PARENTS OF SOME GLADIOLI.

Early obliged should I be if you could tell me the names of the parents of Gladiolus candidavancuum. Also, whether the six following varieties—

Eldorado, Canna, Ophir, Lime, Brechleyana, and Vulcain, are the progeny of G. candidavancuum crossed with the same species or other species? If the history of these six varieties be not, perhaps, to instructed eyes tell their probability—Charles Brown.

The parents of Gladiolus, candidavancuum, have been fixed by Dr. Sibthorp, by Van Hotte, 1 in his description of it, and in England by Porton, in his "Magazine of Botany." G. candidavancuum is an English seedling; and was raised by Dr. Herbert and by J. T. Alcock. If not, both of them could flower in one season. And if so, they sent out the bulbs to Mr. Bidwell, at Sydney, where the climate was more favourable. Mr. Bidwell flowered all the seedings at Sydney, and one of them, candidavancuum, found its way back to Europe.

The false parentage given, to it by M. Van Houtte shows that that "may" was not as it ought to have been—Frank Houghton.

If there is to be another Harvey, it is better to have the truth out. It is better to have the truth out, than to have the truth out—William Temple.

There is no need to cultivate from candidavancuum by any distinct species whatever. But candidavancuum is certainly true cross-bred between two distinct species, and although it has now more than twenty years of age, not the age when it was announced on the Continent, it is the last distinct cross between any two species in the genus.

The seeds which you mention are all garden seeds, but they are not the most dissimilar from the originals. Gladiolus are not getting striped and spotted like this—Mr. B.-I.}

THE CRYSTAL PALACE SHOW OF AUTUMN FLOWERS AND FRUIT.—Sept. 4th & 5th.

It was a grand show, and the finest Dahlias ever yet seen were there. The best Hollyhocks that ever were known were there also, right and wrong—that is to say, it is not only wrong, but very wrong, to give one farthing for cut flowers of Hollyhocks; for if there is a blackleg between Sydenham and the Briggs of Ayr, there has been a power and the inducement to make the new Hollies, cut in wreaths under the name of "English Hollyhocks" that ever were seen, for out of the worst spike one flower picked, and cooked to look as the best we had there, and a prize being obtained for it, it might be called a first-rate, and then the exhibitor might turn round and say it was not his fault, the judge had said so, and what the devil could he do by it? The exacts exactly where the snow falls to the out blooms of Hollyhocks more than any other flower. The best China. Asters are in the world, there and twice, if not three times, better than they were before. There were thousands of them, and mostly, there was not a bad flower among the whole. But there is one thing mightily in their favour, they have no ephemeral names to confuse and bother people. They are in two classes—the killed or German, and the French or flat-sorted sorts. Now, just look at one of the best flat-sorted and see, how the loss of the tassel Chrysanthemum, through the madness of the best of our brethren, the florists, in their hurry to get at the "improvement" of one section of the family. Why should we not have Chrysanthemum of exactly, in the form of the best China Asters? As we might just as easily have had from the tassel Chrysanthemum, in the form of the best China Asters, as we do have the charmers of the incensed mood.

But the Gladiolus, only the flowers of this generation, have made the most rapid strides, on to perfection, of "leg" and feather; and Verbenas put up in bunches, are very pretty ornamental flowers for the flower-bed. There is no use in buying any other flowers, in that way, if all other flowers, the greatest ones, to the simple and unvaried, who may, frequent some shows. Nothing in the palmy: days of honest George Robinson, of Charing Cross renown, was more likely to deceive a good subscriber as a bunch of so many trusses of Verbenas; and would leave it as a legacy to my country readers to never, or buy or even think of such a thing as buying a new Verbea, from only seeing a pretty bunch of it at a show. But understand me, I would not advise the doing away with the exhibition of cut Verbenas; it would, I am sure, be a great loss.