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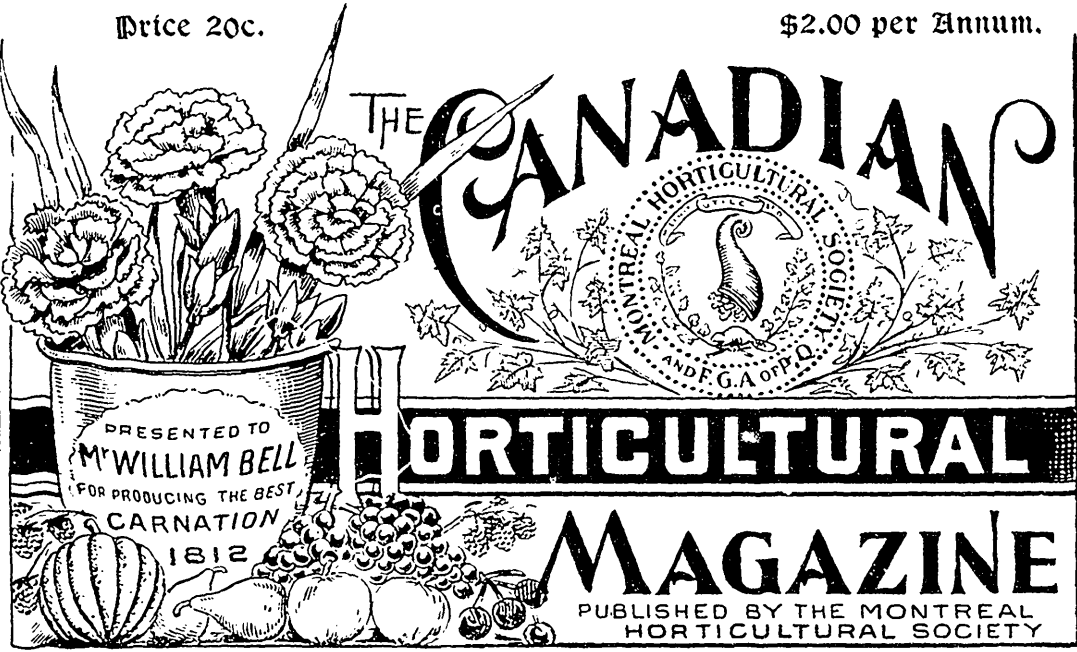
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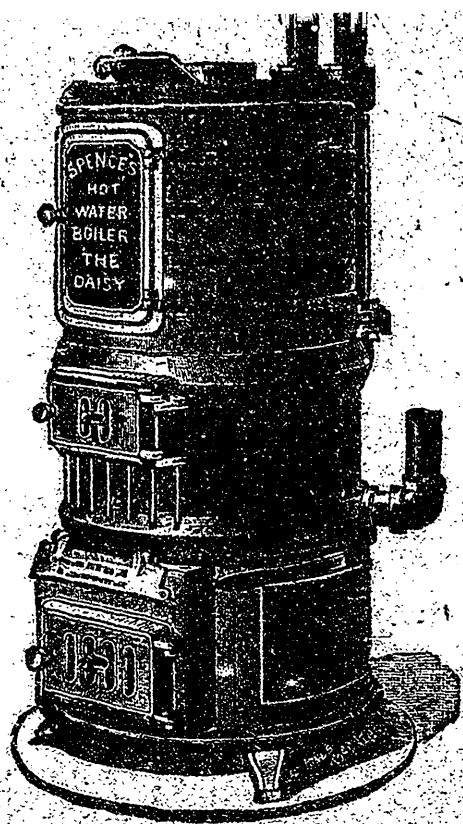
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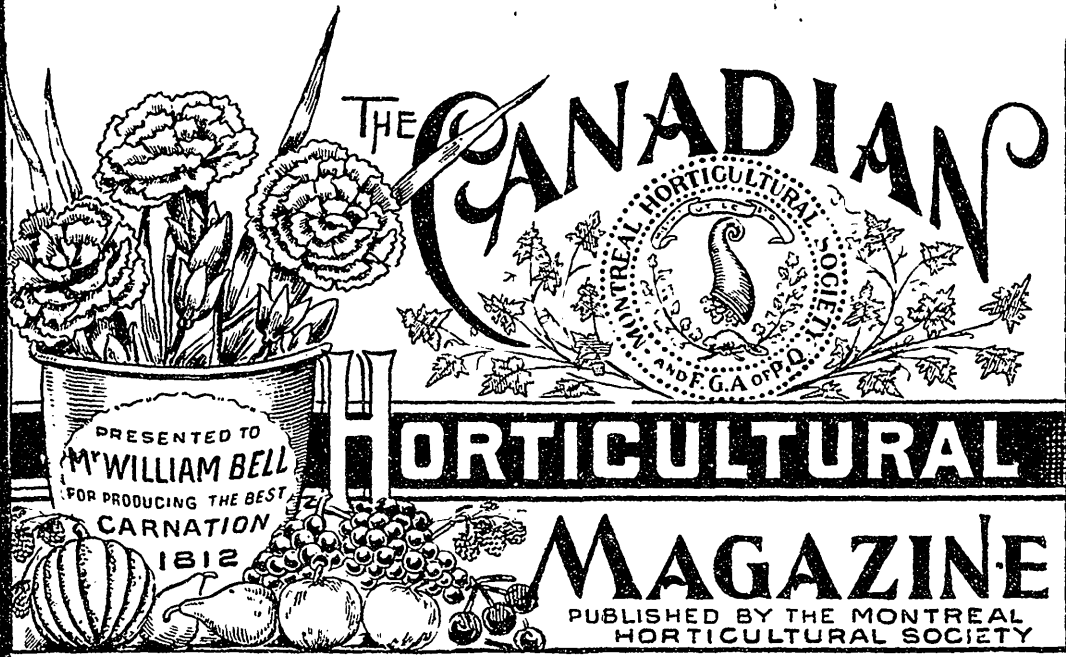


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OUR NATIVE ORCHIDS.— HABENARIAS.

BY REV. DR. CAMPBELL, MONTREAL.

PART III.

3. HABENARIA OBTUSATA (PURSH) RICHARDS—*Small Northern Bog Orchis.*

Like most of our Orchids, this interesting Habenaria has to be searched for; and, as one of the terms in its designation implies, it is to be looked for in boggy ground. It was Pursh who first introduced it to the notice of the scientific world, but he classed it, as he did all the Rein Orchids, in the Genus *Orchis* proper. He gave it the specific title *Obtusata*, on account of the form of its sepals and lip, which are blunt; and the plant is thus differentiated from some other varieties which it closely resembles in other respects. Its scape, or flower stem, is slender and four-angled, and quite bare. It has but a single leaf, of a narrowly oval shape, tapering towards the base, as shown in the photo-engraving. The flower stalk varies in height from 4 to 10 inches,—the leaf is from 2 to 5 inches in length, and from half an inch to an inch in width. The flowers are greenish yellow, somewhat wide apart on the spike, which is usually about 2 inches long. Being not very conspicuous, one may search for it a long time before encountering a specimen. With regard to this plant, as to plants in general, he who sets out to search for it alone will have a weary and disappointing time of it; but if he strolls through bogs and marshes, ready to pick up any plant that falls in his way, the chances are that in due time he will be rewarded with finding his orchis; while, if he does not come across one, at least his time is not lost.



SMALL NORTHERN BOG ORCHIS,
abenaria obtusata (Pursh) Richards.



TALL LEAFY GREEN ORCHIS.

Habenaria hyperborea (L.) R. Br.

4. HABENARIA HYPERBOREA (L.) R. BR.—*Tall Leafy Green Orchis.*

This is the best known of all the Habenarias, as it is by far the most abundant. It is to be found in a variety of situations: in bogs, low meadows, at the edges of damp woods, and in open spaces in the heart of the forest. It is very leafy, the leaves continuing upwards in the shape of bracts, supporting the blossoms of the plant. The characteristic of the flower is its large ovary, or seed bag,—often compared to a child's rag-doll. They are arranged in close ranks round the spike, and so make up a head more dense than that of any other Habenaria. Apart from the size of the ovary, the flower is otherwise not showy, the petals and sepals are small and greenish or greenish yellow. It is a strong grower, and ought to thrive, and perhaps develop into something finer, under continued judicious cultivation. At any rate, it must be included in any complete exhibit of orchids.

5. HABENARIA DILATATA (PURSH) HOOK.—*Tall White Bog Orchis.*

This is another of the Habenarias which Pursh was the first to describe, under the name *Orchis dilatata*. It is taller and showier than the *Habenaria obtusata*. Its leaves much resemble those of the *Green Orchis*, last described, except that they are usually narrower, but otherwise it is easily distinguished from that Habenaria. Its flowers are more striking, and every way finer. They are of a delicate white colour, are not so crowded on the spike, and stand out well from the scape, although not much larger than those of its sister Habenaria. It is not quite so commonly met with as some others of our Rein Orchids; but if gone after into marshes, in the spirit recommended for finding *Habenaria obtusata*, it too will in due time gladden the heart of the searcher, by suddenly offering itself to his grasp.



TALL WHITE BOG ORCHIS.

Habenaria dilatata (Pursh) Hook.



LONG-BRACTED ORCHIS.
Habenaria bracteata (Willd) R. Br.

6. HABENARIA BRACTEATA (WILLD.) R. BR.—*Long-bracted Orchis*.

This Habenaria is very easily detected, from the characteristic feature which gives it its specific name. Its bracts, the small leaves which support the flowers, stand out so noticeably from the scape that it was quite natural that those who first found it should give it the name they did. It has oval or broadly lanceolate leaves, but these gradually decrease in size upwards, until at last they pass into the flower bracts. The flowers are greenish. The only special feature in them is the long, pestle-shaped lip, covering the white sac-like spur. It grows plentifully in rich soil in thick woods, throughout the Province of Quebec. I have found fine specimens of it both at Bic and Cap-à-l'Aigle. As it does not need even a wet soil, much less a peaty one, it ought to be easy to cultivate; and its peculiarities are such as would attract attention in any collection of Orchids.

ROBERT CAMPBELL.

N. B.—The illustrations of my last paper got mixed. The third and fourth ought to exchange places; as any one acquainted with the plants would observe. *Orbiculata* has leafy bracts up the scape, while *Hookeriana* has none.

R. C.

(To be continued.)



Photographs of notable Plants, Fruits and Flowers will be gladly received by the publishers for reproduction in these pages.

Questions may be freely asked on the various branches of horticulture, and answers will be willingly accorded.

The Montreal Horticultural Society and Fruit Growers' Association includes in its membership some eminently competent authorities on botany, entomology, and those sciences identified with horticulture, by whose courtesy enquirers may be assured of an intelligent and accurate answer to their questions.

PRESENT EXPERIMENTS IN SHIPPING OUR TENDER FRUITS TO BRITAIN.

The Toronto "Globe" publishes a cable from London as follows:—

"The shipments of Canadian fruit sent by refrigeration service, while arriving there in fair shape, have not been delivered so far in that state of excellence that is to be desired. In view of this fact, Mr. Crandall, agent of the Canadian Department of Agriculture, set to work to discover what was lacking in the Canadian methods of packing and shipping which made this result possible. It was found that, in the first place, the Canadian packages, while handsome and attractive, lacked sufficient ventilation, and also that the refrigerator compartments were filled to their utmost capacity. It was also found that the temperature of the refrigerator compartments had not been kept at a proper degree during the voyage. The despatch adds that with proper methods of packing and ventilation Canadian shippers may be certain that their trade will very soon be established firmly, with a pleasing tendency to grow."

While the significance of this report is to be regretted it has to be remembered that the shipments are experimental, and as such are essentially designed to ascertain requirements of procedure, so that first imperfections, which might in the nature of things be expected, may be overcome. And there is the consoling reflection that if success has not yet been assured by the experiments, the causes leading to the report before us are not fundamental, but are in details which may be rectified—insufficient ventilation of the packages, the over-filling of the refrigerated compartments on board ship, and an unsuitable temperature while the fruit was in transit.

A subsequent cable, which reached Ottawa on 26th October, is happily reassuring, indicating as it does that the later of these trial shipments reached Great Britain in a fairly satisfactory condition.

This latest information, at the time of writing, intimates that the 336 cases of fruit by the "Numidian" to Liverpool arrived in a sound state, excepting the grapes, which were inclined to fall from the stems. Of the 786 boxes by the "Hurona," reported

at the same time, we learn that the pears were in excellent condition ; the peaches somewhat soft ; the tomatoes sound, but over large to suit the taste of the British market ; and the grapes not adhering firmly to the stems.

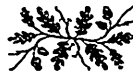
A paragraph appeared in the London "Standard" relative to the last mentioned consignment, which may be taken as indicative of British views of our Canadian tender fruits. It reads as follows :

"A consignment of Canadian fruit was sold at Covent Garden yesterday by Messrs. Garcia, Jacobs & Co. The fruit, consisting of some 800 packages, was sent from Montreal to Liverpool in the Hurona, under the direction of the Canadian Government, who are actively establishing a supply for the English market. Previous consignments have not turned out wholly successful, but the present one proved completely satisfactory, with the exception of the grapes, which were of too soft varieties to withstand the transit, even in a refrigerator, while their quality makes it improbable that they can compete with Portuguese growth. The pears were found to be of the same varieties as are grown in England and France, and of a quality that will suit the English trade."

"The opinion was generally expressed at Covent Garden that Canadian pears and plums will be able to compete in our markets with Continental supplies. The peaches, though not as large as the English hot house specimens, are of sufficiently good quality to secure a large trade. The tomatoes were of exceptionally fine quality, and if defects in regard to size are remedied, they will undoubtedly rival those of French growth. All the fruit, excepting the grapes, commanded good prices, and the buyers expressed satisfaction at the appearance of another source of supply."

We shall await further developments and closer particulars with interest.

W. M. R.



NOTES ON OLD AND MODERN GARDENS
OF MONTREAL.

BY MR. RICHARD G. STARKE, WESTMOUNT.

PART V.

Turning to the right down Rockland Avenue, we reach, on the west side, "Rockland," the property of Mr. Alfred Joyce, with a broad gravelled walk, richly bordered with flowers, leading to the large modern stone villa, some distance from the road, which was built by Colonel Gustave D'Odet D'Orsonnens, its former occupant, and later Commander of the Military School at St. Johns. On the left is an extensive close shaven lawn, dotted with trees, and to the right, and near the front, is a block of outbuildings in wood of large proportions. The grounds around the house are embellished with flowers, and in the same vicinity are an orchard and vegetable garden.

On the site of Mr. Joyce's house, sixty years ago, stood the large stone residence of John Clarke, Esq., another of the North West Company, whose property extended from the Cote St. Catherine Road north to the boundary line of St. Laurent, covering an area of some fifty acres. In the vicinity of the house was one of the finest gardens of a locality noted for the excellence and variety of its apples, pears, plums, and small fruits, and where luscious melons and other products of the ground vines flourished as if in their native habitat, or in more genial climes. In the midst of a group of "North Westers," who, as a rule, were given to hospitality, Mr. Clarke was no exception, and tradition delights to paint his social entertainments with roseate hues. The house was unfortunately destroyed by fire in 1844.

Retracing our steps to the Cote St. Catherine Road, on the south side is "Thornbury," formerly the residence of John Boston, Esq., Sheriff of Montreal, 1843 to '62, a beautifully designed brick villa, with shrubbery, and surrounded with greensward, gradually

rising to the wooded slopes of the mountain which form the background, the area containing some twenty acres. The house is finely situated; the grounds, with flower plats, curving walks and drive, neatly enclosed, while to the west was a garden and fine orchard, the whole forming one of the most tasteful of the residences of Outremont. It was later the property of Alexander McGibbon, Esq., who resided here for some years. It is now owned by the Nuns of the Hochelaga Convent, a teaching body, who occupy it as a seminary for young ladies.

On a beautiful winter moonlight night this property was the scene of a famous rendezvous of snowshoers, bearing torches, headed by the veteran Nick Hughes, and patronized by that brilliant statesman whose services to the empire and versatility of accomplishments have secured respect and admiration from the Himalayas to the Rocky Mountains, the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, the lineal descendant and inheritor of the eloquence and political genius of Richard Brinsley Sheridan.

Westward of Thornbury, and extending to what is now the Bellingham Road, was the property of Sidney Eellingham, Esq., some seventy acres, with a square brick residence, "Dunany Cottage," back from the road, on the higher ground, with the maple woods of the mountain slopes to the rear. Attached to the house on the west side, during his residence there, was a garden and orchard. Forty years ago Mr. Bellingham took an active part in public affairs as a trenchant political writer, Editor of the Daily News, a Conservative organ, published by Messrs. John Lovell & Sons, and as Member of Parliament for Argenteuil. Mr. Bellingham, now far advanced in years, being a nonogenarian, has resided for a decade or two on his paternal acres at South Gate, Castle Bellingham, County Louth, Ireland. Since his departure this property has also been acquired by the Nuns of the Hochelaga Convent.

Further west, on the same side of the Cote St. Catherine Road, is "Lindores," that fine property of the Hon. James Leslie, and later of his eldest son, Patrick Leslie, Esq., of Leslie, Starnes & Co., some forty-four acres, with a very wide frontage, enclosed with quar-

ried dry stone fencing, and a dense fringe of trees, a lodge near the east end, and gates, from either of which a beautiful winding drive of twenty feet, bordered with flowers, led to the tasteful wooden cottage, surrounded with verandas, at the base of the mountain. In the grounds were clumps of the native forest trees, grouped in the greensward, resembling a park. Near the house was a garden and orchard of four acres, well stocked with choice apple, pear and plum trees, and many small fruits. Mr. Patrick Leslie having some years previously laid out the grounds, erected the lodge, and planted the garden, with the aid of Peter Turner, built and occupied the cottage from 1854 to '57. The enclosures and general property have suffered from vacancy and neglect since that period, the house, when tenanted by Mr. S. W. Beard, having been destroyed by fire; but its extensive area and natural features are so available for landscape gardening that it only awaits a moderate expenditure in a hand of taste to restore its former charm. It is still in possession of Mr. Leslie's heirs.

Passing the new Hunt Club House on our right, and enjoying, for a moment, the wide and beautiful field of vision it displays, and leaving Outremont, the next garden of note was at "Bellevue," that of Benjamin Holmes, Esq., Cashier of the Bank of Montreal, near the village of Cote des Neiges, on the Cote St. Luke Road, 1833 to '43, which was tastefully cultivated and extensive, containing a great variety of choice fruits and flowers, covering an area of several acres, including the grounds, and with a fine apple orchard of six acres in extent to the westward, the residence with well grown trees and shrubbery between. The property was acquired from Mr. Holmes in 1843 by Mr. P. Swords, who converted the house into an hotel, and years later it was used for the same purpose by Mr. Edward Worth, and also by Mr. A. M. F. Gianelli, the *restaurateur*, and later merchant and Vice-Consul for Italy. This is now replaced by a large and more formal building, the Collège de Notre Dame, for children, where, though no longer wearing the aspect of a fine country family residence, the cultivation of fruits and flowers are not neglected.

Extending along the Cote St. Luke Road, on the south side,

between the village of Côte des Neiges and the woods of Monklands, and touching the boundary line of Cote St. Antoine, on the crest of the mountain, was Gibraltar Farm, the property from 1811 to 1832 of John Ogilvy, Esq., of the North West Company, and of the firm of Parker, Gerrard & Ogilvy, the area somewhat over one hundred arpents, and which had been at an earlier period in the possession of Thomas Duffy, Esq., the stone residence in the ornamental cottage style, with tasteful outbuildings, doubtless erected, and the heroic name conferred, by Mr. Ogilvy. His representatives disposed of it in 1832. In this year it was acquired by Colin Robertson, Esq., also of the North West Company, who resided here till his decease about 1842, when the residence was occupied by Thomas Mitchell, Esq., Advocate, till 1844, and the farm by Mr. William Tait, Senr., father of the late Mr. William Tait. Under Mr. Robertson, "Gibraltar Cottage" possessed an excellent garden and orchard, and the farm, beautifully situated, was one of the finest properties in this vicinity.

It will interest some readers to know what was the value of such a property at that period; and it may here be stated that Gibraltar Farm was offered by the estate of Colin Robertson to a well known farmer for £2500, Halifax Currency, \$10,000, and was refused by him as not meeting his views within £250. The adjoining property of Monklands, however, being leased about this time, 1843, by the Board of Works Department, for the residence of the Governor-General, Sir Charles Metcalfe, gave a certain attraction and impetus to the locality, and it was decided to divide the farm and dispose of it by *tirage au sort*, or lottery, a way of selling in those days not infrequently resorted to, in the case of large properties, to secure a suitable price. This was accordingly done and the figure of £4,000 realized for the heirs.

The farm was divided into twelve parts, with a corresponding number of subscribers, the most valuable prize being the residence with all the other buildings, including the stone farm house under the hill, and about 23 arpents. It may be interesting to state that the subscribers named in the deed of *partage*, were: The Hon.

Justice Charles Dewey Day, James Blackwood Greenshields, Merchant; Michael McCulloch, M.D., (1); Alfred Savage, Chemist and Druggist; James Thompson Badgley, Merchant; John Ostell, Surveyor; William Foster Coffin, Sheriff; John J. Day, Advocate; John Leeming, Auctioneer; Michael McCulloch, M.D., (2); David Davidson, Banker; and Capt. Phillip Durnford. Of these gentlemen John J. Day, Esq., Q.C., is now the only survivor, being of the venerable age of ninety-two years.

At the meeting held to decide the fate of the various lots, one of the subscribers, Sheriff Coffin, was an absentee, being in England, and Dr. McCulloch, his intimate friend, and himself a subscriber in duplicate, was requested to draw for him and complete the list. To this the worthy Doctor readily agreed, and desiring to do the Sheriff every possible justice, gave him the precedence in his drawings, with the result that he drew the prize lot, against himself, for his absent friend.

Colonel William Foster Coffin, joint sheriff of Montreal, 1843 to '53, resided on the property during his term of office, or till he removed to Ottawa, giving it the name of Uplands, renovating the buildings and improving the grounds, and was followed later by Major Thomas Bourke, Paymaster of Pensioners, and by the late Mr. William Tait, also a lover of flowers. For a number of years its enclosures, buildings and cultivated grounds have suffered decline. The part with the residence, old garden and orchard, which he has re-named Fern Grove, is now the property of Mr. William Greig, who will, doubtless, in time, restore its former attractiveness.

In comparing the difference in values as to time, it is only necessary to state that Mr. Greig paid in 1895, for the cottage and five acres, a much larger sum than the whole farm could have been bought for in 1843.

(To be Continued).

CHATS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY MRS. G. W. SIMPSON, MONTREAL.

PART VI.—MEADOW RUE AND CAMPIONS.

You remember, probably, that Pistils and Stamens are the essential parts of a Flower. The Pistils are the Seed-bearers, the Stamens are the Pollen-bearers. A flower carrying on its peduncle or stalk both pistils and stamens is said by botanists to be *perfect*, even if it should be wanting in Corolla, Calyx, or both.

The word *perfect* is not altogether satisfactory, as it does not well describe the situation, but it is still in common use and therefore best for our immediate purpose. Some plants are found with perfect flowers, and staminate flowers, and pistillate flowers, growing and flourishing, nourished by one and the same root, leaves, and stems. Such plants are called Polygamous, because they set their seed in more ways than one. We must first note that it is by no means certain that a perfect flower sets its own seed. Scientific observation has shown that no flower *prefers* to set its own seed, and only does so under stress of circumstances. The main object of flowers is the perpetuation of the species; at the same time an actual effort is made for self-improvement, by which must be understood an increase in strength, power, and beauty. To effect both objects some flowers mature the pistils first, and some the stamens, until, becoming mutually independent, the pistils contrive to live in one flower, and the stamens in another, on the same root, partaking necessarily of the same food provided by the stem and leaves of the plant common to both. After a while, grown more and more fastidious by the enjoyment of space and richness of soil, the stamens and pistils take to living on separate roots, in such wise that they cannot reach each other without the intervention of insects, wind, or water. The stamens and pistils having now respectively a whole plant to themselves bloom out with great beauty, especially the staminate flowers. These, whose sole business is to mature pollen,

having accomplished this work, and sent the ripe pollen by nature's messengers to the waiting seed-bearers or pistils, wither and die. The pistillate flowers having more to do are more demure in their habits; they generally have smaller corollas than the staminate, and drop them as soon as they are fertilized, gathering their bracts and calices round their green and swelling ovaries in such wise as to pass almost unnoticed amongst the leaves, until, by size and colour, they proclaim to beasts, birds, and insects that they are ready to be food for all who need.

As pollen carriers, bees are accounted amongst the best and surest of nature's messengers. They are pollen and honey feeders, and unconsciously perform the work of fertilization while gathering food for themselves and their young. They are free also from the bad habit of most of the smaller flies, that of depositing their eggs on the stigma of the pistils. These eggs produce larvæ or worms, which destroy the fruit by feeding on it unseen during the period of their growth, leaving it at the season of ripe fruit a mere empty shell.

The strongest seeds will be those not crowded nor starved while maturing in the ovary. The seeds of well-fed plants are heavy, the contents nourishing, and the promise for the future very good. Poor seeds give poor plants, therefore, before you sow your garden, be sure you get the best seeds from a reliable dealer, for without good seeds to begin with, much labour will be thrown away. Wild flowers differ in colour and size in different parts of the world, but the story of their lives can be read as we pass them by the way-side.

Plants having facility in the matter of doubling their parts, are frequently those which can divide up, and live in separate houses. I do not like to call staminate and pistillate plants *imperfect*, because such a separation seems to be a sign of flower wealth, ease and progress; but that is the botanical term now in use, and it is necessary in order to be understood.

There is a so-called imperfect flower growing abundantly all over the Montreal mountain in springtime—the Meadow Rue, whose botanical name is *Thalictrum Dioicum*. No one seems to know the meaning of *Thalictrum*, but *dioicum* points out that the pis-

tillate and staminate flowers live, each in a house of its own. In leaves and general habit of growth they are alike, and are usually found in each other's neighborhood. They seem to affect rocky corners, but when the earth in these corners is rich, and a rill of running water close by, they show their satisfaction in their faces, while they tuck their roots tight into the rock crevices. The Meadow Rue is very much at home on the mountain. It evidently finds there everything needful, not only for existence, but for luxury. Plenty of house-room, honey and visitors. It may not strike one at first view as a showy plant, but a friendly intimacy discloses more than usual grace and beauty. The leaves are beautiful in colour, shape, and movement, and the same is true of every part of the flower, whether pistillate or staminate. When the stamens are fully developed, especially when they are ripe and full of pollen, the staminate flowers are, perhaps, more attractive than the pistillate; but the pistils do not court attention in youth, their object being to set seed and provide for the insect world, as well as carry on the race of Meadow Rues in their own particular line. For there are other branches of the Meadow Rue family.

Spotton mentions three; Gray names four; and the beautiful Illustrated Flora of Britton and Brown describes seven, and gives the further information that, in different parts of the world, there are about seventy-five known species.

Of the seven species, two have *perfect* flowers; three are *dioecious*, which last word has the same signification as dioicum; and two are polygamous, that is, they have perfect and imperfect flowers on the same plant. In this genus or family therefore, we have four different modes of living,—1st, one plant contains all the organs in itself; 2nd, one plant nurtures pistils only, and a 3rd, stamens only; a 4th mode provides for all three on the same root, and one may pluck from the plant pistillate flowers, staminate flowers, and perfect flowers, which I have already said, are flowers having the means of reproduction without insect aid. Thinking the matter out to the best of my ability, I am led to believe that where the Meadow Rue is poorly situated, either from scarcity of food, fewness of insect

visitros, or other cause, the plant keeps itself in close quarters, and lives out its life on one root. When its surroundings are favourable, it spreads itself; some of the flowers are the so-called perfect, but others divide into pistils and stamens, each taking a flower to itself, though still on one root, and lastly, as in the case of our Mountain friend *Dioicum*, abundance of provision, proper to its kind, has induced in the stamens and pistils a selection of abode, and they have promoted themselves to the dignity of separate residence. The tall Meadow Rue, *Thalictrum Polygamum*, which often carries on the same root, staminate, pistillate, and perfect flowers, is a lovely, attractive plant, high and branching, with pure white flowers, and grows abundantly in the neighbourhood of Montreal. I gathered it in July last, in the Bout de l'Isle Park, at the east end of the Island.

I must not forget to point out that the Meadow Rue belongs to the Buttercup family, to some of the characteristics of which I have already referred in these papers. Amongst others, I have noticed the doubling of its parts, how its members grow stamens, pistils, corollas, etc., at will, and do not seem to be bound by flower law. They are what we might call unconventional in their habits. The most so perhaps of any order of plants, seeing that their organs are not interdependent. One or more may be removed without damage to any other, and parts can be multiplied without inconvenience or loss to any other part of the flower.

Not far removed in structure from the Buttercups are the Pinks, *Caryophyllaceæ*. A very enterprising and independent family are the Pinks; for Nansen saw them in Franz Josef Land, in company with Poppies and Chickweed. We meet them in our drawing rooms as Carnations, and see them in the garden as Sweet-Williams, etc. In the fields and hedgerows, we call them Catchflies, Bladder Campions, and Bouncing-Bets. Bet, when she is situated to her liking, doubles her parts to such extent that she splits her calyx and spreads out her corolla, till she has a skirt like a dancing dervish. Wild Pinks will grow by the dusty road side in spite of heat and drought; and are amongst the most grateful of flowers in return for the gardener's attention and skill. We would, therefore, expect them to be accom-

modating in their habits amongst themselves. On the 1st October last, towards evening, I gathered, on the Outremont road, a few straggling plants of *Lychnis Alba*, White Campion, sometimes called the Evening Lychnis. The flowers gleamed through the night in a glass of water in my room, and faded next day when the sun was high. I found I had in my glass, staminate flowers, pistillate flowers, and perfect flowers, good specimens of each, with buds, leaves, and seed vessels.

LUCY SIMPSON.

(To be continued.)

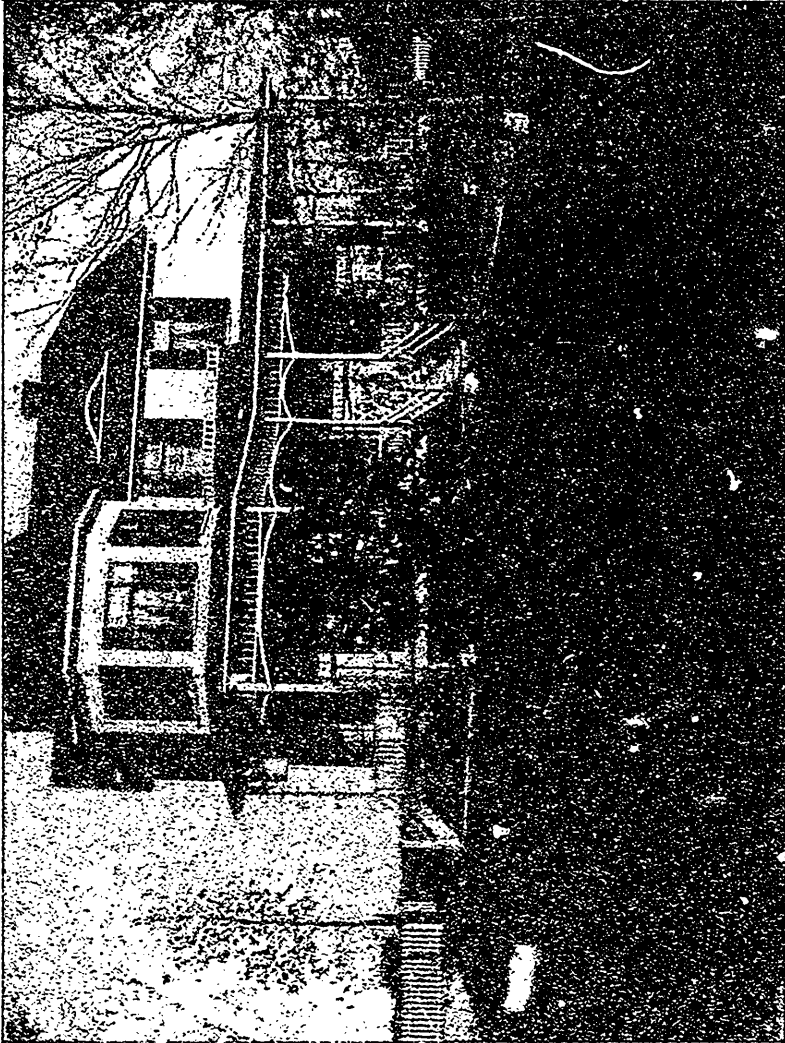


COTTAGE GARDEN COMPETITIONS.

Last year, the Montreal Horticultural Society inaugurated a system of cottage garden competitions which has had the desired effect of arousing a considerable degree of interest and emulation amongst amateur horticulturists in the city and neighbourhood.

Acting on the assumption that the suburban resident has generally more space in which to make display and introduce variety, and seeking to create parallel conditions as nearly as possible, the Society placed the suburban and country contestants in a class by themselves, and apart from competitors located in the city. But city gardens are diverse in extent, and therefore, this year, these again were subdivided into two separate groups, according to the area of the lots.

Mr. T. W. Burdon, who, with Mr. George Copland, this summer visited and judged the sixteen gardens engaged in the competition, makes a thoughtful suggestion that the two groups of city gardens should not be determined by area, but by rental instead. It is true that two gardens of approximately equal extent may have little else in common than area. Take, for example, an uptown garden, and another, let us say, situated in St. Henry, the premises in the one case renting at \$300 or \$400 a year, and in the other at \$150 to \$180.



RESIDENCE AND GARDEN OF MR. WILLIAM McCAW, STRATHMORE,
Winner of the First Prize in the Suburban Cottage Garden Competition.



MRS. DION'S GARDEN, 1040 AMHERST STREET,
First Prize in City Cottage Garden Competition.

The surroundings are different, which must have its effect ; and the working man, if able, probably does not feel warranted in expending money for the purchase of comparatively valuable plants and seeds for the embellishment of his garden to the same extent as his uptown rival. All which is of the nature of a handicap. And it is in the more crowded portions of the city, in those localities where the working men have their homes, that the Society should see its worthiest field for encouraging and promoting the cultivation of flowers for their refining influence, and vegetables and fruits for their utility. Next year, the Society may see its way to profit by the experience it has gained in this direction.

Photo-engravings are given of Mr. William McCaw's residence, at Strathmore, on Lake St. Louis, which conveys some suggestion of the winning garden in the suburban section of the competition ; and of Mrs. Dion's garden, 1040 Amherst Street, which gained first place amongst the city gardens.

Other illustrations of the gardens which took honors in the competition may appear in succeeding numbers of the Magazine, as space permits.

W. M. R.



PRACTICAL FRUIT CULTURE.

We have received the following somewhat candid arraignment of us as fruit growers. Without expressing any opinion as to the indictment, we find the communication worthy of a place because of the sound common sense advice which it develops ; and moreover, it is sometimes not undesirable "to see ourselves as others see us." (Ed.)

Are you truly deserving the name of fruit culturists in the Province of Quebec ? If so, the honor is easily won. Given,—a farm—the bigger it is the better ; so many acres planted with apple trees ; a fad or two on drainage ; a dogmatic opinion as to the orthodox distance apart trees should be planted, irrespective of location or climate ; a patent method—all your own—as to how to plant, and

an unsettled idea as to when to plant, or what to plant, —why ! we who grow some good apples, and sell them for money, are in danger of becoming confused.

The uninformed fruit grower of the past and present places himself behind a fortification of spraving apparatus and decoctions, imagines he has performed his whole duty when he has delivered his well directed broadsides, sits down feeling that now he deserves a good crop, and leaves the rest to Providence. What a delusion this has proved to be ! By all means spray the trees, and do it thoroughly. Very good, so far as it goes. But exercise some further degree of intelligence. The successful fruit culturist is he who can *grow* a *healthy tree*, and who understands how to go about doing so. Produce a healthy tree, and half the battle is won ; continue to keep it in good health, and the victory is yours. But how accomplish this ? With the soil properly prepared, and *maintained* in good condition, with intelligent care, and by rigorously preventing your trees from overbearing, or becoming injuriously infected with insect or fungous pests. There's the rub ! you say. Well, try the experiment of thinning the fruit sufficiently, and you will find much to console you in the practice. Nothing exhausts a tree so much as an overcrop. Nothing is so conducive to disease as an exhausted condition, in man or tree. Trees which bore heavily last year have but little vitality left, from the effects of an overcrop, followed by an extremely severe winter in your Province.

Keep up the constitution of your trees, and disease will not prevail. And you will find it to pay better than cheap theories.



THE CANADIAN PANSY SOCIETY.

[From the Montreal Gazette of 4th October]

The many Pansy lovers who visited the parlors of the Young Men's Christian Association on Saturday afternoon and evening, were afforded the opportunity of admiring what was, from point of quality, the finest display of Pansies ever exhibited in this part of Canada. The exhibition, which was free to the public, was held

under the auspices of the Canadian Pansy Society, in conjunction with the Montreal Horticultural Society, and was a most unqualified success. The blooms, in both the show and fancy sections, were much superior to those of any former show, and elicited the admiration of all. There were some remarkably fine blooms of dark, yellow and white selfs, and white and yellow grounds, shown by Mr. Reid, of Outremont; and in the fancy sections (the largest blooms in the show), Mr. D. Williamson, of Westmount, had several exhibits of beautifully marked flowers, of remarkable substance and beauty. Besides the modest pansies, which are perhaps the most universally admired of all flowers, the exhibition contained many fine specimens of rare plants and flowers of excellent merit, among which, in the cut flowers, were vases of lovely hardy and tender asters, sweet peas, lilies, phlox Drummondii, stocks, zinnias, carnations and marigolds. In the collections of hardy herbaceous flowers were many magnificent specimens that are rarely seen at exhibitions, unless at late fall ones, like the present.

A very interesting and pretty exhibit was staged by Mr. W. M. Ramsay, of Westmount, and consisted of fifty varieties of flowers raised from seed this year. The several exhibits of gladioli were pronounced by all who saw them to be the most superb specimens ever seen in Montreal. The magnificent collection of upwards of one hundred named varieties of sweet peas, exhibited by Mrs. Edgar Johnson, of Lennoxville, showed the high state of perfection that has been attained in sweet pea growing within recent years. Many handsome plants were on exhibition, notable among which were two beautiful orchids, shown by W. J. Wilshire, gardener to Mr. R. B. Angus.

The directors of the society, who consist of Messrs. James Morgan, president; Alfred Joyce, vice-president; William Ewing, Robt. Reid, D. Williamson, W. M. Ramsay, T. Hall, T. W. Burdon, and Frank Roy, are to be congratulated upon the decided success of the show, and upon their having secured rooms so well adapted for such an exhibition. The warmest thanks are due the Y. M. C. A. for the many privileges and advantages which it kindly placed at the disposal of the show committee. The many mutual benefits to

be derived by the members of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Montreal Horticultural Society in holding these parlor floral exhibitions cannot fail to produce good results:-

Following is the list of awards:—

Twelve pansies, selfs—Robert Reid, Outremont, 1 and vase.

Six blooms pansies, yellow grounds, and six blooms, white grounds—Robert Reid, 1 and silver medal.

Twelve blooms fancy pansies—D. Williamson, 1 and silver medal; Robert Reid, 2; W. J. Wilshire, 3.

Twenty-four blooms show and fancy pansies—Robert Reid, 1 and silver medal; D. Williamson, 2; Frank Roy, 3.

Best single bloom pansy—Robert Reid, 1 and silver medal; D. Williamson, 2.

Basket or vase of pansies—Robert Reid, 1 and medal.

Vase of violas—Frank Roy, Mount Royal Cemetery, 1 and silver medal; D. Williamson, 2; Robert Reid, 3.

Twelve carnations, grown out of doors—Frank Roy, 1; W. M. Ramsay, 2.

Collection of hardy herbaceous flowers, named—Frank Roy, 1 and silver medal.

Twelve species of hardy herbaceous flowers, named—Frank Roy 1.

Vase of wild flowers—Alice Roy, 1.

Vase of asters—Robert Reid, 1; Mrs. Edgar Johnson, Lennoxville, 2.

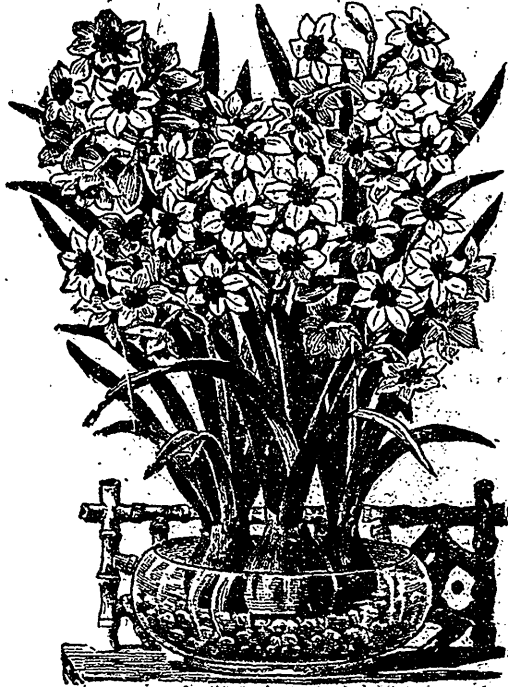
Vase of gladioli—Frank Roy, 1.

The following exhibits were especially commended by the judges: Robert Reid, 4 vases of annual asters, vase of hardy asters, vase of zinnias, vase of stocks, vase of phlox Drummondii, vase of dianthus, vase of clematis, and vase of helenium; Mrs. Edgar Johnson, vase of poppies, vase of phlox Drummondii, collection of sweet peas, vase of stocks, and vase of scabious; W. M. Ramsay, collection of 50 varieties of flowers raised from seed sown this year; W. J. Wilshire, one cattleya and one cypripedium; F. Roy, two vases of gladioli, vase of hydrangea and barberry, and two vases of lilies; D. Williamson, vase of marigolds.

Mr. W. M. Ramsay acted as judge of pansies, and Messrs. D. Williamson and Robert Reid in the other sections.

SEASONABLE HINTS.

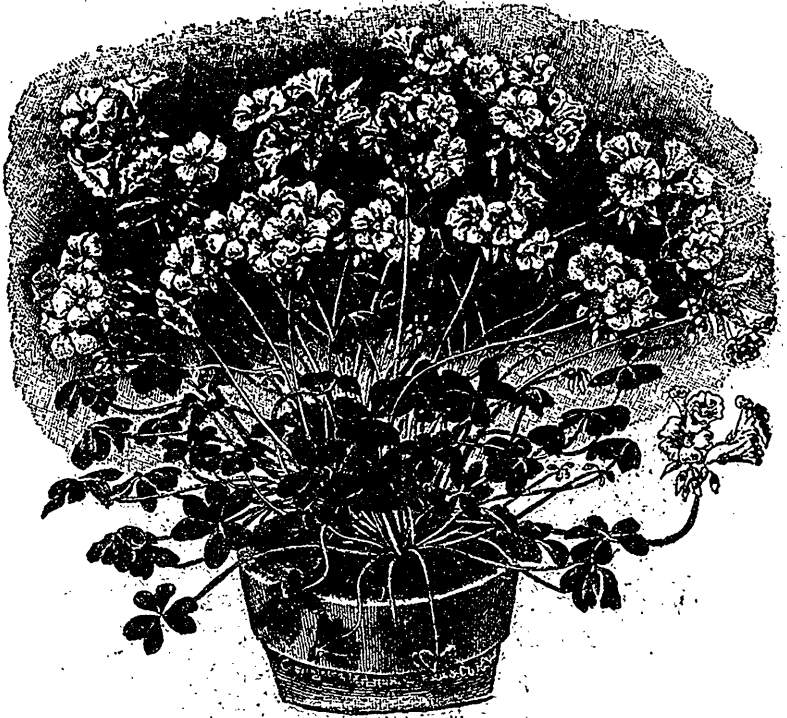
HOUSE PLANTS FOR THE WINTER.



Chinese or Oriental Narcissus.

The *Oriental or Chinese Narcissus*. For their abundant bloom, and the ease with which these charming flowers can be produced it is difficult to find a more commendable plant. With several relays of pots, or bowls, a succession of beautiful specimens may be kept up during the whole winter.

Their culture is extremely simple, all that is required being a bowl, some pebbles, chips of brick or marble, or even soil or sand will do. Place the bulbs about one fourth deep in the pebbles or sand to keep them steady, cover the pebbles or sand with water and place in a dark spot in the cellar, where an even rather low temperature, say about 50° Fah., can be maintained. Leave them in this position until they are well rooted, never allowing the water to become exhausted. After they are thoroughly rooted, remove them by degrees to more light, and do not place them in a room very much warmer than where they started growth. Light and a rather low temperature at this point is conducive to a healthy crop of foliage, and sturdy well-developed flowers. Besides, all flowers keep longer fresh in a temperature not too warm.



Bermuda Buttercup,—*Oxalis*.

Oxalis.—The Bermuda Buttercup. The yellow tinted flowers of this wonderful little plant are captivating. If one can imagine the most lovely primrose with the faintest dash of pale green throughout, then something near a description has been attained, but the pretty flowers have to be grown to be admired as they deserve. Its culture, too, is of the simplest. Potted in a small sized pot—one bulb, until it starts and requires to be shifted into a larger, too much water should not be given; but as soon as it shows signs of growing freely, which will not be long, enough water for its wants will be almost daily required. The sunniest window in the house is where it will do best, and it will well repay the care with a profusion of golden yellow flowers.



Freesia Refracta Alba.

Freesia Refracta Alba.—African Lily of the Valley. This is another deserving little gem which should be cultivated in every window. It will do well with treatment similar to that recommended for the Bermuda Buttercup, with this exception: from eight to a dozen bulbs may be planted in a six-inch pot, merely leaving the points of the little bulbs above the soil.

Other attractive bulbous plants are the Ixias, Scillas, Snowdrops and Sparaxis, which with treatment similar to that recommended for the Bermuda Buttercup will afford an agreeable variety of coloring.

(We are obliged, from want of space, to withhold till next number some suggestions as to suitable foliage plants to brighten our sitting rooms during the winter.)

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