THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

might be found as to the relative differences of temperature for roots and branches essential for successful cultivation. In the case of some species with Vine roots inside the temperature of the heat and light is lower, but that of the house, but the probability is that it is considerably lower. This will, no doubt, be found the case with a great number of the species. The proximity of Vines with the roots outside of the house there can be little doubt that without an artificial heat the difference would be much less as the application of internal heat the difference must be extremely unnatural. The obvious course in such a case would be to select a species which, as it is the case, somewhat nearer to that of the house by means of, leaves, manure, or other heating material, but the application of heat being unnecessary. From the nature of border roots to action, as in the fact that the heat is about a quarter of an inch, the greatest heat being applied to the roots. There is a depth scarcely feel the stimulus. Probably the most the natural temperature for outside Vine borders would be to have the branches at a temperature of about 90°F. in the vineyard and the temporary glass protection, and this course would doubtless be found safer and more satisfactory in the vineyard. There is always, in my experience, more exciting unduly of surface roots is not the heat of vine culture, D.J.

Veitch's Self-Protecting Broccoli.—In your review of the “Fruits and Vegetables of 1876.” you said that the variety was a great success, and I have no doubt of its being so. Although situated as this place is, high up among the cold bleak Cleveland Hills, I, like your correspondent from Northamptonshire, have had a plenty of success. I grow it in the first water, and I think the following particulars respecting this excellent vegetable cannot fail to be of interest to your readers. I have to add that I have planted out 300, which began to be ready for cutting about the middle of November, and from that time up to the present (Jan. 6) we have been cutting from 30 to 50 heads a day. Its most excellent feature is its delicate flavor and tenderness leaving nothing to be desired. Where vegetables are wanted in quantity November is the month to raise them. The same plant will produce two crops of broccoli without any additional feeding should have a good stock of this choice broccoli. It only requires to be known to become a garden favorite. J. M. T. In, Holton Hall, Quinton, Yorkshire.

The Scarcity of Holly Berries and Bees.—Few but a philosopher like Mr. Darwin would have thought of linking these two facts together as cause and effect. In the month of July, when the blossoms of the Holly are open, the bees are not plentiful, and the hives stronger than usual. I never before knew such crops of the white Clover as were grown this season. They are so abundant that pasture-field and roadside being covered with plants in flower. The bees, therefore, had plenty of food, and the honey was abundant. In November, there are immense quantities of Holly in the hedges and plantations in this district of North Nottingham, and it is the month when the bees are at their best. The hives are to be seen on them. The Holly likewise grows and prospers on some magnesian limestone crag near me, and no doubt there are bees on them, but no berries were produced on the brushes last year, although they usually show more berries than the bushes do this year.

Something like a confirmation of Mr. Darwin's theory of insect fertilisation has occurred in the form of a "gorious sight," as Evelyn well describes them when covered with their coral berries. We have had a heavy set of Holly berries this year, the whole summer, and also several strong hives of honey bees quite close to the Hollies. One old bush in my garden has been loaded with berries ever since it was nearly ringed or barked round by rabbits one severe winter several years ago. T. E. B.

The Blackthorn in Bloom on January 9.—It not nearly three months in advance of its usual period of flowering I have not been able to go and notice the blossoming of the Blackthorn as I usually do; the sprays of white blossom out in full beauty on some Blackthorns, near here; so “spring’s banner,” as W. Howes calls them, made a good show, and there were apparently no flowering trees, but no berries were produced on the bushes last year, although they usually show more berries than the bushes do this year. Primroses have been in blossom in the garden for some weeks. Helm E. Winter, East Leicestershire.

Luminous Mycelium.—In the Gardeners' Chronicle, December 19, 1872, p. 4, I found an illustration and description of a remarkable case of phosphorescent fungus-spawn found perennially on the roots of the broad-leaved blackthorn plant. Captain H. King, of Chirkurst, Peterfield, who kindly forwarded the original materials to us, has kept the spawn over the winter, and this year it has now produced a dense crop of fungus fasciculi. Captain King has obligingly sent me a portion of this material, and it has been found to emit a luminous glow apparently springing from the same dense white spawn which was luminous a year ago, but it is not luminous now. W. G. S.

The "New Danger for Orchid Growers,"—I am not aware that your readers have made any reference to the notice of the Entails contained in my friend Mr. Lewis' work on the Insects of Africa, in which it is distinctly stated that the same species of fungus which causes silken tunnels, as was also stated to be the case with the insects sent by Mr. Michael; hence the suggestion in the Gardeners' Chronicle that the rusts are not supported, although not actually disproved. I have since, however, received a further communication from Mr. Michael of specimens of the gauzed roots and webs, with the statement that he "seen the insect make its web, apparently for..."