

SOME VALUABLE ORCHIDS GOOD REASONS REMARKABLE EXHIBITION AT FOR ALL HE SA A LONDON SHOW.

Priceless Plants Brought From
the Forests of South
America.

The great flower show the Royal Horticultural Society just held in the inner Temple Gardens, contained many floral oddities and a few striking novelties, says the London Express.

The most remarkable feature of the display was the wealth of orchids. Where you have something like \$375,000 worth of these fantastic flowers massed together, you are bound to find something rare, weird, or wonderfully beautiful.

Well known growers had brought plants from all parts of England, and at the end of the three days' floral carnival they were able to congratulate themselves upon having done a record amount of business.

One of the largest growers present stated that the orchid is growing more popular every year, and that owing to the comparatively rarity of the plants prices are always rising. Plants listed at twenty guineas ten years ago are worth fifty guineas today.

VALUE OF PLANTS.

The romance that attaches to the plants, the fact that dangers of all sorts must be faced in tropical jungles and forests by those who collect them, the weird shapes and wonderful hues (some of them almost indefinable) of the flowers—all these have caused the orchid to catch the public interest, and now, when a man with a full purse and a love for flowers covets orchids, he leaves no stone unturned to gratify himself.

There are many common orchids worth, say, half a guinea a plant; and there is no reason, considering their abundance, for thinking that they will ever be sought but common. But when you come among the highly priced specimens, the orchid market seems sometimes some amazing fluctuations. A grower may, one year, have a certain plant worth a comparatively small sum, but in a few years that same plant may be priceless.

ONLY WHITE FLOWER.

Several years ago the *Cypripedium* *faricatum*, a variety of the lady's slipper orchid, was catalogued by Messrs. Bull, of Chelsea, at half a guinea a plant. To-day there are only three plants of that orchid in existence, and they are worth at least 1,000 guineas apiece. The other plants have all died off.

Messrs. Bull showed the only white orchid known to exports. For fifty years collectors had been hunting for such a specimen, when one of the firm's collectors found it in a Brazilian forest. Naturally the plant is priceless.

Its name is *Laella Purpurata*, Queen Alexandra. It is of purest white, with a yellow throat, lined with dark brown. Mr. Bull says that he will not run the risk of hybridizing the plant with itself for fear of weakening, or perhaps killing it, by allowing it to produce seed pods. He intends to propagate it by dividing the roots.

The fascination of hybridizing seizes upon all orchid growers, and they find the process an endless source of delight and profit. They never know what whim of shape or color will result, but they are perfectly aware that the mere taking of a tiny atom of pollen from one flower and placing it on the pollen of another may sometimes mean a fortune.

The show itself supplied an instance of fortunate hybridizing. There was an insignificant little bunch of orchid blossom representing one small hybrid plant in Belgium, for which its owner—Mr. Charles Vuytsteke—would not take \$15,000. The plant was considered far too precious to send to London from the nurseries at Loochristi, where it was raised.

One extraordinary thing about this hybrid is that its father, *Cochlidium* *Noetziina*, a small flower of vivid scarlet, is not a quarter the size of *Odontoglossum* *Pescatorei*, its white and purplish crimson mother. Yet the resultant hybrid is every bit as large, if not larger, than its mother. Another point about it—indeed, the feature that makes it so valuable—is that it is the first *odontoglossum* orchid to show a hue of red. For years hybridists had been experimenting to introduce red into the *odontoglossum* family. Mr. Vuytsteke has succeeded, and his new orchid—*Odontioda* *Vuytstekei*—shows a hue of scarlet on a ground of white. Its lips are of rich yellow, and its border is of rose lilac.

Messrs. Cypher, of Cheltenham, showed a valuable novelty in the form of a white and green orchid of the lady's slipper variety—*Cypripedium* *Callosum* *Sanderianum*—of pure white, lined with light green.

Among the growing mass of color presented by the thousands of orchids were many individual specimens which at once caught the eye. Sometimes it was for some amazing hue that defied all description, and at other times it was because of an uncanny shape that gave to the flower an air of sinister intent.

"Oh," was the first surprised comment of one fair lady visitor, on catching sight of a *Cypripedium* *Caudatum* *Wallisii* that looked like a woman mad with drink, "will it hurt?" Then, recovering herself, she added

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS CURE W. N. BASKIN'S PAINS.

Well-Known Norwood Contractor
Always Has a Good Word
Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Norwood, Ont., Nov. 21.—(Special.)—Mr. W. N. Baskin, the well-known lumberman and railroad contractor here, is one of those who never to say a good word for Dodd's Kidney Pills. Mr. Baskin gives the reason why as follows:

"For two years I was laid up with Lumbago and Kidney Disease. Times I would become very weak, would have to give up work. I work on the C.P.R. and the Pa. Sound R.R., and people all know I sick I was.

"Reading of wonderful cures Dodd's Kidney Pills led me to them, and I can say I have not any pains since I used them. I just took three boxes to cure completely." Lumbago is one of results of Kidney Disease. Cure your Kidneys with Dodd's Kidney Pills and you will cure your Lumbago.

with a great deal of truth, "some of them do look dangerous at first." There was another cypripedium that suggested a piratical rover; indeed looking at some of these flowers from certain positions, you could conjure up all sorts of images, quaint, beautiful, and ghastly.

SOME FLY-TRAPS.

In a corner away from the others were some plants that really were dangerous, although only to insects. There was a specimen of the *Dioscorea* *Muscipula*, the Venus fly-trap plant with its ugly-looking traps laid out baited for unsuspecting flies.

Within the trap is a sweet net which insects love, and several long spines which they must touch before slipping it. But the touching of the spines means that the trap is closing its teeth and barring means of escape for the intruder. Then the flower feeds.

Another insectivorous plant was a *Sarracenia* *Wilsonii*, a trumpet-shaped trap about nine inches long. At the bottom is the inevitable of nectar. The inner sides of the trumpet are slippery as glass, when an insect once reaches the it can never climb into safety again but falls a prey to the voracious plant.

QUITE SAFE WITH HIM.

Pretty Daughter—"Ma, may I boating?" Fond Mother—"Ind you sha'n't. The ideal Who inv you?" Daughter—"Mr. Bliffers." Fond Mother—"Oh, yes, you may with Mr. Bliffers. He has a good leg, and if the boat upsets, just hang on to that."

TILL NOON.

The Simple Dish That Keeps Vigorous and Well Fed.

When the Doctor takes his medicine and the grocer eats the he recommends some confidence to the observer.

A Grocer of Ossian, Ind., has practical experience with food anyone's attention.

He says: "Six years ago I became so weak from stomach and trouble that I was finally compelled to give up all work in my store, in fact all sorts of work, for four years. The last year I confined to the bed nearly all the time, and much of the time unable to retain food of any sort on stomach. My bowels were constipated continually, and I lost weight from 165 pounds down to 110 pounds.

"When at the bottom of the I changed treatment entirely started in on Grape-Nuts and for nourishment. I used absolutely nothing but this for about months. I slowly improved and got out of bed and began to about."

"I have been improving rapidly and now in the past two years I have been working about fifteen hours a day in the store and never felt better in my life.

"During these two years I never missed a breakfast of Grape-Nuts and cream, and often have two meals a day, but the breakfast is always made of Grape-Nuts and cream alone.

"Since commencing the use of Grape-Nuts I have never used anything to stimulate the action of bowels a thing I had to do for years, but this food keeps me far and in fine shape, and I am feeling stronger and heavier every day."

"My customers, naturally, have been interested and I am compelled to answer a great many questions about Grape-Nuts."

"Some people would think the simple dish of Grape-Nuts and cream would not carry one through the noonday meal, but it will and most vigorous fashion."

Name given by Postum Co.,

Crook, Mich.

Look in each package for the famous little book, "The Road to

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