

THE
GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

A Weekly Illustrated Journal

OF

HORTICULTURE AND ALLIED SUBJECTS

(ESTABLISHED IN 1841.)

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THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

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Volume XXIII., JANUARY to JUNE, 1885.
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GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
THE AUTUMN EXHIBITION will be held within St. Andrew's Hall, Granville Street, Glasgow, on WEDNESDAY, September 2. Prize Schedules and Tickets of Admission to be had from the Treasurer, Mr. CHAS. MACDONALD, WILLIAMSON, 104, West George Street, Glasgow; any of the Directors; or at my Office here. Members' Ticket, 2s. 6d. each. FRANK GIBB DOUGALL, Secretary, 167, Cannon Street, Glasgow.

ALNWICK HORTICULTURAL AND BOTANICAL SOCIETY.
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Strong healthy and well-rooted.
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FRANCIS R. KINGHORN, Nurseryman, Richmond, Surrey.

in its present improved condition as a fruit garden carefully cultivated for the supply of the London market, is worth a rent of more than £10 any acre; so that the 60 acres of orchard within the boundaries of the old park are worth quite twice as much as the 660 acres which Sir Thomas Gresham emarked and empaled. Those, then, who regret the enclosure of commons which could rarely attain a higher value than about half-a-crown an acre, should bear in mind the enhanced value of the ground. Half-a-dozen idle "commoners" and squatters feed their geese and donkeys on land which the Earl of Jersey, the present owner of Osterley Park, lets to a fruit grower, who employs forty or fifty respectable workpeople.

Osterley Park found another millionaire owner and great improver in Mr. Francis Child, the great banker of Fleet Street, the Rothschild of his time; and during his reign and that of his brother and successor, Robert, the present house was built—a quadrangular red-brick mansion with stone facings, a cupola at each corner, and a handsome flight of steps on the north front leading to a covered court. At this period the famous collections of pictures and books were made. *Sic transit!* It often happens in families that sons fail and daughters succeed, and it was so with the Childs when the granddaughter of Robert inherited Osterley. She, of course, married; and thus during several generations the place has belonged to the Earls of Jersey, whose chief residence is elsewhere—at Middleton Park, Oxfordshire.

We are told that the great banker received here, in his day, ambassadors, foreign agents, loan-mongers, and other company of the kind. His descendant, the present owner, exercises a still more bounteous hospitality in the form of fashionable garden parties and of *fêtes* of another description, when the park becomes the camping-ground of numerous schools and useful societies. A large orangery, strongly built by Mr. Child after the fashion of the last century, is at the present time filled with forms and benches which, with a copper in the corner, suggest the mild but joyous festivities which young people, and their seniors too, delight in. Mr. Child spent large sums of money on the gardens, but as Lord Jersey and his family are only here about six weeks in the summer, though the copper boils all the same for their absence, the extensive kitchen gardens formed by Mr. Child are not now required by them, and the ground managed by the gardener, Mr. W. King, is chiefly ornamental shrubbery and lawn.

The grounds are laid out in that best old English style which is free from formality, and which, after the lapse of a century, is now as worthy of a great house as the more elaborate style of terraces and extended grounds, adorned with the most costly ornaments. The house is surrounded on the north, south, and east sides by the park and lawns, the latter dividing it from the former by a not very wide margin, except on the east, where the best and biggest lawn, reaching to the water, is beautifully planted with great Cedars of Lebanon breaking from the ground and producing heads almost unexampled in size, and full of branches. Several great Planes stand near the house, and especially a grand one in the park. The English Elm, tall and stately, is the prevailing tree; but there are others, and especially some Spanish as well as Horse Chestnuts, which are also much admired. The pale red colour of the house is relieved by some creepers, Ivy, and a large Wistaria, and Bignonia radicans, with its conspicuous trumpet-shaped blossoms, on the east wall. *H. E.*

ST. PETER'S, HAMMERSMITH, AND DISTRICT GARDENERS', &c., IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.—This Society will hold its show on Thursday, November 19.

New Garden Plants.

ERIA (HYMENARIA) LINEOLIGERA, n. sp.*

A VERY interesting species, with a fusiform pseudobulb, bearing four rather thick cuneate oblong-lanceolate leaves of parchment-like texture. The nearly basilar ascending raceme has retroflexed lanceolate acute orange bracts, which are nearly as long as the stalked ovaries. The white flowers are very thin; the sepals and petals lanceolate acute, curved. Chlo moderate; lip cuneate dilatate, trifid; side-lacinie triangular, curved; shorter than the mid-lacinie—very short. Projecting mid-lacinie triangular apiculate crenulate undulate, three keels from the base to the disk. There are purple lines on each side. The peduncle and stalked ovaries have very few and very short thin hairs, which are scarcely seen. Hence I regard the species as best placed in *Hymenaria*, notwithstanding the presence of some such organs. The plant was imported from Siam by Mr. T. Christy, F.L.S., of Sydenham, where it flowered, under the management of Mr. E. Leaney. Mr. Christy was also so kind as to send me a sketch, so that I could understand the position of the peduncles. *H. G. Rehb. J.*

SELENIPEDIUM KAIETEURUM, N. E. Br., n. sp.

Leaves 7—9 inches long, 2—2½ inches broad, lanceolate-oblong, acute, glabrous, very coriaceous, bright dark green above, paler beneath. Scape many-flowered, pubescent, with complicate, acuminate, glabrous sheaths and bracts, of an olive-green, with brownish-red nerves, and suffused with the same colour. Ovary 2½ inches long. Dorsal sepal 15—20 lines long, 9 lines broad, oblong, hooded at the apex, margins recurving, crisped-undulate; lower sepal 15—16 lines long, 1 inch broad, elliptic, entire, or slightly bifid at the apex, concave, margins crisped-undulate; both sepals are pale green, with reddish-brown nerves on the outside; they are pubescent on both surfaces, but more minutely within. Petals 2½ inches long, 6—7 lines broad, falcately linear-oblong, apex very obtuse and emarginate, margins recurved, undulate and ciliate, the cilia towards the apex becoming longer, and dark purple-brown; inside and out the petals are pale green, prettily marked with brownish-crimson veins; on the outside towards the margins and apex, and on the inside at the base, and along the lower margin, they are pubescent. Labellum 1½ inch long, ¾ inch broad, with the inflexed sides very obtusely rounded, glabrous, bright light olive-green, with brownish-crimson veins, and densely dotted on the inflexed sides, and more sparsely on the front part of the lip, with the same colour; staminode somewhat squarely trapezoid, pubescent, greenish-white.

Although the leaves are not variegated, and the flowers are not brilliantly coloured, yet on the whole the plant is rather a pleasing one, and many Orchid lovers would consider it a great prize. The plant was sent to Kew by Mr. G. S. Jenman, who discovered it growing abundantly on the rocks, under the magnificent Kaieteur Fall, on the Potaro River, British Guiana, where it is not very likely to be disturbed by collectors for some time to come; it is No. 879 of Mr. Jenman's dried specimens. Specifically it is allied to *S. Lindleyana*, but differs in having more glabrous sheaths and bracts, and differently coloured flowers. *N. E. Brown.*

THE CARAWNDA BUSH.

THIS is one of the Apocynaceae, and known to botanists as *Carissa carandas*. It is a small bush, not much higher than a man, with densely-packed dark green shining foliage, and stipular sharp thorns, about an inch long. The leaves are coriaceous, and about an inch long, and about as broad, sometimes slightly emarginate, at others oval. The

* *Eria lineoligera*, n. sp.—Pseudobulbo fusiformi bitripliciflari apice quadrifido (erre non semper); foliis pergamenis cuneato lanceolatis acutis (4—5 pollicibus longis, dus tertius latis); pedunculo subbasilari erecto levissime puberulo; b. acris ligulatis acutis deflexis ovaria pedicellata subsequantibus; sepalis lanceolatis acutis, lateralibus curvis; tepalibus falcatis; labello cuneato oblongo trifido, incisus lateribus triangulo falcatis acutis abbreviatis, lacinia mediana transverse crenulata, carnis tercia a basi in discum. Lictet latissime puberula in pedunculo ac in ovario pedicellata tantum. Hymenaria adocanda vivit. Ex Siam imp. cl. T. Christy, H. G. Rehb. J.

flowers are small, white, and Jasmine-like. They come out in the hot weather. But the charm of this bush is in July, when its half-ripe waxy berries hang in clusters all over the bush. They are of the size of Olives, a brilliant red on one side, and a cream on the other—a most aesthetic combination. No red-cheeked Apple could be handsomer; and these berries are infinitely more elegant and decorative. When ripe they are of a uniform dark red, with a bland milky juice. There is another variety with dull red and green berries, which turn of a deep plum colour when ripe. Their juice is then of a rich beet-red. The Carawnda fruit is sour, and much used by natives for making "chutney." The little unripe berries, with the skin and seeds removed and cooked in pastry with sugar and Cloves, make a fair substitute for Apple tart. If this elegant bush could be grown in pots in English conservatories and made to fruit, it would really be a great acquisition. The beauty of its berries, hanging in clusters, against the shining dark green foliage, is unique. For decorative purposes, worked in vases with fine foliage and some elegant white flower, such as *Tabernaemontana*, or Evening Primrose, its value ought to be great. I do not remember ever having seen it noticed or pictured anywhere as a decorative or useful plant. In India a hedge of Karwanda of the red and cream variety, would be worth seeing in the month of July. The wild *Carissa carandas* is found in many parts of India, and if so handsome and useful a bush has come from this wild thing, it stands to reason that if worked and selected further, by crossing the two cultivated varieties, something much finer and more useful might be developed. *E. Bonavia, M.D., Etawah, July 21.*

HARDY PLANTS.

OURISIA COCCINEA.—This, one of the prettiest and most distinct of hardy plants, cannot well be over-praised, for it is certainly a decorative subject of the highest merit, and one of which we cannot have too much. It is said to be shy—indeed, some persons cannot get on with it at all, do what they will to coax it, their summing up being that it is a fickle plant, difficult to grow, and a shy bloomer. In some gardens, and under certain conditions this may be true, but with a reasonable amount of care in the selection of a suitable soil and situation—for it will not do everywhere and in any soil—the above difficulties will ere long be overcome, and the plant be found as easily managed as any other alpine. A cool, rather damp, stiffish soil and shady situation—at least, where not exposed to the mid-day sun—are its chief requirements, and where it is once established slowly creep about, and form grand masses of its waxy, deep green foliage. The lax clusters of dazzling scarlet flowers, although never borne in great profusion, are both distinct and beautiful, and set off to the best advantage by the intense deep green and finely cut foliage.

HUSTONIA CERULEA

is a pretty and neat little North American plant, that is only suited for associating with the smallest and choicest of alpinists. This delicate plant produces dense, low cushions of leaves, and an abundance of pale blue flowers, surmounted on stems rarely exceeding a couple of inches in height. There is also a white-flowered form, but as it is in every respect, unless colour of flowers, similar to the one under consideration, we will pass it by. It is of the easiest culture, succeeding well in sandy peat, and where fully exposed, although in ordinary garden soil and in both sun and shade, we have it thriving luxuriantly and flowering freely for three months in the year.

THE ALPINE HUTCHINSONIA (H. ALPINA)

is in every way a fit companion for the latter plant. Dwarf in habit—for it seldom reaches 2 inches in height—with deeply cut shining foliage, and small glistening white flowers, this is a very desirable rock plant, and one which, from its ease of culture, can be specially recommended. For the ordinary border it is also well adapted, and when planted in good free loam soon becomes a compact mass of pure white very enduring flowers. It is a native of South Europe, and a perfectly hardy evergreen in our climate generally,

ONONIS ROTUNDFOLIA,

although introduced to our gardens more than 300