



THE

GARDENERS' CHRONICLE

A Weekly Illustrated Journal

OF

HORTICULTURE AND ALLIED SUBJECTS.

(ESTABLISHED IN 1841.)

VOL. IV.—THIRD SERIES.

JULY TO DECEMBER, 1888.

LONDON :

41, WELLINGTON STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

1888.



The GARDENERS' CHRONICLE

ESTABLISHED 1841.
No. 2489.

No. 89.—VOL. IV. {THIRD SERIES}

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1888.

{Regt. as a Newspaper. PRICE 3d. POST-FREE, 3½d.

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THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE,
Vol. III., Third Series, JAN. to JUNE, 1888.
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Erratum.
MESSRS. PROTHEROE AND MORRIS' SALE at UPPER EDMONTON. See *Gardeners' Chronicle* last week, p. 230.
For H. Bellay read H. B. MAY.

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shallow and in the most sunny positions. Delicate sorts should be replanted in fresh soil every year, in July or August. Burnt earth and sea sand are valuable for dressing the soil in which Narcissus are grown, and on wet soils the bulbs should be covered with sand when planted. *F. W. Burbidge.*

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY PLANTS.

PENTSTEMON ROTUNDFOLIUS (*A. Gray*), (FIG. 31) *n. sp.**

This very distinct species is entirely new to science, and is certainly one of the most important novelties of 1888. Its introduction to our gardens is due to the untiring efforts of Mr. W. Thompson, of Ipswich, whose name has long been identified with the plants of Texas, Mexico, and other North American States. The present plant has flowered with such profusion this year, in spite of the very uncongenial weather, and the flowers withal are so pretty and graceful, that it has only to be known to become a general favourite. Its nearest ally, among those in cultivation at least, is *P. centranthifolius* (Chelone) of the *Botanical Register*, vol. xx, p. 1739. The latter was sent from California by David Douglas, and is described by Bentham in the *Proceedings of the Royal Horticultural Society*, vol. i., as *Chelone*. It is perfectly hardy, growing well in any good garden soil if fully exposed to the sun. It differs abundantly from the present species in longish ovate lanceolate Valerian-like leaves, and glabrous flowers. In *P. rotundifolius* (see fig. 31) the leaves are coriaceous, orbiculate, entire, the lower ones on longish petioles, those on the stem clasping, the whole conspicuously glaucous. The flower-stem, 2 feet in height, is very graceful, producing abundance of medium-sized brick-red flowers, with pale yellowish throat, anthers slightly exserted, the same length as the style. It has flowered at Kew all through the summer and autumn months. The plants were collected by Mr. Pringle in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, in the summer and autumn of 1886, and described by Dr. Gray in the *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, vol. xxii, p. 307, 1887. In a note attached to the description, Mr. Pringle says he collected it at Mapula, Potrero, and other mountains near Chihuahua, hanging from seams of cliffs, long enduring, apparently flowering for most of the year. The plant may be seen at the present time in the new alpine-house at Kew. *D. Dewar.*

CATLEYA HARRISONIANA (*Bateman*) VAR. REGNIERIAN, *n. var.*

The rather short sepals and petals show such a wonderfully clear, warm purple tint as I never saw in the affinity. The lip's side laciniae are light purple outside, yellow in the mid line. The inside is light yellow, with darker keels and a light purple border to the side-laciniae. The mid-lacinia is very deeply plaited and minutely crenulate, and the whole lacinia stands upright and hides the top of the column. It is whitish-yellow, with an orange callous basilar disc, and washed with purple outside. Column white, with a greenish base. This lovely thing was kindly sent me by M. A. Regnier, Fontenay-sous-Bois, Seine, and whose name it may justly bear. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

LELIA XANTHINA (*Lindl.*) AORAPHIS, *n. var.*

With this species have always appeared specimens without any purple markings on the lip. It has also been sent me lately through my kind old corre-

* *Pentstemon rotundifolius*, *n. sp.*—Species insignis (a grege *P. centranthifolii*?), glaberrimus, glaucus; caulibus basi lignosa aperte-ramosis paniculato-plurifloris; foliis crasso-coriaceis orbiculatis integerrimis (majoribus sesquipollicaribus), imis in petiolum subalatum contractis, ceteris arcte sessilibus ramulibus parvis, floralibus minutis subcordatis; pedunculis pedicellisque gracilibus; sepalis ovalibus lin. 2 longis; corolla minuti pollicari tubiformi apice subequaliter 5 lobis, lobis lato-ovalibus (lin. 2 longis), fauce genitalibusque glabris; antheris post debiscenciam explanatis; capsulis lato-ovatis lin. 2-3 longis pedicello arcte ecurvato pendulis. *Asa Gray*, Bot. Contributions, issued March 4, 1887. *Proc. Amer. Acad. Sc.*, vol. xxii.

spondent, Mr. B. S. Williams, from Mr. Wischussen of Wood Green, N., who desired for a distinct variety a separate name, as is the custom now-a-days. The first-named gentleman appears to be very successful in growing this tribe. I shall have the pleasure to write shortly about a Cattleyoid sent by the same gentleman. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

CYPRIPEDIUM CONCOLOR (*Parish*), VAR. SULPHURINUM, *n. var.*

This is stated to be green-leaved. It is a lovely elegant variety, with light sulphur-coloured flowers, without the least trace of a spot. There are only two darker yellow eyes on the disc of the triangular, heart-shaped, very acute staminode. The petals are bent down with much elegance. It was kindly sent me by Messrs. Hugh Low & Co., Clapton. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

CYPRIPEDIUM PAGEANUM, *n. hyb.* (*Gall.*)

This is stated to be the result of crossing *Cypripedium superbians* (Veitchianum) and *C. Hookeri* (Hookeri of many gardeners). The leaves are nearly glaucous, with dark reticulations. The red hairy peduncle is one-flowered. Bract half as long as the ovary, spatheaceous, acute, reddish at the base. Upper sepal elliptical acute, with twenty-three green veins, a few of which are reddish at the apex. Lower sepals much smaller, not equalling half the lip, oblong acute, with green veins, two of which are red at the apex. Petals deflexed, ligulate acute, ciliate, with green veins on a whitish ground that turns in the light to a reddish colour in the anterior third. There are numerous Indian-purple spots on the basilar and median portions. Lip in the way of that of *Cypripedium superbians*, but narrower, two-horned at the mouth of the sac, dark brown, ochre in the mid-line. Staminode transverse, with two inflexed horns and a small apiculus light green, with the usual dark reticulation in the middle.

It was raised by Mr. Page, an ardent orchidist, at Bongival, near Paris, and whose name it duly bears. I had it through the kindness of Messrs. Seeger & Tropp. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

AUTUMN BLOOM OF AURICULAS.

I THINK it not unlikely there will be, as one of the results of the moist cool June and July, a good deal of autumn bloom from Auriculas. The plants appear to have made, under the favourable condition of coolness, a continuous summer growth, and the crowns are plump, green, and full of life. I am keeping my own plants pretty dry at the roots, at the same time not allowing them to flag in any way, as I think this is disastrous in its effects. I am potting later than usual, in the hope thus to check autumn blooming. Seedlings have grown vigorously—the strongest are beginning to bloom. By doing this in the autumn it enables one to throw out all the inferior types. Anything promising should be marked, and the test of spring flowering applied. I find that the autumn promise and character is occasionally reversed when the spring bloom is put on. But a second year's flowering should be tried before anything of promise is finally rejected. *R. D.*

THE PINK.

The laced varieties are not grown quite so much as they used to be a quarter of a century ago, when Pink shows were popular. It is a distinct border plant. There are not many raisers of seedlings now, but Messrs. Hooper & Co., of Bath, have raised some very distinct varieties, of which they sent blooms a few weeks ago. One of them had flowers as large as those of a Carnation. They were well laced and distinct in colour, and this is saying a good deal, for Pinks have but little variety amongst them. The young plants propagated from pipings put in about the end of June should now be well rooted, and they ought to be planted out in the beds or borders where

they are to flower as soon as the ground can be prepared for them and they are strong enough. If the plants are small 9 inches apart is a good distance; large plants may be allowed a foot each way. It is a good plan to have the plants well established before the winter, as they will throw up stronger flower-stems the following season. They like rich soil, not too heavy. In fact, they are not so fastidious as their near ally, the Carnation, and will succeed admirably in any ordinary garden soil. The plants are strong enough to plant out about the middle or end of September.

THE FORCING PINK.

Varieties of this section are more readily propagated than those of the laced type. I think very highly of the pure white variety with prettily-fringed flowers, grown by the acre in the fields round about here to supply cut flowers for the London market. The plants are torn into pieces by the hand, and planted in rows in a rough-and-ready manner on ploughed ground. This variety has a very sweet Clove-like scent. For forcing and garden culture I like the more delicately-constituted Lady Blanche. It has pure white well-formed flowers, and is admirably adapted for forcing purposes. I have not yet seen any of the purple-coloured varieties to surpass Lord Lyons. The flowers are rich in colour, and, like Lady Blanche, they have long pods that do not burst with the opening flowers. To obtain good-flowering clumps, the cuttings of these should be put, during the months of April and May, in a forcing-house or hothed. When well rooted, they may be planted out a foot or more apart in the open garden, and, if they are intended for forcing purposes, must be planted out in light rich soil to increase in size and vigour during the summer and early autumn months. About the first week in October they may be lifted, with plenty of roots attached, and be potted into 6 or 7-inch pots, according to the vigour of the plants. *J. Douglas, Ilford.*

CARNATIONS ADMIRAL CURZON AND SARAH PAYNE.

It is sometimes said, but not always with reason, that the continual propagation of any one variety of florists' flowers has an inevitable tendency to wear it out and cause deterioration. This has frequently been stated of the Carnation, and because the florist grows his plants in pots in cold frames during the winter rather than expose them to all the rigours of the winter in the open air, he is accused of making a hothouse plant of it, and inevitable weakness and decay are asserted as taking place. This statement is always made without due consideration. At the exhibition of the National Carnation and Picotee Society, held in the Drill Hall in connection with the meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society on July 24, two flowers were exhibited—one, Eason's Admiral Curzon, scarlet bizarre, sent out forty-three years ago; and Ward's Sarah Payne, pink and purple bizarre, sent out forty-one years ago. If the statement made at the commencement of this paper is correct these two varieties, debilitated beyond measure by hard propagation during this long period, ought to have disappeared from cultivation years ago. But they are grown and shown to-day as vigorously and of as fine quality as they were over forty years ago.

Admiral Curzon is still pretty well at the head of its class, and although its supremacy may be challenged by Dodwell's Fred, Dodwell's George, Barlow's Robert Houlgrave, and Dodwell's Robert Lord, it will yet be grown and exhibited for years to come. In the second edition of his book on the Carnation Mr. Dodwell states that "It is pleasant to record the Admiral is yet alive to us and worthy of admiration, as in the days of its earliest youth. Wherever Carnations are grown and shown there is Curzon—always to the front, indeed, quite seven times in ten the best flower of the exhibition. What a beautifully shaped petal—smooth, gently cupped, and of good substance. Its colours are rich, bright, well delineated, and strongly contrasted. Its outline is as unbroken as any flower I have ever cultivated, and its form good. It is of medium size and a good