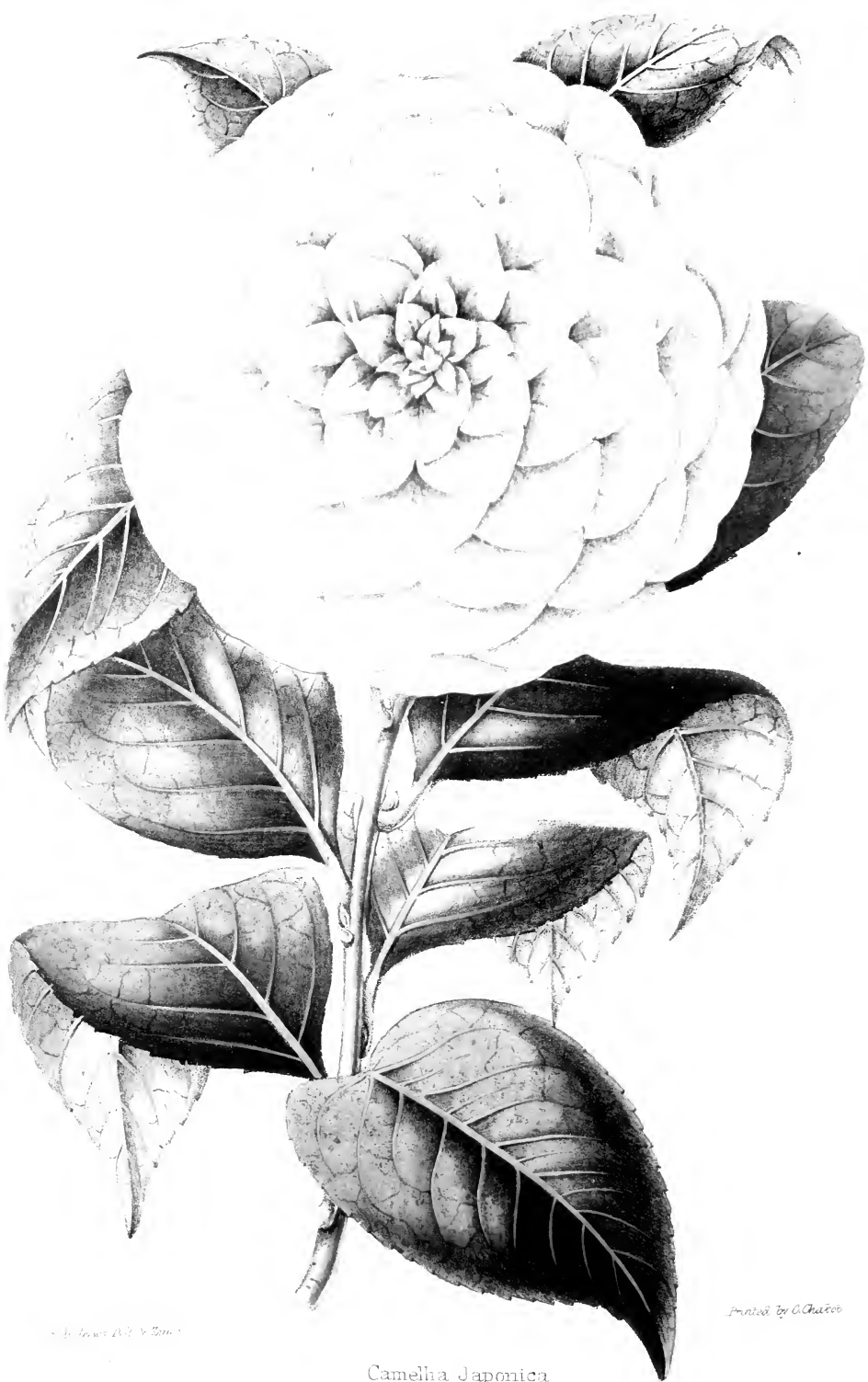
**ROSES.** Plant out Bourbon, China, Tea-scented, Noisette, and Hybrid Perpetual Roses on their own roots from small pots; in light sandy soils a dressing of rotten manure, about four inches in depth, well mixed with the soil with a three-pronged fork to a foot in depth, will be all that is required. In stiff soils the following is an excellent preparation: cover the bed to be planted with burnt earth, well saturated daily a week before it is used with strong liquid manure, two or three inches in depth; then stir this into, and well mix it with the soil with the fork, as directed above for the manure. Roses in pots to bloom in June will want frequently looking over for the maggot, even if you have cut out all the old spurs. Any plants of China, Tea,

or Bourbon varieties that are now stopped back will come into flower again by the end of July.

**TULIPS.** Get the top and side-cloths on; if the stage be a complete one, the top-cloth can be rolled up by the pulleys, and let down instantly if a shower of rain or hail threaten. On a warm showery day, if the cloth be let down, the bed will receive all the benefit of the moist growing atmosphere, without being deluged or injured by the rain. As soon as the blooms shew colour, exclude the direct rays of the sun, but let them have all the air possible. The side-cloth should be very thin canvass—the sort used by dairymen in the manufacture of cheese is best for the purpose, as it keeps off the sun, and at the same time admits a free circulation of air. As soon as the flowers begin to fade, and the beauty of the bed declines, take off the cloths, and let them have all the weather.







G. Chalmers del. & sculp.

Printed by G. Chalmers

Camelia Japonica  
*Exquisite (Story)*

## THE GREAT HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

MAY has again brought its flowers and their exhibitions; but the Horticultural Society's meeting was unhappily attended with cold winds and rain, keeping away the company which would otherwise have been present. For many years we have not failed to be upon the ground as early as six o'clock; but on this occasion circumstances obliged us to defer our visit till about four in the afternoon, when every thing wore an uncomfortable, gloomy look, which neither music nor flowers, beautiful as they were, could counteract. In consequence of the inadequacy of the prize, there was not a *Pelargonium* staged; the large tent appropriated for their exhibition was consequently empty and forlorn enough. For the particular objects of interest, we must refer to the report, which will follow in its place. One of the lions of the day was Mr. Paxton; and we were amused to see the eagerness of a country gardener to catch sight of one who has taken so conspicuous a place among the men of his day. "Here he comes," said this gardener's friend, "and the Duke with him, and the Duchess of Sutherland; they both wear white hats you see." Right well spoken, thought we; it tells of the triumph of merit. From the Botanic Society's exhibition we were entirely absent, but there we sustained a defeat, our plants being placed second to Mr. Turner's of Slough, and that on the first occasion of his exhibiting *Pelargoniums*.

Respecting the National Floricultural Society's exhibitions, we are sorry to say, that in spite of all advice to the contrary given for years, people will persist in forwarding their flowers in paper and other fragile boxes, which are invariably crushed in passing through the post-office. It is therefore our duty to warn raisers that, if they do not avoid this error, they are wasting their time and the money spent in postage. We again earnestly commend this flourishing society to our readers' notice. The arrangements are now all but, if not quite complete. Parties sending objects for examination will receive an immediate report of the judges' opinions upon their merits; that is, if they are members and have paid their subscriptions,—a thing, by the by, a few want reminding they have neglected to do, and which should be done forthwith. We shall be on the look-out for fine objects to select our Illustrations from; and we take this opportunity of reminding some of our readers who are requesting us to figure flowers which have not yet appeared, that we shall be glad to do so as soon as we meet with seedlings calculated to form valuable additions to the varieties in present cultivation.

## NEW CALCEOLARIAS.

MR. WOODHOUSE'S notes on this subject, published in No. xxxvi. of your last volume, have induced me to offer a few remarks respecting this deservedly popular flower. The leading sorts of Calceolarias of the last few seasons exhibit blooms of large size, beautifully diversified with singular blotches and spots, but possessing bad forms, numbers being deficient in the outline and throat, whilst all are much too flat, with the habit of the plant quite devoid of that shrubbiness and neatness of foliage which are so very desirable.

If I am correct in my assertion, that the present race of Calceolarias is of too herbaceous a character, it is evident that no advance towards shrubbiness can be attained by crossing the present Florists' varieties amongst themselves; consequently recourse must be had to the strictly shrubby species.

In support of this view, I will endeavour to give some idea of what the probable result would be of crossing the opposite species (from the trifling success that has attended my individual efforts). In 1848 I obtained a few of the best Calceolarias that I could procure; these I crossed with *Rugosa* and its congeners; the seedlings from this union shewed very shrubby habits, but the flowers, with one exception, were long, flat, and small; the variety that I saved was a decided advance on the old sorts in every property but size.

The seed of 1849 gave a still further improvement: two plants produced flowers almost as round as a marble; another was almost as shrubby as *Rugosa*, with marks in the style of *Lady Constable*; another shrubby variety gave flowers nearly an inch in diameter; besides which, there were a dozen seedlings fully equal to the new Calceolarias that are annually inflicted on the public as superior selections.

Though the whole of these seedlings are far from possessing the properties of a perfect Calceolaria, I feel confident that, as a whole, they comprehend the materials out of which a clever hybridist would soon produce something good; indeed I entertain so favourable an opinion of the capabilities of these plants, that, having no spare room in my greenhouse, I have presented them to a Florist,—with the understanding that I should enjoy the pleasure of raising seed for him.

I trust that I have said enough to induce a few amateurs to adopt my suggestions; as I feel satisfied that half a dozen persons leaving the present beaten path, and depending on some of the old (possibly new) shrubby species, to give them both form of flower and habit of plant, would in a few seasons elevate the Calceolaria to the rank of a real Florists' flower.

A. CLAPHAM.

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## A HINT

## ON THE OUT-DOOR CULTURE OF TEA-SCENTED ROSES.

BEING an ardent admirer of Roses, but more particularly of the Tea-scented varieties, the culture of which I have pursued with great success for several years, I am induced to offer a few remarks, thinking if my system were more generally known and adopted, it would greatly tend to improve that beautiful class of flowers, both as regards longevity, size, and blooms. All who are in the habit of buying Standard Tea-Roses must have found that, even with the best culture, most of them are very short-lived: this circumstance induced me to bud a few of the best sorts on the White Banksia, a stock known to be exceedingly vigorous. I well recollect a few years ago being in the garden of a friend, where I found some of the most superb blooms of Eliza Sauvage I had ever seen, and upon inquiry I was told that it was budded on the Banksia; this induced me to try the experiment, and I have ever since had the finest flowers that could possibly be produced. There are two large White Banksias occupying a south-west wall in my garden; on these I have strong plants of Eliza Sauvage, Moire, Devoniensis, Josephine, Malton, Goubault, Safranot, Smith's Yellow, Vicomtesse de Cazes, Cloth of Gold, and Pactolus. There are also on them good plants of Géant des Batailles, Duchess of Sutherland, La Reine, (Hybrid Perpetuals,) Souvenir de la Malmaison, Reine des Vierges, and Acidalie, besides several buds of the best Teas, which were inserted last autumn; all are doing well, and the established plants bloom most beautifully. It is worthy of remark that the Cloth of Gold is growing on a very old stem of the Banksia; in fact, it is more than half denuded of its bark, and the plant even now shews an abundance of flower-buds, and has always evinced a greater disposition to bloom than any other I possess. One more suggestion I cannot help offering, viz. that should any of your readers have a south-west wall unoccupied, they cannot do better than plant it with Banksias; it will soon be covered; and when the midsummer shoots are strong enough, bud them with any of the Roses I have mentioned, and they will be amply repaid by having a fine display of blooms from May till November.

A. A.

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 THE FRUITIST.

**THE PURPLE FONTAINEBLEAU GRAPE.** Some ten or twelve years ago, in early autumn, when in the garden of the late Mr. Scott, a retired agriculturist, then living at Wenden, near Saffron Walden, he directed my attention to a grape-vine against a south wall covered with fruit, although very young. He stated that a friend had recently brought it from France under the name of "The Muscat of Fontainebleau," and that it was the hardiest, the earliest, and the

most profuse bearer he had ever met with. I may mention that he was a great collector of grapes, and had a great number of varieties. I received some cuttings from the vine in question, and have since cultivated it extensively. It has amply borne out all that Mr. Scott reported of it: its berries are of a very light purple, in size a little larger than the Burgundy, and round; its bunches are also clustered like it, but they are larger; its young shoots and leaves are *very* thickly covered with down; it is very hardy, and its fruit ripens freely in any aspect to the s.e., s., or s.w., in those parts of England where grapes ripen in the open air; but its most extraordinary feature is its wonderful fertility, every bud producing from two to three bunches. Every one having a nook with a suitable aspect ought to plant a vine of this sort, and every cottager might make it a source of profit. One of my young vines trained to a stake, and only six feet high, bore last season—1850—fifty bunches.

Finding no Muscat flavour in it (it has a brisk sweet flavour), I have ventured to change its name, and to call it as above.

T. R.

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### CULTURE OF THE CINERARIA.

THERE is scarcely a more useful or beautiful plant for the general purposes of greenhouse decoration, or for furnishing a supply of cut flowers, than the Cineraria; and as I have paid much attention to its cultivation, perhaps a few words on the subject may not be uninteresting.

As soon as the plants are out of flower, and seed saved from the best sorts, I cut them down close to their bottoms, turn them out of their pots, and plunge them in leaf-mould, or in any other compost not required for use. I find that they succeed best in the former, under a west wall, where they require only the attention of a few waterings with a fine rose-pot, to prevent them from becoming too dry. About the middle of August the old stools will be growing vigorously. I then separate and select as many of the strongest offsets as I consider will form a nice specimen. I cut their roots close in, and increase such sorts as are good. I then pot them into 6-inch pots, in a compost of turfy loam, peat, and well-decomposed cow-dung, with a portion of silver-sand in it, the whole being used in a rough state. They are afterwards transferred to a close frame, shaded from the rays of the sun, and kept well sprinkled with the watering-pot or syringe; for the Cineraria delights in a moist, cool, shaded atmosphere. When the plants have become established, the lights are drawn off them every night in fine weather—for they are greatly strengthened by receiving the dew of the morning—shading them lightly when the sun is powerful, and tilting the lights nine or ten inches at the back to admit plenty of air. When the pots have become filled with roots, I transfer the plants to a 9-inch pot, in which they are flowered. I then remove them to their former situation, where they remain under the above treatment until the end of



October, when they are taken either to the greenhouse or conservatory. When the most early ones have their flower-buds well above the foliage, six of the best are placed in the stove, where they come into full bloom in a fortnight or three weeks. These are replaced by six others, which are again succeeded by others, as may be required. In this way I have plants with splendid heads of bloom from Christmas till the end of May; and the majority of them do not require the assistance of a single support.

Success much depends upon keeping the plants well watered; and the syringe should oftentimes be applied to their foliage. About four fumigations, at different intervals, will keep them clean and in healthful vigour through the season, which will amply repay any attention bestowed upon their culture.

*West Hill, 8th April, 1851.*

R. FIELDER.

## NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,

### AND OF NEW OR RARE PLANTS

#### FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

**SALVIA GESNERIFLORA.** This free-flowering Sage very much resembles *S. fulgens*. It is one of the most brilliant of the genus, having erect racemes of large scarlet flowers, that are sweet-scented, and remain a long time in perfection. It grows freely if allowed plenty of pot and head room; and with a little training it forms a very handsome bush three or four feet high. Plants of this species are now in flower at Kew; and being of a bright rich colour, they form a beautiful contrast with *Acacias*, *Cinerarias*, &c. in the greenhouse.

**LUXEMBURGIA CILIOSA.** Although this was introduced into English gardens ten years ago, we seldom even now meet with a well-cultivated specimen of it. It forms a neat shrub, and is not difficult to flower if treated as a stove-plant during its season of growth, and afterwards removed to the temperature of a common greenhouse. It is a native of the Organ Mountains in Brazil, where it grows in moist peaty soil, forming a branching shrub from eight to twelve feet high. The foliage is a good bright green, and the flowers are produced on the ends of the branches in loose racemes or sub-corymbose clusters. It is at present in flower at Kew.

**DIELYTRA SPECTABILIS.** A very handsome hardy herbaceous plant, and one that richly merits cultivation. It is the best of the genus to which it belongs. The flowers are pendulous, large, of a rose-colour shading off to white, and arranged in a single row on a raceme nearly a foot long.

**POLYGONUM BRUNONIS.** Also a handsome hardy herbaceous plant, suitable for borders or rockwork. It has a creeping perennial stem, with smooth leaves slightly serrated, and terminal spikes of rosy or rich brownish-red flowers, which have a gay appearance in the end of summer and autumn. Native country Nepal. Figured in Paxton's *Flower-Garden* for March.

**P. VACCINIFOLIUM.** A neat species, growing only a few inches high, with creeping perennial stems, and small ovate leaves. It is admirably adapted for rockwork, or for planting near the margin of beds or borders. It grows in dense tufts, and has spikes of rose-coloured flowers in the end of summer and autumn. Figured in Paxton's *Flower-Garden* for March.

**BOUARDIA LEIANTHA.** A free-blooming evergreen greenhouse shrub, attaining the height of two or three feet. The flowers, a rich deep vermilion, are produced from the axils of the leaves. It is stated to flower from July to November, hence it will be a valuable bedding-plant during summer. Native country Guatemala. Figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for April.

**ROGIERA CORDATA.** A branching evergreen stove-shrub, growing from four to six feet high, and bearing large cymes of rose-coloured flowers that are sweet-scented. It is a native of the temperate regions of Guatemala, and was raised from seed about four years ago by Mr. Smith, gardener to J. Anderson, Esq. of the Holme, Regent's Park. Figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for April.

**EPIDENDRUM LINEARIFOLIUM.** A free-flowering little Orchid, having small pseudo-bulbs and narrow grassy leaves, and bearing a slender rather lax panicle, consisting of from twelve to fourteen flowers. The sepals and petals are of a purple brown, yellowish at the apex; lip yellowish white, delicately veined with purple. Probably a native of Mexico.

**WIGANDIA CARACASANA.** A rather pretty soft-wooded tropical stove-plant, having a terminal panicle or compound raceme of large unilateral flowers, of a pale violet colour. It was introduced to our English collections from Berlin. Its season of flowering is about February. A native of Caraccas.

**CHYSIS AUREA**, variety **MACULATA.** This very elegant variety belongs to a genus of Orchids that contains but three species in cultivation. They are all natives of South America, and have long pendulous pseudo-bulbs, and racemes of showy flowers. The present variety was introduced a short time ago to English gardens from Columbia, and has flowered with Messrs. Lucombe and Pince of Exeter. It has a pendulous raceme of six flowers; the sepals and petals have their upper half occupied by a large orange spot or blotch, and the middle lobe of the labellum is prettily spotted with purple.

**ACACIA UROPHYLLA.** A moderate-sized evergreen greenhouse shrub, with pale-yellow flowers, not very showy. It was raised from seed sent by Mr. Drummond in 1843 from Swan River. The above four plants are figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for April.

**HEMIANDRA PUNGENS.** A pretty free-flowering low greenhouse shrub, having small linear leaves, and large axillary flowers of a pinkish lilac, with fine crimson spots. It is a native of Australia, occurring frequently in the Swan River colony, and also at King George's Sound. It has been recently introduced to English collections from the garden of Baron Hugel of Vienna. Figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for April.

*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.*

J. HOULSTON.

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## STORING APPLES.

It may seem out of season to speak of storing Apples at this time of the year, as any hints are sure to be forgotten by the time they might be useful. But lest I myself should forget what I have to say when Apples are ripe, I wish to mention that on this day, March 15, I have on the table a dish of Nonpareils as green, as plump, and as high-flavoured as they were from the same store on Christmas-day. This prolongation of their season is produced by a plan I have used for several years, and always with the same result, adopted at first merely to keep too curious eyes and hands from the choicer table kinds, but examined with some care since its effects have been perceived. It consists in storing them in glazed earthenware. In this neighbourhood we make much use of a coarse and cheap kind of glazed earthen jars of all sizes, from the dimensions of those which figure in the history of the Forty Thieves down to a common pipkin. They have lids to them, and answer the triple purpose of preserving their contents from light, from evaporation, and very tolerably from a circulation of air. It is in the union of these three requisites, I imagine, that their efficacy consists; for I

have purposely tried a well-made box, in which the first and third quality appear in a superior degree than in the jars; but of course it was deficient in the second; and the result was the loss of half the fruit, and the shrivelling of the remainder. I have never tried a very large jar, having never had enough best table Apples of one kind to require one. But of moderate sizes it does not appear to make an appreciable difference whether the quantity stored be large or small. There is also another effect produced, and that is the prevention, in a great measure, of the perspiration Apples are subjected to when first brought under cover. In a jar this is so slight, that few of them perish from that cause, though no further care be taken of them. And altogether, where such jars are to be had cheap, the plan is worth any one's while to try as an experiment.

ΙΟΤΑ.

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### COLLECTING ORCHIDS IN DEMERARA.\*

HAVING got every thing prepared for the expedition, we commenced our journey up the river. The day was fine, though cloudy; and as you sail along, a fund of interesting objects meet the view. During daytime birds of the most beautiful description flit across the stream or by the water side, and at night myriads of insects of every shape and hue buzz from sundown until sunrise, the fire-flies illuminating the river and its margin with dazzling brightness. Nocturnal noises and confused sounds are, however, frightfully distinct, presenting a dismal contrast to the allurements and splendid scenes of daylight. The savage growl of the jaguar, as he roams through the bush, and the still more horrible cry of the large red monkey, are individually dreadful enough; but most of the wild tenants of the forest howl in concert, and throw an indescribable gloom over the spirits, at once grand and appalling.

The river may be traversed for a hundred miles, and not a habitation to be seen. Beautiful climbers and elegant Ferns may be observed, the former even on the loftiest boughs; and occasionally some of the forest-trees are adorned with parasites, whose rich and splendid flowers divert the eye of the traveller and change the monotony of the scene. Sailing up a branch of the Hayama creek, which flows into the river, we arrived at an Indian settlement. This simply consisted of a few wooden sheds, open on all sides, and roofed with plantain thatch. The Indians are greatly on the decrease; only a few are left to perpetuate the name of the red Americans. Since Europeans settled there, the aborigines have been driven from their homes near the sea-shores into the interior of the country; they have become all but extirpated from their primeval haunts; and before a century shall have elapsed, they may have totally disappeared from the vicinity of the white man.

The tropical Orchids are found almost without exception upon

\* Notes from the portfolio of a collector.

trees on the margin of the forest. They derive their nourishment from the decayed bark which has collected in the holes and crevices, and there they produce their brilliant inflorescence amid a variety of Passion-flowers, Bromelias, and Ferns. The creepers, like a graceful tracery, interlace the branches, and swing to and fro in the breeze, sometimes hanging from the trees a hundred feet, rendering it scarcely possible to distinguish the gorgeous climbers from the trees which they adorn. It is difficult to determine at what height Orchids will grow. They flourish on the topmost branches, and are found upon slender boughs a few yards from the ground. In general, however, they do not affect great heights; and their variety of form and richness of colour attract attention even from the untaught savage. Some that by accident have become detached from the trees may be seen growing vigorously on the ground or upon stones. In such situations I have found *Liparis elata*, *Cyrtopera Woodfordii*, and some of the *Catasetums*. *Cattleyas* flower as beautifully and as finely on rocks as on trees.

*Hope Nurseries, Bedale.*

C. MAY.

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### HERBACEOUS PLANTS.

THE "massing-system" of flower-gardening, now so universally adopted, has nearly driven these out of the field. Many of them, however, are very pretty, and would well repay the little care and attention which they require. A shrubbery or wall-border some four or five feet broad might be made to assume a gay dress throughout the year by judiciously classifying these plants. As regards their heights and colours, the tallest should, of course, be kept farthest from the walk, and in front a few patches of pretty annuals might be introduced with advantage. The following list will supply plants suitable for the purpose:

- Aconitum Starkianum*; blue, 3½ feet high.
- *bicolor*; blue and white, 4 feet high.
- Alyssum saxatile*; yellow, 6 inches high.
- Anemone coronaria pleno*; double scarlet, 10 inches high.
- Arabis caucasica*; white, 8 inches high.
- Aubrietia deltoidea*; pale lilac, 6 inches high.
- Campanula glomerata*; blue, 15 inches high.
- *pleno*; double purple, 1½ feet high.
- *persicifolia maxima*; blue, 2 feet high.
- *alba pleno*; double white, 15 inches high.
- *urticifolia pleno*; double white, 1½ feet high.
- Cerastium frigidum*; white, 6 inches high.
- Corydalis nobilis*; yellow and brown, 15 inches high.
- Dracocephalum argunense*; light blue, 1½ feet high.
- Delphinium Barlowii*; blue and purple, double, 3 feet high.
- *amatum*; blue, 5 feet high.
- *dictyocarpum*; blue, 5 feet high.

- Epilobium angustifolium* ; pink, 4 feet high.  
*Gentiana acaulis* ; dark blue, very dwarf; makes a pretty edging.  
*Hepatica cœrulea pleno* ; double blue, very dwarf.  
 ———— *rubra pleno* ; double red, ditto.  
 ———— *triloba cœrulea* ; blue, ditto.  
 ———— *triloba alba* ; white, ditto.  
 ———— *triloba rubra* ; red, ditto.  
*Iberis saxatilis* ; white, 9 inches high.  
 ———— *Garreuziana* ; ditto, ditto.  
*Lychnis chalcedonica pleno* ; double scarlet, 1½ feet high.  
 ———— *alba pleno* ; double white, 1½ feet high.  
*Morina longifolia* ; white, changing to pink, 2 feet high.  
*Narcissus Bulbocodium* ; yellow, 6 inches high.  
*Orobis vernus* ; purple, 1 foot high.  
*Phlox omniflora* ; white, 1 foot high.  
 ———— *setacea* ; pink, dwarf, and very pretty.  
 ———— *Van Houtii* ; white and pink, 2 feet high.  
*Scilla bifolia* ; blue, very dwarf.  
 ———— *siberica* ; light blue, ditto.  
*Scutellaria macrantha* ; bluish purple, 1 foot high.  
*Valeriana rubra* ; bright pink, 2½ feet high.  
*Veronica amethystina* ; blue, 1½ feet high.  
 ———— *latifolia* ; blue, 3 feet high.  
 ———— *rosea* ; rose, 2 feet high.  
 ———— *spicata* ; blue, 1 foot high.  
 ———— *alba* ; white, 1½ feet high.

Kew.

W. ALLAN.

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 NOTES FROM THE LOG-BOOK OF AN ERRATIC MAN.

No. V.

## A FRAGRANT GREETING.

A FEW days after the occurrence related in my last leaf, we had

“ Struck soundings  
 In the channel of Old England,”

and were feeling our way to the eastward pretty well satisfied with our position from having spoken a boat but a short time out from Plymouth. The weather was very thick, after much warm rain and a southerly wind. It was about ten o'clock P.M.; the ladies had just retired to their cabins for the night; the gentlemen were over their last game of chess and backgammon; when the captain, who was on deck, desired the steward to send the servants round to the ladies with his compliments, and to request their company upon the poop. The fog had been suddenly cleared away by the wind coming off the land, and with it had come all the charming fragrance of our English fields and wild flowers, appealing as palpably to the senses as if we had run bump into the middle of a haycock. The moon, too, was

sufficiently high to shew the bold outline of the Devonshire coast, so that the captain's message, and "Land ho!" sounding through the ship, soon brought every body upon deck; that is, every body who had no watch to keep, for it is no trifle that brings sailors out of their hammocks when it is their watch below. They might have been awakened by the cry, but in another couple of hours be on deck they must, and they knew well enough that the land would keep where it was till that time.

It is an interesting sight to watch the different manner in which persons are affected on such occasions. Some are all raptures in their expressions; some take a pride in shewing no emotion at all; and some are overcome to tears, and stealing from the throng, indulge in them. On the occasion in question, I carefully watched one lady, who, with her daughter, about twelve years of age, was returning from India, having left behind a husband and father to whom they were tenderly attached, and who was to have accompanied them, had not public business prevented him at the last moment. The lady's state of health brooked no delay; and well it was that she had been compelled to make the voyage with us, for her station, and above all her high mind and intellectual character, had shed such an influence over the rest of the lady passengers, to whom her sweet disposition was shewn in the kindest offices, that our passage home had been marked throughout with entire harmony; a rare occurrence indeed in passenger-ships of those days.

After joining with the group in the burst of mutual congratulations on the auspicious event, she drew her daughter to her side (who was a stranger to England, having been born in India), and explained to her, as well as she could make her comprehend, what a delightful season it was on the shore, and her hopes that we should land in time for her to sport among the hay, gather wild flowers, press them, and send them to her father, to remind him of the fields in which he had played when a boy, and to which she hoped he would soon be able to return. But the theme was too much for her sensitive mind, and bidding me, as officer of the watch, good night (for the rest had already retired with the intention of an early rising), she left me alone to my quiet nocturnal pacing of the deck. But those few words to her child had found an echo in my breast, for I too was reminded by the "wind of night" of the pleasant fields surrounding my country home, of the little cottage and the orchard, upon which my long-left bed-room looked, of the distant rookery, and its noisy, yet to me musical tenants, of the gentle swelling hills covered with the waving crops ripening for the harvest, and of the music of the "sabbath bells" which I hoped would be borne to my ears ere another week had passed over.

It is not an easy thing to convey to another the exquisite feelings present to the mind on such an occasion. To be alone is to have the very best company, and at this time I found it particularly so.

Merry peals of laughter from the watch who were gathered together about the *bits* rose every now and then, as a jet-black African tickled their fancies with some humorous relation or other connected

with his adventures on shore. Mixed with their merriment came the lowing of the cow, and the occasional crowing of the few cocks left in the hen-coops; for strange as it may appear, animals seem perfectly aware of their vicinity to land, when after a long voyage they approach it, although it is quite unseen by them.

As the night grew, the breeze freshened, and long before my watch was over, the ship was pushing the water out of her way at a rapid rate, and leaving behind her a long broad white pathway or wake, on which the moon shone with peculiar brilliancy. And on she continued steadily to speed from that time until she finally closed her wings off the East India Docks, just in time for me to go ashore, start off for the Old Inn Yard, jump on the coach as it was coming out of the gateway, and reach my home on the Saturday night. On the morrow, as I had anticipated the week before, I sat with my arms on the window-sill, a glowing sunshiny morning, with a sweet-brier hedge under my nose, the air filled with the song of the lark and other birds, and with the rich fragrance of the hay-fields and wild flowers. Is it a wonder that I hummed to myself,

“ Ah, what is sweeter than to find  
Our hearts at ease, our perils past,  
When anxious long, the lightened mind  
Lays down its load of care at last!

When, tired with toil on land and deep,  
Again we tread the welcome floor  
Of our own home, and sink to sleep  
On the long wished-for bed once more.”

No; in such an hour all past perils and privations are forgotten, and we can say in the language of the French air,

“ Where can we be happier than in the bosom of our families?”



## VINES IN POTS.

THE Huddersfield Horticultural Society, with a view to promote the cultivation of Vines in pots, offer prizes for their production. Some parties in this neighbourhood have placed pots to the base of fruiting branches of last year's wood; the shoot strikes root into the pot, and derives its support not only from its own roots, but from the old Vine, where they will remain until the day of exhibition; they will then be separated from the parent plant, and shewn as Vines grown in pots. Perhaps some of your readers will say whether this is the meaning of growing Vines in pots; if so, I have no hesitation in stating that I could shew a fruiting Vine at our next exhibition grown in a coffee-pot.

J. RILEY.

## CULTURE OF THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.

IF you thought it necessary to apologise last month for inserting something more about the Chrysanthemum, I can hardly hope you will think it right to notice this; but it is a flower which is annually growing in the public favour, and this is just the time when any hints upon its culture are likely to be of service.

Now, in common with all growers of the flower, I cannot but feel an obligation to Messrs. Taylor and James for their lectures upon its proper mode of cultivation, and I hope to profit largely by their instructions. I also beg to express my obligations to the *Florist* for the opportunity of reading those lectures. But at the same time, there are two things in them which I think merit further discussion, and I beg your readers not to suppose the methods there given to be the only ones for producing a successful result; namely, the time and mode of propagation, and the avoiding of stopping the plants.

I have now about one-third of my young plants taken early in the month of January; and very fine, of course, they are. But I have some struck last month *in heat*, and then planted in the open ground, which for the characteristics of excellence enumerated by Mr. Taylor I should prefer. What the blooms from each may be on comparison, I hope to know better next November. And while speaking of propagation, it may be of service to mention that the Chrysanthemum is one of the few plants that strike indifferently at a joint or at a distance from one. You need not therefore risk spoiling a small specimen by taking off the head at a joint; and so readily do they strike, that out of 172 cuttings, 171 have taken with me this year.

And though it certainly does appear to me, as I have read in your pages, to "dislike much stopping," yet of this I am certain, that stopping does not *always* prove "a decided failure;" for a finer specimen-plant than I had last year in Annie Salter, which I stopped twice, I can hardly hope ever to see. Unhappily it had no flowers (don't laugh; but I am only a year old in Chrysanthemum growing); for I suffered the buds to be nipped by an October frost.

IOTA.

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 DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

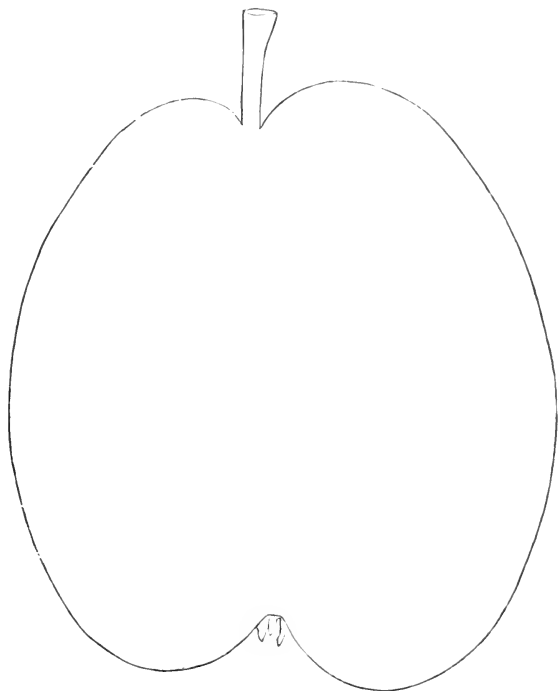
No. VI.

PEARS (*continued from p. 77*).

5. *Easter Beurré*. A large Pear, of which the general form is roundish obovate; in some specimens the crown is rounded, in others considerably flattened; the base is broad, and indented by a large cavity, and the whole surface is frequently uneven. Eye deeply sunk in a wide, angular basin; segments strong and leathery, and con-



verging so that the points meet. Stalk of medium length and thickness, deeply inserted into the hollow base. Skin dull-yellowish green, much speckled, or rather marbled, with brownish russet. From standard trees the fruit is frequently nearly covered with a dingy russet. Flesh whitish, buttery, and rich, not sweet, but brisk, and particularly agreeable. Season January and February, and sometimes will keep till March, or even later. An excellent and free-bearing sort, which ought to be in every garden. Like other late-keeping Pears, it well deserves a wall—east or west in the midland and southern counties, and south in the northern.



6. *Beurré d'Areberg*. Nearly equal to the Glout Morceau in size, and something like it in form, but more obovate, and generally having fuller swelling sides; broad at the stalk-end, and often oblique. The surface of the fruit is uneven. Eye very small, often wholly without segments, sunk in a deep and narrow cavity. Stalk of medium length, inserted in a small, sometimes a lipped, hollow. Skin smooth and shining, pale yellow, finely reticulated, and dotted with light russet. Flesh white, melting, remarkably juicy, and having a pleasant subacid flavour. In eating from the end of November till

January. A good Pear, but not equal to the Glout Morceau, with which it has often been confounded. Requires a wall to bring it to perfection.

It is necessary to explain that these descriptions were written when the fruit was in a fit condition for eating, and when consequently the skin had assumed the yellow tint which in most sorts indicates ripeness; previous to that period the ground-colour of the skin is green in nearly all Pears.

7. *Gendesheim*. Fruit middle-sized, obtuse-pyriform in shape, often a little compressed below the middle, broad and generally oblique at the small end. Stalk of medium length, deeply inserted in a large opening. Eye in a shallow depression; segments small and erect. Skin yellowish green, mottled or netted with russet. Flesh melting and juicy, having a peculiar brisk or slightly subacid flavour. Season from the middle of October to the end of November. The trees are hardy, and bear well; and altogether this little-known Pear is well deserving of cultivation.

J. B. WHITING.

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### CHISWICK AND REGENT'S PARK EXHIBITIONS.

HAVING adverted to these in another page, it will only be necessary for us here to give as minute an account as our space will permit of the different subjects produced on the occasions of the 3d and 14th ult. At both exhibitions stove and greenhouse plants were contributed in great beauty and profusion; and although they did not make so brilliant a display as the Azaleas did, yet they were highly interesting, not only as respects their beauty, which was great, but also as regards the improvement in the art of cultivation, which they so abundantly exhibited. Ill-grown plants are now no longer to be found at our great shows; a result which must ever attend such meetings, wherever they are held, provided they are fairly and judiciously conducted.

In the collections of stove and greenhouse plants we did not observe much that was new, though we saw a great deal to admire: *Eriostemons*, *Chorozemas*, *Boronias*, *Pimeleas*, *Everlastings*, *Adenandras*, and *Polygalas* in variety; but nothing so showy as the different kinds of *Ixoras*, to which the more recently introduced sort from Java makes a splendid addition. We remarked the lovely *Hovea Celsi* in several collections charmingly flowered; and when well cultivated, what plant is more beautiful? Every body who has a common greenhouse can grow it; it however requires a little skill to have it bushy and fine; but who would not labour where a profusion of flowers is the reward? *Tetrateca verticillata* is a plant of easy culture, which every amateur should possess; and those who have a small stove will find *Hoya campanulata*, well worth attention, on account of its sweet scent, so refreshing in the evening after the heat of a bright summer-day. We would advise all who have Gom-

pholobium polymorphum to twine it over stakes in the form of a little bush, for in this shape it has a much more tasteful appearance than when trained to a stiff-looking wire trellis.

*Orchids* were plentiful at both exhibitions, and their variously coloured and curiously formed flowers made them objects of general admiration. We well remember the time when these were only to be found here and there in our great gardens. They were considered to be essentially the plants of the rich and opulent; but now, who that has a little stove would be without his *Dendrobiums*, *Saccolabiums*, *Aerides*, *Vandas*, *Cattleyas*, *Phalænopsis*, and *Oncidiums*? Why they excite more interest than half the other productions of the garden. For a small collection to begin with, we would especially recommend *Dendrobium nobile* and *densiflorum*, *Phalænopsis grandiflora*, *Cattleya Mossiæ* and *Skinneri*, the larger-flowered variety of *Oncidium ampliatum*, *Saccolabium guttatum* and *præmorsum*, *Cypripedium barbatum*, *Calanthe veratrifolia*, and *Phaius grandifolius*. These might be augmented as opportunity offered; but even if the cultivation of this charming class of plants was carried no further, we are sure that the beauty of the few we have named would amply repay a small share of ordinary care.

*Azaleas* were numerous, large, and brilliant. Among the different sorts, we remarked specimens of *Double-Red*, *Gledstansci*, *lateritia*, *præstantissima*, *vivicans*, *sinensis*, *coronata*, *exquisita*, *optima*, *triumphans*, *variegata*, *Rawsoni*, *speciosissima*, *rosea superba*, *Lawrenceana*, *pulchra*, *splendens*, *Fielder's White*, *violacea superba*, and *Smith's Red*.

One collection of tall Cacti in flower was exhibited. It contained *Epiphyllum speciosum*, *E. rubrum cœruleum*, *Ackermanni*, *E. aurantiacum*, *E. Russellianum*, and *Cereus speciosissimus*.

*Rhododendrons*. A magnificent collection was shewn at Chiswick, by Mr. Ivison, gardener to the Duchess Dowager of Northumberland, at Sion House. It consisted of beautiful light and purple flowered kinds. The best of the former were stated to have been obtained between *altaclerense* and the white *ponticum*, the others between *altaclerense* and the white tree *Rhododendron*.

At both shows *Roses in Pots* surpassed any thing of the kind we have hitherto seen. The collections of both dealers and amateurs shewed that each had done his utmost; the flowers were beautifully coloured, and the foliage was ample and clean. The gems of Mr. Francis's collection, to whom the first prize was awarded at Chiswick, were *Paul Perras*, with blossoms regularly dispersed over the plant, large and well-blown; *Coupe d'Hébé*, rich in shape and colour; *Lamarque*; *Armosa*, a profuse-blooming medium-sized *Rose*; *Chénéolé*, and *La Reine*. We observed in all instances that the buds of the latter did not open kindly. *Madame de St. Joseph*, in Messrs. Paul's group, which was second, was the admiration of every body. It is a delicate salmon, with a delicious fragrance, and the plant was covered with blossoms; *Vicomtesse des Cazes* had been very fine, but its beauty was somewhat past; not so *Niphetos*, which was just in perfection, and studded with flowers of snowy

whiteness; William Jesse and Comte de Paris were also in beautiful condition. Among Messrs. Lane's plants were the universal favourites, William Jesse, Duchess of Sutherland, Aubernon, and the glorious *Géant des Batailles*; these possessed a surprisingly fine colour for the season. In the collections of Messrs. Terry, Roser, and Rowland, were Aubernon, Fulgorie, Mrs. Bosanquet, Nina, Marquise Boccella, La Reine, Armosa, *Géant des Batailles*, Blairii No. 2, Augustine Mouchelet, Duchess of Sutherland, Goubault, William Jesse, and Baronne Prevost, the latter with flowers at least six inches in diameter.

At "the Park," Messrs. Lane's collection, which was first, was uncommonly fine. Their *Coupe d'Hébé* was quite a mass of flowers. Mr. Francis too had the same variety in beautiful condition, as had also Messrs. Paul. Among other varieties we noticed Louis Bonaparte, Meillez, Souvenir de la Malmaison, Duchess of Sutherland, Devonienis, Pauline Plantier, Augustine Mouchelet, Elise Sauvage, Goubault, William Jesse, Mansais, Madeleine, La Reine, Bougère, and Aubernon. In the amateurs' class, Messrs. Terry, Williams, Roser, Rowland, and Chitty, had beautifully managed plants, more especially Mr. Terry's. The foliage was clean and healthy, and the blooms numerous and well grown. Dr. Marx, Persian yellow, Lamarque, Las Cases, Mrs. Bosanquet, Bouquet de Flore, Bourbon Queen, Bardon, Odorata, and Comtesse de Lacépède, were remarkable for beauty and profusion of bloom. Mr. Francis had a box full of *Géant des Batailles*, "worked" plants in 3-inch pots, each having a single stem about a foot high, with a brilliant crimson or rather scarlet flower on its summit. These excited much interest.

*Cape Heaths* were numerous, and generally finely flowered; and we noticed a collection of *Epacris* from Mr. Quilter of Norwood.

*Single Specimens.* The best consisted of two plants of the glorious *Medinilla magnifica*, a fine bush of *Erica elegans* and *Cattleya Mossiæ*, from Messrs. Veitch; a beautiful example of *Erica Sundryana* from T. B. Graham, Esq. of Clapham Common; *Pimelea spectabilis* and *Boronia serrulata* from Mrs. Lawrence; *Erica perspicua* from Mr. Quilter; the charming Chinese *Indigofera decora* from Mr. Ivison, gardener to the Duchess Dowager of Northumberland, at Sion; and a nice plant of the Griffith *Ixora* from Mr. Green. In addition to these, Messrs. Veitch furnished the Jasmine-flowered *Rhododendron*; Mr. Cole, the *Hovea Celsi*; Mr. Stewart, *Physolobium gracile*; Messrs. Fairbairn, *Erica favoides elegans*; and Mr. Stanly, E. Hartnelli.

Some interesting novelties were produced. Messrs. Veitch had their lovely *Cantua dependens*; M. Baumann of Ghent, *Deutzia gracilis*, a white-flowered slender-growing hardy shrub from Japan; Mr. Loddiges an *Aerides*, with long racemes of gay rose-coloured blossoms, and a new *Lycaste* from Bolivia, with pale-yellow flowers; Messrs. Henderson, the *Broughtonia violacea*; Mr. Franklin, gardener to Mrs. Lawrence, an *Epidendrum*; Mr. Carson, *Trichopilia coccinea*, a promising species, with a large dark red coloured lip; Mr. Cole, the Oleander-leaved *Allamanda*; Mr. May, gardener to

Mrs. Lawrence, *Pimelea Niepperiana*, a very pretty white kind; and M. de Jonghe, of Brussels, a rather handsome *Bilbergia*. At "the Park," Messrs. Veitch had *Pimelea Verschaffeltiana*; Messrs. Henderson, *Ceanothus papillosus* and *rigidus*, and *Franciscea confertiflora*, a promising violet-flowered species; the sulphur-coloured *Brunfelsia nitida*, from Jamaica, was shewn by Mr. Mitchell of Brighton; Marshall's Wallflower, diffusing a fragrance like that of Violets, by J. Edwards, Esq.; the Oleander-leaved *Allamanda*, and some equally well-known plants, from Messrs. Henderson of the Wellington Road Nursery. We also remarked that certificates of merit were awarded to cut specimens of *Beaumontia grandiflora*, and the very fragrant *Murraya exotica*. Mrs. Lawrence had *Pimelea Niepperiana*, *Hoya bella*, and a cut spike of *Amherstia nobilis*.

At Chiswick, for reasons we have stated, *Pelargoniums* were entirely confined to one or two "Fancies" and "Capes;" while at "the Park" the ordinary kinds were furnished in profusion and in great variety, making a truly magnificent display. Among seedlings, the best was Mr. Hoyle's Magnet, which was awarded a certificate of merit for fine colour and abundance of bloom. He had also Chieftain, which is a good flower, and others. Mr. Turner shewed First of May; Mr. Dobson, Leader, a promising flower, Gem, Vulcan, and Isabel; and Mr. Ayres received a certificate of merit for his Fancy called *Formosissimum*.

In the tent provided for seedlings at Chiswick, Messrs. E. G. Henderson of the Wellington Road Nursery had a fine collection of new *Cinerarias*, containing *Lady Hume Campbell*, white, edged with blue; *Marianne*, white, tipped with rosy lilac, good in form; *Dora*, white, with lilac disk, but wanting in substance; and *Prince Arthur*, bright rosy purple. Mr. Hoyle sent *Pelargoniums*, *Chieftain* and *Magnet*. Mr. Kinghorn an *Epacris*, named *Conspicua*, a free-flowering kind, in the way of *Grandiflora*, but a considerable improvement on that variety.

*Cinerarias* were shewn plentifully; but we did not observe among them any thing very remarkable. Mr. Robinson had the best collection. It consisted of *Newington Beauty*, *Flora McIvor*, *Bessy*, *Angelique*, *Annie*, and *Fairy Ring*.

*Pansies in Pots* were exhibited at Chiswick by Mr. Bragg and Mr. Turner of Slough; the latter not for competition. This mode of shewing Pansies bids fair to become a favourite. Mr. Bragg's varieties were, *Ophir*, Mr. Beck, *Polyphemus*, *Constellation*, *Junius*, *Conspicua*, *Juventa*, *Madame Sontag*, *Eliza Ann*, *Queen of England*, *Lady Carrington*, and *Flying Dutchman*. Mr. Turner's plants were well-bloomed, and the flowers were as large and fine as those usually produced in a cut state. The sorts were, *Juventa*, *Polyphemus*, *Queen of England*, *Surplice*, Mr. Beck, Mrs. Hamilton, *Thisbe*, *Almanzor*, *Swansdown*, *Constantine*, *Leader*, *Ophir*, *Goliath*, *Euphemia*, *Duke of Norfolk*, *Disraeli*, *Constellation*, *Aurora*, *Bellona*, and *Supreme*.

*Auriculas* were furnished (not for competition) by Mr. Turner of Slough, and Mr. Willmer of Sunbury. In their respective collections we observed *Lovely Anne*, *Ringleader*, *Champion*, *Mary Ann*,

Conqueror of Europe, True Briton, fine (Hepworth); Countess of Wilton (Cheetham), Squire Chilman, Earl Grosvenor, Colonel Taylor, Fair Maid, Lancashire Hero (Cheetham), very fine.

A collection of Tulips was shewn at "the Park" by Mr. Willmer. It contained some good varieties; but as we hope to see them again, we will not enumerate their names here.

*Verbenas.* Two or three nicely managed plants were produced by Mr. Lockner. The varieties were, Minerva, Wonderful, Desdemona, Heroine, Perrier, and Reine du Jour.

Some seedling Calceolarias were exhibited; but they were all deficient in shape, and otherwise inferior to kinds already out.

We trust that we have now furnished materials from which our country readers will be able to gather some idea of the nature of our two first great shows. The account, we own, is imperfect, for which want of room must be our apology: what we have missed now, we may be able to overtake hereafter.

#### ROYAL SOUTH-LONDON FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*April 23.*—This exhibition was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington. Few stove and greenhouse plants were produced; and as a Florist show it was certainly inferior to former years. For the best pair of Auriculas in the amateurs' class, the first prize was awarded to W. S. Ginger, Esq., for Litton's Emperor and Oliver's Lovely Anne; 2d, to Mr. Moseley; 3d, Mr. Chapman. Nurserymen: 1st, Mr. Turner of Slough, for Ringleader, Squire Chilman, Prince of Wales, and Conqueror of Europe; 2d, Mr. Dickson, of Acre-Lane, Brixton, for Ringleader, Oliver's Lovely Anne, Hedge's Britannia, and Taylor's Glory. Several collections of Auriculas were shewn, and some Polyanthus, among which we remarked Pearson's Alexander, King, Princess Royal, and Buck's George IV.

*Pansies.* Amateurs: 1st, J. Edwards, Esq., Holloway; 2d, Mr. Parsons, Enfield.

Nurserymen: 1st, Mr. C. Turner, Slough; 2d, Mr. Bragg, ditto; 3d, Messrs. Hart and Co., Guildford. The leading flowers shewn were, Hales' Sir R. Peel, Duke of Norfolk, Ophir, Rubens, Bertha, Mr. Beck, Leader, Almanzor, Juventa, Disraeli, Mrs. Hamilton, Addison, Supreme, Queen of England, Mrs. Beck, Robert Burns, Miss Edwards, Privateer, Climax, Ibrahim Pasha, Thisbe, Zabdi, Elegant, and Sir John Franklin. Dora and Euphemia are two large showy seedlings, which will make fine varieties for exhibition, and must be constant from the number of blooms shewn.

A nice collection of Cinerarias was exhibited by Mr. Robinson; and there were also a few seedlings. A first-class certificate was awarded to Mr. Smith of Hornsey, for Queen of Beauties, a small white flower with a dark centre.

## NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*April 24.*—The following awards were made on this occasion. A certificate to Mr. Hoyle for *Pelargonium Chieftain*; upper petals dark maroon blotch edged with scarlet, lower ditto vermilion. Mr. Turner of Slough produced a seedling *Pelargonium* named *First of May*; it is in the way of *Constance*, but better formed. It was commended by the censors. Mr. Ayres shewed his fancy *Pelargonium*, *Formosissimum*; for which a first-class certificate was awarded. Mr. E. G. Henderson received a first-class certificate for *Cineraria*, *Marguerite d'Anjou*, a crimson self with dark disk; also a certificate for *Marianne*, white-ground variety, with lilac margin. Mr. George Smith obtained a certificate for his white *Cineraria*, named *Alba magna*; a flat full-sized flower. Mr. Ayres of Blackheath shewed *Model of Perfection*, a shaded purple variety which was commended by the judges. Mr. Ivery, Peckham, exhibited *Beauty*, a good flower; white, delicately edged with lilac; it was commended by the judges. A grey-edged *Auricula*, in the style of *Ringleader*, was produced by Mr. Griffin; it was named *Beauty of Bath*, and was awarded a first-class certificate. Of named flowers, Mr. Ayres sent, *Pelargoniums*, *Gipsy Queen*, *Lady Rivers*, &c.; Mr. E. G. Henderson, *Scarlet Geraniums*, *Bridal Bouquet*, *Golden Admiration*, and *Peach Blossom*; Mr. Gaines, a *Rhododendron* named *Taglioni*, a promising variety, and a yellow *Azalea* named *Flava*. Messrs. Henderson, Pine-apple Place, had a collection of *Cinerarias*, consisting of *Jetty Trefiz*, *Lettice Arnold*, *Desdemona*, *Carlotta Grisi*, *Renville*, *Pauline*, *Lilacina*, *Madame Sontag*, *Lady Gertrude*, *Delicata*, *Cerito*. Mr. E. G. Henderson sent *Claude Melnotte*, *Formosa*, *Georgiana*, *Duke of Wellington*, Mr. Charles Kean, *Brilliant*, *Climax*, *Cerito*, *Pauline*, *Alboni*, *Amœna*, *Amy Robsart*, *Effie Deans*, *Admiration*, *Enchantress*, *Lady Hume Campbell*, Mrs. Charles Kean. Mr. Ivery, *Blue Perfection*, *Electra*, *Rogers's Lady Vernon*, *Ormsby Beauty*, and *Hammersmith Beauty*. Mr. Turner produced six *Auriculas*; and cut blooms of *Pansies* were shewn by Messrs. Edwards, Turner, and Bragg. A *Rhododendron* called *Jacksoni* came from Messrs. Jackson of Kingston; in appearance it was somewhat striking, being deep blush striped on the outside with rosy pink. We noticed, among other things, some seedling *Heaths* on the table; but though pretty enough, they were not very distinct from *Aristata*.

*May 8.*—*Cinerarias* formed the bulk of the exhibition; collections of these came from Messrs. Henderson of Pine-apple Place, and Mr. E. G. Henderson of the Wellington Road Nursery. The latter had also the beautiful new sorts, *Lady Hume Campbell*, *Marianne*, and Mrs. Sidney Herbert. Three blooms of *Epiphyllums* were produced by Mr. Willison of Whitby; a flower of a red *Azalea* by Mr. Catiel of Liverpool; cut specimens of three *Calceolarias* by Messrs. Schofield of Leeds; and *Pansy*-blooms from Messrs. Youell of Yarmouth, and the Rev. J. H. Gossett. Messrs. Henderson sent a *Pelargonium*

called White Unique, an Amaryllis, and a pretty Cape Heath named Victoria. Three Cinerarias were produced by Messrs. Widnall and Co. of Granchester, and a similar number by Messrs. Ivery of Dorking. Eight varieties of this useful flower were also exhibited by Mr. E. G. Henderson of Wellington Road, and some two dozen kinds by Mr. Jeyes of Northampton. The latter also sent two sorts of Azalea: *A. magnifica*, loaded with semi-double purple flowers, was contributed by Messrs. Henderson; and Mr. Reed, gardener to W. A. Coombe, Esq. of Northfleet, sent *A. pictura*, a white variety striped with rosy purple. This was worked on a plant of *A. refulgens*, and both being in flower at the same time caused one side of the specimen to be red while the other was white. Pansies were communicated by Mr. Bragg of Slough; two promising fancy Pelargoniums and a Cineraria by Mr. Ayres; a Cineraria by Mr. Lockner; a variety of *Erica tricolor* by Mr. Epps; and Pelargonium Lilac Unique by Mr. Ivery of Peckham, who had also two Cinerarias.

No awards were made on this occasion, and the only flower selected as commendable was Cineraria Prince Arthur, a good-habited variety, with a crimson puce colour. It was furnished by Mr. E. G. Henderson of the Wellington Road Nursery.

May 22.—J. W. Newhall, Esq., in the chair. We have just time to intimate, before going to press, that there was a very interesting exhibition to-day. Seedling Pelargoniums, both "Fancies" and common kinds, were produced; but in neither class were any awards made. Our *P. Incomparable* was commended for fine colour; and Mr. Hoyle's Magnet and Herald were recommended to be "seen again." Mr. Ambrose's Fancy called Attraction was similarly distinguished; Mr. Gaines' Calceolaria Antiope is pretty, but rather too small; ground creamy yellow, nicely blotched in the centre. He had also one or two other promising seedlings. Cineraria formosa, white ground, rosy purple tip, from the same grower, was commended as a desirable "sale plant." Nonsuch, from Mr. E. G. Henderson, lilac purple self, was commended; and Rosalind, from the same cultivator, was awarded a certificate; flower medium size; ground-colour white, with a grey disk, and narrowly tipped with ultramarine blue. A similar award was also made to Pansy Pandora from Mr. Hunt. This had a bright yellow ground, with a puce-purple broad margin; shape and substance good. Collections of Pansies were shewn by Messrs. Turner, Skynner, and Bragg. Some nice Mimuluses came from Mr. Wyness; among which Magnificent was a showy bold flower, and fair in shape. Wilson's Tulip King (breeder) had good broad stout petals; but the broken flower bearing that name is not nearly so good as a broken bloom breaking into narrow petals. It might be termed too, like Hutton's, Optimus. Queen breeder is a promising by-blømen. Rose breeder (Juliet) is good in shape, and has a very pure base. His breeders generally were recommended as worthy of cultivation, and particularly Juliet, for which the censors awarded a label of commendation. In addition to the above, we observed a straw-coloured Rhododendron; a pink Azalea, raised between a Rho-



dodendron and an Azalea; some cut heads of Rhododendrons, and collections of named Cinerarias. Altogether it was a very instructive meeting.

### MR. GROOM'S TULIPS.

WE inspected these on the Derby-day, and found them in excellent condition. The best bed was a glorious sight, and it presented several novelties, which we hope to see again. Dr. Horner (bizarre) and a rose called Fleur de Marie were especially fine; the former a first-rate flower of its class.

### HAMMERSMITH HEARTSEASE SOCIETY.

*May 7th.*—1st prize, 36 blooms, Mr. C. Turner, Slough; 2d, Mr. Bragg, Slough; 3d, Mr. T. Thomson, Iver.

*Amateurs' 24 blooms.* Equal, 1st, Mr. Treacher and Mr. Lane, both of Wycombe; 2d, J. Edwards, Esq., Holloway; 3d, M. Brown, Esq., Tulse Hill.

We remarked the following in fine condition: Almanzor (Thomson), Ophir (Widnall), Polyphemus (Thomson), Commander-in-Chief (Youell), Constantine (Turner), Bertha (do.), Mrs. M. Hamilton (Nasmyth), Mr. Beck (Turner), Juventa (Hooper), Duke of Norfolk (Bell), Diadem (Fellowes), Dora (Turner), Mrs. Beck (do.), Euphemia (do.), Constance, Masterpiece (Hooper), Duke of Perth (Handasyde), Pompey (Hale), Sambo (do.), Rainbow (Hall), Queen of England (Fellowes), Elegant (Thomson), Sir J. Franklin, Penelope, Premier, Ophelia (Fellowes), Rubens, Sir R. Peel, Zabdi, (Thomson), Ibrahim Pasha, Addison (Turner), Thisbe, and Supreme.

*Class Shewing.* For White-ground flowers: 1st, Mr. Turner, for Almanzor. Yellow-ground: 1st, Mr. Turner, for Diadem (Fellowes). Yellow or Straw (selfs): 1st, Mr. Lane, for Ophir. White: 1st, Mr. Turner, for Swansdown. Dark: 1st, Mr. Bragg, for Sambo. Mulberry: 1st, Mr. Treacher, for a seedling.

The prize of 20s. given by M. Brown, Esq. for the best seedling, was awarded to Mr. Turner for Chieftain, a yellow-ground flower with rich bronze red margin, fine eye, shape, and substance.

There were some other seedlings possessing considerable merit: altogether the show was much better than we had expected, owing to the lateness of the season.

### PELARGONIUMS.

WHAT would John Dobson say to a "Vulcan" just opening with me, on which I count (as near as I can manage) 120 well-formed buds?

IOTA.

## OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS.** Any work left undone last month should be immediately attended to, and the plants neatly arranged in a northern aspect. The more Auriculas are exposed to the full benefit of light, the more healthy they will be. Shading from mid-day sun is also necessary, and should be attended to from about eight o'clock in the morning till four or five P.M., according to the intensity of the sun's heat. Continue a liberal supply of water as long as the plants are growing freely, giving preference at all times to moderate showers. Pick off decayed leaves, and slightly stir the soil; destroy insects, the small green caterpillar, &c.; gather seed-pods as they ripen, and keep them in a dry and airy situation, in a paper or linen bag, adding a small piece of camphor, to preserve them from insects. By the last week in this month the plants will not require so much water; but a moderate supply must be given.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** They should now be yielding a fine head of bloom; cross such flowers as appear likely to yield the most desirable colours and shapes. As your plants fade, cut off the flower-stalks above a joint, and repot into a larger size, placing them in a shady situation, protecting them from heavy rain, but allowing them a free circulation of air and exposure to the night-dews, which are very favourable for the production of the young shoots, which you require to make your succession-stock from.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.** Tie up the shoots, and top-dress the pots or beds with a mixture of equal parts of very rotten manure and loamy soil. Remove green-fly; cut off the old foliage as it decays, and stop all shoots throwing blooms beside the leading shoots. The number of buds to be left on the blooming-stalks depends on the variety, whether a fine flower or a thin one, and the purpose for which the blooms are wanted;—if for exhibition, they must be of good size, and the plants should be disbudded accordingly.

**CINERARIAS.** Plants going out of flower should not receive too much water; rather endeavour to rest them. Watch those that are seeding, and carefully preserve the seed in a dry place.

**DAHLIAS.** By this time they will be strong and well hardened; the ground will also be in a good state to receive them; therefore plant out on the first fine quiet day, and secure the plants to strong stakes at once: placing some fine rich soil about their roots will help them in starting. Guard against slugs and snails. Some attention should be paid to arrangement; it is objectionable to see tall plants near the outside, and dwarf ones in the centre; a good distribution of colours also greatly improves the general effect.

**EPACRISSES.** Plants that have broken strongly, and made growths of tolerable consistence, may be removed to their summer quarters, which should be on the shady side of a hedge or shrubbery, where they may obtain a free circulation of air, yet in some measure protected from the force of a summer storm, and altogether from the

heat of a mid-day sun. Give the plants plenty of room. Certain shoots will break through, and grow ranker than others; these should be stopped in an early stage, say when three inches long; no shoots should be pinched off later than June. Water regularly.

**ERICAS.** As soon as the early-blooming varieties become unsightly, remove the decaying blossoms with a pair of small-pointed scissors, first taking away all the supports; this done, repot, regulating the shift to the health and habit of the plant. When shifted, place them for a few days in a shady, airy situation; then remove them to their summer quarters, which should be an exposed situation, protected from alternate rains and scorching sunshines by a thin canvass awning. Plants that have yet to bloom must, of necessity, receive such shelter as a house alone can give; but on all favourable opportunities throw each cover and light open to their full extent. Examine each pot daily, and water liberally those that emit the well-known ring.

**FUCHSIAS.** The principal attention that they require this month consists in watering, giving support to those seedlings that require it, tying out and arranging future growth of specimens, and fumigating for aphides.

**PANSIES.** Thin the young shoots, water with weak liquid manure, and shade very sparingly; shading should only be resorted to in very hot weather a few days before the blooms are wanted for exhibition.

**PELARGONIUMS.** Where any young shoots can be spared, they can be taken off, and two or three put into a 3-inch pot, placing them round the edge. If plunged into a gentle bottom-heat, they will be ready to pot off in three weeks; and by shifting them on as they fill their pots, they will make good specimens for the next season. After the plant is potted off out of the cutting-pot, and you can ensure three or four eyes, pinch the top out, and train the shoots out as they grow. Seedlings of promise should have notes taken of them, and cut down, if not wanted for exhibition; let the plants be dry before cutting down.

**PINKS.** If the weather should set in hot and dry, a large supply of water will be requisite, to assist the swelling of the pods, and to insure a free development of the blossom. Prepare all requisites for blooming, the glasses for forwarding, the shades and tables, &c.; and have all clean, and fit for immediate use. Go over the plants daily, select the most promising buds, and carefully tie them in good time; and look to those that have been tied a day or two previously; if too tight, release them, and retie. Manure-water may be given two or three times a week; and during the expanding of the blossoms, water the footways round the beds once or twice during the heat of the day. The piping-bed should now be prepared, and no time lost in taking cuttings. Prepare a bed for seedlings, make the surface-soil rather fine, and take advantage of the first dripping weather about the end of the month to plant out.

**POLYANTHUSES.** Gather the seed, as directed for Auriculas.

**RANUNCULUSES.** Shade every clear day; flake-hurdles are ex-

cellent as a first shade, as they admit abundance of air, and the use of them will give effect to the waterings, which, without protection from the sun's rays, are soon lost by evaporation. As the blossoms advance, a more effectual shade will be required, such as mats, or canvass over hoops. The dark sorts require the greatest protection both from sun and rain. Stir the surface of the bed, and stop cracks. Some varieties, especially seedlings, produce more flower-buds than they ought to mature; therefore disbud all laterals, and reduce the leaders to the number the plants appear capable of sustaining. If seed is wanted, those varieties that offer a pericarp should be inoculated with pollen from such as afford it, and possess striking colours and good petals. The more double the flowers are from which the farina is taken, the greater will be the probability of procuring double varieties. Tie up seed-bearing stems with two or three bands of matting to short sticks. Gather seed-pods when brown.

**ROSES.** As those in pots go out of bloom, they should have their flower-stalks removed, and a top-dressing of decayed stable-dung given them, and then be placed in a shady situation. If the weather is bright and sultry, this will prepare them for the autumn flowering. Keep down green-fly. Succession-plants should be placed in a glass-covered house, with abundance of air on all sides, and with arrangements for shading.

**TREES (HARDY FRUIT).** Finish disbudding Peach-trees, if not already done; and stop and regulate the young wood upon all sorts of fruit-trees. Water and mulch recently planted trees, as they may require it; and do not forget to give the strawberry-plants a very liberal supply about the time that they are setting their fruit; and afterwards mulch the ground with straw, or any thing which will keep the fruit clean, and retard evaporation. Destroy weeds, and keep the surface of fruit-borders clean.

**TULIPS.** Remove the top and side cloths directly the blooms fall. When the foliage turns brown, and the stems will bend without breaking, the bulbs will be fit to take up. Let great care be exercised in not exposing them for one minute to the rays of a hot sun, which would surely damage or destroy them. Morning or evening is the best time for taking up. Let the bulbs be exposed to the air; but it must be in a cool, dry, shady place.

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A WORD FOR THE PRESENT, AND SUGGESTIONS FOR  
THE FUTURE.

At a time when so many foreigners are drawn to our shores by the Great Exhibition of the world's industry, we have naturally felt anxious that our horticultural displays should be of no commonplace character; and it has gratified us to learn that, much as was expected by our visitors, their general feeling has been one of unqualified admiration, — the displays at both Chiswick and Regent's Park having exceeded their most sanguine expectations. The weather was happily much finer than in May, and the number of visitors was consequently very large at both places, affording an excellent opportunity of seeing a gathering of our countrymen and women under the most favourable circumstances; which in our uncertain climate is something to tell of.

May we be allowed to indulge a hope that it will not be long before challenges are made and accepted for holding horticultural fêtes on both sides of the Channel, say at Dover and Calais, Folkstone or Boulogne, or, better still, at Paris and London. To ourselves it would afford sincere gratification to take part in so generous a rivalry. At this moment, when the two greatest nations of Europe seem starting on a race of mutual goodwill and friendship, instead of continuing the wicked, foolish, and expensive animosities which once reigned so universally between them, why should we not, amongst other means of cementing our friendly intercourse, seriously contemplate a tournament of this kind, to rival that of the Field of the Cloth of Gold? Is it too much to suppose that, if such meetings were arranged upon the most liberal scale as regards exhibitors, they would prove attractive even to the Royalty of our isle, or to the President of the French Republic?

In these days of speedy locomotion, when plants from Exeter are brought to our metropolitan exhibitions with more ease and safety, and in better condition, than from a place fifteen miles distant by turnpike-road, what is to hinder our exhibiting on the other side of the water? Let it be tried. He will deserve well of both countries that shall come forward with the best-devised plan for carrying out our suggestion. Liberal subscriptions would soon set the thing going. Imagine such an exhibition in Paris as should display to our neighbours, among other proofs of our horticultural skill, that wonderful collection of Pitcher-plants produced by Messrs. Veitch. But we will not enlarge upon the subject; but turn for a moment to our own National Floricultural Society, and

add a few words to what we have already stated in previous numbers. We have just come from a meeting of the Finance Committee. It is satisfactory to state that the preliminary expenses, which have been heavy, and all accounts to this time, have been audited and paid, and provision made for those coming due, such as rent of rooms, &c. &c. Many things have occasioned a great amount of labour to fall upon our friend Mr. Edwards, who has been really overdone. Will subscribers bear in mind that it is too much to expect from him replies to private communications about the Society, its exhibitions, &c. He will gladly receive any suggestions; all he asks is, to be spared replying, as it adds too much to his labour as the honorary secretary. We trust this hint will be accepted and acted upon.

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#### AMATEUR TULIP-SOCIETY.

*May 29.*—For stands of 9 blooms: 1st prize to Mr. Edwards of Holloway, for Triumph Royal, Optimus, Cleopatra, Princess Royal, Cerise Blanche, Claudiana, Polyphemus, Triumph de Lisle, and Pilot; 2d, to Mr. Crook of Brixton, for Roi de Siam, Claudiana, May's Ulysses, Royal George, Vivid, La Tendresse, Bijou des Amateurs, Triumph Royal, and Strong's King; 3d, to Mr. Sanders of Staines, for Royal George, Strong's Queen, Cerise Belleforme, Polyphemus, Salvator Rosa, Marshal Scult, Rose Brilliant, Camuse de Croix, and General Bournonville; 4th, to Mr. Wallace of Petersham, for Holmes's King, Rose Astonishing, Vivid, Polyphemus, Bijou des Amateurs, Catalani, Lucetta, Marshal Soult, and David; 5th, to Mr. Holmes of Hoxton, for Franciscus Primus, Triumph Royal, Ponceau tres Blanc, Polyphemus, Holmes's King, Surpasse Catafalque, Aglaia, Vivid, and Lalla Rookh. For stands of 3 tricolours: 1st, to Mr. Crook, for Milo, Belladonna, and William IV.; 2d, to Mr. Holmes, for Aker's Lansonii, Miss Porter, and Carlo Dolce; 3d, to Mr. Wallace, for Carlo Dolce, Ariadne, and Ivanhoe. For the best 3 Roses: 1st, to Mr. Edwards, for Triumph Royal; 2d, to Mr. Bancks, for Catalani; 3d, to Mr. Wallace, for Aglaia. For the best 3 byblœmens: 1st, to Mr. Delaforce, for John Delaforce, new; 2d, to Mr. Wallace, for Holmes's King; 3d, to Mr. Sanders, for Cleopatra. For the best 3 bizarres: 1st, to the Rev. Mr. Jephson, for Vivid; 2d, to Mr. Holmes, for Vivid; 3d, to Mr. Lane, for Strong's King.

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#### THE PLANTS IN THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

“How delightful to have such beautiful flowers where one is taking refreshments!” exclaimed a lady near us, as we were preparing to take a few notes for this article. The idea that suggested such an



addenda to the rich stores of the Industrial Palace was no doubt a happy one, and is another exemplification of the good taste of those to whom the arrangements of its contents were entrusted. But alas, those who merely look occasionally on the masses of ornamental plants disposed about the transept of the building are little aware of the havoc that dust and an impure atmosphere plays amongst them. Such a result was not anticipated by the nurserymen furnishing them, or we venture to state, that few plants would have added their charms to the indescribable beauty of the scene.

We have entered by the south transept, and have wandered to the opposite termination of it, casually noticing the groups as we pass along. The fine Palms from Messrs. Loddiges are scorched and dusty, looking as if an Indian monsoon would be acceptable to them. The old Elms, contributing so much to the beauty of the interior, are languishing for a breeze and a shower. The Rhododendrons are regretting the pure atmosphere of Bagshot; and the Pines and Azaleas are equally not "at home." We much regret such a state of things, because the expense to the parties furnishing must be considerable, to say nothing of the loss of plants. The bouquet-trade too is almost a failure. Those who had reckoned on that source as a slight recompense for their trouble in other ways will, we fear, be disappointed.

But we must describe the plants exhibited. If you commence at the north end of the transept, immediately on the right is a large collection of greenhouse plants from Messrs. Lane and Son, Berkhamsted. The group is composed mostly of Azaleas and Rhododendrons. A plant which seemed to command universal attention was *R. sulphureum*; certainly a charming variety. The individual flowers are large, and the truss admirable. The rich-coloured *R. Broughtonii* too was conspicuous. On the opposite side, near the Queen's robing-room, is a collection of Coniferous plants from Messrs. Paul of Cheshunt. Representatives of most of the popular members of the family are in the group. Near the refreshment-stalls is another small collection, consisting of Azaleas, Roses, and cut flowers, belonging to the same firm. Directly in front of you is a circular group of hardy Rhododendrons from Messrs. Standish and Noble, Bagshot. Amongst them are some fine stands of new and esteemed kinds. *Towardii*, with its immense flower and well-formed truss, is conspicuous. *Blandyanum* is scarcely less so. The latter is a universal favourite. *Cryptomeria japonica*, *Cupressus funebris*, and *C. Goveniana* are included in the group. Several Wardian cases exhibited by the inventors are placed in this part of the building. Passing onward, we notice some grotesque vases filled with various plants. Near this part, Messrs. Rendle of Plymouth are represented by a few miscellaneous plants, as *Ericas*, *Mignonette*, a *Rhododendron* or two, &c. Mr. Ferguson of Stowe has filled a large ornamental stand, composed mostly of Staffordshire tiles, with various cut flowers and some miscellaneous living plants. Messrs. Weeks and Co. of Chelsea, besides a collection of *Geraniums*, &c. exhibit various garden articles, such as ornamental iron chairs, vases for plants, and a model

of a conservatory ; also a leaf of the *Victoria regia*, said to be grown in the open air at Chelsea. Near this space is a fountain, around which the two last-named persons have arranged a quantity of plants to resemble flower-borders in the open air. Messrs. Weeks also have a stand of cut flowers. So also has Mrs. Dennis from King's Road, besides living plants. Mr. Bragg from Slough has a collection of Pansies in pots, and a box or two of cut blooms, with a stand of various soft-wooded greenhouse plants. Mr. Clark of Streatham is also one of the exhibitors. At the period of our visit his collection was composed mostly of Heaths, Azaleas, and a few Roses in bloom, with some other plants. Still passing onward, we arrive at the fine groups of noble Palms exhibited by Messrs. Loddiges of Hackney : they add much to the beauty of the arrangement. We are now at the magnificent crystal fountain erected by Messrs. Osler. Beyond and near the south entrance are the plants belonging to Messrs. Knight and Perry, King's Road. Two beautiful specimens of *Araucaria excelsa* occupy conspicuous places on either side of the entrance. Near them, and in the middle of the transept, are the other plants, forming an oblong group. Here is the Cowrie Pine of New Zealand, *Croton pictum*, some pyramidal trained Bay-trees, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, and numerous other plants.



### TEA-ROSES.

THE Tea-Rose, on account of its beautiful tints and peculiar fragrance, is a general favourite ; yet with amateur cultivators, who, like myself, reside within a few miles of the metropolis, and are compelled necessarily to grow it under glass in pots, it turns out a complete failure after a season or two. We may be successful with most kinds of plants, but this one proves always more than our match. With great care, I get at first certainly very satisfactory specimens ; but I find it impossible to keep the plants in the same state, and the blooms speedily deteriorate. However, before giving up this vexatious and disappointing culture, I have made a new attempt, which has been quite successful, and it is to make this plan known that I trouble you with these lines. I planted about fifty half-standards and dwarfs in the autumn, consisting of *Souvenir d'un Ami*, *Elise Sauvage*, *Adam*, *Devoniensis*, &c. &c., in a well-prepared compost, and I erected a low span-roofed house over them, having glass sides to the ground, and side windows for ventilation ; and I find it to answer admirably : the plants are looking remarkably healthy, and promise well ; the shoots are most vigorous, and are covered with buds.

*Stoke Newington, May 20.*

W. G.



## NOTES FROM THE LOG-BOOK OF AN ERRATIC MAN.

## No. VI. TOBACCO.

I do not propose to tell your readers what seed to sow, how to cultivate the plant, when to gather, nor how to cure it; but rather to amuse them with a characteristic sketch of an old and esteemed shipmate, of whom I have long lost sight, and who I would fain hope has found a comfortable retreat for his latter days in some quiet spot and amongst kindred spirits, who would estimate his worth, and where his few and simple wants are well supplied. If, like many more of my shipmates, he lies buried in the deep blue sea, or in a foreign strand, then let this little remembrance of him stand in the stead of the far more enduring monument his virtues deserved.

I was as tired as a foxhound after a hard run, and only too glad to go below and jump half undressed into my cot at 8 o'clock p.m. of a wintry night, when homeward bound from the Indian Isles. I was soon in a profound sleep, and as insensible as the dead to the howling of the wind and the noise of the angry sea, before which we were scudding under a couple of reduced sails—nautically, a double-reefed maintop-sail and reefed foresail. The weather was very foggy; before us lay the Western Islands, and our course was shaped for a passage between St. Michael's and Terceira, towards which the old ship, loaded with sugar, and as deep as a sand-barge, was rolling along at some nine knots an hour. There was an ugly sea on, and occasionally heavy squalls, with hail, snow, and sleet. I had not been in the blankets a couple of hours, when I was awakened by the captain. Half asleep, I was out of my cot in an instant, so startled was I by the unusual occurrence of being called by him; and my surprise was by no means lessened at finding the water slushing across my cabin-floor nearly ankle-deep, and keeping time with the rolling of the ship. "There's two feet of water in the hold," he said to me quietly and composedly, "and it increases; all hands are turned out, and the pumps going." I slipped on my watch-coat and shoes, and immediately accompanied him upon deck. The weather was worse, and the night as dark as a dungeon. The water was coming from the pumps, a disagreeable compound of salt and sweet, telling too truly how the sugar-bags in the hold were being washed. What to do was soon decided upon, and that was to heave the ship to, first upon one tack, then upon the other; and if that did not answer, to throw all the sugar overboard that was stowed upon the lower deck, about 700 bags. No time was to be lost; and as soon as it could be done, the foresail was furled and the maintop-sail close reefed, that is, reduced in size as much as possible, and then, from running before wind and sea, the ship was turned round to face them as much as a sailing vessel can be made to do so. The object was to bring the force of the wind so as to press one side into the water and proportionately elevate the other. No sooner was this done than the leak, to our great satisfaction, seemed stopped; and the water was soon so far reduced by the pumps, that the watch, or half the seamen, were

sent below, to their great content. The captain retired to his cabin to wait for daylight, and the third mate and I adjourned to his cabin, where my boy had got some coffee ready by the aid of a spirit-lamp. There we discussed the supposed cause of the leak, which was proved at daylight to have been occasioned by a heavy sea striking the stern and damaging some woodwork; mischief which the carpenter in a couple of hours fully repaired in the morning, and so needs no more to be said about it; my present business being to remember a little of this excellent fellow, Taylor.

Mr. Taylor was a man of about forty years of age, a first-rate practical seaman, of the most unprovokable good temper, quiet, smart, and always keeping his place with the men, who greatly respected him, though he had received no education. He was an unbounded favourite of mine, and often afforded me a fund of diversion in his recitals of the incidents of his life. Promotion he had never sought, it had been thrust upon him. His constant expression, "I'm as easy as an old shoe," was the key to his unambitious life. Bad weather had no more effect on him than on a Mother Carey's chicken (the stormy petrel); if his rest was broken, he stoically endured it; if he got plenty of sleep, he enjoyed it; if he was wet through, he shifted himself; and if the bad weather lasted long enough to soak all his things, he felt for the least wet amongst them, *drily* remarking he had one jacket left that had never been wet through; he had had it all his life, and it had never wanted mending. There was but one thing that could have disturbed his equanimity; and that was, the being without tobacco. On the night in question, after we had disposed of the coffee, and shifted ourselves into some dry under-garments, Taylor went to his chest and brought out a considerable-sized linen bundle, which as he talked he deliberately unfolded. Shirt after shirt was unrolled, until he came to a handkerchief, in which was tightly bound up his store of *pigtail*. "There," said he, displaying it, and proceeding to cut off some and replenish his box, "I wonder you never use it." "Why," said I, "it would make me sick." "It might do so at first," he replied, "just as a new flannel-shirt frets your skin for a while; but it's warm, is it not?" "Well, it is," said I; "but still, if I were as comfortable without a flannel-shirt, I'd never take to one." "Ah, but," said he, "if you would but take to tobacco, you'd find you'd always a friend about you. If the captain's out of temper and falls aboard of me, I take a bit of *pigtail* between my teeth, and that employs my tongue better than answering him. If I think of the hard life I've led, if it's only for a minute, I just shift my quid, and that shifts my thoughts altogether. I had a sweetheart once, but she jilted me, and I believe it would have broken my heart if it hadn't been for tobacco. You often say how well the men behave with me to what they do to somebody else," pointing with his thumb upwards, where the second mate was heard pacing the deck over our heads. "Why, here it is," said he, "here's the secret; he doesn't use tobacco. Now if a poor fellow in my watch has a worse job than another, or a bad trick at the wheel, or gets wet through at his look-out, I just give him a plug, and you should hear how heartily

he says, 'Thank you, Mr. Taylor.' It does not cost much, and it's worth taking care of," said he, as he replaced his stock carefully in its various envelopes. "It's worth taking care of. I wish you'd try it." "Never," said I; "why I couldn't shew myself in any decent company with my cheek sticking out with a piece of tobacco, and scenting the whole room with the smell of it." "You know best about that," said he. "You can stop ashore for a spell, and please yourself; all I've to do is to get away from the land as soon as I can. All the use the shore is to me is to spend my money upon, and that's soon done."

Yes, honest noble-hearted Sam Taylor, it was indeed soon done; for thy hard life and labours on the wide sea kept an aged mother from work and want, as she told me herself with a thankful acknowledgment to God for giving her so good a son. "I wish he'd been a scholar," said the good creature; "he'd sure to have been a Hadmiral."

## NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,

### AND OF NEW OR RARE PLANTS

#### FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

**RANUNCULUS SPICATUS.** A hardy herbaceous perennial, growing about a foot high in any common garden soil. It has round hairy stems, with five or six flowers on each, and each flower is two inches broad. The petals are oblong, spreading, and of a peculiarly glossy bright yellow, with flabelliform orange-coloured spots at the base. It is a native of Gibraltar and Algiers, where it appears to be very common on the hills.

**IXORA JAVANICA.** This genus contains some of the most ornamental flowering evergreen stove-shrubs in cultivation. To grow them successfully, they require to be well cut back, and plunged in a brisk bottom-heat, where they form very handsome compact bushes three or four feet high. The present species is a glabrous hard-wooded shrub, with compact rounded branches, which are of a coral colour while young, and leaves from four to six inches long. The flowers are produced in a large terminal corymb, on a long peduncle of a deep coral colour; the tube of the corolla is red, with a limb an inch across, and of a deep orange. This charming species, like the majority of the genus, is a native of Java, and was imported by Messrs. Rollisson of Tooting, with whom it has flowered, and it is at present in bloom at Kew. There is a plant figured under the above name in Paxton's *Magazine of Botany*, vol. xiv. p. 265, but it is a very different-looking thing from this.

**FORSYTHIA VIRIDIS-IMA.** A rather showy free-flowering hardy deciduous shrub, from four to six feet high. It is perhaps best adapted for planting against a wall, as it flowers early, and its young leaves are apt to be affected by late spring frosts. It grows freely in common garden soil, and produces flowers of a bright yellow colour copiously along the branches. The leaves are of a dark brown, serrated, and appear after the flowers. It was found growing in a garden along with *Weigela rosea* at Chusan in China, and was introduced through the instrumentality of Mr. Fortune to the Horticultural Society a few years ago. It is said to flower in a wild state on the mountains in the interior of the province of Chekiang equally as well as when cultivated. The above three are figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for June.

**MELALEUCA FULGENS.** One of the showiest of our hard-wooded evergreen greenhouse shrubs, and one that deserves cultivating. Although an old species, it is seldom seen well grown. It is a much-branching free-flowering erect bush, having sessile flowers of a light red or rose-colour, produced on elongated clusters on the small branches. It is a native of New Holland, and attains the height

of five or six feet. This and the following species are flowering profusely in one of the greenhouses at Kew.

**MELALEUCA HYPERICIFOLIA.** A much-branching and rather graceful-growing kind, with an inflorescence similar to *M. fulgens*. It grows five or six feet high, and has flowers of a dull red or rose-colour. It is an old species, long since introduced from New South Wales.

**EPISCIA BICOLOR.** A dwarf perennial herbaceous stove-plant, belonging to the natural order Gesneriaceae. It is a free-blooming species, producing flowers in succession for several weeks together, and requiring the same treatment in cultivation as *Gloxinias*, *Nipheas*, and similar plants. It has large spreading hairy leaves, with very lively-looking flowers, which are white with a purple border. It is not a new plant, having been raised at Kew from seed sent by Mr. Purdie from New Grenada, about five years ago.

**PULTENEA ERICOIDES.** A very distinct and pretty-flowering evergreen greenhouse shrub, having small leaves similar to an *Erica*, and flowers of a yellow, brown, and somewhat rosy-purple hue, produced in heads on the apex of the branches. It is said to be a profuse bloomer, and one that may easily be trained to form a very handsome compact bush, as it never attains a large size; consequently it will be an acquisition to our greenhouses. It was raised by Mr. Henderson, Pine-Apple Place, from seed sent by Mr. Drummond from the Swan River Colony.

**ERICA LEEANA, var. VIRIDIS.** This pretty and interesting variety, although introduced to English collections many years ago, is at present rare in cultivation. Like most of its congeners, it is a native of the Cape of Good Hope, where a large tract of country is adorned with these truly beautiful plants, which are justly styled "the glory of the Cape." The flowers of this variety being green, are not so striking as those of gayer colours, but they serve to produce contrast. There are several Heaths with green-coloured flowers; but for cultivation, the present appears the most preferable of them. These three are figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for June.

**HABROTHAMNUS CORYMBOSUS.** A hardy free-flowering shrub, introduced a few years ago from Mexico, and is a valuable acquisition to our parterre. It grows freely in any kind of garden soil, and succeeds admirably planted against a wall. A plant of it against a west wall at Kew is at present literally covered with its deep rose-coloured flowers, which harmonising in colour with *Roses*, *Jasmines*, &c., have a very nice effect.

**BIGNONIA SPECIOSA.** This charming evergreen stove-climber is one of the best of the genus, and is very manageable in pot-culture, as it grows and flowers freely if coiled round a trellis, and produces a nice effect, its large light purple-coloured flowers and glossy foliage forming a good contrast. But like most other robust-growing kinds, to attain any thing like perfection, it requires to be planted out where it can be trained on a trellis or against a wall. A plant of it was planted about eighteen months ago in the palm-house at Kew, and trained on a trellis near the glass, where it is now covering a space of 14 feet by 6, and in May was literally covered with its large showy flowers. This is not a new species, having been introduced some years ago from Buenos Ayres.

**BIGNONIA CAPREOLATA.** A greenhouse species from North America. It is not a very showy kind, although admirably adapted for covering walls, pillars, or other unsightly objects. The flowers are small compared with *B. speciosa*, and are of a dull red colour. It flowered in May in one of the greenhouses at Kew.

**APONOGETON DISTACHYON.** A very interesting hardy aquatic herb, having dark-looking bulbs about the size of a small hen's egg, with floating leaves, and a forked inflorescence, producing abundance of delicate fragrant white flowers throughout the summer, and even into January in the South of England. It is a native of the Cape of Good Hope, and has been long in cultivation. Figured in Paxton's *Flower-Garden*.

**SIPHOCAMPYLOS MICROSTOMA.** This is one of the best of the genus. It is a half-climbing herbaceous stove-plant, about two feet high, having a compact leafy terminal umbel of bright scarlet flowers. Although not a new species, it richly merits cultivation, as it may be kept in a flowering state nearly the whole summer. Native of New Grenada; introduced to Kew a few years ago.

*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.*

J. HOULSTON.

AN

## ACCOUNT OF THE EVERGREEN PLUM OF CALIFORNIA

*(Cerasus ilicifolia, NUTTALL).*

A NEW hardy evergreen is at all times very desirable ; but when one is introduced which combines utility with ornament, it is doubly so ; and such is the case with the subject of this notice.

The Evergreen Californian Plum grows to the size of a large bush or small tree, from ten to twelve feet high, in its native mountains, and will, I think, prove one of the finest evergreens introduced for many years into England. It may very justly be compared to the Holly for size and general appearance, but with smaller, rounder, and more spiny leaves, and fruit as large as a middling-sized plum, of a bright red colour, which is "very sweet and pleasant to eat." Such is Mr. Hartweg's description of it, and as such it must be classed as likely to become one of our very best autumnal ornaments, as it ripens its fruit in September ; but when it is likely to become valuable as an eatable fruit, it becomes of some greater importance. I will therefore endeavour to draw attention to its cultivation and improvement as a fruit-tree, by giving an account of all that is at present known about its history and merits ; and in so doing, it may be the means of bringing quite a new feature into our fruit-gardens, namely, an Evergreen Cherry or Plum, whichever it may be ; and if we look at the present plant, and the large-sized fruit it produces, with a tendency, even in its comparatively wild state (when planted by the Indians in the mountains), to produce on some trees very much larger and better-flavoured fruit than on others, we have at once a great point gained towards its general improvement ; and under the improving hand of cultivation, and the horticultural skill of the present day, it may at no very distant time become one of our common fruit-trees, and particularly when the present large size of its fruit is taken into consideration, and its tendency to vary in size and quality.

The Evergreen Plum is the *Cerasus ilicifolia* of Professor Nuttall ; but it certainly has but little resemblance to a Cherry (*Cerasus*) or Plum (*Prunus*), for its flowers are produced in small racemes, somewhat like the flowers of the common Berberry or Bird-Cherry (*Padus*) ; but the fruit is as large as a middling-sized Plum, has a soft pulpy flesh like a Cherry, and the plant is as good an evergreen as the common Holly ; the stone inside the fruit is rather large, with a very thin shell, and quite smooth on the outer surface, like the stone of a Cherry ; the kernel is sweet, and forms an important part of the Indians' food in the autumn ; they first bake and pound up the kernels into a powder, and afterwards make gruel of it, which they very much esteem, and for which purpose they plant the Evergreen Plum round their huts, living upon the ripe fruit while in season, and afterwards upon the kernels, which are large and sweet, and easily obtained, the shells being so very thin. The plant was

first introduced by the Horticultural Society in 1848, through their collector Hartweg, who found it growing on the lofty coast-range of mountains called San Antonio and San Luis Obispo, or Bishop Mountains, in Upper California, in company with *Pinus Sabiniana*, and the beautiful Evergreen Oak of California (*Quercus agrifolia*). It grows from ten to twelve feet high in its native mountains, with a compact habit, and thickly set with foliage; the leaves are of a dark glossy green, quite round, heart-shaped at the base, finely toothed round the edges, much undulated, and have, when bruised, a very powerful smell of bitter almonds. Mr. Hartweg compares it to a large bush of the common Holly, thickly studded all over with middle-sized bright-red plums. Its native name is 'Islay.'

If the plant is not botanically distinct from the Cherry (*Cerasus*), it certainly forms a very distinct section of that genus, which might have the name *Ilicocerasus*, or Holly-Cherry, given to it; and when its fruit gets improved by cultivation, it will greatly improve the barren appearance of our orchards during the winter months by its beautiful foliage.

It grows freely in any good garden soil, and is said to flower in April or May, and ripen its fruit in September. It is increased by cutting or by eyes, like the Vine, in heat, and is quite hardy.

GEORGE GORDON, A.L.S.

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## DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

### No. VII.

#### GRAPES (*continued from p. 105*).

##### 8. *Black Prince*.

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: Sir Abraham Pytches' Black, Alicant, Black Spanish, Black Valentia, Black Portugal, Black Lisbon, Pockock's Damascus, Cambridge Botanic Garden, Lombardy (of some), Steward's Black Prince, Boston.

Bunch large and long, for the most part regularly shouldered, and tapering off in a gradual manner to the lower end; berry above the middle size, oval; skin thick, very deep purplish black in colour, overspread with a fine bloom; pulp juicy, with a brisk and agreeable flavour. A peculiarity belonging to this sort is, that when the berry is pulled off the stalk, a portion of the flesh, like a little core, generally remains attached to the stalk.

The leaves are of medium size, not deeply lobed or serrated; dark-green in colour, but they generally assume a purplish-crimson tint when old. The Black Prince is a handsome, free-bearing, and useful Grape, and although, upon the whole, not equal to the Black Hamburgh, it is well worthy of cultivation. In warm situations and favourable seasons, the fruit sometimes becomes eatable from the open wall; but it requires more heat to bring it to maturity than is



afforded by the majority of summers, and is therefore not to be recommended for an out-door Grape.

9. *Royal Muscadine.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: Amber Muscadine, Common Muscadine, Early White Teneriffe, Chasselas, Chasselas Doré, Chasselas de Fontainebleau, D'Arbois, D'Arboyce (of Speechley), White Chasselas, Pearl (of some), Amiens, Raisin de Champagne.

Bunch moderately large, seldom broadly shouldered; berry middle-sized, round; skin thin; colour yellowish white, with sometimes a tinge of amber on the sunny side when the fruit is not grown under glass; pulp juicy, sugary, and pleasant, but devoid of any particular flavour. The young wood is slender and short-jointed, and the leaves are rather small, with shallower and less acute divisions than those of the Frontignans and some others.

In addition to the synonyms given above, this Grape is commonly called by gardeners the "White Muscadine;" it is also erroneously called the "Sweetwater" by some persons, who distinguish the true Sweetwater by the name of "Dutch Sweetwater." This is the sort which is usually seen growing against cottage-walls in the southern counties, where, in summers of average warmth, its fruit acquires an eatable degree of ripeness, and might in all seasons be reckoned upon for furnishing that best of all home-made wines—grape-wine. It is, however, well worth a place in an early or a late vinery, as in the first its fruit will be ripe before that of the Black Hamburgh, and in the last it will not rot so readily in damp weather.

10. *White Sweetwater.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: Stillward's Sweetwater, Dutch Sweetwater, Water Zoete blanc, Chasselas précoce, Chasselas royale.

Bunch below the middle size, not much shouldered, frequently formed of a few large and many very small berries, owing to imperfect setting. The perfect berry is large in size and round in shape; the colour is a faint yellowish white, and wall-grown fruit often becomes tinted with amber or russet on the side exposed to the sun. The pulp is juicy and particularly sweet, but hardly superior in flavour to sugar and water, as is aptly implied by its name. The leaves are of a more shining green, and the young wood is grosser than in the White Muscadine.

This very early Grape is not much cultivated in vineries in this country, chiefly in consequence of its shy setting, which defect cannot easily be remedied by artificial impregnation, because the Sweetwater will open its flowers some days sooner than any other table variety that might be grown in the same house. On open walls it is liable to the same imperfection even in a greater degree, although it is sometimes cultivated in such situations on account of its early ripening.

11. *Scotch White Cluster.*

Synonym: Blacksmith's White Cluster.

Bunch short and compact, nearly destitute of shoulders, and the

pedicels being short, the berries are very closely set on the bunches. The berries are rather larger than those of the Royal Muscadine, roundish-oval in form. The skin is rather thick, pale greenish white with lighter veins, and overspread with a white bloom; when highly matured, it is sometimes faintly tinted with pale amber. Pulp very juicy and tender, sugary and agreeably flavoured, but not rich. The leaves are large and very little lobed, serratures wide and obtuse; the upper surface is nearly smooth, lower hispid; the footstalks likewise are hispid and stained with red. Early in autumn, the leaves become blotched with pale yellow in a peculiar manner.

Said to have been raised from seed by a Scotch blacksmith. A valuable wall Grape, ripening about the same time as the Royal Muscadine, and although the bunches are smaller, the flavour excels that variety. I have never seen this sort grown under glass; but it well deserves a trial in an early house.

## 12. *Esperione*.

Synonyms, from Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue:  
Hardy Blue Windsor, Turner's Black, Cumberland Lodge,  
Red Port (of some).

Bunch resembling that of the Black Hamburgh in appearance, but scarcely so large; berry large, roundish generally, but varying in form, some being slightly oval, and others a little flattened; skin thick, deep purplish black in colour, with a blue bloom. The pulp is juicy and tolerably sweet, having very little flavour, and being frequently tainted with a slight astringency. The leaves are middle-sized, variously lobed and serrated, and they frequently acquire a red tint in autumn; the petioles are dark-coloured, and, as well as the principal veins on the lower face of the leaf, often densely hispid.

This Grape has been much over-lauded. It is hardy and productive, and has the further merit of ripening against open walls in good seasons; but in quality, as a table variety, it is very inferior, and certainly unworthy of a place in a vinery.

Of the twelve varieties I have described, those most worthy of cultivation under glass are, Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, and 9; and for open walls, Nos. 9 and 11. Besides the two last, the Pitmaston White Cluster, a small white Grape; the Miller's Burgundy, a still smaller black Grape, with remarkably hoary leaves; the Black Cluster, another small black sort, and some other varieties of similar early habit, are adapted for wall-culture; less, however, for the production of table-fruit, than for the purpose of being converted into wine. But as a glass structure suitable for the cultivation of the better kinds of Grapes can now be erected at a moderate cost, and as such a house might in winter be appropriated to other uses, such as the protection of plants for the flower-garden, &c., I would recommend all who desire really eatable Grapes not to trust them to the tender mercies of an English climate, for unless specially favoured in soil and situation, disappointment must be looked for at least every third year.

In concluding the subject of Grapes, I must explain, for the guidance of persons who are inexperienced in their culture, that the distinctive marks mentioned in the foregoing descriptions must not

be understood as *absolute* and *unvarying*; on the contrary, circumstances often cause great variations in such points as the size and the smoothness or hispidity of the foliage, the size of the bunches and berries, and even the flavour. My descriptions should therefore be taken as representing plants and fruit of average strength and quality.

J. B. WHITING.

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### A PACKET OF SEEDS SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER.

[Continued from p. 91.]

I soon got to work; and the weather being bad, and the squire (this was squire as well as the last) not able to get out, I had a good chance to alter things a little. I began upon the greenhouse, washed the glass and paint-work outside: this made a better light to get the plants cleaned, and a pretty job it was to get the scale off and the fly killed. It was long since they'd smelt tobacco. I had a foreman, two men, and a boy; and a good set they were, only at first humdrum and sleepy, like him that was gone before me. After the plants were got in as good order as they could be, a few lumps of lime slacked in water served to whiten the wall and flue; and a sponge, brush, and mop, altered the inside of the paint-work as much as the out. When we had finished, my foreman said, "I would not have believed it." We did just the same with the vineries; and when they were finished, I made my men clean themselves; for I always say, that a gardener that does not keep his body and clothes clean is a dirty gardener with his plants; and if I was a gentleman, I'd have nobody about me that neither pleased eyes or nose.

I had a comfortable pretty little cottage on the premises, and that's where a gardener should be. One nice room opened on to the garden, and that was fitted up for my master and the ladies. An elderly woman did for me and the boy, who slept in the cottage, as I was not married. She worked too a little in the garden, and every little was a help then, for there was every thing to do except the kitchen-garden; that was in order. There was not a mould-heap—nothing to hand—all to make. It was tight work, I assure you. There was the cow-man to please, for the cart that brought fodder for his yard was the only one I could get. Then there was the keeper on the look-out to pick a hole in my coat about disturbing his game when I went in the woods for leaf-mould; and the coachman, he would not half muck his stables out, for he said he wanted his horses to lay warm, and so had clean straw over a foot of dung. Clipping wasn't the fashion then. When they all said no to my wants, I said, "Very well," and thanked 'em; and 'no' they said a long while, but yet I thanked 'em, till I fairly tired 'em out into saying yes; and as I shewed myself ready to oblige them, they soon took to obliging me. People can stand quarrelling with all their lives;

it's like whetting your scythe with your rubber,—the longer you do it the sharper it gets; but they can't stand good nature; let 'em be ever so cross, they're sure to give in, like the same scythe against moss. The keeper was the worst, and they always are. Kind, good man as our squire was, the game seemed to lie nearer his heart than any thing else. That's often been another puzzler to me, how gentlemen that are justices of peace can keep so much temptation for the poor man as a head of game, when they see every week and every sessions what comes of it. Then look at Mr. Keeper: if the tenants didn't please him, they couldn't call the farm their own, for he'd watch for some flaw about 'em as he'd watch a poacher, and he'd have 'em out by hook or crook. But I got the right side of him too, and in a little while had my mould-heaps all to hand, well turned over, frosted, and housed.

I brought some few things with me, and a few neighbouring gardeners helped me to a few more, and I made the best of a little. I noticed, that whenever my master or mistress came into the garden, it was only to walk, not to look in the houses, which they didn't come near. Christmas-day came round; and when my lady came into the breakfast-room, I contrived that she should find a basket of forced flowers; poor things to be sure, but enough for what I wanted. Christmas-time was not kept at the Hall, except by the in-door servants; all the out-door ones had beef and things for puddings, for my lady said she thought wives and children ought to have their share.

When the Christmas party was all gone, the squire and his lady were walking one day as usual, when they left the terrace and came to the houses, and went through them; and my master said, "Have you got all you want, gardener?" Now that was the very thing I wanted. When men go to new places, they often frighten their employers by saying they must have this and that and the other, instead of doing their best with what they find. I told him I should be glad of a few things, and he gave me orders to get them. I could tell that he saw the money wouldn't be thrown away, though he said nothing of the kind. My lady said a word or two about the pretty flowers I'd sent in, and noticed what I'd been doing about their garden-room front. But I'd watched, and seen that their eyes were not idle in the houses, and I heard too, when they were going away, "New brooms sweep clean." "Ay," thought I, "and so will the old stump, if you only put it to the right kind of work."

I found I'd a comfortable place of it; and now and then a brother gardener would call in, for I didn't go about much, and in particular when the family was away, though then's a leisure time. But evenings in winter seemed long; and one day a neighbouring gardener asked me if I'd go to the King's Head on a Wednesday evening, and smoke a pipe with a few more that met in a friendly way. I didn't think much about it, and said I would; and yet before that time, and I don't know why, I wished I hadn't agreed. However, as I'd promised, I thought I'd go and see what it was like, and if it didn't please me, I needn't keep it up.

It was a cold February evening when I walked to the King's Head ; and I believe you, it was a pleasant sight, the great fire and clean sanded floor, and well-rubbed tables, with clean pipes, and screws of tobacco, and a box, that when a penny was dropped in opened its lid, and said, "Fill away ; but shut down tight, or pay another penny." One dropped in after another, till all were together, when I was *colled*, as they called it, and put in the chair, for which I had to stand treat. One meeting was a fair sample of all ; we had a deal of business, as there always is at such times, minding other people's and neglecting our own. It was wonderful how wise we were about our masters, and all that went on in their families ; then we'd talk about the affairs of the parish and the nation, and as to the Parliament-house, it was a fool to us ; and I believe we talked, and smoked, and drank ourselves into the belief that there was but a few folks that knew any thing, and they were to be found at the King's Head any Wednesday evening. One thing I wondered at, and that was, where the money came from to pay for mixed liquors, which some called for. I know my pocket was getting very bare, and that very fast ; for where I never had any thing to drink but at meals, now I wanted half a pint for lunch, and half a pint at four o'clock ; and I often found myself saying, "It's only half a pint ;" excusing myself like to myself. I often remembered my poor father, and his last words ; but then I thought I should never get like him, and kill myself with it as he'd done. But now I think I should soon have been just such another poor slave to drink, only one morning the squire pulled me up short with, "Well, gardener, you and the King's Head are too well acquainted to please me." At first I was for making some excuse ; but he stopped that very short, and said, "You can do as you like, and I can do the same. You may choose the public-house for your evenings, and I can choose a man that spends his time at home ; but let me tell you, whether with me or in another place, you'll find bad habits like your flower-pots,—you may break 'em, but you'll never wear 'em out ;" and then he left me.

My eye was opened, and I turned over a new leaf, and left the King's Head altogether ; for which I got called a few hard names, but they spoil no meat. I must say that at first I used to sneak off, if I saw any of my old companions ; for somehow or other I couldn't stand being twitted with, "He's afraid of his master," and the like. Before I took the place, the old gardener always paid the quarterly bills ; but now they were paid at the house : but when the squire found I was always in my cottage of an evening, he sent me to pay the tradesmen ; and then I found out how it was that the mixed liquors were paid for. There was the glazier took the money, and offered me a shilling in the pound ; and so with them all. They said it was the custom. "But," said I, "does the squire know it?" "No," said they, "nor has no business to." Well, I didn't want to make myself out over-honest ; but yet I couldn't help thinking, that if it was any body's, it was my master's. Then I thought, "If I speak to the squire, it will make trouble ; so I'll think it over." When I was ordered to take my book in, I took courage, though I didn't like

the job, and asked if he allowed me to take poundage. He seemed rather bothered at first; but when I told him what I meant, he said, "Gardener, take it now, and I'll talk to you about it another time." And so he did, and gave me *twenty pounds* a-year more wages, and told me always after that, at buying to do as well for him as I should for myself; and tell the tradesmen, that it was not to be paid by them any more. And so he did with the butler and the coachman; and we all liked it, for they said there always seemed something underhand about it; and so there is too, and I wonder masters don't know better, and pay fair good wages, and do away with these things. 'Tisn't in human nature to make bills small, when the larger they are, the better for him that pays them. It can't be expected that a man that gives nothing shall get orders, when another man allows poundage. Give good full wages, say I, and you'll get the best of servants, or else change them.

[To be continued.]

#### ROYAL SOUTH-LONDON FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

May 28.—There was an interesting show on this occasion; and the day being fine, there was a fair attendance. One tent was filled with stove and greenhouse plants, contributed by Messrs. Over, Hamp, Stanly, Fraser, Pamplin, and Hook. A second tent was occupied by Azaleas, Cape Heaths, and Calceolarias; and a third by Pelargoniums and Verbenas.

*Tulips* were furnished in quantity, and very good, considering the season. In the Amateurs' Class, for 12 varieties, the first prize was awarded to J. Edwards, Esq., of Wace Cottage, Holloway, for nice blooms of Madame Vestris, Cerise Blanche, Optimus, Polyphemus, Cleopatra, Triumph Royal, Platoff, Byzantine, Claudiana, and Pilot. Mr. Betteridge, who was second, had Glory of Abingdon, Mountain Sylph, Elthron, Lady Exeter, Polyphemus, M. Catalani, Roi de Siam, Vivid, Triumph Royal, and Holmes's King. Nurserymen: 1st prize to Mr. Lawrence of Hampton, for Strong's King, Thalia, Aglaia, Norah Creina, Jeffrey's Elizabeth, Everard, Cleopatra, Brown's Polyphemus, Pandora, Lawrence's Rose Lucetta, Vivid, and Catalani; 2d, to Mr. Turner of Slough, for Queen of the North, Triumph Royal, Mary Lamb, Polyphemus, Alcon, Heroine, Pilot, Princess Royal, Catalani, and Strong's King.

*Heartsease*.—First prize to Mr. Turner, for Constellation, Lucy Neal, Almanzor, Disraeli, Bellona, Mrs. Hamilton, Duke of Perth, Lord Walsingham, Sir R. Peel, Eustace, Constantine, Thisbe, Ophir, Ophelia, France Cycole, Mr. Beck, Climax, Zabdi, Duchess of Rutland, Leader, Madame Sontag, Ibrahim Pasha, Queen of England, Addison, Caroline, Rainbow, Sambo, Supreme, Milton, Master Lacon, Princess, Polyphemus, Mrs. Beck, Viceroy, and Jenny Jones. In the Amateurs' Class the first prize was won by Mr. Betteridge.

For *Seedlings*, Mr. Norman of Woolwich was awarded a first-

class certificate for a medium-sized bybløemen Tulip, named Mr. Smith, and a second prize for a rose Tulip, named Princess Helena. Mr. Gaines had some nice Calceolarias; and Mr. Lockner sent a pretty Verbena, an improvement on Desdemona. In a stand of Verbenas from Mr. Smith of Hornsey Road, we remarked trusses of the beautiful varieties Shylock and Purple Rival. A first-class certificate was given to Mr. Hunt for his Pansy Pandora.

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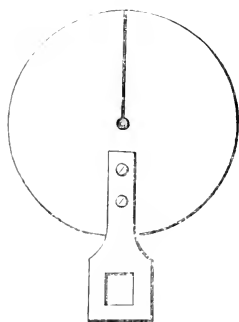
### DAHLIA-TABLE.

I SHALL be pleased if the accompanying plan of a Dahlia-table is of any service to your readers. It is of very simple construction, and easily applied. By merely inserting a wedge between the table and the stake, you can raise the plate to any height required. Two or more tables can be put on one stake, and turned to any point of the compass. By my invention I can table six flowers in less time than it took me to do one by the old method.

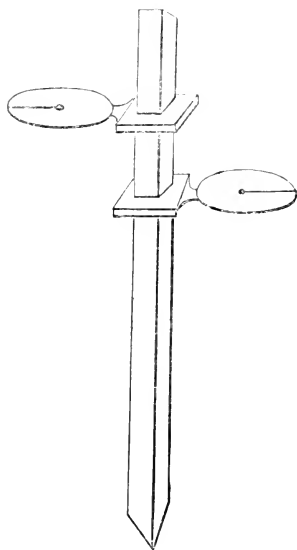
*Hill Top, West Bromwich, Staffordshire.*

OWEN JONES.

UNDER-PART OF TABLE.



Spindle inch thick, two inches wide at base, hole inch square; table of pine eight inches diameter.



TABLES FIXED ON STAKE.

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### CANTUA BUXIFOLIA.

A VERY elegant flowering greenhouse shrub, of easy cultivation, and capable of being trained into a neat bushy form. It has rather small

leaves, and drooping tubular flowers three or four inches in length. The latter are borne in a sort of leafy terminal corymb. The tube is of reddish yellow streaked with darker red, and the limb consists of five spreading obcordate red lobes. It is a native of the Andes of Peru. It has flowered with Messrs. Veitch of Exeter, who inform me that with some slight protection it has withstood the two last winters in the open air in Devonshire.

J. H.

### CHISWICK AND REGENT'S PARK EXHIBITIONS.

THESE great June shows were both favoured with dry weather, and numerous and fashionable attendances. Mr. Hosea Waterer's magnificent collection of American plants at Chiswick was in full bloom, and its inspection formed a source of pleasure and profitable amusement to thousands. Arranged on a skilfully diversified surface, new "phases" presented themselves at every turn, and viewed from the little eminences here and there, traversed by the grass-margined walks, a beautiful whole at once stretched forth to view. But floral beauty had strayed from this "spot," sweet as it was on this occasion, and had diffused itself over the whole garden, and more specially the Arboretum. Here many of the ornamental trees and the Rhododendrons exhibited all the perfection of which gay flowers and fine foliage are capable of attaining. The large Wistaria against the conservative wall, though past its best, was in great splendour; and even standard trees of this charming plant were blossoming profusely on the lawn.

But the afternoon "wears on," and we must have a look at the magnificent stove and greenhouse plants, the Orchids, the Heaths, the Roses, the Pelargoniums, and the Fruit. That beautiful collection of plants there belongs to Mrs. Lawrence of Ealing Park. See how the huge *Pimelea*, loaded with small round white floral balls, is admired; and well it might, for a *P. spectabilis* seven feet in diameter, and otherwise well proportioned, is no every-day sight. Then the rosy-flowered *P. Hendersoni*, smaller and better suited for amateurs, is not less creditable. But what is that group of ladies and gentlemen examining so eagerly farther down the tent? It is the Orchids—those aerial-looking plants of strange forms which inhabit the arms of trees and the crevices of damp rocks in tropical climates. Colours of all hues may be found in these singular flowers, and these often so amalgamated in the same species as to produce the most lovely tints imaginable. But here are more extraordinary members of the vegetable creation still—a collection of Pitcher-plants. "Some, the *Nepenthes*, from the forests of the Indian Ocean, threw abroad their tendrils, and suspended their curious bags of green and crimson and white by whatever they could cling to. Others, the *Sarracenia*s, from the swamps of North America, stood erect, like living trumpets, or imitating ewers and jugs of green and crimson: even while the spectator was looking at them, the unhappy fly might be



seen entrapped amongst the relentless teeth with which the recesses of their cups are guarded. The most curious of all perhaps, and the most beautiful in form, was the Cephalote, from the Australian bogs, whose delicate goblets reared their richly-carved and many-tinted crests above their bed of moss." These came from the nursery of Messrs. Veitch of Exeter.

The Fruit passed over, we arrived at a remarkable exhibition from the garden of the Duchess of Northumberland at Syon. This consisted of a "tree bearing ripe Nutmegs; a branch of Vanilla with flowers, and ripe as well as unripe pods; a Gamboge-tree, with rich orange fruit; and a piece of the Serpent Trichosanthe (*Trichosanthes colubrina*), loaded with its long-striped and twisted Cucumbers."

Tall Cacti were brilliant and effective; Azaleas and Roses not so fine as they were in May; Cape Heaths probably in greater perfection than on that occasion. And now we come to Pelargoniums, which were scarce, owing to reasons stated in our report of the May show. The only exhibitors were Messrs. Gaines, Bragg, Chapman, Ambrose, and Henderson.

Collections of *Calceolarias* were contributed by Mr. Franklin and Mr. Chapman. The former had Elegans, Earl of Roslyn, Admiral, Goldfinch, Isabella, Alonzo, Lord Byron, Grandiflora, Bridal Ring, Miss Talbot, and Lucy Ashton. The latter sent Success, Cavalier, Floribunda, Sidonia, Crocus, Marion, Alpha, Cardinal, Sappho, Prince of Wales, Cleopatra, and Keepsake.

*Pansies in Pots* were shewn by Mr. Francis of Hertford, and Mr. Bragg of Slough. The former had Juventa, Duke of Norfolk, Marchioness of Lothian, Mrs. Beck, Penelope, Lucy Neal, Aurora, Purity, Androcles, Supreme, and Miss Edwards. Mr. Bragg produced Junius, Industria, Clotho, Vulcan, Viceroy, Queen of England, Lucidum, Magnificent, Snowflake, Lucy Neal, Madame Sontag, and two seedlings.

A neat collection of thirty *Ranunculuses* was furnished by Mr. Costar of Benson, Oxon. It consisted of Maria, Mrs. C. Turner, Mr. Shelling, Apollo, Atlas, Joseph Paxton, Dr. Lindley, Eliza Cook, Mr. Tyso, Lady Sale, Lord Gough, Regalia, African, Mr. Wolland, Sophia, Medora, Delectus, Naxara, Cedo, Nullii, Squire Devenish, Sabina, Victoria, Alice Maud, and Gentoo.

Owing to the lateness of the season, only one collection of *Pinks* was exhibited. It came from Mr. Willmer of Sunbury, and consisted of Merope, Jenny Lind, King of Purples, Lola Montez, Harry, Morning Star, Laura, Village Maid, Coronation, Oxoniensis, Surplus, and Lord J. Russell.

There was little novelty present which we have not heretofore recorded.

The gardens at "the Park," seen under the influence of a summer's sun, which had just succeeded a day of gloom and rain, looked unusually fresh and beautiful. The Rhododendron show was in full splendour, and the first impression it made was not soon forgotten. The Rose exhibition too promised fairly; and we hope to see here, ere long, the "queen of flowers" in as great beauty and magnificence,

even under the hazy atmosphere of murky London, as under the pure air of Hertfordshire.

The tents presented a charming array of the denizens of our greenhouses and stoves; but as nearly all that was shewn on this occasion was at Chiswick on the 7th ult., little is required at our hands, except to notice the *Pelargoniums*, &c., which were truly magnificent.

In new and first-rate varieties, amateurs, Mr. Cock was placed first, and Mr. Robinson second. Nurserymen: Mr. Turner 1st, Mr. Dobson 2d, Mr. Gaines 3d, Mr. Bragg 4th, and Mr. Hunt 5th. In old varieties, Mr. Chapman came in 1st, Mr. Gaines 2d, Mr. Staines 3d, and Mr. Weir 4th. The whole of these collections were excellent. In the fancy class, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Cock were awarded equal first prizes. Mr. Staines was third. Nurserymen: Mr. Turner 1st, Mr. Ambrose 2d, Mr. Gaines 3d, and Mr. E. G. Henderson and Mr. Hunt received an extra prize. In *Cape Pelargoniums*, the first prize was awarded to Mr. Parker.

The prizes offered by the "Seedling Pelargonium Fund" were contested for on this occasion, on which the following raisers were contributors, and many varieties were represented by two, three, and four plants: from Mr. Beck were, Incomparable, Gem, Arethusa, Ambassador, Painter Improved, Cardinal, and Exhibitor; from Mr. Story, Purity; from Mr. Hoeken, Nightshade and Honeybell; from Major Foquett, Annette and Agatha; from Mr. White, Charming May and Martile; from Mr. Bragg, Jullien; from Mr. Turner, Flying Dutchman, Vivid, Supreme, Little Nell, Proteus, Breba, Cynthia, Sheet-Anchor, and Illuminator; from Mr. Foster, Scarlet Eclipse, Shylock, Lablache, Optimum, Purple Standard, Rubens, Ariadne, Eurydice, Enchantress, Pulchrum, Lavinia, Mellissa, and Pansy; from Mr. Hoyle, Beatrice, Elise, Herald, Magnet, Gany-mede, Remus, Chieftain, Azim, Colonel of the Buffs, and Van Tromp. The censors, Messrs. Riley, Staines, Veitch, and Robinson, furnished the following award: First prize, Magnet (Hoyle); second, Purple Standard (Foster); third, Elise (Hoyle); fourth, Gany-mede (Hoyle); fifth, Scarlet Eclipse (Foster); sixth, Arethusa (Beck); seventh, Herald (Hoyle).

*Seedling Fancy Pelargoniums* were shewn in classes, the division of colours being, class A, light flowers, not darker than Modestum; class B, rose flowers, not darker than Minerva; class C, crimson flowers, not darker than Fairy Queen; class D, dark, not lighter than Hero of Surrey; class E, dark self, not lighter than Defiance; in these classes 34 varieties were shewn. The censors made the following award: class A, none worthy; class B, Mirandum (Ayres), a second prize; class C, Formosissimum (Ayres), a first prize; Perpetuum (Ambrose), a second prize; Triumphant (Ambrose), a third prize; class D, Superbum (Ambrose), a first prize; Richard Cobden (Ambrose), a second prize; Caliban (Ayres), a second prize (equal); Gipsy Queen (Ayres), a third prize; class E, Captivation (Ambrose), a first prize, Advancer (Ayres), a second prize.

The Society's certificates were awarded to Ariadne (Foster), and

Elise (Hoyle). A small silver medal was awarded to Magnet (Hoyle), for an exhibition of four plants; the same variety receiving the Society's certificate at the previous exhibition.

In *Fancy Pelargoniums*, Superbun (Ambrose), Captivation (Ambrose), and Advancer (Ayres), were selected by the Society's censors for certificates.

*Fuchsias*. Two groups were produced, in which were Newtoniense, Corallina, Elegantissima, Dr. Smith, Admirable, Crimson King, Acantha, Exoniense, Miss Roberts, Cassandra, Cleopatra, and Dr. Jephson.

*Pansies*. A first prize was awarded to Mr. Turner, and a second to Mr. Bragg, both of Slough. The following varieties were shewn in good condition: Blanche, Diadem, Lucy Neal, Duke of Perth, Swansdown, Mrs. Beck, Lord Walsingham, Mr. Beck, Addison, and Queen of England, and a highly promising seedling named National.

*Ranunculuses* were shewn in good condition by Mr. Carey Tyso of Wallingford. The sorts were: Apollo, Irreproachable, Milo, Naxara, Dr. Channing, Gomer, Berinus, Lady Dartmouth, Burns, Amasis, Ki'gour's Princess, Coronation, Carouse, Highland Venus, Sabina, Dido, Mrs. Neilson, Dr. Neill, Beroth; and the following seedlings of Mr. Tyso's: Exhibitor, Festus, Olympia, Alexis, Dilectus, Protector, Hephzibah, Felix, Lambton, Victor, and some unnamed varieties.

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#### NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

June 12.—Mr. Beck in the chair. There was a good display of seedling Pelargoniums on this occasion. A first-class certificate was awarded to Elise, a large flower, with pink under petals, and white eye; upper petals maroon, edged with delicate pink. A similar award was made to Ganymede, a distinct nice-looking flower with delicate pink under petals, shaded with lilac; upper petals dark, narrowly edged with lilac. Ditto to Magnet, on account of its fine colour and profusion of bloom. The above came from Mr. Hoyle of Reading. Mr. Beck of Isleworth received a certificate for Arethusa, a nice variety, with maroon top, very delicate salmon under petals, and a light eye. Incomparable, from the same raiser, was commended for fine colour. Purple Standard, from Mr. Foster of Clewer, received a certificate; and so did the same grower's Enchantress and Ariadne, both highly desirable sorts, more especially the latter. Mr. Ayres of Blackheath was awarded a first-class certificate for a Fancy Pelargonium, named Advancer, a well-shaped very desirable flower; and certificates for Caliban, Miranda, and Gipsy Queen. These were pleasingly marked nice varieties. Beauty of St. John's Wood, from Mr. E. G. Henderson, was commended for its colour; but in its present state it is too small. The same nurseryman's Queen of the Fancies was commended for fine form and general promising appearance. Dr. Maclean had a seedling Pink, called Mrs. Maclean, which we hope to see again. No Calceolarias were worth rewarding.

Magnum bonum and Purity were commended. A shrubby yellow-flowered bedding kind, from Messrs. Wood and Ingram of Huntingdon, was very showy; but it was loose in habit. Wellington Hero (bright yellow), from Mr. E. G. Henderson, was commended for bright colour. Mr. Turner of Slough had the beautiful seedling Pansies named National, Blanche, Swansdown, and Euphemia, and five Pelargoniums. Messrs. Henderson sent a nice light Fuchsia.

### BERBERIS DARWINII.

AMONGST the many species of Berbery introduced to English gardens within these last few years, the Darwin is one of the most beautiful. As an ornamental plant for a clump, or a single bush on the lawn, or for planting against a wall, this fine evergreen shrub should be in every collection. It is quite hardy, and grows freely in good open garden soil, forming a handsome bush three or four feet in height. The leaves are small, and the flowers are produced copiously in racemes of a very bright orange colour. Its native habitat is mountains in various places of South America. It is one of Messrs. Veitch's introduction, through the instrumentality of Mr. T. Lobb.

J. H.

### OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS** Carefully attend to shading, and keep the plants as cool as possible. The soil must be continued at a moderate moisture till the end of the month, when the supply may be gradually increased as the plants begin to shew signs of growth. Avoid as much as possible drenching rains; they are very injurious to Auriculas at this season, more particularly if sultry weather follows. Slightly move the surface of the soil now and then; it will be of great service. Pick off the decayed foliage as soon as it is fit. Clear the weeds away while they are young; they should not be suffered to root deeply into the compost, for they exhaust the soil and disturb the fibres of the plants when they are drawn out. Green-fly must be kept under; brush them off as soon as you find they make their appearance; and if found in the folds of the hearts of the plants, sprinkle a little fine silver-sand among the pests; it will set them in motion, when they may be more easily blown out. Some time this month prepare a little compost for potting; you may find a few plants that will require shifting into larger-sized pots; and if the stock was not repotted in May, provide enough of material for the whole, that it may be ready for the beginning of August.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** Do not let them over-bloom themselves, to the destruction of the plants; but as soon as the flowers begin to fade, cut down, preparatory to repotting.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.** These flowers will now absorb the attention of the Florist. They are generally in perfection from the 20th to the 30th of this month, and between these dates would be the best time for an exhibition to take place. Weak liquid manure may be used occasionally, if the weather is dry. Protect forward buds (as soon as they shew colour) with small glasses.

**CINERARIAS.** Sow seed now for new varieties; if properly attended to, they will make fine plants by the autumn, and will flower all the winter. Sow in pots or pans well drained, and in mould of a light texture; cover the seed slightly; keep it constantly moist and in the shade until it is well above ground. As soon as the plants have formed the rough leaf, let them be pricked off into store-pots for a little while. Where the old plants begin to throw up suckers, a few of them may also be potted for an early stock.

**DAHLIAS.** The principal things to attend to are, to keep them well watered, which should be done at night, with soft water, over the foliage, and to look well after insects; earwigs eat the young foliage as well as the blooms of Dahlias, and should be trapped and got under as soon as the plants are out. Rake the surface between the plants as often as it becomes at all hard and run together by rain. Tie the plants as they advance in growth.

**EPACRISSES.** Watering and weeding are all that will be necessary to those plants that have been shifted and settled in their summer quarters.

**ERICAS.** Ditto.

**FUCHSIAS** not forced will be now beginning to shew flower. Arrange the new growth, to assist the effect when in full bloom, by placing a stick here and there amongst the foliage as inconspicuously as possible. If properly managed, two or three short stiff sticks will answer the purpose. This is effected by tying to the old spurs, which, by a slight deviation on this side or that, will effect the object sought. Care must be taken not to attempt too much, or you will split the wood, it being somewhat brittle. This mode of tying will only answer for those plants that have been kept well stopped; those that have been suffered to go, must, of course, be arranged in the ordinary way.

**PANSIES.** Gather seed, and continue to increase new or fine varieties, which should be transplanted as soon as struck, into a bed prepared with light sandy soil. Shade during the hottest part of the day, until they have taken hold of the ground.

**PELARGONIUMS.** Those who are desirous of having "stocky" plants must cut their specimens down boldly. Let the plants become dry before using the knife, the wounds will heal the sooner; and when they are so healed, moisten, and keep them close, in order to induce the eyes to break vigorously. When the shoots are about an inch long, withhold water till dry, and then clear away every portion of the soil about the roots, which should be cut off with a sharp knife to within two or three inches, leaving the fibrous parts. Repot them into some open soil with plenty of drainage, and replace them in a close situation, or plunge them in gentle bottom-heat until they have

thrown out their fresh roots, when air may be freely given them. When cutting down, select cuttings from those parts which have bloomed to your satisfaction. It is well to cut away any portion of a plant that brings sportive or deformed flowers.

**PINKS.** Put out the young rooted pipings as soon as they are hardened off; they succeed much better when planted while the fibres are young. Prepare beds to receive them; the soil should be well pulverised, in order that their tender roots may the more easily penetrate it. If a little half-rotted manure be added, and worked in with the surface-soil, it will greatly facilitate the growth. If the weather be dry, water the soil before beginning to plant. Continue to take cuttings till a sufficient number is obtained to fill the beds, and a few extra pairs to provide against accidents.

**POLYANTHUSES** may be parted at the end of the month, if not done in May last. Be sure to plant them deep enough, so that the new fibres may at once enter the soil, instead of being exposed to the ravages of the slugs, &c. In dry weather these troublesome insects take shelter beneath the foliage of the Polyanthus, and, if not looked after, will not only devour the young roots, but also eat holes in the stem of the plants. Earthing up, and frequent stirrings of the surface in hot weather, will destroy numbers, and prevent much mischief.

**RANUNCULUSES.** Gather seed, when ripe, on a dry day. Take up the roots as they ripen, not all at once. Beds containing valuable sorts should be kept dry, to prevent a second growth, which would injure, and in some cases destroy, the vitality of the tubers, though they may be sound in appearance when stored. Dry the tubers in an airy, shady place, and store them in a room to which neither mildew nor mice have access. Seedlings should be taken up, and the soil sifted, to detect small roots. They may be kept safely in dry sand till the return of the planting season.

**ROSES.** Nothing is to be done but to enjoy their beauty, and to prepare for the blooming of the perpetual varieties. Remove all dead flowers, and place those in pots in trenches on bricks.

**SEEDLING PETUNIAS** by this time should be in separate pots, and the greater number in flower or shewing bud. Pay attention to the small and weakly plants; encourage their growth, that they may blossom this season. Look over them daily, select the promising, and, if necessary, shift them into larger sized-pots. When the blooms are expanded, shade them from the sun in the middle of the day. Moderate supplies of water should be regularly given.

**TULIPS.** The bulbs will now be thoroughly ripe, and should be taken up forthwith. Let all the offsets remain attached to the parent bulb until they are well dried. The drawers should not be put into the cabinet immediately the bulbs are taken up; let them be placed in a cool, shady situation out of doors for some days; the bulbs will thus become gradually dry and firm, and will not be so liable to shrivel as when they are shut up in the cabinet too soon. Commence removing, making alterations, improvements, and additions now, while the circumstances are fresh on the memory, as well as noted down in the Tulip-book.

## THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

“WHAT is to become of the Crystal Palace?” is the ever-recurring query; and many they are that come to the rescue; but there must be many more, or that thing of light must pass away, and be remembered but as a dream. We say it in sober earnest,—we believe that its like will never be seen again in the present generation, if it be taken down; and down it must come, unless the general voice be raised against such an act of barbarism. We know how little we can do to avert such a fate; but that little we *must do*, and earnestly plead with all our readers, to swell the petition to the Legislature that it may remain. Applied, as Mr. Paxton suggests, to the purposes of a Winter-garden, it will form an object of surpassing public interest; and the adjoining property will reap advantages fully compensating for all the temporary depreciation occasioned by the Great Exhibition; for it cannot be doubted that the proximity to such a covered garden would command great rents. This view of the case will, we hope, prevail with the owners of the adjoining estates to withhold any opposition to its permanence. We do not want to see it converted into a tropical house,—we have that in the Palm-house at Kew; we ask it for the purpose of providing a Winter-garden, the temperature of which shall be genial when all without is the very opposite; in which we shall see such productions as the Norfolk-Island Pine in all their beauty, and our sense be gratified by exchanging for awhile our ungenial climate for that of Madeira.

There can be no doubt as to the perfect suitability of the structure for the contemplated purpose; and that it can be made self-supporting may be asserted without fear of contradiction. We would therefore earnestly urge upon all to bestir themselves in the matter, and not to neglect the only opportunity afforded them for obtaining so great a desideratum. Time slips along very fast; the grouse will soon be inviting our legislators to quit St. Stephen’s for the moors; and unless the public voice is unmistakeably heard in favour of its permanence, the opportunity will be lost, and the Crystal Palace will be spoken of as a thing that was.

A CHAPTER IN  
THE HISTORY OF HYBRID RHODODENDRONS.

THE following article, taken from the *Journal of the Horticultural Society*, affords such concise and at the same time good information on this somewhat obscure subject, that we think many of our readers will thank us for extracting it :

“Every lover of flowers,” say Messrs. Standish and Noble, the authors of the chapter, “is charmed with the appearance of *Rhododendron arboreum*. Its symmetrical trusses of the richest crimson are objects which attract the most ordinary observer, and the connoisseur amongst plants is equally delighted with them. But on account of the protection of a conservatory being necessary during a considerable portion of the year to ensure the production of these beauties, comparatively few who possess gardens can enjoy this fine plant in perfection. From this circumstance an early desire evinces itself in the gardening community to procure hybrids between it and the hardier American kinds; but the result of such crosses, although much was accomplished, was not of a satisfactory nature. It is true, many beautiful hybrids were produced, among which we may mention *Russellianum* and *Altaclarensis*, presenting a richness of colour almost equal to their Indian parent; but they did not inherit sufficiently the hardy constitution of the American. Their tendency to bloom so early in the year, generally from the latter part of February to that of April, invariably exposed them to cutting winds and severe frosts, so prevalent in this climate at that season. And again, the length of time required to bring them into a blooming condition was a severe tax upon the patience of the cultivator, from ten to twelve years being occupied in this probationary state. We have known many instances where hybrids of the character we are describing have been full twenty years old before the anxious eye has been gratified with a flower; and often, when the production of flower-buds had been effected, and the promise of abundant bloom was about to be realised, an unfavourable season has prostrated all hopes of seeing the flowers in any thing like perfection, if at all.\* Knowing that the many disappointments of this character were exercising a retrograde movement in the taste for hybrid *Rhododendrons* as they were then constituted, about twelve years ago we commenced a series of ‘crossings,’ with the view of remedying the great defects so apparent in the earliness of blooming and susceptibility to frost. In this we have been perfectly successful. By crossing the American species again by the first hybrids, such as *Altaclarensis*, &c., we have still retained the rich tints of the Indian kinds, with all the hardness of the American; and, what is of equal import, the results

\* At Highclere, the seat of the Earl of Carnarvon, are large masses of *Rhododendron Altaclarensis* and *Russellianum*, 10 to 12 feet in height, which for the last two seasons were well covered with flower-buds. Had the weather been favourable, they would have formed magnificent objects; but unfortunately this was not the case, and the whole were completely destroyed by the frosts.



of such crossings are the production of varieties which have a tendency to bloom in a very young and dwarf state, and sufficiently late in the season to escape spring frosts, producing their flowers from the middle of May till the latter part of June.

As so little is known in connexion with the nature and effect of hybridising amongst plants, we shall take this opportunity of endeavouring to describe, with reference to the *Rhododendron*, some of the peculiarities which a very extensive practice has presented to us. We find that, analogous to what is observed in the animal kingdom, the greater the cross the more healthy the progeny, and that breeding 'in and in' produces weak and deteriorated constitutions. We have a remarkable instance of this in a batch of hybrids, raised from *Caucasicum album* (that being a hybrid), fertilised by its own pollen. The plants are extremely dwarf, with variegated foliage. So dwarf are they that many of them had eight or ten flower-buds on, when only from four to six inches high, and four years old. They, however, bloomed quite freely when only three years old, and about as many inches high. Flowers produced by these dwarfs were again fertilised by their own farina, and although seeds were produced and vegetated, the plants could not be kept alive; but after various durations of existence, from two to eighteen months, they finally disappeared. One of the dwarfs above named, which we have called *Bride*, fertilised with the pollen from another distinct hybrid, has, however, produced some very healthy seedlings. A remarkable example of the varied nature which hybridising effects in the *Rhododendron* is afforded in a hybrid raised from *R. Catawbiense* by a large yellow *Ghent Azalea*. The object was to raise a hardy yellow hybrid; but in this we have been disappointed, as it has proved to be pink, and we have named it *Deception*. It is an extraordinary cross; we never recollect meeting with so decided a 'sport.' It resembles neither of its parents, being one of our best growers, with foliage large and thick, of a bright green, and when in a young state it has the appearance of being coated with varnish. Another remarkable sport is a hybrid, which we have called *Towardii*, raised from *Catawbiense* by *Altaclarensis*, being a perfect giant in every respect. The foliage is very fine, and the flowers, both individually and in the truss, remarkably large, each forming a perfect cup. We know no *Rhododendron* equal to it in size and perfection of flowers.

Having shewn some of the effects of hybridising upon the *Rhododendron*, and the various breeds produced, we would beg to recommend all who intend practising this very interesting branch of horticulture, no matter what class of plants they propose to operate on, to choose the parents, whether species or hybrids, as far removed from each other as is consistent with the constitution of the plants and the result aimed at. We have in a tabular form appended a description of eight distinct sections of hybrid *Rhododendrons*; and it will be seen that all our third crosses, although all hybrids, have been selected as distinct from each other as possible. The plants raised from these crosses are all as healthy as we could wish, and they present a very great diversity in the characters of their foliage. We

anticipate that many of them will flower in the spring of 1852, and we shall derive much pleasure in watching their different characters.

SECTION I.\*

Catawbiense } Arboreum . }	} <i>Altaclarensis</i>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>{ Catawbiense</td> <td rowspan="5">} {</td> <td><i>Blandyanum.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>{ Altaclarensis</td> <td><i>Towardii.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><i>Meteor.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><i>Elegans.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><i>Nobleanum bicolor.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Pulchellum.</i></td> </tr> </table>	{ Catawbiense	} {	<i>Blandyanum.</i>	{ Altaclarensis	<i>Towardii.</i>		<i>Meteor.</i>		<i>Elegans.</i>		<i>Nobleanum bicolor.</i>			<i>Pulchellum.</i>
{ Catawbiense			} {		<i>Blandyanum.</i>											
{ Altaclarensis	<i>Towardii.</i>															
	<i>Meteor.</i>															
	<i>Elegans.</i>															
	<i>Nobleanum bicolor.</i>															
		<i>Pulchellum.</i>														

SECTION II.

Ponticum . } Maximum . }	} <i>Hybrid Maximum</i>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>{ Hybrid Maximum</td> <td rowspan="5">} {</td> <td><i>Standishii.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>{ Altaclarensis . .</td> <td><i>Mrs. Loudon.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><i>Picturatum.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><i>Vivid.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><i>Captivation.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Raeanum.</i></td> </tr> </table>	{ Hybrid Maximum	} {	<i>Standishii.</i>	{ Altaclarensis . .	<i>Mrs. Loudon.</i>		<i>Picturatum.</i>		<i>Vivid.</i>		<i>Captivation.</i>			<i>Raeanum.</i>
{ Hybrid Maximum			} {		<i>Standishii.</i>											
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	<i>Picturatum.</i>															
	<i>Vivid.</i>															
	<i>Captivation.</i>															
		<i>Raeanum.</i>														

SECTION III.

Ponticum album } Caucasicum . . }	} <i>Caucasicum album</i>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>{ <i>Caucasicum album,</i></td> <td rowspan="2">} {</td> <td><i>Bride.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>fertilised by its own</td> <td><i>Original,</i> and a race of</td> </tr> <tr> <td>{ farina . . . .</td> <td></td> <td>remarkable dwarf and</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>variegated varieties.</td> </tr> </table>	{ <i>Caucasicum album,</i>	} {	<i>Bride.</i>	fertilised by its own	<i>Original,</i> and a race of	{ farina . . . .		remarkable dwarf and			variegated varieties.
{ <i>Caucasicum album,</i>			} {		<i>Bride.</i>								
fertilised by its own	<i>Original,</i> and a race of												
{ farina . . . .		remarkable dwarf and											
		variegated varieties.											

SECTION IV.

Purpureum } Altaclarensis . }	} <i>Queen Victoria.</i>
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SECTION V.

Caucasicum . . . }	} <i>Coriaceum.</i>
Arboreum album . }	

SECTION VI.

Catawbiense . . . . }	} <i>Deception.</i>
Large Yellow Ghent Azalea . }	

SECTION VII.

Campanulatum . . . }	} <i>Hybrid Campanulatum.</i>
Hybrid Maximum . . }	

SECTION VIII.

Bride . . . . . }	} Seedlings not yet flowered.
Dried farina from Dalhousieanum . }	

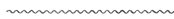
{ Queen Victoria. Blandyanum.	}	{ Bride. Hybrid Campanulatum.
{ Queen Victoria. Picturatum.		{ Bride; Pictum.
{ Standishii. Blandyanum.		{ Coriaceum. Pictum.
{ Captivation. Blandyanum.		{ Coriaceum. Hybrid Campanulatum.
{ Mrs. Loudon. Blandyanum.		{ Coriaceum. Album elegans.
{ Hybrid Campanulatum. Pictum.		{ Album elegans. Multimaculatum.
{ Bride. Album elegans.		

All the above crosses were fertile, and the seeds have produced a quantity of fine healthy seedlings, none of which have as yet flowered.

\* When the name in this arrangement is printed in ordinary type, it indicates the plant to have been a breeder; when in italics, a hybrid produced. Thus, Catawbiense, fertilised with pollen of Arboreum, produced Altaclarensis.

## DESCRIPTION OF RHODODENDRONS IN ANNEXED TABLE.

Altaclarensis . . . . .	hybrid	deep crimson.
Arboreum . . . . .	species	deep crimson, sometimes nearly scarlet.
"    album . . . . .	"	nearly white, and very much spotted.
Album elegans . . . . .	hybrid	pinkish white, fine form.
Blandyanum . . . . .	"	rosy crimson
Bride . . . . .	"	flowers pure white, foliage much variegated.
Campanulatum . . . . .	species	white tinged with lilac, much spotted.
Catawbiense . . . . .	"	rosy lilac in many shades.
Caucasicum . . . . .	"	pinkish white.
"    album . . . . .	hybrid	whiter than the last, and shaded with pink.
Coriaceum . . . . .	"	white with green spots fine foliage.
Captivation . . . . .	"	rosy crimson, black spots
Deception . . . . .	"	pink spotted, very fine foliage.
Dalhousieanum . . . . .	species	large white, tinged with pink.
Elegans . . . . .	hybrid	deep rose, fine truss.
Hybrid Maximum . . . . .	"	rosy white.
Hybrid Campanulatum . . . . .	"	shaded white, much spotted.
Maximum . . . . .	species	white tinged with rose, spotted.
Meteor . . . . .	hybrid	fine rosy crimson.
Multimaculatum . . . . .	"	pinkish white, much spotted.
Mrs. Loudon . . . . .	"	pale bright rose, and, unlike any other Rhododendron, the whole of the petals are spotted.
Nobleanum bicolor . . . . .	"	deep rose, white throat.
Original . . . . .	"	pinkish white, foliage very much variegated.
Ponticum . . . . .	species	lilac.
"    album . . . . .	"	white tinged with lilac.
Picturatum . . . . .	hybrid	bright rose, very much spotted with crimson.
Pictum . . . . .	"	pinkish white, spotted.
Purpureum . . . . .	species	purple.
Pulchellum . . . . .	hybrid	rosy pink, white throat.
Queen Victoria . . . . .	"	deep claret.
Russellianum . . . . .	"	rosy crimson.
Racanum . . . . .	"	deep crimson, black spots.
Standishii . . . . .	"	violet crimson, black spots, free bloomer.
Towardii . . . . .	"	rosy lilac, immense flower and truss.
Vivid . . . . .	"	bright purplish rose.



## NOTES FROM THE LOG-BOOK OF AN ERRATIC MAN.

## No. VII.

## THE PINE-TREE TOP AT SEA.

Few persons are aware of the very heavy work attendant upon the loading a ship with lumber\* at a port like Quebec, particularly when she lies at a distance from the timber-ponds. The rafting and towing it alongside, the heaving it in, the stowing it in the hold, and the broken rest at nights, make it a joyful moment when the last *stick* is hove into its berth. A glass of grog all round to the crew is followed by hoisting the ensign, jumping into the rigging, and giving three cheers, always answered by the ships around, and the imme-

Then taking Catawbiense as the female again, and fertilising it with the pollen of the hybrid Altaclarensis, a race of excellent flowers, such as Blandyanum, Towardii, &c., were produced.

\* "Lumber" is a term used for all wood cargoes.

diate unrigging of every thing that has been required for the purpose of loading.

I write of a year long since gone, when, on a fine sunny day in August, we announced in this manner to the ships in Wolfe's Cove that we should soon be on our way homewards. It so happened that our jolly-boat had either broken adrift or been taken from the ship's stern in the previous night, and I was ordered to take a light skiff, and search the shore as far down as the Falls of Maranza, inquiring as I went wherever I was likely to get information. I started on the ebb-tide, pleased enough with my mission, and commissioned by the crew not to return without a good handsome young pine-tree top to fasten to our jib-boom end.

The St. Lawrence is a glorious river to float upon, and the city of Quebec, for the beauty and grandeur of its situation, can scarcely be surpassed. And were it not that the Falls of Niagara stand pre-eminently at the head of all the cataracts in creation, these of Maranza would draw thousands of admiring visitors from all parts of the world.

But my business lies not with them, though I spent hours of leisure waiting for the returning tide, and gazing on the sublime spectacle of a whole river tumbling headlong down a precipice, only broken by a projecting mass of rock, on which a few fir-trees and shrubs braved the dangers of their position.

I found not the boat; but I procured a splendid fir-tree top with a noble one year's leading shoot, which on my return to the ship was securely fastened to the jib-boom end.

In due course we went to sea, and carried with us a westerly breeze from the Island of Anticosti, which steadily increased as we sped before it, until it became a downright hard gale of wind, before which we scudded under a close-reefed main-top-sail, with a high Atlantic sea chasing hard after us, and hazy weather.

It was desperate kind of work; but we had daylight, and we hoped the gale would moderate during the day. Noon came, but brought no change; and there was every thing to portend a very bad night, particularly about four o'clock, when all hands were set to work to secure all that was upon the deck. I had the look-out forward. There was nothing very sentimental about me, but it cannot be thought surprising if, with that pine-tree top before my eyes, my thoughts involuntarily wandered back to the time and place of beauty when and where I procured it. Then how exquisitely beautiful was every thing around me; now all was wild uproar, the wind howling through the rigging, the ocean wrought by its violence into the most orderly confusion, the brig one moment lost between two seas, sail becalmed, and looking as if she would quietly subside altogether; the next moment, with stern lifted up, she was running along on the crest of an enormous wave, the sail stretched to the point of splitting. It seemed a very race of life and death between wind and waves on the one hand, and our poor bark on the other, which seemed determined they should not have her. But they had nearly succeeded; and missing her, had much more nearly caught *me*.

Whilst looking out, the mate came forward and ordered me to pass another gasket or fastening round the jib, that it might not blow adrift when we hove to, that is, made the ship face the gale instead of running from it, which had now become absolutely necessary. In doing this my very nose came in contact with the pine-tree top, now despoiled of all its greenness, and miserably dead and brown, as it well might be after exposure to such weather and the salt sea-spray. Could it have spoken, how would it have upbraided me for having transferred it to such a situation!

But it spoke not, nor I either; I made the sail secure, and left the jib-boom; and not a minute too soon, for I was scarcely in the fore stay-sail netting, before round came the ship into the trough of the sea, having broached-to. Quick as thought the helm was put down, the braces were let go, forward went the yards, and all hands jumped into the rigging, and watched with no little anxiety the event. In rounding broadside-to, up went her stern, and in an instant afterwards her bowsprit was buried in the sea; but I was in a place of comparative safety, if the bowsprit did not give way; for my arms were well locked into the netting, and, to use a seaman's phrase, I held on in the water "like grim death to an apple-tree." Up she lifted again, bang above my head went the fore stay-sail clean out of the bolt-rope, and is flying yet for all I know. That helped her round, and in another minute she was riding like a duck on the water, and gracefully bowing and presenting her broad bows to the seas as if perfectly indifferent to all their raging. I soon made my way on board, and helping at the down-haul of the remains of the fore stay-sail, rejoiced to see the pine-top had escaped as well as myself.

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### THE FRUITIST.

#### MORELLO AND DUKE CHERRIES CULTIVATED AS DWARF BUSHES.

My attention has within these two days (June 21) been drawn to a row of Morello Cherries, which are planted 4 feet apart, are 3 years old, and covered with fruit; indeed they have more fruit than leaves. Now as it is usual to cultivate this valuable Cherry on walls with a north or north-east aspect—and those who have not had such appendages to their gardens have been obliged to forego the pleasure and profit which their culture gives—I am induced to offer a few hints for that purpose, the result of experience.

In the first place, it is quite necessary the trees should be grafted or budded on the Mahaleb stock (*Cerasus Mahaleb*), for this stock seems to suit the Morello Cherry well, and gives it a very fertile habit; it also seems to bear summer pinching better when on this stock than when grafted on the usual stock employed, the common black Cherry; and although it grows freely, it seems to be formed into a bush with greater facility.

Trees of one or two years' growth may be planted any time from

November till the end of February; and if their young shoots have not been shortened to the bush form, they may be so on planting, to within nine inches of their base, and the trees planted in rows four feet apart from row to row, and the same distance in the rows. No manure need to be employed, for Cherries on the Mahaleb stock will grow well in the poorest soils. If, however, it is clayey and tenacious, some light friable mould should be put to the roots of each tree for the young fibres to strike into. They will not bear fruit the first season after planting, unless root-pruned trees are planted; but the second year a good crop may be expected. As soon as the young shoots in June have pushed six to eight inches, the tip of each must be pinched off with the finger and thumb; and any that make their appearance where not wanted, so as to crowd the tree, may be shortened to within an inch of their base; these will ultimately form fruit-bearing spurs. This annual pinching in June is nearly all the pruning required; for it is only necessary to look over the trees in winter, when the leaves are off, to remove any shoots that cross each other, so that the head of the tree forms a compact well-regulated bush.

In summer, as soon as the fruit commences to ripen, long slender sticks must be stuck in the ground on each side of the row of trees, and bent over and tied so as to form a hoop. On this spread a net, and fasten it to the ground with pegs. The fruit may thus be kept till September; or if more convenient to plant the trees singly, each tree may be hooped and netted separately. Not only may Morello Cherries be cultivated after this manner, but the May Duke, Jeffries' Duke, the late Duke, and some others, all fine Cherries, may be made to contribute to the dessert from July till October.

T. R.

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#### ROYAL SOUTH-LONDON FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THIS Society held its third show for the season on Wednesday the 25th June. The day was favourable, and there was a large attendance. The show itself was a good one. Stove and greenhouse plants, Cape Heaths, Pelargoniums, Fuchsias, cut Roses, and other flowers, were plentiful, and there were a few Orchids.

*Pinks* were somewhat small in size. In the Amateurs' Class, for 12 varieties, the first prize was awarded to Mr. Baker of Woolwich, for Sappho, Whipper-in, Lola Montez, Narborough Buck, Double X, Harriet, Alpha, Hark-forward, Criterion, Countess Rossi, and Mrs. Herbert; 2d, to Mr. Halladay of Woolwich, for Alfred Morrison, Lady Mildmay, Double X, Lola Montez, Lord J. Russell, Hardstone's William, Agitator, Harriet, Jane Sarah, Brilliant, Winchester Rival, and Oxonian; 3d, to Mr. Edwards, of Wace Cottage, Holloway, for King of Purples, Lady Mildmay, Double X, Winchester Rival, Laura, Harriet, Oxonian, Prince Albert, Rosalind, Alfred Morrison, Mrs. Herbert, and Jenny Lind. Other exhibitors in this class were Messrs. Ellis, Hardstone, Venables, and Willmer. Nur-

serymen : 24 varieties, 1st prize to Mr. Norman of Woolwich, for King of Purples, Rosea elegans, Narborough Buck, Willmer's Surplice, Lady Mildmay, Whipper-in, Goliath, Lola Montez, Rubens, Double X, Surpriser, Harriet, Brilliant, Diana, Criterion, A. Morrison, Laura, Morning Star, Alpha, Kate, Pickwick, Countess Rossi, Jenny Lind, and Melona ; 2d, Mr. Ward, for Narborough Buck, Lady Mildmay, Smith's Goliath, Harriet, Hillier's Goliath, William, Winchester Rival, Brilliant, Bell's Henry, Laura, Melona, Morning Star, Lord W. Russell, Prince Albert, Jenny Lind, Lord J. Russell, Willmer's Elizabeth, Duchess of Kent, A. Morrison, Creed's President, Alpha, and Countess Rossi ; 3d, Mr. Bragg of Slough, in whose stand we remarked, in addition to the flowers mentioned above, John Bull, Gay Lad, Sir Robert Peel, Benjamin, Nonpareil, Edward, British Queen, and Mrs. Hooper.

*Ranunculuses.* In the Amateurs' Class, the first prize was awarded to Mr. Airzee, for good blooms of Alphonso, Queen Victoria, Lord Byron, Ferdinand, Claudiana, Leonidas, Mrs. Airzee, No-mistake, Bijou, Jenny Lind, and Valerius. Messrs. Franklin and Costar had Hogarth, Dr. Gardner, Orange Brobance, Milo, Mrs. Airzee, Demosthenes, Queen Victoria, Bensoniensis, Prince Albert, Venus, Intruder, Juliet, and Triumph.

In a stand of cut Verbenas from Mr. Lockner we observed the beautiful scarlet white-eyed variety called Shylock. Irises were furnished by Mr. Salter of Hammersmith.

In the Seedling tent were several novelties. Mr. Foster's Pelargoniums, which were not sufficiently in bloom at the last show, were this time shewn in excellent condition. Optimum is a magnificent variety, robust in habit, large trusser, and free bloomer ; colours crimson scarlet, with black blotch in the top petals, shaded to the margin with vivid crimson scarlet ; very attractive. Enchantress possesses the colours and shape of Gipsy Bride, but it is nearly twice the size ; it is good in habit, and constant. Ariadne, rosy-purple, with dark blotch on the upper petals, a free bloomer, and a good exhibition plant. Rubens, crimson, with dark blotch on the upper petals, the latter being nicely margined with scarlet crimson ; very stout. Fancy varieties were shewn by Mr. Ambrose and Mr. Salter. Richard Cobden, in the way of Hero of Surrey, is a good-shaped flower ; Superbum, mottled rosy purple, is good in shape ; Crispinum too much like Albion, but showy ; Symmetry is a nice flower, and Premier is a showy variety, but defective in form. Many others were too much like sorts already out. Several Pinks were shewn ; one, Turner's Optima, rich dark lacing on the purest white, was very evenly marked, quite smooth on the edge, and a large first-class variety ; 22 blooms were shewn, which served to prove its constancy. Mr. Bragg had several sorts, all of which were more or less rough on the edges. Mr. Costar had two seedling Ranunculuses, Madonna and Venus, both nice flowers. Banks' Verbena Cynthia is a pleasing light variety with purple centre. Pansies, Blanche and Swansdown, two good whites ; Black Diamond, the darkest we have seen, and National, a flower described before,

were shewn in good condition. There was a promising Picotee, heavy purple, large and distinct, named Fellowes' Prince Arthur.

First-class certificates were awarded to Mr. Black, gr. to E. Foster, Esq., for *Pelargonium Optimum*, *Enchantress*, and *Ariadne*. To Mr. Turner, for *Pink Optima*; ditto *Pansies*, *Swansdown* and *Black Diamond*; and to Mr. Bragg, for *Pink Desdemona*. Mr. Foster's *Pelargoniums* also received first, second, and third prizes from the "Seedling Fund." Mr. Turner's *Pinks*, first; Mr. Bragg's second, from the same source.

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### A PACKET OF SEEDS SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER.

[Continued from p. 160.]

AFTER a while I asked the squire for a holiday, to go and see my friends at the old place; and when he said "Yes," he told me he should not find fault if I got a wife, provided she was the right sort; for he said it didn't look well for a man to live single when he'd a comfortable place, and was a little ahead of the world. I'd thought the same thing; and, to tell the truth, that was just what I wanted the holiday for. Old friends at the old place shook hands very hearty, and Margaret, with all her fine clothes, hadn't forgotten me; and when we shook hands, hers was so soft, I could but look at it, and so white it was and so small, that it set me thinking a deal more than I care to tell; but this I did, I went a few miles, and bought a golden hoop to have a leap through.

"You might have called before this," said Elizabeth, "to see an old friend," as I opened her door one evening. "I saw you pass; and I did think you'd have looked in."

I made some excuse, and we sat down, and talked over old times, over those dead and gone, and those still about; and we felt more like brother and sister than any thing else. She told me all her troubles—how hard she had to work, and how she'd lost part of the washing at the Hall through the lady's maid, though she couldn't learn why, only it was so; and then she said she meant to go to service; and if I should hear of any thing likely to suit her, she'd thank me to let her know: she wasn't afraid of work, only she wanted to be comfortable,—for she wasn't at all so, as things were.

"Well," said I, "I know just the place for you, if you'll take it; but you'll have to work hard, and live hard, and sometimes have to put up with a good deal; for the master's an obstinate man, and, right or wrong, he will have his way."

"I don't mind that," said she, "if I can but be comfortable, and be let do my work;—but you'll see me again before you go, and then you can tell me more about it;" and she put out her hand, and said, "good-bye."

"But," said I, "there's no hurry; this hard hand of yours has done enough for to-day;" and I slipped the ring on her finger, and said, "If you're of my mind, we'll make another move with the old



washing-tubs, and the lines, and the pegs; and for fear you lose the place, say you'll take it, and I'll soon shew you the way."

"Tisn't worth telling; for nothing's easier than getting married, if you go the right way about it. And though the girls in the village said I was taking her home to scare the birds off my seeds, I knew what I'd got, and so did they, and none better than Margaret. But less said the better; only I'd have young men know, that there's more truth than they think for in the old saying, "Fine feathers make fine birds." Ay, too fine by half; and 'tisn't till they're fixed for life that they find out how often "a silk sock hides a sore toe."

How the squire and his lady did giggle when they saw the wife I'd brought home, though they did all they could to hide it, and turn it off on something else. "Let them laugh that wins," thought I; though I did feel vexed, I must allow. But they were a pattern of a master and mistress; no looking down upon those Providence had placed under them,—always a kindly look or word for all that behaved themselves; but if there was any thing wrong, then look out; there was to go into master's room, and such a lecture—he was like a counsellor. Dear me, if employers would but talk a little more, in a kindly way, to their people, how many wrong notions would be got rid of! Why, there isn't one master in a hundred knows any thing about what goes on in a man's mind; how it rankles in their hearts to see a sick horse or a lame dog sat up with; while, if he's bad, he may lie at home, and never so much as a kindly message. Yet it's all for want of thought; for there's a deal lost by it. A kind heart's like getting into a cold bed in a winter's night: if you warm the sheets first, there's the blankets underneath to warm you in return; and so it is with poor men: if you're frightened at the first chill, you'll never find the glow there is about them, that only wants fetching out. I hate to hear some say, "The poor are so ungrateful." Look now, people give away some coals in winter-time, or some clothes to poor women,—and some mean well enough, ay and do such kind things and let nobody know it; but if it wasn't for seeing their names in print, and it's being a public subscription, five out of ten wouldn't give sixpence. Well, perhaps, by and by, these same people want a job done for one shilling that's worth two shillings and sixpence; and then comes the cry, "Poor people are so ungrateful." Out on such charity! say I.

And now let me tell about a bit of my foolishness; for I've been foolish, like my father before me, though maybe in a different way. I feel ashamed of it; but perhaps the telling it may help some young men to keep out of the pit I fell into, and teach 'em, when they've got a good place to try and keep it; for I've learnt—ay and bitterly too, once in my life—that if good men are scarce, good places are not like hedge-fruit in autumn. I've heard men, when they've got discharged, and been a bit fuddled, say: "I don't care; more places than parish-churches." That "don't care" saying does a deal of harm, for men use it till they believe it; and very often when they say it loudest, they care the most; but young people catch the word, and soon find the trouble "don't care" brings. But I'm forgetting

my story. I was now a sober man, a steady man; and as to work, it never frightened me. I was always at it; and the squire saw this and left things in the gardens and grounds pretty much to me. People saw this; and where they used to call me James, or Gregory, now they called me "Mr. Gregory." The Bible says true enough, "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall." I began to take on; and if the squire gave me any orders, I did not take 'em as I ought to have done. If he had a plan, I had a plan; if he wanted any thing done, I was just going to do it, *only* something or other: and then I was often saying, at such times, "I'm sure I'm always at work; I do the best I can," and the like. I little thought what was coming, and all of a sudden too. One evening when I went in as usual with my book at the end of the month, after the squire had looked it over, he turned full to me, and lifting his spectacles off his nose, said: "Gardener, I wish you to get another place: I give you a month's notice, and I'll give you a month's pay beside; but in a month the man I've taken on will be here. You want your way in every thing, and I'll have my own. If you do all you can, you are always telling me so; and I want a man that'll recollect that I do my part too." My eyes flew open like a pair of window-shutters, and I saw all as clear as if I'd just come out of a wood: but it was no use asking him to let me stay with him; he heard all I had to say, but still the same answer, "My new man will be here in a month."

I never shall forget my walk back to the cottage, nor all I felt when I told my wife that I was to go, and when I looked at the children as they lay asleep in their little beds. I couldn't read the chapter in the Bible that night, as I always used to do; but my wife took the book, and said, "The more trouble, the more need of something to mend it." But, poor thing, her voice was so choky, I couldn't have understood her if I'd listened, which I couldn't do at all.

Time never went faster than it did that black month. I couldn't hear of any place; or if I did, I couldn't get it; for 'twas not easy to get one after leaving our squire. People always thought there must be something wrong, though I shewed a good character from him; and at last I was obliged to turn out of my happy home into a bit of a cottage in the village. I made it as late as I could before we went in; and how strangely I did feel, as the children ran up and down the ricketty old stairs, so pleased with a new place; and the canary sung so loud, whilst our hearts were so heavy. Next morning I got up early, and dug up the bit of garden, and put that to rights, and tied in the honeysuckle in front of the house: and my wife, she cleaned the windows, and made all as tidy as we could; for we wanted people to see that we weren't idle folks, though I was out of place. I let the little shopkeeper know too, and asked him to tell others for me, that I was willing to do a job for any body, till I got another situation; and so I got jobbing work here and there in gardens, or at trees, with the farmers, and other people that didn't keep regular gardeners. But no one knows how my heart ached to see our little savings going, and my wife wearing down with work and illness among the children;

for they took ill about three months after I lost my place, and kept so a long time: and when one died, it came so heavy to think it might be all owing to our poor house and living; and I took up hard feelings against the squire, for what I thought was cruel in him to discharge me as he did; as if he hadn't as much right to choose a man as I had to choose a place, or how to behave in it. I think I could have done, if it hadn't been for sickness, for we lived very close; but at last we had spent our little club-money, and were obliged to ask a little credit. That we had never done before; and now we found out what a miserable thing it is; for when the debt got a little larger instead of less, my wife told me she noticed the shopkeeper served other people before her, though she came first, and had been waiting; asking them what they'd please to want, but letting her ask for herself. My heart was as proud as ever, and couldn't bear this; so one morning I took a few little silver things I had, and told the grocer to keep them till I could fetch them away and pay him; but I daresay he thought that would never be, for he knew we were going down hill; and one of my windows got broke, and had a sheet of paper pasted over it, and there's no poorer look than that; and glad I was afterwards it was broke,—as I shall tell, just to shew how one good turn deserves and gets another.

[To be continued.]

## DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

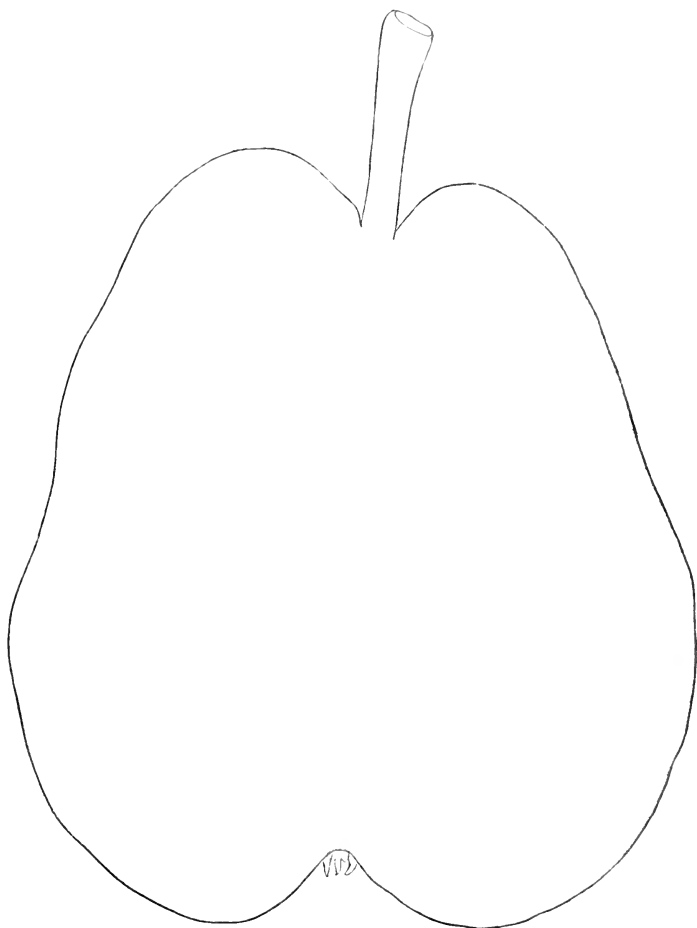
### No. VIII.

#### PEARS (*continued from p. 134*).

8. *Glout Morceau*. Fruit rather large, very peculiar in shape, being much swollen about the middle, from whence it diminishes considerably to the crown, which is narrow; towards the other extremity it is much contracted, and terminates in a truncate manner. Eye rather small, deeply sunk in an unusually large cavity, the sides of which are uneven; segments long and narrow, erect. Stalk about an inch long, inserted in a deep, often oblique, hollow. Skin pale-greenish yellow, punctated with numerous very small greyish points, and occasionally a little mottled with russet; when fully exposed to the sun, it sometimes acquires a blush of dull red. Flesh whitish, perfectly buttery, and abounding in juice, which has a flavour peculiar to itself. Season from the end of November till January, when it is one of the very best Pears known. To do it justice, however, the trees ought to be planted against a wall, and a south aspect would be required in the north of England.

9. *Duchess of Angoulême*. Fruit of the largest class; its general figure is obtusely-obovate, but the sides are often compressed, and many of the fruit are a little flattened; very broad at the stalk-end, whilst it diminishes somewhat towards the eye. The whole surface is made remarkably uneven by a great number of knobby protuber-

ances. The eye is placed at the bottom of a broad cavity, which in large fruit is considerably more than half an inch in depth; segments broad and strong, but short. Stalk about an inch long, thick, inserted in a broad and deep hollow, with uneven sides. Skin greenish



yellow, thinly studded with small brownish dots, with a slight tinge of red occasionally on the sunny side; rarely in any degree russeted. Flesh not perfectly buttery, but juicy, sugary, and very agreeable. Although this cannot be called a handsome fruit, yet from its great size it makes a fine appearance at dessert; the quality is also very good, although strictly speaking not first-rate. The trees are hardy, and bear freely as pyramids. J. B. WHITING.

## NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*June 26th.*—Mr. Fairbairn in the chair. Interesting stands of seedling Pansies were contributed on this occasion by Mr. Hunt; collections of Pinks by Messrs. Turner, Edwards, Norman, Bragg, Ellis, Ward, and Newhall; Antirrhinums by Mr. Joy of Oxford; and Petunias by Mr. Wyness. Certificates were awarded to Pelargoniums *Optimum*, *Rubens*, *Ariadne*, and *Enchantress*, descriptions of all which will be found in our report of the Royal South-London Floricultural Society in another page. These were shewn by Mr. Black, gardener to E. Foster, Esq. Mr. Rogers of Uttoxeter had a Pansy named *Kossuth*, which received a certificate. It is a large rich glossy dark-purple self, of good substance. Mr. Ambrose's Fancy Pelargonium, *Richard Cobden*, was also distinguished by a certificate; as was a lilac-blue self *Verbena*, named *Orlando*, from Mr. Smith of Tollington Nursery, Hornsey-road. This is a showy large-flowered variety. The same grower likewise sent a good red *Verbena*, called *Koh-i-noor*, which was commended by the censors.

*July 10th.*—E. Foster, Esq., President, in the chair. Various Pelargoniums, Petunias, Fuchsias, Verbenas, Calceolarias, Carnations, Picotees, and Pinks, were this time exhibited, together with a perfectly double *Cineraria*, and one or two other plants. Mr. Turner of the Royal Nursery, Slough, received a certificate for *Dodwell's Mary Picotee*, a pleasing variety, but wanting in purity; *Fellowes' Prince Arthur*, though rather rough, was commended. The same grower was also awarded a certificate for *Fuchsia, Banks' Diamond*, a dark variety, much reflexed, but a little loose in habit. Messrs. Henderson's *Carnation-striped variety of Drummond's Phlox*, called *Mayi variegata*, was commended for its colour and suitability as a bedding plant. A first-class certificate was awarded to J. Edwards, Esq., of Holloway, for a *Primrose-coloured Antirrhinum*, which, on account of its size and shape, is certainly an acquisition to this class of plants. Mr. Edwards's *Pink Titus* appears to be a first-rate flower; but only a single bloom was shewn. Of Mr. Major's *Calceolarias*, Nos. 9 and 11 were the best; some of the others were, however, very beautiful flowers. Certificates were given to Mr. Smith of Hornsey for *Verbenas Purple Rival* and *National*, both desirable kinds. Mr. Ambrose had a *Fancy Geranium*, named (very inaptly) *Fireball*, which was commended. Some good *Gladioli* were furnished by Mr. Stains; and *Gloxinias, Princess Alice* and *Victoria*, by Mr. Parmenter of Kentish Town.



NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,  
AND OF NEW OR RARE PLANTS  
FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

*ACACIA HISPIDISSIMA.* A very elegant greenhouse shrub, nearly allied to *A. pulchella*, bearing dense masses of downy neat foliage, and globose heads of rich

deep yellow flowers. It is one of the best and most showy species in cultivation, attaining the height of three or four feet. It is a native of Swan River.

*PITCAIRNIA ENSCAPA*. A curious and rather handsome stove-plant, belonging to the Pine-apple tribe, having narrow leaves three feet long, and bearing a densely bracteated spike of red flowers springing from a kind of pseudo-bulb at the base of the plant. It is a native of New Grenada, and was imported among some Orchids purchased by Messrs. Jackson of Kingston, with whom it has flowered. These two are figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for July.

*CLEMATIS INTEGRIFOLIA*. This very handsome species is one of the best of the genus. It grows freely and flowers copiously in common garden soil, attaining the height of about three feet. It is quite hardy, and destitute of that straggling habit so common in this genus. It is well suited for planting in beds, borders, or in a clump on the lawn. It has large opposite entire leaves, and light blue flowers more than two inches in diameter.

*CLEMATIS DIVERSIFOLIA*. A showy hardy species, with a rather straggling habit. It is well adapted for beds, clumps, or for planting against a wall. It grows freely in common garden soil, attaining the height of six or seven feet. If planted in the centre of a large bed or clump, and supported with a strong stake, it has a charming effect when in flower. It has moderate-sized pinnate leaves, and deep blue flowers three inches in diameter.

*CALLISTEMON SALIGNA*. Few hard-wooded greenhouse shrubs are more truly beautiful at the present season than this. It is an evergreen very much resembling a *Melaleuca*, and forms a handsome bush five or six feet high. The flowers are produced on the young branches in elongated sessile clusters of a bright red or rose colour. It is a plant well adapted for a greenhouse or conservatory, or it will withstand the vicissitude of our climate when planted against a wall, if matted up during severe frosty weather.

*BROUGHTONIA LILACINA*. A very delicate and beautiful Orchid, having small flattened elongated pseudo-bulbs, bearing several leaves on the apex, and a slender purple scape, with a racemose crowded group of large delicate flowers, of a beautiful lilac tint veined with purple; the blossoms remain a long time in perfection. It is a native of St. Domingo, and has flowered with S. Rucker, Esq., Wandsworth, and with Messrs. Henderson, nurserymen, Pine-apple Place.

*ACACIA GRANDIS*. A showy neat greenhouse shrub, forming a moderate-sized bush, and flowering freely in a small state. It is of easy culture, and said to flower rather late in the season, which is an acquisition to this tribe of plants. It flowered in the nursery of Messrs. Henderson in the spring of the present year; the flowers are produced from the axils of the leaves on peduncles, which bear globose heads of yellow flowers, one on each. The above three plants are figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for July.

The utility of Acacias as winter and early spring flowering plants is familiar to all Horticulturists, and generally appreciated; for although their flowers are mostly of a yellow colour, they have a diversity of foliage, which in many of the species is exceedingly neat, and being mostly profuse blooming plants, they have, in the spring months, a very gay appearance. It is the most extensive genus of Leguminosæ, containing between 200 and 300 species, which are natives of tropical and sub-tropical regions, and are very abundant in New Holland. More than a hundred of them that are greenhouse species are in cultivation at Kew, among which are many that are but of little interest, except in a botanical point of view. The following list, in addition to the two species above-noticed, contains the best and most showy kinds, which are well worth cultivation, and are most suitable for small collections. The flowers of Section I. are collected into globose heads, with a solitary head on each peduncle; and those of Section II. are in cylindrical spikes, or racemose heads, along the axillary peduncles.

## SECTION I.

pulchella.	conferta.	argyrophylla.
linearis.	sulcata.	decipiens.
rutæfolia.	hybrida.	diptera.
armata.	præmorsa.	suaveolens.
diffusa.	ovata.	silicifolia.
undulæfolia.	pentadenia.	pendula.

## SECTION II.

vestita.  
pubescens.  
prominens.  
Sophora.  
ruscifolia.  
longifolia.  
subverticillata.  
penninervis.

lanigera.  
Riciana.  
platyptera.  
cultriformis.  
glaucescens.  
dentifera.  
celastrifolia.

affinis.  
dealbata.  
lophantha.  
oxycedrus.  
oncino-phylla.  
astringens.  
onyrtifolia.

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

J. HOULSTON.

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 REGENT'S PARK AND CHISWICK EXHIBITIONS.

THE last Exhibitions for the season of these Societies took place respectively on the 2d and 19th ult. The meeting at "the Park" claims our attention first. It was favoured with a fine day and a large attendance, and the display of flowering plants was, on the whole, magnificent. The Pelargoniums, though not so fine as in June, were supplied in great abundance, as were also stove and greenhouse plants, Cape Heaths, and Orchids.

New plants consisted of a *Bejaria* from Mr. Ivison; *Gloxinia cœrulea grandiflora* from Messrs. Veitch; a *Blandfordia* from Mr. Barnes; a hybrid *Statice* in the way of *Macrophylla* from Mr. Scott; *Achimenes longiflora alba* and a white *Escholtzia* from Messrs. Henderson; and *Nepenthes javanica* from Messrs. Rollisson.

Messrs. Standish and Noble of Bagshot exhibited the following rare hardy plants: *Ilex microphylla*, an *Ilex* something in the way of *cornuta*; *Berberis japonica*, a dwarf variety of *Cryptomeria japonica*; *Quercus inversa*, *Q. sclerophylla*, the funeral Cypress, 6 feet high; *Ilex cornuta*, *Libocedrus chilensis*, *Cephalotaxus Fortuni*, *Abies Jezoensis*, an unnamed *Ilex*, and *Berberis Bealii*.

*Pelargoniums*, as we have stated, were plentiful, and in good condition, considering the season. Varieties in 8-inch pots. Nurserymen: 1st prize to Mr. C. Turner, Slough, for Foster's Gipsy Bride, Narcissus, Alonzo, Conspicuum, Hoyle's Nectar-cup, Ajax, Nandee, Beck's Centurion, Emily, Turner's Rowena, Illuminator, and Foquette's Magnificent; 2d, Mr. Bragg, Slough; 3d, Mr. Gaines, Battersea. Amateurs: 1st prize, Mr. Black, gardener to E. Foster, Esq., Clewer Manor, for Foster's Enchantress, Shylock, Monteith, Lavinia, Conspicuum, Spot, Voltigeur, Ariel, Sheet-anchor, Rubens, Pulchrum, and Rous's Alibi; 2d, Mr. R. Stains, New Road; 3d, Mr. Robinson, Pimlico; 4th, Mr. Cock, Chiswick. Six plants in 11-inch pots: 1st prize to Mr. Chapman, Hammersmith, for Forget-me-not, Matilda, Negress, Bianca, Rosy Circle, and Cassandra; 2d, Mr. R. Stains.

*Fancies*. Amateurs: 1st prize to Mr. W. Miller, gardener to R. Mosely, Esq., for Jenny Lind, Reine des Français, Orestes, Lady St. Germans, Fairy Queen, and Bouquet-tout-fait; 2d, Mr. R. Stains; 3d, Mr. Robinson. Nurserymen: 1st prize to Mr. Gaines, for Statuaski, Odoratum magnificentum, Triumphans, Queen Superb, Fairy Queen, and Orestes; 2d, Mr. Ambrose; 3d, Mr. Chapman. Certi-

ficates were awarded to the Seedling Pelargoniums Optimum and Purple Standard, varieties described by us on former occasions.

*Cape Pelargoniums* from Messrs. Parker, Stanly, and Stains.

*Picotees.* First prize for 12 varieties, to Mr. C. Turner, for Mary (Dodwell), General Bem (Read), Cleopatra (May), Prince Arthur (Fellows), Miss Burdett Coutts (Burroughes), Duke of Rutland (Holyoake), Constance (May), Beatrice (May), and four seedlings; 2d, Mr. Willmer.

*Carnations.* 1st prize for 12 Carnations, to Mr. C. Turner, for Romeo (May), Prince Albert (Hale), Blondel (Puxley), Count Pauline (Holmes), Cradley Pet (Wallis), Lord Byron (Taylor), Voltigeur (Cheetham), Percy (May), Cardinal Wolsey (May), Omnium Primum (Kaye), and 2 seedlings; 2d, Mr. Willmer.

*Pinks* were shewn very large and fine, and in tolerable quantity for July: 1st prize for 12 varieties, to Mr. C. Turner, for Optima (Turner), Great Britain (Ward), Goliath (Hillyer), Lola Montez (Costar), Sappho (Colcutt), Naborough Buck (Maclean), Diana (Smith), Lord Valentia (Kirtland), Spark (Turner), Criterion (Maclean), Huntsman (Smith), and Whipper-in (Smith); 2d, Mr. Bragg; 3d, Mr. J. Edwards.

*Pansies.* First prize for 24 varieties, to Mr. C. Turner, for Constantine (Turner), Bellona (Hooper), Duke of Perth (Handasyde), Sambo (Hale), Mrs. Coleridge (Turner), Queen of England (Fellows), Lord Jeffrey (Blanche), National (Turner), Swansdown (Turner), Disraeli (Hunt), Mrs. Beck (Turner), Black Diamond (Turner), and 11 seedlings.

*Fuchsias.* These consisted of Acantha, Cassandra, Exoniensis, Dr. Jephson, Elizabeth, Sir R. Peel, Exquisite, Crimson King, Duke of York, Star, Cavalier, Dr. Grosse, Shylock, Magnificent, Lord Nelson, Dr. Smith, Beauty of Leeds, and Pearl of England. Mr. Turner shewed a good light seedling, called Conspicua.

*Calceolarias* were shewn by Mr. Gaines and Mrs. Lawrence. The sorts were, Amœna, Desperanda, Mary, Magnifica, Standard, Baron Eden, Earl of Rosslyn, Chieftain, Lady Flora, Duke of Rothsay, Rosalind, and Catherine Seaton.

Tall Cacti were produced by Mr. Green; the sorts were, *Epiphyllum formosum*, *Jenkinsoni*, *Greenii*, *Mexicanum rubrum*, *cœruleum*, and *aurantiacum*.

*Cut Roses* were exhibited in great profusion and variety by Messrs. Lane, Paul, Francis, Terry, Rowland, and others. Among them we remarked splendid boxes of Paul Ricaut, Géant des Batailles, and *Devoniensis*. They maintained their freshness well throughout the day, and formed a very attractive feature of the show.

Among miscellaneous subjects, the more prominent were collections of Ferns, Lycopods, and white Lilies (*L. longiflorum* and *eximium*). In his group of Ferns, Mr. Wooley sent two exceedingly well-managed plants of *Adiantum trapeziforme* and *Asplenium cicutarium*. Mr. Williams had also good exhibitions of this interesting tribe of plants.

The Rose exhibition, consisting of plantations of the "queen



of flowers," by Messrs. Rivers, Paul, and Lane, was open on this occasion; and although the varieties had not bloomed so nicely or were so finely coloured as we could have wished them, yet as a whole it was well worth inspection, and afforded a source of gratification to thousands. The sorts were the best that could possibly have been found for the purpose; and if it has failed, it has not been for want of a fair trial. Such exhibitions have our warmest wishes; and we hope, if the same thing is attempted next year, that it may meet with better success.

The weather at Chiswick was very unpropitious, heavy rain falling during the greater part of the day; a most unfortunate occurrence, for, in addition to the attractions of one of the best July shows that ever graced the gardens, the Duke of Devonshire's pretty grounds and villa were thrown open to the visitors in connexion with the Society's establishment. Such inducements could not fail to draw a numerous company; but under the circumstances we were certainly not prepared to see upwards of 9000 persons enter the garden. This was, however, the case; and we were informed that 300 tickets, at the advanced price of 7s. 6d. each, were purchased at the gates on the day of meeting,—such was the enthusiasm to see the show.

As regards the subjects exhibited, stove and greenhouse plants, Orchids, Cape Heaths, &c. were in great beauty and profusion, and the cut Roses were plentiful and fine. Géant des Batailles, Baron Prevost, La Reine, and other autumn favourites, were present in all their gaiety and fragrance.

*Carnations and Picotees in Pots* afforded much interest, more especially to Florists; and the mode of shewing them was, we believe, very generally approved of.

In 12 Carnations, the 1st prize was awarded to Mr. Lockner of Paddington, for Ariel, Paul Pry, Lady Ely, Caliban, Comte Pauline, Prince Albert (Puxley), William the Fourth, Lord Rancliffe, Edgar, Squire Trow, Sarah Payne, and President; 2d, Mr. Newhall of Woolwich, with Mercutio, Great Northern, Flora's Garland, Lydia, Rainbow, Game Boy, President, Queen Victoria, Henry Kirk White, Lord Rancliffe, Twyford's Perfection, and William the Fourth.

In the Nurserymen's class, Mr. Norman of Woolwich was first, with Duncan, Flora's Garland, Prince Albert, Queen Victoria, Telemachus, Beauty of Woodhouse, Comte Pauline, Hero, Thomas Hewlett, Sir J. Reynolds, and Lord Rancliffe; 2d, to Mr. Bragg of Slough, for True Briton, Flora's Garland, Comte Pauline, Hotspur, Prince de Nassau, Duncan, Sarah Payne, Squire Trow, Defiance, Queen Victoria, Earl Grey, Earl Spencer, and Prince of Wales; 3d, Mr. Willmer of Sunbury.

In *Picotees*, 1st prize was awarded to Mr. Lockner of Paddington, for Isabella, Lady H. Moore, Venus, Amethyst, Lady Dacre, Regina, Rosalind, Lord Nelson, Leader, Portia, Ann Page, and Mrs. Barnard; 2d, to Mr. Newhall, for Lady A. Peel, Isabella, Miss Rosa, Mrs. Bevan, Venus, Leader, Alfred, Lord Nelson, Gem, Mrs. Norman, Proconsul, and Jessica.

Among Nurserymen, Mr. Norman was first, with Regina, Elizabeth, Leader, Prince of Wales, James the Second, King of Purples, Mrs. Norman, Alfred, Queen Victoria, Venus, Mrs. Barnard, and Lord Nelson; 2d, to Mr. Bragg, for Amethyst, Enchantress, Lord Nelson, L'Elegant, Mrs. Norman, Leader, Regina, Lady Chesterfield, Miss B. Coutts, Mrs. Buckland, Portia, and Mrs. Bevan; 3d, to Mr. Willmer.

*Pelargoniums*, though not very numerous, were well cultivated and flowered. For 12 varieties in 8-inch pots, the first prize was awarded to Mr. Gaines of Battersea, for Grenadier, Ariel, Virgin Queen, Lord Stanley, Alderman, Star, Electra, Ariadne, Rosalind, Pictum, Centurion, and Governor.

*Fancy Pelargoniums*. First prize was awarded to Mr. Gaines, for nice plants of Lady of the Lake, Elegans, Parodii, Mignon, Ellen, and Orestes.

Mr. Turner of the Royal Nursery, Slough, exhibited a neat collection of dwarf well-grown plants, not for competition, amongst which were conspicuous, Ajax, May Queen, Mont Blanc, Rowena, Alonzo, Prince of Orange, Corrine, Alderman, Hero of Surrey, Formosa, Statiaski, Princess Maria Galitzan, Ophelia, Gaiety, Perfection, Madam Rosati.

Mr. Turner had two light and three dark seedling Fuchsias. Of the former class, Honey-bell has a stout pure tube, with purple corolla and a graceful free habit, while Diadem is a capital dark sort. These we expect will prove acquisitions.

For such of our readers as take an interest in stove plants with finely variegated leaves, we subjoin a list selected from two collections that were shewn on the occasion, viz. Pavetta Borbonica, *Dracæna terminalis*, *D. t. variegata*, *Croton pictum*, *Maranta sanguinea*, *zebrina*, *bicolor*, and *albo-lineata*; *Dieffenbachia maculata*, *Caladium bicolor* and *variegatum*, *Vitis velutina*, *Bartolina maculata*, *Physurus pictus* and *argenteus*, *Cypripedium venustum*, *Clerodendron indicum*, *Aspidistra lurida variegata*, *Hoya carnosa picta*, *Tillandsia zebrina*, *Eranthemum leuconervium*, *Tradescantia zebrina*, and *Campylobtrys discolor*.

New plants on this occasion were scarce. Messrs. Henderson had a nice lilac-flowered *Hemiandra*, called Pungens; Mr. Mylam, a new and rather pretty *Epidendrum*; Messrs. Rollisson, *Cattleya granulata*, var. *Leopoldii*, with its beautiful purple lip; and Messrs. Veitch, a small-flowered greenish yellow *Hoya*, with chocolate centre. Some others were shewn; but they were comparatively of little importance.

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#### "THE LILY" OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.\*

THE word *Krionon* is translated "Lily" in the New Testament. It occurs in two places (Matt. vi. 28 and Luke xii. 27), in which our Lord calls upon us to consider the Lilies of the field. Let us, then, in obedience to his command, endeavour, in humble dependence on

\* Abridged from the *North British Agriculturist*.

his Spirit, to do so; and thus to derive that instruction in righteousness which these lowly plants are fitted to convey.

In the first place, what are the plants denominated Lilies of the field? They must have been well known to all our Lord's hearers as growing in the fields near the sea of Galilee, where he was discoursing.

It would appear from the reports of those who have visited Palestine, that in the early spring months the fields abound in various species of Lily, Tulip, and Narcissus. Many have thought that the white Lily was the plant meant in the passages quoted; but this cannot be the case, inasmuch as that plant is not considered to be a native of Palestine, although it is occasionally cultivated there.

Dr. Royle, from the evidence of various parties, concludes that the Chalcedonian, or Scarlet Martagon Lily (*Lilium chalcedonicum*), is the plant referred to. It is in flower at the season of the year when our Lord's Sermon on the Mount is supposed to have been delivered; it is abundant in the district of Galilee; and its fine scarlet flowers render it a very conspicuous and showy object, which would naturally attract the attention of his hearers.

Let us now see how the Lilies grow. Their mode of growth is hidden and unseen. By a slight and gradual process, which man cannot comprehend, they shoot out the blade from their bulbs. At first the young bud is under ground, obscured by the earth; but soon it pushes upward, producing the delicate green blade, then the flower-stalk and the flower.

In all these stages of progress there is no toiling or spinning on the part of the plant. They are carried on by the working of an unseen Power; even by God, who waters the ground and maketh it bring forth and bud (Isa. lv. 10). Our heavenly Father, in his wondrous providence, supplies all that is necessary for their nourishment and growth, and superintends the formation of every minute cell and tube which enters into their composition. Never let us suppose that any thing is too small for God to notice. Every thing, even the smallest, is constantly under his care.

How beautifully this is stated in Ps. lxxv. 9-11, where the watering of the very ridges and the settling of the furrows are attributed to the direct agency of the almighty and omnipresent Creator! Even the tiny moss, which we pass by as beneath our notice, is cared for by God. This cannot be too deeply impressed upon our minds. The truth, "Thou, God, seest me" (Gen. xvi. 13), should extend to our every thought, word, and action.

The Lilies thus speak to us of the care God takes of his children, and the special interest he has in his people. The believer's growth in grace is a hidden work, known only to God. The heavenly plant—the spark of life—is at first much obscured by earth; but, under the fostering care of the Great Husbandman, and by the dews of Christ's Spirit, it springs up and flourishes. It will only be in heaven that it will appear in all its glory.

We are told that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these Lilies (Matt. vi. 29; Luke xii. 27). In order to under-

stand this, let us look at the beautiful structure in which the colours of the flower reside. The flower-leaves of the Lily, when magnified by the microscope, are seen to consist of a number of beautiful honeycomb-like cells, forming a sort of net-work, in which the colouring-matter is arranged and stored. It is an elegant texture, which far exceeds any thing that man could make. Solomon's robes, if examined by means of a magnifying-glass, would, so far as they were the work of man, appear coarse; but the more the clothing of the Lily is magnified, the more exquisite is its beauty. The colour of Solomon's robes might have been gorgeous, but they were not disposed in the way in which God paints the flower. What are the finest works of man when compared with those of the Almighty Creator! The green covering of the grass of the field, which probably means the foliage of the Lilies, defies all the art of man to imitate.

The believer has a clothing brighter far than the robe of any earthly monarch. He has the garment of Christ's righteousness (Isa. lxi. 10); the pure and spotless robe of the Redeemer (Rev. vii. 13, 14). The more that robe is examined, the more beautiful and complete it appears; and the eye of faith sees daily more of the wonders of its almighty workmanship.

Let us, then, from the Lilies of the field learn the lesson of perfect dependence on God for every thing. Let us view him as our Creator and Preserver, our bountiful Benefactor, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy (1 Tim. vi. 17).

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### OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS.** If repotted this month, it should be but a partial shift, reducing the ball a little; for the less the fibres are broken or disturbed at this late season, the stronger the plants will flower in spring. Young plants may be improved by shifting them into larger-sized pots, without breaking the ball; where this is necessary, it should be attended to. The whole stock should be gone over this month; loosen the surface of the soil, and add a little fresh compost; this will greatly invigorate them. Give a more liberal supply of water; they will have now commenced the autumn growth, and require more moisture. Destroy insects.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** Cut down all plants as the flowers fade, and repot into a larger size; place them in a shady situation; protect from heavy rains, but expose to the cool night air and dew; take off shoots as you can get them, and prick them out round the edge of the pots, which should be plunged in gentle bottom-heat, shaded from the sun. Smoke if attacked with aphides; and watch carefully that decayed leaves do not cause the cuttings to fog off. Sow seed in shallow pans, just covering it with light soil.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.** All the shoots too high up the plant for pegging down having been piped about the middle of June, proceed to layer the general stock; use light sandy soil, and peg them securely after making a clean incision at about the third joint;

then place them a little in the shade for a few days. Those about to be layered should be made rather moist, as the water they will receive for some time after will be through a fine-rosed watering-pot. To ensure seed from any fine variety, place small bell-glasses to protect the flowers from wet, admitting all the air possible. Transplant pipings when struck to make good growth before potting up in autumn. Beware of thrips and earwigs.

**CINERARIAS.** Sow seed for a general crop; take off suckers from old stools for the same purpose. Seedlings sown and pricked off last month should now be put singly into small pots, and shaded from bright sunshine. Keep the lights off on all favourable opportunities, and constantly at night, unless there is danger of a storm.

**DALIAS.** Frequently thin-out superfluous shoots, so that much may not be cut off at a time. The proportion must be according to the known habit and size of the flower. Hero, and such flowers, should have all their wood and buds reserved for some time. Black Prince, Imbricata, Mr. Seldon, &c. require a medium course of treatment; if very large flowers are desired, they may be cut hard, as it will not produce them coarse. Queen of Roses, and flowers of this class, must be thinned very hard to come sufficiently large to be put with others disbudded in the same proportion. Keep the branches securely tied. Turn up the soil about the plants, and place rotten manure round them. Soak them well twice a-week at the root, and give a little over the foliage every night.

**EPACRISES.** These want but little attention at present, further than that recommended below for the Erica; as it is to be presumed that each plant has received its due share of stopping, tying out, &c. Should an unruly shoot have persisted in overtopping the rest, cut it down to their height; it is better so than allowed to disfigure the whole plant.

**ERICAS.** As mildew is more apt to be generated in the autumnal months than at any other period of the year, more than ordinary vigilance is now necessary to detect at an early stage the presence of the enemy, which, as soon as discovered, should be attacked without mercy. When the summer growth has become perfectly ripened, with ordinary care little danger need be apprehended. As each plant goes out of flower, thoroughly clean it from all dead foliage, and give it its annual shift. Some varieties will have perfected their summer growth sooner than others; when that process is completed, and the plant is in a state of comparative rest, it is desirable to curtail the supply of water. Cleanliness being indispensable to the health of plants, and of gratification to the eye, frequently sweep away the litter that is apt to lodge upon and around the pots; rake over the surface of the coal-ashes on which your plants stand, and replace the latter according to height, &c., leaving ample room between each. Loss of moisture by evaporation at this season is immense, consequently every plant should be examined at least once a day, and the soil felt, to ascertain whether water is wanted; for be it understood, that if the ball is suffered to become perfectly dry, even for an hour, the plant is irretrievably lost.

**FUCHSIAS.** This brilliant, charming genus will now be rapidly developing its floral beauties; to heighten the effect, and add to the graceful *tout ensemble*, arrange and support all straggling growths in as neat and inconspicuous a manner as possible, so that the flowering-shoots shall be regularly disposed over the whole plant, or as nearly so as circumstances will permit. To display fully the grace and elegance of this flower, prolong the bloom, and prevent its getting bruised, care should be taken in tying out, to cause each particular flower to hang independently of its neighbour; a little practice will soon effect this. Nothing more than the usual every day's routine of watching is necessary during the season of growth.

**PELARGONIUMS.** The plants which were cut down last month will have broken sufficiently at the eyes to be shaken out and disrooted; do not forget to place them in gentle bottom-heat, or in a close frame, till they have again rooted out to the sides of the pots, when they may have abundance of air night and day, sheltering them from heavy rains, and keeping them clear of green-fly. Cuttings that were taken early and struck should be shifted on, and stopped when you can ensure three or four breaking-eyes, as this is the time to lay the foundation for stocky plants for next season. Seed as it ripens should now be sown in pans or pots in open soil, and just covered. Water, when required, should be given through a fine rose; cover with a sheet of writing-paper in very bright sunny weather.

**PINKS.** Continue to put out the rooted pipings, and prepare the beds for the next season's bloomers; add plenty of manure, and frequently turn the soil over, that the former may become well incorporated with the latter, and the whole thoroughly sweetened, and fit for use. Pipings may still be taken.

**TULIPS.** Every bulb should now be examined, the loose dry skins removed, and the offsets large enough to bloom next year separated; but the small ones had better remain attached to the parent bulb. All who contemplate making alterations in the arrangements and additions to the quantity and quality of the Tulip-bed, whether by purchase or exchange, should do it at once. Let each bulb be placed in the boxes as it is intended to bloom next season, and then transcribe the name in the Tulip-book for 1852. The advantage arising from this method is, that the bulbs are in order for planting at the right time; when this is done, the practical operations of the Tulip-grower may be considered suspended until the time arrives for making preparations for planting; the principal attention meanwhile required being an occasional looking over the boxes and drawers, in order to ascertain that all is right. See that the tops of the bulbs are free from aphid or green-fly, for in some seasons they are very numerous, completely covering the point of the bulb. If any small speck of rust or canker be visible, let it be carefully removed with a sharp penknife. Towards the end of the month, or beginning of next, a bed may be prepared for offsets.







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Gladiolus

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## GLADIOLI.

“THE hybrid Gladioli,” says the late Dean Herbert in his valuable work on *Amaryllids*, “flower about the same time as the Roses, and contribute quite as much in general effect to embellish the garden by their fine colours and profusion of bloom. They succeed,” he adds, “very well in the natural soil of the garden at Spofforth, which is a good yellowish light loam suitable for barley; and also in the artificial borders of peat and sand, where, however, in dry summers, they stand more in need of water. These hardy crosses are between *G. cardinalis*, *blandus*, *carneus*, *inflatus*, *angustus*, and *tristis*; and they vary with every shade of colour from white to scarlet, rose, coppery, and blackish-purple; and some are exquisitely speckled in consequence of the cross with *tristis*. They succeed best when grown into a thick tuft, in which state the profusion of blossom is admirable, the cluster of bulbs and the old skins of decayed bulbs permitting the wet to drain away, and preventing the earth from lying too close and heavy on the bulbs in autumn and winter. Clusters have stood undisturbed at Spofforth above ten years, with the precaution of covering them with leaves from November to March or April. There is danger in disturbing and parting them, for numbers will rot if reset separately; and if they must be divided, it is best to do so in April; or, if it be done in the autumn, the roots taken up should be potted and turned out again in the spring. The beautiful crosses with *hirsutus*, *recurvus*, and *versicolor* are more delicate plants, and do not succeed well in the border. Seedling Gladioli will often flower the first autumn. The best treatment is to sow the seed in pots, and give them shelter till the seedlings are pretty strong, and then turn out the ball unbroken into the border, where they will produce a crowded nosegay of flowers of various shades of colour.” From our own experience we may remark, that the tenderer sorts alluded to in the above extract arrive at a high degree of perfection if potted about twelve in as small a pot as will hold them, late in the autumn, and planted in a warm border in May. They will require to be shifted once in the early spring; but should not in the first instance be put in a large pot, as, if the soil is good, they will have plenty of nourishment, and the closer they are planted the more beautiful will be the appearance of the clump when in bloom. Three of the most beautiful species are those sold by the trade under the name of *floribundus*, *gandavensis*, and *Brenchleyensis*.

At Bury Hill, near Dorking, some plants of *Gladiolus*

*Colvillii*, and other hybrids, grow in the open border without any protection, and they flower finely every year. *G. cardinalis* is also quite hardy, as the following extract from the *Gardener's Magazine* will shew. Mr. A. Mackenzie, of Blair Adam, N. B., states, that "in a space of about 12 feet by 7, there were not less than 500 trusses of this magnificent flower. It is generally considered tender; yet it grows here on an elevation of about 900 feet above the level of the sea, the sub-soil naturally cold and wet, in rather a light soil, with little or no protection. For two winters I gave a covering of leaf-mould about 2 inches deep; but the last two winters they got none whatever, and the result is, that they were never seen growing here in such luxuriance and splendour. About the beginning of October, when I wish to propagate them, I take from well-established plants, a ball or cluster of corms, about 1 or 2 feet in circumference, from one side of the strongest plants, and plant them in beds 2 feet wide, and the plants 1 foot apart, putting a little sand beneath the bulbs; and in the course of two or three years, the beds will be covered with the plants: I plant them about 2 or 3 inches deep. In 1839, I planted a bed in this manner, and with as little care as I would take in planting any herbaceous plant; yet, in both seasons, namely, 1840 and 1841, the bed was nearly covered with strong trusses of flowers."

The writer further recommends "that single bulbs be grown in pots, and protected during winter (especially from damp) until they grow into a cluster of bulbs. When they have attained a sufficient size, they may be planted out with safety, and will stand the winter."

The flower represented by our plate, as will be seen, is a beautiful variety, the two colours which it contains contrasting charmingly together, and making it well worthy of introduction into every collection. Our drawing was prepared from a plant growing in the garden of R. Stains, Esq., at Maida Vale, Paddington.

In addition to *Gladioli*, there are many more interesting bulbs which will, for the most part, thrive in the borders amongst other plants. Some of these are *Erythronium Dens canis* (Dog's-tooth Violet), *Tigridia pavonia*, *Pardanthus chinensis*, *Zephyranthes atamasco* and *candida*, *Fritillaria imperialis* and *meleagris*, *Leucojum æstivum* and *pulchellum*; *Scilla amœna*, *campanulata*, and *præcox*; *Asphodelus ramosus*, *tauricus*, and *lacteus*; *Van Thol*, *Sun's-eye*, and *Parrot Tulips*; *Ornithogalum pyramidale*, &c.

## ON ARTIFICIAL ROCKERIES.\*

AMONG the numerous natural embellishments which are so abundantly scattered over the surface of this country, and the natural facilities afforded for beautifying the private pleasure-ground of the wealthy proprietor, there are but few instances where these natural facilities have been advantageously turned to account in artificial decoration.

Now if natural decorations increase the interest and beauty of a garden, accordingly as they are treated in an artistic manner, so also do decorations merely artificial gain in proportion as they resemble nature. But the artificial has never the value or the interest of the natural, any more than a copy has the interest or value of an original picture from the hands of one of the old masters. So truly is this the case when applied to garden scenery, that a place wholly artificial, however well executed, has little interesting or pleasing about it, until by age it has obtained something of a natural appearance.

An object purely natural, in the midst of a pleasure-ground, is not only a pleasing relief to the mind, but is also more striking and impressive, more august and grand, than the ornamental vase or the geometrical parterre. These may be pretty or beautiful; but even the hard, cold, stern features of a projecting rock gives us a nobler and more exalted kind of pleasure than these artificial niceties. A large mass of rocks, however tastefully arranged in a spacious pleasure-ground, has less influence on the imagination than a small irregularly arranged group in a confined and secluded nook, with all the wild savageness of primitive nature around it. Indeed, a low confined dell, the channel of a ravine, or a quiet secluded hollow, retired from every thing architectural or artificial, appears to be the most proper place for a rockery. The spectator should come upon it quite unexpectedly, but not by a sudden transition of the general scene, although circumstances may often occur to render sudden transitions unavoidable.

One of the prettiest rockeries I ever beheld was made in an old stone quarry, which in its original condition was not only dangerous, but a serious disfiguration to the place. Trees were planted on the margin, and threw their dependant branches irregularly down the face of the rocks. Ferns and other plants were planted in niches and clefts made in the rocks in different places; paths were also cut for walking along the steep sides; groups were arranged in different forms and of different heights; jets were introduced in different places, in small basins, and formed the most enchanting spot imaginable.

It is not, however, absolutely necessary to deprive a small garden of rockwork. The monotony and tameness of a villa-garden may be considerably relieved and diversified by the introduction of rocks, especially if the grounds afford a position naturally favourable, such as natural rocks, or a secluded corner, or water in any form; for

\* Abridged from Mr. Downing's *American Horticulturist*.

water, if possible, should invariably form an appendage to a rockery. But to introduce large stones and boulders on a lawn, or in a shrubbery contiguous to the house, or having them scattered about singly on the grass, on the margins of a lake, or beside a bridge, as they are frequently to be seen, may justly be regarded as an infringement on taste and a mockery of nature.

Rockwork may sometimes be placed in the proximity of glass structures, and even in flower-gardens, with good effect, when these are of a gothic or rustic character; but here the rockwork must have none of the savage wildness of nature about it, and consequently nothing of the impressive picturesqueness of natural rocks. It should be rendered conformable to the objects around it, and appearing to be placed there for the purpose of cultivating those plants that succeed best among rocks, or for shewing the natural habits of plants that grow naturally among rocks, or those that produce a better effect when planted on them. In these cases the rocks should be more artistically and tastefully arranged. It should be clearly shewn, by their arrangement and accompaniments, that no attempt is made to imitate nature, but rather a proper place for displaying and cultivating the plants that are grown upon them.

Rockeries of this kind depend for their interest and beauty more on the disposition of the plants than on any influence possessed by themselves; and therefore they should never be allowed to become bare, otherwise they dwindle down to meaningless conceits. They ought also to be formed of choice materials, as specimens of rare minerals, metallic ores, rich conglomerates, stalagmites, fossils, scoria, fine specimens of crystallography and vitrification, forming a kind of cabinet, which excites the attention of the spectator, and affords interest and gratification to the more curious examiner, and tending also to divest the rockery of any incongruity which might arise from its being out of place.

It may likewise be observed, that rockeries should always be in detached groups, and, whether large or small, should never present straight lines or flat surfaces. The more irregular the arrangement, the more striking the effect produced. It should also be so situated as to be partly shaded and overhung by pendulous trees, to screen it from the glare of sunshine; it should always be rather cool, and, if possible, shut in by itself by shrubbery, and, if possible also, should be accompanied by a *jet d'eau* or basin of water, or both.

To attempt giving rules for the arrangement of rockeries is useless, as their forms entirely depend upon the taste of the builder; and in this kind of work, more than any other branch of ornamental gardening, will the taste of the builder be brought out; and here also will be perceived the difference between those who have studied from nature, and those who have no vivid conceptions of natural beauty. It may here be observed, however, that the whole design should be diversified in its outlines, in its heights, and in its general forms. No two parts should bear the slightest resemblance to each other, and the greater the irregularity, the more interesting the effect.

The great artificial rock-gardens at Chatsworth, and other places

in England, can neither be regarded as works of instruction nor models of imitation, but rather monuments of extravagance, and may be viewed in the same light as the famous Hanging-gardens of Babylon. Natural cropping clefts, and romantic rocky spots, may, however, be easily turned to excellent advantage, and far excel those artificial rock-gardens, at comparatively small cost; and sure enough such spots are sufficiently numerous in this country, if wealthy men who build fine country houses, would bring themselves to choose localities where they might have trees, landscapes, and rock gardens, ready made.

The following remarks are appended by the editor:—Both rock-work and artificial ponds are, in our estimation, dangerous features in ornamental gardens for any one to meddle with who has not a great deal of taste, or a lively feeling of natural beauty and fitness. We quite agree with our correspondent, that they should occupy secluded spots in the grounds, and that they are never so successful as when they may be wholly mistaken for nature's own work. A little round pond, like a soup-basin, set in an open smooth lawn, and a pile of rocks heaped up upon a formal mound, as we have sometimes seen them, in the midst of high artificial flower-garden scenery, are equally offensive to good sense and good taste. Nature puts her small pool of water, and her ledge of rocks filled with mosses and ferns, in the depths of some secluded dell, or under the shelter of some dark leafy bank of verdure.

Touching the rock-garden at Chatsworth, we must differ from our correspondent. That rock-garden has, to our mind, but one defect, viz. that you enter it from a highly dressed portion of flower-garden scenery. For the rest, time and vegetation have now so completely harmonised it with the wild scenery of the high hills of Derbyshire, which rise behind it, and of which it seems a spur, that we will venture to say nine strangers out of ten would walk through it in the full belief that it was a natural rocky pass in the grounds, if they were not asked to wonder at it as a work of art and labour. It was probably more new and raw when our correspondent obtained his impressions.

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#### NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SOCIETY.

*July 28.*—The first meeting of this new Society took place in the grounds of the Royal Nursery, Slough. There was great competition, and the blooms were large and well-coloured.

*Carnations* (Amateurs): 1. Mr. M. May, Sonning; 2. Mr. J. Edwards, Holloway; 3. Mr. Newhall, Woolwich. *Picotees*: . Rev. A. Matthews, Weston-on-the-Green; 2. Mr. M. May; 3. Mr. Lochner, Paddington. *Carnations* (Open Classes): 1. Mr. C. Turner, Slough; 2. Mr. Bragg, Slough; 3. Mr. Willmer, Sunbury. *Picotees*: 1. Mr. C. Turner; 2. Mr. Bragg; 3. Rev. A. Matthews. *Yellow-ground Picotees*: 1. Mr. Bragg; 2. Mr. Turner; 3. Mr. Holey,

Reading; 4. Mr. Willmer. Several seedlings received certificates. We have thought it better to give the names of the most conspicuous flowers exhibited in each class, than to give the entire lists, and in doing this we have included some new varieties growing in Mr. Turner's collection.

Of Carnations,—in scarlet bizarre, Admiral Curzon, Lord Lewis-ham, Lord Ratcliffe, and Bolingbroke, were in good order. Crimson bizarres were very numerous and good; Lord Milton, Duncan, Jenny Lind, Owen Glendower, Black Diamond, Puxley's Queen, and Queen of Trumps, were in excellent condition, as were also Puxley's Favourite and General Monk, the latter having the best white in this class, and otherwise good. In pink bizarres, May's Falconbridge stands high, being large and well marked. The old but favourite flower, Puxley's Prince Albert, was very fine, and had but few equals. Sarah Payne, Twyford Perfection, and Henry Kirke White, were also shewn. In purple flakes, Beauty of Woodhouse, Premier, Squire Trow, Pains, and Perfection, were the favourites. Scarlet flakes were represented by Cradley Pet, Simpson's Queen, Puxley's Standard, and Africanus. Of rose flakes, Puxley's Princess Royal, Flora's Garland, May's Ariel, Poor Tom, Lorenzo, Antonia, and Wood's Haidee, were the best.

*Picotees.* These advance towards perfection much faster than Carnations do. Foremost in the heavy red-edged class was Mrs. Norman, a full-sized variety, of first-rate properties, fully maintaining the opinion we gave of it last season; Prince of Wales, King James, Hogarth, and two of Mr. Fellowes' seedlings were good; also an intermediate variety between red and rose. Costar's Christabel is a neat pleasing flower, of good properties, without the slightest bar. Light red, Youell's Gem, Duchess of Sutherland, Miss Holbeck, and Dodwell's Mary, the latter is good in size and very evenly marked. Heavy purple, Dodwell's Alfred, Lord Nelson, Portia, Lady H. Moore, Prince Arthur, Viola, and Duke of Rutland, the latter a fine constant flower, were in the best possible order. In light-edged purple, Matthews' seedling was the best; it is a superb flower. In this numerous class, the following were good: Ophelia, Ganymede, Willoughby, Circe, Jupiter, Juliet, and Fellowes' seedling 51. Heavy rose and scarlet—the most attractive class of all—was represented by Venus, Green's Queen, Princess Royal, Marris' Victoria Regina, a bright fine flower, and Marris' Grace Darling, a flower similar to Princess Royal, but wider in the petal; Unexpected is a medium-sized neat variety; and Jeannette has a fine petal, but is rather thin. Light-edged rose; Mrs. Barnard, as usual, stood at the head of this class; and Countess Howe is a pleasing bright variety.

The meeting for 1852 will be held, we believe, at Norwich.



## RANDOM NOTES ON GARDEN MATTERS.

1. *The Chinese Primrose.* Those of the readers of the *Florist* who have never used guano for this most useful and beautiful flower would do well to begin at once. Of course every one who cultivates plants at all has at least some Chinese Primroses. They are, in the strictest sense of the term, every body's flowers. We frequently hear persons complaining of the difficulty of growing them well. The truth is, I believe, that in the main they are too much coddled. Plants may be killed with kindness as well as with neglect. But I am not at present about to write a treatise on the culture of the pretty favourite in question, but merely to tell those who may be ignorant of the fact, that guano-water improves wonderfully the colour of the flowers and the general health of the plants. I'll just say what I did with some, and how they progressed under the treatment. At the time to which I shall revert to them, they were in 48-size pots, in which I intended blooming them. The soil was very light, nearly half decayed leaves. As I did not wish them to be in bloom till mid-winter, I picked out all the blossoms which appeared during the autumn, using merely soft water for them when they required any. By thus preventing the development of the blossom, the plants accumulated vigour, became sturdy in stem and leaf, and were in excellent condition for producing plenty of bloom when it was required. It may be as well to observe, however, that for a week or two before they were required to produce the flower-buds intended to remain, water was given very sparingly, the plant often being allowed to flag. After this a liberal treatment was gradually afforded them; and when the heads of blossom were about half-developed, guano-water was applied twice a week, gradually increasing it in strength. Nothing could be finer than the masses of bloom which each plant produced. Compared with others to which no guano had been applied, the colour was infinitely superior. The plants, though small, were charming objects, and much admired for the beauty and profusion of their blossoms.

2. *Lycopodium cæsiun* is a pretty Lycopod, generally treated in a stove or warm greenhouse. But at the entrance of a grotto, in a garden in Staffordshire, I remarked a plant flourishing in the open air.

3. One of the prettiest hardy climbers is *Clematis montana* which is worthy of a more extensive cultivation than it enjoys. Few gardens possess it, or, if possessing it, sufficient encouragement is not afforded it. During the spring I saw a most exquisite specimen in the garden of R. Mangles, Esq., Sunning Hill, Berks. In the same garden, which contains many fine specimens of Conifers, amongst which is a *Pinus Sabiniana* worthy of notice, is a plant of *Solanum crispum* as a shrub, some 10 or 12 feet high, and when in full blossom is a novel and beautiful shrub. Trained to a wall at the end of the magnificent range of houses in the Royal Gardens at Frogmore is another specimen worthy of attention when in blossom.

G. L.

## REVIEW.

*Observations on the Culture of Roses in Pots.* By William Paul.  
Second edition, pp. 43. London, Piper.

THIS is a shilling pamphlet of the utmost value to those who take an interest in the cultivation of the "Queen of flowers" in pots. It contains all that it is necessary to know on the subjects of potting and preparing the plants, pruning, training, forcing, and retarding them for winter bloom; and in addition to this information, it has suitable lists of varieties adapted for all purposes and seasons, besides excellent advice on budding, grafting, and choice of stocks, with the following paragraph on soil:

"The soil in which Roses succeed well, and that generally used here, is, two parts of stiff turfy loam, broken up, but not sifted, two parts manure (road-gatherings laid by for a season, or the remains of a hot-bed, not too far decomposed), and one part burnt earth. This compost should be thrown up in a heap in autumn, and turned two or three times during winter, and a little newly-slaked lime scattered throughout, to destroy worms and grubs. This is the soil used for the mass; but for the delicate varieties (Chinese, &c.) it may be improved by the addition of one part leaf-mould, or well-pulverised manure."

On the vexed subject of Yellow Roses, Mr. Paul says:

"Since the first edition of this little work was penned, Yellow Roses have become a special branch of culture. Separate prizes have been offered for them by the London Horticultural and Royal Botanic Societies. But what are Yellow Roses? This question provoked some discussion in the pages of the *Gardeners' Journal* last year, through the withholding of a prize by the Royal Botanic Society. To prevent any misconception at future exhibitions, that Society has named the varieties considered eligible for competition. Let us reproduce them here:

Yellow Banksiæ.	Narcisse (Tea-scented).
Single Yellow (Austrian).	Smithii or Smith's Yellow (ditto).
Williams's Double Yellow (ditto).	Pauline Plantier (ditto).
Harrisonii (ditto).	Queen Victoria or Princesse Adelaide (ditto).
Persian Yellow (ditto).	Vicomtesse de Cazes (ditto).
Old Double Yellow (Sulphurea).	Jaune, or Yellow China (ditto).
Cloth of Gold (Noisette).	Sulphurea superba (ditto).
Solfaterre (ditto).	
Le Pactole (ditto).	

"We proceed to analyse this group. The first on the list—the Yellow Banksiæ—is a pretty enough Rose, with small flowers produced in clusters. It may be grown well in a soil composed of equal parts of loam, peat, and leaf-mould. It requires but little pruning: the mere tips of the shoots may be taken off. Spiral training is recommended as the most suitable. The succeeding five varieties are nearly allied in nature, and may be grown in a soil similar to the last. Manure is here positively objectionable; but the addition of sand unless the peat or loam be sandy, will prove advantageous.



Very little pruning is necessary: some of the shoots may be cut out entirely; the others have their mere ends taken off. If grown on their own roots, they may be trained as globular or columnar bushes; if grown on stems, the branches may be drawn downwards in the form of a Weeping Rose. The two next in order—Cloth of Gold and Solfaterre—are of vigorous growth, producing large flowers of great beauty. Both are shy bloomers, especially the former. The same soil as recommended for Pot-Roses in general may be used for these varieties. Little pruning is necessary, and spiral training is recommended. Seven out of the remaining eight varieties belong to the Tea-scented, and the whole require a rich soil and close pruning. The most advantageous systems of training are the round bush or the pyramid. Were this group to be viewed critically, it might be said they are not all ‘purely yellow.’ It might also be said there are kinds excluded which have as just a right to the appellation of ‘yellow’ as they. But when it is considered that the declension from yellow to white and buff is so gradual that it is scarcely possible to fix the line of demarcation, and that a list of sixteen varieties is given from which to select six, these points of criticism are hardly tenable. If none others are allowed to be exhibited, or none whose flowers are less yellow when brought to the exhibition-tables than those of the sixteen above enumerated, the practical utility of the arrangement will soon become apparent.”

The following chapter on forcing will exhibit the clear and satisfactory way in which the matter is treated:

“Roses required for forcing will succeed tolerably well if potted early in the preceding autumn. It is, however, obvious, that by being potted a twelvemonth previously, they become thoroughly established, and are better enabled to support an accelerated growth and premature development of bloom. If, therefore, we are anxious to obtain a perfect bloom of forced Roses, and have plants that have been a twelvemonth or more in pots, they should certainly be taken in preference, and the fresh-potted ones be allowed to grow on for the natural season of flowering. Presuming, then, the plants about to be forced have been grown one year in pots, we will proceed with our subject.

*Forcing-house.*—A span-roofed house, with a longer roof toward the south, is perhaps the best style of building. The interior may be fitted up according to the taste of the proprietor. The various systems of heating horticultural buildings now in vogue have been frequently descanted on in the gardening periodicals, and it would be out of place to speak of them here, except in general terms. Heating by hot water, in its various modes of application, is generally acknowledged to be preferable to the old flue system, and in no instance is it more so than for forcing Roses; nevertheless they will flower well in houses heated with flues. When the latter mode is adopted, syringing should be more freely resorted to; and a pot or two of water, poured down on the floor of the house every morning, is necessary to keep a moist atmosphere, which is very favourable to forced Roses, and, at the same time, noxious to the red spider,

which is very likely to appear under the flue system of heating. Arnott's stove, which is used by some, is found to answer exceedingly well.

*Ripening the Wood.*—It is important, with regard to Roses intended for forcing, that the wood be well ripened early in autumn; and to effect this end, they should be placed in a sunny and airy situation during summer, and should not have too free a supply of water when *completing* their growth. So soon as they have done growing, they may be thinned out, as previously proposed; the shortening-in of the shoots being deferred till the plants are conveyed into the forcing-house.

*Housing the Plants.*—The first week in January is an excellent time for this purpose, commencing with a gentle heat. It is advisable to keep the plants as close to the glass as possible; and if a gentle bottom-heat can be secured, so much the better. At first the fire should be lighted of a morning, and kept in for a few hours only, to throw a little warmth into the house, and no air need be admitted. When the buds begin to swell, the heat may be steadily increased till we reach 60° to 80° by day, and the night-temperature should never be lower than 40°; a difference of 15° or 20° between the day and night temperature proving beneficial. If, on entering the forcing-house, there is discovered a freshness and glaucous hue on the leaves, we may rest satisfied that the atmosphere and temperature are agreeable to the plants. But should the leaves droop and present a flabby appearance, we should attribute this to too dry an atmosphere, or too high a temperature maintained at night. The remedy is easy.

*Admission of Air.*—Early in the season it is well to be cautious in the admission of air; for the young leaves of forced Roses are very tender, and suffer much from the cold. As the season advances top air may be given for a few hours in the middle of the day, in still mild weather, with great benefit to the plants; but in cold weather air should be admitted from the lower part of the house only; and if it can be made to pass over the pipes or flue on entering, that it may become more thoroughly amalgamated with the warm air of the house before reaching the leaves, so much the better.

*Syringing.*—In bright weather the plants should be freely syringed morning and evening: in dull weather very lightly, and once only; soot-water may be used here with good effect.

*Insects—Mildew.*—The green-fly is a great pest among forced Roses, but is easily destroyed by fumigating with tobacco, which should be done as soon as any of them are seen, and repeated as often as they re-appear.

Another annoyance is the grub, with which most Rose-cultivators are too familiar, and whose ravages, if not stopped, will, as well as destroying the leaves and causing the plants to look shabby, materially injure the bloom. Wherever the leaves are curled, or found sticking together, this insect will be comfortably rolled up within, and not unfrequently does it ensconce itself in the growing point of a young shoot. The plants must be looked over frequently, to re-

duce these destructive visitants, and they require to be very closely sought.

Every precaution should be taken against mildew. If the weather be cloudy and wet, a brisk heat should be maintained, that we may not have a cold, damp atmosphere. The house ought also to be swept out frequently, and kept clean. Probably the close atmosphere in which the plants are necessarily grown during the early part of the forcing season contributes, in no small degree, to encourage mildew: if it does appear, it is seldom till late in the season, when the plants have been in the house some length of time. The application of sulphur is a well-known remedy, dusted on the leaves, while wet, from a dredging-box; and by admitting abundance of air, and at the same time applying fire-heat, should the house be damp, to establish a free circulation among the plants, its progress will certainly be arrested.

*Suckers.*—Among the worked plants, an eye should be had to suckers, which may, when young, be radically removed by clasping them firmly between the thumb and finger, and drawing them steadily out.

*Watering.*—During their growth, the plants should be freely watered; occasionally with guano-water, about the temperature of the house; or, if worms work in the pots, lime-water is an efficient remedy.

*Season of Flowering.*—Late in February a few precocious flower-buds will expand. By the middle of March the plants will probably be in full bloom, when syringing may be dispensed with for a time. A light shading will be found necessary during the middle of the day, to prevent the flowers flagging, and fire-heat should be in some degree diminished.

A continual succession of flowers may be obtained, by removing some of the plants, at different periods, as the buds shew colour, to a house of a lower temperature. This will also be the means of increasing the size and deepening the tints of the flowers.

Now, as soon as the plants have flowered, such as are termed Summer Roses (those blooming but once in the season) may be removed to a cold pit or house, to make room for the admission of fresh plants kept in reserve for the purpose.

*Pruning Autumnals for Second Bloom.*—The shoots of the Autumnal, or perpetual-flowering kinds, may be cut back, and they will give forth a second crop of flowers in fine perfection by the end of May. Many, if not pruned, would continue flowering; but pruning is recommended, if care be taken to remove no more leaves than is necessary in the operation. After April, very little fire-heat is necessary, especially if the weather be warm and sunny; and after flowering a second time, the plants may be removed from the house, surfaced with a little manure, and plunged in an airy situation, there to remain till required for forcing the succeeding year. Thus treated, they may be induced to flower well, forced several years in succession.”

As regards late-flowering varieties, Mr. Paul has the following excellent remarks:

“ To obtain Roses late in the season, the first point necessary is to keep the plants in a growing state. For this purpose the Autumnals must, of course, be taken; and it has doubtless been observed by all Rose-cultivators, that many of these Roses produce flowers at the termination of almost every shoot; or, in other words, if they grow, they flower. In the spring of 1843 I shifted about a hundred of these from 3-inch into 5-inch pots, selecting the freest bloomers, and plunging them, when shifted, in the open ground. Through the early part of summer all the flower-buds were nipped out as soon as seen. Notwithstanding the deprivation of the early blossoms, the plants, by continuing to grow, formed fresh flower-buds. Those formed late in the season were suffered to remain, and in September, before the frost, the plants were removed to a cold pit, giving all available air by day, and covering it with a straw mat by night. They were crowned with flower-buds when placed in the pit; these gradually unfolded, and I cut a good bunch of Roses at Christmas, in great perfection. It was certainly a mild autumn; and perhaps a more certain method of obtaining success would be, to take them at once to the forcing-house, or other greenhouse, where they would probably continue flowering still longer, as the dampness which destroys many of the backward flower-buds in a cold pit might there be prevented. For this purpose, such kinds as produce a great quantity of flowers, and open freely, should be selected; for instance, Bourbons: Armosa, Queen, and Phœnix. Noisettes: Fellenberg and Euphrosyne. Chinese: White, Fabvier, Bardon, and the like, are of the best description.”

Some clever woodcuts, illustrative of training and pruning, have been introduced into this edition, which altogether must be considered a very cheap shilling's worth. We heartily recommend it to the notice of our readers.

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## DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

### No. IX.

#### PEACHES.

IN the class of Fruit now about to be noticed, the difference of appearance between the various sorts is less obvious, generally speaking, than in the case of Grapes and many other kinds of fruit. Thus, judging by the fruit alone, a Royal George might easily be mistaken for a Grosse Mignonne, or the latter for a Bellegarde, these and several other varieties being very much alike in form and colour. It is therefore necessary to attach more importance to other points of distinction, such as the size and colour of the blossoms, the serratures of the leaves, and the absence, or form when present, of certain glands which in some sorts are to be found upon the footstalk close beneath the base of the leaf. Upon these and some few other characters

Mr. George Lindley founded a classification of Peaches and Nectarines, which every cultivator ought to make himself acquainted with. It is to be found in the *Horticultural Transactions*, and in a very useful, though in many points erroneous, work entitled *A Guide to the Orchard and Kitchen-Garden*. In this paper I shall wholly reject the division termed "Clingstone Peaches"—that is, those kinds whose flesh adheres firmly to the stone—as being unworthy of cultivation. The varieties I shall describe are well known to most gardeners; but these papers being intended more especially for the use of amateurs, I have selected those kinds which are generally considered the best, in preference to others which are less common but inferior in merit. It should also be explained, that the time of ripening stated refers to the neighbourhood of London; further north they would be somewhat later. A favourable or unfavourable west situation will likewise cause a difference of several days in this respect.

### 1. *Royal George*.

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: Millet's Mignonne, Red Magdalen, French Chancellor (of some), Madeleine Rouge à Petites Fleurs, Lockyer's Mignonne, Griffin's Mignonne, Early Royal George, Early Bourdine (of some), Double Swalsh (of some), Superb.

Flowers small, dull deep red. Leaves serrated, glandless. Fruit large, nearly round in form, but frequently a little flattened on the summit; suture (that is, the line which divides the fruit on one of its sides into two parts,) moderately deep. Skin very dark purplish red where freely exposed, breaking off into small red dots towards the shaded side, which is dull yellowish white. Flesh white, deeply rayed with red round the stone; perfectly melting, very juicy and rich. The stone is moderately large and of a reddish colour. This excellent Peach, which is suitable either for a wall or a peach-house, generally ripens from the beginning to the middle of September, although in some seasons ripe fruit may be obtained in the end of August. The foliage is rather subject to mildew in some situations.

### 2. *Noblesse*.

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: Mellish's Favourite, Vanguard, Lord Montague's Noblesse.

Flowers large, pale blush. Leaves serrated, glandless. Fruit large, generally roundish, with a slightly flattened apex, upon which there is a small protuberance or nipple; occasionally, however, the fruit acquires a more elongated shape, and then the crown is more rounded and the nipple less prominent. Skin pale yellowish green on the shaded side, next the sun dull red marbled with lengthened patches of a deeper colour. Flesh greenish white, in most cases throughout, but in some fruit a slight tinge of red is perceptible round the stone, which is large, ovate, pointed, and of a brown colour. This variety is highly esteemed, being large, handsome, and of excellent flavour when eaten at the proper period, but if allowed to become over-ripe on the tree, it is apt to become mealy. Season,

the beginning of September. A Peach called the Malta very closely resembles this.

### 3. *Grosse Mignonne*.

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue : Grimwood's Royal George, Grimwood's New Royal George, Large French Mignonne, French Mignonne, Mignonne, Vineuse, Veloutée, Veloutée de Merlet, French Grosse Mignonne, Swiss Mignonne, Pourprée de Normandie, Pourprée Hâtive (of some), Purple Hâtive (of some), Early Purple Avant, Purple Avant, Avant, Early May, Early French, Early Vineyard, Padley's Early Purple, Neil's Early Purple, Johnson's Early Purple, Johnson's Purple Avant, Forster's, Forster's Early, Ronalds's Early Galande, Ronalds's Seedling Galande, Belle Bausse, Belle Bauce, Belle Beauté, Kensington, Royal Kensington, La Royale (of some), Superb Royal, Vineuse de Fromentin, Transparent.

Flowers large, deep rose-colour. Leaves crenated, with globose glands. Fruit large, of a flattened globular figure, with a slightly hollow crown. The cavity at the base is wide, and the suture is strongly marked. Skin very dark rich red next the sun, on the shaded side yellowish, thickly mottled with red. Flesh yellowish, with red rays surrounding the stone; very juicy and of excellent flavour. The stone is rather small, oval, having one projecting edge and very rugged sides. Ripens about the same time as, or rather earlier than, the Royal George, and is a most valuable sort both for forcing and for wall culture.

### 4. *Bellegarde*.

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue : Galande, Noir de Montreuil, Violette Hâtive (of English), Violette Hâtive Grosse (ibid.), Early Galande (of some), Brentford Mignonne, Ronalds's Brentford Mignonne, French Royal George, Smooth-leaved Royal George (of some), Large Violet, French Violette Hâtive (of some).

Flowers small, reddish pink. Leaves crenated, with globose glands. Fruit large, globular, and for the most part regular in form, having a shallow suture and slightly hollowed summit, upon which there is generally a small point. Skin, on the sunny side very deep red, with broken streaks or blotches of dark purple intermixed; yellowish green where shaded. Flesh pale greenish yellow, slightly tinged with red next the stone; very juicy and highly flavoured. The stone is rather large, and slightly pointed. An admirable Peach, which ripens towards the middle of September, immediately succeeding the Noblesse.

### 5. *Barrington*.

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue : Buckingham Mignonne, Colonel Ansley's.

Flowers large. Leaves crenated, with globose glands. Fruit

large, frequently globular, with a moderate suture along the side, and a slight depression at the apex. but some specimens assume a more elongated shape. Skin dark red on the exposed parts, somewhat marbled with a still darker colour; pale yellowish green when quite shaded. Flesh greenish white, faintly tinted with red next the stone; very juicy and well flavoured. The stone is of a brown colour, small, oval in form, with a lengthened point at the top. Ripens from the beginning to the middle of September, and is a very good Peach, although perhaps not quite equal to those previously described.

#### 6. *Chancellor.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: Chancellière var. (of Duhamel), Noisette, Late Chancellor, Steward's Late Galande, Edgar's Late Melting.

Flowers small. Leaves crenated, with reniform glands. Fruit moderately large, long rather than round, and in some specimens decidedly oval. Skin dark red where fully exposed to the sun, shading off to a greenish yellow next the wall, and partially mottled with red about the union of the two colours. Flesh greenish yellow, with much red near the stone; melting, and very good. This is a valuable Peach, inasmuch as it comes in for use between the Bellegarde and the Late Admirable. The Belle Chevreuse is extremely like it; indeed I am not quite certain that this description was not taken from that variety.

#### 7. *Late Admirable.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: Royal, La Royale, Pêche Royale, Bourdine, Boudine, Boudin, Narbonne, French Bourdine, Téton de Venus, Belle Bausse (of some), Belle Baucé (of some), Judd's Melting, Late Purple (of some), Pourprée Tardive (of some), Motteux's.

Flowers small, pale red. Leaves crenated, with globose glands. Fruit very large, generally rounded and regular, with equally swelling sides, but occasionally inclined to an oval figure, and the apex is frequently pointed with a small nipple. Skin pale yellowish green on the shaded side; next the sun red, partially marbled with deeper red. Flesh greenish white, faintly tinged with red next the stone, which is above the middle size, oval, sharply pointed at the apex, and of a reddish brown colour. Ripens in the end of September, and is the latest really good Peach cultivated in this country; for which reason, in addition to its other high qualities, it deserves a place in every garden.

The sorts above described, with the addition of the Walburton Admirable, noticed by Mr. Rivers in a former Number, are as many as the majority of cultivators will require; there are, however, two or three other varieties which deserve notice on account of their earliness, or some other peculiar quality; and these, with the Nectarines, will form another paper.

J. B. WHITING.

## ROYAL SOUTH-LONDON FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

July 24.—This Society had a very wet day for its fourth show, which was in consequence thinly attended. There was, however, a large number of growers present, both amateur and professional. The July meeting being the Carnation and Picotee show, the names of the winning flowers were as follows :

*Carnations*, 12 blooms (Amateurs).—1st, Mr. May, Sonning, near Reading, with Horsa, Beauty of Woodhouse, Sir H. Smith, Antonio, Earl Spencer, Ariel, Poins, Owen Glendower, Prince Albert (Puxley), Africanus, Rosetta, Squire Trow; 2d, Mr. Lochner, Paddington, with Flora's Garland, Lord Rancliffe, Ariel, Duke of Wellington, Sir H. Smith, Beauty of Woodhouse, Paul Pry, Queen Victoria, Squire Trow, Prince Albert (Puxley), Prince Albert (Hale), Knosthorpe Pet; 3d, Mr. Newhall, Woolwich, with Tipton Hero, Queen Victoria, Flora's Garland, Howard, Princess Royal, Black Diamond, Squire Meynell, Owen Glendower, Lord Rancliffe, Prince Arthur, Twyford Perfection, Dido; 4th, Mr. Edwards, Holloway, with Justice Shallow, Prince Albert, Antonio, Regular, Squire Trow, Romeo, Rainbow, Duke of York, Cradley Pet, Lord Milton, Firebrand, True Briton; 5th, Mr. Sandeland, with Fanny Gardner, Flora's Garland, Prince Albert (Hale), Brutus, Beauty of Woodhouse, Hero of Middlesex, Premier, Fire-ball, Lady Gardner, Iris, Duke of Wellington; 6th, Mr. Hardstone, Foots-Cray, Kent, with Prince Albert (Puxley), Conquering Hero, Flora's Garland, Lady of the Lake, Hero of Middlesex, Hugo Meynell, Prince Albert (Hale), Harriet, Majestic, Lord Hardinge, Earl Spencer, Ringleader.

*Picotees*.—1st, Mr. Lochner, with Prince of Wales, Mrs. Barnard, Prince Albert, Queen Victoria, Portia, Mrs. Norman, Isabella, Gem, Lady H. Thorn, Phœbe, Anne Page, Venus; 2d, Mr. May, with Exquisite, Mrs. Norman, Constance, Portia, Juliet, Isabelle, Fanny (Dodwell), Mrs. Barnard, Venus, Alfred, Mirander (May), Prince of Wales (Marris); 3d, Mr. Edwards, with Mrs. Bevan, Lady H. Moore, Mrs. Barnard, Lady Harwood, Mrs. Norman, Gem, King of Purples, Lilacea, Regina Isabella, Alfred, Venus; 4th, Mr. Newhall, with Lady A. Peel, Lord Nelson, Gem, Sebastian, Amy, Mrs. Barnard, Regina, Miss Rosa, Fairy Queen, Phœbe, Lorina, Venus; 5th, Mr. Hardstone, with Sunbeam, Mrs. Bevan, Lady Douro, Queen, Venus, Mrs. Barnard, Princess Royal (Willmer), Mrs. Trahar, Juliet, Jenny Lind (Edmonds), Prince of Wales, Gem; 6th, Mr. Sandeland, with Goliath, Mrs. Barnard, Mrs. Bevan, Mr. Trahar, Isabella, Prince Albert, Miss Desbora, Green's Queen, Unique, Juno, Fanny Irby, and Gem.

*Carnations*, 12 blooms (Nurserymen).—1st, Mr. C. Turner, Royal Nursery, Slough, with Owen Glendower, Victoria (Simpson), South London, Duncan, Madame Sontag, Splendid, Beauty of Woodhouse, Cradley Pet, Admiral Curzon, Lord Milton, Garland, Twyford Perfection; 2d, Mr. Bragg, Slough, with Lord Rancliffe, Flora's Garland, Earl Grey, Ariel, Duke of Bedford, Hotspur, Sarah Payne,



Queen Victoria (Simpson), Dido, William IV., Duke of Wellington, Defiance; 3d, Mr. Ward, Woolwich, with Fanny Gardner, Princess Royal, Prince Albert, Queen Victoria (Simpson), Lady Ely, Admiral Curzon, Squire Meynell, Georgiana, Black Diamond, King of Scarlets, Lord Milton, Lord Raneliffe; 4th, Mr. Frankland, City-road, with Prince Albert (Puxley), Flora's Garland, Brutus, Princess Royal, Lady Rowley, Defiance, Rainbow, Conquering Hero, William Cobbett, Beauty of Woodhouse, Double X., and Georgiana.

*Picotees*.—1st, Mr. Turner, with Portia, James II., Constance, Mrs. Norman, Enchantress, Lord Nelson, Green's Queen, Lady Harriet Moore, Prince of Wales, Mrs. Barnard, Juliet, Venus; 2d, Mr. Bragg, with Duchess of Bedford, Mrs. Norman, Gem, James II., Prince of Wales, Miss Holbeck, Isabella, Portia, Princess Royal, Lady Harriet Moore, Mrs. Barnard, Queen Victoria (Green); 3d, Mr. Ward, with Prince of Wales, Lady Dacre, Princess Royal, James II., Regina, Mrs. Norman, Gem, Juliet, Venus, Alfred, Mrs. Barnard, Maid of Athens; 4th, Mr. Willmer, with La Elyant, Goliath, Rival, Sebastian, Isabella, Queen (Green's), Lord Nelson, Regina, King James, Lady Harriet Moore, Venus, and Portia.

Certificates were awarded to May's Falconbridge, pink bizarre Carnation, a large finely marked flower, the best of its class. Several Picotees were shewn: Marris's Victoria Regina, heavy scarlet edge; Fellowes' Ganymede, light purple edge; Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland, heavy purple edge; and May's Ophelia, light purple edge: all possessed considerable merit, and the two former received certificates.

Hollyhocks were contributed by Mr. Turner of Slough, and Mr. Bragg.

## NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW, AND OF NEW OR RARE PLANTS FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

*CALLISTEMON LANCEOLATUM*. An exceedingly handsome species, whose leaves are larger than those of *C. saligna*, and the flowers are produced in elongated sessile clusters, often six inches long, and of a bright red colour. If planted out in a greenhouse or conservatory, it forms a very compact bush five or six feet high, and when in flower is a beautiful object. It will succeed planted against a wall, and protected from severe frosts during winter.

*TRICOPILIA MARGINATA*. A rather pretty dwarf Orchid, having long narrow pseudo-bulbs with one leaf on each, and large spreading solitary flowers, sepals and petals pale green, with purplish shading chiefly on the upper side, leaving a light margin; lip very large, of a deep purplish rose or plum colour, with a broad white recurved margin. It is a native of New Grenada, and has been recently introduced to English collections by Mr. Linden. It will require the temperature of the cool part of the Orchid house.

*LABICHEA DIVERSIFOLIA*. A rather neat free-flowering greenhouse shrub, with small leaves, and short clusters of axillary yellow flowers much resembling those of some *Cassia*. This is rather a scarce species. It has flowered in the nursery of Mr. Glendinning of Chiswick, and is a native of rocky places on the west side of New Holland.

*THYSACANTHUS LILACINUS*. An evergreen stove-shrub, about two feet high, belonging to *Acanthads*. It is not very showy, but it is valuable on account of

producing its lilac-coloured flowers during winter. This is the *Justicia lilacina*, an old plant in gardens, and a native of tropical America.

**TRICHOPILIA COCCINEA.** A pretty Orchid, with narrow compressed pseudo-bulbs, each having one lanceolate leaf, and one or two large flowers; sepals and petals once twisted, brownish, with yellow; lip large, even, carmine with a white border. The flowers of this species are described by Mr. Warczewicz, from native specimens, as being of a deep rich carmine, but in the cultivated plants the colour is not so bright. It is a native of central America, and has flowered in several collections. It is figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for July under the name of *T. marginata*.

**NYMPHLEA RUBRA.** One of the most beautiful stove aquatic herbs in cultivation. Although it has long since been introduced to English gardens from the East Indies, yet it is still rare, appearing only in first-class collections. It attains nearly the same size as the blue Water Lily. Its leaves are roundish ovate, reddish, slightly peltate, and downy on the under side; the flowers are from four to five inches in diameter, and are crimson.

**PLEIONE HUMILIS.** A beautiful little alpine herbaceous Orchid, producing its flowers when the leaves are absent; the pseudo-bulbs are flask-shaped, furrowed; sepals and petals linear lanceolate, spreading, pale violet; lip hooded, emarginate, fringed at the edge, and covered with red spots. The species (six in number) forming this genus have been recently separated from *Cœlogyne* by Dr. Lindley. They are all very elegant dwarf deciduous herbaceous Orchids, and are very distinct as a group, independent of their botanical characters. The May Number of the present Volume contains a figure of one of them. The present species has been recently sent to Messrs. Veitch by Mr. T. Lobb, who found it, at an elevation of 7000 feet, on the Khasijah hills. The other four sorts are *lagenaria*, *Wallichiana*, *præcox*, and *diphylla*. These six Orchids are all figured in Paxton's *Flower-Garden* for July and August.

**ESCALONIA MACRANTHA.** A much-branching hardy evergreen shrub, growing about four or five feet high, in any moderately good soil, succeeding best when planted against a wall. It has dark shining green leaves, and terminal panicles of deep red crimson flowers, which are developed in June, and continue onwards for a considerable period. It was imported a few years ago by Messrs. Veitch of Exeter from Chile.

**OSBECKIA STELLATA.** An erect free-growing, evergreen stove-shrub, belonging to Melastomads, and attaining the height of two or three feet. The leaves are from four to six inches long; the flowers large and very showy, measuring about two inches across, and lilac-rose colour. This plant was introduced many years ago from Nepal.

**DEUTZIA GRACILIS.** A very neat, rather slender, free-flowering hardy shrub, growing naturally from six to seven feet high; and well adapted for border or pot cultivation, or it is suitable for planting against a wall. It grows freely in any good garden soil, and is a plant that should be found in every collection. The branches are half pendant, with terminal panicles of white flowers, which are produced during the spring months. It was introduced from Japan to Belgium by Dr. Von Siebold.

**ALLAMANDA SCHOTTII.** Some of the most splendid flowering stove plants belong to this genus, and although very manageable in pot-culture, yet to be seen in perfection they require to be planted out, where they can have a considerable space to run over. The present species is not one of the largest flowering kinds, but the flowers are produced for some months in succession. A plant of it at Kew flowered profusely during last winter and spring months in one of the stoves, forming a splendid object. Having more of a shrub-like habit than the other species, and flowering for months in succession, it is a valuable addition to our stove-shrubs.

*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.*

J. HOULSTON.



## NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*July 31.*—Mr. Marnock in the chair. Not the least interesting part of the exhibition on this occasion was a box of beautiful seedling Roses from Messrs. Paul. Of these, Queen Victoria, a large and very fine hybrid perpetual, with the colour of the Celestial Rose, received a first-class certificate. A similar award was also made to a climbing perpetual named Robert Burns. This had the colour of Chenédolé, and being a profuse bloomer must have a very striking effect, more especially on a pillar some 12 feet high, which it was stated to be capable of covering. The other sorts consisted of Prince Albert, a free-flowering Bourbon with a good colour, and Washington Irving, a medium-sized neat rosy-lilac hybrid perpetual. Mr. Turner of Slough was awarded certificates for Victoria Regina, a heavy rose-edged Picotee, and for Duke of Rutland, a heavy purple-edged variety. These are both pleasing flowers, which cannot fail to become favourites. A rose-flake Carnation, called Lady Pollock, from Messrs. Wood and Ingram, was recommended to be seen again, as was also Mr. Fellowes' Picotee No. 51. Mr. Turner's Carnation, General Monk, and Picotee Ophelia, were commended. A neat small-growing dark Fuchsia called Nonsuch, from the same raiser, was awarded a certificate for its excellent habit. Mr. Payne sent a mule Pink, which was commended for its bright crimson colour and desirability as a border plant. Mr. Smith of Hornsey contributed a rosy-purple Verbena, with a white eye; it was named Eliza Cook, and was commended by the censors. Some Hollyhocks were exhibited by Mr. Chater and Mr. Laing, but as they were not shewn on spikes, no correct opinion can be given of their merits. Miscellaneous plants were communicated by Messrs. Henderson; named Picotees and Carnations by Mr. Edwards; Petunias by Mr. Barnes of Stowmarket; two shrubby Calceolarias by Mrs. Conway of Brompton; and striped Pansies, a Phlox, and other plants, by Mr. Salter of Hammersmith.

*August 7.*—Mr. C. P. Lochner in the chair. A first-class certificate was awarded to a variegated scarlet Pelargonium, named Mountain of Light, from Messrs. Lee of Hammersmith. Several plants of it were shewn, all dwarf and bushy. The foliage is beautifully variegated, the truss good, and the flowers bright scarlet. Mr. Costar's Picotee, called Christabel, received a certificate. Mr. Holland had a promising heavy purple variety, named Countess of Wilton. Mr. Edwards sent collections of Carnations, Picotees, and Dahlias. Messrs. Henderson Phlox Mayii, the tall purple Lobelia called Aurora, and the pretty Gloxinia tricolor. Hollyhocks in spikes, Carnations, Picotees, and Dahlias came from Mr. Bragg of the Star Nursery, Slough; a Hollyhock, called Purple Perfection, from Mr. Laing of Twickenham; and a nice exhibition of Marygolds from Mr. Barnes. These constituted the principal subjects exhibited on this occasion.

## NOTES FROM THE LOG-BOOK OF AN ERRATIC MAN.

## No. VIII.

## FRUIT FOR THE SAILOR.

OUR ship was a complete floating hotel, and the consumption of mutton, pork, poultry, and all the other *et-cæteras* for the table, was startling, for we numbered seventy odd souls, in addition to the captain and officers. To replenish our stores, we were to call at the Cape of Good Hope on our way from Calcutta, and for that purpose shewed our faces off Cape Aguilas, the southernmost point of Africa, and running along the land, opened Table Bay at daylight the next morning. "Come, my lads," said the chief officer to the crew, as he saw them all at their stations, "we have caught Old Nick napping for once; if you will but work the ship as you ought to do, we'll have her at anchor and be at breakfast before he gets his table-cloth laid."

Above Cape Town lies a lofty flat table-mountain, from which the bay takes its name. Over its edge rolls a fleecy cloud, called the Devil's Table-cloth; and whenever it is seen, the prudent mariner entering the bay immediately reduces his sail sufficiently to bear the heavy squalls which invariably accompany the appearance in question, and which give him no little trouble to reach the anchorage.

Most of our men had "weathered the Cape" too often not to understand the chief officer's remark, and turning-to with hearty good-will, we worked the old ship up to the anchorage just as the first thin vapour was gathering on the mountain's edge. In came all the sails, and down went the anchor, startling the fish that with staring eyes and open mouths had been watching the bright shining sea-monster coming into their waters, for surely such our burnished copper bottom twenty-two feet below the surface must have appeared to them.

Scarcely were the sails stowed and the ship made snug, before the boats were conveying the passengers and their servants ashore; and shortly afterwards a bum-boat came alongside, filled with all the little things poor Jack has a taste for,—loaves of bread, vegetables, tobacco, pipes, crayfish, ostriches' eggs, Hottentot hats, &c. &c. In addition, there was a considerable quantity of fine ripe grapes and other fruits. Over the side went the chief mate, and to the merriment of the men, who were hanging over the hammock-nettings and wondering what he was about, began bargaining for every thing eatable in the lump. After a deal of haggling, he purchased the whole for a moderate sum, and had it got upon deck; when, helping himself to a quantity of grapes, and ordering them into the cuddy, he told the crew that as they had pleased him in working the ship into the anchorage, they might just share the rest among themselves.

Sailors are ready hands at any thing in the shape of vegetable production,—it comes so refreshing after long dieting on salt pro-

visions; and it was quite a treat to see the good-will with which they gave their attention to the contents of the bum-boat; and the good feeling between officer and men, of which it was at once both the token and the cause, was well worth the purchase.

The monkeys too, sitting on the booms, grinned and chattered with delight as they saw it spread forth and lotted into messes; for what a tooth for fruit has a monkey! they will leave any thing else for it; and with intelligence enough to know that they will be thrashed for thieving, they cannot resist it. Speaking of monkeys, I must say that the negro's opinion, that "they can speak, but won't; because if they did, they'd be made to work," never seemed to me far wide of the truth; and I always think it one of the most humiliating of sights to witness the actions and manners of the most intelligent of this tribe of animals.

Those we had on board at the time I speak of were soon enjoying their share of the fruit which fell to their owner's lot; and for my own part, I followed their example, and gladly exchanged my usual breakfast for some most delicious Frontignan-flavoured grapes, which I ate upon deck, — for shame it would be to spend an unnecessary moment below, where all before us was so very beautiful and refreshing to the eye.

Before we tripped our anchor and left the bay, every cabin was furnished with bunches of grapes suspended overhead in every available space; for such opportunities are never neglected, and particularly when it can be done so well and at so small a cost as at Cape Town.

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#### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At a late meeting in 21 Regent Street, Mr. Rivers of Sawbridgeworth exhibited Cherries, Plums, Pears, and Peaches, in the shape of small trees in pots, bearing (except the two latter) ripe fruit. Although many of the Cherries and Plums had dropped in travelling from Sawbridgeworth to London, still enough remained to shew that very small plants of these kinds of trees in pots will bear heavy crops of fine fruit. They were stated to have been produced in what Mr. Rivers terms an Orchard House, *i. e.* under a glass roof, with a beech hedge for a back wall, and a yew hedge for the front. The pots had been standing on a raised border, and were open at the bottom, in order to allow the roots to pass into the bed below. Two or three were covered with Haythorn's muslin net, to shew how late Cherries may be preserved in the autumn; for being under glass, autumnal rains do not injure them. Late Plums may also be preserved in the same manner: they shrivel, and become very delicious. Some of the pots were painted round with chopped horse-hair, tar, and salt, which has been found to be a capital bar to the snail tribe.

## OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS** will now assume a more healthy appearance. Continue to remove the foliage as it decays, and keep the plants clean and clear of insects, the common aphid particularly. Moderate waterings must be given regularly if the weather continues dry, and if wet, light showers will be preferable. See that the surface of the soil is open; slight stirrings are always attended with benefit, and should be repeated as often as the surface appears closed. If any of the plants intended for next year's exhibitions throw up for bloom, allow the stems to rise above the foliage, and then carefully rub off the buds from the crown of the stem, without injuring the latter, if it can be avoided.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** Look well to the whole stock, old and young, to keep it clean. Aphides, and their accompaniments, are utter destruction to all tender foliage, and the curl of the leaf which follows their attack makes a harbour from which it is difficult to dislodge them by fumigation. Shade in the heat of the day, and give all possible air at night, sheltering from soaking rains. Sow seed, if not done, if it is desirable to have strong plants in spring.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTEEES.** Little requires to be done before the end of the month, further than keeping them clean, and seeing that the pots are placed so as to ensure good drainage. Prepare soil for potting them off for wintering, which should be as heavy as that for blooming them in: less manure, but a little more coarse sand. The state of the plants must decide when they should be potted off. The last week in September, or the first two in October, will be an excellent time.

**CINERARIAS.** Seed may still be sown where late-flowering plants are required. Continue to take off suckers from the old stools, where a sufficiency is not already obtained, or where a succession of flowering plants is required. Continue shifting into larger pots when necessary; remember not to allow them to become pot-bound. Be sure also to keep them free from insects and mildew: both are likely to be troublesome now. Plenty of air and judicious watering are most conducive to health at all seasons.

**DAHLIAS.** Protecting the blooms will be the principal occupation of the Dahlia-grower this month, unless he has a late piece, which will require tying, trimming, and disbudding. If the shades or other contrivances used for protecting the blooms do not admit of plenty of air, they should be removed a short time during morning and evening. Many fine blooms are rendered useless by placing them under the shade in too young a state, by making them so tender that they will not stand the journey to the exhibition. They should be one-third grown before shading; but as soon as the petals elevate themselves above the disk, secure the heads in such a manner that they cannot sustain injury from other parts of the plant by friction. Seed should be secured as soon and as often as it can be found ripe.

**EPACRISSES.** These need not be disturbed, although they should

suffer a little from heavy rains ; a few dry days will put them all to rights. Keep the pots free from weeds as well as the surrounding ground ; nothing looks more slovenly than to see them peeping their heads up between the flower-pots. Should this month prove genial, and even the first two weeks in October, Epacris are better out of doors than in ; about that time many varieties will shew for flower, when they should be directly housed, and the temperature of the house regulated according to whether an early or late bloom is wanted ; by this means they may be hastened or retarded at least six weeks. Water in moderation.

**ERICAS.** Take care they do not get soddened from wet. Destroy slugs and snails, and remove all weeds and moss from the soil. Should mildew present itself, sulphur the moment it is detected, using an old pepper-box for the purpose, and washing it off with the syringe next day. The great object from henceforth will be to check growth as much as possible ; consequently water should be judiciously administered.

**FUCHSIAS.** Plants that are intended to be started in heat about February should now be cut down, kept tolerably dry, and as cool as possible. Seedlings of a promising character should be treated in the same way if seed is not wanted ; by this means earlier growth in the spring will be obtained, and bloom in July, instead of, perhaps, in September.

**PANSIES.** Plant out for spring blooming a good distance apart, if plants are in good health ; and pot up into small sizes such plants as are intended for blooming in pots next spring. Plant out seedlings, and continue to propagate by putting in cuttings and dividing the root.

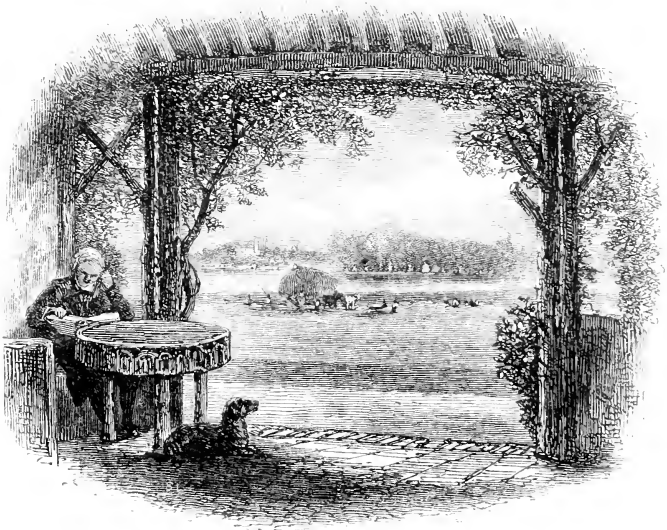
**PELARGONIUMS.** General attention is now required to keep the plants clear from green-fly, and it must be done by fumigation. If any plants are standing about out of doors, they should be either put into a greenhouse or frame, but the house is preferable. If the plants are left out of doors, they become soddened with wet, which will most likely bring on the spot, and cause them to look unhealthy through the winter. Having but little young wood to support, they require little water to keep them in good health. It will be well this month to get the different soils into an open shed ready for repotting at the final shift for the year. This soil should not be wet when used, only moist—not dry. Stop back young plants that have been struck this season, so as to leave about three or four eyes to break from ; this will cause them to make healthy plants. Seedlings should be shifted from the seed-pans into small pots as soon as they get four leaves ; water with a fine rose, and shade for a few days.

**PINKS.** Look over the beds, and see that the young plants are not being overgrown with weeds. Hoe between the rows, and give water if necessary. Some seasons pinks flower late, and then the young plants are late also ; but it is now time the beds were ready. Examine the stock in order to ascertain what sorts (whether old or new varieties) are wanting, and arrange for them at once, for early application generally secures strong plants.

**POLYANTHUSES.** Pick off all dead leaves, and hoe the surface between the plants; taking care to well earth-up the stems at the same time, and as much as possible secure them from the attacks of slugs. The weather at this season is generally favourable for the destruction of this pest; and if the surface-soil in the beds is carefully stirred occasionally during hot dry weather, but few can escape. Seedlings shewing flower this month should be examined, and a mark placed on the promising and good flowers. Polyanthuses in pots should be treated after the manner of the Auricula.

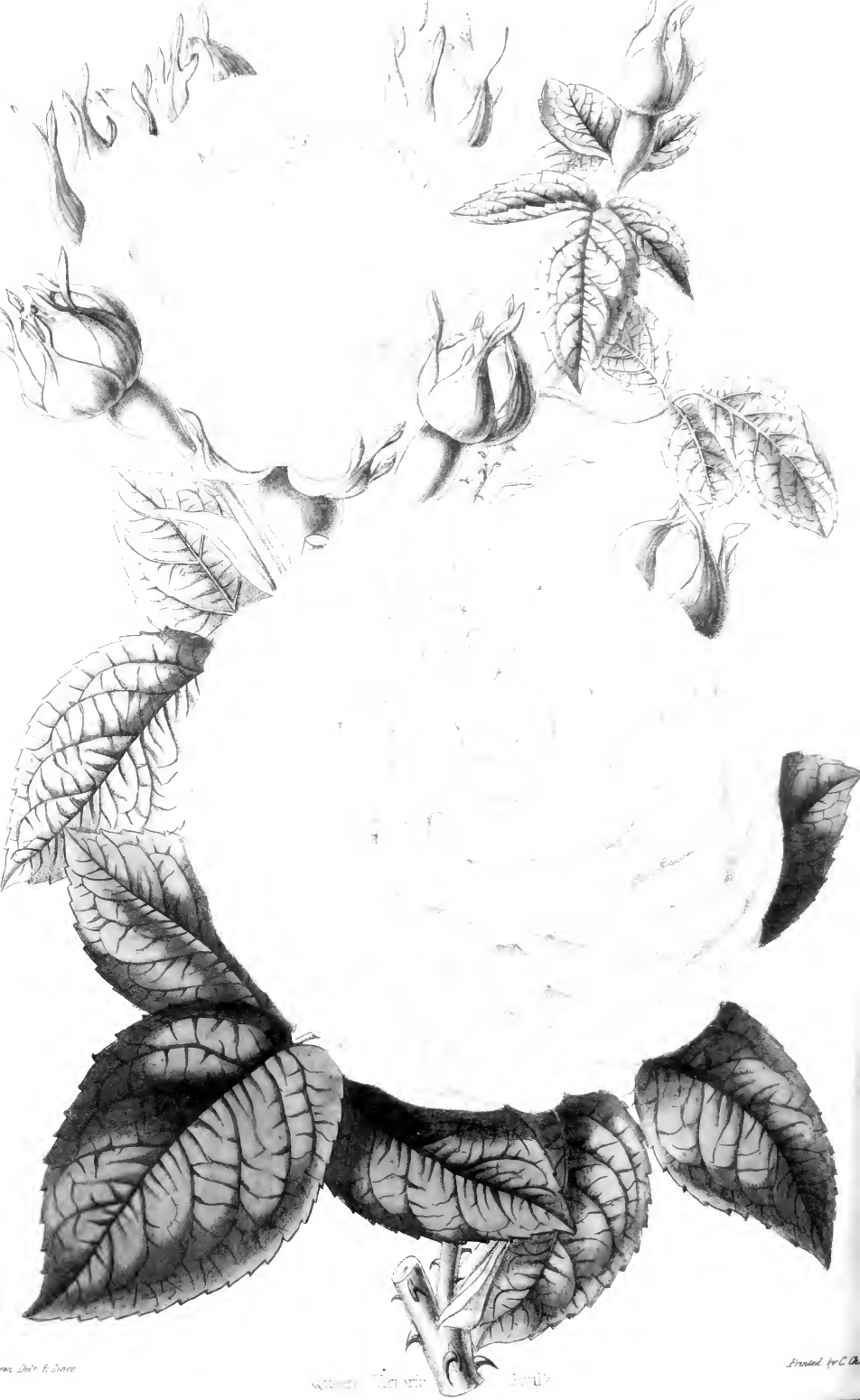
**RANUNCULUSES.** Preparations should now be made for next spring. Manures can be mixed, composts turned, beds excavated, much better now than in February; the soil will work now in better condition, and have time to settle. The first sowing of seed may be made in boxes of any portable size, and six inches deep. Place them under glass, as a protection from heavy rains, but not in a close frame. As the seed should not be more than a sixteenth of an inch deep, regard must be had to supplying an even amount of moisture: excess of either drought or rain is ruinous.

**TULIPS.** The bulbs will now be at rest, safely, it is to be hoped, in boxes and bags, where they should remain until attention is again required. They should, however, be occasionally looked over, in order to ascertain how they are keeping. If mouldiness attack them, it should be carefully removed, and the boxes or bags well aired on a dry day.









## PAUL'S QUEEN VICTORIA ROSE.

THE subject of our present Plate, which is certainly the Rose of the season, was raised from seed in the vicinity of Paris, where it was met with by Mr. William Paul, of the Nurseries, Cheshunt, Herts, who succeeded in purchasing the entire stock. It is a seedling from *La Reine*, which it resembles in habit of growth and form of flower; but it is less double, and consequently opens more freely. The colour is white, tinted with the softest rose, equal in delicacy and beauty to that of the old *Celestial Rose*. It belongs to the class of *Hybrid Perpetuals*; but the Messrs. Paul inform us that it does not bloom so freely in the autumn as some of its congeners. This, however, is likely to be but a temporary defect. It is well known that some of our finest *Hybrid Perpetual Roses*, of which we may instance *Robin Hood* and *William Jesse*, were shy autumn bloomers when they first made their appearance; but they are now much improved in this respect. The probable theory by which we can account for this is, that the variety when fresh from the seed-bed possesses more vigour than at any subsequent period, and hence the disposition to make wood rather than flower-shoots. This tendency becomes modified by age, and greater fruitfulness is the result. Until this state of things arrives, it is easy to secure a good crop of blooms in the autumn months by cutting off the June buds as soon as they have been formed; a new growth follows the operation, and a new crop of flowers is developed. We might say much of the beauty and symmetry of this flower, but our drawing speaks more eloquently on this point than we could do. Suffice it to say, that we believe it to be true to life, and with the single remark, that the growth is at present very vigorous, we leave it to tell its own tale.

We may just state, that plants will be first sold early in November of the present year; and that amateurs will do well to lose no time in adding so fine a variety to their collections.

## COTTAGE DRAPERY.\*

Our readers very well know that, in the country, whenever any thing especially tasteful is to be done,—when a church is to be “dressed for Christmas,” a public hall festooned for a fair, or a saloon decorated for a horticultural show,—we have to entreat the assistance of the fairer half of humanity. All that is most graceful and charming in this way owes its existence to female hands. Over the heavy exterior of man’s handiwork, they weave a fairy-like web of enchantment, which, like our Indian summer haze upon autumn hills, spiritualises and makes poetical whatever of rude form or rough outlines may lie beneath.

Knowing all this, as we well do, we write this article especially for the eyes of the ladies. They are naturally mistresses of the art of embellishment. Men are so stupid, in the main, about these matters, that if the majority of them had their own way, there would neither be a ringlet nor a ruffle, a wreath nor a nosegay, left in the world. All would be as stiff and as meaningless as their own meagre black coats,—without an atom of the graceful or romantic about them; nothing to awaken a spark of interest, or stir a chord of feeling; nothing, in short, but downright, commonplace matter-of-fact. And they undertake to defend it—the logicians—on the ground of utility, and the spirit of the age! As if trees did not bear lovely blossoms as well as good fruit; as if the sun did not give us rainbows as well as light and warmth; as if there were not still mocking-birds and nightingales as well as ducks and turkeys.

But enough of that. You do not need any arguments to prove that *grace* is a quality as positive as electro-magnetism. Would that you could span the world with it as quickly as Mr. Morse with his telegraph! To come to the point, we want to talk a little with you about what we call the *drapery* of cottages and gardens; about those beautiful vines, and climbers, and creepers, which nature made on purpose to cover up every thing ugly, and to heighten the charm of every thing pretty and picturesque. In short, we want your aid and assistance in dressing, embellishing, and decorating, not for a single holiday, fair, or festival, but for years and for ever, the *outsides* of our simple cottages and country homes; wreathing them about with such perennial festoons of verdure, and starring them over with such bouquets of delicious odour, that your husbands and brothers would no more think of giving up such houses, than they would of abandoning you (as that beggarly Greek Theseus did the lovely Ariadne) to the misery of solitude on a desolate island.

And what a difference a little of this kind of rural drapery, tastefully arranged, makes in the aspect of a cottage or farmhouse in the country! At the end of the village, for instance, is that old-fashioned stone house, which was the homestead of Tim Steady. First and last, that family lived there two generations; and every thing about them had a look of some comfort. But, with the exception of a

\* Abridged from the American Horticulturist.

coat of paint, which the house got once in ten years, nothing was ever done to give the place the least appearance of taste. An old half-decayed Ash-tree stood near the south door, and a few decrepit and worn out Apple-trees behind the house. But there was not a Lilac-bush, nor a Syringa, not a Rose-bush, nor a Honeysuckle, about the whole premises. You would never suppose that a spark of affection for nature, or a gleam of feeling for grace or beauty, in any shape, ever dawned within or around that house.

Well, five years ago the place was put up for sale. There were some things to recommend it. There was a "good well of water;" the house was in excellent repair; and the location was not a bad one. But though many went to see it, and "liked the place tolerably well," yet there seemed to be a want of heart about it, that made it unattractive, and prevented people from buying it.

It was a good while in the market; but at last it fell into the hands of the Widow Winning and her two daughters. They bought it at a bargain, and must have foreseen its capabilities.

What that house and place is now, it would do your hearts good to see. A porch of rustic trellis-work was built over the front doorway, simple and pretty hoods upon brackets over the windows, the door-yard was all laid out afresh, the worn-out Apple-trees were dug up, a nice bit of lawn made around the house, and pleasant groups of shrubbery (mixed with two or three graceful Elms), planted about it. But, most of all, what fixes the attention, is the lovely profusion of flowering Vines (creepers) that enrich the old house, and transform what was a soulless habitation, into a home that captivates all eyes. Even the old and almost leafless Ash-tree is quite overrun with a creeper, which is stuck full of gay trumpets all summer, that seem to blow many a strain of gladness to the passers by. How many sorts of Honeysuckle, Clematises, Roses, &c. there are on wall or trellis about that cottage, is more than we can tell. Certain it is, however, that half the village walks past that house of a summer night, and inwardly thanks the fair inmates for the fragrance that steals through the air in its neighbourhood; and no less certain is it that this house is now the "admired of all admirers," and that the Widow Winning has twice refused double the sum it went begging at when it was only the plain and meagre home of Tim Steady.

Many of you in the country, as we well know, are compelled by circumstances to live in houses which some one else built, or which have, by ill-luck, an ugly expression in every board or block of stone, from the sill of the door to the peak of the roof. Paint wont hide it, nor cleanliness disguise it, however goodly and agreeable things they are. But Vines (creepers) will do both; or, what is better, they will, with their lovely graceful shapes, and rich foliage and flowers, give a new character to the whole exterior. However ugly the wall, however bald the architecture, only give it this fair drapery of leaf and blossom, and nature will touch it at once with something of grace and beauty.

"What are our favourite Vines (creepers)?" This is what you would ask, and this is what we are most anxious to tell you.

Our two favourite Vines, then, for the adornment of cottages, in the Northern States, are the double Prairie Rose and the Chinese Wistaria. Why we like these best is, because they have the greatest number of good qualities to recommend them. In the first place, they are hardy, thriving in all soils and exposures; in the second place, they are luxuriant in their growth, and produce an effect in a very short time, after which they may be kept to the limits of a single pillar on the piazza, or trained over the whole side of a cottage; in the last place, they are rich in the foliage, and beautiful in the blossom.

Now, there are many wall-plants more beautiful than these in some respects, but not for this purpose and taken altogether. For cottage drapery, a *popular* creeper must be one that will grow any where, with little care, and must need no shelter, and the least possible attention, beyond seeing that it has something to run on, and a looking over, pruning, and tying up once a year—say in early spring. This is precisely the character of these two. They will give the greatest amount of beauty with the least care, and in the greatest number of places.

The Prairie Roses are no doubt known to most of you. They have been raised from seeds of the wild Rose of Michigan, which clambers over high trees in the forests, and are remarkable for the profusion of their very double flowers (so double, that they always look like large pouting buds, rather than full-blown Roses); and their extreme hardiness and luxuriance of growth,—shoots of twenty feet in a single year being a not uncommon sight. Among all the sorts yet known the Queen of the Prairies (deep pink) and Superba (nearly white) are the best.

For a cottage climber, that will take care of itself better than almost any other, and embower door and windows with rich foliage and flowers, take the common Boursault Rose. Long purplish shoots, foliage always fresh and abundant, and bright purplish blossoms in June, as thick as stars in a midnight sky,—all belong to this plant. Perhaps the richest and prettiest Boursault is the one called by the nurserymen Amadis, or Elegans; the flower a bright cherry colour, becoming crimson purple as it fades, with a delicate stripe of white through an occasional petal.

There are two very favourite climbers that belong properly to the Middle States, as they are a little tender, and need protection to the north or east. One of them is the Japan Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*, or *flexuosa*); the species with very dark, half evergreen leaves, and a profusion of lovely delicate white and fawn-coloured blossoms. It is the queen of all Honeysuckles for cottage walls or veranda pillars; its foliage is always so rich; it is entirely free from the white aphid (which is the pest of the old sorts); and it blooms (as soon as the plant gets strong) nearly the whole summer,—affording a perpetual feast of beauty and fragrance. The other is the sweet-scented Clematis (*C. flammula*), the very type of delicacy and grace, whose flowers are brodered like pale stars over the whole plant in midsummer, and whose perfume is the most spiritual, impalpable, and yet far-spreading of all vegetable odours.

All the Honeysuckles are beautiful in the garden, though none of them, except the foregoing, and what are familiarly called the "Trumpet Honeysuckles," are fit for the walls of a cottage, because they harbour insects. Nothing, however, can well be prettier than the red and yellow Trumpet Honeysuckles, when planted together, and allowed to interweave their branches, contrasting the delicate straw colour of the flower-tubes of one with the deep coral-red hue of those of the other; and they bloom with a welcome prodigality from April to December.

Where you want to produce a bold and picturesque effect with a Vine, nothing will do it more rapidly and completely than our native Grapes. They are precisely adapted to the porch of the farmhouse, or to cover any building, or part of a building, where expression of strength rather than of delicacy is sought after.

Next to the Grape-vine, the boldest and most striking of hardy creepers is the Dutchman's Pipe (*Aristolochia siphon*). It is a grand twining climber, and will canopy over a large arbour in a short time, and make a shade under it so dense that not a ray of pure sunshine will ever find its way through. Its gigantic circular leaves, of a rich green, form masses such as delight a painter's eye,—so broad and effective are they; and as for its flowers, which are about an inch and a half long,—why, they are so like a veritable *meerschaum*—the pipe of a true Dutchman from "Faderland"—that you cannot but laugh outright at the first sight of them.

And now, having glanced at the best of the climbers and twiners, properly so called (all of which need a little training and supporting), let us take a peep at those climbing shrubs that seize hold of a wall, building, or fence, of themselves, by throwing out their little rootlets into the stone or brick wall as they grow up, so that it is as hard to break up any attachments of theirs, when they get fairly established, as it was to part Hector and Andromache. The principal of these are the true Ivy of Europe, the Virginia Creeper or American Ivy, and the Trumpet Creepers (*Bignonia*s).

These are all fine, picturesque Vines, not to be surpassed for certain effects by any thing else that will grow out of doors in our climate. You must remember, however, that, as they are wedded for life to whatever they cling to, they must not be planted by the sides of wooden cottages, which are to be kept in order by a fresh coat of paint now and then.

Certainly the finest of all this class of climbers is the European Ivy. Such rich masses of glossy deep green foliage, such fine contrasts of light and shade, and such a wealth of associations, is possessed by no other plant; the Ivy, to which the ghost of all the storied past alone tells its tale of departed greatness; the confidant of old ruined castles and abbeys; the bosom companion of solitude itself,—

" Deep in your most sequester'd bower  
Let me at last recline,  
Where solitude, mild, modest flower,  
Leans on her *ivy'd* shrine."

True to these instincts, the Ivy does not seem to be naturalised so

easily in America as most other foreign vines. We are yet too young—this country of a great future and a little past.

The richest and most perfect specimen of it that we have seen in the Northern States is upon the cottage of Washington Irving, on the Hudson, near Tarrytown. He who, as you all know, lingers over the past with a reverence as fond and poetical as that of a pious Crusader for the walls of Jerusalem; yes, he has completely won the sympathies of the Ivy even on our own soil, and it has garlanded and decked his antique and quaint cottage, Sunnyside, till its windows peep out from amid the wealth of its foliage, like the dark eyes of a Spanish señora from a shadowy canopy of dark lace and darker tresses. The Ivy is the finest of climbers too, because it is so perfectly *evergreen*.

After this plant comes always our Virginia Creeper, or American Ivy, as it is often called (*Ampelopsis*). It grows more rapidly than the Ivy, clings in the same way to wood or stone, and makes rich and beautiful festoons of verdure in summer, dying off in autumn, before the leaves fall, in the finest crimson. Its greatest beauty on this account is perhaps seen when it runs up in the centre of a dark Cedar, or other evergreen, exhibiting in October the richest contrast of the two colours. It will grow any where, in the coldest situations, and only asks to be planted to work out its own problem of beauty without further attention.

The common Trumpet Creeper all of you know by heart. It is rather a wild and rambling fellow in its habits; but nothing is more showy or magnificent. It absolutely glows in July with thousands of rich orange-red blossoms, like clusters of bright goblets.

We might go on and enumerate dozens more of fine twining shrubs and climbing Roses; but that would only defeat our object, which is not to give you a garden-catalogue, but to tell you of half a dozen hardy shrubby wall-plants, which we implore you to make popular; so that wherever we travel we shall see no rural cottages shivering in their chill nudity of bare walls or barer boards, but draped tastefully with something fresh, and green, and graceful: let it be a Hop-vine, if nothing better; but Roses, and Wistarias, and Honeysuckles, if they can be had.

A word or two about Vines in the garden and pleasure-grounds before we conclude. How to make *arbours* and *trellises* is no mystery, though you will, no doubt, agree with us that the less formal and the more rustic the better. But how to manage single specimens of fine climbers in the lawn or garden, so as to display them to the best advantage, is not quite so clear. Small fanciful frames are pretty, but soon want repairs; and stakes, though ever so stout, will rot off at the bottom, and blow down in high winds, to your great mortification; and that too, perhaps, when your plant is in its very court-dress of bud and blossom.

Now the best mode of treating single Vines, when you have not a tree to festoon them upon, is one which many of you will be able to attain easily. It is nothing more than getting from the woods the trunk of a Cedar-tree, from 10 to 15 feet high, shortening-in all

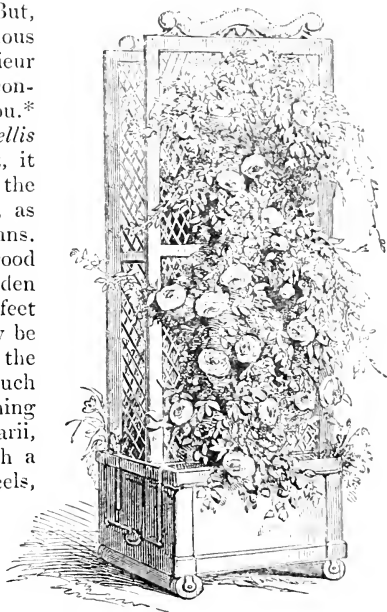


the side branches to within two feet of the trunk (and still shorter near the top), and setting it again, as you would a post, two or three feet deep in the ground.

Cedar is the best, partly because it will last for ever, and partly because the regular disposition of its branches forms naturally a fine trellis for the shoots to fasten upon. Plant your favourite climber, whether Rose, Wistaria, or Honeysuckle, at the foot of this tree. It will soon cover it, from top to bottom, with the finest pyramid of verdure. The young shoots will ramble out on its side branches, and when in full bloom will hang most gracefully or picturesquely from the ends.

“But what shall those of us do who have neither cottages nor gardens?—who, in short, are confined to a little front and back yard of a town life, and yet who love Vines and climbing plants with all our hearts?”

That is a hard case, truly. But, now we think of it, that ingenious and clever *horticulteur*, Monsieur Van Houtte, of Ghent, has contrived the very thing for you.\* Here it is. He calls it a *Trellis mobile*; and if we mistake not, it will be quite as valuable for the ornament and defence of cities, as the *garde mobile* of the Parisians. It is nothing more than a good strong wooden box, upon wooden rollers. The box is about 3 feet long, and the double trellis may be 8 or 10 feet high. In this box the finer sorts of exotic climbers, such as Passion Flowers, Everblooming Roses, Maurandyas, Ipomea Learii, and the like, may be grown with a charming effect. Put upon wheels, as this itinerant bower is, it may be transported, as Mr. Van Houtte says, “whenever fancy dictates, and even into the apartments of the house itself.”



And here, having fairly escorted you back to your apartments, after our long talk about out-door drapery, we leave you to examine the *Trellis mobile*, and wish you a good morning.

\* Flore des Serres.

## RANDOM NOTES ON GARDEN MATTERS.

(Concluded from p. 199.)

4. *Pinus patula* is considered tender; possibly it is so in some localities, but in the gardens at Redleaf is a most charming specimen of this exquisite pine. If *P. insignis* is remarkable for its deep green and noble aspect, as it most certainly is, *P. patula* is no less attractive for its delicate tint and airy foliage. I know of no pine more beautiful than *P. patula*. I have in some other garden, which I cannot recollect, seen another specimen, evincing no sign of being tender. Those who may have been deterred from planting this Pine from ideas of its being too tender may take courage from these notes.

5. I have frequently thought, when walking through rough and romantic spots, which are often found in many gardens.—I mean, in the walks leading through woods and old disused quarries, and such-like situations,—that if strong-growing climbing plants were introduced, the beauty of such spots would be much enhanced. Appropriateness is one of the first principles to be attended to in garden scenery; and in such localities unrestrained wildness would be essentially appropriate. The Vine, flinging its beautiful festoons of foliage from bough to bough unchecked by the pruning knife, would be appropriate. And if prepared spots were provided, and plenty of the Orange-gourd, or any of its numerous relations, were encouraged to wreath overhead their large foliage and flowers, and hang their gigantic fruits amid the branches of the overhanging trees, a novel feature would be effected. Creepers are not employed sufficiently in our gardens. So graceful are they in the disposition of their branches, so appropriate in many situations, and so rapid of growth, that nothing but apathy or neglect can be pleaded as apology for neglecting them. There is another circumstance in connexion with the flower-garden, or rather the pleasure-ground, to which I may here advert, I mean, the pertinacity with which, in the majority of cases, the outline of the shrubbery is from year to year renewed. Masses of shrubs, gracefully spreading their boughs to the turf, are infinitely superior in beauty to those having a hard outline of new edging, yearly renewed with the edging iron. The contrast between the two can scarcely be credited, except by comparison.

Amongst the numerous readers of the *Florist* must be some who are familiar with the gardens of Sir George Beaumont, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. Their recollection will be familiar with the appearance of masses of *Rhododendron* on the lawn there, in the condition I am advocating. These gardens are celebrated as having been partly laid out by the poet Wordsworth. In the remains of an old stone-quarry, which forms part of the grounds designed by him, is a seat like a niche hewn out of the solid rock. In this the poet was wont to sit during the progress of the works, reading and giving directions by turns. Much cannot be said for that portion of the grounds in the present day, the original design being now obliterated

by the large size of the shrubs. Near the poet's seat above alluded to is a ruined building, with dilapidated steps, partially concealed with ivy, rendered classical from being associated with Wilkie the painter. One of his pictures, an old woman, seated on some half-ruined steps, owes its origin to the ruin in question, the original sketch having been taken there. G. L.

### ROYAL SOUTH-LONDON FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*Sept. 3d.*—The fifth and last exhibition this season took place on this occasion. Miscellaneous stove and greenhouse plants were numerous, and cut flowers fine. Collections of cut Roses were produced in high character for freshness and fragrance. In Mr. Paul's group, which was first, were Therese Margot, Etendard de Marengo, Pius IX., Angeline Boecella, Comte de Montalivet, Julia de Fontanelle, Joan of Arc, Comte Bobrinsky, Ophrie, Chereau; Mr. Francis sent Cloth of Gold, Elise Sauvage, Princess de Modena, Leveson Gower, Augustine Mouchelet, Gonda, Maria de Beaux, Géant de Batailles, and Vicomtesse de Cazes.

*Hollyhocks*, both in spikes and detached blooms, contributed largely to the general effect, and were greatly admired: Messrs. Charter, 1; Bragg, 2; and Paul, 3; each had spikes. Among the sorts were, Aurantia, Rosy Queen, Rosamond, Elegans, Sulphurea perfecta, Spectabilis, Magnum Bonum, Delicata improved, Surprise, Coccinea, Rosea grandiflora, Bella Donna; Mr. C. Baron, Model of Perfection, Enchantress, Walden Gem, Nobilissima, Sulphurea perfecta, Sir W. d'Eresby, Standard of Perfection, Susannah, and Sir D. Wedderburn, the last four being Scotch varieties.

*Verbenas* were well represented by Mr. G. Smith, 1; and Mr. Stewart, 2; likewise by Mr. Lochner, 1; Mr. Young, 2; and Mr. Robinson, 3: from the Tollington Nursery were Macrantha, Defiance, Laura, St. Margaret, Surprise, Model of Perfection, Voltigeur, King, Heroine, Exquisite, Wonder, Vergrets, British Queen, Reine Hortense, Lady of the Lake, Figaro, Iphigene, Perfume, Aspasia, Minerva, Desdemona, Shylock, and Othello. Mr. Lochner's dozen were, St. Margaret, British Queen, Reine Hortense, White Perfection, Voltigeur, Lady of the Lake, Exquisite, Enchantress, Ninon de l'Enclos, Laura, and Psyche.

*Dahlias*. Of private collections there were 5 twenty-fours, 17 twelves, 6 six fancies, and 5 six new sorts. Dealers: 11 twenty-fours, and 5 twelve fancies. To these must be added several for extra prizes, together with many seedlings, three only of which, however, received certificates, viz. a fancy, Laura Lavington (Keynes), a dull red-tipped white; Attraction (Jeffries), a fancy of but little merit; and Dr. Frampton (Rawlings), a small but meritorious flower having the colours of Princess Radziwill.

Amateurs, 24: 1st prize, J. Edwards, Esq., with Sir C. Napier, Whale's Elizabeth, Summit of Perfection, Negro, Fearless, Mr. Palmer,

Regina, Snowflake, Grenadier, Mr. Herbert, Duke of Cambridge, Duke of Wellington, Queen of Lilacs, John Edwards, Yellow Standard, Jullien, Thames-Bank Hero, Earl of Clarendon, Cobden, Admiral, Miss Herbert, Roundhead, General Faucher, and Baltic; 2d, Mr. Weedon, Hillingdon, with Beeswing, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Seldon, Earl of Clarendon, Coccinea, Anticipation, Toison d'Or, Shylock, Magnificent, Bathonia, Scarlet Gem, Elizabeth, Roundhead, Richard Cobden, Duke of Cambridge, Sir F. Bathurst, Admiral, Model, Seraph, Grenadier, Negro, Jullien, and Psyche; 3d, Mr. Hopkins, Brentford; 4th, Mr. White, Chelmsford. 12 blooms: 1st prize, Mr. J. Robinson, Pimlico, with Queen of Lilacs, Mrs. Seldon, Thames-Bank Hero, Lady St. Maur, Earl of Clarendon, Mr. Seldon, Duke of Wellington, Cobden, Fearless, Essex Triumph, Sir C. Napier, and Sir F. Bathurst; 2d, Mr. Black, gardener to E. Foster, Esq., Clewer, with Leda, Model, Barmaid, Black Prince, Duke of Wellington, Queen of the East, Essex Triumph, Mr. Seldon, Mrs. Seldon, Earl of Clarendon, Sir C. Napier, and Cobden; 3d, Mr. James, Stoke Newington, with Earl of Clarendon, Mrs. Bacon, Duke of Wellington, Negro, Mr. Seldon, Sylph, Sir F. Bathurst, Admiral, Summit of Perfection, Hon. Mrs. Ashley, Essex Purple, and Sir C. Napier; 4th, Mrs. Mosley, Maida Hill; 5th, Mr. Bennett, Dulwich; 6th, Mr. Allen, Shacklewell; 7th, Mr. Kirkpatrick, Camberwell; 8th, Mr. Harris. Fancy varieties, six blooms: 1st prize, Mr. Black, with Empereur de Maroc, Raphael, Princess Louisa, Jenny Lind, Mrs. Hansard, and Pretty Polly; 2d, Mr. Edwards, with Mrs. Hansard, Rachael, Pretty Polly, Jenny Lind, Lady Grenville, and Elizabeth; 3d, Mr. Pope, with Highland Chief, Triomphe de Magdeburgh, Jenny Lind, Mrs. Hansard, Reizende von Elsthal. New flowers: 1st prize, Mr. Black, with Model, Leda, Barmaid, Roundhead, Sir C. Napier, and Nepaulese Prince; 2d, Mr. James, with Nil Desperandum, Napoleon, Jullien, Roundhead, Admiral Napier, and Nepaulese Prince; 3d, Mr. Robinson, with Regina, Nil Desperandum, Roundhead, Sir C. Napier, Duke of Rothesay, and Nepaulese Prince.

Nurserymen, 24 varieties: 1st prize, C. Turner, Slough, with Cobden, Barmaid, Model, El Dorado, Princess Radziwill, Beeswing, Queen of Lilacs, Mr. Seldon, Fearless, Thames-Bank Hero, Magnificent, Black Prince, Earl of Clarendon, Gem, Nepaulese Prince, Duke of Cambridge, Sir C. Napier, Mr. Herbert, Duke of Wellington, Blanchfleur, Princess Louisa, Essex Triumph, Mrs. Seldon, and Sir F. Bathurst; 2d, Mr. Keynes, Salisbury, with El Dorado, Queen of Lilacs, Duke of Wellington, Seraph, Magnificent, Mrs. Seldon, Earl of Clarendon, General Faucher, Sir F. Bathurst, Yellow Superb, Essex Triumph, Gem, Beeswing, Miss Chaplin, Fearless, Snowflake, Mr. Seldon, Nonpareil, Madame Gouberts, Mr. Herbert, Princess Radziwill, Frederick Jerome, Sir Robert Peel, and Negro; 3d, Mr. Barnes, Stowmarket, with Magnificent, Princess Louisa, R. Cobden, Fearless, Grenadier, Earl of Clarendon, Ambassador, General Faucher, Mr. Seldon, Mr. Palmer, Fame, Miss Chaplin, Seraph, Yellow Superb, Negro, Duke of Wellington, Queen of the East, Summit of Perfection, George Glenny, Uranus, Mrs. Williams, Thames-Bank Hero, Charles Turner,

and Sir F. Bathurst; 4th, Mr. Bragg, Slough; 5th, Mr. Drummond, Bath; 6th, Mr. Legg, Edmonton. Nurserymen, 12 fancies: 1st prize, C. Turner, with Empereur de Maroc, Rachael, Elizabeth, Mrs. Willis, Pretty Polly, Mrs. Hansard, Lady Grenville, Jeannette, Mrs. Labouchere, Jenny Lind, Gasparino, and Floral Beauty; 2d, Mr. Keynes, with Princess Charlotte, Comic, Lady Grenville, Conspicua, Mrs. Hansard, Madame Wachy, Striata perfecta, Empereur de Maroc, Rainbow, Admiration, Jenny Lind, and Flying Dutchman; 3d, Mr. Barnes. For three blooms of George Glenmy: 1st, Mr. Black; 2d, Mr. Cook.

In class showing, seedlings, the best Dahlia was Dr. Frampton (Rawlings); the best fancy, Laura Lavington (Keynes); the best Fuchsia, Nil Desperandum (G. Smith); the best Hollyhock, King of Roses (Bragg); 2d, no name (Black); 3d, Satisfaction (Bragg). The best Verbena, National (G. Smith); 2d, Koh-i-noor (do.); 3d, Orlando (do.).

#### AN OBSERVATION OR TWO ON BEDDING ROSES.

A FEW years since, it was said to be impossible to grow Roses in pots that should be creditable specimens. The belief was current till somebody tried and proved its fallacy; and now all good gardeners can do the thing well enough. The same has occurred in other branches of gardening than the one mentioned, and will doubtless often occur again, for there is a vast deal to be done before perfection can be reached. Now, Roses for bedding is a fertile subject of discussion and argument. Some are recommending a certain kind, and another says it is of no use for the purpose. More tell you that another is the only one likely to remunerate you; the next person you ask condemns it *in toto*. And thus you may go on inquiring, thinking to get the best advice, till you are so involved in a chaos of instruction, that you can create nothing from it. Advice is of course often invaluable, and should never be rejected if it is likely to benefit you in its adoption. But when you seek instruction in a matter about which nothing definitely is known, a valuable adjunct will be to use your own observation and common sense. In selecting Roses for bedding, this will come to one's aid, and the practice of it will yield useful results. Take your note-book and pencil, visit the Rose-ground of some extensive Rose-grower in the autumn, and you may record more valuable hints in an hour than an octavo treatise of a hundred pages could furnish, or than you could reap from a lecture from Mr. Paul himself. Shape, size, colour, habit, adaptation for late blooming, are all laid open before you, and you can find little difficulty in making a good selection.

Without professing any proficiency in the art of bedding Roses, I have occasionally made a few notes in relation thereto: as they may be useful to some one, I record them. One of the first essentials in a bedding Rose is that it should stand well up on its foot-stalk. For a pole or climber the reverse of this would, of course, be

the most graceful ; one is to be looked down *upon*, the other *up at*. If this is remembered, the value of such qualities in their respective adaptations will at once be recognised. However abundant or prolonged a bloomer a Rose may be, if it droops its flowers, half its effect in a bed is entirely lost. And if a shower of rain falls, the accumulated moisture, acting by its weight on the feeble footstalk, increases the evil tenfold. A bed of such Roses can never give satisfaction. Scrambling Roses, to be pegged down during their season of growth, do not make the kind of effect in beds that one could wish. I would have all "worked" plants, selecting them with different heights of "stock," to suit the different positions in planting ; the dwarfier on the outside, the latter in centre. I should not expect great results in the first season of planting. During that period I should have an eye to the formation of the head, endeavouring to extend it horizontally as much as possible. When once the surface of the bed becomes overarched with good flower-bearing wood, and the luxuriance of the plants checked, supposing the kind of Roses to be suitable, nothing in the way of massing could be more beautiful. This may be inferred from the effects of a single head of a free-blooming standard of any kind.

Then Roses offer such facilities in point of colour to work our harmonies, or contrasts, or combinations ; although it must be confessed the kinds really valuable for bedding purposes are not numerous. Fancy a bed of Paul Joseph, or Géant de Batailles, 8 or 10 feet in diameter, edged with a row of Mrs. Bosanquet. If in good condition, would it not be admirable ? and there is no reason why it should not be. To get good beds of Roses some little time must be consumed in the preparation. One must not be impatient. Young and luxuriant plants will never realise all that is expected of them. But there is no reason why the necessary preparation should take place in the flower-garden. The reserve-ground is the proper place for preparation, and Roses may be prepared there as well as in the beds in which they are to flower. Suppose two seasons' probationary treatment is required, they can there be attended to, and transplanted in full condition to their allotted beds in the garden. To treat Roses as ordinary bedding plants, and selecting from them at random, must ever end in partial disappointment ; and from not giving the subject due consideration, and taking the necessary precautions, doubtless there arises most of the disappointment in this branch of flower-gardening.

I have said that, comparatively, few kinds are really suitable for bedding ; at the moment I can only recollect half a dozen. They may not be the best for the purpose ; but they at least are pretty good, and others will suggest themselves to the reader. First in the list must be named Géant de Batailles, with its fine foliage and rich crimson flowers standing boldly up, as a warrior should do. Baronne Prevost may be named as a successor ; colour pale rose. Dupetit Thouars is equally good, rivalling the Géant in colour, but not so fiery, being subdued by a tint of purple. The latter, however, assumes a similar tint after being a day open. Paul Joseph is a good

Rose, a free bloomer, firm in its footstalk, and of a rich crimson. Proserpine is equally good, but perhaps too much like the last named. For a white, Mrs. Bosanquet is good as far as freedom of blooming extends, but it is not all one could wish in firmness of footstalk.

Any of these named would make a good bed, and could not fail of affording satisfaction to all admirers of the massing system of gardening. Supposing Roses to become extensively used as "bedders," some of the climbers could be brought into use to cover the sides and handles of ornamental baskets. These, if contrasted in colour with the red forming the centre, would have a pretty effect. Care, however, should be taken to select such as continue in bloom together, and late into the autumn. One great point to be attended to, and one upon which will hinge much of the success as regards abundant and prolonged blooming, is to remove all blossoms as soon as they are past their best. Such should be neatly cut away every morning.

G. L.

### VAUXHALL GARDENS.

THREE interesting shows have been held here this season. At the last one, which was held on the 20th ult., there was a beautiful display of Dahlias. Amongst the varieties exhibited that were sent out last spring, we noticed the following in good condition: Nil Desperandum, scarlet, very full and large; Roundhead, salmon; Summit of Perfection, purple; Sir C. Napier, vivid scarlet; Admiral, lilac; Nepaulese Prince, maroon; Mr. Herbert, orange; Gem of the Grove, purple; Model, bronze; Leda, orange; Queen of Dahlias, pale lilac; Mrs. Hansard, yellow, tipped with white; Elegantissima, white and bluish purple; and Pretty Polly, red and white. The following old but favourite sorts were shewn in good order: Duke of Wellington, Mr. and Mrs. Seldon, Fearless, Essex Triumph, Richard Cobden, Scarlet Gem, Privateer, Princess Radziwill, Shylock, Black Prince, Nonpareil, and Queen of Lilacs.

Among the Hollyhocks were good blooms of Charles Baron, Comet, Rosy Queen, Magnum Bonum, Aurantia, Enchantress, Charles Turner (seedling), Susanna, Sir D. Wedderburn, Model of Perfection, Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, Venosa rubra, Nobilissima, Prince Albert, Delicata, Standard of Perfection, Rosea alba, Rosea grandiflora, Elegans, Eclipse, Sulphurea perfecta, Premier, Beauty of Haverhill, Bella Donna, Lady Clark, Bessy Bell, General Bem, Queen of Whites, Andrucana, Queen, Obscura, Napoleon, Caroline, Pitho, Subram, Walden Gem, Mount Etna, Mulberry Superb, Formosa, Bicolor, President, Queen of Lilacs, Snowflake, Princess Alice, Watford Surprise, and Conspicua. Mr. Parsons had some promising Seedlings.

*Fuchsias* consisted of—*Dark varieties*: Eppsii, Exoniensis, Seratifolia, Orion, Prince Albert, Orestes, Inaccessible, Sir J. Falstaff, Don Giovanni, Magnificent, Exquisite, Kossuth, Sir R. Peel, Coralina, Dr. Smith, Splendida, Clapton Hero, and Nonpareil. *Light*

*kinds*: Fair Rosamond, Duchess de Bordeaux, Pearl of England, Queen Elizabeth, One-in-the-ring, Diana, Dr. Jephson, Globosa alba grandiflora, Napoleon, Purity, and Gem of the West.

*Roses* were generally small and somewhat out of character; but among them we remarked fair blooms of La Reine, Saffranot, Cloth of Gold, Aimée Vibert, Charles Souchet, Mrs. Elliott, General Allard, Acidalic, Bouquet de Flore, Paul Joseph, and other favourite kinds.

*Verbenas* were numerous; but rather past their best.

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### A PACKET OF SEEDS SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER.

[Continued from p. 181.]

TIME wore away, and I did as well as I could. Once I had got a few days' work at a farmer's some way off, and had to get up early, and was late getting home; and I wasn't quite as strong as I used to be. At this farmer's I always had my meals given me, and I managed to save a bit to bring home for my wife and the children. I left one very ill one morning, my only boy; and when I got home at night he was very bad. I never found my wife in such trouble before; and when we looked at his poor worn face and bony hands, and then when our eyes met one another, I thought no two people on earth could be more miserable. I noticed, as I got in, the broken window was mended; and so for something to talk about, and turn our thoughts a bit, I spoke about it. "Oh," said my wife, "I forgot to tell you that George came and put it in, and said that he'd do any other little thing for us like that, and be glad of it." This George was a poor outcast of a boy that I'd got the painter and glazier to take, when it was worth his while to please me; and he'd behaved well, and got on, and made himself a workman and useful; and while I was out he'd walked down, and asked my wife to let him mend the broken square; for he said I'd made a man of him, and he'd never forget it while he could handle a diamond; and before he'd see our window go broken, he'd go without a day's victuals. It almost made me whimper to see this bit of sunshine, when every thing else looked so cloudy.

It was late in summer, and I was up early next morning and off to my work, got it done, and went into the house to get my supper and my money, for they paid me at this house every day. "I haven't got your two shillings for you," said the maid; "for master and mistress went out, and I suppose forgot it." She saw me turn colour a bit, I dare say, for she said, "I can let you have it out of my own money, if you like;" but I hastily said, "No, thank you;" and putting my supper in my basket, went off home. My way was through a field, with a roundish hill and a plantation in it, and the paths went right and left from the stile to the two ends of the village; and the right-hand one was my proper track. I never went the other way, for it took me past my old happy home, and I couldn't



bear the sight of it. Things never looked worse than they did this evening; for I thought of my home, and my sick boy, and my quite empty pocket. Why I did it I can't tell, but I took the left-hand path this time, and struck up to the side of the plantation that looked right down on the cottage. It was empty, for the man that got my place was gone; and the clergyman, when he told us he was going away, once when he came to see our sick boy, said that the squire had told him he'd engaged another, and that before I could have asked him to take me on again. I sat down, as much out of sight in the hedge of the plantation as I could; the workmen were all gone home, and the windows were open to let the paint dry, for it was being done up all through. The roses, honeysuckle, and the jasmine, that I had planted, were all unnailed and laid down for them to nail fresh bark upon the uprights and over the porchway. I felt as if my heart would burst as I looked at it and the garden beyond, and I stopped and stopped, for the more I remembered my home there, the more I dreaded going to the one in the village.

I don't know how long I'd been there, when I heard a rustling, and directly after out came the squire's favourite retriever, and he just behind him, out of a little gate to a private path through the plantation. He saw me in a minute as I jumped up, and said, "Is that you, Gregory?" I tried to lift my hat; but whether my sad thoughts had made my forehead swell, or what it was, I couldn't move it, and I turned my head away, for I didn't want him to see all my face would have shewn him, for I'd been thinking he might as well have given me the place again as have taken on a stranger; and I thought, too, he might as well have let me earn the little things his lady often sent to my wife; for they were very kind, and gave us many little nice things for the sick children we couldn't have bought.

When I got in, I found the boy better, and the young ladies and their governess had been to the cottage, and somehow cheered up my wife; for when I told her I had an empty pocket, she tried to cheer me up too, and said, "Why, Gregory, never mind; if 'tis winter with us now, spring 'll come by and by. You never knew the longest night without a morning; if we've care now, comfort 'll come in time; so let's hope on." It did me good to hear her; but afterwards I laid it to her having had a present of a new warm shawl and stout pair of shoes, which the young ladies' governess had given her; and about her I'll have a word to say before I've done, for I've learnt a little about other people beside gardeners, though I've been one all my life.

Though I've told all my troubles, I wouldn't have young gardeners think I was a chicken-hearted, snivelling kind of fellow; through 'em all I walked stiff and upright; I never put my nose in another man's pot, and never begged a favour of a living soul. Pinched as I was, nobody knew it but my partner; and badly as we were off, all was as tidy as a new pin; she'd have no rags nor dirt, no reminding me what we once had been, and what I'd lost; and if our sick children hadn't kept her at home, she'd never have

wanted a day's charing, for she was a favourite with gentle and simple, and in the worst of times was always ready to help a poor sick neighbour; and every body had a kindly word for her when they saw her homely face.

The day after I met the squire, I was coming down the path home, and when just in sight of the cottage I met the young ladies and their governess, as I often did, and very kindly I thought they all spoke to me as they struck off to the other pathway for the gate by my old garden cottage, which they used to go home by. The nearer my house I got, the more I stared; the bit of blind was taken away from the window, and it was wide open, and somehow it looked very strange; and the women neighbours were standing gossiping in a lot together. I couldn't make it out, and most of all when I got in and found the place as empty as an egg-shell. Nobody was there, only a boy, who gave me a little note and walked out directly; and this is what it said, and it almost took my breath away to read it:

“JAMES GREGORY,—If you like to go back to your old cottage, you are welcome to do so; and it will be your own fault if you ever have to leave it again. You will find your good wife and your children there. I wish to see all about me happy and comfortable; and the way for you to be so is, to let me be master and you be man. If you think so too, go back to Birdwood again.”

(To be continued.)



### SHACKLEWELL DAHLIA SHOW.

*Sept. 9th.*—This, the annual exhibition, was far above the average; Dahlias were excellent in character, and abundant. Certificates were granted to Dr. Frampton and Sir F. Thesiger (Rawlings); the former has already been noticed; the latter is a lilac of medium size, and of good form; ditto to Triumphant, Laura Lavington, and Nancy (Keynes); to Lizzy (Perry), a flower the exact counterpart of Keynes' Queen of England, but more certain; and to Miss Ward (Turner), a yellow-tipped white fancy. Of other novelties, we noticed a seedling scarlet with white tip, named Miss Mathews (Bragg), a valuable addition, and a great improvement in its class, being full, deep, and bright; Wonderful (Keynes) is a flaked flower of fine quality; colours, amber striped with purplish pink: these both received certificates. Among other seedlings possessing merit, may be mentioned John Davis (Cook), similar to Richard Cobden, Fairy Queen (Turner), Edmund Foster (Turner), Morning Star (Turner), Louisa Glenny (Rawlings), Flora M'Ivor (Keynes), fancy rosy purple and white, fine; Miss Creed (Edwards), pale yellow tipped with white, said to be an improvement on Mrs. Hansard; Globe (Turner).

Dealers, 24 blooms: 1st, Mr. Turner, with Mr. Seldon, Duke of Wellington, Princess Louisa, Yellow Standard, Thames-Bank Hero, Snowflake, John Edwards, Richard Cobden, Queen of Lilacs, Black

Prince, Sir Charles Napier, Globe (Turner), Fearless, Model, Mrs. Seldon, Shylock, Sir F. Bathurst, Admiral, Andromeda, Summit of Perfection, Nonpareil, Blanchfleur, Essex Triumph, and Elizabeth; 2d, Mr. Keynes, with General Faucher, Negro, John Edwards, Queen of Lilacs, Toison d'Or, Snowflake, Richard Cobden, Princess Louisa, Princess Radziwill, Mr. Herbert, Mr. Seldon, Seraph, Magnificent, Triumphant (Keynes), Yellow Superb, Duke of Cambridge, Shylock, Elizabeth, Yellow Standard, Sir F. Bathurst, Douglas Jerrold (Keynes), Duke of Wellington, Fearless, and Sir R. Peel; 3d, Mr. Barnes, whose stand contained, among others, Grenadier, George Glenny, Nil Desperandum, Earl Clarendon, Fame, Uranus, Mr. Palmer, Beauty of Layerthorpe, and Roundhead; 4th, Mr. Legge. 12 fancies: 1st, Mr. Turner, with Mrs. Willis, Elegantissima, Miss Weyland, Elizabeth, Jeannette, Miss Compton, General Cavaignac, Mrs. Hansard, Forget-me-not, Duchess of Sutherland, Princess Louisa, and Jenny Lind; 2d, Mr. Keynes, with Empereur de Maroc, Elizabeth, Mrs. Hansard, Lady Grenville, Laura Lavington (Keynes), Miss Compton, Gasperine, Miss Blackmore, Comte de Flandre, Triumphant (Keynes), a sport from a self, Remembrancer, Flora M'Ivor (Keynes); 3d, Mr. Legge; 4th, Mr. Black; 5th, Mr. Barnes.

Amateurs, 12 varieties: 1st, Mr. Black, with Nil Desperandum, Mrs. Seldon, Thames-Bank Hero, John Edwards, Duke of Wellington, Sir F. Bathurst, Queen of Lilacs, Richard Cobden, Sir C. Napier, Princess Louisa, Model, and Nonpareil; 2d, Mr. J. Edwards, with Nil Desperandum, Mrs. Seldon, Thames-Bank Hero, General Faucher, Earl Clarendon, Richard Cobden, Duke of Wellington, Negro, Regina, Fearless, Elizabeth, and Shylock; 3d, Mr. James, with Richard Cobden, Yellow Gem, Duke of Wellington, Sylph, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Admiral, Princess Radziwill, Sir F. Bathurst, Carmina, Hon. Miss Ashley, Gem of the Grove, and Duke of Cambridge; 4th, Mr. Weedon; 5th, Mr. Hunt; 6th, Mr. Cook; 7th, Mr. Allen; 8th, Mr. Holmes; 9th, Mr. Jones; 10th, Mr. Hatchman; 11th, Mr. Prockter; 12th, Mr. Callahan; 13th, Mr. Hopkins; 14th, Mr. Howard. 6 fancies: 1st, Mr. Black, with Frened Smidt, Mrs. Willis, Mrs. Hansard, Elizabeth, Lady Grenville, and Miss Weyland; 2d, Mr. Allen, with Miss Compton, Forget-me-not, Mrs. Hansard, Elizabeth, Madame Wachy, and Unknown; 3d, Mr. James, with Miss Blackmore, Mrs. Hansard, Miss Compton, Lady Grenville, Elizabeth, and Floral Beauty; 4th, Mr. Bennet; 5th, Mr. Hatchman; 6th, Mr. Edwards. Six new varieties: 1st, Mr. Black, with Leda, Queen of Beauties (fine), Carmina, Model, Nepaulese Prince, and Nil Desperandum; 2d, Mr. Holder, with Model, Hon. Mrs. Ashley, Carmina, Mr. Palmer, California, and Sir C. Napier; 3d, Mr. James, with Carmina, Hon. Mrs. Ashley, Nil Desperandum, Admiral, King of Dahlias, and Roundhead; 4th, Mr. Edwards, with Nil Desperandum, Mrs. Hansard, Napoleon, Sir C. Napier, Model, and Regina; 5th, Mr. Weedon; 6th, Mr. Dyson; 7th, Mr. Howard; 8th, Mr. Cook; 9th, Mr. Jones; 10th, Mr. Allen. Extra prizes offered by Mr. Keynes for four flowers, let out by himself this season: 1st, Mr. Allen, with Mr. Herbert, Nepaulese Prince, Summit of Perfection,

and Beauty of Kent; 2d, Mr. James, with the same sorts; 3d, Mr. Black; 4th, Mr. Edwards; 5th, Mr. Pope.

Roses were shewn by Mr. Francis, to whom a prize was awarded, Messrs. Paul and Son, and Mr. Parsons. Hollyhocks in spikes: 1st, Mr. Parsons; 2d, Mr. Bragg. Cut blooms: 1st, Mr. Black; 2d, Mr. Dyson. A certificate was awarded to Hollyhock, C. Turner (Black). Liliiums were furnished by Mr. G. Bunney; Fuchsias by Mr. James and Mr. Allen. Other subjects, for the purposes of decoration, were largely contributed.

## REVIEW.

*An Hour with the Hollyhock.* By William Paul. Piper, London.

THIS is a pamphlet of thirty-two pages, containing much excellent information on this progressing and just now popular flower. It commences with some account of the history of the Hollyhock from the earliest period to which it can be traced up to the present time. The properties of a good flower are then touched upon, and the rest consists of lists of the best kinds, with ample instruction regarding all that relates to cultivation.

The following remarks on "what constitutes a good Hollyhock" will perhaps serve to convey some idea of the way in which the various topics are treated.

"1. The diameter of the centre should not be less than three inches, and the outline not less than half a globe: the florets of which it is composed should be thick, dense, whole on the edges, and entirely free from fringe or serrature.

2. The principal or guard-petals should not extend more than from a quarter to half an inch beyond the outline of the centre: they should be thick and flat, forming a circle, and entirely free from notch or serrature.

3. Size is a distinct property: when equal in other respects, the larger the better."

The above "characteristics" are supplied by Mr. Downie, and to this definition he appends the following list, which he considers twelve of the best Scotch flowers:—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Captain Peat (Downie and Laird's), light purplish rose.         | 7. Napoleon (Pow's), shaded lilac.  |
| 2. General Bem (R. Veitch's), vivid scarlet.                       | 8. Professor Syme, or Jamie Duff, (Downie and Laird's), deep rosy purple. |
| 3. Illuminator (Downie and Laird's), deep crimson.                 | 9. Spectabilis (Downie and Laird's), fine rosy peach.                     |
| 4. Lord Willoughby d'Eresby (Downie and Laird's), bright ruby red. | 10. Sir David Wedderburn (Currie's), dark chocolate.                      |
| 5. Mesmeriser (Downie and Laird's), nearly black.                  | 11. Susanna (A. Veitch's), shaded white.                                  |
| 6. Nova Scotia (Gemmell's), dark maroon.                           | 12. William (A. Veitch's), purplish maroon.                               |

"On the same subject Mr. Chater of Walden thus writes:—

‘The definition of a good flower, in my humble opinion, is as follows :

1. It is indispensably necessary that the petals be of *thick substance*, the edges perfectly smooth and even.

2. The florets occupying the centre must be *compact, closely arranged*, rising in the middle so as to make a half globular form, with a stiff guard-leaf extending about half an inch, or rather more, from the centre florets.

3. The arrangement of the flowers on the stem or spike ought not to be too thick or too thin. I consider most of the following six varieties *perfect flowers*; and as regards their general habits, excelled by none that I have ever seen: Walden Gem, Enchantress, and Pulchella (Chater’s); Model of Perfection, Queen, and Rosea grandiflora (Baron’s).’

The following is Mr. Chater’s list of the next best that he has seen, arranged according to colour:—

Obscura (Chater’s), mottled.  
Attraction (Baron’s), mottled.  
Mr. C. Baron (Chater’s), salmon and pinkish salmon.  
Aurantia (River’s), salmon and pinkish salmon.  
Comet (Chater’s), red.  
Fireball (Bircham’s), red.  
Coccinea (Baron’s), red.

Magnum Bonum (Baron’s), dark.  
Purpurea elegans, *new* (Chater’s), purple.  
Rosea alba, *new* (Chater’s), mixed colours.  
Bicolor (Chater’s), mixed colours.  
Sulphurea perfecta (River’s), yellow.  
White Perfection (Chater’s), white.

The next definition is from Mr. Parsons of Ponder’s-end, one of the oldest and most successful amateur cultivators of this flower.

1st. Shape: this should be something less than half a ball. The flowers should be free from pockets, the anthers not seen. The petals should be free from indentation or notch.

2d. Size: the ball should be from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, according to its diameter: the greater the diameter the greater should be the height. The diameter of the ball should never be less than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The guard-petals should extend from  $\frac{3}{8}$ th to  $\frac{5}{8}$ th of an inch beyond the ball: the larger the ball the broader should be the guard-petal. What we aim at is proportion. The different parts of the flower should bear such relation to each other that the whole may be uniform, and in nothing offend.

3d. Substance: the petals should be thick and smooth.

4th. Spike: this should never exceed seven feet. The longer the footstalks, in moderation, the better, as the bulk of the spike is in proportion to their length, and the greater the bulk the finer the object.

The following are twelve of the best flowers I have seen:—

Comet.  
Enchantress.  
Magnum Bonum.  
Mr. C. Baron.  
Obscura.  
Queen (Baron’s).

Rosea alba, *new*.  
Rosea grandiflora.  
Rosy Queen.  
Sulphurea perfecta.  
Walden Gem.  
Watford Surprise.

In analysing and comparing the foregoing definitions, we find those of Mr. Chater and Mr. Parsons so nearly agreeing as scarcely

to require comment. Mr. Downie, however, although agreeing in regard to substance, &c., differs in the essential points of size and form. This is the distinction: the Scotch Florists attach more importance to size: they contend also for a higher ball and a narrower guard-petal. After constructing various models, examining numerous flowers, and duly weighing these points, we venture to give the following proportions:—

Height of ball,  $1\frac{1}{8}$ th inch.

Diameter of ball,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

Extension of guard-petal beyond ball,  $\frac{3}{8}$ th inch.

This is given as the smallest dimensions admissible. We would not fix a limit to the increase; but whatever it may be, it should hold the same proportions.”

A sketch in outline is furnished in illustration of Mr. Paul's idea, and further instruction afforded on the same subject; but in the meantime we would refer our readers to the book itself, from which the best information may be gleaned respecting this deservedly favourite autumnal flower.

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## NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,

### AND OF NEW OR RARE PLANTS

#### FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

**LEUCOTHOE NERIIFOLIA.** A very handsome moderately-sized evergreen half-hardy shrub, very similar to an *Andromeda*. The leaves are oblong and very coriaceous; the flowers, which are scarlet, are produced in solitary racemes, nearly erect from the upper axils of the leaves. It is a native of tropical Brazil, and is in cultivation in the nursery of Mr. Cunningham of Edinburgh.

**ARBUTUS MOLLIS.** A tolerably pretty flowering evergreen shrub, scarcely able to withstand the vicissitude of our climate, unless planted against a wall where it can be protected during winter. The leaves are oblong-lanceolate, coriaceous, with a terminal raceme, forming a loose panicle of large, flask-shaped, white or greenish, rose-coloured flowers. Introduced to our gardens by Mr. Van Houtte of Ghent, and is a native of Mexico.

**CATHARTICA VILLOSA.** A rather interesting herbaceous plant, probably hardy, belonging to the Poppy tribe. It grows about a foot high, is very hairy, and has moderately large yellow flowers, produced in June. It was raised at Kew from seed imported by Dr. Hooker from Sikkim Himalaya.

**PRIMULA SIKKIMENSIS.** A tall free-growing handsome species, which may be cultivated in a frame, or probably hardy in a sheltered situation. It is the pride of all the alpine *Primulas*, and has the habit of the common one. The leaves are all radical, from eight inches to a foot long, and the stalk from one to two feet high, bearing an umbel of lemon-yellow flowers, much resembling the common Primrose, and about the same size. It was raised at Kew from seed imported by Dr. Hooker from Sikkim Himalaya. These four are figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for August.

**PENTSTEMON WRIGHTII.** This is one of the most beautiful of the genus; it grows from one to two feet high, flowering copiously during summer, and is a great acquisition to our bedding-out plants. It may be kept in a frame during winter, as it is probably not hardy, unless under very favourable circumstances. The flowers are about an inch broad, drooping, and of a deep rich rose colour. It was raised at Kew, last year, from imported seed, and is a native of Texas.

**GREVILLEA LAVENDULACEA.** A very neat evergreen greenhouse shrub, easily cultivated, and with a little training it would form a compact handsome bush; it

grows about three or four feet high and much resembles *G. rosmarinifolia*. The flowers are collected in tufts at the ends of the branches, and are of a rose colour. It was raised by Mr. Henderson, Pine-apple Nursery, Edgeware Road, from Swan River seed, transmitted by Mr. Drummond.

*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.*

J. HOULSTON.

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### NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*August 21.*—Mr. Lane in the chair. Certificates of merit were awarded to the following flowers: Dahlia, Nancy, from Mr. Keynes, a dull red and white fancy of very fine form. Douglas Jerrold, ditto, yellow tipped with red; this possesses the form of a good Andromeda, and although its petals are rather long, it will no doubt become a favourite. Fuchsia, Nil Desperandum, from Mr. Smith, a dark variety with a good habit. A Larkspur (*Delphinium Hendersonii*), from Mr. E. G. Henderson. A Hollyhock, named Rosamond, from Mr. Chater. This is a rosy-pink flower, full, and well formed, with just sufficient guard-petal and no more. The blooms were very thickly arranged on the spike. Erica Marnockiana, from Mr. Marnock; a pleasing variety, in the way of retorta, but distinct from that variety. The following were commended: Hollyhock, Meteor, from Mr. Bircham; ditto Magnet, from Mr. Chater; Gladiolus National, *Psittacinus superbus*, and *Atro-roseus*, from Mr. Wilmore; and Dahlia, Dr. Frampton, from Mr. Rawlings. Mr. Mackintosh, nurseryman, Maida Vale, Edgeware-road, shewed a Hollyhock named Duke of Wellington, which is certainly an improvement on Napoleon, Bicolor, and all of that class; the blooms were, however, unfortunately rather past their best.

*Sept. 4.*—Mr. Perry in the chair. Some good seedling Dahlias were shewn on this occasion. A certificate was awarded to Mr. Noakes, for Phantom, a bright buff well-formed flower, of considerable depth, and having a good centre. Mr. Keynes received a first-class certificate for Triumphant, a ruby-red medium-sized kind, a fair outline and average depth, centre firm; ditto to Laura Lavington, from the same raiser. This is a dark salmon-brown with light tip, and desirable in shape, size, and centre. Mr. Rawlings was assigned a first-class certificate for Dr. Frampton, a light-shaded purple-mottled flower, which we have mentioned before. Mr. Turner had a label of commendation for Morning Star and Globe, both promising sorts. In Hollyhocks, Mr. Bragg of Slough received a certificate for King of Roses, a fine kind, which probably would have had a higher award, had it not been injured by travelling. The same raiser was also voted a first-class certificate for Swansdown, well shaped, a paper white. Labels of commendation were given to King of Yellows, Joan of Arc, and Safranot, from Mr. Parsons. The first of these would have received a higher reward if a spike had been shewn instead of blooms. Some good Gladioli were communicated by Mr. Wilmore, who received a first-class certificate for Miss Wilmore; a pleasing variety, and certificates for Josephine and Wellington, both good sorts, which cannot fail to find places in every collection.

*Sept. 18.*—Mr. Barnes of Stowmarket in the chair. Several nice

Hollyhocks were shewn. A first-class was awarded to Mr. Bircham for Model of Perfection, a pale primrose flower of fine form and texture, guard-petals smooth, centre well proportioned; ditto to Pourpre de Tyre (Bircham), a rosy-purple sort, and one of the best of its colour. Certificate to Penelope (Bircham), deep rosy pink, large and fine, guard-petals smooth, centre not sufficiently elevated. First-class certificate to Mr. Parsons, Ponder's-end, for Safranot, a desirable pinkish salmon-coloured variety, with buff guard-petals; ditto to Pillar of Beauty (Parsons), a bright rosy-crimson flower of fine form; ditto to Triumphant (Parsons), a pale primrose kind, occasionally tinted with delicate rose. The above were all shewn in spikes. Among Dahlias, a first-class certificate was awarded to Mr. Turner of the Royal Nursery, Slough, for Miss Ward, bright lemon, with tips of pure white, a decided improvement on Mrs. Hansard; ditto to Morning Star (Turner), orange suffused with scarlet, fine in shape, and certainly an improvement on Earl of Clarendon. Certificate to Mr. Keynes of Salisbury, for Una, a good white; ditto to Mr. Rawlings, for Sir F. Thesiger, a rosy-lilac flower, which has been favourably noticed by us on former occasions.

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#### OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS.** They may be removed to a southern or western situation for the winter; the latter is preferable. Cleanse the frames and glass, that when necessary to cover the plants, they may have the full benefit of the light. Continue to keep the soil moist through the month, and open the surface as often as it appears closed.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** The shoots which were removed from the parent plants, and are now well-rooted, should be shifted into about 4-inch pots, with plenty of drainage, for the winter. Seedlings which require it should also receive the shift which is to serve them until the days lengthen. Keep the plants free from green-fly.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTÉES.** Potting for the winter should now be completed. Care should be taken to remove all dead foliage; and they should be grown as hardy as possible.

**CINERARIAS.** Winter them in a cold pit or frame, with a good dry bottom. If frosty nights occur, roll a mat over them; but let the lights be drawn off at every opportunity. Some of them will now be forming the flower-stems; if early flowers are desired, a few should be placed in a greenhouse. Shift into larger pots such as require it. Water should be given more sparingly. Green-fly and mildew are the greatest enemies of the Cineraria. There is no excuse for the first; tobacco, either by fumigation, or syringing with a solution, will extirpate that: the second is not so easily disposed of; dust with sulphur on its first appearance; it is an unsightly remedy, but the only sure one at present known. Let the compost be one barrow of good brown turfy loam, one ditto good old well-decomposed horse or cow-dung, half ditto leaf-mould, quarter ditto silver-sand.

**DAHLIAS.** They should be gone over before the bloom is past,



to see if all are correctly named. Examine all plants on a fine day, in order to secure whatever seed may be ready; and in cutting, leave a good piece of the stalk attached; tie in bunches consisting of about six heads, and hang them up in some dry and airy place; as fast as they turn brown, pull them to pieces, and spread the seed thinly on canvass till it becomes dry. The time for taking up the roots must depend on the weather; if the tops are quite destroyed by frost, get them up on the first dry day; but should the season be favourable, and there be no frost, two objects will be gained by allowing them to remain in the ground for a time, viz. more seed, and a shorter winter to preserve the roots in. There is no difficulty in keeping many kinds sound through the winter; those with large stems and long stringy tubers decay first.

**EPACRISES.** It is expedient now to place them in their winter quarters, giving them all the air practicable night and day, except in the event of a probable frost; water somewhat sparingly. Earlier bloom may be obtained without injury to the plant by a temperature for the time being of about  $65^{\circ}$  or  $70^{\circ}$ .

**ERICAS.** It will be desirable to house them; another fortnight's exposure may do much mischief; therefore set at once about clearing, weeding, arranging all stray branches, and removing the plants to the heathery, keeping the house as cool and airy as the weather will permit. Should any symptoms of mildew present themselves, scatter a little sulphur vivum over the parts affected. Gradually diminish the supply of water.

**FUCHSIAS.** The blooming season will now be on the wane; those plants intended for early flowering should now be spurred back, placed in a cool situation, and just sufficient water given them to keep life in them till it is desirable again to excite growth. Defend your ripening seed-pods from injury. Any seedlings that have bloom set, and are become stunted and pot-bound, may be stimulated with a dose of weak guano-water.

**PANSIES.** Complete the planting either of seedlings or named flowers for spring bloom; but should the plants of any variety be weakly, pot them in preference to planting out, and winter them in cold frames, unless you can cover them with small glasses in very wet or severe weather. Should the soil get baked by heavy rains, hoe between the plants. The general stock should now be potted up; they will do equally well one plant or several in a pot, provided they are planted out early in the spring, before the roots become matted together.

**PELARGONIUMS.** Shift all young plants that require it; repot the bottoms that have been disrooted and have got well established again, putting them into their flowering-pots, as they will not require another shift for flowering in May. Water sparingly, and in the morning; light a fire now and then in the daytime, so as to get the heating apparatus in order, in case it should be wanted in a hurry. Seedlings will require but little water; if wet weather should set in, light a little fire in the morning, to rid the atmosphere of the house of excessive moisture.

**PINKS.** Planting should be closed; complete the beds for next

year's flowering. If the weather continues dry, occasional watering will be necessary. Clean and frequently stir the surface-soil.

**POLYANTHUSES.** See that the stems are not exposed; if so, earth them up to the foliage. Clear away weeds and all harbours for slugs.

**RANUNCULUSES.** Turn the surface of the beds in dry weather. Make one or two sowings of seed in the early part of the month, and supply moisture moderately and equally. Seeds that are laid bare by waterings should be covered with fine mould.

**ROSES IN POTS.** Shift if required. If they are in large pots, turn them out, and cut the roots back, replacing them in the same-sized pots. If they can be plunged in trenches, with sawdust, they will soon root out with vigour. Winter the tender varieties in a frame; or if no such convenience is at hand, the plants should be closely stuck round with pieces of yew, or interlaced with fern on the appearance of frosty weather; but these are mere uncertain makeshifts. Shift all small plants requiring it into larger sizes; also top-dress all large plants, that do not need repotting, with some well-rotted dung and loam.

**TULIPS.** Examine the bulbs, and if not previously done, let them now be arranged for planting, making the alterations and improvements noted down in the Tulip-book during the blooming-time; this should be done immediately the bulbs are taken up, while the changes intended to be made are fresh in the mind. New varieties should be procured at once, and then re-arrange them. The bed should now be got ready for planting. If the soil has been in use only one year, and the bulbs did well in it, there is no advantage to be derived from changing it, for they will do well in the same soil (if it be good) for two or three successive years; all that is required is, to remove about three inches from the surface, laying it in a ridge by the sides of the bed; then fork over the mould left in the bed, laying that also in a high ridge for a week or ten days. If the soil require changing, it need not be removed; take about ten inches off the top, then put about six inches of two-year old potted turf and loam and road-grit, well mixed together (three-fourths loam and one-fourth grit), on the soil left in the bed; fork it well over two or three times, turning some of that left with the mould just added, so as to mix it well, and lay it up in a high ridge; two or three days before planting, rake it down, laying it two inches higher in the middle than the sides. In planting, place a small quantity of river-sand on the spot the bulb is to occupy, and put as much sand on the bulb itself as will just cover it; then carefully put the mould on the bed, covering the bulbs four inches and a half deep in the centre, and three inches on the outsides; protect the bed at once, by placing small-sized iron hoops over it, rising about six inches from the surface, and run some small string diagonally from each hoop. About the second or third week in October is the best time for planting in general. The best plan is to begin planting whenever the bulbs push forth their green spear, and the fibres swell at the bottom of the root; for the longer they are kept out of the ground when this is the case, the greater injury they will sustain.





*Dianthus barbatus* L.

Dianthus (Hunt)

Printed by G. Chubb

## THE SWEET WILLIAM.

THIS is a kind of Pink that is said to be indigenous to Germany, from whence it has been scattered over all parts of Europe. For what it wants in fragrance it supplies by masses of flowers and splendour of colours, which ensure it a welcome reception in all classes of gardens. D. Rembertus Dodonæus, who was physician to the Emperor Charles V., is reputed to have been the first author who has written about this plant. Dr. Turner has not noticed it in his work of 1568; but twenty-nine years afterwards it is mentioned by Gerard, who says, "We have in our London gardens a kinde of Sweet William, bearing most fine and pleasant white flowers, spotted very confusedly with reddish spots, which setteth forth the beautie thereof, and hath beene taken of some to be the plant called of the later writers the Pride of Austrich." The same author quaintly observes, that "these plants are kept in gardens more to please the eie than either the nose or belly."

But although this really pretty plant has long been an inhabitant of our gardens, and although many fine varieties exist of it, yet few will deny that it is still capable of great improvement; and from what we have seen both last year and this, we trust we are right in stating that attention has been and is still being directed towards this point. Among others, our friend Mr. Hunt of High Wycomb has been cultivating Sweet Williams with ardour for at least these twenty years back, and many magnificent flowers have rewarded his exertions. The fine variety represented by our plate is an instance of his success. It was selected from a stand of thirty-six sorts shewn by this gentleman, in July last, at the Surrey Zoological Gardens, where "they were the theme of universal admiration and surprise." Each truss formed in itself a brilliant bouquet of flowers, such as it is seldom our lot to witness. We believe that they will be "let out" next season.

We need scarcely say that the Sweet William is perfectly hardy, and that its blossoms last long in perfection, for it is well known to possess these qualities; but the art of raising improved varieties is, perhaps, not generally so well understood; and on this point, as well as on his mode of management, we are glad to say that Mr. Hunt has promised us an article. We need, therefore, only add, that it is easily increased by cuttings, and that few flowers require less trouble or attention.

## BULBS FROM THE CAPE.

THERE are not many possessors of gardens who have not rejoiced at the reception of a box of Cape bulbs; and there are not many gardeners who have not evinced an opposite condition of mind at the same occurrence. The bare mention of "bulbs from abroad" is, as a general rule, sufficient to disturb the equanimity of any knight of the pruning-knife in the three kingdoms. Let any gentleman, elated with the morning's epistolary announcement, that a case of the plants in question is on its way from "abroad," despatched with the greatest care, as a present from his honourable friend Captain So-and-So, announce the fact to his gardener, and if the latter has not an admirable command over the expression of his features, they will quickly assume the cast known to certain physiognomists as "the blues;" and not without reason. The majority of bulbs received from the source named, and which gardeners are for ever being pestered with, should on their arrival be thrown to the rubbish-heap; and if the recipients are not adepts in the endurance of hopes deferred, they would consult their peace of mind by adopting the practice. There are exceptions, but the general condition of such arrivals warrants the advice given.

It would be difficult to visit the greenhouses of any establishment, limited or extensive, without meeting with quantities of bulbs either not cared for at all, or thrust into some out-of-the-way corner, and merely recognised as denizens of the place. Should you be tempted to make any inquiries in reference to them, the substance of the replies will be, that they were received two, three, or perhaps ten years ago from the Cape, and that they have never flowered, but they are *said* to be very beautiful things. Now, the fact is, that very few plants of the kind reaching this country from casual travellers or from non-gardening residents ever *do* flower, unless they happen to fall into the hands of those who are conversant with the probable facts of their history, and take the necessary steps to effect the desired consummation. In the majority of cases a considerable amount of care is bestowed for one, or perhaps two years. No flower rewards the trouble taken, enthusiasm lags, attention is withheld, neglect follows, and the bare means for vegetation is all the unlucky exiles can hope for for the future; they are tolerated, not encouraged.

While gardeners, from repeated experience, know very well what to expect from these presents of bulbs, they do not always attribute the scanty results to the right causes. They tell you that such and such kinds are difficult to flower, not caring to recollect that the plants are not in a condition to do so, and the only means by which they are to be brought into that condition are withheld before the required results are realised.

In the countries from whence such plants are procured, are persons who dig up bulbs for the same purpose as a notable personage, often made mention of, is said to have made his razors—to sell, and

care nothing as to the results they produce in the hands of their purchasers. With them a bulb is a bulb; the stipulation that it is to flower does not enter into their contract. They visit the habitats of the plants when they are in full foliage or flower, because they can then be easily recognised, and make their collections. After the bulbs are removed, they undergo a drying process; all indication of foliage is removed, and in this state they are sorted and packed for sale. In this condition they are purchased by persons having garden-loving friends at home, and despatched to this country, a source of vexation to the recipient rather than a pleasure. Every one at all conversant with the first elements of the physiology of plants, knows quite well that to materially damage the foliage of a plant is to disturb its whole economy. In the most ordinary plant this is obvious; in bulbous plants, if possible, it is doubly so. Many of the *Amaryllids* if removed, or if their foliage is much damaged before the flower-bud is formed, will not recover themselves and regain a flowering condition with the best treatment for two or three seasons. It is scarcely necessary to say, that in all bulbs the flowers we enjoy this season are formed perfect in every particular in the preceding, and carefully deposited within its tissues, waiting for the proper season and condition to unfold its beauties. During this process all the energies of the plant are called into activity. The leaves, the roots, are absorbing and elaborating the necessary matter, out of which is to be fashioned the future flower. If in this state the functions of the plant are interfered with, and their action retarded at this stage, no flower is produced, and an additional amount of damage is done in weakening the constitution of the bulb. The next season is absorbed in recruiting its exhausted energies, and another in elaborating a flower; and a long period must elapse, under the most favourable circumstances, ere you can be gratified with one. In bulbs having perennial roots, if they are deprived of them, a longer recruiting period is found to be required, the first season almost the whole energy of the bulb is thrown into the formation of roots, or in what may not be inaptly termed preparing to grow; then there is establishing its constitutional vigour; then the final elaboration of the matter for the formation of the flower. Thus season after season is consumed, till no wonder patience becomes exhausted, and where pleasure was expected, disappointment is found. If you examine carefully an arrival of these imported bulbs, you may readily trace the action of the knife on the denuded foliage, and often observe the flower-head cut in two as it was emerging from the crown of the bulb; and its exhausted appearance and flaccid texture are certain indications of its wasted energies, and the long period it would require to recover them. Other kinds only bloom once from the same bulb, producing offsets at the season of growth, which are to produce flowers in succeeding seasons. It is obvious that if vegetation is arrested during the formation of these bulbs, how great the injury must be, and how the period of flowering may be retarded in consequence. All these violations are perpetrated by the bulb-gatherers, who make a trade of the business. In reality, no kind of

plants are more easily managed, or are more beautiful in their flowers; and however anomalous it may appear, it is no less true, that their successful cultivation is the exception, not the rule. Those who would enjoy them in perfection, without the disappointment alluded to, should purchase flowering bulbs from some known grower of them. When once in a flowering condition, they are easily kept so. Half a dozen procured from such a source are worth a whole careful sent by your friend from the Cape.

G. L.

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### WINDOW-GARDENING.

THERE are many who have not the convenience of a greenhouse, who are, nevertheless, equally fond of flowers, who spend considerable sums yearly in purchasing plants, and bestow a great deal of pains in attending to them. It is not to be denied too, that, after all their endeavours, their plants frequently look sickly, and finally die. The blame is often laid at the door of the Florist who supplied them for not giving healthy plants, when in almost every instance the fault lies with the buyers. The plants, it is true, which come into the market have generally been under a high state of cultivation. They have been regularly watered, potted in soil according to their different habits, and grown in pots according to their size. The heat, air, and light have all been arranged and regulated as the utmost skill and experience could suggest. The transition from all this regularity to the tender mercies of the purchaser is soon felt. Drowning or starving, or neglecting altogether, is no uncommon fate. The pots are taken home, put into pans or saucers, deluged with water, and the water left in the saucers, or they are set in some conspicuous place, and left to their fate. In the first case, the leaves turn yellow and drop, the flowers fall, and in a very short time all that can be seen of them is their naked stems, with little tufts of green on the tops or points of the shoots, which a few days before were in perfection; in the latter case, the plants die with all the leaves and bloom upon them. Nearly all the evils attending plants grown in windows are to be traced to these two causes. I will therefore attempt to lay down a few general rules, which, if properly attended to, will do away with nearly all the complaints under this head.

1st. Never water but when the plants actually want it. That is easily known by feeling the soil with the finger, or giving the pot a rap on the side with the knuckles. While it is moist no water is needed; when it feels dry, then water—which latter will not be oftener than three times a-week in autumn and winter, and every day in spring and summer,—giving it *copiously* every time, and allowing it to run away entirely from the plant, so that the pots may never stand in it. The water used should be either rain or river water. If necessarily from the pump or spring, it ought to stand in the air a day or two before using.



2d. Give plenty of air at every possible opportunity, *when the weather is mild*, either by having the window up, or by removing the plants outside. If, in warm weather, this is done under a bright sun, the pots will have to be shaded, as the sun upon the sides of pots would prove injurious to the young roots, and would greatly injure the plant; and if in bloom, and exposed to the sun, the flowers would soon fade and drop.

3d. Keep the rooms where the plants are of as uniform a temperature as possible, and the plants themselves as near the window as is convenient, except in severe weather, when they are better near the middle of the room during the night.

4th. Examine them occasionally, to see if the pots are full of roots. If this is the case, and the plants are worth it, get some good soil, and shift them into pots a size larger; or if not shifted, be more careful in supplying water, as they will require more when in this state. In summer, water them frequently over the foliage, but not except they also need it at the root as well.

These may be adopted as very general rules, though more absolutely necessary to some plants than others, but very good to all.

There is a good deal to be considered in buying plants, in making the proper choice; for however gratifying it may be to have those which look best in full bloom, it is most satisfactory to have those which last longest in perfection, especially those which have a succession of bloom, and *whose foliage is interesting when the bloom is gone*. This rule may be deviated from in behalf of Tulips, Crocuses, Hyacinths, and other *bulbs*, which are valuable when little else is in flower. These will also bloom in the darkest streets of our cities. They ought to be purchased either in the beginning of this month, when the roots are dry for planting yourselves, or in pots when they are beginning to grow; for if delayed till they are in bloom, nine-tenths of their value is lost, because they are interesting in every stage of their growth, from the first formation of the leaves to the perfection of the flower. Every day of development has its charm; and therefore they ought to be possessed from the first. If in pots, all these require a plentiful supply of water when in a growing state; and if kept cool after shewing flower, their season of blooming is prolonged. HORTICULTURALIST.

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### HARDY SHRUBS FOR FLOWER-BEDS IN SPRING.

IN order to give a novel and diversified appearance to the flower-garden, the earlier spring-flowering shrubs, trained on wire-work, or fastened to pegs of wood, at the height of six inches from the ground, and kept of a uniform length in the manner of dwarf Roses, would be exceedingly showy and attractive, even in the most limited flower-beds.

The earlier flowering shrubs, as Ribes, &c., are more beautiful than the generality of things which bloom in summer, and superior

in display to many simple flowers which characterise the first advent of spring; blossoms of all kinds are, however, especially grateful after a long and dreary winter. The *Cydonia* (*Pyrus*) *japonica* blooms when we have little else to charm us; a week or a fortnight of mild weather, at intervals from December to March, will be enough to tempt a dozen stray blossoms to appear on every plant.

Evergreens, as the *Alaternus*, Laurels, or the *Garrya elliptica*, with its gracefully pendent catkins, form a contrast to the scarlet flowers and leafless branches of the *Cydonia*, the *Amygdalus nana* (Dwarf Almond), with its "flowers of rosy hue," the *Berberis aquifolium*, *Rhododendron dauricum atrovirens*, *Laurustinus*, the *Ribes sanguineum*, *atrorubens*, *albiflorum*, and *pleno*, with their abundance of showy blossoms, and the double-flowering Peach, are plants to be included for the above-mentioned purpose. These, but more especially the double *Ribes sanguineum*, Dwarf Almond, Lilacs, and double-flowered Peach, are admirably suited for bouquets. By means of a little forcing, much earlier flowers may be anticipated. For the growth of those shrubs in beds, no stimulants are required, unless the soil is very shallow or inferior, and then a little leaf-mould would be beneficial.

*Hope Nursery, Bedale.*

C. MAY.

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#### REVIEW.

*An Analysis of the British Ferns and their Allies.* By G. W. Francis, F.L.S. London, Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. 1850. Fourth edition.

To Mr. Francis belongs the credit of having been the first historian, in modern times, of the British Ferns and their allies. The original edition of his *Analysis*—published, we believe, in 1837—was, moreover, in advance of the information which prevailed on this subject at that period. From these two circumstances combined, Mr. Francis's book gained considerable popularity, and not undeservingly so; though, at the same time, it was not free from error, and was illustrated by figures which, in most cases, were much too small to convey correct notions of the plants they were supposed to represent. The second edition (which we have not seen) was improved by the substitution of a fresh set of plates, in which the figures were of larger size, and also by various corrections and additions. In the succeeding editions, we believe, no alterations have been made, notwithstanding that the subject has been much advanced by the labours of Newman, Moore, Deakin, and others, who have subsequently taken up the literature of the Ferns. This "fourth" edition certainly differs from the third only in the date on the title-page; and the third also would appear from the preface to differ from the second in no other particular.

The book before us is an octavo of 88 pages, illustrated by nine plates, each containing usually six figures in compartments. There

is also a woodcut, with magnified views and dissections, given under each genus. The text consists of an introductory portion, treating on the structure, the classification, and the geographical distribution of the Ferns and Fern allies; these being described individually, with references to the localities where they are found, and other technical information, form the bulk of the book. There is also a short appendix, in which the culture of Ferns is briefly treated.

The introductory part is written in a very lucid and interesting style, as will be seen from one or two extracts which we shall make; indeed, we look on this as being now the best part of the book. The affinities of the Ferns, for example, are thus stated:

“The Ferns and their allies form the first order of the Linnæan class Cryptogamia, and the structure of them shews so exactly an intermediate character between the Vasculares and Cellulares, that all systems of classification have assigned them this station among vegetables. They are without flowers, have but imperfectly-formed vessels, and no deposition of real woody fibre; they therefore cannot with propriety be arranged with Phænogamous plants; while their semi-vascular texture and fully-developed leaves shew their organisation to be greatly above that of any other order of Cryptogamia.

Although the true Ferns have a direct analogy with the Palmæ and Cycadææ, the connexion between them and other orders is more apparent in the Pteroides or Fern allies, particularly the Equiseta and Lycopodia. The Equiseta are nearly connected with several orders of flowering plants. In their hollow, jointed, silicious stems, they resemble the Grasses; in other respects, the Coniferæ and Amentaceæ, approaching the one by means of the genus Casuarina, and the other by that of Ephedra; nor are they far removed in structure from the Charas; thus connecting also the Ferns and the Algæ. The other of the Fern allies, the Lycopodia, were considered by the earlier botanists as Mosses, so slightly do they differ from that tribe, not only in habit, but in many important characteristics.

Thus the tribes under consideration, which are divided according to the modern system into *Filicales*, *Lycopodales*, and *Equisetales*—the first the true Ferns, the others the Pteroides or Fern allies,—altogether form valuable, because well-connecting links in the great chain of nature.”

Passing over the details of structure, which we have not space to examine, we come to a very interesting paragraph on the number and distribution of the dorsiferous Ferns, for which it appears the author is indebted to Mr. H. C. Watson, a gentleman well known by his writings on botanical geography:

“Dorsiferous Ferns are found in every part of Britain, except on the summits of the loftier mountains, and in small spaces of the lower grounds, whence they are banished by local peculiarities of the soil or surface. But overlooking these merely local exceptions, of trifling extent, Polypodiaceæ may be stated to range over the whole of Britain, from south to north, from east to west, and from the shores of the sea almost to the summits of the highest hills; in

which latter situation their absence is to be attributed rather to the bleak exposure than to the absolute height. The number of our dorsiferous Ferns will be estimated variously, according to the views entertained with respect to union or division of reputed species, but 35 is the number most generally received. These bear a proportion to flowering plants (reckoning the latter at 1400), of 1 to 40. The order has a great numerical predominance over the other orders of Filicales, all taken together; the proportion of its species being to those of the other three orders, as 6 to 1. And since the most abundant and widely-ranging species of Ferns are also to be found amongst the Polypodiaceæ, the effect of this order in the general vegetation of our island much exceeds that of the allied orders of Ferns. Of the six species referred to other orders, one is exclusively an inhabitant of Yorkshire (if it really be there still); namely, *Trichomanes brevisetum*; a second, *Hymenophyllum tunbridgense*, is local; a third, *H. Wilsoni*, though much more plentiful, is limited to the northern and western counties; whilst the other three, the *Osmunda*, *Botrychium*, and *Ophioglossum*, though widely scattered through Britain, are by no means so generally present as many of the Polypodiaceæ. Several of the British dorsiferous Ferns are so widely and plentifully scattered throughout the island, that there can be no doubt about their existence in every county of Britain; although published records will not enable any one to make the assertion on evidence. Others, on the contrary, are much more limited in their range, being absent from the southern, or northern, or lowland counties of England. Only a few species can be called decidedly rare. The mountain valleys below 1500 or 2000 feet are the head quarters of Polypodiaceæ; very few species wholly shunning the mountain tracts, and a still less number being exclusively confined to the higher parts of the hills. The specimens are numerous amongst the mountain valleys, in the western counties, and in the vicinity of the coast. On the contrary, they are few in marshes, on low plains, dry moors, exposed downs, and places destitute of woods or other shelter from sun and wind. Apparent exceptions to the favourable or unfavourable effects of any of these conditions may usually be explained by excess in some other and counteracting one. Thus the salt spray and violent winds of the western shores are highly unfavourable to the growth of most Ferns, though otherwise their humidity of atmosphere would be favourable; and accordingly whilst the exposed shores and cliffs may be almost without Ferns, caves and sheltered ravines in their immediate vicinity may be numerously tenanted. For the most part, however, even situations that are unsuitable to the majority of Ferns have their own appropriate species. Thus, *Asplenium marinum* flourishes on cliffs exposed to the sea; *Pteris aquilina* and *Blechnum* often grow on the unsheltered heaths, in places open to sun and wind; *Asplenium Ruta muraria* and *A. Adiantum-nigrum* live in the crevices of dry walls and rocks. There are, however, no aquatic Ferns, and scarcely any of the Polypodiaceæ that can be designated marsh plants; unless that occupant of swampy bogs, *Aspidium Thelypteris*, be called a tenant of the

marshes. A light friable soil, and more especially that formed by the decay of tree-leaves, mosses, or other vegetables, is suitable to the roots of most Ferns; but some delight in limestone soils, as *Grammitis ceterach*, *Polypodium calcareum*, and *Cistopteris fragilis*; whilst the *Asplenium septentrionale* and *Woodsia ilvensis* seem to affect the basaltic trap and the harder primary rocks. The operations of human industry have greatly interfered with the natural distribution of Ferns in this country. They have been banished from our roads, corn-fields, meadows, and artificial pastures; and the cutting of peat, and burning of heath and furze, often check the growth of species fitted to thrive in places where these operations are performed. On the other hand, our hedge-banks, loose stone fences, old buildings, and neglected quarries, frequently become artificial fernetums, by affording suitable habitats for several species. These remarks on the distribution of Polypodiaceæ will be understood to apply to the island of Great Britain only. Ireland has twenty-six species of dorsiferous Ferns; but of their range and distribution within that island little is known. All those of Ireland are natives also of England."

Another passage, on the uses of Ferns, may be cited :

"The uses of the Ferns are not very conspicuous. Their bitter principle renders them unpalatable to all creatures. Neither men nor brutes employ any species as an article of food, unless driven by the necessity of hunger; and even the little insects that infest herbaria refuse to prey upon them. Professor Henslow was kind enough to point out to me some time since that I had forgotten the circumstance of the New Zealanders living mainly upon Fern roots. It is true that they do so; still Ferns are a sorry food, and now that the colonists have taught the natives the art of cultivation, Fern roots are becoming less and less an article of consumption. That hunger alone induced the islanders to use these roots as food, may be inferred from the circumstance, that they were ready enough to work for the first settlers merely to be supplied with the commonest European grain or pulse, though the Fern grew abundantly on every side, and might have been procured and prepared comparatively without labour or expense. They are not, however, wholly useless, either in medicine or the arts. Their nauseous taste renders them efficacious in expelling intestinal worms; some of them have been used as a substitute for hops in brewing, and with better success than most other plants, on account of the tannin and gallic acid they contain, precipitating the feculent matter in the wort. The same constituent principles render them also serviceable in preparing kid and other light leathers, and when burnt they yield much comparatively pure potass. The dried fronds of the common brakes are valuable to pack fruit in; and as they retain moisture less, are much better than straw to shield garden plants from frost. Except for these uses, the Ferns have been but little employed, unless, indeed, for those purposes to which most plants when dry are available, namely, for thatch, for fodder, and for fuel."

Similar information is given in respect to the other groups asso-

ciated with the dorsiferous Ferns, which include, beside the remaining orders of true Ferns, the Lycopods, the Pepperworts, and the Horsetails.

In the descriptions of the species, Mr. Francis adheres to the old nomenclature, retaining, for instance, the old genus *Aspidium* entire, and placing the *Filix-femina* in *Asplenium*. The descriptions are brief, but clear, and such as will enable a persevering student to identify the plants. We must give an illustration of the manner in which this part of the book is executed, and select for that purpose the account of the Beech Polypody, which may be taken as a fair specimen :

## 2.—POLYPODIUM PHEGOPTERIS.

BEECH FERN. WOOD POLYPODY. SUN FERN.

CHA.—Fronde bipinnatifid. Lower pinnæ deflexed. Lobes obtuse, entire, hairy.

SYN.—*Polypodium Phegopteris* of *Linn.*, *Willd.*, *Swz.*, *Spreng.*, *Huds.*, *Lightf.*, *Bolt.*, *With.*, *Smith.*, *Hook.*, *Mack.*, *Newm.*—*Polystichum Phegopteris*, *Roth.*—*Polypodium latebrosum*, *Gray*, *Salisb.*

FIG.—*E. B.* 2224.—*Bolt.*, 20 (*not good*).—*Flo. Dan.* 1241.

DES.—Root perennial, hairy, slender, creeping horizontally. Frond triangular, herbaceous, erect, hairy, 6 to 12 inches high. Pinnæ opposite, very acute, adnate, the lower pair bent forwards, pendulous, and distant from the pair next above them. The lobes of all are obtuse, entire, and directed towards the point of the pinnæ, particularly the two lowest, which with those on the opposite pinnæ form a cross. The rachis is smooth, and without pinnæ on the lower half. Sori round, distinct, very small, brown, and seated around the margin of the lobes.

The pendulous character of the lower pinnæ, and the cruciform direction of their bases, are most apparent in vigorous plants, and serve as characters which immediately distinguish this plant from its congeners.

SIT.—In moist woods and rocky dells, chiefly in mountainous countries.

HAB.—ENG.: Rocks at the foot of Cheviot, above Langley Ford, *Mr. Winch.* Cawsey Dean, Durham, *Mr. R. B. Bowman.* Around Keswick, Cumb., *Mr. H. C. Watson.* Wensley-dale, Yorks., *Mr. J. Ward.* Common about Settle, Yorks., *Mr. J. Tatham.* Prestwich Clough and Boghart Clough, Lancashire, *Mr. Merriock.* Egerton Moss, near Bolton, *Mr. W. Christy.* Rocks at the Belle Hag, one mile from Sheffield, *G. F.* Norwood, Surrey, and near Brentford, Middx., *Mr. J. Bevis.* Lidford Fall, Beckey Fall, Dartmoor, Devon, *Jones's Tour.* Isle of Man, *Mr. E. Forbes.*—WALES: Llanberris, first and second field towards Snowdon, *Mr. C. C. Babington.* Capel Curig, North Wales, *Mr. T. H. Cooper.* Frequent in Caern., not at any considerable elevation, *Mr. W. Wilson.*—SCOT.: Grampians, Aberdeensh., Red Caird Hill, W. of Invernesshire up to 1150 yds., Forfarshire, Sutherland, Dumbarton, and other parts of the Highlands, *Mr. H. C. Watson.* Moray and Rosshire, *Rev. G. Gordon.* Ben Lomond, *Prof. Henslow.* Ruberslaw, Jedburgh, &c. Campsie, near Glasgow, *Mr. T. H. Cooper.*—IRE.: Powerscourt Waterfall (right-hand side), *Mr. O. Kelly.* Waterfall above Lough Eske, co. of Donegal, and at other places in the northern counties, *Mr. Mackay.*

GEO.—Throughout Germany, and indeed most European countries as far north as Lapland, but not in the South countries. Linnæus received specimens from Canada."

Having thus briefly described Mr. Francis's *Analysis*, and spoken favourably of commendable portions of it, we must now gently criticise certain parts which seem deserving of censure, and make a few comments on some other points. We do not quarrel with the author

for adhering to the old nomenclature, which he probably thinks the best; but when he states, as he does in the Preface, that the new system of classifying Ferns according to their venation is neither correct, convenient, nor practicable, we must join issue with him. We maintain the exact opposite. Indeed, Mr. Francis appears to have totally misconceived the system itself, as though venation was made to overrule every thing else; which is by no means the case, it being only made auxiliary to the fructification. We also differ *in toto* with Mr. Francis as to the genus of the Scaly Hart's-tongue, which he still places in Grammitis—an error long since exploded, Grammitis being a genus of Polypodiæ, while the plant under notice evidently belongs to Asplenicæ. This error has, however, arisen from trusting to the single character of the absence of an indusium. The plant should be referred to the genus Ceterach. The figure given of Polypodium calcareum represents the allied *P. Dryopteris*. This error is the more remarkable, as Mr. Francis has evidently described the true plant, and insists on its distinctness in opposition to some contrary published opinions. The two species of *Woodsia* could not be recognised from the figures given of them. *Cystopteris dentata* is kept distinct from *C. fragilis*; and perhaps correctly so, though almost all authors now unite them. The *Aspidium aculeatum* of this book is one of the many forms of *A. angulare*. Mr. Francis's *Aspidium spinulosum* would appear, from some points of his description, to be really a form of *A. dilatatum*, although he takes especial care to explain that it is not. Either this is the case, or there is some confusion in the descriptions, the phrase "indusium glandulosum" not being applicable to the true *A. spinulosum*. *Aspidium recurvum* is jumbled up with *A. dilatatum*, as in the earlier editions, notwithstanding that Mr. Newman, so long ago at least as 1844, clearly distinguished it, and that all botanists who have paid any attention to the subject now acknowledge its distinctness. The Rock Brakes is named *Cryptogramma crispa*, a genus allied to *Pteris*. On this point we differ, and refer the plant to *Allosorus*, a genus of the Polypodiæ, the edge of the frond which covers the sori being simply turned back, and not changed in texture, so as to become a true indusium. *Trichomanes brevisetum* is retained as the name of the rare Bristle Fern, long since identified with the *T. speciosum* of continental authors, and by some believed to be the same as *T. radicans*, a species described even earlier than *T. speciosum*. Neither of these synonyms are quoted. Passing to the *Equisetums*, we find no mention whatever of *E. Mackaii*, a distinct species published by Mr. Newman at least as long since as 1844, nor is it in any way alluded to.

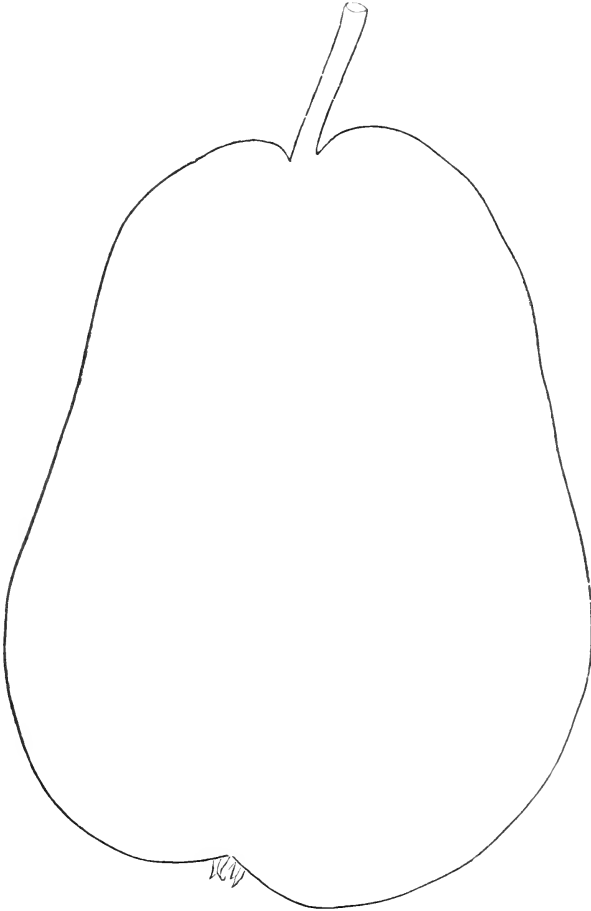
Our limits, of course, prevent us from going into any detail on the doubtful or erroneous portions of the book; but we think the preceding enumeration will at least justify us in stating that Mr. Francis's work has now fallen behind the state of our knowledge on this particular subject. The author, we believe, is now a resident in Australia, which may account for the defect, but does not render it a less blemish. We must protest, too, against these booksellers' "new editions," which are mere unrevised reprints of former issues.

## DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

No. X.

PEARS (*continued from p. 182*).

10. *Beurré Diel*. Fruit very large, generally of an obtuse-pyriform shape (like the figure), but sometimes more obovate; irregular in outline. Its greatest diameter is at about two-thirds of its length



from the stalk, from whence it diminishes to both extremities; the base is broad, and often oblique; the crown is generally broad and uneven. Stalk about an inch long, thick, inserted in a small cavity, often obliquely. Eye seated in a wide uneven basin; segments



nearly erect, widely separated. The ground-colour of the skin is yellow; but generally it is nearly covered with dark-brown russet, and often there are many black specks in the cuticle. Flesh whitish, rather coarse in appearance, but buttery, juicy, and very good, although the flavour is slightly musky. Eatable in the end of October and November. This handsome and valuable Pear has the additional merit of being a free bearer, and in the vicinity of London succeeds well on standard trees, from which the fruit is better flavoured than when grown against a wall; although in the northern counties an east or a west wall would no doubt be necessary.

J. B. WHITING.

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### SCOTTISH PANSY SOCIETY.

THE seventh committee-meeting of this society was held at Falkirk, this year, for the purpose of examining the merits of seedlings raised by members in 1851. There was a numerous display of new flowers, evincing a growing determination to bring the Pansy to the highest state of perfection. The committee awarded first-class certificates to four flowers, three of which were produced by Messrs. Dickson and Co., Edinburgh, and the other by Mr. Finlayson of Kincardine.

These were, Count de Flahault (Finlayson), a yellow-ground flower, with dark maroon belt and top petals, large, and of a rich velvety texture, very fine form, and smooth outline. Will be a fine show-flower.

Sovereign (Dickson and Co.), a yellow self, with large and very dark blotch in centre.

Etna (Dickson and Co.), also a yellow self, with a beautiful blotch of deep sienna. On comparing these with the best of the class (yellow selfs) in cultivation, they were unanimously considered far superior.

Miss Talbot (Dickson and Co.), a pure white-ground flower, with deep purple belting and top petals, blotch large and dark, fine form and texture.

There was another flower, named Miriam, in Dickson and Co.'s stands, particularly noticed, and doubtless very fine; but being in bad condition, the committee delayed giving a decisive opinion on it till seen in a good state.

There were a number of seedlings sent by Mr. Whamont, Arbroath, but unfortunately so much injured in carriage that no decided opinion could be given. One variety in Mr. Whamont's collection, named Jane, attracted the particular notice of the committee, and which they unanimously recommended to be brought forward again.

Amongst other flowers forwarded by Mr. Gowanlock of Perth, but also much injured in carriage through post, there was a white-ground flower, with bluish purple belting and top petals. The committee were of opinion that, had this flower been in good condition,

it would doubtless rank amongst the finest of its class; and they strongly recommended that it should be brought forward on a future occasion. The eighth grand annual competition of the society will be held in Glasgow in June 1852, of which due notice will be given.

### STOKE NEWINGTON FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*Sept. 25.*—No less than twelve collections of Dahlias were staged on this occasion by amateurs, each with twelve varieties, and eight were rewarded.

The 1st prize, for 12 dissimilar blooms, was voted to Mr. James, for Mrs. C. Bacon, Danecroft Hero, Queen of Lilacs, Mrs. Seldon, Nil Desperandum, Elizabeth, Duke of Wellington, Admiral, Fearless, Yellow Standard, Sir F. Bathurst, and Shylock; 2d, Mr. Cook, for Mrs. C. Bacon, Scarlet Gem, Queen of Lilacs, Earl of Clarendon, Fame, George Glenny, John Davis (Cook), Fearless, Essex Triumph, Absolum (Cook), Elizabeth, and Duke of Wellington; 3d, Mr. J. Edwards, for Goliath, Queen of Lilacs, The Hero, John Edwards, Mr. Seldon, Richard Cobden, Mrs. Seldon, Fearless, Miss Chaplin, Snowflake, Duke of Wellington, and Thames-Bank Hero; 4th, Mr. Black, for Mr. Herbert, Mr. Seldon, John Edwards, Princess Louisa, Thames-Bank Hero, Queen of Lilacs, Mrs. Seldon, Fearless, Sir R. Peel, Goliath, Miss Spears, and Shylock; 5th, Mr. Weedon, for Duke of Wellington, Admiral, Nil Desperandum, Earl of Clarendon, Fearless, Essex Triumph, Mr. Seldon, Duke of Cambridge, John Edwards, Queen of Beauty (Drummond), Psyche, and Sir F. Bathurst; 6th, Mr. Thurley, for Thames-Bank Hero, Duke of Wellington, Mr. Seldon, Princess Louisa, Fearless, Purple Standard, Mrs. C. Bacon, Napoleon, General Negrier, Queen of the West, Scarlet Gem, and Queen of Yellows; 7th, Mr. Holmes, for Frederick Jerome, Mrs. Seldon, Thames-Bank Hero, Queen of Lilacs (5?), Fearless (6?), Duke of Wellington, El Dorado, Miss Vyse, Shylock, C. Turner, Sir F. Bathurst, and Scarlet Gem; 8th, Mr. Bennett, for Mrs. C. Bacon, Mr. Seldon, Queen of Beauties, The Hero, Thames-Bank Hero, Queen of Lilacs, Imbricata, Princess Louisa, Duke of Cambridge, Crocus, John Edwards, and Fearless.

In the Dealers' class, for 24 varieties, Mr. Gurney received the 1st prize. 6 fancies: 1st, Mr. Black, with Highland Chief, Rachel, Miss Compton, Lady Grenville, Mrs. Hansard, and Queen of Fairies; 2d, Mr. J. Edwards, with Miss Compton, Mrs. Hansard, Highland Chief (3), Queen of Fairies, Flying Dutchman (5), and Captivation; 3d, Mr. James, with Highland Chief, Mrs. Hansard, Elizabeth, Miss Compton, Rainbow, and Madame Bresson.

Fine spikes of Hollyhocks were staged by Mr. A. Parsons, of Ponder's End. They consisted of Pilot, Aurantia Superb, California, Hero, Triumphant, and Beauty. These are seedlings which are wholly in the possession of the exhibitor. Enchantress, Obscura, Charles Baron, and Model of Perfection owe their origin to Mr.

Chater. These, with *Delicata* and *Rosca grandiflora* (both Baron's), completed the dozen.

First-class certificates were awarded to Dahlias: Ariel (Turner), a bold and apparently pure white; to Miss Ward (Turner), yellow, with white tip (fancy); to Dr. Frampton (Rawlings), one of the most successful flowers of the year; and to Sir F. Thesiger (Rawlings), a lilac of great promise. Other seedlings consisted of Morning Star (Turner); Malvina (Turner); Louisa Glenny (Rawlings), deep yellow, and a flower of which the raiser entertains the highest opinion; Defiance (Rawlings), an extra-sized blush white; Sarah (Pink), mottled lake; Lord Lyndhurst, deep maroon, with white tips; Rose of England (Rawlings), cheerful rose-pink; Scarlet King (Green), previously described; as was also George Villiers (Union), Miss Merry (Union), fancy. The prizes were handed to the several winners in the course of the evening.

### SIDNEY SMITH'S SALAD.

Two large potatoes pass'd through kitchen-sieve  
 Unwonted softness to the salad give;  
 Of mordent mustard add a single spoon—  
 Distrust the condiment which bites so soon;  
 But deem it not, thou man of herbs, a fault  
 To add a double quantity of salt;  
 Three times the spoon with oil of Lucca crown,  
 And once with vinegar, procured from town,—  
 True flavour needs it; and your poet begs  
 The pounded yellow of two well-boil'd eggs;  
 Let onion-atoms lurk within the bowl,  
 And, scarce suspected, animate the whole;  
 And lastly, on the flavour'd compound toss  
 A magic teaspoon of anchovy sauce.  
 Then, though green turtle fail, though venison's tough,  
 And ham and turkey are not boil'd enough,  
 Serenely full, the epicure may say,  
 Fate cannot harm me—I have dined to-day!

### NEW DAHLIAS.

THE following are a few of the best seedling Dahlias shewn during the season of 1851.

SIR RICHARD WHITTINGTON (*Drummond*). Dark ruby crimson; large, full, well-formed flower; centre very compact; petals smooth, and gently cupping to the centre; the best of its class.

TRIUMPHANT (*Keynes*). Crimson of a peculiar shade; good general form; has been much exhibited.

ALICE (*Drummond*). Fawn, with small bronze tip; quite new in colour; of medium size; very smooth; outline good.

BOB DRUMMOND (*Drummond*). Deep scarlet; plentiful as scarlets are, this is about the best; Sir R. Peel, Sir C. Napier, and this variety, are all fine; but are of very different shades of colour, and can be shewn together; a full-sized constant flower.

MALVINA (*Howard*). White, mottled, and tipped with purple; the best and most constant white-ground Dahlia; centre and outline very good.

DR. FRAMPTON (*Rawlings*). White and rose, mottled in the style of Princess Radziwill; not so large, but more compact, and better in form; should be grown in a moist situation.

MORNING STAR (*Turner*). Orange; much brighter than Wellington or Clarendon; very full-sized well-formed flower, with close high centre; the brightest of this class.

KING OF SCARLETS (*Green*). Deep scarlet; petal something resembling Scarlet Gem; will be a useful flower.

GLOBE (*Turner*). Rich brown; novel and good form; rather small.

UNA (*Keynes*). White, large; rather open; good centre.

DOUGLAS JERROLD. Yellow tipped with lake; very attractive; early.

EDMUND FOSTER (*Turner*). Crimson; full, deep, and symmetrical.

ARIEL. Good white; by the same raiser, but appeared to be uncertain.



## NOTES ON STRAWBERRIES.

KITLEY'S Goliath proves to be a valuable variety, resembling the British Queen in size and form, but of a deeper and brighter colour. The plants also seem to be more hardy; however it certainly is not equal to the Queen in flavour.

Myatt's Eleanor deserves a somewhat better character than it received at p. 8. In colour and flavour it has been better this season than I had previously found it, although by no means good enough to be recommended as a dessert Strawberry.

Myatt's Surprise is well spoken of by some who have grown it, and may therefore be worthy of a trial.

La Liegeoise, a large dark Strawberry of continental origin; and Patrick's Seedling, a home-raised variety of somewhat similar character, promise to be serviceable sorts.

Several seedlings are advertised to be sent out for the first time this autumn; but it would be premature to offer an opinion upon their quality till they have been further proved.

J. B. WHITING.

## SLOUGH DAHLIA SHOW.

*Sept. 30.*—This was a highly interesting meeting, and the blooms were in capital order.

Amateurs: 12 varieties, 1st prize, Mr. Kirkpatrick, with Richard Cobden, Mrs. C. Bacon, Imbricata, Admiral, Sir F. Bathurst, Nil Desperandum, Snowflake, Frederick Jerome, Mr. Seldon, Purple Standard, Fearless, and Earl of Clarendon; 2d, Mr. Weedon, with Nil Desperandum, Model, Admiral, Duke of Wellington, Jullien, John Edwards, Snowflake, Earl of Clarendon, Queen of the East, Yellow Standard, Mr. Seldon, and Sir C. Napier; 3d, Mr. Prockter, with Queen of Lilacs, General Negrier, Mrs. C. Bacon, Mr. Seldon, Richard Cobden, Mrs. Seldon, Standard of Perfection, Fearless, Admiral, Utilis, Duke of Wellington, and Princess Louisa; 4th, Mr. Hunt, jun., with Duke of Wellington, Magnificent, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Earl of Clarendon, Queen of Beauty, Hon. Mrs. Ashley, Black Prince, Mr. Seldon, Shylock, Fearless, Scarlet Gem, and Queen of the East; 5th, Mr. Cook, with Earl of Clarendon, Richard Cobden, Abigail (?), Negro, Fearless, Absolum (?), Essex Triumph, Mrs. C. Bacon, El Dorado, Mr. Seldon, Queen of Lilacs, and Sir F. Bathurst; 6th, Mr. Hopkins, with Mr. Seldon, Toison d'Or, Queen of Lilacs, Mrs. Seldon, Scarlet Gem, Beauty of Hants, Duke of Wellington, Beeswing, Yellow Standard, Fearless, Richard Cobden, and Seraph; 7th, Mr. Ford, with Duke of Wellington, Essex Triumph, Mrs. Seldon, Magnificent, Blanchfleur, Mr. Seldon, Earl of Clarendon, Marchioness of Cornwallis, General Faucher, Grenadier, Hon. Mrs. Ashley, and Sir R. Peel; 8th, Mr. Humber, with Princess Radziwill, Snowflake, Fearless, Mrs. Seldon, General Faucher, Scarlet Gem, Negro, Richard Cobden, Hon. Mrs. Ashley, Mr. Seldon, and Mrs. C. Bacon. Six new varieties: 1st, Mr. Weedon, with Leda, Jullien, Duke of Rothsay, Regina, Admiral, and Gem of the Grove; 2d, Mr. Prockter, with Mrs. Hansard, Napoleon, Admiral, Sir C. Napier, Yellow Gem, and Nepaulese Prince; 3d, Mr. Holder, with General Faucher, California, Sir R. Peel, Hon. Mrs. Ashley, Gem of the Grove, and Admiral; 4th, Mr. Cook, with Sir C. Napier, Jullien, Mrs. Hansard, George Glenny, Miss Herbert, and Regina.

6 Fancies: 1st, Mr. Prockter, with Miss Compton, Gasperine, Highland Chief, Mrs. Hansard, Elizabeth, and Contribution; 2d, Mr. Ford, with Discount, Elizabeth, Lady Grenville, Miss Blackmore, Lady Cullum, and Floral Beauty.

Dealers, 24: 1st, Mr. Turner, with John Edwards, El Dorado, Mr. Seldon, Leda, Negro, Duke of Wellington, Yellow Superb, Magnificent, Fearless, Black Prince, Queen of Lilacs, Grenadier, Mrs. Seldon, Princess Louisa, Richard Cobden, Mr. Palmer, Sir C. Napier, Beauty of Kent, Andromeda, Snowflake, Mrs. Saunders, Princess Radziwill, Marchioness of Cornwallis, and Jullien; 2d, Mr. Bragg, with Princess Radziwill, Earl of Clarendon, George Glenny, Nil Desperandum, Magnificent, General Faucher, El Dorado, Mr. Seldon, Duke of Wellington, Fearless, Carmina, Hon. Mrs. Ashley, Sir R.

Peel, Yellow Superb, Sir F. Bathurst, Mr. Palmer, Victor Boheim, Seraph, Miss Chaplin, Black Prince, Admiral, Essex Triumph, Queen of the West, and Fame.

12 Fancies: 1st, Mr. Turner, with Miss Compton, Jeannette, Highland Chief, Elizabeth, Mrs. Hansard, Dulcinée, Nonsuch, Flying Dutchman, Rainbow, Miss Weyland, Kingfisher, and Gasperine; 2d, Mr. Bragg, with One-in-the-ring, Flying Dutchman, Keepsake, Highland Chief, Miss Pope, Kingfisher, Lady Cullum, Gasperine, Madame Wachy, Forget-me-not, Lady Grenville, Mrs. Hansard. First-class certificates were granted to Una (Keynes), a bold white, which has been very successfully shewn during the season; Malvina, (Turner), mottled lake and white; Morning Star (Turner), brilliant scarlet orange; Miss Mathews (Bragg), remarkably bright, full, deep, and bold, in every qualification an improvement on Lady Grenville, a variety it much resembles: Flora M'Ivor (Keynes), was shewn; Miss Ward (Turner), Absolum (Cook), golden buff.

*Hollyhocks*: 1st, Mr. Dyson, with Magnum Bonum, Bella Donna, Rosy Queen, Queen, Sulphurea, Lady Smith, Subram, Rosea grandiflora, Enchantress, Rosea, Albo, Caroline, and Model of Perfection; 2d, Mr. Holder, 12 spikes, mostly seedlings of considerable promise, were set up by Mr. Bragg.

*Pansies* were contributed in good condition by Mr. Bragg and Mr. Turner.

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## NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,

### AND OF NEW OR RARE PLANTS

#### FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

*NYPHÆA ELEGANS*. A very pretty flowering aquatic herb, a native of Mexico. It is cultivated at Kew in the tropical aquarium, but may probably be found to suit an out-door one during summer, as many of the species will do with much less heat than is generally given them, if placed beyond the reach of frost during winter. The leaves are floating, six inches long, and four or five broad, with the upper surface dark green, and purple beneath; the flowers are nearly the size of the common *N. alba*; they rise about a foot above the water, are of a yellowish white tinged with purple blue, and very fragrant. It was raised at Kew last year from seed. It has been well figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for September.

*PENTSTEMON CYANTHUS*. A hardy herbaceous plant, attaining the height of about two feet, and flowering freely in May and June. The blossoms form dense spikes, a foot or more long, on the upper part of the stems, and are of a very bright clear azure blue. It is a native of the upper valleys of the Platte river, in the Rocky Mountains, and has been raised from imported seed and brought into notice by Messrs. Lucombe, Pince, and Co., of Exeter. It is said to be of a rather tender constitution, but its bright blue colour renders it a very desirable addition to our hardy flowering plants.

*SARCOPODIUM LOBBII*, var. *HENSHALLI*. A dwarf-growing stove Orchid, closely allied to a *Bolbophyllum*. Pseudo-bulbs smooth, with a solitary leaf on the apex, and a scape arising from the base, bearing a solitary flower about three inches across, of a yellowish buff faintly streaked with brownish purple. It was imported by Messrs. Rollisson of Tooting from Java, through their collector Mr. Henshall. These last two are figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for September.

*TRITOMA UVARIA*. This truly beautiful flowering hardy herbaceous plant is

one that thrives freely in any light garden soil, and is one which no garden should be without. It is an old species, having been introduced to English collections many years ago from the Cape of Good Hope. For a bed or border it is admirably adapted, growing about two or three feet high, and producing abundance of flowers of a light red and orange colour, toward the end of summer and in autumn. Various plants of it are at present in flower at Kew, and some of them being large produce from ten to twelve racemes of flowers, which, from their lively colour, have a charming effect.

*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.*

J. HOULSTON.

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## A PACKET OF SEEDS SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER.

[Continued from p. 232.]

I NEED not tell how quick I was off, and how often I said, and how heartily, "Thank God!" I was soon there. And what a happy sight! the window-blind just enough of one side to shew the old table in the old spot, all laid out and ready, as if I had never moved away at all; and inside there was my sick boy in his chair, and the two little girls, and dicky's cage on its old nail, and every bit of furniture in its place; and the little corner mahogany cupboard, with its glass front and little silver things that I had left with the shopkeeper, that was back too.

"How's this, mother?" I said to my wife; "how's this?" But, poor thing, she couldn't speak; and so to tea we went: but do what I would, I couldn't swallow a bit to eat, only a cup or two; and I was off and on my seat so often, and here and there to look at things, I was just like a chip in an eddy. After tea, I set to work, and got the bedsteads put together, and things upstairs all to rights; and when the children were laid down, I had my wife tell me all about how it was I'd got back. It was not the new shawl and shoes made her so cheerful the evening before; but the squire had been down whilst I was out, and told her I was to be his gardener again; but that she wasn't to say a word to me about it, for he did not want me to know, and he'd send the cart and take all the things up to the cottage, and she was to go up and make all as comfortable as she could before I got back from my work. When she thanked him, she was like all womenfolks, she out with all our troubles, and what we'd suffered one way and another; and would have kept on for an hour, I dare say, only the squire blew his nose so loud to stop her, as she thought, and bid her not say a word to me, only do as he bid. "And," said he, "if you are glad he should live with me again, you may thank Miss Laura the governess; for I always thought Gregory was doing very well, till she told me he was not, and then I meant him to come back when my gardener left; and I would have told him so when I saw him up against the plantation, only he did not seem to care to speak to me." "That shews," said I, "how people don't understand one another, all for want of a word or two. If he'd only have said he wanted to speak to me, how glad I should have been to have heard him say as much as he did to you!"

Gardeners, like other people, think they are worse off than every body else; and when they see fine clothes, and fine houses and horses, and the like, they fancy them that have them must be happy. So listen to this.

Before I lost my place, one stormy November evening about eight o'clock, we were sitting by the fire, when there came a knock at the door. I took the light, and had hardly turned the lock and handle, when open it blew, out went the candle, and in came, with the wind and rain, a young lady asking shelter. We soon had her in by the fire; and, poor thing, what a figure—so wet and so draggled! With it all she put on a deal of airs, and talked about being used to ride in a carriage, not being used to get wet, and the like. My wife gave me a hint, and so I took my lantern, put on my coat, and off into the houses to see all right, as every gardener should do before he goes to bed. A drop of candle-grease here and there, now and then, always pleased me when I saw it in a morning, as it shewed my foreman had had a look out for a slug or something the evening before. Well, the rain cleared off and the moon shone out; and when I got in-doors again the lady was gone.

“Poor thing,” said my wife, “she’s the governess at the Grange House, and been brought up a lady, and yet she’s so thin of clothes, and so proud, I could hardly get her to put on my thick shawl and a pair of my shoes and stockings to go home in, though she’d catch her death of cold to keep those on that’s by the fire. I did get her to, with some coaxing, poor thing, though she sobbed as if her heart would break when I wrapp’d her up well and made her comfortable, and saw her into the village.”

A few evenings after this, she came again, and brought back my wife’s things. We were sitting round the table, and our little boy was drawing, in his way, to amuse himself, and had got a sprig of jasmine. She didn’t seem in any hurry to go, but took her bonnet off, and sat down with us, and took his pencil, and shewed him how to make it look more natural, and said if he would like to learn, she should like to teach him a little; and she drew him a stalk, with a leaf and flower, and bid him copy them a good many times, till he could do them well, and she would give him another lesson when she came again. After this she often looked in, and very kind she grew; and, like every body else, she told my wife all her troubles—an odd thing to me; but I take it they looked upon her as a kind of nurse. Her father had been quite a gentleman, but spent all his money while he lived; and when he died, his house and all his land went to the eldest son. It seems unnatural, but I believe it’s true; for I know when my lord died, my lady and all the children had to leave the park, and live in a small house some miles off, and their eldest son, a very wild fellow, came into all. Poor Miss Laura had to go out for a governess, and came into a family, not far from our squire’s, to teach their daughters. The master was as nice kind a man as ever lived; but the lady hadn’t been brought up with gentry, and nobody could bear her, she was so mean and unhandsome in every thing she did.



The night Miss Laura came to our cottage so wet, she had been sent to a house a good bit off, to get her out of the way, because some young ladies were coming to the Grange; and visitors liked her company more than they did her betters'. She did not have a great deal of money given her, though she could talk a many strange languages; and has made us stare many a time to hear her sing to our children songs of people that live over the seas, and so natural too, it seemed no trouble at all to her. But it was not want of money she complained of, when she was talking free and easy to my wife; but the being looked down upon, and the way the servants treated her, copying like after their mistress. My wife, who knew a little about these things, when she could do so and not give offence, used to recommend her to wait on herself all she could, and shew a kind way to them; and when she tried it, she said she found there was nothing she couldn't do for herself. We missed her a great deal when we lived in the village; for when the children were ill, she was forbid to come and see us, for fear of carrying home the complaint; though it was all an excuse, for it wasn't at all catching. About two months before I went back to the squire's, she went into his family, after their governess married, and then we saw her again, and times were better with her; and to shew she hadn't forgot my wife's kindness in former days, she had made her the present of the shawl and shoes; and, unknown to us, had told the squire how glad I should be to go back to my old place again; and begged my master to take me on, as soon as ever she heard the other gardener was going. Nobody seemed happier than she was when she came late in the evening, and saw us all settled in comfortably again; and then she told us how it was the gardener left. He was a very respectable young man, and came from a good place; but he had married a fine-looking young woman, who had been brought up to the dress-making. Her mother, like a foolish woman, instead of teaching her how to clean house, cook, and so on, and getting her into a respectable family, said her daughter should never be a slave, and gave her too much her own way. Well, when she was married, and had two or three children, she made a poor slovenly housekeeper, and was very untidy in herself. On Sundays she made a good show, but on week-days she was down at heel, and her clothes hung about her as if she had been dragged through the bushes; and so you may guess how the garden-room was kept. A good deal of fault was found at its being so dirty and dusty; but she wouldn't bear speaking to, and at last persuaded her husband to give up his place, and take a bit of land near a neighbouring town, and turn master for himself,—a kind of market-gardener.

Poor Miss Laura! trouble did her and all of us good; it was just like a heavy fall of snow over the spring flowers, it kept us in our right places; and when it melted away, we never enjoyed the sunshine more. She afterwards married very well, to a young farmer; but she soon died, in childbed, and lies in our village churchyard. He's gone away over the seas, so I've heard say; but wherever he is he'll never forget her, nor I either, the generous young lady: I wish there were more like her.

When she went away the evening we got back and I'm telling of, the foreman came in, and I got my lantern, and we walked round the houses together. There seemed a good deal of alteration, and the plants looked uncommonly well; but I laid it all to the candle-light; but next morning I found there was no mistake; the man that had gone away was a deal cleverer than I was. I could see that with half an eye. Every thing was in the best of order, and so many new plants. So, said I, it will not do to get behindhand: and ever since I've took in all the different gardening books and papers I could afford, and more; and I often went and looked at other places, and saw what other people were doing. You may stop at home and look at your own doings, till you think you cannot be beaten; but I've learnt there's nothing like looking about you; and however well you may do a thing, try and do it better.

[To be continued.]

### OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS.** Although it is desirable to remove the plants to a western aspect, they will, nevertheless, receive little harm, if allowed to remain in a northern one till February. In low situations it will be advisable to elevate the standing, and ensure a dry bottom. Water should be given sparingly; a moderate moisture, however, must be sustained. Be sure the glasses are sound, and do not drip. Before finally placing the plants, clean, and slightly stir the surface of the soil, and add a little fresh compost, if required. Search the bottoms, and also under the rims of the pots, for slugs; for if they happen to escape your notice, they will commit much mischief in warm nights during the winter season. Air is most essential this month; draw the lights quite off as often as the weather will permit, and tilt them both at front and back in wet weather. Raising the glasses behind only, is not sufficient to insure health; especially when the plants have to be covered for days together.

**CALCEOLARIAS.** Give old varieties that general attention which all things require at this time of the year, not killing them with kindness. Presuming the seedlings are pricked out well apart in large pans, or placed singly in pots, there let them remain as cool as they can be without freezing them; and keep them clean and free from fly.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTEEES** should by this time be well established in small pots for wintering. In this case, the lights should be drawn off as often as the weather will permit. Exposure to heavy rains must be avoided; of the two, keep them dry at this time; but not so much so that the plants shall flag. In wet or boisterous weather the lights should be tilted back and front, as a free circulation of air is indispensable, and will prevent the spot, so destructive, if neglected in the autumn months; an excess of moisture is the main cause of this evil. Some varieties are much more subject to it than others; as, for instance, Lorenzo, Princess Royal, and Paul Pry, &c., are often affected with it when their companions are nearly

free. In Picotees, Princess Alice is about the worst. The best practice is to grow such singly, instead of in pairs, as is the usual method; and to place them at a greater distance from each other in the frame or pots.

**CINERARIAS.** These will now be in rapid growth, and consequently they should not receive any sudden check. Occasional frosts may now be expected; and it would be wise to be prepared with mats, and occasionally with litter, to protect those in pits or frames. Protect them also from cold, blustering winds, which frequently occur in November. Bring a few that are throwing up flower-stems, into the greenhouse for early flowering. Give plenty of air; a cold, damp, confined atmosphere will cause them to lose all their bottom leaves. Continue shifting those which require it into larger pots. Watch for green-fly and mildew: for the former fumigate; for the latter, dust with flour of sulphur.

**DAHLIAS** should now be taken up and stored away for the winter. The usual places for keeping them are under the greenhouse stage, dry cellars, and tool-houses, where the frost cannot reach them. If the soil at the time of taking up be tolerably dry, the tubers will keep better by having a little left about them. See that no water remains in the hollow of the stem, and that the name or number is firmly attached with wire. The roots should be gone over occasionally, to observe if any are likely to decay; in which case, if a valuable or scarce variety, it should be placed in heat, and started into growth. Others may require to be spread out, on a fine day, for a few hours, should they be getting damp and mildewed. Attention to these last observations will suffice for the next three months.

**EPACRISES AND HEATHS.** Presuming that the plants are neatly arranged according to their respective heights, with plenty of room to admit the free circulation of air between each, nicely cleaned and weeded, all they require for the next three or four months is, to admit air freely on all fitting opportunities, keeping the plants as cool as possible short of freezing; vigilance early to detect symptoms of mildew, and prompt application of sulphur, together with a sparing application of the contents of the watering-pot.

**PANSIES.** If sufficient have been planted out for spring blooming, it will be the safer plan to pot off a few lights full for spring planting; for should the winter be severe, they will be found very useful. If the plants are small, three or four in a pot, planted close to the edge, will answer as well, if not better than singly. Those for blooming in pots will require all the air possible, and not to be crowded in the frame. The same treatment as for the Carnation during winter will answer admirably. Seedlings should now be planted out, and looked over every morning until they are established, firming those in the ground that have been disturbed by worms. Seed may still be procured, but that saved in the spring produces the best flowers.

**PELARGONIUMS.** There is little to do with these plants this month. Water but seldom, and never unless they absolutely require it, which is easily learnt by rapping the pot outside with the knuckle. Clean all the glass thoroughly; for the more light they get in the dull

months the better. Place the plants in the situations they will occupy when in bloom; the space between may be filled up with flowering bulbs. Tie a piece of strong bast under the rim of the pot, and to this train down the shoots, taking care not to break them out of the stem. The best time to do this is when the plants are dry, and the shoots pliable. No more shifting will be required till January. Seedlings not removed into their blooming-pots had better be shifted at once, if well rooted round the ones they are in. A 5 or 6-inch size will be quite large enough for them to flower in. If fire is required, let it be no more than is absolutely necessary to exclude frost.

**PINKS.** If the beds intended for next year's bloom are not already completed, no time should be lost in making a finish. The surface of the bed should be moved as often as closed by rain, and the soil pressed to the roots of such plants as are loosened by worms. Fresh earth may be added if the beds have sunk, and require it. Look over the tallies, and replace those that are not legible. Late and weakly pipings of valuable and scarce kinds may be potted, one pair in a 60-sized pot, and protected in frames through the winter.

**POLYANTHUSES.** The directions given last month for the management of the plants will apply to the present; and if not carried out, should have early attention. Make an industrious search after slugs at this period; it will avert much mischief in the spring. Draw the soil well up to the shoulders of the plants, or add a little more, if required, to make the beds level. Polyanthuses, under pot-culture, will bear more moisture than Auriculas; but, in other respects, the treatment will be the same for this month.

**RANUNCULUSES.** Seedlings which came up last month should be placed in a cold frame, giving air at all favourable seasons, and carefully protecting from excess of moisture. Watch against the ravages of slugs. Much damage to seedling crops is done by these depredators while very young, only recently hatched; and with the protection of frames, their industry does not cease so soon as in the open air. An occasional look at the stock of tubers, to see if they are free from damp and vermin, is the only attention required at this season.

**ROSES IN POTS.** Plants that have been making a gay appearance under glass, will now be going fast out of flower; and it will be well to give a little protection after taking them out of a greenhouse, before plunging them for the winter.

**TULIPS.** If Tulips be not already planted, no time should be lost in doing so; the longer they are out of the ground, the greater will be the probability of a deficient and imperfect bloom next season; nature herself, in pushing forth the bulbs, is plainly telling where they ought to be. If the mould on the surface of those beds, which are already planted, be set or battered by the rain, a light raking on a fine dry day will be beneficial.

## THE PASSING YEAR AND ITS EVENTS.

THE year 1851 is now fast drawing to its close ; a year long to be remembered as a starting-point in the history of the world, upon what we trust will be a glorious and humanising career. Beneath the roof of a wonderful erection, DESIGNED BY A GARDENER, men of all nations have met and parted in a way in which such multitudes have never met and parted before. The recollection of the happy hours spent within that wonderful building will ever be grateful to thousands, ay, millions ; and if the Crystal Palace is to come down, if the noble elms, whose early foliage shed such a charm upon the scene, are to be again uncovered to the winds of heaven, we hope they may long stand to mark the site of one of the proudest trophies ever raised to the glory of the Creator by the intelligence and industry of man. In our own way there was no little to interest and to instruct. Under numerous disadvantages, a really respectable display of plants and flowers was maintained by the following Nurserymen, from the opening of the Exhibition to its close, and it is meet that we record their names. The fine Palm-trees of Messrs. Loddiges lent a natural grandeur to the various works of art that surrounded them. Messrs. Lane's charming collection of flowering Azaleas and other plants was the admiration of all who beheld them ; and scarcely less beautiful was the circular group of Rhododendrons from Messrs. Standish and Noble of Bagshot. Messrs. Knight and Perry had some interesting Conifers, as had also Messrs. Paul of Cheshunt ; and Messrs. Clark of Streatham, Mr. Bragg of Slough, Messrs. Weeks, Messrs. Rendle, Mrs. Dennis, and Mr. Ferguson, all contributed an ample share of nature's productions, which served in no small degree to vary and beautify the noble transept of the glorious building which has been entrusted with the protection of the world's fair. Captivated as every one was by the marvellous display of objects collected from all parts of the globe, it is not to be wondered at if the contribution of Messrs. Peter Lawson and Son of Edinburgh escaped a portion of the admiration it so richly deserved. It was in itself a vegetable museum of the first order, and reflected the very highest credit upon this enterprising firm ; and we sincerely hope that the generosity which prompted the offer of it as a whole to the Commissioners may be met by its being arranged and placed where ready access may be had to it by the public.

In recording the events of the past year, we must not forget the establishment of the National Floricultural Society,—an

institution calculated to confer the greatest benefits upon the floricultural world, if supported in the way it deserves to be.

We must also remember that an old and tried friend of floriculture, Mr. Wood, the Editor of the *Midland Florist*, whose work has always been conducted in a manner deserving the utmost praise, has had his services acknowledged by the presentation to him of a handsome silver tea and coffee service, the result of a public subscription originating with our friends at Derby. May he still continue his endeavours to promote the advancement of the pursuit he has so long followed and so ably supported!

Our obituary must contain the departure of the *Gardener's Magazine of Botany*; a work carried on with much spirit, and numbering amongst its contributors some of the first gardeners of the day. It is painful to observe that success has not crowned the efforts to produce and maintain a work of such excellence. As to ourselves, now finishing our fourth year, here we are, and shall be as long as our readers support us, *the leading monthly publication of the day*, calculated to please and instruct, but dependent in part upon the contributions of our readers, both amateur and professional. From it we wish all to derive much gratification; and therefore we trust our subscribers will render us their cordial and efficient assistance. A happy new year to them, one and all, as we say farewell for 1851.



### PRIMULA SINENSIS.

THE culture of this general favourite having already appeared twice in the *Florist*, I ought perhaps to state my reasons for offering it a third time, and this I shall do in a few words. I think that if a plant is worth growing at all, it is worth the trouble necessary to have it in the greatest possible perfection; and as the authors of the two previous articles appear to have taken it for granted that the readers of the *Florist* would prefer very small examples of this popular plant to well-grown specimens, I judge that the following hints will be useful to those who may be anxious to have the plant in something like perfection.

I sowed the seed in July, at least I did so when I propagated by seed; but having obtained some first-rate sorts, I increase them by cuttings in preference to depending upon seedlings; and I recommend all amateurs to do the same as soon as it is convenient. I fill the seed-pots with light sandy soil, and nicely level the surface with a circular piece of board. The seeds are then sprinkled regularly over the soil, and pressed gently into it by a piece of board. I then let a little mould fall upon them from a fine sieve, cover the whole with

moss, water lightly, and place them in a damp pit. The moss must be sprinkled with water as often as it may be necessary to keep the soil in a damp state; but care must be taken to have it removed as soon as the plants begin to make their appearance, otherwise they will be greatly injured, if not spoiled. As soon as the plants are up, they should be watered with care; and to prevent damp, they must be placed near the glass, where they will receive abundance of air, but they should be guarded against cold currents. As soon as they are sufficiently large to handle, which will be about the beginning or middle of September, pot them singly in small thumb-pots, using light sandy soil—half peat and half loam will answer perfectly. After potting return them to the pit, and keep them close until they become established; they may then be removed to the front of the greenhouse, or to any cool place near the glass. They will require no further attention during the winter except a moderate supply of water.

About the beginning of March, or as early as convenient, remove them to a pit where they can be kept close, and receive a little warmth, to encourage them to grow freely. As soon as it may appear necessary, shift them into 5-inch pots, using the same quality of soil as before; and observe that, in potting, they require to be placed a little deeper in the soil each time; for unless this is done, they have a tendency to become top-heavy, and will tumble about upon the surface of the pot; and as they emit roots all up the stem, they are benefited by having the latter inserted deeper in the soil. As the sun becomes powerful, it may be advisable to shade them slightly during a few hours on very bright days; but this will hardly be necessary before May; and by this time they ought to be ready to receive a second shift: use 7-inch pots, and add a portion of thoroughly decomposed cow-dung, say a third, to the compost. This should be well broken up and rubbed through the hands with the sand before being added to the soil, as when done in this way it is less liable to be in lumps, and becomes more intimately mixed with the rest of the materials. A cool damp pit, partially shaded from the forenoon's sun, will be the most suitable place to summer them in. Here they should be liberally supplied with water, and should be placed upon something which will prevent worms from finding their way into the pots: nothing answers this purpose better than coal-ashes. I need hardly state that the flower-stems must be pinched out as they make their appearance. Towards the middle of July, or beginning of August, they should receive their final shift, and this may be into 10 or 12-inch pots, according to the taste of the grower. I pot a portion of my plants, such as I intend for early flowering, in 10-inch, and the remainder in 12-inch pots. The soil should be much the same as that recommended for last shift, only a larger proportion of dung may be used with advantage. Great care must be observed in order to secure thorough drainage, as the plant requires a large supply of water during its long season of bloom, and unless the drainage is efficient, the soil will become sour, and the plants will be all but destroyed. The soil, too, should

be used in a rough state, and it should be liberally mixed with sharp sand. The plants should be returned to the pit, and they will require no further attention than that of being supplied with water as may be necessary.

The plants intended for early flowering should not have their flower-stems pinched out after the beginning or middle of September, and they may be removed to the greenhouse or sitting-room window as soon as they are wanted. Those intended for late flowering should be allowed to remain in the pit as long as they can be conveniently guarded from frost and damp. In order to secure large specimens, there will be no occasion for artificial heat, as, if they have been treated with ordinary care, they will be already satisfactory in that respect. During their flowering season, which may be from October to May, they should be placed in a situation near the glass, where they will receive abundance of air, and they should be liberally supplied with water, taking care not to wet the flowers. Plants treated in this manner will be among the showiest and most satisfactory of winter flowering-plants which the amateur can grow; very different from puny, starved specimens in 5-inch pots, as some of your contributors have recommended. When they go out of flower, or rather as their places can be filled with other things, for they will blossom incessantly for twelve months or more, they may be thrown away, merely reserving some few of the best varieties with a view to furnish seed or cuttings. As soon as the weather will permit, these should be removed to a shady place out of doors, and, after they have become inured to the open air, they may be placed in a situation where they will receive more sun and air.

The propagation by cuttings is so simple that I need only state that the cuttings may be put in at any time during the summer or autumn, so as to allow of their being rooted before the arrival of the dull days of winter. They may be treated during the latter season, and following periods of their growth, exactly as recommended for seedlings. I ought to have stated, however, that if the cuttings are put in directly they are separated from the plants, they will be liable to damp off, particularly if stripped of their leaves and the fresh wounds buried in damp soil; and as I have known several kill their plants through inattention to this, I would advise that they be all had through hand a week previous to potting, having as many leaves removed as may be discoloured, and that cuttings be trimmed a week previous to their removal from the plant. This affords time for the air to dry up the wounds, and prevents disappointment and loss. Those who prefer the double varieties may grow them, and will find them just as easily managed, and to require exactly the same treatment as the single propagated by cuttings. I greatly prefer the best fimbriated sorts of the single to the double, and esteem them more beautiful, and equally, if not more showy.

QUISQUALIS.





## NEW ROSES.

EVERY season now brings with it additions to those universal favourites, autumnal Roses, and more particularly to that class known as Hybrid Perpetuals. It is a pity some more eligible name was not at first adopted; but change in the names of plants has been and is attended with so much inconvenience, that it is not advisable to endeavour to give this beautiful class of Roses a more elegant and agreeable appellation. Among the Roses of this group, seedlings from *La Reine* seem to give much promise. We are approaching to pure white, and ere long a crimson Rose, with all the beautiful characteristics of that justly esteemed Rose, may be expected. We have in *Auguste Mie*, one of the children of *La Reine*, a most vigorous-growing glossy pink Rose, *very nearly* as perfect in shape as that standard of finely-shaped Roses, *Coupe d'Hébé*; and in *Louise Peyronny*, another *fille de La Reine*, a Rose brighter in colour, and, if possible, more beautiful than the preceding; its petals are not so abundant as those of its parent, so that it *always* opens freely. *Victoria*, introduced by Messrs. Paul is, it seems, of the same parentage. A bloom of this Rose, which I saw when being figured by Mr. Curtis last July, was truly beautiful (I have not seen his figure); but owing to its thick fleshy petals, it is not likely to open freely in moist weather; for some blooms exhibited at the show of the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park, in July, as a "seedling Rose," were passed over by the judges as unworthy of notice; they were brown at their edges, and like the flowers which *Souvenir de la Malmaison* occasionally gives when they do not open well; but when in a perfect state, no light-coloured Rose can be more beautiful than *Victoria*.

Baronne Hallez has proved the past season a truly brilliant and free-blooming autumnal Rose; its colour, so lively and agreeable, scarcely coming under either light crimson or carmine; in fact, Roses defy words to describe their varied and beautiful shades of colour.

*Blanche de Beaulieu* and *Caroline de Sausal* are two nice delicately-coloured Roses, leading on to what we *shall have*, pure white Hybrid Perpetual Roses. *Chereau* is a charming bright Rose, rosy red or rosy crimson; in short, very bright and *very* pretty.

We have a nice addition to this family in some Roses with the foliage of Bourbon Roses; in fact, Hybrid Bourbon Roses blooming in autumn; and among these are *Colonel Foissy*, *General Brea*, *Graziella*, and *L'Elégante Nouvelle* (the latter a great improvement on *L'Elégante*), all of different shades from rose to deep pink, and all robust in their habits, and blooming freely in autumn.

To Rose-lovers familiar with that free-blooming Rose, *Duc d'Alençon*, *Desgaches* will be a welcome addition. It is not what is called a perfect double Rose, but, like *Duc d'Alençon*, it blooms in large corymbs till quite late in the autumn, and in colour its flowers are of the most brilliant carmine; it is, indeed, a most elegant and charming variety. *Lucie de Barante*, or *Lucie de Barante de Montozon*, or *Barante de Montozon* according to some catalogues, is remarkable,

not exactly for its colour, which is simply bright rose, but for its shape, which is exquisite, and its delicious perfume, which is like that of the Cabbage Rose. Madame Fremion is one of our brilliant additions in colour, its carmine is particularly striking; it is indeed a very distinct and nice Rose. William Griffiths, something of the same race as General Negrier, is, like that *very fine* Rose, a standard of perfection as regards shape; its footstalks are like those of the latter, firm and erect; its petals thick and admirably placed; in colour only is it deficient; its rosy lilac is merely agreeable, without being striking. The news of the day about Roses is, that the gardens at Chiswick are to have a Rose-house not covered with canvass but with glass, in which all the finer kinds of autumnal Roses are to be planted on raised beds, the plants to be kept as dwarf bushes on their own roots.

I observed a short time since the floricultural editor of the *Gardener's Chronicle* inquiring why our favourite Rose should be named Le Géant des Batailles; he suggested it ought to have been Champ des Batailles: surely he ought not to have been at a loss. Was not Napoleon the *Géant*? and is he not alluded to by Frenchmen at all times and in *every thing* when at all possible? Thus we have the Standard of Marengo—by the way, this fine rich-coloured Rose has bloomed admirably the past autumn; it requires a very good soil,—and we shall have, the forthcoming season, in our flower-stands, “Le Lion des Combats” and “L'Etendard du Grand Homme;” thus we have four Roses named after his memory. Napoleon, always Napoleon: “Vive l'Empire”—des Roses!

T. R.

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### THE BEAUTY OF PLANTS.

“PLANTS,” says Reid in his *Science of Botany*, “presenting an infinite variety both in external form and internal structure, calculated to interest the inquiring mind, and combining beauty alike for the eye and the understanding, with utility in the great scheme of creation, must always be regarded as among the most delightful objects which man can contemplate and study. What were the face of the earth without the vegetable creation? a dreary waste, a desert, as in the arid sands of Africa, or the desolate regions round the poles. Plants invest with charms the scenery of nature, and clothe with beauty the world around us. Presenting a rich and variegated array of colours, and every variety in form, it is the vegetable creation that lends beauty to the landscape. It is plants which we admire in the verdure of the fields and meadows, in the flowers which enliven the banks and roadsides, in the trees and forests which adorn the prospect. We welcome re-animating nature in the buds and opening flowers of spring, and to these, expanded by a genial sun, the bright and joyous summer owes its bloom.”

## DESCRIPTIVE LISTS OF FRUITS.

No. XI.

## PEACHES AND NECTARINES.

8. *Pourprée Hâtive.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: *Pourprée Hâtive à Grandes Fleurs*, *Early Avant* (of some); *Avant Rouge* (of some).

Flowers large. Leaves crenated, with reniform glands. Fruit middle-sized, nearly globular in form, generally having a slight depression at the apex, and a strongly marked suture. Skin pale yellowish white on the shaded parts, and dark red where exposed. The flesh is faintly tinged with yellow, and much rayed with red round the stone; very juicy, and highly flavoured. This is the best of the early varieties, ripening a full week, or more, before the *Royal George*; the constitution of the tree is, however, rather delicate, and it is therefore only suitable for a warm situation and a favourable climate. I have never seen it forced in a Peach-house, but it would no doubt answer well for the purpose.

9. *Early Anne.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: *Anne*, *White Avant* (of some).

Flowers large. Leaves serrated, glandless. Fruit below the middle size, often disposed to assume an ovate form, with a slight depression at the crown. Skin pale greenish straw-colour, in some specimens very slightly marbled with faint red on the side exposed to the sun. Flesh pale yellowish green, having a few tints of red near the stone; juicy, sweet, and agreeably flavoured. Stone small, flattened, and not very rough. Ripens from the beginning to the middle of August, and is a pretty and desirable little Peach, although not equal to No. 8.

If any one curious in Peaches should be desirous of growing a larger collection, he might add to the foregoing the *Yellow Alberge*, *Hoffman's White*, and the *Morrisania Pound Peach*, all distinct sorts, and possessing some merit, although inferior to those described.

## NECTARINES.

The Nectarine is by many preferred to the Peach, its flavour being considered more delicate. There is a great similarity of appearance among several of the best varieties, neither, with two or three exceptions, is there much diversity of flavour in Nectarines, so that it is not necessary to notice more than about half-a-dozen sorts.

1. *White.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: *Neate's White*, *Flanders*, *Emmerton's New White*, *Cowdray White*, *Large White*.

Leaves crenated, with reniform glands. Flowers large, bright rose-colour. Fruit a little above the middle size, nearly round, but

having a deep suture. Skin pale yellowish green, or often nearly white, in some cases slightly tinged with red where exposed to the sun. Flesh greenish white, juicy and tender, with a high and somewhat peculiar flavour. Ripens generally in the end of August and beginning of September, a few days earlier than most Nectarines of its size. The tree can be distinguished from other sorts by its glossy dark-green leaves. In the Fruit Catalogue above quoted, this Nectarine is named *New White*, in contradistinction to another called *Old White*; but I am inclined to the opinion that there is only one *White Nectarine* at present in cultivation.

### 2. *Pitmaston Orange.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue : *Williams's Orange*, *Williams's Seedling*.

Leaves crenated, with globose glands. Flowers large, bright rosy pink. Fruit middle-sized, broad and deeply hollowed at the base, but narrowing to the apex, which is very slightly flattened; suture wide and shallow, terminating in a rather conspicuous nipple on the top of the fruit. Skin deep yellow where quite shaded, dark purplish red intermixed with a little yellow on the parts that are fully exposed, and at the junction of the two colours the yellow is marbled with dull red. Flesh deep orange, rayed with red at the stone; firm, but perfectly melting, and having a high and rather peculiar flavour. The stone is sharp-pointed, very rugged, and of a dull purplish colour. Season the very end of August and beginning of September. This handsome and excellent fruit was raised from seed by a celebrated horticulturist, *John Williams, Esq.*, of *Pitmaston*, near *Worcester*.

### 3. *Hunt's Tawny.*

Synonyms : *Hunt's Small Tawny*, *Hunt's Early Tawny*.

Leaves serrated, glandless. Flowers small, deep dull pink. Fruit below the middle size, inclining to an ovate form, but somewhat fuller on one side of the suture than on the other. Skin deep dull yellow where shaded, on the exposed side dull red interspersed with russet specks. Flesh dark yellow, melting, juicy, and well flavoured, although not so vinous as No. 2. Ripens from the middle to the end of August, on which account it is desirable; in other respects it is inferior to the *Pitmaston Orange*.

### 4. *Elruge.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue : *Anderson's* (of some), *Common Elruge*, *Claremont*, *Oatlands*, *Temple's* (of some), *Spring Grove*.

Leaves crenated, with reniform glands. Flowers small. Fruit middle-sized, of a roundish ovate form, and not much channelled by the suture. Skin pale yellowish green, clouded with dark dull red where exposed to the sun, and a very little mottled and specked with russet. Flesh pale greenish white, slightly stained with red round the stone, very juicy and excellent in flavour. Season the beginning of September. This variety, which is one of the best in cultivation, is said to have been raised about a hundred years ago, "by *John Greening*, gardener to the *Duke of Newcastle*, who then lived at *Claremont*." Although this Nectarine is generally called *Elruge*, that

name properly belongs to another and a very different sort, which (if it is still in existence) has serrated glandless leaves. Elruge is therefore a misnomer, and the name of Claremont, by which it is sometimes known, would be more appropriate for this kind.

#### 5. *Violette Hâtive.*

Synonyms, according to Horticultural Society's Fruit Catalogue: Violet, Early Violet, Brinion, Early Brugnion, Brugnion Red at the Stone, Lord Selsey's Elruge, Hampton Court, Large Scarlet, New Scarlet, Aromatic, Vermath (of some), Petite Violette Hâtive, Brugnion Hâtif, Violette d'Angervillières, Violette Musquée, Violet Musk, Violet Red at the Stone.

Leaves crenated, with reniform glands. Flowers small. Fruit rather above the middle size, roundish, or a little ovate. Skin pale yellowish green on the shaded parts, on the sunny side a shining dark purplish red, intermixed with small russet dots. Flesh pale yellowish green, considerably stained with red about the stone, juicy and sugary, with a fine vinous flavour. In season about the beginning of September.

This is an excellent Nectarine, equal to, and not readily distinguishable from, the variety last described. It may be known, however, by being generally darker in colour, and more especially by the greater redness of the stone and the flesh surrounding it.

Nearly allied to the two last are the Imperatrice and the Balgone, or Balgowan. The Imperatrice is one of the seedlings raised by T. A. Knight, Esq.; and the other, which is said to be the better of the two, is probably of Scotch origin.

Another kind, which is expected to prove of great value, first fruited at Stanwick Park in Yorkshire, one of the seats of the Duke of Northumberland, where it was raised from a stone obtained by his grace from Syria. Ripe fruit was sent to the Horticultural Society on the 29th of August, 1846, and is thus described by Mr. Thompson in the Society's Journal:—"The Stanwick Nectarine "is about the size of an Elruge, and like it in shape, except in being less heart-shaped at the base. Its skin is pale, like that of the white Nectarine, where shaded, with a violet tinge next the sun. The flesh is white, exceedingly tender, juicy, rich, and sugary, without the slightest trace of the flavour of prussic acid. The stone is middle-sized, ovate, with rather a prominent sharp edge, very rugged, and of a chocolate colour. The kernel is sweet, like a nut, possessing nothing of the bitter-almond flavour." Its adaptability to our climate has not yet been ascertained, as I believe the trees have not borne fruit without the assistance of glass, that in question having been produced in a Peach-house, in which situation the fruit is said by Mr. Baillie, gardener at Stanwick, to have ripened fourteen days later than that of the Bellegarde Peach, upon which the Nectarine is budded.

J. B. WHITING.

## A PACKET OF SEEDS SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER.

[Concluded.]

I DID not see the squire for some time after I got back, for the family went away the next day; but when he came home, and into the garden, I was nailing some trees, and he came beside me before I was 'ware of it, and looking very slyly and kindly, he said, "Is that you, Gregory?"

"Yes, sir," said I; "and very much obliged to you I am for all favours."

"You will have nothing to thank me for," said he, "if you do what I wish; and if I tell you to cut off half the trees' heads in the orchard, I'll have it done, though I'll hear all you've got to say against it; and I'll not blame you if I do wrong. If you gardeners don't take care, you'll sicken half the masters in the country, and they'll employ labourers instead; for I'd rather plough my place up than have a man in my service that thinks himself too great to do what he's told and when he's told. If I want my land cropped to my fancy, do you think my bailiff is to do as he pleases? No; he's too much good sense for that; but half of you gardeners mustn't be interfered with; and that makes gentlemen care so little about changing a gardener."

He then walked away; but I soon heard his voice again, and I thought he spoke as if he was angry, and I am sure my foreman was, for it was he the squire was talking to; but as I didn't see him before the men left work, I didn't hear what it was about just then.

In the evening, after tea, in comes the foreman into my cottage, looking as red as a turkey-cock, and as stupid as an owl, and the king's English had got so hard to him all of a hurry, that he couldn't get some of his words out. "I won't stand it, that I won't," he kept stammering out; "and you may tell him so to-night, when you go up to the house. I'm as good a man as he is, though he is so rich; but I don't care; no, that I don't. I do my work; and what business are my clothes to him? his money didn't pay for 'em; and if they are patched, that's no business of his. You tell him I won't stop; no, that I won't. I don't care; no, that I don't,"—and so he went on.

I saw in a minute what the squire had scolded him about; but I let him go on without saying any thing, for talking to a tippy man is like putting dry leaves on a bonfire, it only makes it blaze the more. "Come," says I, "just go with me, will you, and let's see if any of those boys are in the upper garden, stealing the potatoes out of the pits; you take that lantern, and I'll take my own;" and he grew so maudlin to me; and then he'd abuse the squire, and tell me to be sure and mind that he wouldn't stop, no, that he wouldn't, if he'd go down on his bended knees to him. When we'd got out of doors it was raining finely, which I knew well enough; and he asked me to lend him something to put over his shoulders. "Never mind a drop of rain," says I; "come on; you don't care for a little wet, do you?" I took him the worst road and the longest way,

and it pouring hard all the time. He soon left off talking about not standing it; and his voice got clearer, and he said, such a night as that no boys would be out stealing taters. "We'd better be sure," said I; "and you take the outside the garden-wall, and I'll go in; and be sure you catch 'em if I halloo."

When I thought he was downright well soaked, I called to him over the wall, and said there was nobody about; and we'd go home again, if he'd go back to the gate. How he shivered and shook, to be sure, when we met; he was as clear-spoken too as I was; and when I asked him if he was wet, then he said he was, for his clothes were old, and he'd got some holes in them. "I suppose, then," said I, "the squire was telling you of them holes." "Yes," said he, "and angry enough he was." "Well," said I, "you get home as quick as you can, and shift yourself; it's no use your going to my cottage; the sooner you're dry the better; so, good night." "Good night," said he; "but perhaps you'd better not say any thing to the squire to-night." "Ah, but," says I, "suppose he says something to me, and says you're to go." "That'll be a bad job," said he; "and perhaps you'll say a word for me." "Well, good night," said I; "get home as soon as you can, and I'll see you to-morrow."

I shifted myself when I got in, and then went up to the house; and after I'd given in my book, and got all settled, just as I expected, the squire began. "Gregory," said he, "that man David must be sent about his business—a ragged fellow; surely he earns enough to keep decent clothes about him. I'm afraid he drinks too much; there's a something about him I don't like; he never looks comfortable; and when I happen to drop upon him unawares, he always seems to wake up and move faster at what he's about; and that's a thing I never like to see, for it tells plainly that he's only an eye-servant, and an eye-servant I will not have. I like a man to feel as much pleasure in earning his wages as I have in paying them. Come," said he, "Gregory, tell me how you account for it; can he afford better clothes or can he not?" "I ask your pardon, sir," said I, "and mean no offence; but if you'll let me tell you all I've thought about it, may be I shall do no harm, and you'd be better pleased than if I held my tongue." "Go on," said he. "Well, sir," said I, "you see he's all you say,—he's ragged and he drinks, and he does no more work than he can help; and all shews that he's got no respect for himself, so 'tisin't likely he'll have much for other people; if he had, he wouldn't have spoke to you as he did. He was a decent lad when he first came; but I thought he didn't get much better before I left, and I used to tell him he went out too much of nights. Since I've been back, I went up one evening to his room, to talk to him about getting to the King's Head, and stopping out so late. He wouldn't say it was wrong; but he said, 'Look here, who's to spend his time always in this place? Look at the walls, how damp they are.' And so he went on, finding fault with every thing. I told him the other two men had just the same lodgings, and they found no fault. 'Not to you,' said he, 'but

they say plenty to me.” The squire stopped me when I’d got so far, and said, “I’ll look to it; you meet me at their rooms to-morrow at ten o’clock.”

Next morning I was there, and shewed him how damp and wet the rooms were,—too near the ground, and never a bit of sun ever to shine in front of them. “Now, sir,” said I, “if I may be so bold as to say so much, I think if you’d be so good as to put up some rooms just over against the poor men’s gardens, with the backs of them looking into the grounds, and the fronts to the south, that I could manage to make the men more respectable, or get some that would be; and if you’ll make them a bit ornamental, I’ll see that they shall be kept clean and tidy, and no dissight to the place. Bad rooms drive men to public-houses; for you’ll see the difference in comfort, sir, if you look any evening into the tap-room of the King’s Head, and then in here. ’Tis a wonderful temptation to a poor man, that a rich one knows nothing about; and a good many that blame him the most ought to say the least.” He heard me very kindly, and then went to the place I wanted him to build on, and said he’d see to it, for he’d got many things to think of that he’d never thought of before; “And who knows,” said he, “but David may be mended? and so do not discharge him, but tell him he’s on his good behaviour.”

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#### NEW FLORIST FLOWERS.

IN a previous page we have touched upon the importance which attaches to the National Floricultural Society. Since that article was written, the first part of its proceedings—well arranged and carefully compiled—has made its appearance, from which we glean the following useful information respecting the best flowers which have come under its notice since its commencement up to September 4th.

*Antirrhinum*: Primrose Perfection, received a first-class certificate.

*Auricula*: Beauty of Bath, ditto.

*Azalea indica*: Pictura, label of commendation; Vittata, ditto.

*Calceolaria* (shrubby): Wellington Hero, ditto.

*Carnation*: General Monk, ditto.

*Cineraria*: Marguerite d’Anjou, first-class certificate; Alba Magna, certificate of merit; Marianne, ditto; Orpheus, ditto; Queen of Beauties, ditto; Rosalind, ditto; Beauty, label of commendation; Christabel, ditto; Field Marshal, ditto; Formosa, ditto; Lady of the Lake, ditto; Loveliness, ditto; Model of Perfection, ditto; Nonsuch, ditto; Prince Arthur, ditto.

*Dahlia*: Dr. Frampton, first-class certificate; Laura Lavington, ditto; Triumphant, ditto; Douglas Jerrold, certificate of merit; Nancy, ditto; Phantom, ditto; Globe, label of commendation; Morning Star, ditto.

*Delphinium*: Hendersonii, certificate of merit.

*Erica*: Marnockiana, ditto.

*Fuchsia*: Diamond, ditto; Nil Desperandum, ditto; Nonsuch, do.



*Gladiolus* : Mrs. Willmore, first-class certificate ; Josephine, certificate of merit ; Wellington, ditto ; Atro-roseus, label of commendation ; National, ditto ; Psittacinus superbus, ditto.

*Hollyhock* : Swansdown, first-class certificate ; King of Roses, certificate of merit ; Rosamond, ditto ; King of Yellows, label of commendation ; Joan of Arc, ditto ; Magnet, ditto ; Meteor, ditto ; Safranot, ditto.

*Mule Pink* (without name), label of commendation.

*Pansy* : Kossuth, certificate of merit ; Pandora, ditto ; Swansdown, ditto ; No. 2, label of commendation.

*Pelargonium* : Advancer (fancy), first-class certificate ; Elise, ditto ; Formosissimum (fancy), ditto ; Ganymede, ditto ; Optimum, ditto ; Magnet, ditto ; Mountain of Light (variegated), ditto ; Arethusa, certificate of merit ; Ariadne, ditto ; Calban (fancy), ditto ; Chieftain, ditto ; Enchantress, ditto ; Gipsy Queen (fancy), ditto ; Mirandum (fancy), ditto ; Purple Standard, ditto ; Richard Cobden (fancy), ditto ; Rubens, ditto ; Attraction, label of commendation ; Beauty of St. John's Wood (fancy), ditto ; Fireball (fancy), ditto ; First of May, ditto ; Herald, ditto ; Incomparable, ditto ; Lady Emma (fancy), ditto ; Queen of the Fancies (fancy), ditto.

*Phlox Drummondii* : Mayii variegata, label of commendation.

*Picotee* : Christabel, certificate of merit ; Duke of Rutland, ditto ; Mary, ditto ; Victoria Regina, ditto ; Ophelia, label of commendation ; Prince Arthur, ditto.

*Pink* : Optima, first-class certificate.

*Potentilla* : Alpha, label of commendation.

*Rhododendron* : Superbissimum, certificate of merit.

*Rose* : Queen Victoria, first-class certificate ; Robert Burns, ditto.

*Tulip* : Juliet, label of commendation.

*Verbena* : National, certificate of merit ; Orlando, ditto ; Purple rival, ditto ; Eliza Cook, label of commendation ; Koh-i-noor, ditto.

The characteristics of the above flowers have, for the most part, been given in our reports of the meetings at the time. We have therefore only now to observe, that the Society has been pre-eminently supported by seedling-raisers, the subjects submitted during the six months numbering many hundreds.

## NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW,

### AND OF NEW OR RARE PLANTS

#### FIGURED IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS.

**BROWALLIA JAMESONI.** A rather erect straggling-growing soft-wooded warm greenhouse shrub, attaining the height of four or six feet in its native country, having glossy ovate leaves, with a terminal corymbose panicle of large rather showy yellow flowers. This species was introduced from New Grenada by Messrs. Veitch about two years ago.

**EPIDENDRUM VERRUCOSUM.** A very fragrant handsome Orchid, and one of the most beautiful of all the Epidendrum. It bears a branching panicle of lilac and white flowers. It is easily known from its congeners by the flower-stalk and

branches being minutely covered with warts; there are two varieties of it in cultivation, which are known by the more or less marking on the lip.

**GRAMMANTHUS CHLORÆFLORA.** A very dwarf compact-growing and pretty hardy Cape annual, similar to a *Crassula*. It should be raised under glass, and planted out towards the end of May, in tufts or patches, near the margin of an open border, where it has a charming appearance during summer; the orange and yellow flowers remain a long time in perfection, and expand beneath bright sunshine. It has been flowering at Kew throughout the summer.

**CAMPTOSEMA RUBICUNDUM.** An evergreen stove climber, suitable for a trellis work, or rafters; it grows freely, especially in good soil, but is rather a shy bloomer. The flowers are in pendulous racemes, on rather long peduncles, similar to those of *Laburnum* or *Urstaria*. They are of a deep ruby-red colour. It is a native of Southern Brazil and the adjacent Argentine provinces. In England, and on the continent, this plant has been cultivated under the name of *Kennedia splendens*. It is at present in flower, trained on a trellis near the glass, in the great Palm-house at Kew.

**RHODODENDRON CHAMPIONÆ.** This is a very handsome species, known only as yet by drawings or dried specimens. It is described as growing seven feet high, and found abundantly among rocks in a ravine at Fort Victoria, Hong Kong; the flowers are from four to six in an umbel; white, with a delicate rose colour.

**GALEANDRA DEVONIANA.** A terrestrial Orchid of great beauty, and one that is rather scarce among collections, although introduced ten or twelve years ago from South America, where, in its native state, it grows in clusters or patches, five or six feet high, and ten or twelve feet in circumference. The sepals and petals are of a darkish purple, green at the margin; lip very large, projecting, white tipped and streaked with purple; the above six plants are figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for October.

**TACSONIA MOLLISSIMA.** A plant of this species, planted in the open border, and trained against an east wall at Kew, is at present growing very vigorously, and has upon it numerous flowers; whether it will withstand the rigour of the forthcoming winter remains to be proved, but we hardly suspect it will.

**ERYTHRINA LAURIFOLIA.** A very fine plant of this species is now in flower at Kew, and has been since June. The early shoots having blossomed through the summer, some of them have legumes, with nearly ripe seed on them, and the lateral ones are covered with their beautiful deep coral-coloured flowers.

**SIPHOCAMPYLUS AMENUS.** A rather pretty flowering stove-plant, with oblong lanceolate leaves, and a terminal many-flowered raceme of small rather straight orange-red flowers. This plant has been introduced to English collections from the nursery of Van Houtte, Ghent, and is a native of Central America.

**DELPHINIUM SPECIOSUM, var. WHEELERI.** A magnificent flowering hardy herbaceous plant, of a stiff habit, growing about three and a half feet high, with erect branching stems; the principal one terminating in a densely-spiked raceme, a foot or more long; the lateral branches bear looser racemes, all of a dark brown and bright blue. This is one of the best of the tribe, and will no doubt be an acquisition.

**IPOMŒA OBLONGATA.** A trailing herbaceous half hardy or greenhouse species, having large fleshy roots, and numerous hairy stems, five or six feet long, with large bell-shaped flowers of a purplish rose colour, one or two produced at every leaf-joint. It is said to be a free-flowering plant, producing flowers from May to September, many opening daily. It has been introduced to English collections from the valley of the Buffalo river, near King William's town, in British Kaffraria. These last three plants are figured in the *Magazine of Botany* for October.

**VACCINIUM ROLLISSONI.** A neat-looking evergreen half-hardy shrub, about two feet high, having glossy box-like leaves, and terminal racemes, nearly sessile, of four to six drooping flowers of a rich scarlet. This species will form a neat bush for open borders during summer; but it is probably not quite hardy, unless in a very sheltered situation. It is a native of Java, where it was found growing on the lava of the "silent volcanoes," the highest land in the island. It was imported by Messrs. Rollisson.

**POTENTILLA AMBIGUA** is a rather pretty free-growing species of suffruticose habit, which rapidly increases by its stoloniferous roots, and soon forms a large

patch. It flowers very freely through the summer, and even until late in autumn, producing large yellow flowers. Being a native of the elevated region of Sikkim Himalaya, it may be expected to be hardy.

*IMPATIENS PULCHERRIMA* is a succulent tender stove annual, having very showy flowers, which are produced abundantly through the summer months. It is a native of Bombay, and may be considered one of the finest of Indian Balsams.

*FITZ-ROYA PATAGONICA* is a hardy evergreen sub-antarctic Conifer, which was found growing in great abundance on the Pacific side of Patagonia. It is stated to be one of the most interesting of the South American kinds. Small plants only of it are in cultivation, in the nursery of Messrs. Veitch, to whom the seed was transmitted by their collector, Mr. W. Lobb. The above four are figured in the *Botanical Magazine* for November.

*LILIUM LODDIGESIANUM*. A hardy bulbous plant, growing about two or three feet high, and having an erect terminal raceme of a few large yellow flowers, each two or three times as long as its stalk, with the divisions of the flower rolled back. It was raised by Mr. Loddiges from Russian seed, and is a native of the Caucasus.

*AERIDES ROSEUM*. An East Indian Orchid, and one of the most beautiful of the genus to which it belongs. It has been long known in cultivation, and is nearly allied to *A. affine*. It is a stiff-growing plant, with drooping dense racemes of rosy-coloured flowers, and is one that should be in every collection.

*BROWNEA ARIZA*. A brilliant-flowering evergreen stove-tree, that deserves extensive cultivation. It flowers freely with ordinary treatment, producing its blossoms in a short spike, on the side of the main stem, forming a globe of glowing crimson. It was found by Mr. Hartweg, in woods in the province of Bogota, where it attains the height of thirty or forty feet, and was transmitted by him to the Horticultural Society, at Chiswick. These last three are figured in Paxton's *Flower-Garden* for October.

*Buddleia Madagascariensis*. This evergreen slender-growing hard-wooded stove-shrub has been several years in cultivation. It is a very neat-flowering and free-growing species, suitable for planting against a wall, pillar, or trellis-work, requiring plenty of head and pot room. Under such circumstances it becomes a very interesting object. A plant of it was planted out nearly two years ago, and trained on a trellis near the glass, in the great Palm-house at Kew, where it is now twelve or fourteen feet high, and covers a space nearly as wide, and is at this dull season of the year thickly covered with its large panicles of orange-coloured flowers.

*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.*

J. HOULSTON.

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## HINTS ON THE HYACINTH.

SINCE the publication of the last *Florist*, we have been appealed to by a lady in terms which we cannot resist, to give a paper on the cultivation of the Hyacinth. In her note she says, "I have no garden, but am passionately fond of flowers (what lady is not?), especially of the Hyacinth; but from some cause which I cannot explain, mine never succeed as I could wish. If, good Mr. Editor, you can give me a few practical hints in your next Number which will enable me to succeed better in future, I shall be exceedingly grateful." Of course, we shall do all in our power to merit the gratitude of so interesting a correspondent; and we are sure our readers will not accuse us of vanity when we say, that no small degree of our popularity is due to lady gardeners. We always write on garden subjects with pleasure; and when we know, as in the present instance, that our

remarks are penned for the especial gratification of the lady portion of our readers, that pleasure becomes doubled.

The Hyacinth, like the Rose, is a universal favourite; for though a diversity of taste occurs in floral matters, as in all others, the merits of the Hyacinth never are questioned.\* Every body loves it for its beauty and its fragrance; and it is worthy of it. The Dahlia-fanciers may "look down" upon the Pelargonium; the Florist who never sees beauty but in the eye of his pet Pansies, may rank all other flowers as inferior; the enthusiast who would grow nothing but Tulips, and root up even those which did not produce his acmé of perfection, a semi-globular flower, may pride himself on his eccentricity, and hold himself aloof from the recognition of the universal loveliness of flowers; but one and all will unite in terming the Hyacinth a "household flower," and no greater praise could be awarded it.

When we had penned thus far, we received a copy of a little cheap work entitled *Practical Hints on the Cultivation and Properties of the Hyacinth*, by G. P. Tye,† which, on perusing, we found to contain so many valuable hints on the subject which we were writing on, that we determined to enrich our remarks with some extracts from its pages; but we are sure that any one of our readers who may be in a like position with our fair correspondent will immediately procure a copy of the little work in question.

We may premise, however, that the first element of success in the cultivation of the Hyacinth, is to encourage a free and healthy root-action before the production of the flower-stems. This general rule applies equally to those grown in pots or glasses. One of the most frequent causes of failure arises from a violation of this fundamental rule. We have seen the bulbs, from the first moment of their being brought home, placed in the glasses and set in the windows, or some equally strong light. In such a position, and under such circumstances, but a sorry amount of gratification will be reaped.

Much has been said on the superiority of certain varieties for glass or pot culture, and many seedsmen continue to make such indication in their bulb-lists. For ourselves, we give no heed to such distinctions, and believe there is no foundation in them. Our author has some remarks on the "selection of bulbs," from which we take the following: "As an important element of success, an early selection of bulbs is recommended. This, in most cases, will ensure to the purchaser larger quantities from which to choose, and finer bulbs may be obtained." And again, at page 7, in deprecating the practice of allowing the bulbs to begin rooting before they are purchased, he says, "If the food it seeks be withheld, it will draw from sources within itself the nourishment with which nature has supplied it; but, like many other unassisted efforts, it fails to mature its parts, and perfection is not attained. Let, therefore, the bulbs be chosen before they begin to grow." And we beg to add, that in removal

\* Of course, we are here speaking of its general character, not criticising it individually.

† Groombridge and Sons, Paternoster Row.

such young roots are frequently broken off, thus increasing the evil by weakening the bulb, as such roots have to be replaced by a second drain on its resources. Of the kind of bottles to choose, there is the following quotation from M'Intosh's *Flower-Garden*: "As all roots shun the light with as much instinctive care as stems and leaves court it, the sort of bottles best suited for growing Hyacinths in water are those of the darkest colours, such as blue and green. Black or opaque would be preferable." The little paragraph on the "Management of Bulbs" we give entire:

"Having filled the bottles with clean rain-water, introduce the bulbs, but do not let them touch the water by half an inch. Place them in a dark closet or cellar, in order that the roots may grow first, for reasons before alluded to. The flower starts from the heart of the bulb so soon as it can escape from the leaves which enclose it, when it requires and must have nourishment. If it has but few and short roots, the flower will be poor and dwarfy in consequence. When the roots are of sufficient length, say four or five inches, remove the bottles to a situation where the bulbs will have light, but not too bright at first, and in a week or so place them near the glass in a greenhouse, or in a sitting-room window. In each case be careful to avoid too great a change of temperature, which should be but little higher than that of the place from whence you remove the bottle. Let the plants have air on all convenient occasions, or they will grow tall, pale, and weakly.

A variety of methods for giving vigour to the plants, and brightening the colours of the flowers, have been resorted to; such, for example, as adding to the water a few lumps of charcoal, a little nitrate of soda, or a small portion of saltpetre; but the following has been found to answer well: dissolve half an ounce of guano with so much chloride of lime as would equal the size of a large pea in a quart of rain-water. Let this mixture stand for a day or two to become clear. Pour about two teaspoonfuls into the bottle twice a week after the flower appears well out of the bulb."

There is one important feature in the successful cultivation of the Hyacinth in glasses, which, we think, is not sufficiently known or recognised; we allude to changing the water. On this branch of the subject, at page 10, we have the following excellent bit of advice, the italics are our own marking, because we know the importance of attention to the precept given: "The water requires changing every two or three weeks. *Let the fresh supply be of the same temperature as that in which the bulb has been growing*, for remember the heat of the room, or greenhouse, has taken off the 'chill.' The flowers will receive a check if you do not attend to this." And in reference to the too prevalent practice of allowing the flower-stem to become "drawn," we extract the following: "Such plants as appear to grow too rapidly should be removed to a little cooler situation; say from the sitting-room to the parlour, or any such place, according to convenience. On the other hand, such as appear too stunted should be removed for a short time to a little warmer situation, on the chimney-piece, for instance, in the sitting-room; but not for too long a period,

or they will be weak and pale, as before stated. Observation is the best guide in all these matters."

It is found that, in the majority of cases, the flower-stem requires artificial supports, although we confess we believe that superior cultivation will obviate such an application. A Hyacinth in the open border will not require it, and from such we must infer that artificial treatment alone renders such necessary. At page 13 of the *Practical Hints* is a woodcut representing an improved glass with support attached, which merits attention. The design of the glass is certainly a great improvement on the old shape, and will not be out of place on the table of those who appreciate beauty of design in the useful as well as the ornamental. Of the treatment of the bulbs after flowering, so as to render them creditable, "if not equal to the first season" of flowering, the following is given:

"Many bulbs are rendered utterly worthless by careless treatment after they have done blooming; whereas fine blooms, if not equal to the first season, may be relied upon if treated in the following manner:—The moment the flowers begin to decay, remove them from the glasses, and plant them in good rich compost, consisting of three parts of good decayed turf, and one each of well-rotted cow-dung and sand. Let the flowers and leaves die off before taking up the bulbs; and do not on any account cut them off when green, as this greatly impoverishes the bulb."

In the pot-culture of Hyacinths, as well as in that of glasses, a thorough root-action must be procured before the stimulants to growth in the leaves and flowers are applied, or failure will assuredly follow. Of the "properties" of the flowers we say nothing; the present article has been penned for those who love a flower for its beauty, and not for the shape of the petals, or the length of its foot-stalk.

G. L.

### NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*Oct. 9.*—Mr. Stains in the chair. Hollyhocks were furnished by Mr. Clarke; Dahlias by Messrs. Bragg, Pope, Rawlings, and Drummond. Three nice Fuchsias came from Mr. Dobson, of Woodlands Nursery, Isleworth, and some good Petunias from Mr. Gadd. A first-class certificate was awarded to Mr. Drummond of Bath, for a very beautiful *Statice*, apparently a cross between *S. imbricata* and *S. macrophylla*. The same raiser also received a certificate for a bright scarlet *Dahlia* called Bob Drummond. It was well-shaped; but in the flowers exhibited, the centre appeared to be scarcely sufficiently elevated. Two new members were added to the lists, and two more were proposed for election at the next meeting.

*November 13.*—Mr. Hoyle in the chair. A certificate of merit was awarded to a *Chrysanthemum* named Versailles Defiance, a rosy lilac-coloured variety, of good form, and broad in the petal; *Pentstemon variabilis* received a label of commendation. It is a promising greenish-white flowered kind, tipped and marked with cherry; both

these subjects were contributed by Mr. Salter of Hammersmith. A nice tray of Pansies was sent from the Royal Nursery, Slough. Mr. Wilkinson of Ealing, and Mr. Clark of Playford, were elected members.

### GLASGOW PANSY EXHIBITION.

A PANSY competition lately took place at Glasgow, open to all Scotland, for the best one, the best two, and the best three seedling Pansies of 1851, when the whole of the prizes were gained by the Messrs. Dicksons and Co., Nurserymen, Edinburgh.

The best one was a yellow-ground flower, with rich maroon belting and top-petals, the under and side-petals beautifully laced with gold, blotch large and dark, form perfect, style of Youell's Supreme, named Victory.

The best two: 1st, A pure golden yellow self, with a beautiful large and dark blotch, outline perfectly smooth, of good substance and form, named Golden Eagle. 2d, A beautiful primrose ground, with rich lively bluish purple belt, and top-petals; the belting being narrow, and blotch large and very dark, gives it an imposing appearance: fine show-flower, named British Queen.

The best three: 1st, A yellow ground, with dark maroon belt and top-petals, style of Youell's Supreme, but quite distinct; an improvement on that fine old flower, and named Peacock. 2d, A pure white ground, with rich purple belt and top-petals; the ground-colour meeting in the under and side-petals so very exactly, together with a large dark blotch, produces an admirable effect in a stand: it was considered the finest flower of any class brought forward on the occasion, and named Royal Standard. 3d, A yellow ground with dark bronze purple belt and top-petals, of great substance, very large and circular; a striking show-flower, named Gliff.

### STOKE NEWINGTON CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY.

*Nov. 20.*—We have only space at this advanced period of the month, to lay before our readers the names of the flowers in the more prominent collections. As an exhibition, we candidly avow that every success attended the unanimous exertions of the executive, for a finer display, even under the auspices of this well-organised society, no one could desire.

The leading prizes were awarded to Mr. Holmes and Mr. Elliott, equal 1st for 6 plants; the sorts being, Annie Salter, Queen of England, Madame Camerson, Vesta, Pilot, Defiance, Madame Poggi, Minerva. The specimen plants were, 1st, Defiance, Mr. Scruby; 2d, Madame Camerson, Mr. Bundel; 3d, Pilot, Mr. Elliot.

24 blooms: 1st, Mr. G. Taylor, Beauty, King, Campestroni, Queen of England, King, Goliath, Beauty, Queen of England, Racine(?), Phydias, Pio Nono, Defiance, Golden Cluster, Phydias, Defiance,

Clustered Yellow, Formosum, Sydenham, Cyclops, Guillaume Tell, The Duke, Pio Nono, — (?), Sydenham; 2d, Mr. Scruby; 3d, E. Sanderson, Esq. : other prizes were awarded.

12 blooms: 1st, Mr. G. Taylor, Goliath, King, — (?), Phydias, Clustered Yellow, Queen of England, Formosum, Madame Laborde, Pio Nono, Duchesse d'Abrantes, Defiance; 2d, Mr. James; 3d, Mr. Scruby: many other prizes were awarded.

6 blooms: 1st, E. Sanderson, Esq., Goliath, Queen of England, Defiance, Beauty, The Duke, Aristides. Eight prizes were awarded in this class. We promise a full report in our opening Number of 1852.

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### LUCULIA GRATISSIMA.

It has often been a matter of regret to me, that I have not met with this charming plant in the collections of my amateur friends. For winter flowering it has few, if any, equals, and it is highly deserving of a more extended cultivation than it has hitherto received. Its large cymes of hydrangea-like and deliciously fragrant flowers claim for it a place in every greenhouse. Its season of flowering is from November to March, and even at that time, when the showy Camellia is in full bloom, a well-managed plant of the *Luculia* will command at least equal admiration. Combining, as it does, so many desirable properties, it seems reasonable to imagine, that were it not for the opinion generally prevalent among amateurs, that it is very difficult to cultivate, it would ere now have become as common as a Camellia; but the fact is, if we except its propagation, it is not more difficult to manage. The following is the treatment I give it; and as I have found it to be perfectly successful, I recommend your readers to give it a fair trial. As I have experienced considerable difficulty in its propagation, I shall presume that the cultivator has plants capable of furnishing cuttings, which he may at any time procure, as they are cheap in the nurseries; and I shall first state my method of increasing it. I select short-jointed pieces of the half-ripened wood for cuttings, which I slip off and insert with a heel, as I find that they root better removed in this way than when cut across at a joint in the ordinary manner. I use peaty soil, with a large proportion of sand, say one-third, and pot the cuttings singly in thumb-pots. I am very careful to have the soil in a rather moist state, as frequent waterings cause damp and the loss of the cuttings. And I am also careful to select cuttings in what I have found to be the proper stage of maturity; but a little observation and experience will teach the operator how to judge of this better than I can tell. I place the pots upon the border, or floor, in a perfectly shady but not damp part of a house where the temperature may average about 55°, and cover them with a hand-glass. The only further attention which they require or receive is a glance in passing, and a sprinkling of water if they appear to be in absolute want of it. This I apply towards evening, and allow them to remain uncovered until the following morning; but the moisture arising from the border or floor will prevent the ne-



cessity of watering often. If the cuttings are allowed to remain in this state, and merely guarded against damp and drought, they will root as certainly as any plant with which I am acquainted, the only difference being in the time in which this takes place. Cuttings inserted in April will probably, if treated in this way, be found sufficiently rooted before winter to allow of their being removed to a lighter and more airy situation, and probably the loss will not amount to one in ten.

As early in the spring as convenient, such of the plants as are found to be rooted should be placed in a gentle growing heat, and shifted into 5-inch pots; and if they can be placed in a mild bottom-heat, they will grow the faster. They must be stopped frequently during the growing season, if dwarf bushes are desired, as the habit of the plant is rather straggling, and its growth rapid. They should be kept in a shady part of the house or pit, as the foliage suffers very much if exposed to the direct rays of the sun; and unless they are kept in a growing state, and receive a liberal application of the syringe, they will probably be infested with red spiders; they are also selected for the depredations of the black thrips; and if the latter once secures a footing, it will cost considerable trouble to clear the young plants of this pest, and if they are not cleaned effectually, they may as well be thrown to the rubbish-heap, as this puny locust will speedily effect their entire ruin. The plants should not be stopped after the beginning of July, as they will be apt to flower weakly if stopped after this time. About the beginning of August they should be removed to a situation in the greenhouse, where they will receive abundance of light and air without being exposed to the direct rays of the mid-day sun; or they may be placed in some sheltered warm spot out of doors, where they will be partially shaded from the forenoon's sun; but if intended to be placed out of doors, they must not be stopped after the beginning or middle of June, and they must be removed to a situation under glass early in the autumn. To secure their flowering freely, they should be placed in the warmest end of the greenhouse, and kept rather close; or if they can be put in a shady pit and kept close, they will be more at home than in the greenhouse. When in flower, which will be from the middle or beginning of November to March, they may be placed in the greenhouse or sitting-room window: and if the flowers are guarded against damp, they will remain in perfection for six weeks or longer, and will load the atmosphere with the most agreeable odour.

After their flowering is over, the plants should be closely cut back, and not over liberally supplied with water for (say) a fortnight, and while in this state they should be carefully cleared of every vestige of insects. As soon as they have broken their buds, and made a fair start for growth, they may be re-potted, and treated in the way recommended for their first year's growth. I should have said, however, that the plants require plenty of pot-room; but this must be regulated according to their health and vigour. For flowering plants of one year's growth I use 8-inch, and generally bloom them the second year in 12-inch pots.

Soil composed of two parts sandy loam and one of peat, with a liberal mixture of silver sand, will suit them perfectly; but this should be used in a rough state, and care be taken in potting, to secure a perfectly good drainage, as the hair-like rootlets of this fine plant are very impatient of a sodden soil, or any thing approaching to it.

I can easily fancy, that the successful growers and propagators of this plant will indulge a smile at the idea of cuttings being six or nine months in rooting, while they root them in three weeks; to such I can only say, that I should be glad to know how to do so also; for I confess that the *Luculia* is to me rather troublesome to propagate, and I have seldom met with an amateur who had ever succeeded in rooting a single plant by means of bottom-heat, though I have known many failures, and many plants lost through haste and roasting. I will also say, that the method I have described is sure, although slow.

I have said nothing about the adaptation of the *Luculia* for planting in a conservatory-border, as I meant my instructions for amateurs only, and they seldom have very spacious conservatories to furnish; but it is well known and generally esteemed as one of the most valuable plants for such a situation; and if any amateur can find it a place in a conservatory-border, he will find that it will soon attain the size of an ordinary specimen of the Sweet Bay, and will furnish abundance of flowers and ample gratification during the winter months, to repay him tenfold for all the trouble involved in its simple culture.

ADIANTUM.

#### OUR MONTHLY REMEMBRANCER.

**AURICULAS.**—Carefully shelter the plants from wet, and continue to give as much air and light as possible, particularly when the atmosphere is heavy and foggy. In severe, black, frosty weather, attended with brisk drying easterly or northerly winds, the frames may be closed while it continues; for sufficient air to carry off the evaporations from within will penetrate between the laps of the glass. Light waterings must be given where the soil in the pots is getting dry; little moisture is requisite at this season, but that little should be kept up to insure a healthy condition. Prepare a little compost for sowing seed in; a small quantity of vegetable mould will be necessary—that obtained from decomposed oak-leaves is excellent for the purpose; clean it of worms and other insects, and preserve it in a moderately moist state ready for use. The heap of compost intended for next season's potting should be turned over now and then. The winter rains waste a considerable portion of the nourishing qualities, if it is left fully exposed. A temporary covering over the heap is advisable, so that the soil shall be preserved in a half-dry state; the frost will then act upon it more beneficially.

**CALCEOLARIAS.**—The stock should be carefully gone over, removing any fogged foliage, particularly about the neck of the plant, or at its junction with the soil; give air at all suitable opportunities, and fumigate when necessary.

**CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.**—Those not potted early, unless sheltered from wet some time before potting, will suffer much. Keep the stock dry without going to extremes; cut away dead foliage as often as it appears; give plenty of air, without allowing the rain to wet the plants, or the wind to loosen them. The surface of the mould in the pots should be slightly scratched, to prevent its becoming green.

**CINERARIAS.**—Prepare now for the coming winter, by removing them either to an airy part of the greenhouse, or securing well the pits or frames by banking up and plenty of litter. Cinerarias will stand no frost. Those who wish to have handsome plants, good foliage, and fine flowers, must not keep them crowded. Give plenty of air on all favourable occasions; continue shifting into larger pots as they require it; water more sparingly, and keep the foliage, particularly that in the pits, as dry as possible; look sharp after insects.

**DAHLIAS.**—A very little attention will suffice for the next two months; if in a damp place, bring them out on a fine day, and cut away any decayed part of the root. There will be considerable trouble in wintering such varieties as produce large stems. Those that are small just above the crown, and solid, cause much less trouble.

**EPACRISSES.**—Water sparingly, and when air is required for a short time in the middle of a sunny day, give it from the roof; have fuel always at hand, to light a fire before going to bed should the thermometer be approaching the freezing-point.

**ERICAS.**—The mode of procedure for the Erica during this and the following month or two may be stated in a few words: keep the plants in as quiescent a state as possible, by maintaining a uniformly low temperature, and using no more water than is sufficient to impart a slight dampness to the soil. Regulate the admission of air by the temperature from without; if the weather be dry and calm, the thermometer not lower than  $35^{\circ}$ , admit air from the roof-lights till three o'clock; not from the sides, as chilly currents coming into immediate contact with the plants are apt to turn the foliage rusty, more especially that of *Vestitas* and their allies. Should the air be humid and the plants feel damp, down with the top-lights, light a fire, and expel the enemy; in a word, keep the plants as dry and cool (short of frost) as possible: to raise the temperature, fire heat should be resorted to but seldom. Never light a fire before going to bed, unless you conceive it more than probable that there will be  $6^{\circ}$  or  $7^{\circ}$  of frost out of doors before the hour of rising in the morning.

**FUCHSIAS** are in cold frames at rest; nothing, therefore, is necessary to be said about them.

**PANSIES** planted out should be secured from rocking by the wind with old Carnation-pegs. The surface of the beds must be loosened occasionally, if there is rain, which makes them hard; and they will become sour if this is not attended to. If the beds are in a very wet state, dig out the alleys or walks to the depth of a spit, or spit and a half. Those in pots should be kept moderately dry, clean, and with plenty of air. The situation of the frame for wintering them should be very light.

**PELARGONIUMS.**—The plants ought still to be at rest, and watered sparingly, and in the morning. Fires will be required on cold nights, and then caution must be used not to have the houses too high; a temperature of  $40^{\circ}$  to  $45^{\circ}$  will be sufficient: if too much fire is used, the first crop of flowers is generally lost. The latter end of the month, or beginning of next, is the time for stopping the plants that are intended to flower in June. Let them be moderately dry, and keep them so till the wound is healed over, which will be in about a week or ten days. If there is the convenience of a second house, where they can be kept a little warm for a week or two, it will greatly assist them in breaking. Seedlings will require attention this month. Keep all decayed leaves picked off, and the surface of the soil just stirred up.

**PINKS.**—If the weather during this month continues open and moist, worms will continue troublesome. Much mischief may be prevented by placing a few small twigs round each of the weakly and tall-growing varieties, to support them; it will also protect them from being broken by high winds.

**POLYANTHUSES** (see **AURICULAS**).—Same attention is necessary; but they will bear considerably more moisture with good effect. Keep the soil well up to the shoulder of the foliage of Polyanthuses in pots, and in a tolerably moist state. Plants of this kind in borders, if much troubled with insects, should be looked to at every opportunity in fine weather.

**RANUNCULUSES.**—Arrange roots for planting, little beyond this will be demanded in respect to dry tubers. Seedling plants, however, will require some attention: probably a very thin sprinkling of dry rich soil may be needed as a top-dressing. Give all the air practicable on every fine day, and protect from severe frosts.

**ROSES IN POTS.**—Cut these at once for blooming in May. If for exhibition, select from the best Hybrid Perpetuals, Bourbons, and Tea-scented varieties; the whole of these are suitable for the partial forcing they will require. Shorten the Hybrid Perpetuals to two or three eyes, Bourbons a little longer; and train the wood of the Tea-scented varieties, just shortening the points. Do not use the knife at all to the Persian Yellow, however long the shoots may be. Roses of this class are peculiar in their flowering, and therefore require peculiar pruning. They are very early bloomers, and make no wood previous to flowering. They generally put forth the leaf and bud about one time; it is therefore necessary that as much as possible of last year's wood be retained, particularly the ends of the branches, from whence most of the flowers proceed. The method that must be pursued, in order to get as much flowering wood as possible, is not to prune them when other Roses are pruned, but shortly after they have done flowering, leaving three or four branches a little shortened. The rest must be cut well back, when they will make good flowering wood the remainder of the season, and ripen it well.

**TULIPS.**—On the presumption that all Tulips are now planted, nothing more is required by way of direction till they begin to near the surface.

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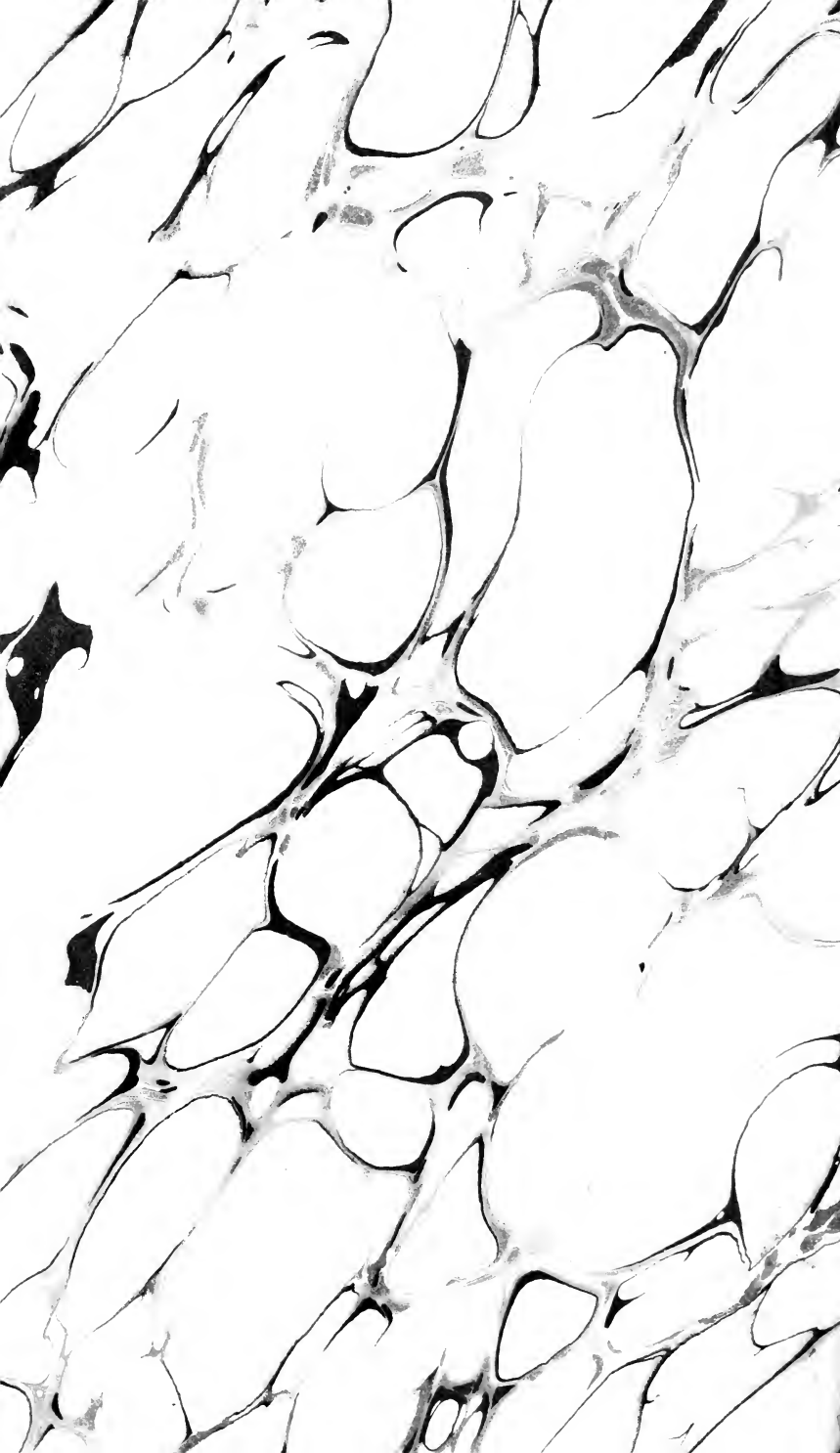












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