

**Suttons' Fresh Imported Flower Roots, Carriage Free.**



**SUTTONS' COMPLETE COLLECTIONS for OUT-DOOR CULTIVATION.**

No. 1. Containing best and finest Roots to produce a display during Winter and Spring	£2	2	0
No. 2. Ditto	1	1	0
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**FOR IN-DOOR CULTIVATION.**

No. 4. Containing best and finest Roots for growing in Flower Pots and Glasses	2	2	0
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PRICED DESCRIPTIVE LISTS gratis on application.  
Sutton & Sons, Seedsmen to the Queen, Reading, Berks.

**Lilium Wilsoni.**



**MESSRS. VEITCH AND SONS** have the pleasure to announce that the stock of this beautiful **HARDY LILY** has been placed in their hands for distribution by G. F. Wilson, Esq., Gishurst Cottage, Weybridge, after whom it has been named.

It is a perfectly distinct variety from all Japanese Lilies yet imported; the flowers average 6 inches in diameter when expanded, and are arranged in a terminal umbel, the pedicels of the flowers being branched so as to give three successions of blooms. The ground colour of the flower is of a reddish orange, the central portion of each segment being of a golden yellow, and the whole surface nearly to the edge marked over with dark-coloured dots. The flower, indeed, may be described as having the general form and character of *L. bulbiferum*, the colour and spotting of *tigrinum*, and the golden band of *auratum*. Its average height of growth is 3 feet.

It was awarded a First-class Certificate by the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society August 6, 1867, and was figured and fully described in the "Florist" of June, 1868, where it is mentioned as "one of the most beautiful hardy Lilies yet seen."  
Good Bulbs, 2s. each | Extra strong Flowering Bulbs, 4s. each.  
Royal Exotic Nursery, Chelsea, S.W.

**Pleroma sarmentosa.**



**MESSRS. VEITCH AND SONS** have the pleasure to announce that they are now **SENDING OUT** this beautiful new **GREENHOUSE PLANT**.

It was introduced from the cool valleys of Peru by Isaac Anderson-Henry, Esq., who has placed his plants in their hands for distribution to the public.

The Flowers are very handsome, from 2 to 2½ inches in diameter, and of a deep violet or violet-purple colour, and the plant is a very free bloomer.

It is figured in the "Botanical Magazine" for March, 1867, where Dr. Hooker remarks:—"As this plant is as well adapted for greenhouse cultivation as *Monochætum*, and is far more beautiful, it is one of the most valuable acquisitions to our houses of late years."  
Price 7s. 6d. each.

Royal Exotic Nursery, Chelsea, S.W.

**The Gardeners' Chronicle.**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1868.

A SHORT time since, with the view of calling the attention of intending planters to the immense variety of subjects at their disposal, we made some remarks on the more ornamental and singular of the varieties of Elm. With the same object in view we now draw attention to the **MAPLES**, a series of specimens of which we have been enabled to investigate in the rich stores of the Messrs. OSBORN, as well others in the Royal Gardens, Kew, the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society, at Chiswick, and elsewhere.

In this group there is variety enough, one would think, to please every one. Some are trees, some are bushes; billowy masses of yellow flowers crowd the leafless sprays of some; leaves of gorgeous hues bedeck most of them in the autumn; streaks and bands of silvery white adorn the bark of one or two; and strange, winged fruits belong to all.

It is not our intention to pass in review all the many forms mentioned in catalogues or books, to do so would be to write a botanical treatise. We may however allude to some of the more striking among them, and in so doing we need not tie ourselves down to a strictly scientific arrangement. We prefer now to group the plants according to their most striking external characteristics, as after all, these are the points to which planters and tree lovers principally look. Taking, then, first a series of Maples, remarkable for the boldness of their foliage, we have first and foremost *Acer macrophyllum*, a noble example of which may be seen at Chiswick, and the fine leaves of which turn of a rich golden yellow in the autumn. *A. obtusatum* may also be mentioned here, with its thick leathery leaves, downy underneath, and dying off of a brilliant crimson tint. *A. Lobelii* comes into this group by reason of its foliage, but has, in addition, the characteristic that its young shoots are of a fine glaucous hue, which renders them striking objects when the leaves are off. *A. circinatum* is remarkable for its broad fan-like leaves turning to a rich yellow in the autumn. In its native country its branches are sometimes pendulous, and are said to root at the ends, bramble-fashion. A magnificent plant is the *A. villosum*, a native of the Himalayas, and of which, however, there are, we believe, no very large examples in the country; but even in the

young state its fine leaves and its young shoots, almost as downy as the Stag's-horn Rhus, are fine objects. Its "keys" are also remarkable for their large size and woolly investment. We fear that this fine plant is too tender for planting, unless in the south of England.

Then there is a group with foliage which is white underneath, like the white Poplar, the white colour being relieved by the scarlet leaf-stalks and nerves. Under this head may be mentioned the North American *A. dasycarpum*, generally known in gardens as *ericarpum*, or Sir CHARLES WACHER'S Maple, which has long, slender, more or less pendulous branches, and which in its native country is found along the watercourses, thus in more than one point resembling some of the Poplars. A fine example may be seen in the gardens at Kew. *A. rubrum* is not unlike it in the leaf, but is the less handsome tree of the two. *A. Wagneri laciniatum* also deserves notice under this head; its leaves resemble those of *dasycarpum*, but the lobes are more slender. *A. ginnala* is a very pretty form, in spite of its odd name. It is a native of Amoor-land, and is, no doubt, a variety of *A. tataricum*.

Among the variegated-leaved forms the varieties of the common Sycamore take first rank. Some are rich purple on the under surface, others blotched and splashed with white and yellow.

*Acer spicatum*, and specially *A. striatum*, combine with fine foliage the singular silvery streaks on the bark, which render them so desirable in the eyes of the landscape gardener.

Of smaller habit in this country, and probably tender constitution, at least in the northern part of Britain and in exposed situations, are the Japanese species, such as *palmatum* and its varieties, *polymorphum* and its offshoots, besides the newer varieties from the same country, some of which are of great beauty, and have been already alluded to in our columns.

Then there are the small bushy-habited Maples, with evergreen or sub-evergreen foliage, mostly natives of the Mediterranean region, such as *monspessulanum*, *creticum*, *heterophyllum*, and their many varieties; for instance, *ibericum*, referred with doubt by Loudon to *obtusatum*, but which is really a variety of *monspessulanum*. These are more curious than beautiful, but still by no means to be despised in collections. *Acer platanoides laciniatum*, the Eagle's-claw Maple, also deserves a place in every plantation, by reason of its singularly cleft and curved foliage, resembling, on a side view, the talons of a bird. This is stated to be a form of the Norway Maple, *A. platanoides*, though it looks different. Another form of the Norway Maple, remarkable for its cut leaves, is the variety called *A. platanoides laciniatum*—a very handsome tree, but one rarely met with. A third form of the same species is remarkable for its pitcher-shaped leaves, *A. cucullatum*, but it is not much known in this country at present.

Though we do not find it profitable in this country to extract sugar from the juice of *A. saccharinum*, as our American cousins do, yet the Maples, or some among them, are by no means without more substantial claims to our consideration than mere beauty of flowers, fruit, or foliage. The common Sycamore, for instance, makes excellent shelter in exposed places, and does well near the sea; even some of the more ornamental varieties of it thrive in such localities, while the timber is serviceable for many purposes where lightness of colour and texture are desirable. Our common hedgerow Maple also is by no means a useless tree. In still another point of view Maples are remarkable. As will have been gleaned from what has been already said, their geographical distribution is of the widest. We have them in Europe—even in England one form is wild, and the Sycamore is as much at home as though it were a native; the Mediterranean forms extend into Northern Africa on one side, and into the Levant on the other; Asia, from the Caucasus and the Himalaya, to the Amoor river and Japan, has other species. North America boasts of several forms, but for the most part those of the eastern side of the continent are different from those of the western portion. Few genera can boast of representatives in so many quarters of the globe. For the most part each continent has its own forms, though, as we have seen, the South European forms occur in Asia Minor and Northern Africa, while some of the American species, notably the *Acer Negundo*, turn up again in Japan. Now, here is matter

for abundant speculation, and though we do not feel ourselves at liberty to indulge in this way, yet we do not hesitate to state that the planter does not enjoy a tithe of the pleasure to be derived from his pets if he confine himself simply to their external appearance without heeding their history.

— WE are enabled, through the courtesy of Mr. DARWIN, to publish the following description of a PELORIC FORM of CLITORIA TERNATEA observed at Lucknow by Dr. BONAVIA:—"Regarding peloric forms of flowers, I have observed an instance which appears unrecorded in the *Clitoria Ternatea*. I send you herewith two imperfect coloured drawings, made by a native artist, to illustrate the striking difference between the irregular and peloric form. The *Clitoria Ternatea* is a scandent twining plant, with solitary flowers in the axils of the leaves. As you know, the vexillum, contrary to most pea-shaped flowers, is lowermost. No. 1 shows the irregular form. It presents the following characters:—Segment of calyx corresponding to the carina longest, vexillum large, emarginate, having in its middle part a yellowish white patch, with veins pinnately disposed, its margins meet round the alæ and carina; alæ small, with recurved blue margins adbering to the carina; carina white, completely enclosed by the alæ; stamens ten, diadelphous. In the fully developed peloric flower of the *Clitoria Ternatea* the alæ, carinæ, and vexillum are of equal size; they all have that middle yellowish white patch which, in the irregular form, is found only in the vexillum. Some flowers are so beautifully peloric that there is no distinguishing which petal represents the vexillum. I made a section with a knife through all the petals of one of these forms. This section shows well the twisted disposition of the petals, each of which is overlapped by the edge of the next petal. The stamens are ten, and all free and regularly disposed. This peloric form is transmitted by seed. Different forms of *Clitoria* graduate from the ordinary irregular shape up to the perfectly peloric flower. Different degrees of pelorism are found as a rule on different plants, but many degrees are often found on the same plant. I have observed six well marked degrees:—

"A. Natural. Alæ small, edges recurved, and completely hiding the carina; one stamen free, nine united. This form I have always seen by itself on a plant. No peloric ones on same plant.

"B. One of the alæ larger than the other, more expanded, allowing the carina (which is a little larger than usual) to be visible; three stamens free, seven united.

"C. Alæ much developed, and only one of the petals of the carina largely developed; two stamens united, eight free.

"D. Alæ almost as large as the vexillum, but still occupying the place of the alæ; petals of carina both much developed, but still somewhat enclosed by the alæ; all stamens free.

"E. All the five petals are equal in size and similarly marked, but in æstivation the vexillum is still the outermost petal: the other four petals have a somewhat twisted disposition, totally different from that of alæ and carinæ; all stamens free. The plants which bear this form also bear some flowers, which are

"F. Perfectly peloric, and in which (all stamens free, and regularly disposed) neither vexillum, alæ, or carinæ are distinguishable. One edge of each petal is free, while the other is overlapped by the free edge of the petal next to it.

"I have seen several specimens with four petals only, of equal size, and with eight stamens. I have white varieties of this *Clitoria*, which are also peloric."

The peloria in question affords a good illustration of irregular peloria, or that form in which the flower is rendered symmetrical by the augmentation of the irregular segments. In other words, there are here five standard-petals instead of one, owing to the replacement of the wings and keel by petals of the standard form. It is interesting, also, as showing how Papilionaceæ may merge into Rosaceæ. As the form is not only interesting in a scientific point of view, but also very attractive in a florist's sense, we trust Dr. BONAVIA will endeavour to perpetuate it, and by selection improve it.

— Who shall say that HORTICULTURE brings to bear no INFLUENCE on the PUBLIC MIND, or that Battersea Park, and our "Tricolor" Pelargonium Shows, have been fruitless in results? Behold, the last imported Parisian fashion in neck-ties is styled the "Mrs. Pollock"! and the material of which these ties are made—black, blue, brown, and other coloured silks—is dotted over with effigies, we can hardly call them portraits, of the variegated yellow, red, and green leaves of our well-known popular bedding Variegated Zonal Pelargonium.

— A short time since an inquiry was made as to the origin of *ACER NEGUNDO VARIEGATUM*. At the time we overlooked the account given in our columns in 1861 (p. 867), and from which, on the authority of M. CARRIÈRE, it appears that the plant in question originated as a sport in the nursery of M. FROMANT, of Toulouse, about the year 1845, but was little heeded till June, 1853, when its merits were recognised, at a horticultural exhibition at Toulouse, by MM. BARILLET and MASSON, the judges.

— A recent statement of our correspondent "W.T.," relating to the flowering of the GOLDEN-LEAVED HONEYSUCKLE, has induced some of our friends to forward to us specimens of the plant in fruit. An examination of these, and a comparison with native Japanese specimens in the Kew herbarium, and with