

THE  
GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

A Weekly Illustrated Journal

OF

HORTICULTURE AND ALLIED SUBJECTS.

(ESTABLISHED IN 1841.)

VOL. XXVI.—NEW SERIES.

JULY TO DECEMBER, 1886.

LONDON:

41, WELLINGTON STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

1886.

# GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

Established 1841.

No. 663.—VOL. XXVI. { NEW SERIES. } SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1886.

Registered at the General Post-office as a Newspaper. Price 5d. POST-FREE, 5 1/2d.

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A *Pinus insignis* of 1839 stands here 75 feet high and well protected among other exotics, a handsome, big fellow, in grass-green livery. The trunk is covered with red spongy bark driven into vertical cracks. I omitted to take notes of the broad-spreading *Abies cephalonica*, or of *A. pinsapo*, with its thickest leaves, but I find from Messrs. Veitch's *Manual of Conifers* that these two trees were introduced from Cephalonia and the South of Spain respectively in 1824 and 1839. They must have reached Dropmore betimes, for their growth seems to have reached 50 feet or 60 feet in the first case, and 60 feet or 70 feet in the second, which is not far short of their reputed natural growth. I noted *Pinus Lemoniana* of 1839 as a tree of no beauty, with rough bark, few lower branches, and long leaves. On the other hand, *Abies grandis*, 70 feet high, and dated 1861, forms a noble pyramid now showing cones near the top, and with tier upon tier of flat rhomboidal branches. It was thirty years reaching Dropmore; *Abies Albertiana* was here within ten years of its introduction, bearing the date of 1861, and the name of the Prince Consort, the patron of the Scotch Association, who imported it from the north-west coast of America, in 1851. It is closely allied to that graceful tree, the Hemlock Spruce, with its pendulous branches and ample foliage, and the perfect specimen at Dropmore, though by no means the rarest, is one of the most beautiful trees in the grounds, having much of the graceful habit of the Deodar. *Cedrus atlantica* of 1847, and 70 to 80 feet high, is another very handsome tree which came here, as the above date shows, in the seventh year of its introduction. The magnificent *C. Deodara* is nearly 70 feet high. *Sequoia gigantea* (the Wellingtonia), introduced by Messrs. Veitch in 1853, through their collector Mr. William Lobb, is dated here 1862, measures 65 feet, and is a tall, pointed pyramid, fortunately full of foliage, and therefore looking its best, for when the foliage is scanty it is a rigid plain-looking tree.

The best *Sequoia sempervirens* in the pinetum stands 80 feet high, and droops its heavy foliage on the ground; and as pheasants crowd around I could imagine a hare sitting in the sunny shelter of this tree. I missed the best deciduous Cypress, but saw, among other Conifers too numerous to name, *A. morinda*, 55 feet high, with branchlets drooping from the main branches, and festoons of Woodbine hanging high from the tall trunk; I also noted during our tour of inspection *Pinus excelsa*, *P. pyrenaica*, *Abies concolor*, 1862, foliage in handsome flakes; *Pinus Benthiana*, 1843, 70 feet, with very bushy long foliage; and *Abies Bruniana*, 1847, the Himalayan Hemlock Fir from Nepal, together with grand examples of *Thuja gigantea* from Oregon.

A noble Birch is also worthy of inspection. It is an old tree whose short trunk divides at a little distance above the soil into three spreading much contorted arms, from which diverge forests of young twigs. In size, as in habit, this tree is very remarkable. Heaths of various kinds abound, the introduced ones now as much at home as the real natives, and the same remark applies equally well to the common Musk, *Mimulus moschatum*, which looks as much a native as the grass amid which it grows.

The bedding-out system is still carried out here in what we may now call old-fashioned style, and it is supplemented by a large collection of still older fashioned herbaceous plants, full of variety, redolent of perfume, and partico- loured as a mosaic. A still greater blaze of colour is to be seen in the Pelargonium-house.

Those who know Dropmore may like to be reminded of the long avenue of Cedars of Lebanon; and gardeners may like to hear of the silver cup and 200 sovereigns, invested as an annuity, which his horticultural friends

in all parts of the country presented to Mr. Frost in 1872, to commemorate fifty years' public and private service as a gardener of worth and note. I must add, in regard to the ownership of this noted place, that 'tis as 'twas"—Lady Louisa Fortescue still reigns. The number of gardeners is now only twelve. A bit of clay ground which the veteran gardener has turned topsy-turvy and chalked heavily, and finally induced to yield extraordinary crops, deserves a separate article. It is now a most productive kitchen garden, which may serve to assure us how excellent the effect of Frost is upon clays with double digging and free exposure. *H. E.*

It may be serviceable to append in this place a list, showing the height to which some of the more remarkable trees had attained in the spring of this year (1886):—

- Cedrus Libani*, planted in 1799, height 100 feet, girth at 3 feet, 15 feet. In the long avenue above referred to, the trees average 50 feet in height, with a girth from 8 to 10 feet.  
 „ *deodara*, 65 feet in height, with a girth of 6 feet.  
 „ *atlantica*, planted in 1817; 70 feet high, bearing cones, a splendid tree.  
*Abies Douglasi*, planted in 1830, height 124 feet, girth 15 feet; spread of branches, 22 yards. Another planted in 1865, height 90 feet, girth 30 feet 4 inches.  
 „ *grandis*, planted in 1861, height 70 feet, a splendid tree.  
 „ *australis*, planted in 1847, height 30 feet, girth 6 feet.  
 „ *nobilis*, planted in 1845, height 80 feet; branches down to ground.  
*Pinus macrocarpa*, fifty-one years old.  
 „ *Lemoniana*, planted in 1839.  
 „ *insignis*, planted in 1839, girth 12 feet.  
*Sequoia gigantea*, planted in 1862, height 70 feet, girth 11½ feet.  
*Araucaria imbricata* (Chili Pine). There are many of these, the largest, planted in 1830, having a height of 63 feet, girth 8 feet 4 inches.  
*Taxodium sempervirens*, 80 feet in height.

## New Garden Plants.

### CYRIPEDIUM CALLOSUM, n. sp.\*

THIS was imported from Siam by Mons. Regnier, Fontenay-sur-Bois, 49, Avenue de Marigny. It looks like *Cyripedium Argus*, with nearly green leaves, and curious pendulous petals. The peduncle is very long, as in *Cyripedium Argus*. The upper sepal is very large, transversely elliptic-acute, with very numerous green nerves, and some purple wash on a white ground. The lateral sepals form a small ligulate, acute, few-nerved body, half as long as the lip, and quite hidden by it. Petals ligulate, blunt, acute, quite deflexed, so much so that the two nearly touch one another on their inner sides, green, purple at the top, ciliated, with several, conical, shining, black papular warts on the margins, and thick ones on the disc, partly also papular. This is new. The lip is like that of *Cyripedium superbiens*. Stamens reddish, with some green marbling on the anterior part of the disc, emarginate, bilobed at the top, forcipate in front, with a small dark apiculus in the middle. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

### ONCIDIUM POLLETTIANUM, n. sp. (hyb. nat.?).†

A remarkably fine and exceedingly rare Oncid., most probably a hybrid, though I know well that it has been recently stated that *Oncidia* produce very seldom and but a few capsules. I should value such

\* *Cyripedium callosum*, n. sp.—(Venusta deflexa) foliis coriaceis viridibus obscurissime tessellatis; pedunculo elongato; bractea acuta ovarium pedicellatum longe non aequans; sepalis impari elliptico acuto transverse multivertis; sepalis lateralibus in corpus triangulum coactis labelli didymum vix aequans; tepalis omnino deflexis extus ciliatis callis coevis quibusdam in margine calli. paucis incrassatis in disco; labello margine vagulari utriusque obtusangulo ossio superne utriusque angulato; staminodii corvibus anticis forcipatis, processu mediano minuto acuto papuloso. Ex Siam introd. Regioer vivamque plantam misit. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

† *Oncidium Pollettianum*, o. sp. (hyb. nat.?)—Pseudobulbis foliisque *Oncidii dasythyli* cui vicinum; racemo plurifloro; floribus illis *Oncidii Gardneri* sequantibus, sepalis lateralibus apicem usque bidentatum comatis; tepalis oblongis obtusis, labelli auriculis obtusis minutis, isthmo lineari, lamina antica transversa obtusangula quadriloba, lobis medianis parvis, callis in basi subquadrato lobato antepositis cariosis longis teretis, columna utraque basi extrorsum videntibus antice clavata, callo lobulato uno utriusque extus ad apicem calli basilaris; corvibus burniis albi rotundatis. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

remarks were they the result of long observations during many years. If a New Zealander saw with hundreds of thousands of trees of *Fagus sylvatica* without fruits, and declared they produced nearly none, what should we say? There are, however, fruits of *Oncidia*. Thus I have before me what must be *Oncidium Lawrenceanum* as first collected by Professor Suringar. The group of altilisimum is often seed bearing; echinatum is very often fertile, and why should there not be a hybrid? This may be a hybrid between *Oncidium dasytle* and perhaps *Oncidium Gardneri*. The connate side sepals are bidentate, the upper sepal oblong acute, the petals cuneate, obovate, blunt. Lip with very small rounded auricles at the base, a long narrow isthmus and a wide transverse quadrilobed blade with two small inner and two broad outer lobes. The column is short, with two fleshy ovate wings. The calli are long, running from the base over the isthmus, dark brown-purple. The column is of the lightest whitish-yellow; wings spotted with purple on a light whitish-yellow ground. Petals, horse-chestnut brown with a narrow yellow border; sepals yellow with horse-chestnut bands.

It comes from Mr. H. M. Pollett, Fernside, Bickley, and was kindly sent me by Mr. Harry Veitch. Mr. H. M. Pollett states that the bulbs and leaves are exactly those of *Oncidium dasytle*, say a trifle larger. The inflorescence is stated to be a simple raceme. It duly bears Mr. Pollett's name. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

### MILTONIA PEETERSIANA, n. hyb. nat.?

THIS has the bulb and leaf of *Miltonia Clowesii*. The peduncle is very strong, not markedly two-edged but more rounded. The shading of the inflorescence is rather flexuous in one specimen, with ancipitous triangular large bracts, nearly equal to the stalked ovaries. The flowers would be difficult to distinguish from those of *Miltonia spectabilis* Moreliana, but the lip is narrower at the top. Both the sepals and petals are a little narrower and more acute, of the finest dark horse chestnut-purple (s. v. v.). The lip is of the richest purple, with five unequal yellow keels at the base, and numerous dark purple blotches with nearly white margins occupy the base, and inside line of the disk. The auricles of the column are bilobed. The yellow tabula infrastigmatica is provided with two erect teeth. It is probably a hybrid between *Miltonia spectabilis* Moreliana and *M. Clowesii*. I received five flowers, an inflorescence, bulb, and leaf from Mr. A. A. Peeters, horticulteur, St. Gilles, Bruxelles, to whom it is dedicated with pleasure. I believe I saw the very same plant at Mr. W. Bull's some days ago, when it was nearly dark. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

### CATTELEVA GUTTATA LEOPOLDI IMMACULATA, n. var.

This fine sub-variety has both the sepals and petals of a mauve-brown colour, and there is no vestige of purple. The lip is white, the anterior lacinia of the finest purple. Column purple. It was kindly sent me by Mr. A. A. Peeters, horticulteur, St. Gilles, Bruxelles. *H. G. Rehb. f.*

## FRUIT NOTES.

### BIGARREAU LEONA QUESNEL.

A CHERRY with fruit nearly 1 inch in diameter, rounded, with scarcely any furrow, skin yellow flushed with red, flesh white, juicy. The tree is fertile, of pyramidal habit. This variety was raised by Mr. Tyman, and is highly spoken of by the editor of the *Bulletin d'Arboriculture* for August.

### APPLE BEAUTY OF BATH.

I can scarcely think this Apple is known as widely as it deserves to be. I have seen it on several occasions in excellent form this season, particularly at the Taunton and Trowbridge shows; at the latter place, where dessert Apples are shown in excellent form, Beauty of Bath was conspicuous for its handsome and pleasing appearance. Mr. George Cooling, of Bath, who distributed it, states that it is a seedling from the Juneating, and originated some twenty years ago in the neighbourhood of Bath. It is of medium size, and extremely handsome in appearance, being beauti-