

collection which has now few equals. He has recently published the result of his vast experience as a Pteridologist, in a volume called "*Ferns, British and Foreign*," in which he enumerates no fewer than 1071 species of cultivated Ferns. It is, however, computed, that over 3000 species are now known to botanists ; a great number truly, when it is remembered that only 180 were known to the great Swedish botanist, LINNÆUS.

THE STRUCTURE OF FERNS.

"THE fronds of Ferns," observes MR. THOMAS MOORE, Curator of Chelsea Botanic Gardens, in his 'History of British Ferns,' "consist of two parts—the leafy portion, and the stalk, which latter is called the *stipes*. The continuation of the stalk, in the form of a rib, extending through the leafy portion, and becoming branched when the frond is divided, is called the *rachis*. In some species the leafy portion of the frond is undivided—that is to say, the margins are not scalloped or cut away at all ; an example of this occurs in the common Hart's-tongue ; such fronds are called *simple*. In the simplest mode of division which occurs among the British species, the margin of the frond is deeply divided or scalloped