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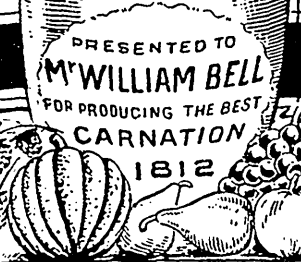
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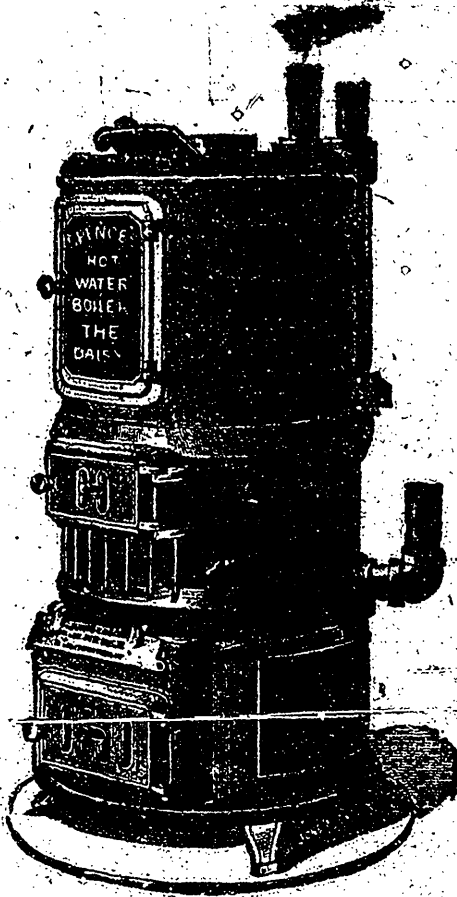
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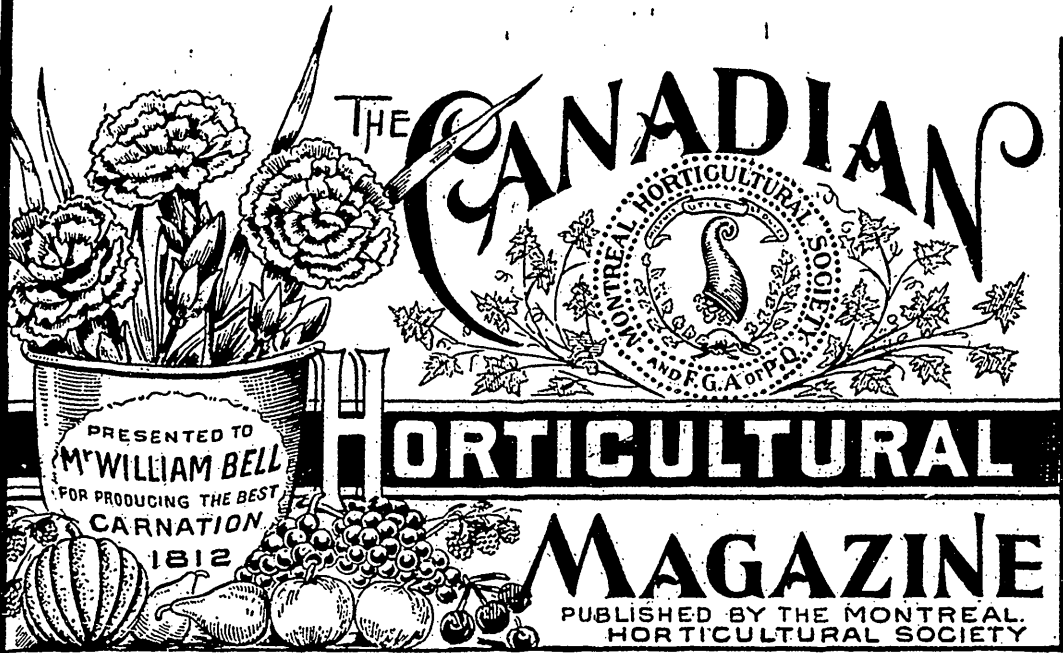
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CHATS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY MRS. G. W. SIMPSON, MONTREAL.

III.

I have a few more words to say about Cruciferæ before passing on to other subjects.

It is thought that the four large limbs which form the cross, serve to attract bees and butterflies. Probably they do so, but they serve other purposes as well. In wet weather they close around the valuable pollen, and keep it dry, opening back flat when the sunshine promises visitors. It is noticeable that the petals of flowers, in color and shape, are so much like the insects which frequent them, that one can easily pass them by without seeing them. I noticed a tiny maggot crawl out of a Larkspur which was in a vase on my table. It was blue like the petals of the flower. I looked again and again, and saw it move, before I could be sure that it was an insect, and not the curled edge of a petal. It is quite a common thing to find gorgeous butterflies sucking gorgeous flowers like themselves. In this way insects are protected from their worst enemies, that is, from birds, who, near and far, seek them for food. A flying bird pursues a flying butterfly in fair chase, but the insect would starve could the keen-eyed hunter spy him while comfortably at rest, sipping nectar, and helping in the good work of pollen-carrying.

The crucifers are a large, important family, very useful, if not very aristocratic. They give us many delicious vegetables, and valuable condiments for the dinner table. Mustard, from the seed; cabbages and watercress from the leaves; cauliflowers and broccoli from leaves and flowers; turnips and radishes from the root. The roots, seeds, and leaves are for the most part pungent, but not poisonous. On the contrary mustard is a good digestive, and water-cress, though it bites the tongue in a friendly way, is dearly loved by old-country children.

The pungent crucifers remind me of the Nasturtium, which, by the way, is not a crucifer, but a member of the handsome geranium family. Old World housekeepers, recognizing its fine flavour, use it in salads and make pickles of the fruit. The proper name of this nasturtium is *Tropæolum*, for there is a nasturtium which belongs to the mustard family, but of that I do not speak at present. The giving of the same name to two or three plants of quite different structure is very inconvenient, and leads to confusion; and I heartily recommend my younger readers to familiarize themselves with the botanical name of important flowers from the first, as a great saving of labor, not to say error, in the long run.

Our *Tropæolum* or Nasturtium is a flower of very active, restless habit. The stem climbs, or it spreads, or it falls, as opportunity allows and invites. In the case of climbing it is assisted by the *petioles* or leaf stems, which curl themselves round the nearest suitable object or branch, or twig, or even a piece of string, and, by tightening the curl or twist, help in supporting and lifting the main stem. When not invited to climb or fall, the leaves busy themselves with shading the flowers and ground from the hot sunshine by carrying their umbrella-like blades horizontally. And when evening moisture prevails, and the sun has set, these accommodating leaves turn themselves up on end, as it were, so as to let the falling dew reach the ground. Then they are said to sleep. The leaves of some of the pea family prepare themselves for night by bowing the head and folding the arms. Lovers of the curious tell us that they are at their devotions, and call them praying plants. White clover, *Trifolium Repens*, has this curious habit. Such leaves have a purpose in view no doubt, and show their piety by doing their duty. The dew, so beneficial to the earth, which they cover from heat in the day-time, is admitted freely by the folding of the head and arms of the *Trefoil*, and the face of the leaf itself, which might suffer from the damp night, is snugly sheltered, while the back of the leaf being furnished with velvet-like hairs is not hurt at all. It is evident that the stem or petiole of the nasturtium just under the leaf blade has the properties of a hinge. It is indeed a

very sensitive spot. I have often caused a leaf to turn by touching it with my fingers. The different parts of the flower also move. The petals open and stretch themselves till they wither and fall. The stamens turn their heads towards the petals while they are young and immature, and towards the centre of the flower when they are full of pollen.

The *Tropæolum* possesses a spur, or horn, or elongated petal which secretes nectar, the choice food of the bird and insect world. The bees alight on the petals, and crawl across the stamens to the spur. Not content with the pollen dust on their coats, they fill the baskets which they have on their legs, besides drinking freely of the nectar. Indeed, they are often so full and so heavily laden that they fall to the ground as they try to make their way back to the hive, and become an easy prey to some bright-eyed bird, on the watch for just such food.

It often happens that the horn is pierced from the outside, when a small hole is seen as if made by a pin. Some insect without long proboscis has taken this method to reach the nectar. It is, of course, very wasteful, and the flower dies soon after the operation. I have read that bees, too idle to go the right road, leave tapped the spur, or horn, shirking the duty of pollen-carrying. I never caught them in the act myself, but I have reason to believe it true, and it is a question a patient child might investigate. One need not wait to be a botanist, in order to make intimate acquaintance with very interesting plants. They cover the roadsides and fields, and are waiting for patient and friendly observers to notice their habits and uses.

Let me remind you of the lines of Longfellow, beginning :—

“ Nature, the old Nurse, took
The child upon her knee,
Saying, ‘ Here is a story-book ’
Thy Father hath written for thee ’
‘ Come wander away with me, ’ she said,
‘ Into regions yet untrod ;
And read what is still unread
In the manuscript of God ! ’ ”

There is another very interesting spurred flower growing in the garden just now. I mean the Larkspur, or *Delphinium*. It does not belong to the geraniums, but to the Buttercup family. This is an easy family to study, for it has a great many members, and they are found everywhere. The botanical name is Ranunculaceæ, which signifies *frogs*. It was probably so called on account of its numerous marsh and water plants. A family characteristic is the ease with which the parts of the flower can be separated for examination, without destroying or even tearing each other. Try this on the Larkspur. Take off the five blue sepals one by one, leaving the spurred sepal to the last. This sepal proves to be a sac or bag covering the solid horn or spur. Now you have a good view of the four white petals, two of which line the horn, and make it strong. Take off the two long petals, and afterwards the two petals with brushes. Now remove the stamens. You have three pistils standing on the receptacle, and your fingers will be sticky with nectar from the spur. The business of the two long petals is to secrete honey which the long sepal covers securely with a wrinkled pointed bag. The spur is often so full of honey that it wells up and overflows the flower cup. The two lower petals are furnished with brushes. While the stamens are unripe they rest below the lower petals, but as soon as one or two are ripe they thrust up their heads between them, and dust the brushes in readiness for the first visiting bee, who takes it off with him to the nearest flower-house. Then the stamens, their work accomplished, fall below again, and wither, thus making way for the next which ripen, to repeat the same experience. By the time the stamens are satisfied and have withered, the three pistils are ripe, and take the place between the lower petals, now vacant. The visiting bee, still seeking honey, now rubs pollen brought from another flower upon the soft moist stigmas of the pistils, and the ovaries are fertilized. This accomplished, the object of flower life is attained, and the perianth withers and falls with the stamens, leaving the pistils on the receptacle to grow and ripen seed. The strength of the plant is now wanted in preparation for the next season. The root, or underground stem, must be filled

with food for winter use, and buds must be formed to develop into leaves and flowers in due time. If this work is not done before the hard frost sets in there will be no Larkspurs the following spring, for winter in this climate is a time of rest.

The fields are so full of flowers at the present time that I advise you to gather and examine as many as you can, whether you know their family names or not. You will come to know them by degrees, and recognize them by pictures, or written descriptions. The rivulets are lined with Purple Loosestrife, Darwin's celebrated example of a *trimorphous* plant. Black-eyed Susan sparkles in the meadows, not altogether to the satisfaction of the farmer. The lovely *Vicia Cracca*, not quite so unwelcome as Susan, keeps her company, and water lilies, yellow and white, deck the pond. Even the roadside has its interest, offering us, in blossom, the little Yellow Medick, generally called Black Medick from the color of the seed, said to be true Shamrock, the emblem of Ireland.

LUCY SIMPSON.

(To be continued.)



PROPAGATING THE RUBBER PLANT.

BY MR. G. W. OLIVER, U. S. BOTANIC GARDENS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Specimens of this popular house plant, which are one or two years old, after having passed the winter in the dwelling house, are usually brought out of doors presenting a more or less lanky appearance, with perhaps one long shoot having a few leaves at the top, and one or two small growths near the base of the stem. The question is often asked, What must be done with the plant to again have it in a presentable condition? The answer usually given by the florist is, to cut its head off, and give the small shoots a chance to develop. If the piece at the top is in anything like a healthy condition it may be rooted successfully with very little trouble; but unless one has the accommodation afforded by a suitable hothouse it must be done while the plant is growing, and it may be done while the plant is out of doors. In preparing for it see that the root

conditions are favorable ; if the plant is in two small a pot give it a larger one, packing the soil firmly around the old ball with a stick in such a manner that the roots will not be bruised. In order to preserve an even state of moisture at the root it is a good plan to sink the pot up to the rim in the ground, and for the purpose of ensuring perfect drainage place a small empty flower pot at the bottom of the hole, wide end up, so that the hole of the pot with the plant in it will sit directly over it. Besides acting to drain the soil this will prevent earth worms from entering it.

When this is done the material for propagating may be secured. The best for the purpose is ordinary sphagnum or swamp moss, some string, and if it be desired a three or four inch pot broken in two, so that it can be placed and tied in a position around the cutting. See that the root is securely fastened, so that there is no danger of it being broken off by wind storms. Remove one or two of the leaves at a point about six inches from the end of the shoot, and with a sharp knife make an upward slanting cut three-quarters or an inch in length half way through the stem. A quarter of an inch below this make a similar cut, so as to remove a wedge-shaped piece from the stem. Into this put a little moss, leave for a few days to heal over, then bind a suitable quantity of moss around the incision to keep the hole in a slightly damp state until rooted. By tying the two halves of a flower pot around the moss, and filling any space left with the same material, it will help to keep it uniformly moist.

If the above operations are done with ordinary care there is little danger of failure. The best time to do it is just before the plant has begun to make its new growth for the summer. The shoot will show when it is rooted by sending the ends of the roots outside of the moss, and through the bottom of the pot, if used. When this is the case cut off the young plant and put in a five or six inch pot, packing the soil carefully and firmly around it ; keep in a shady dark corner for a few days, gradually bringing it out to the full sunshine as it is able to endure it.

G. W. OLIVER.

SOME DESIRABLE SPRING-FLOWERING PERENNIALS.

BY PROF. CRAIG, HORTICULTURIST, EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

As a rule, I think amateur gardeners do not sufficiently appreciate the value and beauty of perennial and herbaceous plants. It is true that they do not give us the amount of bloom per plant, and are not of the "cut-and-come-again type," as many of our annuals are—phlox and pansies, for instance—yet to counterbalance this defect they have the strong point of remaining in the ground from year to year, and giving us a quantity of bloom each season without the trouble of replanting. Nearly every garden owner can afford to set aside a small portion of his ground, along the hedge, or by the side of the dividing wall between himself and neighbor (better have no dividing wall), which can be given to the cultivation of these desirable ornamental plants.

In the matter of preparation of the soil, if we have a naturally deep and naturally well drained spot this will give us just the conditions we want. Having dug it up well, and given it a liberal coating of manure, which has been thoroughly worked in, it is in order to set out the plants. This may be done in the spring or in the fall. These should not be set too closely, as it is the habit of herbaceous plants to increase by offsets and side shoots. Mulching with strawy manure, or better still, forest leaves, in the autumn, to protect against severe cold during winter, such as we have just had, when there has been little or no snow fall, is an essential to success. If we can plant alongside of a hedge or a dividing wall, these are likely to catch and hold the earliest snowfalls. With a normal snow covering we are pretty sure to winter our perennials successfully.

During the early part of June I walked along our perennial border, and noted a number of those that were then in bloom, and was surprised to find such a number of families represented by the individuals then giving flowers. At an exhibition in Ottawa this

week, the Experimental Farm showed cut blooms of 100 or more varieties of perennials. Naturally, at this time of the year such families as the sunflower, phlox and lily, were more largely represented than in the list submitted herewith. Some of the Gaillardias now in bloom at the Farm are exceedingly beautiful. Of these the large single flower type is, I think, the most desirable. The fluted ray form is also exceedingly beautiful. One of the prettiest lilies in flower at this time is *Lilium Brownii*. This comes in just ahead of *Auratum*, which latter is showing bud at the present time. A pretty little plant is the *Heuchera sanguinea*, a native of Mexico, bearing deep red, smallish flowers in light, feathery panicles. The brightness of the colour of these flowers make them an attractive and striking object in the perennial border.

Arenaria purpureascens.—Sandwort from the Pyrenees, 3 to 5 inches high, with a profusion of pinkish-red blossom; desirable as a low-growing border plant.

Ajuga Genevensis.—An interesting member of the mint family, bearing pretty blue flowers, and growing in round, compact masses. As a bee plant it would appear to be very valuable; bees visit it in great numbers, and in preference to all others.

Arnebia Echioides.—A member of the borage family, grows 12 to 15 inches high, has linear leaves and bears curious, light canary-coloured flowers with five lobes. Each division of the corolla is marked at first with a prominent black dot, which fades out as the flower grows older.

Anemone Coronaria.—Only three representatives of this family are in bloom to-day. That just mentioned, growing 10 to 15 inches high, bearing pure white flowers with the characteristic prominent yellow centre, marked with a delicate fringe or outline of golden stamens.

A. *Narcissiflora*.—12 to 15 inches high, bearing pure white blossoms 2 inches in diameter; very attractive with their centre of gold-coloured stamens.

A. *Montana*.—An interesting apetalous form, which in flower considerably resembles the seed clusters of *Clematis*.

Amsonia Tabernæmontana.—The genus is named after an English traveller by name of Amson. An interesting little plant bearing rather small and somewhat inconspicuous white flowers, with a star-like, five-parted corolla.

Aquilegia (Columbine).—Without doubt this genus comprises some of our most valuable hardy border plants. For vigour, health and beauty of flowers they are unsurpassed. Quite a number are in bloom at this date.

- A. *Striata*.—Large blue sepals with white petals.
- A. *Glandulosa*.—Resembles the last very closely.
- A. *Jucunda*.—Rather low growing, bearing large blue flowers with particularly long spurs.
- A. *Siberica*.—This represents a type. Flowers, lilac-blue tipped and shaded with white.
- A. *Cærulea*.—A particularly handsome Rocky Mountain species from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet high. Flowers, large, blue and white; very desirable.
- A. *Canadensis*.—This is smaller growing than the last, is characterized by purplish-red foliage and small scarlet and white flowers.
- A. *Vulgaris Alba*.—Undoubtedly one of the best white Columbines. Medium height, flowers large, pure white.
- A. *V. Hybrida*.—Deep maroon-coloured blossoms; plant of medium height.
- A. *V. Nana Alba*.—Low growing forms of the *Aquilegia* are often very useful. This one grows 10 to 12 inches high, is characterized by the light vivid green colour of its foliage; the flowers are white.
- Centauria Montana*.—A member of the great *compositæ* family. A vigorous grower, 2 feet high, bearing quantities of creamy-white, fluffy and rather inconspicuous flowers. A great favourite with the bees.
- Cerastium Tomentosum*.—One of the favourite border edging plants in Europe. Foliage, silvery gray; 8 to 12 inches high; flowers, small, white.
- Doronicum* (Leopard's Bane) *Plantagineum Excelsum*. This I regard as a very valuable member of the sunflower family, coming, as it does, so early in the season; height, 3 to 4 feet; flowers, deep yellow, *Helianthus*-like, 4 inches in diameter, with 20 to 50 rays. Floriferous and showy.
- D. *Caucasicum*.—18 to 24 inches high; practically a smaller edition of the former.
- Delytra Spectabilis*.—Bleeding-heart, our old favourite,—should be grown in masses or clumps.
- Erigeron Purpureum*.—The earliest member of this extensive family (*Aster*) to bloom in this locality; 8 to 12 inches high.
- Geranium Maculatum*.—The old-fashioned and well-known Crane's Bill. One of the plants which every beginner in botany wrestles with when making up his herbarium. Under cultivation it forms round, compact masses of foliage, 2 to 3 feet high, thickly dotted with attractive white flowers.

G. *Sanguineum*.—From Europe. A very desirable low growing border plant; the stems are more or less erect, but much branched. Flowers, crimson or magenta-coloured, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter; very handsome.

Lupinus Nootkatensis.—From Nootka Sound; 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, bearing handsome spikes 8 to 10 inches long, composed of purplish-blue flowers. A vigorous grower and one needing plenty of space in the perennial order. Like the hollyhock, should have a position in the background.

Mertensia Paniculata.—Found throughout the Western States. Very satisfactory under cultivation. Deep blue bell-like clustered flowers, first appearing pink and then shading into deep blue of the ultramarine type.

Iberis Correæfolia.—6 to 9 inches high; an uninterrupted mass of white and yellow; early in June.

I. *Saxatilis*.—This belongs to the south of Europe. The plant is larger than the former and the flowers are smaller.

I. *Sempervirens* (Evergreen Candytuft).—8 to 10 inches high, very floriferous, covered with white blossoms.

Iris.—At this season of the year this genus of grass-like plants contributes greatly to the variety and beauty of a perennial border. Many of the species and varieties so closely resemble each other that it is very difficult to distinguish them apart. Without attempting to classify the types, the following notes mention some of those which at this time are in full flower, and by reason of the beauty of the blossoms attract and hold attention.

I. *Oxypetalæ*.—2 to 3 feet high, a slender grower, bearing medium-sized, light blue flowers.

I. *Siberica*.—4 feet in height, flowers in clusters of two or three; blue, with white markings.

I. *S. Hæmetophylla*.—4 feet in height; flowers clustered, pinkish white.

I. *S. Lactea*.—3 feet high; white, yellow and gold.

I. *S. Constantinopolitina*.— $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet high; delicately tinted with brown markings in the throat.

I. *S. Æcuta*.—Flowers rather small, white and yellow.

I. *S. Longifolia*.—4 feet in height; a broad-leaved, vigorous form.

I. *Squalens*.—2 feet; flowers, a charming combination of gold and purple.

I. *Cristata*.—This is a marked type of the dwarf form, only 5 to 7 inches in height; flowers, mauve to deep purple in colour; throat and crest, deep yellow; blooms freely; very desirable.

I. *Biflora*.—12 to 15 inches high. Healthy and vigorous. Flowers large, deep violet purple. Throat shaded with lighter markings. A profuse bloomer.

Among other desirable dwarf forms are:—*I. Hungarica*: 15 to 18 inches, purple. *I. Furcata*: a semi-dwarf. *I. Pumilla Lutea*: a charming combination of white and delicate purple, 12 to 15 inches high. *I. Virescens*: 18 to 24 inches high. Flowers, exceptionally large, deep straw color, with orange and purple markings in the throat. *I. Florentina*: This fine variety has been much affected by a *Uredo* disease. The flowers are 6 inches or more in diameter, bearing from delicate mauve to almost pure white. *I. Pallida Mandrilcisia*: This is probably the largest of the purple flowered species; 4 to 5 inches in diameter, and artistically marked with bars of white at the base of each petal. *I. Germanica Asiaticus*: a form of the German or common Iris, bearing the largest flowers open at this date. These are 6 to 7 inches in diameter, of deep velvety purple, with light transverse bars of gold across the base of the petals.

A number of the double *Aquilegias* are now in bloom. They are not beautiful, and do not seem worthy of special mention.

Polemonium Reptans.—10 to 15 inches high. A low-growing, semi-creeping perennial, bearing a profusion of bluish white flowers.

Phlox.—At this season of the year the dwarf perennial forms demonstrate their usefulness.

P. Subulata.—Sometimes called Moss Pink. Plants set out last year now form a low bank or mass of pink inflorescence. A form of this called "Newry Seedling" is very desirable. Model, 6 to 8 inches high, is also an excellent variety.

P. S. Verna.—A semi-prostrate form; is lower growing than the type, and useful for certain purposes.

P. Amœna.—10 to 15 inches high, deep pink and very floriferous.

P. Divaricata.—The good points of this native species are often overlooked. Under cultivation it soon forms a clump of healthy foliage at this time of the year covered with corymbs of pale lilac or bluish flowers; a native of the United States.

P. Reptans.—Of the subulata type, bearing reddish purple flowers in clusters of 4 and 5; semi-prostrate and a partial runner. As a basket plant it would appear to be desirable.

Ranunculus Pratensis, Fl. Pl.—2 ½ feet high. A very much doubled form of the buttercup. Its beauty is somewhat marred by the frequency with which one finds a green centre in the flower.

Sisyrinchium Bermudiana.—(Blue-eyed Grass) This is very inconspicuous when found in meadows and pastures. When grown in clumps in the border it blooms freely, and fully deserves the name of "Blue-eyed Grass."

Trollius Asiaticus.—Belonging to the same family.—Crowfoot—as the last. A native of Siberia, 2 to 3 feet high, bearing a profusion of bright yellow, rosette-like buttercup flowers.

JOHN CRAIG.

POISONOUS PLANTS OF THE GARDEN.

BY MRS. JACK, CHATEAUGUAY BASIN, QUE.

There are many flowers that are poisonous, although the bee can gather honey from them. This seems anomalous, and yet the reason is that the bee knows just when to take the honey. An exception is made, however, in regard to the *Kalmia Latifolia*, as from its exquisite blossoms bees have been known to make poisonous honey.

It seems hard to believe when looking at the innocent appearing flowers of the oleander, that it is one of the most virulent of vegetable poisons. It belongs to the Dogbane family of plants, and grows wild in Florida, and it is not safe to put any part of the plant in the mouth. The poison Ivy (*Rhus toxicodendron*) is a very dangerous plant, and yet it is a very singular fact that one person will handle it without harm, while another will suffer from inflammation and irritation of the skin. There is a poison sumach and elder of the same family—the latter causing fever and inflammation when the wood is cut. Among primulas the *obconica* causes skin trouble when handled by one person, while another can do so with impunity. Fool's parsley, wild celery and parsnip are well known as poisonous weeds; but when a beautiful bed of poppies meets our admiring gaze, with its gorgeous coloring, we are apt to forget the deadly nature of its seeds.

Colchicum, or meadow saffron, is a hardy bulbous rooted plant. It is sometimes called autumn crocus, because its flowers bear that resemblance, and it blooms in September, sending up lilac and white spikes without leaves. Interesting as it appears the plant is a deadly poison. An experience with *Aconitum* (Monkshood) gave me a practical lesson on poisonous garden plants many years ago, and I always caution people who have children to beware of it.

One Sunday afternoon the little four-year-old boy of the family was observed in a strange stupor. Investigation showed that the ground around a large plant of monkshood was trampled by small feet, while seeds and broken stems were lying about. An emetic

was given the child, and the contents of the stomach disclosed black seeds of the plant. These had been mistaken by the child for black currants, bushes of which were near by, and as the fruit had been all picked the day before the young investigator thought he had found a substitute. It was a fortunate thing the discovery was made before the seeds had become very much dissolved, but the child was kept from sleeping all night, until the full effect of the poison was removed, and when the morning came the handsome shrub with its showy blue cowls was uprooted, and floated down the middle of the river, never to become a temptation to childish palates in that garden.

The *Oxalis* is well known in many varieties, and its name in Greek signifies "sour salt." The juice when concentrated is highly poisonous; and prepared by the action of nitric acid, it produces the oxalic acid used for removing spots of iron rust from linen. Many plants, like the Foxglove (*Digitalis*), are useful in medicine, though of a poisonous nature. Belladonna, much used by the medical faculty, is sure to cause death if the seeds are eaten. The flowers have a faint narcotic odor that produce sickness if long inhaled.

The *Cicuta*, or Water Hemlock, growing on the margin of ponds, is often mistaken for parsley, as it resembles it both in appearance and smell.

To look at the beautiful white trumpet shaped *Datura*, one would not believe it could be a powerful narcotic, and yet the dried root is quite well known to give relief in cases of asthma. The wild varieties are unsightly weeds, and cattle will not touch them. Who would imagine that the *Dictamnus Flaxinella* could be so harmful, or that our beautiful *Daphne*, the first shrub to bloom in spring, could carry poisonous fruit?

The remedies for most vegetable poisons are astringent mixtures; or a mixture of oil, lime water and magnesia. An emetic of 30 grains of sulphate of zinc for an adult; and, in opium poisoning, camphor and ammonia, are of value. All children should have it as part of their useful studies to learn the different properties of flowers and weeds.

MRS. ANNIE L. JACK.

NOTES ON OLD AND MODERN GARDENS
OF MONTREAL.

BY MR. RICHARD G. STARKE, WESTMOUNT.

PART II.

Following the gardens of the purely French period came those attached to the country residences of merchants, mostly of British origin, who, like their predecessors, the French traders of *La Compagnie des Indes*, etc., derived large profits from the fur trade, associated under the name of the North-West Company, established in 1783, and by their enterprise and indomitable energy became the successful rivals of the old Hudson's Bay Company.

Many gardens of that period and of more recent dates, which the great expansion of our city in the last fifty years has swept away, and which now live only in tradition or in the memory of its older inhabitants, might also be named; a few of the more notable, without adhering to their chronological order, may at least be pointed out in the course of our walk through the city and its environs.

On the south side of St. Antoine Street, between Mountain and Aqueduct Streets, was the fine property of the Honorable John Torrance, St. Antoine Hall, a solid cut-stone mansion, with handsome iron gates, and walls enclosing an extensive garden and conservatory, the whole area of which is now completely covered with city dwellings.

Continuing westward and ascending to the higher level of Dorchester Street, where splendid residences with fine lawns and flower borders, if not gardens, are met with, we miss a few of the old-fashioned type of fifty years ago, or find them much changed. Some were overtopped with well grown trees, and having ample gardens abundantly stocked with fruit trees and flowers, dwelling and *entourage* being in harmony and consistent taste. Of these may be noted that of the elder George Desbarats, Esq., an accomplished gentleman with a love for horticulture and other fine art pursuits.

A later residence of Mr. Desbarats was Rosepré, adjoining the former, a cut-stone mansion, reached by an avenue lined with trees from Dorchester Street, and with the house-entrance on the south side overlooking the city. Here was a fine flower garden, a conservatory, a viney some two hundred feet in length, both heated and cold, shrubbery in spacious grounds, and an orchard extending down the hillside to the line of Richmond Square. The house is still intact, but unoccupied, the railway running through the property, to the destruction of the orchard, while the grounds have sadly deteriorated in later hands.

Further west, with a wide frontage on Dorchester Street, and bounded on the east side by Seigneur Street, was Chateau St. Antoine, the residence in 1805 of the Hon. William McGillivray, the head or leading spirit of the North-West Company. As seen by the writer under succeeding proprietors, it had fine grounds, an ample garden, a mansion half veiled in trees and surmounted by a gilt cupola, and was suggestive of some earlier generation. Late in the thirties it was the residence of the Hon. Roch de St. Ours, Sheriff of Montreal, during whose occupancy till 1840 the property was handsomely maintained, fruit and flower garden and green-houses contributing their choice products under the care of John Carroll. On Seigneurs Street, at the head of the ascent from St. Antoine Street, was a carriage entrance and drive, and below the grassy ridge, down which a pathway led, was a picturesque shee of water amid verdant surroundings.

After Sheriff St. Ours, in the forties, Chateau St. Antoine became the property of John Donegani, Esq., who made several changes in the character of the enclosures, replacing the high pannelled garden wall at the west end on Dorchester Street, and the antique fencing, with the fine stone columns and ornamental iron gates and railings which form the handsome frontage of to-day. Mr. Donegani also erected in the grounds a temple of Fame, with the figure of the goddess, poised in mid air at the apex, with trumpet and outstretched wings. This highly ornate structure gave the place somewhat the air of an Italian villa.

Here also resided in 1866 and 1867, while commanding the Lower Canada District, Major General the Hon. J. Lindsay, and the Lady Sarah Lindsay, daughter of the Earl of Mexborough, and one of Her Majesty's Ladies in Waiting.

With the advancing years this fine old property has undergone marked changes. The McGillivray mansion, with its cultivated surroundings, has long since disappeared, and the grounds are now occupied by several handsome residences of different styles, but without gardens.

A similar fate has befallen the property of the late Hon. George Moffatt, earlier that of the Hon. Judge Badgley, Oaklands, the first in Westmount, at the city limits, with conservatory and garden in rear, and whose neat lodge, trimly kept hedge and winding carriage drive, lined with choice trees, lent an imposing effect to the mansion near the extremity of the grounds, on which several other villas are now built, which have destroyed their former unity, and the handsome old entrance and drive are no longer in use.

Further west, and overlooking what is now the town of St. Cunegonde, was the residence, 1805 to 1824, of another member of the North-West Company, William Hallowell, Esq., and from 1824 to 1845, that of Dr. D. W. Selby, and thenceforth known as Selby Grange, a mansion noted in its day for hospitality. Later, 1845 to 1872, it was the residence of Thomas Allan Stayner, Dep. Postmaster General. In the old days an extensive property of about a hundred acres, finely wooded with oaks and elms, and which stretched along the hillside from the Moffatt property on the east, to what is now Hallowell Street on the west, and on the north from Sisson's Lane, now St. Catherine Street, down into the valley as far south as the present line of Notre Dame Street. The solid, old-fashioned stone mansion, fronting on the St. Antoine Street side, has been much improved by the present owner, Mr. W. M. Kerr, who acquired it in 1873, but the extensive area of its once wooded grounds, is now intersected with streets on which are many buildings, and the Canada Pacific Railway has ploughed its way through it and intervening properties to the city, with detrimental effect. Selby Grange always possessed a good garden.

Being now in Westmount, the finest suburb of Montreal, and dignified with the corporate powers of a town, it will be well to glance at one or more of its most notable gardens of the past and present time. That of the Hon. John Young, whose property, beginning at the Cote St. Antoine Road, with a fine belting of trees, and extending between Mount Pleasant and Mountain Avenues beyond the substantial house on the hill slopes, was, for situation, one of the finest, perhaps, on the island, and whatever superior gardening, fruit culture and conservatories could achieve in our climate was accomplished there, under the superintendence of John Archibald. Succeeding Mr. Young on the place was R. J. Reikie, Esq., by whom also it was well maintained. All the lower level part of the grounds is now built over; but the large mansion with fine trees, the gardens and conservatories remain, and are the property of Norman W. Trenholme, Q.C., and A. Dunbar Taylor, Esquires.

Continuing onward to Argyle Avenue one cannot omit, in passing, to notice a magnificent old elm tree, which, some forty years ago, stood on what is now its north-west corner, shooting its great limbs upward and outward; one of them forming a graceful arch over the Cote St. Antoine Road, extending beyond its further side to a distance of forty feet from its stem, which at the base equalled eighteen feet in circumference. Of unknown age, and seen by the writer only in its decline, it was the most picturesque tree on the Island, and legend connected it with so remote a period that the Indians were said to have met in council under its branches.

Further westward, on the north side of the Cote St. Antoine Road, some fifty years ago, was the property of Moses J. Hays, Esq., with a frontage extending between what are now Stanton and Churchill Streets. The residence was a beautiful cottage with gables, and had a veranda covered with vines; shrubs and flowers in front, lofty trees, elms, mountain ash and balsams; the whole very neatly enclosed and forming an exquisite picture such as a cultured taste alone could achieve. On the opposite or south side of the road, were hawthorn hedges studded with chestnut trees. A garden and large orchard were attached to the cottage, the latter

extending up the slopes of the farm, which included the wooded heights of the mountain. The cottage and its charming accessories have long since vanished. The beauty and attractiveness of the locality are gone. Melville church and other buildings now occupy the site. On the higher ground in rear are several good villa residences, with lawns and fine trees, but no gardens.

The next property to the westward, and extending from the Cote St. Antoine road over the mountain to the Cote-des-Neiges boundary, is Forden, one of the few extensive properties as yet unencroached upon by the suburban builder. Its handsome entrance, with lodge, and finely ornamented limestone columns, its wide frontage of hawthorn hedges and avenue of the same, winding through the grounds to the mansion on the higher level, were much in the taste of some Scottish domain, which was doubtless the aim of its proprietor, William Bowman, Esq. With a fine southerly exposure, it was also rich in all the choice products of garden and orchard. The views from the house are of that extensive and beautiful character pertaining to all properties on the higher levels of Westmount. The mountain portion, clothed with maple, elm and other woods, forms, with the adjacent properties, a natural park, and may in the course of events be acquired for that purpose. The property has descended intact to Mrs. Raynes and family, Mr. Bowman's heirs.

(To be continued.)



We regret to be obliged to delay till next number the publication of Part II of the Rev. Dr. Campbell's illustrated article on "The Wild Flowers of Canada," the receipt of which is acknowledged with thanks.—ED.

SEASONABLE HINTS.

BUDDING.—The method of propagating many of our fruits, especially our stone fruits, such as plums, cherries and peaches, and many of our flowering trees and shrubs, is a most interesting operation to the amateur horticulturist. To successfully perform the operation several favorable conditions are requisite; particularly, the time or season, a state or stage of growth suitable to the process of budding, and a knowledge of the different species of plants sufficient to suggest the avoidance of attempting to grow, let us say, a rose or apple bud on any stock other than such as are closely enough related.

The season most favorable to budding in ordinary years, when we receive about our regular amount of rainfall, will be found during the month of August. Some of the subjects, it will be ascertained, will "work" better in the early part of that month, and others can be manipulated more effectively towards the end of the specified time. Amongst those for the early part of August the cherry and plum will generally be found in the proper condition; while the apple and pear can most likely be budded successfully throughout the greater part of the month. The stage of growth is, however, the criterion by which to judge, and a simple indication of that stage is to take the growth when the bark will readily part from the wood, and leave a coat of thin gummy-like sap underneath; or when the boys can most successfully make whistles from the present or last year's shoots. This gummy substance found underneath the bark is the material in process of becoming wood and bark; or, in other words, the material by which all parts of the plant increase in size and substance. This returning sap, elaborated by passing upwards and returning through the leaves in an evaporated and denser form, goes by the name of *cambium*, and is at once the element and the material to join together the inner bark of the bud and the outer layer of new wood forming between the bark and the last layer of wood growth, joining the whole together when the operation is neatly performed. :

The operation itself, although not a difficult one, is more deftly performed after some practice has been acquired. This practice and experience could be gained by working on a few specimens of our common soft maple, and might be performed in the house after being detached, if the precaution were taken, to prevent them from drying up and shrivelling, of removing all the leaves, which are the principal evaporating surfaces, and wrapping them in moist papers, and then in dry ones. By so doing the subjects are kept in condition to experiment upon. The leaf stalk should be left about one inch long, which serves as a digestive and respiratory organ during the time that the union of stock and bud is taking place. A sharp budding knife, or a sharp penknife, will do very well with which to operate. Insert your knife about half an inch or more below the bud, according to the size of the shoot you are operating on, and cut off enough of the bark with the bud to leave a margin on each side of it, continue the cut upward to about the same distance above it, and then from the bark and bud you have removed detach the woody part adhering. A longitudinal incision should be made in the stock to correspond with the length of the bud to be inserted, with a horizontal cut made at the top of the incision to allow the bark to be raised sufficiently to admit the prepared bud. Care should be exercised in making these cuts to sever the bark only, as injury to the stem beneath is detrimental to the success of the operation. In fact, this is the finest part of the whole manipulation, and the one in which the skillful budder is most careful.

To place the bud in position is only the work of a few seconds; in fact, the whole operation can be performed in far less time than it takes to describe it. To tie up the wound firmly enough to exclude air and rain, and at the same time not so tightly as to cause injury, is all that is now required.

If in about three weeks the leaf stalk attached to the inserted bud becomes easily detached, the union is formed; and in a few days it will be well to loosen the bandage, but do not remove it yet, as it is still requisite.

Budding, besides being an interesting and pleasing operation, is also the most direct and useful method of testing new fruits raised from seed. By putting buds of new seedling fruit trees on the extreme bearing branches of trees of the same kind,—*i.e.*, an apple bud on an apple tree, and so on—fruit may be expected in two, or at most, three years, thereby placing it within the scope of an ordinary lifetime to produce satisfactory results from efforts to hybridize and improve our present varieties of fruits.



HOUSEHOLD NOTES.

TOMATOES are not valued as a food by many people, but are rather as an adjunct to a meal. Yet there are few articles of diet that can be so freely used without unpleasant after effects. The small smooth variety is best, and they should never be over-ripe.

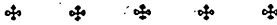
TOMATO FRITTERS.—Take medium-sized tomatoes, and cut in even slices, sprinkle with salt, let them stand awhile, then prepare a batter of one egg, a pinch of salt, half a cupful of flour, half a teaspoonful of baking powder, and milk enough to make it of the right consistency. Dip the slices of tomato into this, and fry in good butter.

BAKED TOMATOES is another nice dish. Cut off the tops, and scrape out the inside from some medium-sized tomatoes. Take a cupful of bread crumbs, a bit of finely-chopped salt pork, a bit of minced beef or poultry, and pepper and salt to taste. Mix with the tomato pulp, but on the tops, lay a bit of butter on each tomato and bake half an hour in a hot oven. A little cream in the pan is an improvement.



It often puzzles me to know why umbrellas wear out so, even if not used, and it may be the practice of placing them, when wet, with the handle upward. In this way the cloth holds the moisture, and the moisture soon weakens the silk or cloth, and rusts the

steels. It should be placed handle downward, and never at any time enclosed in a case, as the constant friction soon causes holes to appear.



The philosophy of small domestic changes is not always understood, but there is a good deal of tact and knowledge of human nature shown by that housewife who puts things in a new light occasionally in the home. Moving the furniture, rearranging the pictures, a bit of added color, a new plant in blossom, or anything that gives the mind a turn in a new direction and rests the eyes. So the tired housewife, who lives year after year in the same surroundings, can by these simple means "Make things pleasant in one little place."



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.

BOOK NOTICES.

"Insect Life:" Appleton & Co.; 346 pp., Price \$2.50; by John Hy. Comstock, Professor of Entomology in Cornell University. Illustrations by Anna Botsford Comstock.

It is very difficult at the present time to present to the public a book on entomology at once scientific and popular, whose preparation and arrangement are such as to take it out of the beaten track. Prof. Comstock has succeeded in bringing together in attractive and popular form a large amount of accurate information of great economic value, relating to the study of insects. The volume is divided into two parts, (1), Lessons in Insect Life; (2) The collection and preservation of specimens. Part one discusses pond life; brook life; orchard life; forest life and roadside life. Part two, the collection of specimens; the preservation of specimens; the breeding of insects, and miscellaneous notes. The volume is printed on good paper, excellently illustrated with wood cuts, and well bound in cloth. The book will appeal to the amateur and the economic entomologist with equal force. It is necessarily expensive, which to some extent will lessen its popularity.

J. C.

"Diseases of Plants, induced by Cryptogamic Parasites:" by Dr. Karl Freiherr von Tubeuf, of the University of Munich; Translated by Wm. G. Smith, Ph.D. of the University of Edinburgh. Published by Longmans, Green & Co., New York. Size, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{3}{4}$ inches, 600 pp.

The author says, "In my research work, and in connection with my lectures at the University and Technical School of Munich, I have for some time felt convinced that there existed a very evident gap in the literature relating to diseases of plants. There was need of a newer and more complete work on cryptogamic parasites and the diseases induced by them on higher plants, a work furnished with accurate illustrations, with a survey of the newer literature, and with a general part wherein parasitism and the

relations between parasite and host are discussed from a botanical standpoint. . . . The attempt has been made, for the first time, to review in a general and comparative manner, the biological, physiological and anatomical relationships accompanying the phenomena of parasitism." The following are some of the most interesting heads of chapters in Part I: The Parasitic Fungi; Reaction of Host to Parasitic Attack; Natural and Artificial Infection; Preventive and Combative Measures.

Part II takes up the systematic arrangement of the cryptogamic parasites.

The paper and illustrations are good. I find this work an exceedingly useful one.

J. C.

"Lawns and Gardens:" by Jonsson Rose. Size, 7 x 10 inches, 414 pp; cloth, \$3.50. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, London and New York.

An elaborate work, beautifully printed on heavy paper, bound in heavy cloth.

In my opinion the expensive illustrations—wood cuts made from drawings—though very artistic, do not express the realistic vivid idea of a living plant nearly as accurately as half tones made from photographs now so easy to obtain.

Part I discusses the preparing of grounds for planting; implements; grouping of plants; treatments of various kinds of lawns; rock work; vegetable garden and orchard. Part II classifies and describes trees in groups as they present themselves to the eye of the landscape gardener. An index of common and also of botanical names is provided. It is a pleasure to handle a book well gotten up. This volume contains in desirable form a great deal of information.

J. C.

"Bird Life:" by Frank M. Chapman. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York. Size, $5\frac{1}{4}$ x $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Cloth, 269 pp.

As the author remarks, it is astonishing how few people one meets that know by sight a dozen of our commonest birds. Members of the Field Naturalists' Club of Ottawa, who are specially interested in Bird Life, have this year noted the presence in the

vicinity of Ottawa of one hundred and fifty species of birds. Perhaps seventy-five of these are quite common, yet the average resident of Ottawa does not know a dozen of our feathered friends.

Mr. Chapman's book is plainly written, well illustrated, and is designed to fill a popular want. He aptly says, "Popular interest must precede the desire for purely technical knowledge. The following pages are not addressed to past masters in ornithology, but to those who desire a general knowledge of bird life and some acquaintance with our commoner birds."

J. C.



Should any number of the magazine fail to reach subscribers they are specially requested to notify the Secretary, when the omission will be at once repaired.

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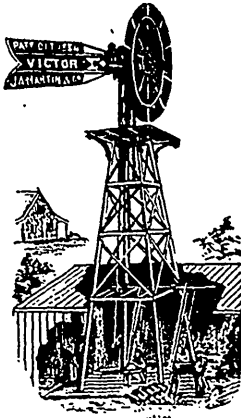
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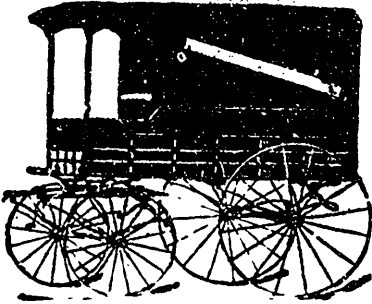
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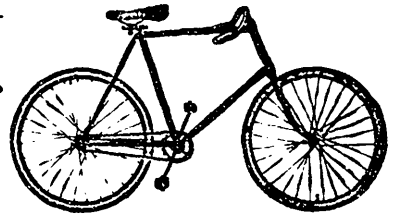
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