

have a copy of its annual report, which is worth far more than the annual dollar, to say nothing of the fruit tree or vine that is annually given to every member. We hope soon to be able to say that its membership is counted by thousands instead of by hundreds, believing that the influence of the Association upon the welfare of this Province, upon the happiness, prosperity and enjoyments of our fellow countrymen, will be of lasting benefit.

Cutting Away the Old Wood of Blackberry and Raspberry Bushes,

I have noticed the recommendation of some of the pomological authorities to cut away all the blackberry and raspberry canes close to the ground, as soon as the fruit is gathered. I think such a recommendation is an egregious error, and if put in practice, the productiveness of the bushes thus treated will be seriously impaired. Let producers of blackberries and raspberries adopt such a practice, and they will soon perceive the injurious effect on the hardiness of their bushes, and in the production of inferior crops of fruit, for the reason that such a premature removal of the old wood interferes with a very important habit of the bushes. From the commencement of the growing season until the fruit is fully ripe, all the energies of the bushes are concentrated to the accomplishment of the one object of the perfect development and maturity of the fruit. The circulation of the sap has all been towards the leaves. The roots are so exhausted at this period—when the fruit is fully ripe—that they are poorly prepared, after having produced a crop of fruit, to develop a new system of canes for the following season, if the old wood were cut away. As soon as the fruit is gathered, the circulation of the sap is reversed, so that all the remaining energies of the bushes are directed to the strengthening of the roots. The leaves on the old canes play an important part in this operation, as the sap in them goes down into the roots before the leaves are cast, to aid both in strengthening the roots and in developing new canes. Hence if the old canes are cut away before the leaves have fallen, the hardiness of the bushes will be more or less injured. But as soon as the leaves of the old canes are so much faded that they are about to drop, the old canes may be removed without any injury to the future productiveness and hardiness of the bushes.

It must be remembered that the canes of blackberries and raspberries are biennial, while the roots are perennial. Dame Nature, therefore, has provided that the fruit-bearing canes of the present year must remain where they grew until the canes which are to yield a crop of fruit next season stand by their side fully developed, and made to receive the mantle of their progenitors. As soon as the bushes have ceased to grow, the old wood may be cut away without injury. Yet in localities where the bushes are exposed to deep snow, if the bushes are not laid down during the cold weather, the old canes will aid in keeping the new ones erect. The old canes should always be removed very early in the growing season.—S. E. Tonn, in *Tillon's Journal of Horticulture*.

New and Rare Plants.

Orythocheira—is a new tribe from the gold regions of South America. They require a moist atmosphere when in a growing state, with rough, sandy, vegetable soil, to keep them beautiful and fresh. Propagate every spring from the tips of the shoots. They are capital basket plants for shaded situations.

C. metallica—has bright scarlet flowers, with thick oval foliage, of an olive green, with a central pink band on the midrib, diverging through its hairy foliage.

C. choulensis.—The flowers are white, an inch in diameter, shaded with lilac, and appear in profusion for several months. The foliage is purple on the under side, and on the upper side a shaded green, sparkling with a golden metallic lustre—a very charming plant.

Begonias.—Are refreshingly new, and all blooming in early autumn and winter with a profusion to please the most fastidious; all of the easiest possible culture in a temperature of forty to sixty degrees in winter. They grow and flower most freely when renewed from cuttings every spring.

B. boliviana.—A new feature, with large pendant flowers, of a rich coral colour, and in great abundance.

B. veleni.—Similar to the former, with flowers of a rich crimson colour.

B. glaucophylla scandens.—A climbing species, and a first-rate basket plant. Its long pendant shoots are just the article for window culture.

B. wicksonensis.—A plant two feet high and two feet wide, of six months' growth, was a complete bouquet from the pot to the tip, of a delicate pink colour.—*Tillon's Journal of Horticulture*.

New Show Pelargoniums of 1871.

A correspondent of the *Florist and Pomologist* gives a description of the twelve Show Pelargoniums which have received first-class certificates during this year:

Admiral.—The lower petals are lilac-rose, on the upper petals a large maroon blotch shaded off to the edge, with a margin of pale lilac; the flower is large, with a bold, white centre, extra fine quality and good form.

Ada.—Top petals dark, margined with bright rose; lower petals deep pink, with white throat; free blooming, and flowers of fine quality.

Cesar.—A very bright coloured flower of fine form and substance; lower petals crimson, painted with darker veins; top petals dark maroon, with edge of bright crimson; extra fine.

Charlemagne.—The lower petals a soft salmon-peach colour; small maroon spot on the top petals, with broad margin of pale carmine rose; bold white throat; flowers of splendid form and large bold truss.

Conquest.—Lower petals bright rosy-scarlet; large maroon blotch on the top petals, with margin of purple; a bright and showy flower of fine quality.

Chieftain.—Lower petals rose; deep maroon blotch on top petals, with shaded rose margin, and bold white throat; a flower of superb form and fine quality.

Blue Bell.—Lower petals light bluish purple; black spot on the top petals, with edge of pale purple, white throat; a novel and very attractive flower.

Imperator.—A rich dark flower; the lower petals maroon; top petals black, with a narrow edge of lively crimson.

Pompey.—The lower petals orange carmine; upper petals shaded maroon, with margin of rich orange; large clear white centre; flowers of large size, richly coloured, and of the finest form.

Prelate.—Lower petals maroon, dashed with purple; upper petals glossy black, with narrow purple margin and white throat; flowers bold and fine.

Royal Bride.—The lower petals an exquisite shade of soft salmon pink; a maroon blotch on top petals, with margin of pink; large white throat; a very beautiful flower, of fine quality.

Reubens.—Lower petals rosy purple; large glossy maroon blotch on top petals; a medium sized but very pretty flower.

Zephyr.—Heavily painted crimson lower petals; rich black top petals, with a very narrow margin of crimson; a richly painted flower, of fine substance and quality.

Thinning Fruit.

Dr. Farley, of Union Springs, N.Y., informs us that early in the season he directed his hired man to thin the pears on a row of fifty bearing trees, by taking out one-half the poorest looking ones. This was done; but being a year of great abundance, the thinning was not sufficient. The pears grew so much larger in consequence of the operation, as to heavier load and a greater number of bushels, than the remaining unthinned trees. He thinks it would have been better to have thinned out one-half the remaining pears by a second operation, both on account of the benefit to the trees by bearing a smaller number of specimens, and the great superiority of the fruit and its higher price in the market.—*Country Gentleman*.

Waterer's Laburnum.

What is known in the Surrey Gardens as Waterer's Laburnum, is much superior to the ordinary Laburnum. It is not so large in the foliage nor in the individual flowers as the Scotch Laburnum. But imagine racemes a foot long or more of the brightest of yellow flowers, hanging in countless profusion, and some idea may be formed of the splendid effect of this tree, the distinctive merits of which lie in the profusion of its flowers, the great length of its racemes, and the bright colour of its individual flowers.—*Florist and Pomologist*.