

the farming interest will indeed be strangely neglected, if a handsome sum is not voted for the importation of thorough bred stock; it is the duty of the farmers to put a pressure on their representatives to this end. Some more stringent regulations should however be laid down regarding the purchase of stock—we ought not to see, (as we did at Richmond last autumn), Societies selling their pure bred bulls, at 3 years old, hardly indeed in their prime, to butchers to be killed for beef, simply because they had got rather large and strong. Our Agricultural Societies are rendering great service to the country, let them add to those so rendered the practice of keeping grown bulls, instead of forever depending on yearlings, and killing them off when they come to maturity

Yours obediently,

J. W. L.

Miscellaneous.

LEPTOSIPHON ROSEUS.

"If an exception be made in favor of the admirable *Phlox Drummondii*, none of the annual *Phlox* sorts are more popular, or so well deserve popularity, as the plants included in the genus *Leptosiphon*. Of dwarf and compact habit, yielding profusely their star-like blossoms of various shades, and of the easiest cultivation in almost any soil, it can scarcely be a matter of surprise that they have from their earliest introduction taken place in the first rank. For twenty years the genus was represented in our gardens only by the well known *L. androsaceus* and *L. densiflorus*, with their white varieties. To these were at length added the charming *L. luteus* and its variety *aureus*, both introduced by Messrs. Veitch, of Chelsea; and another, though it may be hoped not a final addition, may now be chronicled in the *Leptosiphon roseus*, a most charming plant, closely related in habit to the two last named, which it equals, if not exceeds, in beauty and in usefulness.

This elegant and attractive little annual differs from *L. aureus* almost solely in its colour which is a most pleasing tender rose, a shade by no means easy to represent adequately on paper. Like that of its congener, its habit is very dwarf, rarely exceeding 3 or 4 inches, with similarly palmate foliage, the flowers being produced in clusters terminating the stems and branches. The elongated corolla tube, so characteristic of the genus, is fully three times longer than the limb, which is about three-fourths of an inch in diameter. In most of the specimens the rose-color is uniform, but in some there is an approach to a stripe or flake, which, however, in no degree detracts from the appearance of the plant. Well-

grown strong plants will yield their flowers for several weeks in succession. To obtain specimens, however, that will give the maximum number of flowers, it is essential with this, as with the other species, indeed with all other annuals, to sow thinly, or to transplant the seedlings while young to such a distance from each other as will afford full space for development. When the same care and attention that are bestowed on bedding plants are given to the hardy annuals, then, and then only, will their capabilities be discerned."—*Florist and Pomologist*.

ANEMONE JAPONICA.

When passing Kendall's nursery, Queen Elizabeth's Walk, Stoke Newington, a few days since, I observed this noble autumnal flower to be quite a wonder in its way. There stands near the entrance gate a specimen which must be full a yard high and a yard through, and there cannot be fewer than a hundred flowers fully expanded, with perhaps as many more in bud to keep up a succession. The flowers are of a paler tint than the common variety, a sort of very pale pinky rose, most fresh and charming. I make note of this in order to arrest the attention of cultivators of hardy plants, not for the purpose of advertising Kendall's nursery, which is not, so far as I know, managed with any other view than to supply the markets, and is therefore (probably) beyond being benefited by publicity. The autumnal anemones are all blooming earlier than usual, and, as I have at least half a dozen varieties, I will venture to say of them that they are the handsomest autumnal hardy plants we have. Mr. Kendall's plant is the largest I have seen, and no doubt has been left undisturbed many years past, that being the way to secure the full development of such a handsome specimen.—*PASSERBY, in Gardener's Weekly*.

NEW MODE OF PREPARING DRIED FLOWERS.

The mode in which the beautiful Dried Flowers are obtained, which have for some time past appeared for sale in the shops, has thus been described in the *Journal of the Society of Arts*:—"A vessel, with a moveable cover, is provided, and having removed the cover from it, a piece of metallic gauze of moderate fineness is fixed over it, and the cover replaced. A quantity of sand is then taken sufficient to fill the vessel, and passed through a sieve into an iron pot, where it is heated, with the addition of a small quantity of stearine, carefully stirred, so as to thoroughly mix the ingredients. The quantity of stearine to be added is at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to 100 lb. of sand. Care must be taken not to add too much, as it

would sink to the bottom and injure the flowers. The vessel, with its cover on, and the gauze beneath it, is then turned upside down, and the bottom being removed, the flowers to be operated upon are carefully placed on the gauze and the sand gently poured in, so as to cover the flowers entirely, the leaves being thus prevented from touching each other. The vessel is then put in a hot place, such, for instance, as the top of a baker's oven, where it is left for 48 hours. The flowers thus become dried, and they retain their natural colours. The vessel still remaining bottom upwards, the lid is taken off, and the sand runs away through the gauze, leaving the flowers uninjured." This process, by means of which the colours are in great measure preserved, is, it will be seen, an adaptation of the old plan of drying in hot sand.—*Gardener's Chronicle*.

NEW PEAR—BROCKWORTH PARK.

This is an English seedling, and far in advance of nineteen-twentieths of the continental trash which is year by year forced upon us. It is, indeed, a first-class pear, and the standard is now placed high. It has been awarded a first-class certificate by the Fruit Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society. At the first glance, it greatly resembles the *Louise Bonne* of Jersey. The fruit is large, pyriform, rather bulged in the centre; skin smooth, pale yellow, slightly flushed and streaked with crimson on the exposed side; eye small, close, segments of the calyx pointed, set in a shallow basin, the end of the fruit being frequently blunt; stalk about an inch long, stoutish, obliquely inserted without any depression; flesh white, delicate, buttery and melting, very juicy, rich and vinous, exceedingly pleasant to eat, greatly resembling in texture the well known *Marie Louise*. This we welcome as a valuable addition, and congratulate the raiser on his success. We believe it will be sent out by Messrs. J. C. Wheeler & Son, of Gloucester.—*London Journal of Horticulture*.

FULTON APPLE.

We received from Mr. T. W. Willson, Iowa City, Iowa, by his daughter, Mrs. Coolidge, of Leavenworth, Kansas, a very fine specimen of this handsome apple, for a name, it not being recognized there. The following is the description of the apple sent us, which is fully worthy all we say of it: Fruit large; weight ten ounces; form round, truncated, or flattened, slightly oblique, compressed and faintly ribbed; skin rich, bright, deep yellow, with a soft buff blush; dots numerous, small, green and gray; stem short, slender; cavity wide, deep, regular, green; eye large, open; basin wide,