All working systematic botanists use Steudel's "Nomenclator botanicus seu synonyma plantarum universalium," an indispensable book of reference. It is an alphabetical list arranged under genera of published names of plants, giving their native countries and the authors who published their descriptions. Synonyms are as far as possible given under the species to which they belong. The second volume of Steudel's work was published in 1855, and it is probably not far wrong to assume that the existing mass of described plants has since doubled.

Mr. Darwin has with equal kindness and generosity expressed the wish to aid in some way the scientific work carried on at the Royal Gardens, Kew. The attempt has been made for many years to keep up in the herbarium there a copy of Steudel with manuscript additions, for use of persons engaged in the study of any particular group of flowering plants. By reference to Mr. Kew Steudel it is possible to ascertain to a large extent what has been done, and so avoid the risk of describing and naming the same material twice over. But the Kew Steudel has only hitherto been posted up by the aid of funds privately supplied on intermittent occasions, and is not yet completely accessible.

Mr. Darwin having had occasion to appreciate the usefulness of such a work in the botanical investigations which have been carried on at Kew, and which have as yet produced only six years, will be carried on at Kew, and will be based on the limitations of genera laid down in Bentham and Hooker's "Genera plantarum," a work which will extend beyond supplying the means for preparing the work. The form and manner of publication will be reserved for consideration on its completion.

The Royal Gardens, Kew, have been very fortunate in from time to time receiving sympathetic aid from the outside world on behalf of the various branches of scientific work carried on in connection with them. The gifts of Mr. Bentham's library and herbarium, of the Jodrell Laboratory, of the North Gallery, and now of the means of preparing a new Steudel, are conspicuous examples.

The volume before us is the first important addition made to Steudel's "Nomenclator" since its publication, and is an unqualified success. The importance of the work to the botanist is such as to justify the statement that it is the "bible" of his art. It is a work which will be found most useful to the student of the systematics of the plant kingdom.

The "Variation of Animals and Plants under Domestication" by Charles Darwin, M.R.C.S., O.M., 8 vo. London, 1869, 456 pages, price 6s. 6d. is an important work in the development of the theory of evolution. It is a remarkable work, full of new and interesting ideas.

Darwin's "New Work," "The Variation of Animals and Plants under Domestication," is a remarkable work, full of new and interesting ideas. It is a work which will be found most useful to the student of the systematics of the plant kingdom.

These are sufficient to show that variations may be accumulated by inheritance, and that it is only to be expected that the actions of domestication and selection have had a great influence in the development of the species. The book is a valuable contribution to the study of the laws of inheritance and the factors that control the variations in plants and animals.