

The sepals, or the three outer segments of the perianth, and two of the inner segments, or petals, resemble each other. The third petal, or "lip," is recurved at the top and bearded down the face, forming a very conspicuous part of the plant. Adhering to the lower part of this lip is the *column*, composed of a single stamen. (Nearly all orchids have but one stamen.) Enclosed within the perianth, at the base, is the one-celled ovary, which is likewise a characteristic of all our orchids.

The flowers of orchids, with their complicated structure, present admirable arrangements for fertilization by means of insects. It must be taken for granted, what is now generally known, that insects when they creep into flowers for honey, carry about with them from flower to flower the dust or pollen which makes the young seeds grow and become fruitful. The flower of *Arethusa* is admirably adapted for fertilization by insect agency. Dr. Asa Gray has described the process as follows:

"The bee or other insect of considerable size, can enter the blossom only in front; and the large, crested recurving petal offers a convenient landing place." (See cut.) "At the bottom of the narrowed cup of the flower a little nectar is produced, down to which the insect must reach its proboscis. In rising to escape, its head must strike the lower face of the overhanging shelf, which is stigma, and so sticky that any pollen it may chance to have brought would be left adhering there. As the head slips by, it must next hit the front edge or vizard of the helmet-shaped anther" (just observable in the cut, immediately over the lip), "raise it on its hinge, and so allow one or more of the four loose pellets of pollen to drop out, or be brushed out by the insect's head, to which some of the pollen would stick, and so be carried to the flower of another individual, there left upon its glutinous stigma by the same upward movement which immediately afterward raises the anther-lid and carries away its pollen, to be transferred to a third blossom, and so on."

The flowers of *Arethusa* emit a pleasant fragrance. It is named after one of Diana's nymphs, who was changed by that goddess into a spring. The name was applied by Linnaeus, who appears to have been constantly on the watch for analogies, on account of this plant's occurrence in springy places.

[A list of orchids occurring in these Provinces, intended to accompany this article, is unavoidably crowded out.]

THE next eclipse of the moon will occur on the night of July 22. It will take place about midnight.

For the REVIEW.]

#### LATIN SYLLABICATION.

The following notice appeared not long since in a leading American newspaper, and ought to be reliable:

"Prof. W. Everett, of Harvard University, has resigned his situation because of the introduction of a new Latin grammar. He says he does not know the new Latin, and cannot teach it; and that its pronunciation is not only incorrect, but barbarous."

And in the *Princeton Review* of a somewhat recent date, we meet with the following, also on the subject of Latin pronunciation.

"To say *bo-nus* and *be-ne*, and to write verses on the principle that we should say *bon-us* and *ben-e*, is a method of pronunciation of which the wildest savage would see the absurdity. Even a parrot is exempted from repeating sounds which are in direct contradiction to the rules about sounds which in theory it acknowledges."

I do not know what "new Latin grammar" is referred to in the above; but I have seen enough samples of the article within the last dozen years to sympathize with Prof. Everett in the independent and manly protest with which he is credited. The potent considerations, which so often lead to the introduction of new books into schools, seem not to have availed with him; and rather than be unfaithful to the interests of the young men under his charge, he resigned his post. All honor to Prof. Everett.

The *Princeton Review* also deserves much credit for its outspoken condemnation of a grievous evil, which militates almost more than any other against the study of the Latin language, and its use by Latin scholars. But how the writer could be content merely to protest, without recommending or even suggesting a remedy, which must have been obvious to him, is very strange. Did he fear the charge of iconoclasm or singularity, and therefore stopped short in the crusade on which he seemed to have entered with commendable vigor? It is not enough to attack error; one should be prepared to show how it may be removed, and the mischief attending it be nullified.

I do not propose to discuss the subject of Latin pronunciation, and therefore shall say nothing of the two systems on which the vowels are sounded, and which obtain, respectively, in Oxford and the schools of England on the one hand, and of the continent on the other; but the point referred to by the *Princeton Review* may properly claim a brief consideration. The *vowel sounds* are of comparatively little importance, and it may not be possible to arrive at certainty as to how they were uttered by the ancient Romans; but there is no uncertainty with respect to the *quantity* of the syllables and the *accentuation* of the words; Latin verse establishes both the one and the other,