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GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

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OF

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THE

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Established 1841.

No. 662.—VOL. XXVI. { NEW SERIES. }

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ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
South Kensington, S.W.
NOTICE—I. COMMISSION MEETINGS. Fruit and
Flora, at 11 A.M., in the Committee Room, on TUESDAY, September 1, SHOW OF GRAPES, DAHLIAS, &c., on TUESDAY, September 7, and WEDNESDAY, September 8. N.B. Open to Fellows at 12 o'clock, and the Public at 1 o'clock. On Wednesday, 10 A.M.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW will be held within St. Andrew's Hall, Granville Street, Glasgow, on WEDNESDAY, September 8. Prize Schedules and Tickets of Admission to be had from the Treasurer, Mr. Chas. Macdonald Williamson, 194, West George Street, any of the Directors, or at my office here. Member's Ticket, 2*s*. 6*d.* each.

FRANC GIBB DOUGALL, Secretary.

NATIONAL CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY, Royal Aquarium, Westminster, S.W. GRANDE EXPOSITION DE PARIS, GLADIOLI, Early CHRYSANTHEMUMS, &c., THURSDAY and FRIDAY, September 9 and 10. Schedules free on application to WILLIAM HOLMES, Hon. Sec. Frampton Park Nursery, Hackney, E. Revised Official "CHRYSANTHEMUM CATALOGUE," now ready, *ed.* per copy.

T H I R D ANNUAL APPLE AND PEAR SHOW, at EXETER, OCTOBER 1 and 2, 1886. Classes open to all English.

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THE HANOVERIAN CROWN

obstructing earth which hid the distant view. I was not aware of the "scooping" at the time of my visit, but I admired, as all must do, the unimpeded view adown what seemed a natural valley, great Oaks flanking the hollow, and then afar a delightful rural landscape, the valley of the river Colne and the tower of Watford Church in the distance.

Of the Grosvenors who followed the before-named and other owners, and now hold possession—"Long may they reign!"—the second earl of Grosvenor, who was created Marquis of Westminster in 1831, purchased Moor Park in 1828, and very greatly improved it for its present owner, the venerable Lord Ebury, his third son, who was long known to the country as Lord Richard Grosvenor. So much for the peers! Now for the plants, small and large. One of the largest trees of its kind in England, if not quite the largest, is the famous Spruce in the old pleasure garden. The trunk divides near the base into three great boles, bearing an immense mass of foliage, and reaching a height of at least 100 feet, while the size of the tree, or rather the group of parent and offspring, is increased by the growth of a numerous progeny, which have sprung, Banyan-like, from the ends of the drooping branches at a distance of 20 feet from the main trunk. Some Conifers not unfrequently exhibit this kind of reproductive energy, but one would hardly expect to find a family of Spruces rising in this way around the parent stock, on dry, high ground, freely exposed to sun and air. This particular tree may have been planted by Mr. Styles, or even by the Duchess of Monmouth, and many of the Cedars of Lebanon, Yews, and deciduous trees in this same shrubbery are probably of the same date; but its choicer ornaments are of later date, and were planted by the Marquis of Westminster and Lord Ebury. Many of the exotic Conifers derived from both hemispheres during the last half-century or more are represented in the form of large specimens; and as Rhododendrons and Kalmias grow here like weeds, the beauty of the spot, with its pond and peacocks, smooth open lawns, and Lord Anson's temple in the midst, can be imagined. There are little gates and side entrances into the old pleasure-grounds, but no doubt when the Queen and Prince Albert visited Moor Park in 1846, the Queen Dowager joining them from Cassiobury, where she resided from 1846 to 1849, the royal party entered by the broad flight of steps. From the top of this grand approach you look down upon the four-storyed house at a little distance, and around upon a beautiful and undulating park, which can hardly be matched for the size and beauty of its timber. We may suppose that the royal party would then be escorted by a long and winding path to the highest ground of the shrubbery, and that royalty, a little fatigued by the exertion, would admire from among the trees the wondrous fair landscape that lies around—Watford, a warm patch of red among the trees; the spires of St. Albans, and Harrow-on-the-Hill, whose ambitious steeple [is seen from almost everywhere.

There are 20 acres of this hill and arboretum, which probably rose bare-backed or only thinly planted in Wolsey's time, and the shades of green in May, when each deciduous tree wore a new robe, and each evergreen a renovated cloak, were delicious. There are Cedars and Araucarias—how different their hues! Here are bright green Thuias, pale green Chestnuts, and paler Oaks. To catch all the tints from sombre Pew to light deciduous Cypress, an artist must mix his colours shrewdly. But the most gorgeous colours in the grounds were on the necks and tails of several male peacocks, strutting about among their hens. They seem very obliging birds when they are asked to do what it is known they delight in. If you say at the proper moment, when the hens are attentive and rivals not far off, "Display your tail, beautiful bird," it is done at once; and then if you approach too close, and command the creature to desist, he will shut up his extended fan and recommence the exhibition further off! The hens sit well here among the shrubs, and a common family consists of five young ones.

An Italian garden, not too formal to be nicely planted with shrubs, divides the north front of the house from the park, and passes, without interposing fence, into a less formal stretch of planted lawn enveloping the west front, and sloping away to a delightful fernery, a most pleasant retreat at the

further corner of the garden. The Cedars of Lebanon here are of first-rate size, and many notable evergreens, trees and shrubs, with one among them which is not so often met with as it deserves, the Hemlock Spruce—a common tree, but one of uncommon beauty when grown to a large size, as is another common tree, the English Elm, a noble specimen of which stands on the lawn, where it sheds its small leaves in the season and makes a great litter, but is worth all the labour it occasions, being so thoroughly English and so stately. The largest of two great Portugal Laurels on the terrace is 31 feet in diameter.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

It is time to pay a brief visit to the kitchen gardens, which are remarkable, and bespeak in their appearance the watchful skill of Mr. Mundell, the presiding genius of the varied horticulture of Moor Park. In these days one becomes somewhat hardened to the achievements of gardeners under glass. I saw five vinerys and four Peach-houses and others in excellent condition, and I must confess to have found nothing more interesting in the various houses and pits than the choice collection of hardy Ferns in one of them, notwithstanding the Orchids and other rarities. Even among the exotic Ferns there are few more beautiful than a large specimen of Polystichum plumosum, an exquisite plant, with most delicate foliage. Mr. Mundell has the Axminster variety of this hardy Fern. Even flowers may not always detain an admirer who may happen to be on the wing, but few would resist lingering in one of the houses here which is entirely devoted to blossoming plants, and presents always the gayest possible appearance. An experienced and accomplished duchess bearing a great historic name, and passing through this house during my call, complimented Mr. Mundell on his "beautiful flowers," and as a gardener who pleases the ladies, and especially the duchesses, achieves success, I will give the names of a few of the most useful plants in this house. Hanging from the roof above is Clematis indivisa lobata, which had produced a continuous supply of pure white flowers since February, a period of ten weeks, at a time when flowers, especially white ones, are most valuable. Another most useful plant for those who are called on to supply loads of flowers for decoration is a Fielder's White Azalea, a fine specimen of which stands here 8 feet high and 6 feet through, and was still covered with pure white blossoms, after having yielded baskets and baskets full of cut flowers during many weeks past. This second crop of flowering plants, the Azaleas generally and the Camellias having been removed, includes Calceolarias, Deutzia gracilis, Rhodanthus, Sikkim Rhododendrons, Genista, Eupatorium, the Ball of Fire Tropaeolum, Salviyas, and many others, and among them the common white Arum of cottage windows lifts its pure white blossom, too beautiful to be a bashed even amid the highest aristocracy of Flora's court. The next floral display, when the present one has passed, will consist of Pelargoniums, tuberous-rooted Begonias, zonal Pelargoniums, Schizanthus, Fuchsias, and others. Chrysanthemums, which are first-rate here, and of many choice sorts, including 150 varieties, will follow.

Mr. Mundell's house in the gardens, looking due south, is thickly covered with white and yellow Banksia Roses. On a neighbouring wall Weigela Laysiania aurea makes a conspicuous display. The soil consists of warm gravel-loam resting on chalk 20 feet deep, and the whole of the kitchen garden slopes to the south. Aspect and soil are both suited to the ripening of fruits and the health of tender plants. The extent of the garden is 8 acres, lofty walls enclosing 5 acres, while the space devoted to wall fruit is increased by a lower division wall across the centre. On one of the high walls are a number of fan and standard-trained Apricots, the offspring of the original Moor Park Apricot which Lord Anson introduced and which died in 1846. These were well set with fruit after producing many bushels last year. The trees which produced the 517 varieties of Apples which were sent to the Apple Congress border the central walk of the garden and occupy very little room, being admirably trained on the Paradiise stock in the form of bushes, hollow as a goblet in the centre, and none of them exceeding 5 feet in height. All the fruit trees are admirably trained. Some of the walks are lined with pyramidal Pear and Plum trees, and the upper walk, running parallel with the Apricot wall, and with a lean-to Peach-house built against the same wall, is margined

with umbrella-trained Pear trees. This system of training is especially adapted to trees with slender branches and a weeping habit, such as Josephine de Malines, Winter Nelis, and the old Seckle Pears, which all weep freely.

In passing through the lean-to Peach-house I admired the robust growth of the Roses, Gloire de Dijon, and others, trained up the pillars with stems as thick as a man's wrist. A quantity of Fuchsias at the back; in pots were removed into the house of perpetual blossoms in July. Strawberries are well grown here, in proof whereof a pound weight per diem had been gathered since March 1—eleven weeks. The price of this fruit in London had been 12s. and 12s. per pound.

Twelve gardeners are employed here, and the young men are made comfortable in a capital well managed bothy, where the horticultural papers are taken in. I must not conclude without mentioning the Moor Park Horticultural Society, which is highly successful in promoting good gardening in the neighbourhood. H. E.



PHAIUS HUMBLOTTII, Rchb. f.

If you can forgive this plant for being a Phaius whose flowers are not as lastlong as those of certain Vandias, Miltonias, or Cattleyas, then you must admit its beauty. It would appear to be very scarce. I had last year a flower from Mr. Peeters, St. Gilles, Brussels, and now I have a raceme at hand, kindly sent me by Sir Trevor Lawrence, Bart., M.P., P.R.H.S. Both the sepals and petals are rather broad, nearly as in Warre's tricolor, and Aganisia cyanea, and the lip shows large lateral side lacinia and a broad, nearly reniform, wavy mid lacinia. The sepals and petals are of a fine purple. The petals outside have a longitudinal white stripe, divided by a narrow purple line. Side lacinia of the lip with brown stripes and bars on a white ground outside, brown inside, mid-lacinia light purple. A white line runs over the middle underneath. The callus is clavate, saccate at the base, running with its narrow end on to the disc of the central lacinia, hairy at the base, fine yellow. Column whitish, with green top. Sir Trevor declares it "second only to Phaius tuberosus?" The leaves and bulbs are in habit and general appearance like those of the old P. grandifolius, but the former are not so large or nearly of such firm texture, and are paler in colour. The bulbs are much smaller, and throw roots from their upper surface. The flower-spike springs from the underside of the mature bulb, a little in front, but not in connection with the young shoot. The delicate leaf-texture makes the leaves a toothsome morsel for thrips, &c. All those remarks are Sir Trevor's. H. G. Rchb. f.

CYPRIPELUM CONCOLOR (Parish) CHLOROPHYLLUM.

Mr. R. Eichel (gardener to J. Charlesworth, Esq.) kindly sends a leaf and flower of a Cypridium imported by Mr. F. Sander, and collected by his excellent traveller Mr. Foerstermann (whose remarks about Vanda hastifera I quoted when I spoke of Vanda Liadensi, p. 70). The flower is full of small spots, and the leaf is free from any marbling. Mr. Foerstermann, who was present when the box arrived, told me he found specimens with green leaves, others with little marbling, but the majority with well marbled leaves. H. J. Rchb. f.

CYPTOFLERA REGNIERI, n. sp.*

A stately rival of Cyptotera flavula, Lindl., bearing a raceme of fine, large, chrome-yellow flowers. The peduncle stands at the side of the shoot of young oblong-lanceolate leaves. Both sepals and petals are lanceolate acute, all falcate. The lip is of unusual shape, being oblong-lanceolate, with a wide blunt angle at each side in the middle. It forms, with the lateral sepal, a conical, retrorse, compressed chin,

* *Cyptotera Regnierii*, n. sp.—Aff. *Cyptotera flavula*, Lindl.: pseudobulbs terpenoidi obtuso tumido articulato; foliis lanceolato oblongis acutis; pedunculo alato racemoso; sepalis petalique falcatis, la-sello oblongo acuto utrinque medio semiovato curvato, meato conico compresso retrorse. Flores pulchre flavo. Cochin China. Reigoer legit vivamque minit. H. G. Rchb. f.