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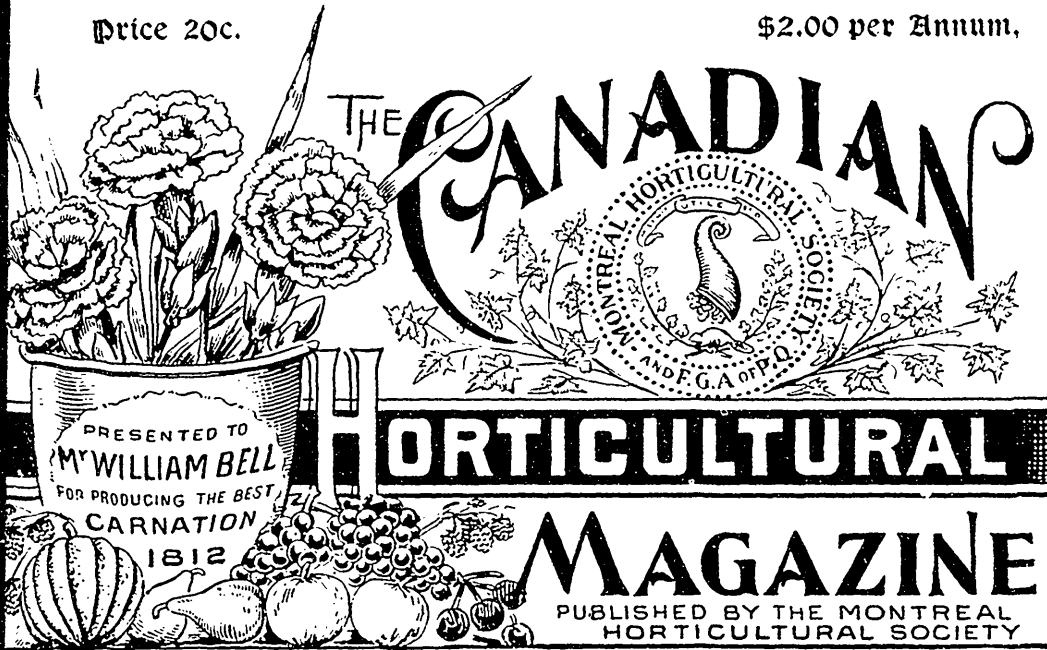
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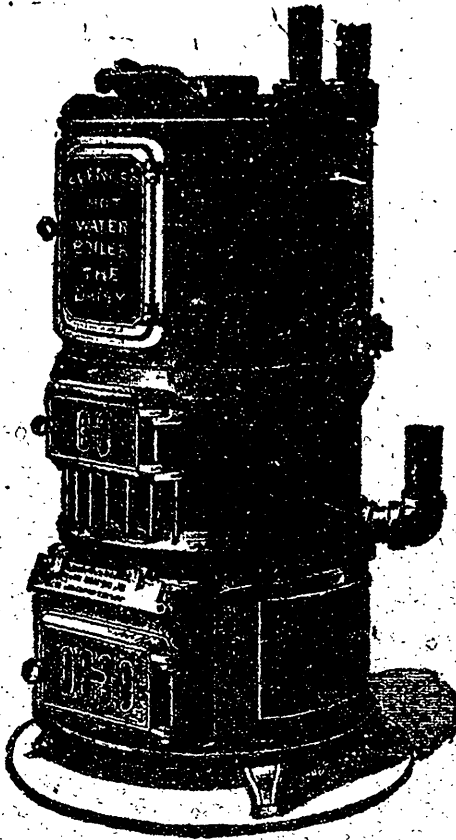
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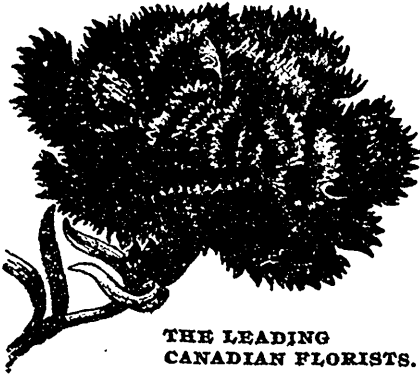
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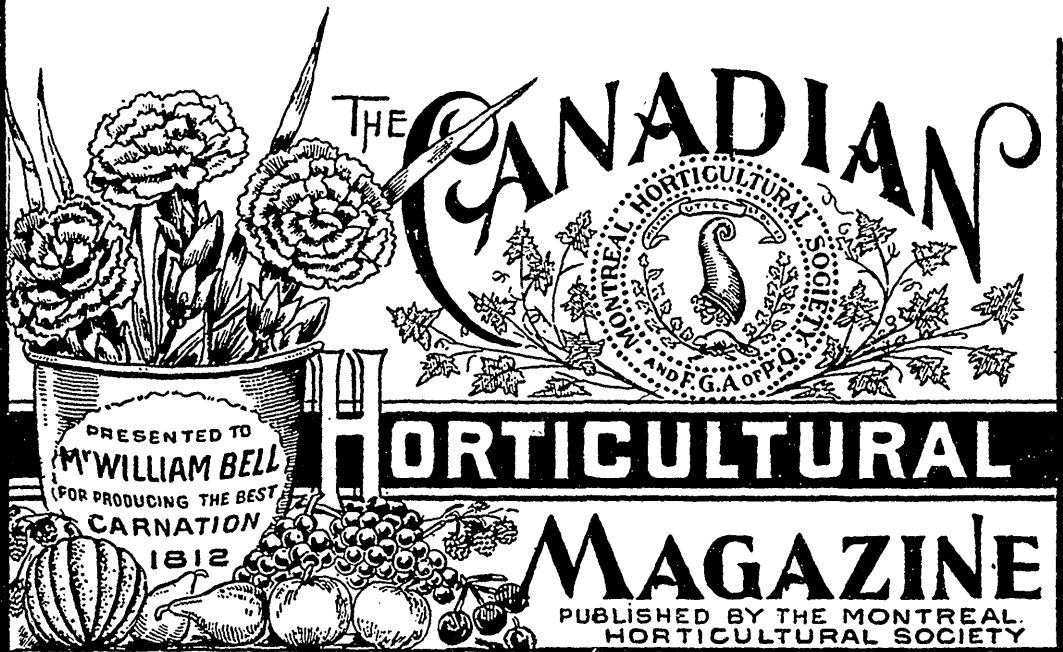
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CHATS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY MRS. G. W. SIMPSON, MONTREAL.

PART VII.—DRY FRUITS.

The purpose of flowers is to prepare fruit. By fruit botanists understand that part of the plant which bears seed; in other words, the ovary (which you will remember is the lower and larger part of the pistil), and all that adheres to, or belongs to, the ovary when it is mature or ripe. Most, if not all fruits are good for food, but not necessarily for human food. Some, however, are most desirable; for instance, wheat, nuts, and peas, of which I will speak first. Cereals, such as wheat, barley and rye, from which bread and porridge are made, are the most necessary of human foods; nuts contain a very large amount of nutriment, as children and animals seem to know instinctively. And too much cannot be said in favor of peas and beans. By nutriment is meant here *life sustaining* food. Things which are good to eat will not always sustain life without the help of other food, but cereals will do so. Indeed, most fruits will do so, but some with much less profit and advantage than others. The fruits I have named are classed as dry-fruits, because the seed when ripe is covered with dry, more or less leafy husks. Of these dry fruits I will select the pea as a general example. The dry pea, which is the seed ready to fall into the earth, will probably be best known to you, out of its dry husk, as a garden pea, sold in little packets, and cultivated for its perfumed, lovely flowers. But when the sweet pea was young and immature it was very much like the green pea that we eat, and call a vegetable, which word simply means a plant of some kind. All peas are matured in a pod, whose proper name is *legume*. *Legume* gives its name to the Pulse Family, under the Latin form of *Leguminosæ*. The legume with its contents is the Fruit.

It may be hard at first, especially for children, to think of green peas in the pod as fruit. The word fruit had an old meaning. It

signified joy,—that joy which comes naturally as the result of a good, true work well accomplished. The time of fruit—the harvest—is a time of joy. It means life and health to all living things; and all nations and all ages have recognized it as a right occasion for festival and rejoicing.

The more we enquire the more apparent it will be that in the Pulse or *Legume* family we have a most important order, which offers in colour, form and general habit, a very interesting study. In the first place, the flower of the *legume* is a complete flower, that is, a flower which possesses calyx, corolla, stamens and pistil. The flower itself, when fully blown, puts one in mind of a butterfly, hence one of its common names, the *butterfly family*. The corolla usually consists of a large petal called the standard, or banner; two side petals called wings; and two front petals, more or less united, called the keel. The stamens are ten in number in the Pea flower, and in most others of the order. The ten stamens are in two brotherhoods (*diadelphous*), nine in one brotherhood and one in the other. While the flower is still in the bud the stamens ripen. The nine brother stamens are joined together by their filaments, so as to form a cylinder, and lie in the bottom of the front petals, or keel; the solitary brother stamen, gracefully curved, lies directly above the cylinder. The stamens when ripe shed their pollen, and fill the end or point of the carina; *carina* means keel. The pollen discharged, the stamens shrivel up to a fourth of their original size. The flower now begins to grow to its full size, and five of the filaments also grow and thicken at the ends, until they reach the pollen in the fruit of the carina. In the meantime, the pistil has shot out beyond them, almost to the tip of the carina. Just above the stigma of the pistil is a tiny opening, through which from time to time a thread or ribbon of compressed pollen is thrust by the force of the club-like, thickened, filaments, pushing from behind. The action is not involuntary, but is helped by the elastic carina, which is assisted by an insect, probably a bee. The bee alights on the side petals or wings of the flower, and, standing firmly on the cylinder formed by the stamens, thrusts its head under

the calyx, where, at the base of the filaments, he finds the honey glands. He forces the carina downwards by his weight, and by so doing, forces up the pollen through the little opening in the apex. The pollen attaches itself to the hairy ventral surface of the bee. We may suppose that the bee has visited many pea flowers before he alighted on our particular flower. It happens that the pistil, forced through the opening in the apex, by the same weight which affected the pollen, rubs its sticky stigma against the visiting bee, and fills itself with pollen. Botanists are of opinion, from experiment, that the pea is not fertilized by its own pollen, but with pollen which the bee has brought on its coat from other similar flowers. The use of the solitary stamen seems to be that of a guiding rod, to keep the bee in a straight road towards the honey glands. When the bee has satisfied itself with honey, and covered its coat with pollen, it flies away. The flower-mechanism released from pressure springs back to its original form, and the pollen and the pistil rest until excited by the next visitor. It is considered probable that the pistil, once rightly fertilized, dismisses, as it were, the corolla and all parts of the flower, which then wither and fall away, the calyx only excepted.

The order of the *Leguminosæ*, or as some prefer to call it, *Papilionaceæ*, gives us, among other valuable plants, clovers, acacias, vetches, peas for the field and the garden, and a great variety of beans; all of them enclosed in pods, and having the same mechanism of flower.

When the flower is fertilized the pod begins to form. The pod is the ovary of the pistil, which ovary has been lying, all the time the bees were at work, hidden in the base of the calyx, so small in its beginning that it did not attract any attention at all. Now its turn has come, and the farmer looking for profit, and the gardener wanting good seed, watch its growth with an interest they scarcely bestowed upon the flowers.

The pea is classed, as I said, amongst dry fruits, and dry enough it becomes in course of time, but for our present purpose it is best that we should study it in its green or unripe state, as it

comes into market in summer time. Most of us at one time or another, have handled the green pea in its pod. We have pressed the pod, and found that it opened willingly on one side, but not so readily on the other. Spreading it out flat before us we find down the centre (which reminds us of the mid-rib of a leaf), a row of peas, plump and fat, like green pearls; these are the seeds. The leaf-like pod is succulent and firm, like a strong healthy leaf. Should it be otherwise, should the pod be misshapen, shrivelled and worm-eaten, the seeds within will be in keeping; for by the pod they have been nourished and brought up. The farmer will not care to send them to market, and the seedsman could not sell them. The flower, the fruit, and the seed go together. If any one of them is unhealthy the others will partake of the infirmity. On looking attentively at our pod we shall see that the protecting calyx adheres to the base of the fruit. It should have a strong, clean, bright appearance. And the outside of the pod in many, if not all cases, is covered with a bloom, or waxy substance, which protects the fruit from rain or undue moisture. The pea itself is attached to the pod by a little stalk, alternately on one side and the other of what we have called the mid-rib. This mid-rib, however, especially when ripe, easily splits, and shows the pod open in two equal parts. The rib to which the seeds are attached is called the *placenta*.

The pod of the Pea consists, then, of a single thick leaf, folded until the margins meet, the seed being borne on the mid-rib, on the inner side. Such a pod or fruit is spoken of as a *carpel*. In some dry fruits the carpel remains green or herbaceous through its period of growth, as in the case of the pea. In others it hardens, as in the case of the cocoanut, hazel nut, acorn and chesnut. The fruit of the buttercup, called an *achene*; the fruit of the flowers belonging to the *compositæ* family, also achenes, are dry fruits. The dandelion, like most of the *compositæ* family, has a *pappus* or hairy appendage to the dry fruit, which enables it to fly. In the seeding season the air is often full of the flying achenes of the aster, sow-thistle, dandelion, and many others. The maple has a flying dry fruit of another kind. It is furnished with a pair of wings called a

samara. The Elm has a round *samara*; the White Ash has a *samara* in shape like the leaf of a willow. The legume splits open of its own accord when it is fully ripe, and drops its fruit; wheat, Indian corn, and other kinds of grain adhere to the thin dry covering throughout. The acorn falls out of its cup, the chestnut forms its burr, when it is ready to bury itself amongst the fallen leaves, there to remain under the snow until the spring thaw allows it to sink into the soft earth, in order that it may put on there, away from the light, and hidden from the greedy eyes of the animal world, the spring dress which belongs to its family.

LUCY SIMPSON.



THE POMOLOGICAL CONFIDENCE MAN.

BY MR. ALEX. M'D. ALLAN, GODERICH, ONT.

“*Experience unnecessary.*”—This expression is quite common now-a-days in advertisements of *Nurserymen!* (are they worthy of the name?) calling for agents to sell their products. Can anyone wonder at the nomenclature in fruits and plants being mixed and muddled, to use a mild expression, when a public is called upon to deal with agents who possess no experience in their calling? Growers are not able to keep pace with new varieties, and generally have depended upon these so-called agents to advise them in making a selection. When correcting names of fruits at exhibitions, I invariably receive the answer to my query as to how the grower obtained the name wrongly placed upon his or her specimen, that “this was the name given by the agent when I purchased the stock.”

I had the curiosity lately to cause a reply to be sent to an advertisement similar to the one referred to, where experience was not required. The firm in their letter assured the applicant, who pleaded entire ignorance of all matters horticultural, that he would “make a most acceptable agent, and with the energy and perseverance you say you possess you can make large money. We will

“give you commission and expenses for one month upon trial, after which we will pay your expenses, and a monthly salary to be mutually agreed upon.” Looking over the advertising page of a Toronto daily the other day I found three such nursery firms enquiring for agents. They all claim to be selling “hardy Canadian stock,” but I never heard before of them, and have no knowledge of their nurseries, and in fact I doubt that they have any. Is it not time that our Fruit Growers’ Associations and Horticultural Societies took this matter in hand practically? Can it not be arranged to at least protect our members from such frauds, by having their orders pass through the hands of a committee appointed for the purpose? Indeed, I see no reason why our Societies should not offer to advise the public generally in the various districts as to all such advertising firms and their agents. We have Horticultural Societies at all events in most of the fruit growing districts, and a little energy on their part may save much money to growers, and advance the interests of horticulture and the country materially. Mr. Editor will feel refreshed by obtaining a catalogue from one of the nursery firms I refer to. For a dull moment it makes fresh reading, yes, very fresh; and we discover one of the reasons why experience in the agents is not required. It is because they claim to make no mistakes, all stock strictly iron-clad, true to name and guaranteed to grow. An agent can “go it blind” in any territory between the torrid and frigid zones. He is expected to sell, sell, sell, and the reading of the catalogue does the rest. The agent who enthusiastically endorses all that is promised in these catalogues is sure to score a success.

Now, Mr. Editor, I have said enough, and only intend to open the matter, so that it may be taken up by others. For the benefit of growers these firms and their agents should be exposed, and steps taken to stop the distribution of such stock as they have.

Reflect a moment only and anyone will see how absurd it is that any business man would dare ask a public to deal with a lot of inexperienced agents, and how dangerous to the customer who entrusts his orders to such.

To warrant success in any other calling in life, experience is necessary. Why not in this? I consider the agent who is inexperienced is a dangerous person to let loose upon any community to sell fruit trees, and it is only a pity that people will be gulled by these agents. Let every grower within reach of your influence, Mr. Editor, enquire through your Magazine, or to your Horticultural Society, before placing his order, and he will be guarded against "wild cat" firms and agents who have "no experience."

Potash.—Near every railway station at almost every town in Ontario, can be seen a building where the local "ash man" stores his ashes, ready for sifting, and shipping to the States to enrich northern small and large fruit gardens and orchards, or southern orange groves, where ashes, "warranted pure, from Canadian hard wood," is purchased at high figures by fruit growers. I presume the people of Quebec Province are not so short sighted as to allow the potash to be shipped away. Perhaps they do not allow ash men to purchase the article for a paltry bar of inferior soap here and there, or a few inferior tins, as they do in this Province. While gardens and orchards are failing for want of this natural potash in the soil, it is strange at all events that such an intelligent class of people as fruit growers should permit this ruinous trade to continue. I firmly believe the government should interfere, by preventing this export upon a tariff basis so heavy that the ash man would have to turn his energy into something more profitable to Canada.

Undoubtedly our hardwood ashes is the most profitable dressing we can use upon our orchard lands, and every pound should be preserved to our own country.

Fall Planting.—To the careful planter I think this fall will be remembered as a banner season, even among good fall seasons for planting. Wherever the climate is not too severe, and soil well cultivated, clean and in good heart, I believe time is gained by fall planting, as the roots settle, and even during the winter season prepare for early spring growth. It is always profitable to pack finely pulverised top soil about the well spread roots, and after covering over to mulch well; but for fall planting this is absolutely essential.

ALEX. MCD. ALLAN.

NOTES ON OLD AND MODERN GARDENS,
OF MONTREAL.

BY MR. RICHARD G. STARKE, WESTMOUNT.

PART VI.

On the lot of 20 acres on the Gibraltar Farm, the property of John J. Day, Esq., Q.C., 1843-'56, leased and subsequently acquired by Mr. William Brown, were the Marchmount Nurseries, an attractive place much resorted to by the public, with an Arbor Vitæ hedge in front, now grown into a tall thicket of trees, and with a long gravelled walk running up the centre to the cottage on the rising ground toward the rear. Much good gardening was done on this property, where flowering plants were cultivated and a variety of fruits grown, especially plums, cherries, gooseberries, raspberries and strawberries, and where budded seedling trees were reared; a convenient source of supply for those laying out gardens and orchards. Mr. Brown, who had engaged in business pursuits, gave a good deal of thought to the subject of finance, writing a series of letters and delivering several lectures which attracted attention, and after his venture with the Marchmount Nurseries was appointed Superintendent of the Montreal Protestant House of Refuge, a benevolent institution, then in its initiatory stage, which he managed with success. The property is now that of Mr. James Snowdon, and is bounded on the east side by Marchmount Avenue.

Adjoining Gibraltar Farm on the west lay Monklands, with its fine old woods bordering the Cote St. Luc Road, the property extending south to that of Cote St. Antoine, originally sixty-three acres, the mansion of hewn stone and other substantial buildings grouped about midway under the plateau in rear which terminates the westerly spur of the mountain, the land acquired from Bartholomew Billon in 1796, and the residence built by the Hon. James Monk, Chief Justice Queen's Bench, Executive and Legislative Councillor, 1794 to 1825. Sir James Monk, President and Administrator of the Government of Lower Canada 1819 and '20, so acting

after the death of the Duke of Richmond until the government of the Earl of Dalhousie. He was succeeded on the property by Elizabeth Anne Monk, wife of Major George William Aubrey, a retired officer of the Imperial army. Major and Mrs. Aubrey resided at Monklands till in 1842 it was leased to the Crown, and wings were added to the residence, which was otherwise improved for the future home of our Governors General. On the decease of Mrs. Aubrey, in 1843, it became the property by bequest of Henry George Windsor Aubrey, her heir, and during the lease was sold by him, in 1846, to



MONKLANDS.

the late Hon. Justice Samuel Cornwallis Monk, son of Samuel Wentworth Monk, Esq., Prothonotary for the District of Montreal, 1844 to 1865.

Monklands was well chosen for the country seat of the Governors General. Conveniently distant from the city, of sufficient elevation, sheltered on the north side by the smaller mountain, and with a fine exposure to the south and west, the eye travels with pleasure over the vast landscape around, whose features combine the elements of grandeur and repose, and whose compass embraces one half the circle of the natural horizon. Miles on miles of cultivated

farms, interspersed with picturesque strips of woodland, terminating in the shores and headlands that meet the united waters of the Ottawa and St. Lawrence in Lake St. Louis. This and much more of the splendid panorama from east to west is visible from the old garden and orchard grounds on the tableland in rear of the residence, where one may follow with never failing interest the course of the majestic river, from lake to village, from village to island, from island to the populous city dominated by the heights of Mount Royal, and wander with enjoyment over the wide fertile plain on its further shore, to the strong featured blue mountains of the Adirondac Range that enclose it to the south.

Here resided, 1843-'5, Governor-General The Right Hon. Sir Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, Baronet, K.G.C.B., raised to the peerage as Lord Metcalfe, and, in 1845, Lieut.-Gen. The Right Hon. Charles Murray, Earl Cathcart, of Cathcart, K.C.B., as Administrator, and in 1846 as Governor-General, and who was followed, 1846-'49, by the Right Hon. James Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.T., who, in carrying out the doctrine of Responsible Government by sanctioning the Rebellion Losses Bill, evoked turbulence and dissatisfaction in the British element in Montreal, culminating in the burning of the Parliament House by a mob of loyalists in sympathy with those who had aided the authorities in suppressing the rebellion of 1837-'38.

In the stillness and calm of this rural retreat, in its garden grounds, or amid the solitudes of its umbrageous woods, Lord Elgin bore the bitter trying time. From here he took his departure, towards the close of the year, for Toronto, the new seat of Government, unattended by demonstration or acclaim, embarking at Lachine, a point as remote as possible from the city whose indignation he had aroused, and which, since violently attacked, he had not again entered. In the earlier period of his residence at Monklands it was his habit to take walks with the ladies of his household on the roads which encircle the lesser mountain, even extending them to Cote St. Catherine at Outremont. After the violent ebullitions of public feeling which marked the events of that critical period, these walks were

performe, for a time, discontinued, and there were not wanting those who imputed his seclusion to cowardice or remorse, nor those who would have counselled him to visit the city and face his assailants supported by the bayonets of the soldiery. To these his reply was that such visits would only provoke outrage and loss of life, and he preferred the more humane course of enduring the obloquy drawn upon him through the performance of his official duty to the Crown, and the expressed will of Parliament.

The broad views and humane wisdom of the statesman saved him from courting a meeting of force with force, and resenting personal insult and wrong, and probably the country from future calamities infinitely greater than the loss of a parliament building, or the unmerited ill-treatment of a Governor-General. Whatever may be thought of the parliament which passed such a bill, it has long since been universally conceded that its sanction by the Queen's representative was in perfect agreement with the constitution, and that he could not well have done otherwise.

Ere a month or so had elapsed from the date of these stirring events, Lord Elgin again resumed his favorite exercise, and leaving Monklands behind him might any day have been seen on the Cote St. Luc Road, or that of Cote St. Antoine, unattended, save by Lady Elgin, or Lady Alice Lambton, and was greeted with the respectful recognition due to his eminent rank and distinguished personality; and if on approaching the threshold of the city he retraced his steps, it was from no sense of personal fear but from the natural sentiment of self-respect.

As many are still under the impression that Lord Elgin never visited Montreal after the disturbances, it will scarcely be out of place to state in these brief annals of Monklands, that on the occasion of his leaving Quebec for England, via New York, in 1854, he made Montreal his resting place on the journey up the St. Lawrence, staying for one night at the Donegani Hotel; and here an incident took place of a highly honorable and most interesting character. No sooner was it known that his lordship had really arrived in the city, than the leaders of the party that had hooted and

assailed him in the streets might have been seen singly, or in small groups, wending their way to the hotel to pay him respect ere he should leave Canada forever. The writer is assured, by one who was present, it was no organized or preconcerted movement that drew these sixty or seventy-five gentlemen together in the parlor of the "Donegani," but one of pure spontaneity. Here met once more the assailants and the assailed. Five years had elapsed since the burning of the parliament house and its attendant disorders. Hot heads had cooled, passionate feelings had subsided, and the prophets of evil to the country, as a consequence of his action, were forced by the calm current of events to acknowledge their error. Heartfelt regrets for the manner in which they had treated him in the fierce hour of passion pervaded the assembly. Lord Elgin stood higher in their estimation than at any former period of his career. He had given place to wrath and had disarmed it, confidently believing time would amply justify him in the constitutional course he had pursued, and they only awaited the opportunity to show him contrition and profound respect; and when he appeared before them with that calm dignity and courteous urbanity for which he was noted, and taking the hands in his that had hurled at him the missiles of contumely and those dangerous to life, and setting aside the formalities of a reception, addressed them in the words and tones of reconciliation, the emotional feelings in many of his audience found expression only in the pathetic language of tears. After telling them on this, the eve of his departure, of many things he would remember with pleasure in relation to Canada, he continued: "And I shall forget—but no—what I might have had to forget is forgotten already—and therefore I cannot tell you what I shall forget. Gentlemen,—let by-gones be by-gones." The following morning he took his departure for New York, and thence to England for a season of rest, ere long to serve the empire in the far east, as Ambassador to China and negotiator of a treaty with Japan, and finally as Governor-General of India in 1860, whence he was destined never

to return, and where crowned with honour he sleeps amid the groves on the heights of Dhurmsala. *Requiescat in pace.*

The name signifies a double meaning — "The Hall of Justice," "The Place of Rest."

After being vacated in 1849, the residence at Monklands was occupied for one or two seasons by Mr. Sebastien Compain, as an hotel, with Mr. Henry Hogan as manager, now and long since proprietor of the St. Lawrence Hall; and in 1854 the entire property was acquired from the Hon. Justice S. C. Monk, by *Les Dames de la Congregation de Notre Dame*, who erected thereon the large Convent of Villa Maria, the gubernatorial residence being preserved intact, dwarfed between the lofty modern buildings which are joined to it on either side. A large portion of the convent, including the chapel facing to the south, was destroyed by fire in 1893, and now forms a picturesque ruin of light grey limestone, the lofty gable of the chapel remaining entire with its vacant arched openings against the sky, resembling a fragment of some cathedral or old-world abbey. From the Cote St. Luc Road, a spacious avenue, flanked on either side by a double row of well-grown maples, leads to flower plats and the old residence in the centre, between the modern convent buildings spared by the fire, while garden and orchard grounds form an extensive area of the adjoining land.

(*To be continued.*)



PRACTICAL FRUIT CULTURE.

The short article in the November issue of the Magazine under the heading "Practical Fruit Culture," is in the right direction. There is no doubt but that our instructors in later years have been giving us too many theories and devoting too much time in their addresses to matters of much less importance than the

methods which should be adopted to grow a *healthy tree, and keep it productive*, and thus profitable; as a matter of fact they have been putting the cart before the horse. It may be that they think everyone knows all about the practical part, but surely this cannot be so, to judge from observation of the appearance of the trees in average orchards.

The greater part of our orchards are owned by farmers, many of whom give fruit trees no more attention than the trees growing in their own wood lots; in fact, not as much, because not only is a crop of fruit yearly carried off, but a crop of hay as well! Fruit bearing trees treated in this way can surely not be expected to make profitable returns. Good crops of fruit, or anything else, cannot be obtained in any other way than by intelligent and proper cultivation, and the opposite course is simply wasting money. If there were only half the extent of land in orchards that there is in this Province, and that half properly looked after, it is nearly certain that as much fruit, and that of better quality, would be produced. Now, if all this be true, would it not be wise to hark back to the fundamental principle of good practical cultivation?

In the article in question the leading points in this connection are referred to, and if a series of articles—short and to the point—bearing upon these primary essentials to successful fruit growing, could be published in the Magazine, it would greatly extend its usefulness, and be of inestimable benefit to those who, like the writer, first wish to learn how to obtain and maintain trees which will be worth, not only the initial cost of purchase and planting, and the land they occupy, but from which a fair return in profit and satisfaction may be derived.

First of all should be taken up the situation and suitable soil, not only for apples, but other fruits also. As regards the distance between trees, it is obvious that different varieties have different habits of growth, so that all cannot require the same space. Other points that should be treated upon are manuring, cultivation, pruning, and thinning the fruit. The varieties should be named and recommended which are best suited to our climate, and most pro-

fitable to our home market, and for exportation. It would also be important to get an idea of the comparative average yield (in full bearing) of different varieties. Most people would prefer to grow a variety producing an average of eight barrels per tree to a variety producing four barrels, unless there were a fair certainty of getting twice as much money from the latter.

A series of such articles in your *Magazine* would have a widespread beneficial effect upon the multitude of general orchardists and farmers who are not prominent in the art of fruit growing, and thus to the Province at large. To those, the ordinary mass of fruit growers, the well meant influence of exhibitions and conventions is as futile as plucked fruit and wind.

OBSERVER.



UNUSUAL WINDOW PLANTS FOR THE WINTER.

BY MRS. ROBERT JACK, CHATEAUGUAY BASIN, QUE.

"I am tired of geraniums and begonias and callas," said a lady lately; "they are in everybody's window and so tiresome." "Why not try water plants?" I said. "Oh, they take up so much space." Then I showed her my tub of water hyacinth, that is such a rapid grower it tries to peep over the edge in search of more room. The blossom is of exquisite beauty, and its lilac-shaded flowers must be seen to be appreciated. Then there are the Nerine—the Japanese being very easily grown. They, too, want plenty of water. The Hibiscus is not called a winter blooming plant, but will open its brilliant blossoms in a moderately warm room, and being tropical needs a sunny window. Then, what is prettier than the new Otaheite Orange? I had one with white blossom last winter, and they set little oranges that turned yellow before they were the size of walnuts; but the flowers and the perfume well repay for all the care they need. Their chief enemy is the mealy bug, which must

be picked off by hand, and the plant washed in soap suds on washing day if so afflicted. An application of alcohol destroys them.

I do not think every one knows what a lovely winter bloomer *Spiræa Van Houttei* can be. The plants when lifted late in the fall, need not be brought to the window until after the holidays; then what lovely wreaths of pure white flowers reward the flower lover. The *Dielytra Spectabilis* (bleeding heart) and Lily of the Valley can be lifted in clumps, and put in the cellar or cold storage, and when the winter is at its dreariest, bring them to the light. It is a miracle to see the *Dielytra* send up its dainty fronds and delicate leaves. They grow so fast as to surprise one, and remain a long time in flower; altogether the most satisfactory of anything we have attempted. The *Abutilon*, "Souvenir de Bonn," was a revelation to me; it has such lovely variegated leaves, and is a gem in the window-garden; as is the dwarf *Heliotrope*, if the room is sufficiently warm.

If you have not tried the white *Snapdragon* you cannot form any idea of its beauty; and it grows in a cool corner of the window, and blossoms steadily. If you want one hanging pot, let it be *nasturtiums*, and an edging of sweet *alyssum* among the glowing flowers.

Among the usual bulbs grown in the house there are none more interesting than the *Iris*, and they bloom freely in the window. I have taken up a clump of the dwarf variety from the garden in November, and had their purple flowers greet me quite suddenly some morning in January. *Orris* root is manufactured from the Florentine *Iris* root, and has a perfume like violets. It requires plenty of water, for as far back as the poet Milton he wrote:

"Iris there, with humid brow"—

After blossoming it will keep safely in a cool cellar, and can be planted out in spring.

What more cheerful as a table plant than the *cyclamen*? It is a native of Persia, and when in bloom must not be watered too much, and when not in bloom must be left almost dry. The foliage is dark and healthy, and the pink-tipped and pure white flowers—like so many butterflies—remain in bloom a long while. They

delight in good rich soil, and one fourth of an inch of the bulb should be above ground. They have no enemies but mice, these depredators being especially fond of the cyclamen, carnation and Swainsonia.

The Azalea is a fine window plant, and one purchased set with buds will give great satisfaction with moderate care. The soil should be nearly all of peat, as they belong to the heath family, and cannot endure a limestone soil at their roots. It is not well to have pots too large or to disturb the earth when near blooming time. They want a medium quantity of water, but it should be soft and warm.

It seems to me that in winter all flowers are new every morning. I look at my geraniums, and another bud has unfolded,—there are spikes of crimson, or pink or white, that need not be despised; but the very fact that they do grow “in every window” is a proof that they are reliable. So many things will not bloom, especially where gas is used. One dear old lady who loves her flowers has a special curtain that is always drawn over them before the gas is lighted, or whenever the coal stove has to be attended to.

Some of the annuals make fine window plants. I remember being very successful with gaillardias, and ten-week stocks. Primroses can be very cheerful in a cool shaded window. I have often been surprised to find in a neighbor's window plants that I have given away three winters past, still blooming and thrifty. If one wishes a touch of scarlet the *Salvia* is a success. Plants kept pinched into shape during summer are brilliant winter bloomers. Some of the dwarf winter-flowering *Cannas* are very satisfactory, and do not need much care; and the white *Oleander* blossoms when quite small and makes a fine contrast.

In these days of long large windows the flowers have to live up to them, and I know a window where the pink and white *Cosmos* lifted in October before frost, are in great beauty just now. Nature has ever a variety of her floral treasures to suit every taste.

MRS. ANNIE L. JACK.

OUR NATIVE ORCHIDS.—
HABENARIAS.

BY REV. DR. CAMPBELL, MONTREAL.

PART IV.

7. HABENARIA CLAVELLATA (MICHX) SPRENG—*Small Green Wood Orchis.*

This is a curious orchid, and is easily recognized by two or three striking peculiarities. The first of these is its angled stem.



SMALL GREEN WOOD ORCHIS.
Habenaria clavellata (Michx) Spreng.

Then, it has but a single leaf near its base, which is pestle-shaped, although sometimes a smaller bract-like leaf, as in the accompanying illustrative specimen, is to be found higher up the stem. A third mark by which it may be identified is the form of its lip, which is spread out and three-toothed at the apex. It is sometimes named, by this characteristic, *Habenaria tridentata* or *Orchis tridentata*. But that which is held to differentiate it most clearly from other *Habenarias* is the form of its stigma, which has three club-shaped appendages. Hence the name *Clavellata*. The spur is also club-shaped, but turned in; and indeed its leaf may also be so described. So that it is well denominated, *The Club Habenaria*. The folk-name, "Small Green Wood Orchis," is derived from the size and colour of its blossom,—which is small, and of a whitish green. A specimen was brought to me a few years ago for identification, which had been plucked from the low-lying woods below the gate of Mt. Royal Cemetery. I have also found it in Bagg's woods, near the Back River. The specimen here photo-engraved I collected from a swamp at Bic. Although it is not an imposing plant, it is worthy of a place in any complete collection of Orchids.

8. *HABENARIA GRANDIFLORA* (BIGEL) TORR.—*Large Purple-fringed Orchis*.

We now come to what is by far the finest of the *Habenarias*. It is well termed *grandiflora*, for a magnificent flower it truly is. The specimen, copied in the subjoined illustration, has a head or *raceme*, nine inches long and two inches broad, while the stem originally was about three feet high. In size, therefore, it surpasses all the *Habenarias*. But it has other remarkable qualities besides its size. It is striking in both form and colour. Its lip is from half an inch to an inch wide, and is divided into three broadly fan-shaped segments, which are copiously fringed. Its colour, too, makes it a very attractive plant, being a lilac-purple. And, then, it has a quality all too rare in our wild flowers,—it is very fragrant. No one would pass it unnoticed among the finest blooms of the forest or garden; and the wonder is that it has not been made much more of by florists. It is by no means rare, even in the Montreal district. Dr.



LARGE PURPLE FRINGED ORCHIS.
Habenaria grandiflora (Bigel) Torr.



SMALLER PURPLE FRINGED ORCHIS.

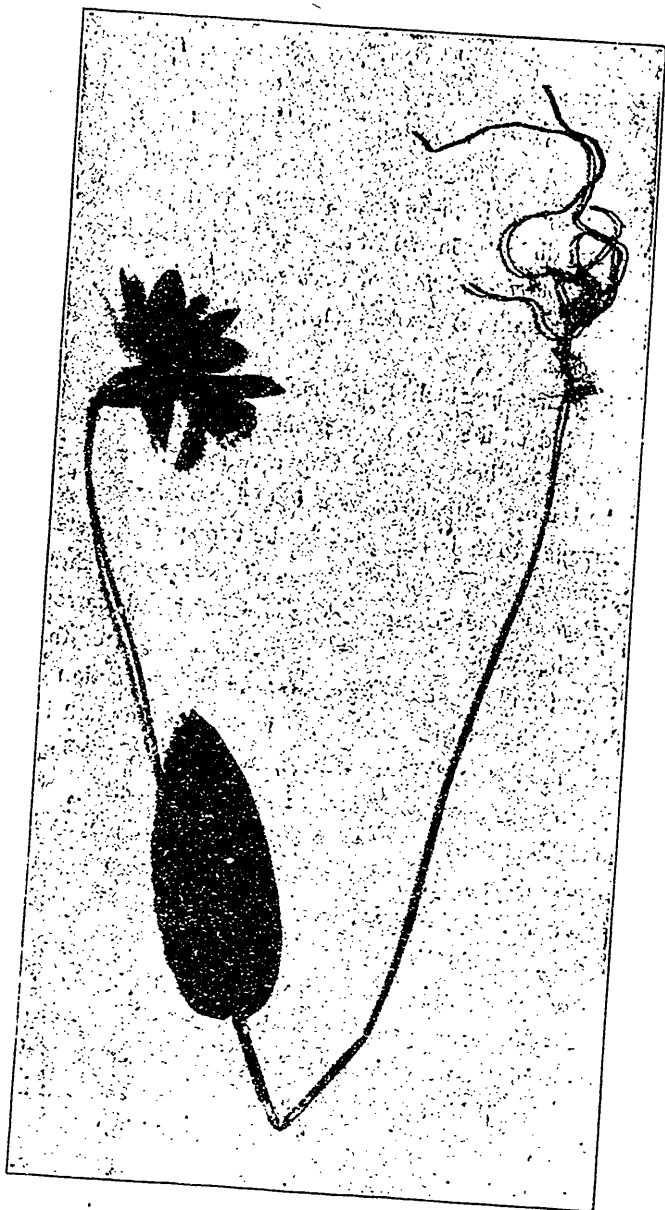
Habenaria psycodes (L.) A. Gray.

Holmes reported it as common in 1822, in Gregory's meadows and elsewhere near the city. I have found a fair specimen of it in one of the mountain swamps. It grows in abundance along the sides of the rivers running through the Laurentian Hills. The engraved illustration is from a specimen I collected last August in Bathurst, Ontario. It grows in meadows, as well as in the woods, and there would be no difficulty in cultivating it. It is also known by the name of *Habenaria fimbriata* or *Orchis fimbriata*.

9. HABENARIA PSYCODES (L.) A. GRAY—*Smaller Purple-fringed Orchis*.

This at first sight looks like a half developed *Habenaria grandiflora*; and indeed the two were formerly ranged under the same species,—the one being deemed only a variety of the other. But a closer and more careful examination discloses those differences which have led to their being held to be two species, instead of one with a variety. The colour and general outline of both are alike; but in *Psychodes* the three-parted lip is smaller and narrower,—the sections being wedge shaped. The fringes are shorter than in the *grandiflora*; and, then, the fringe on the middle section is shorter than that on the two side sections. The stem of the plant is slender, and while the shape of the leaves resembles that of the larger allied species, yet the leaves have many more ribs. This species is still commoner than that last described. Visitors to Cacouna Point will remember that the marshy ground lying between the Point and Riviere du Loup is literally dotted with this species. It occurs also in many other localities in the Province, as well as on the islands about Montreal. It is less showy than the larger species, of the merits of which I have written above; but it is in itself a charming and beautiful plant, which no Canadian conservatory should be without. Its *habitat* in the open fields shows that it is a hardy Orchid, and no difficulty would be experienced in bringing it under cultivation.

This species closes the list of the *Habenarias* which have fallen in my way, and are in my possession. The HABENARIA BLEPHARIGLOTTIS—*White fringed Orchis*, is occasionally found throughout



ROSE POGONIA—SNAKE MOUTH.
Pogonia ophioglossoides (L.) Ker.

Canada, but it has not been reported from the Montreal district, so far as I can learn; nor in all my rambles through marsh, meadow and wood, in other sections of the Dominion, have I come across it, so that I am unable to furnish a specimen to be photo-engraved, for the benefit of the readers of the Horticultural Magazine.

POGONIA.

POGONIA OPHIOGLOSSOIDES (L.) KER.—*Rose Pogonia* or *Snake-mouth*.

I come next to the Genus POGONIA. There is only one species of it to be found within easy reach of Montréal,—the one, the title of which is given above. There is another which occurs in southwestern Ontario, but I have never fallen in with it. The specimen here represented was obtained in a cedar swamp at Martintown, Ontario; but I found the orchid also in a cedar swamp at Bic. It has been reported from the River Rouge country, as well as from Three Rivers.

The POGONIA is a very lovely flower, both as respects form and colour. The crested and fringed lip, hanging down and displaying the thick club-shaped column above, not unlike a snake when it protrudes its tongue, suggested the folk-name of the plant. The sepals and petals are elliptic or oval, and of about equal length,—between half an inch to an inch. The entire bloom is of a beautiful pale rose colour; and even when the plant is pressed, its tint remains, which can be said of few flowers, especially orchids. It is also delightfully fragrant. The specimen before us has only one leaf, and the leafy bract at the base of the nodding blossoms; but occasionally two or even three leaves are found on this orchid. This is a double bloom, but the plant more usually shows only one flower. The *Snake-mouth* is tall and graceful, and would attract attention in any Orchid house, to which it ought not to be hard to transfer it from its native haunts.

ROBERT CAMPBELL.

MAPLE LEAVES

Our maple trees, how grand they are! How exquisitely beautiful they were in October, when autumn laid her fiery finger on the leaves. Never do the dark green pines stand out in better contrast than when side by side with the scarlet blaze and golden glory of the maples.

The rising grounds of Mount Royal seemed to be especially favoured this fall with lavish tints of gorgeous splendor. This may be accounted for by recalling the exceptionally fine weather which preceded the sudden frost of 9th October, when flowers, fruits and foliage were alike chilled by Boreas' breath.

Words fail to convey the beauties of that magnificent scene presented by our mountain. On every tree, bush, and shrub, were banners of myriad colours, vermillion-tinted, with rich browns melting into fading green, reflecting crimson sunsets, and arrowy gleams of gold.

All nature seemed to combine as in a parting sunset, to emphasize the certainty of sunrise in spring. The picture will remain with many of us as a pleasant dream during the long night of winter, while mother earth rests beneath the white snow covering of kindly nature.

That must indeed be a dull mind which is not touched with ideas and suggestions during the autumn season. The falling leaves are emblems of thoughts, of men, of things—which serve their day and pass on to make room for others. The path carpeted with fallen leaves is like the pathway to the grave, strewn with dead hopes and departed glories. But these rotting leaves teach us to conquer despair, for they become the medium out of which spring renews her youth. How gallantly the trees resigned themselves to the persecuting chilly blast, knowing well that their time of triumph would surely return. How brave is autumn in her witchery of sadness! She mourns not the dead leaves; but, arraying herself in purple robes, sings a hopeful song of the new life which shall awaken bye and bye.

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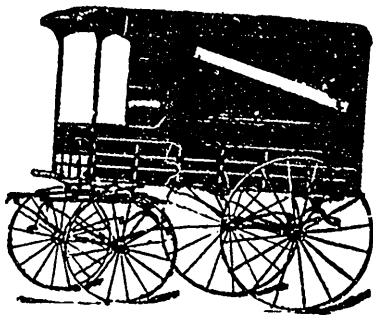
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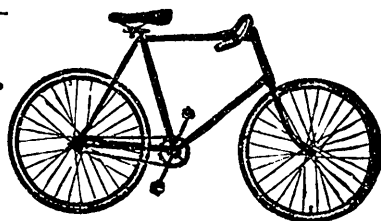
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