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OF

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See large Advertisement on page 423.

growing it is generally in the truly alpine regions, and the traveller may be sure on seeing it, that he will henceforth be amongst the true flora of the higher Alps. The flower is large, white within, and copper-coloured exteriorly; in habit it is trailing and creeping over the ground. The foliage is very graceful, and suggestive of that of *Anemone* and *Callianthemum*s.

I have found on the high summits of the Val d'Anniviers, in Valais, a variety with woolly foliage, covered with fine hairs.

The plant likes a cool situation, and a damp gravel or pebble soil, with an eastern or a western aspect. It flowers under cultivation in May and June.

R. Seguierei is a native of the Alps of Southern Tyrol and Venetia, at an elevation of from 6174 to 7473 feet. This plant differs from the preceding species as its flowers are smaller, and pure white, the leaves less cut and shorter. It grows only on calcareous soil, is cultivated in the same way as is *R. glacialis*, and flowers in June.

R. alpestris.—Found in the Alps, Jura, and Pyrenees, at a height of from 2598 to 6498 feet. This plant has a delicate flower, of a bright, silvery-white colour, and is one of the prettiest of the *Ranunculus*. In summer it is covered with blooms which almost hide the foliage. It likes a porous soil, rich in vegetable mould, and a northern or eastern aspect. It flowers under cultivation during April and May, sometimes blooming again in the autumn.

R. Traunfellneri.—Alps of Tyrol, at an elevation of from 3900 to 4875 feet. This seems to be only a variety of *R. alpestris*, from which it differs by its foliage being more sharply cut, its flowers being smaller, while the shape of the beak of its carpels is also different. It is cultivated as is *R. alpestris*.

R. crenatus grows in Tyrol, at an elevation of from 3573 to 6498 feet, on granite soil. Foliage rounded, faintly ribbed, crenulate, and not cut round the edges; flowers pure white, opening in May and June. Cultivation the same as for *R. alpestris*.

R. bilobus grows in Tyrol, at a height of from 4875 to 5850 feet, in calcareous soil. It is rare, flowers in May and June, and is cultivated as is *R. alpestris*.

R. platanifolius and *R. aconitifolius*, are species belonging to the mountainous zone of the Alps, and found on the mountains of Europe at an altitude of from 1950 to 6498 feet. They have white flowers, small, and borne on numerous small stems. Both these species like cool shade, and a soil rich in humus. They flower from May to July.

YELLOW-FLOWERED SPECIES.

The yellow-flowered *Ranunculus*, as I have already said, are found both on the lower and the higher Alps. An exception to this rule is, however, *R. pygmaeus*, a very small plant, found in the highest regions of Tyrol and Carinthia on granite soil, and which has also been found in the regions of arctic America. I have not yet succeeded in cultivating this plant in the alpine garden, so can say nothing concerning its proper treatment. I have sown some seeds of it, which I hope will come up.

Another *Ranunculus* with yellow flowers, which is also found in the high Alps, is

R. Pathora, which grows in Tyrol at an altitude of 6498 feet. It should be grown in porous, damp soil in a sunny situation. It flowers in May and June.

R. Thora, L., is found on the Jura and the Alps, on calcareous soil. It is a very strange plant; the leaf is single, well-developed, rounded, reniform, crenulate, springing from the centre of the stem; it seems to spread like a fan under the flowers. The flower is small, yellow, and terminal. The plant likes a porous soil and exposure to the sun. It flowers in May and June.

R. montanus.—Common on all European mountains. A low-growing plant, with large golden-yellow flowers. It likes a sunny situation and a light soil. It flowers from May to July, often re-flowering in the autumn.

R. Villarsii is found on the Southern Alps, but is rare. It flowers in May and June.

R. Breyneanus is found in Tyrol. The flower is golden-yellow, and opens from May to July.

R. Gouani, *R. carinthiacus*, and *R. lanuginosus* are remarkable neither for their interest nor for their beauty.

R. gramineus, L.—This plant, a native of the mountains of the South of Europe, grows in one or two places in Valais. It is a most curious and interesting plant. By its habit and foliage this variety resembles *R. pyreneus*, but its flower—of a bright yellow colour—places it in quite another category. The plant is remarkable for requiring a dry soil and a warm situation, with full exposure to the sun. It flowers in May and June.

All these different species of *Ranunculus* can be raised from seed. *H. Correvon*, *Directeur du Jardin Alpin d'Acclimatation, Genève*.

A STREAMLET AT CHARENTON.

THERE are few things that put to the test the artistic feeling of a landscape gardener more crucially than his treatment of water. Too often we see a streamlet such as that shown in fig. 61 either treated as a canal or else the banks are broken up by meaningless curves and zigzags which offend the eye by their number and crudeness. In such a case as we are considering the water flows—it is in motion; moreover, that motion is gentle, and the banks are of soft yielding material, so that to attempt to give such a rugged, broken outline to the bank as would be proper were the soil rocky would obviously be absurd.

The water should just fret the edge into shallow irregular curves and indentations, suggestive of the gentle force of the current and the shallow depth of the water. The banks should not be too much encumbered by aquatic plants, handsome as they are. Judicious use should be made of them here and there, but their place is in clumps by the banks of a lake, rather than on the margins of a running stream.

Bulbous plants and low-growing perennials, Primroses and the like, afford a great charm in such situations. Trees adjacent to such a stream should be arranged in a direction somewhat parallel with the direction of the current, not at right angles with it, and an appearance of greater distance may be given by placing here and there a clump of trees nearer to the edge of the water than the rest.

The illustration at fig. 61 shows a streamlet at Charenton, and is taken from MM. Alphand & Ernouf's *L'Art des Jardins*, published by Rothschild, of Paris.

ORCHID NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

ODONTOGLOSSUM CRISPUM.

M. ANDRÉ, alluding in the *Revue Horticole* of March 16, p. 133, to the habitat of this Orchid, says:—"After we had attained an elevation of 1623 feet above Pasca, a poor village of the Eastern Cordilleras, nearly 25 miles from Bogota, and at an elevation of about 6933 feet, the slopes became steeper and steeper, and the 'paramo,' or the cold upper region of the Andes, generally covered in fog, was visible beneath its veil of mist. The mules were confined to the care of a peon, and our ascent commenced. After two hours' walking through these 'lomas,' or mountainous prairies, covered with short grass, with here and there bushes of *Rubus bogotensis*, we entered the forest of Orchids. This was quite within the cold region. The arborescent vegetation was meagre and poor, covered with moss, lichens, and Hepaticas, which gave a green appearance to the branches in this region of perpetual damp. There were no flowers, with the exception of the beautiful clusters of white and pale rose of *Odontoglossum crispum* growing in the forks of the branches, of which plant I took a good supply. Certainly this

species is the queen of Orchids in the region of Pasca."

ANGRECCUM MODESTUM, Hook. f., *Bot. Mag.*, t. 6693.

A small importation of this rare and beautiful Madagascar Orchid is now flowering in the Angreccum-house at Messrs. Hugh Low & Co.'s, at Clapton. In general appearance of its flowers it may be likened to *A. bilobum*, Lindl. The clear white flowers, which are borne on elegant sprays, are 1½ inch across, white, with a crystalline surface; spur 3 inches in length, white, tinged with cinnamon. The rachis and pedicels of most of the plants also are tinged with cinnamon. It is a charming species, and all the more acceptable on account of its odour of Tuberoses, which becomes very strong towards night. *J. O'B.*

CYPRIPEDIUM CAUDATUM, SEEGER'S VAR.

In the new Orchid nursery of Messrs. Seeger & Tropp, at Lordship Lane, S.E., perhaps the largest and darkest variety of this extraordinary Orchid ever seen is in flower. The large well-rounded pouch is purplish-chocolate on the outside, and white, beautifully dotted and marked with various shades of the same blackish hue on the inside. The very long petals are broad, and almost wholly reddish-brown; the sepals also very broad, yellow, veined with bright green. *Cypridium vernixium superbum*, C. *superciliare*, a large and peculiarly marked form of *C. Harrisianum*, and other rare *Cypridiums*, and other Orchids, are also now in bloom with Messrs. Seeger & Tropp. *J. O'B.*

SEEDLING DENDROBIUMS.

This genus lends itself readily to the skill of the hybridist, and we may look for still more interesting results from his labours than those already obtained. The number of hybrids of *Cypridiums* and *Selenipediums* are now to be counted by scores, and amongst them are some of singular and quaint beauty; in all probability many scores more are in process of development, some of which will flower this spring and summer, and others will follow at later periods. As yet, however, the number of hybrid *Dendrobiums* is small, some five or six being all that have been considered worthy to receive distinctive names; I, however, look for many new forms to appear from time to time, and some of them, doubtless, will exceed in beauty any of the species with which we are at present acquainted.

I should much like to see the progeny of *D. nobile* crossed with *D. primulinum giganteum*, or *D. Dearei* and *D. bigibbum*; or, again, *D. Goldieanum* crossed with *D. Dearei*. Of these two latter crosses I have succeeded in getting seed-pods, and sowed the seed, but nothing came of it. It does, however, seem to me that if the pure white of *D. Dearei* could be so worked in with *D. bigibbum* that part of the flower would remain of a clear white, and the remaining portion of a deep rose colour, as the plant produces sprays with from four to eight flowers, lasting ten to twelve weeks in flower through the dull part of the year, we should secure a very beautiful and desirable object. I must confess to a feeling of considerable surprise and pleasure in seeing the figure in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* of March 17, of Messrs. J. Veitch & Sons' new hybrid *Phalenopsis*. It is a fine production, betokening great forethought, patience, and cultural skill.

I have before me the result of others' labours in the form of some blooms of seedling *Dendrobiums*, kindly sent me by Mr. W. Holmes, Grangethorpe, Rusholme, Manchester. I and Mr. Holmes were neighbours for several years, and he was just as much interested in observing my stock of *D. Leechianum*, and watching its progress, as I was in a batch of seedlings that appeared at Cromwell Range when he was gardener to O. Schneider, Esq. When Mr. Holmes entered the service of the late C. Moseley, Esq., he had a good portion of the seedlings presented to him. These have come on most rapidly, and at the present time have strong, plump, pseudo-