

suppressed. It will doubtless prove to be a valuable garden plant, and as popular as the other two species.

NEPENTHES NORTHIANA.—A new Pitcher Plant from Borneo. It is one of the largest species known, producing pitchers nearly a foot in length, and of proportionate breadth. In form they are distinct from those of other species, inasmuch as the rim is broad and deeply furrowed. The ground colour, which is pale green, is marked by large, irregular blotches of crimson-red. The plant shown by the introducers, Messrs. Veitch, bore but half-sized pitchers, but those were quite characteristic of the species.—*The Garden.*

MAGNOLIA PARVIFLORA.—Mr. S. B. Parsons, writes to *The Garden* concerning this new variety of the Magnolia as follows:—I wish you could see now our specimen of *Magnolia parviflora*, a new species which we received some years ago from Japan. The tree is about 8 feet high, and the leaves, which are fully formed before the flowers appear, are 6 inches long and 3½ inches broad; on it are 128 buds in all stages of expansion. Some are the size of an egg, while others are fully expanded, making a flower five inches in diameter. The most charming form is that of a cup, the heart-shaped petals, two inches in diameter, forming a perfect curve over the stamens and pistil. The petals are of a pure and creamy white without a trace of colour. The sepals have a slight pink colour. The mass of stamens is two inches in diameter, and they lie horizontally and compact, half of each being well-defined deep vermilion, and the other half a scarlet-tipped orange. The pistil rising from these stamens is 1½ inches long and three-eighths of an inch thick, with light green and scarlet tints. This *Magnolia* has the combined fragrance of banana, pine-apple, and winter

green, and one flower will perfume a room. With its beauty of form and colour, and its exceptionally delightful fragrance, I think I am not extravagant in pronouncing it the most charming hardy flowering tree that I know. He further adds, I would like you to see also our Japan Maples, for which we think this region is the home. For the convenience of ploughing between them, we cultivate them in rows two hundred feet long and three feet apart, and the luxuriant mass of colour as you look upon them from the end is something to be remembered. I have massed a number of kinds upon a lawn with grand effect, but I am very fond of two kinds planted in a group—the japonicum aureum and the polymorphum sanguineum. The rich gold of one makes a charming contrast with the blood red of the other through which the sun shines as through a glass of claret. The atropurpureum is very nearly equal to the sanguineum. On a bright summer afternoon I stood under one of the latter nearly 10 feet high, and, looking up through the leaves, made transparent by the red light, the effect was very charming. The cold of the past winter had no effect upon these Maples, while *Retinosporas* were badly hurt, and even the Norway Spruce and in some instances our native Hemlock were entirely killed.

RED ASTRACHAN APPLES.

Col. B. L. Wiley, one of the most extensive apple growers and shippers, as well as the pioneer in that line, at Makanda, shipped 900 third-bushel boxes of Red Astrachan apples from only fourteen trees. As prices were high for apples he netted about 62 cents a box, or about an average of \$40 per tree. Besides, there were about 200 boxes in amount that dropped off, the value of which for cider or vinegar may be added to the above. Has anybody