

Prescott (F.F.), Sharp's Dutchman (S.B.), and many others. The chances of clean flowers are not equal, whether you propagate from run or clean flowers, by which I mean to intimate that as many plants will probably retreat to fitness from the one as from the other. As for compost, I should pronounce half dung, which some use, to be excessive, keeping in view the ultimate soundness of the stock. By no means should the loam employed be deprived of any of its fibrous roots matter; that I consider the most valuable part of it.

Mrs. GROOM'S TULIPS.—These are now in perfection, and we can promise our readers that a sight of them will supply repay a visit. The bed, 150 feet long, and counting not less than 2000 flowers, is as fine, notwithstanding the small size of the plants, as any we have had, as ever remember to have seen it. Next week we hope to be able to offer a few remarks on some of the varieties in this, as well as in some other beds in the neighbourhood of London.

SEEDLINGS.

PAGANONIA. *J. Down.* A new variety called Anna is bright rose pink, with a dark spot on the upper petals; it is apparently a double flower, has good foliage, and will doubtless be found useful for all ordinary purposes of decoration.

Miscellaneous.

The cultivated Beet as referred by Italian botanists to two species, of which one only, Beta chilo, is admitted to be native origin, whilst the true Beta vulgaris is stated to be indigenous to Central Asia, Egypt, and the shores of the Mediterranean, to the exclusion of Italy. The Aquin-Tardou has, however, more correctly reunited the whole under the Linnean name of Beta vulgaris, of which he reduces the numerous forms to three principal races: First, the Wild Beet, with a slender, hard root, sparingly introduced into kitchen gardens for the foliage, occasionally cooked with sorrel to diminish the acidity of the latter. Second, the White Beet, purple, or poirée-carde of the French, with thickened, fleshy roots, with enlarged leaves and a great tendency to succulence in the petioles, which are branched like Carduus for culinary purposes. This vegetable is frequently mentioned by ancient Greek and Roman writers. Third, the Beet-root, the Beet-root, or the Beet-root, of the French, so well known for its sweet and succulent root, was first introduced into Italy in the sixteenth century, from Germany, where it was probably first produced. A sub-variety of the Beet-root, with a somewhat crisper and less root, now become so important an article in agriculture, was originally introduced under the name of root of scarcity, racine de disette in French, or Mangel Wurzel in German, which latter translation is now adopted by our farmers, abridgement corrected into Mangold Wurzel. *Journal of Horticultural Society.*

Calendar of Operations.

(For the ensuing week.)

PLANT DEPARTMENT.

CONSERVATORY, &c.—As soon as the cold frames and pits can be got cleared of the bedding stock they should be occupied as far as circumstances will admit with young stock of plants prepared for the summer growth, of which they are much more suitable than large houses, however well arranged. These humble structures will also be found very suitable for the growth of the dwarf Lobelias, Balsams, Salvia splendens, &c. geraniums, and many other things which are generally sown and flowered in the conservatory in summer and autumn; and indeed most things which require only a moderate temperature will be more manageable here and thrive better than they will in lofty houses with double the attention. But the great advantage of having plants of spare stock in the conservatory is, that the summer growth of plants is that it allows of a greater division of the plants, and arranging them so that the treatment may be adapted to the circumstances and requirements of the plant with greater nicety than it is possible to do when plants from many very different localities have to be raised in the same house. And besides the difference of treatment, which it is necessary to observe in the case of different plants which are similar in every respect, merely through the one being making vigorous growth, while another may be ripening fruit, &c., there is more advantage in being able to classify things during the growing season than is generally supposed, save by our best growers. Roses are, perhaps, the most generally admired of all winter flowering plants, and where there is not a stock of established plants for that purpose, if a few of the best are procured and placed in a frame, they will make nice plants by autumn if properly attended to, especially if the frame can be placed on a bed of leaves or tan to afford a gentle bottom-heat, which will greatly assist in inducing a vigorous root action. And that the plants may be somewhat milder, air should be given more liberally, and when there is no danger of frost, a little back air may be left on for the night. Attend to former directions as to keeping insects under, and supplying beds and borders liberally with water. **GREENHOUSES.**—If any of the young stock has not yet been examined for the purpose of ascertaining whether it requires more pot room, this should be done the first possible opportunity, repeating such as require it, and a liberal supply may be given by pro-

perty at this season to things in a vigorous state. Great care should be used, however, to have the balls in a nice healthy state as to moisture, and also the soil as usual; and the plants should be exposed as little as possible to sunshine, or drying currents of air, for a fortnight or more, before being carried to the open air, which is at all times essential to successful plant growth; but at no period of a plant's existence is this so important as while the roots are surrounded with fresh soil, and many a promising plant has been ruined by the most frequent applications of water while in this state. If both the ball and soil are in a properly moist state when potting is performed, water need not be given for two or three days; and when it is deemed necessary to water, enough should be given to thoroughly soak the whole of the soil. Large specimens of Heaths and other woody things require very liberal watering (fully supplied with water, and every precaution should be used to make sure that the ball is in an equal state as to moisture throughout; for it sometimes happens that the surface of the ball will appear quite wet, while below, where the greater part of the roots is, it is too dry. This is the result of the imperfect drainage system of watering, and is not likely to occur where watering is done properly. The readiest and safest way of moistening the lower part of the ball, when this is found to be dry while the upper part is wet, is to place the whole in a tub containing water, and in a few hours, letting the water stand about an inch above the drainage.

FLOWER GARDEN AND SHRUBBERIES.

In ordinary seasons the planting out of bedding stock has been finished in most parts of the country by this time, but notwithstanding the advanced period of the season the weather is yet anything but settled or promising, and save in favourable localities there is still considerable danger risk in planting out such things as are not well hardened, and which are not very easily injured by frost, as Heliotropes, &c. And we would recommend that these should be kept where they can be securely covered in case of need until there is a fair prospect of fine weather, repeating them if necessary to the beds in which they are to be planted. Bedding stock has been considerably more troublesome and expensive this season than usual, and it would be folly to risk such things as cannot be replaced should they be destroyed, for we shall doubtless have summer weather some time, and our gardeners are desirous of getting in full beauty; and if gardeners can exercise such patience to defer planting out until the right time, there is good reason for hoping that things will start away freely, and under the influence of fine weather soon cover the beds with flower. Those who can command coverings for their plants, and who are desirous of safety, provided the plants are in proper condition for planting out; but weakly stock should not be risked out under any conditions until the weather becomes warm, and appears settled. A sprinkling of evergreen branches stuck into the beds will ward the plants considerable protection from cold winds and bright sunshine. These should be cut rather short, and stuck firmly into the ground, so as to prevent their being blown about and injuring the plants. And every shoot of Verbena, &c., which is long enough to be liable to be blown about should be secured before leaving them. Keep the work of the department as forward as possible, so as to be able to command sufficient strength for planting out the bedding stock expeditiously, and avoid having the litter and confusion consequent on this work about longer than can be avoided. In the present dry state of the soil, the watering should be continued, and planting, to thoroughly moisten the bed, but this should not be done at night when there is the least chance of frost.

HARDY FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN.

Continue to watch for and destroy insects on fruit trees directly they make their appearance, and examine weakly French Trees for aphids, and apply sulphur immediately when this is perceived. Also attend to budding in a gradual manner, so as not to cut the trees by removing too many shoots at once, and regulating the growth of trees intended to be trained in any particular form by timely stopping, so as to secure growth and ripeness of wood. Give the plants as much manure-water at this season, and in the present state of the ground, and a liberal supply should be given once or twice a week from the farm or stable-yard tank. Save on heavy clay soils a liberal dressing of salt may be used instead of manure-water, and will be found to be of great use, but not salt more than once on very heavy soils, for although it may improve the present crop, it is very apt to cause the roots to decay in winter through keeping the soil too wet. Attend to plantations lately made, giving sufficient water to keep them from drying. Give a good dressing of manure to the Dwarf Green Marrow Peas, or some other hardy variety that will be likely to resist the attacks of mildew, and produce a late crop. At this season the soil can hardly be too deep and rich for Peas; and it is a very good plan to plant in the open preparation of the soil, of which it should be incorporated with the soil and the trenches filled up nearly to the level of the ground. Get Tomatoes planted out against parts of the walls not otherwise occupied as soon as the weather may be considered safe; also ridge Cucumbers, vegetable Marrows, &c., and plant them in the trenches, covering with glass panes until the plants get into full growth. Sow Cauliflowers for late autumn use, and give every attention to the way of watering, &c., to those recently planted out.

STATE OF THE WEATHER AT CHILSWICK, NEAR LONDON.

For the week ending May 25, 1865, as observed at the Meteorological Station.

Day.	Time.	BAROMETER.				TEMPERATURE.				Wind.
		Mer.	Ther.	Max.	Min.	At the Earth's Surface.	Of the Earth's Surface.	At the Earth's Surface.	At the Earth's Surface.	
May 19.	5.0	30.00	58.0	61.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	W.
20.	5.0	30.00	58.0	61.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	W.
21.	5.0	30.00	58.0	61.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	W.
22.	5.0	30.00	58.0	61.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	W.
23.	5.0	30.00	58.0	61.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	W.
24.	5.0	30.00	58.0	61.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	W.
25.	5.0	30.00	58.0	61.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	W.
Average.		30.00	58.0	61.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0	

The highest temperature during the above period occurred on the 25th 1865—therm. 61 deg.; the lowest on the 27th, 1865—therm. 52 deg.

RECORD OF THE WEATHER AT CHILSWICK.

During the last 25 years, for the week ending June 2, 1865.

Day.	Time.	Mer.	Ther.	Max.	Min.	Yearly or Greatest Rain.	Yearly or Greatest Heat.	Prevailing Wind.	
								Direction.	Force.
Monday	5.7	61.2	54.5	55	54.1	0.0	61.0	W.	1
Tue.	5.8	61.2	54.5	55	54.1	0.0	61.0	W.	1
Wed.	5.8	61.2	54.5	55	54.1	0.0	61.0	W.	1
Thu.	5.8	61.2	54.5	55	54.1	0.0	61.0	W.	1
Fri.	5.8	61.2	54.5	55	54.1	0.0	61.0	W.	1
Satur.	5.8	61.2	54.5	55	54.1	0.0	61.0	W.	1

Notices to Correspondents.

ALLIUM: A *Fine Giant*. Your Indian Allium is distinct, of good form and appearance, and better than many of the recent varieties. *G. J. C.* All pretty, but not different from kinds we already possess.

ALAMANDA NERIFOLIA: H. O. It was introduced into this country from South America.

BONNET: A *Red* of the Vine is a very good book, with the exception of what relates to carion, which should never be used to Yino.

BULLOCK: I have no far gone before it reached us, we use to offer any opinion on it.

COCKROACHES: H. M. C. A basin with water in it let into the floor in the case of a pestilence of this kind, which we know of in the case of it they may be got.

DEKANS: *Amis.* It is an agricultural case of root, remarkable for its size, and the distance between the little dense tubercles which the outside is broken up. Just as we are about to get instances from some substance rubbing against the fruit, when the seeds are not so numerous as to be able to discover the cause, and prevent the recurrence of the affection. You cannot do anything this year, now the grapes are in the vine, and the only remedy is to cut the vines which is so prevalent amongst Melons and Cucumbers. It seems almost universal, and the cause is wholly unknown. We are trying to get a little more information, but we are not very sanguine as to the result.—*J. F.* Your leaves appear to have been injured by frost, and the plants are not so healthy as they can say little about them. The plants which accompanied them are *Lonicera caespitosa* and *Carex panicea*, Mr. J. J.

GERANIUM: A *Red* of the Vine is a very good book, with the exception of what relates to carion, which should never be used to Yino.

HOLLER: *J. F. J.* The most complete account of these is, we think, in the *Alphabeticum botanicum*, 1854.

LITERARY EGGS. If any of your readers could obtain for me some eggs of the *Lacerta agilis*, which I should be greatly obliged. I have a few of the same kind, and I should be glad to see whether the eggs will float in sea-water, and if so, whether they will retain their vitality. A reward of a few shillings (which I will pay before the eggs are sent) will be given to schoolboys, who perhaps get these eggs in the proper districts.

INSECTS: E. K. E. Your eggs are attacked by the *Phylloxera*, *Coccinella* (Black) *Lineata* (see *Gardener's Chronicle*, 1854, p. 308, and 1855, p. 308). The eggs are not so healthy as they are brought forth in vast numbers everywhere. Watering the plants with lime-water and stirring most thickly along the roots with the fine-hole, will also catch multitudes of *Phylloxera*, and the *Phylloxera* *pernix* attacking the Spanish Chestnut timber; all kinds of wooden structures, however, to come alike to these devastators. *H. M. C.*—As soon as the plants are in the ground, they should be watered with water and applied with the syringe, would be effective in killing "the grub" on your *Floem* trees. White Heliothrips is a pest of the *Floem* trees, and it is very common in the *NAMES OF PLANTS:* We have been so often obliged to reluctantly decline naming boxes of dried or other plants, that we venture to trouble you with a notice, which we think you will have, or could have undertaken an unlimited duty of this kind. Young gardeners, to whom the names are more especially applicable, should be careful to send the names of the plants, and they should explain their other means of giving information. We are not in a position to name the plants, and we are not for ourselves; nor would it be desirable if we could. All we can do is to help them—and that most willingly. It is now nearly a year since we have been obliged to name the plants sent us on one time.—*J. M.* *Epidendrum acuminatum*, a Mexican, not Brazilian plant, *G. G. G.* We believe there is no other plant of the *Phylloxera* kind, and we are the result of the seed sticking to the end of the lengthened cotyledon.—*H. O.* If the plants are not so healthy as they are, you may have taken it there from New Holland. It is *Callitriche rotundifolia*—*H. O.* *Asplenium platyneuron*, *L. E. H.* *Lonicera caespitosa*, *S. O. H. P. I.* *Asplenium platyneuron*; *L. E. H.* *Callitriche rotundifolia*; *S. O. H. P. I.* *Asplenium platyneuron*.

PLANT SHOWING: A. K. Although the *Alamanda* you name may be considered a distinct species, yet four or five may be distinguished from it, and we are not in a position to name them, but we do not absolutely disqualify your collection from gaining a prize, as most plants of one colour would at least greatly damage it.

THREE AND FOUR-BLOSSOMED: S. O. H. There is nothing in *Hesperis matronalis* which is not in *Callitriche rotundifolia*, and of the latter in your case may be said to have been exhausted the soil.

YINO: A *Red* of the Vine is a very good book, with the exception of what relates to carion, which should never be used to Yino. We are not in a position to name the plants, and we are not for ourselves; nor would it be desirable if we could. All we can do is to help them—and that most willingly. It is now nearly a year since we have been obliged to name the plants sent us on one time.—*J. M.* *Epidendrum acuminatum*, a Mexican, not Brazilian plant, *G. G. G.* We believe there is no other plant of the *Phylloxera* kind, and we are the result of the seed sticking to the end of the lengthened cotyledon.—*H. O.* If the plants are not so healthy as they are, you may have taken it there from New Holland. It is *Callitriche rotundifolia*—*H. O.* *Asplenium platyneuron*, *L. E. H.* *Lonicera caespitosa*, *S. O. H. P. I.* *Asplenium platyneuron*; *L. E. H.* *Callitriche rotundifolia*; *S. O. H. P. I.* *Asplenium platyneuron*.