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JOHN READER JACKSON, A.L.S., who retired last year from the post of Keeper of the Economic Museums, which he had held for forty-three years, was born at Knightsbridge in May, 1837. When he was about six years old the family removed to Canterbury, in order to be nearer his maternal grandfather, who had a farm near Ramsgate. His early education was undertaken by his father; but in those days the opportunities for advanced instruction in provincial towns, or even cities, were few, and Jackson was sent to London, where, under the care of an uncle, he continued his studies. The years spent in Canterbury had greatly influenced his mind in matters religious and artistic, and the architectural beauties of the Cathedral and other ancient buildings engendered the desire to become an architect. He arrived in London in the memorable year of 1851, when all the world converged to see the treasures of the Great Exhibition. Opportunities and influential friends were not wanting to enable him to cultivate his taste, and he was especially indebted to Prof. Thomas Bell, F.R.S., for the use of his fine library and for introductions to various learned societies and celebrated men, including Robert Brown, John Lindley, J. J. Bennett and William Yarrell, among naturalists, and Sir William Tite and Sir George Gilbert Scott, among architects. But our friend was not to be an architect. There were many difficulties in the way, not the least of which was the necessity of earning something. And so it came to pass that he was introduced by Prof. Bell to Sir William J. Hooker with a view to taking charge of the Museums, a post vacant in consequence of the illness of Alexander Smith, the first Keeper. A Museum of Economic Botany was one of the first of Sir William Hooker's projects for botanical instruction. He began on a comparatively small scale with a part of what is now known as No. 2; but he soon succeeded in convincing the government of the utility of his scheme, and obtained a grant for the building opposite the Palm House. This was completed in 1857, and it was in 1858, when only twenty-one years of age, that Jackson took up the duties of Keeper, at first under the superintendence and with the assistance of Prof. D. Oliver, but soon independently. All persons who have some knowledge of Kew know what a vast collection the Museums contain, and the incessant labour connected with the additions and changes. For nearly twenty years Mr. Jackson carried out the work unassisted, and subsequently with only one assistant, Mr. Hillier, the present Keeper. In spite of the little time he had for literary work, Mr. Jackson contributed numerous articles on his special subject to the Technologist, the Pharmaceutical Journal, the Gardeners' Chronicle, and a number of other periodicals. In 1877 he edited a new edition of Barton and Castle's British Flora Medica, and in 1890 he produced one of his most valuable works under the title of Commercial Botany of the Nineteenth Century. Hundreds of Kewites are indebted to him for a grounding in Economic Botany, and will gratefully remember his kind manner in lecturing and his careful correction of their note-Indeed, all who came into personal contact with our old and esteemed colleague, were filled with admiration of his gentle, pure, and unselfish character. Mr. Jackson was also, during his long residence in Richmond, actively engaged in the various charitable and educational works connected with St. John's Church, where he also served for many years as Warden. That he is enjoying retirement in his Devonshire home will give pleasure to all who know him. He was elected an Associate of the Linnean Society in 1868-a greater honour than Fellowship, because it cannot be bought. W. B. H.

Balance Sheet, 1901-1902.

Receipts.				Expenditure.			
Balance from 1900-01 Subscriptions and Sales	42	s. 12 6	8	Postage	$\frac{\mathfrak{L}}{2}$	s . 2	<i>d</i> . 8
Interest on N. S. Wales Stock		15		N. S. Wales Stock Printing of Journal			0 6
Interest on Savings Bank Deposits	1	2	3	Balance	12	1	6
Advertisements in Journal	12	10	0			,	
Total	£98	6	8		£98	6	8

Capital Account, April 30th, 1902.

£220 1 6	£220	1	6
	Deposits in Savings Bank II Petty Cash		6
Thomson Bequest	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0	0
Liabilities.	Assets.	s.	d.

W. J. Bean, Treasurer. W. Watson, Secretary.

Audited and found correct.

J. FRASER, W. N. WINN, Auditors.

May 26th, 1902.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE General Meeting was held in the Phœnix Saloon at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday, May 27th, at 6.30 P.M. There was a good muster of members. The President, Mr. G. Nicholson, occupied the Chair.

The Secretary read the Annual Report, the adoption of which was moved by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Matthew Henry.

The suggestion in the Report that the Committee should be empowered to assist Kewites in need out of the surplus funds of the Guild was discussed, but no decision was arrived at. The Committee was requested to submit a definite scheme when the need of help was clearly shown.

The retirement of Mr. Nicholson from the Presidency of the Guild was regretted and the hearty thanks of the meeting accorded to him for his services.

The changes in the Executive of the Guild recommended in the

Report were approved, including the re-election of Mr. J. Weathers on the Committee, the election of Messrs. J. Wilke, W. Page, and D. Mac-Gregor to replace Messrs. H. J. Goemans, W. C. Smith, and J. E. Leslie; and the election of Messrs. T. Humphreys and W. Dallimore as Auditors.

ANNUAL DINNER.

THE number of members who sat down to dinner was 114. None of the gentlemen who were invited as guests were able to be present. Mr. J. G. Baker took the Chair and was supported by his son, Mr. Edmund G. Baker, and by the Director, Sir W. T. Thiselton-Dyer.

Mr. Baker, in proposing the toast of "The Kew Guild," said he felt pride and pleasure in presiding at such a gathering. The strength of Kewites was unknown before the Guild was started, but now it linked in one brotherhood men who had met and worked together for a short time at Kew, and many of whom afterwards were scattered about the world, still doing the same kind of work, but unable to learn of each other, until the Guild with its Journal provided a means of giving and obtaining news. The Report that was read at the General Meeting revealed the very satisfactory state, financial and otherwise, of the Guild.

He believed it was the custom for the President at the Annual Dinner to pass in review the principal changes and work of the year at Kew. The Director who sat, spider-like, in the centre of the large web that Kew had woven, was in the best position to see all that was going on; he (Mr. Baker) could only speak now as an outsider.

He then went on to speak of the appointment of the Director as Botanical Adviser to the Colonial Secretary, which was only a tardy recognition of duties that had been performed by Directors of Kew for the last fifty years, and more particularly by the present Director; the preparation of Floras of different parts of the Empire, especially of Tropical and South Africa; the enlargement of the Herbarium, now recognised as the most perfectly equipped botanical establishment in the world; and the additions to the Museum and Garden collections.

The retirement of Mr. Nicholson from the Curatorship of the Gardens was, he felt sure, viewed with general regret. He had proved such an excellent man for the post, combining as he did botanical knowledge with horticultural ability, that Kew could ill spare him. It was to be hoped that he would devote his time and knowledge to the preparation of a new edition of Loudon's Arboretum, for which no man was better qualified. The retirement of Mr. Jackson from the Keepership of the Museums was another of those regrettable occurrences for which time was responsible. It was difficult to think of the Kew Museums without their genial Keeper in attendance. All present he felt sure

would join him in hearty wishes for the health and happiness of both in their retirement.

Mr. Baker concluded with a few words of advice to young Kewites. This glorious empire of ours was, he said, built up by character, by steady plodding determined workers who placed duty first, who toiled, not so much for reward as to satisfy the desire to accomplish something worthy. Too much could not be said to emphasize the importance of working thoroughly and conscientiously. Another important factor towards good work was method. It was impossible for anyone to work at Kew with the present Director without discovering that he was one of the greatest of methodists. Attention to details was another of his strong qualities. In the important work of managing a large establishment such as Kew, and equally so in that of managing smaller gardens, these qualities of thoroughness and method were essential to success.

MR. W. GOLDRING said he felt that the oldest Kewite present should have responded to the toast so ably proposed by Mr. Baker; but he supposed he was thus honoured because he knew a good many Old Kewites and also was in touch with the present Kew staff. He was delighted to see that the youthful Guild was growing stronger in numbers and stronger of purpose. This purpose was well set forth in the first number of the Guild Journal, which contained the history of its origin, together with many wholesome texts for Kewites to ponder over. The letter from the Director approving and sympathising with the movement was the finest sermon to Kew men ever written. It should be printed in large type and hung in the Library where young Kewites most assembled. The desire to form a Kew brotherhood and to publish a Journal by means of which we might keep in touch with the scattered members of the family had been realised. We might in time be able to extend the usefulness of the Guild by devoting surplus funds to the assistance of Kewites in misfortune or to their dependents who might be left in a helpless condition. He was in India when he first heard of the proposed Guild, and he felt then that it ought to have been formed long before. There was magic in the name of Kew; when a Kewite met a brother Kewite in any part of the world all was well for the traveller. The magic word unlocked for him the jealously-guarded gates of the Japanese Imperial Gardens at Tokyo like a master-key. In San Francisco he was interviewed by a newspaper man who saw in the hotel book his name with "Kew" after it. He was asked some questions about the parks and public gardens of that city which were answered. The result was that the paper that evening contained a flaring heading:-" MAN FROM KEW; WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT OUR PARKS."

All good Kewites had an affection for Kew. Some never seemed happy unless they were in the place. When they came home from abroad they came to live at Kew because they could not live anywhere else. He himself had lately become a fixture there, having secured a house close to the gate that was nearest to the scene of his Kew work.

It would be superfluous for him to speak of the beauties of Kew, or of the directing head that had brought about the wonderful changes in the place during the last quarter of a century. He himself continued to learn at Kew much that was most delightful to him in his particular work, Kew being now so rich in landscape effects.

SIR W. T. THISELTON-DYER proposed the health of the Chairman. He said he did not know whether he ought not to take exception to being compared to a spider, an animal of great industry no doubt, but of somewhat questionable character. The Kew Guild might be described as a web, which having once been spun required to be watched and sustained. And it had been built up in the same quiet way, becoming larger and stronger every year. It was also typical of English methods, small, unpretentious beginnings often having large and important results. There was a spirit of imperial co-operation in the air, but this was not really new, for Kew had been a link of Empire for the last fifty years. Men were trained, prepared at Kew for work in distant parts of the Empire, and they had carried Kew methods and Kew knowledge with them, sowing them seed-like to quietly develop and bear fruit. In all the varied callings of Colonial life none was more honourable or more useful than that of Kew men. It was therefore of first importance that the men selected for such work should be resourceful and trustworthy. He was proud to be able to say that of the hundreds sent out scarcely any had proved unworthy. The qualities which the Chairman said were essential to the production of good work were exactly those that Kew aimed to develop in the young men employed there. Foreign visitors were greatly impressed by their manly bearing and independence of character, so typical of Englishmen in almost all ranks. William) liked to see this in all the members of his staff.

Perhaps the most valuable feature of the Kew Guild was the spirit of comradeship, he might say brotherhood, which it fostered. This was abundantly evident in the letters that its various members wrote from all parts of the world to be published in the Journal, and also in the strength and oneness of the large number of members present that evening, many of whom had come hundreds of miles to spend an hour or two in the company of old associates and friends. He hoped to see that feeling towards each other and for Kew grow still stronger. He could assure them that no man who could claim to be a Kewite was willingly lost sight of by Kew, and that he always heard with pride and pleasure of the success of a Kew man.

In asking them to dr nk the health of the Chairman he knew how heartily that toast would be responded to. Mr. Baker had won the hearts of all who had worked with him or had had the advantage of attending his lectures at Kew. It was unnecessary there to dilate on the splendid work accomplished by Mr. Baker as a botanist. For many years he had been one of the most industrious of workers in the field of systematic botany, and much of his work had been among plants of

horticultural importance. His interest in and readiness to help the younger Kew men was shown by his presence there that night, and the heartiness with which he had performed the duties of Chairman.

Mr. Baker, in replying to the toast, said Kew had for many years been his chief interest in life and would be so till the end. His recreation now was a walk in the Gardens, and when he worked it was still in the Herbarium.

The dining-hall and tables were beautifully decorated with flowers and large Palms, variegated Acers, Liliums, and other plants supplied gratis by Mr. K. Drost, of the Kew Nurseries, Richmond. An excellent selection of songs and music was provided by Mr. Schartau.

List of Members who were present at the Dinner.

Sir W. T. THISELTON-DYER. Evans, F. J. Osborn, A. Eves, J. W. Page, W. Adams, R. Foden. W. Pearson, H. W. Aggett, W. H. Aikman, J. Fox, W. Pearson, R. H. Pettigrew, W. W. French, H. Allen, J. Ashton, F. Galt, A. S. Poetsch, A. Powell, E. M. (Miss). Raffill, C. P. Augull, K. Gammie, G. Badderly, G. Garrett, F. Baker, E. G. Gibson, O. E. Rolfe, R. A. Goldring, W. Hackett, W. Rutter, C. S. Sander, F. K. Baker, J. G. Bartlett, A. C. Hackett, Hales, W. Bates, G. Scholtz, H. Bean, W. J Halliburton, J. D. Hemsley, W. B. Henry, M. Scott, Dr. D. H. Besant, J. W. Bolton, W. Sillitoe, F. S. Simmons, J Hillier, J. M. Smith, F. W. Smith, W. C. Briscoe, T. W. Hislop, H. Brown, E. Holland, J. H. Brown, N. E. Spooner, H. Burrell, Dr. L. C. Horton, O. Stanton, G. Hughes, T. H. Stapf, Dr. O. Burton, H. Butts, E. Humphreys, T. Stocks, J. Candler, T. H. Irving, W. Swatton, A. Castle, R. L. Jackson, B. Daydon. Thomas, E. Cole, F. J. Jannoch, T. Thomas, H. H. Cooper, E. Karrer, S. Truelove, W. Lane, G. T Turner, Mr. Cope, G. (Miss). Coutts, W. Creek, E. G. Crisp, W. Latham, W. B. Turner, Mrs. MacGregor, D. Tyrrell, H. Mack, F. C. Main, T. W. Ussher, C. B. Wade, A. W. Cundy, C. Curtis, C. H. Watson, W. Manning, W Weathers, J. Dallimore, W. McKiernan, M. P. Dawe, M. T. Morland, E. (Miss). Weathers, P. Dear, G. Don, W. White, A. H. Muhle, C. Murphy, J. Wilke, J. Newsham, J. (Miss). Newsham, J. C. Wilson, E. H. Dorey, T. Winn, W. N. Drost, K. Woodrow, G. M. Young, W. H. Eavis, H. Elder, J. Nicholson, G.

Annual General Meeting and Dinner, 1903.—Arrangements will be made for these to take place at the Holborn Restaurant on the evening before the Temple Show—May 26th.

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

During the Session 1901-2, twenty-two meetings were held and the attendance was well maintained. The highest number present was on January 27th when Mr. Boodle, F.L.S., of the Jodrell Laboratory, gave an interesting discourse on "Leaves and the Rain." The lowest number present was 30, on December 16th. On this occasion Mr. M. T. Dawe was appointed Secretary in place of Mr. E. Miller who was leaving Kew. The average attendance throughout the season was 40, and at nearly all the meetings a brisk discussion was maintained.

The Lectures given by Messrs, G. Massee, F.L.S., N. E. Brown, A.L.S., and L. A. Boodle, F.L.S., were supplemented by series of fine diagrams that added greatly to the interest of the lectures. That by Mr. R. A. Rolfe, A.L.S., was also greatly appreciated.

A pleasing incident at Mr. Watson's lecture on "Tropical Fruits" was the presence of Mr. H. F. McMillan, Curator of Ceylon Botanic Gardens, then home on leave, in the capacity of Chairman. This was most appropriate, and both the lecture and the Chairman's remarks were cordially received.

The "Hooker" Prize was awarded to Mr. A. Osborn for his essay on "Selaginellas and Lycopodiums," and for his share in the discussion.

Syllabus, 1901-2. Oct. 14, 1901. The Garden Library..... W. Watson. ,, 21, Pruning Trees and Shrubs W. Dallimore. 28, Ferns.... E. Miller. Nov. 4, Selaginellas and Lycopods A. Osborn. ,, 11, W. C. Smith. Scitamineæ 18, C. S. Rutter. 25, Roses.... A. Poetsch. Plant Diseases Dec. 2, G. Massee, F.L.S. 9, Neglected Garden Plants..... C. P. Raffill. 16, J. E. Leslie. Ericaceæ Jan. 6, 1902. Coniferæ J. E. Cave. 13, South African Bulbs M. T. Dawe. 20, R. A. Rolfe, A.L.S. Epiphytes " 27, Leaves and the Rain L. A. Boodle, F.L.S. Fertilisation of some kinds of Flowers. N. E. Brown, A.L.S. Feb. 3, 99 10, Forcing Peaches W. J. Newberry. 17, The Vineyards of Wales M. Housego. 24, Gardening on the Continent ... J. Stocks. Mar. 3, Hardy Evergreens W. J. Bean. Plants of China and Japan F. S. Sillitoe. 10, W. Watson. ,, 17, Tropical Fruits Secretary's Report, etc. 24, Chairman, W. WATSON.

Secretaries { E. MILLER. M. T. DAWE.

THE LECTURES.

The usual courses of lectures were given to the Gardeners with the following results:—

Systematic Botany. Lecturer, Mr. J. G. Baker, F.R.S.

17 certificates were granted. The highest numbers of marks were obtained by D. MacGregor, 180; R. Adams, J. F. Leslie, J. Lodge, W. Rastall, A. Sprigings, J. W. Eves, 160 each. Maximum 200.

Economic Botany. Lecturer, Mr. J. M. Hillier.

23 certificates were granted. The highest numbers of marks were obtained by M. T. Dawe, 329; J. Stocks, 329; J. D. Halliburton, 327, Maximum 330.

Geographical Botany. Lecturer, Mr. N. E. Brown, A.L.S.

19 certificates were granted. The highest numbers of marks were obtained by D. MacGregor, 100; T. W. Main, 98; C. Thomson, 96. Maximum 100.

Second Course:

24 certificates were granted. The highest numbers of marks were obtained by A. Quelch, 100; W. Don, 99; J. W. Eves, 99. Maximum 100.

Chemistry and Physics. Lecturer, Mr. H. H. W. Pearson, M.A., F.L.S.

21 certificates were granted. The highest numbers of marks were obtained by J. W. Besant, 345; J. J. Teasdale, 344; T. W. Main, 343, Maximum 350.

British Botany Club. Secretary, Mr. A. Hislop.

18 certificates were granted. Prizes were awarded as follows:—

Mr. M. T. Dawe, for 200 specimens, Firminger's Manual of Gardening in India (given by Mr. J. G. Baker, F.R.S.).

Equal 1st \(\) Mr. F. S. Silitoe, for 200 specimens, Firminger's Manual of Gardening in India (given by Mr. W. B. Hemsley, F.R.S.).

3rd. Miss E. M. Gunnell, for 200 specimens, Hooker's Student's Flora (given by Mr. H. H. W. Pearson, M.A., F.L.S.).

The number of specimens in each collection to be submitted for certificate and in competition for the prizes is 200.

In consequence of a re-arrangement in the order of giving the lectures, Mr. Brown gave two courses during the year.

CRICKET CLUB, 1902.

THE past season has been a very successful one. Of 10 matches arranged, 5 were won, 3 lost, 1 drawn, and one abandoned through rain.

Thanks to the kindly interest of the Director and Curator the club now possesses an excellent pitch for practice. This is situated at the corner of the golf ground in the Old Deer Park, a truly delightful spot, especially after Kew Green, which many Old Kewites have painful cause to remember.

A Pavilion has also been erected, where players can take shelter from storms and nets, bats, etc. be safely stored.

The away matches have been exceedingly pleasant and enjoyable, the hospitality extended by our opponents being much appreciated. The gardens at Gunnersbury House and Park, Dover House, and Chiswick House, also the nurseries of Messrs. Sander and Messrs. Rochford, were inspected after the cricket was over.

The match at Chiswick House was the best played. Our team, a strong one, included Mr. Watson and Mr. Fox of Singapore, but the opponents were strengthened by having two county players in their team and the best cricketer in the Straits Settlements, also named Fox. The failure of their best bats was due to some wonderful bowling by Mr. Ball. Mr. Fox made the highest score for Kew.

Date.	Opponents.	Result and Score.
May 24	Dover House (J. Pierpont Morgan, Esq.).	Won, 82-50.
June 4	Hurst & Son, Houndsditch. Abandone	d through rain.
,, 11	Gunnersbury Park (Messrs. de Rothschild).	Lost, 55-150 for 4 wkts
July 5	Anguloa (Messrs Sander & Co.).	Won, 68-40.
,, 10	St. Luke's Ir stitute, Kew.	Draw.
,, 16	Chiswick House (Dr. Tuke).	Won, 83-68.
,, 26	Anguloa (Messrs. Sander & Co.).	Won, $106-24$.
Aug. 20	Turnford Hall (T. Rochford & Sons).	Lost, 41—43.
,, 30	St. Luke's Ir stitute, Kew.	Won, 36-24.
Sept. 13	Dover House (J. Pierpont Morgan, Esq.).	Lost, 22-60.

Four Wednesday afternoons were granted by the Director for matches,

F. S. SILLITOE, Capt. A. OSBORN, Hon. Sec.

APPOINTMENTS, ETC.

SIR JOSEPH DALTON HOOKER, G.C.S.I., has been appointed by the German Emperor a foreign Knight of the Order "Pour Le Mérite" in recognition of his services to Science and the Arts.

Mr. Geo. Nicholson, F.L.S., was one of the two English delegates selected by the Horticultural Society to attend the Conference on Hybrids at New York, U.S.A., in October. He returned November 15th, after a most interesting journey.

Mr. T. R. Sim, F.L.S., who left Kew in 1879 and is now one of the foremost scientific men in South Africa, has recently been appointed Conservator of the Forests in Natal. He commenced his career at the Cape as curator of the Botanic Gardens at King Williams Town. He soon attracted notice by winning the first prize for an essay on irrigation in a competition initiated by the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes. He has also written works on *The Ferns of South Africa* and the *Forest Flora*; for the latter he received a grant of £250 from the Government of Cape Colony.

Mr. Louis Gentil, who for two or three years after leaving Kew held important posts in the Congo Free State, has recently been, by the Belgian Government, appointed Curator of the Botanic Gardens, Brussels.

Mr. W. H. Patterson has been appointed Keeper of the Gardens and Instructor in Horticulture at University College, Reading. Miss Alice Hutchings, who was Mr. Patterson's colleague at Swanley, has joined him at Reading.

Mr. Frank Garrett.—It will be a source of regret to many to know that Mr. Garrett, who for over sixteen years has had charge of the Ornamental Department at Kew, left on Oct. 31st last, to take charge of the gardens at Blenheim—a post which is regarded as one of the first prizes in horticulture. Besides his long experience at Kew, Mr. Garrett has served in some of the finest private gardens in this country—such as Longleat, Syon, Downton Castle, and Sandringham. Too modest to seek fame, Mr. Garrett has nevertheless gained it by his successful work at Kew. Scores of young men have benefited by his supervision of their work and by the sound practical doctrine he taught. It may be a larger sphere of labour to which he has moved, but Kew men will not admit it to be a more useful one. He was presented before his departure with a handsome clock as a mark of respect from many members of the staff.

Mr. A. Osborn succeeds Mr. Garrett as foreman of the Ornamental Department. He came to Kew in April 1899, and for two and a half years was sub-foreman in the Ferneries. Previously he had been with Messrs. Sutton and Messrs. Veitch, and had spent some years in private gardens.

The following appointments have also to be recorded:-

Brown, T. W.	Superintendent, Royal Gardens, Fez, Morocco.
Casse, A. E.	Superintendent, Plantations, Bayeux, Hayti.
Dawe, M. T.	Assistant Curator, Botanic Station, Uganda, B. E. Africa.
Elder, John.	McMeeking's Tea Plantations, India.
Fishlock, W. C.	Agricultural Instructor, Botanic Station, Tortola, W. I.
Gill, Norman.	Supt., Government Gardens, Cawnpore, India.
Green, Henry F.	Assistant, Government Cinchona Plantations, Mungpoo, Bengal.
Gullick, W. F.	Agricultural Lecturer, Hants County Council.
Gunnell, E. M.	Demonstrator, School of Horticulture, Aberglaslyn, Torquay.
Harrow, R. L.	H. G., Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh.
Hemsley, O. T.	Asst. Supt., Royal Bot. Gardens, Lahore, Punjab.
Hislop, Alexander.	Supt., Municipal Gardens, Oudtshoorn, Cape Colony.
Leslie, J. Erskine.	Assistant, Royal Botanic Gardens, Calcutta.
Long, Ernest.	Assistant, Royal Botanic Gardens, Calcutta.
Mahon, John.	Curator, Botanie Station, Uganda, B. E. Africa.
McNeill, Murdo.	Agricultural Instructor, Bot. Garden, Grenada.
Miller, E.	Supt., Experimental Gardens, Alperton Lodge,
A- 1 TY	Alperton.
Navel, H.	Director, Colonial Institute, Nantes.
Thomson, Walter.	H. G., Alnwick Castle.
Vaněk, B.	Prince Auersberg's Gardens, Weitworth, nr. Salz- burg, Austria.

KEW NOTES.

The Rock-garden at Kew.—We are indebted to the publishers of the new edition of Thompson's Gardener's Assistant for the photo-illustration of the Eock-garden at Kew here given, which is one of several excellent views of Kew published in that work. It is exactly twenty years ago that this Rock-garden was made on the site of a lawn facing the T range of houses, and from the first it has been one of the principal attractions of Kew, both for the specialist and also the lover of the picturesque. "The general idea of its construction was that of the rocky course of a stream, such as may be met with in some of the side valleys of the Pyrenees. Such streams dry up after winter, and are bounded by rock-piled banks, amid the crevices of which a copious summer vegetation springs up. Above the rocks an evergreen shrubbery growth descends wherever the soil is of sufficient depth. The path, 8 feet wide and 514 feet long, at the bottom of the Rock-garden, represents the dry bel of such a stream" (Kew Report for 1882).

The varied conditions afforded by a garden of this character provide accommodation for a large and comprehensive collection of alpine and sub-alpine plants of sufficient hardiness to thrive in the open air in England. Shaded nooks, sunny corners, dry, stony situations, wet, boggy, peaty bays and positions where every ray of sunshine is caught are all easily obtained in a Rock-garden of the Kew pattern. Whilst it does not perhaps present the imposing array of stones characteristic of some rockeries, it certainly furnishes suitable conditions for most of the plants classed as alpine and many others beside. It also permits of an arrangement of the plants that renders their inspection by the public easy, a matter of first importance in a place like Kew.

The Kew Hand-Lists.—A new edition of the List of Herbaceous Plants cultivated in Kew was published last summer. It contains 1235 pages, and the number of plants enumerated is about 8000. "Popular" names are added (when they exist), and a reference to a figure is given whenever possible. The price is 1s. 9d. The first edition of the List of Trees and Shrubs is out of print, and a new and considerably enlarged edition is on the point of publication.

BACK NUMBERS OF THE JOURNAL.—We would like to remind members of the Guild of the growing value of previous numbers of the Journal. During the past year perfect copies of the 1893 number have changed hands at 10s. each. Even damaged copies have fetched 5s. each. The numbers for 1898 and 1899 are obtainable from the Secretary at 5s. per copy; those for 1895 and 1900 at 2s. 6d.; the rest (with the exception of the 1893 number) still remain at 1s. With regard to the number for 1893, the stock of which is exhausted, the Secretary would be glad to hear from anyone having a copy or copies for sale.

The Herbarium.—The most important addition to the establishment during the past year is the new wing to the Herbarium. This extension, which is of the same size as the large hall built at the back of the old building 25 years ago, practically doubles the accommodation for dried specimens. It is fireproof and each storey is connected by a corridor with the rest of the Herbarium. The architecture and elevation are the same as in the original building, and the front faces Kew Green. It is rapidly approaching completion, and will probably be fit for occupation in the early part of 1903.

TEMPERATE HOUSE.—The reglazing of the central block of the Temperate House has been proceeded with during the past summer, and the loftier part of the roof is now finished. The use of clear untinted glass and large panes, in place of the narrow green ones, makes the house much lighter and better fitted for the class of plants it contains. The soil throughout the whole of the beds has been renewed and a system of thorough drainage adopted. The greater part of the old soil had been

in the beds since the house was built—now exactly forty years ago—and no drainage had been provided. As some of the beds were five or six feet deep it is not surprising that the soil had become sour. The northern wing—known as the "Himalayan" house—has proved a great success. The chief feature is the collection of Rhododendrons, but the conditions are found to be admirably adapted for many other warm temperate plants. Buddleia Colvillei has flowered here for the first time at Kew, and many other plants are developing beauties that one never previously knew they possessed.

THEN AND Now.—A comparison of the Garden Staff of the year 1879 with that of 1902 reveals a marked increase in the amount of skilled labour employed. In 1879 Kew employed 7 foremen and 31 gardeners; there are now 5 foremen and 60 gardeners on the staff. The increase is due to some small extent to the greater area of glass, but mainly to the substitution of gardeners for labourers. The 60 gardeners are now distributed as follows:—Flower-garden, 11; Herbaceous dept., 7; Arboretum, 4; Palm House, 7; Temperate House, 8; Greenhouse dept., 7; Propagating dept., 4; Nos. I, II, III, and V houses, 6; T Range, 6. This change in the character of the staff has worked admirably in increasing its efficiency and smartness, and it adds immensely to the scope of the establishment as the University of The pay of sub-foremen is now 27s. per week, that of Horticulture. gardeners 21s. The intermediate rank of "advanced man" disappeared long ago.

VISITORS DURING 1901.—The number of persons who visited the Royal Botanic Gardens during the year 1901 was 1,460,169; 40,414 above the average for the ten years 1890-99. The total number on Sundays was 594,371, and on week-days 865,798. The maximum number on any one day was 88,543, on May 27, and the smallest 35, on December 12. The total number on Sundays and week-days, compared with 1900, shows a considerable increase.

The detailed monthly returns are given below:-

•		_		
January				12,923
Februa:y				18,450
March				39,513
April	• •			190,878
May				307,052
June		• • •		235,726
July				193,936
August				$245,\!598$
September		• •	٠.	147,108
October				$40,\!242$
November			• •	15,717
December				13,026

SINCE THE NATIONALISATION of the Gardens in 1841, they have been under the control of the First Commissioner of Works. They are, on April 1st, 1903, to be transferred from the Office of Works to the Board of Agriculture, whose President is Mr. Hanbury, M.P.

KEW ON THE FIRST CORONATION DAY.—The unhappy postponement of the Coronation was made known so short a time before the actual time arranged for the ceremony, that scores of thousands of visitors had already arrived in London. Most places of amusement and resort being closed, and the great event being indefinitely deferred, people scarcely knew what to do with themselves. Kew, however, proved a friend in need. Although the Gardens were to be closed (and the employés given holiday) for two days, arrangements were hastily made to keep them open. The result was rather surprising. A crowd of people came, equal in numbers to that of a bank-holiday. But no such crowd was ever seen in Kew before! It seemed as if Clubland, Piccadilly, and Bond Street had emptied themselves into Kew that day. Nearly 80,000 people visited the gardens on June 26th and 27th, and, mirabile dictu, not a basketful of orange peel and paper did they leave behind them.

A Young Stork.—As gardeners, most of us look with a jaundiced eye on the whole tribe of fowls and their antics in the garden. The British Public, it is true, takes a keen (it seems to us a morbid) interest in the fowls at Kew, and the pelicans are close rivals in popularity to the Victoria. However harrowing it may be to the feelings of the herbaceous and flower-garden departments, there is a large section of the public who see something extremely mirthful in the four pelicans performing a pas de quatre on a bed of Crocuses. The storks, however, are quite inoffensive. In fact their quaint appearance and philosophical habits make them rather in keeping with a botanic garden. It is without regret, therefore, that we announce the birth of one in Kew, especially as it is—according to the Standard—the first that has ever been hatched and reared in England.

[&]quot;No man goes out from Kew whose career is not watched."—
These striking words were spoken by the Director at the last Guild Dinner. They express, more concisely perhaps than any other words could do, the chief object of the Guild's existence. We are afraid that at the outset exaggerated ideas of what the Guild was to do were entertained by a few. Its aim is not to get up agitations for increase of pay, or to dabble in incendiary matters of that kind, as some few appear to have imagined. We have received a communication from a member, who is in the service of one of our important Colonies, hinting broadly that we should throw ourselves into a movement

whose object would be to improve the conditions of the particular service to which he belongs. Even if it were politic to do so, the Committee has no means of ascertaining the justice of complaints which originate a few thousands of miles away. Moreover, it strikes us as rather a tall order to be based on a subscription of one shilling per annum-irregularly paid. At the same time the Guild has been the means of helping a good many Old Kewites. Before its inception most men who left Kew disappeared into the great world and, after a few fitful reappearances, were often lost sight of entirely. Now, the whereabouts of most of them are known, and many instances have occurred in which the best man for a place has been found by means of our directory. But after all, the chief object of the Guild is to "watch" and record the careers of its members. And what greater incitement to the best doing of one's duty can there be than the thought that hundreds of your fellow-workers, alumni of the same great institution, are watching your endeavours and claiming a share in the glory of your successes!

"IN KEW GARDENS."

I like Kew—when the sun is high,
When the sky is a dome of blue,
When dear London is parched and dry,
I like Kew.

There in June on a day, we two
Listened long to the tree-tops' sigh,
Wandered happy the gardens through,
Watched the river go rolling by.

There you asked—though of course you knew—
"Don't you like it?" "Oh, yes," said I, "I like You."

Punch.

ANNUAL SOCIAL EVENING AT KEW.—Kewites, both present and past, with their lady friends, numbering altogether about 120, held their annual gathering in the Gymnasium, Kew, on January 30, 1902. The Curator kindly supplied plants, flowers, and evergreens for the decoration of the room. For some years past the entertainment has been of first-rate quality, and the last was no exception to the rule. A lengthy programme, in which dance and music alternated, was commenced at 6.30 p.m., and a successful evening was brought to a close at 11.30 by singing "Auld lang syne" and the National Anthem. Mr. M. Housego acted as M.C., and Mr. W. C. Smith as Hon. Sec.

The Old Cinchona Pit.—The old partly sunken lean-to house known to so many generations of Kewites as the "Cinchona Pit," or "No. 21," has disappeared. It was pulled down last summer, and its site is occupied by a loftier, up-to-date structure. It was very

characteristic in structure, glazing, etc. of the sort of plant-house Kew men twenty or thirty years ago used to work in. But the "Old Cinchona" was pretty well the last that remained. Before Kew was made a public garden it was used for growing melons and cucumbers.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE GROUNDS.—The piece of ground between Brentford Gate and Kew Palace lawn, which used to be fenced-off from the Gardens by a ha-ha and kept private, has now been added to the part enjoyed by the public—only a small portion being kept for a nursery and depot. This is a great improvement and convenience. As Kewites will remember, anyone passing from the Brentford Gate to the Main Entrance on Kew Green had to make a long détour. Now he can take an almost direct line. A portion of the Queen's Cottage Grounds previously enclosed has also been added to the Pleasure Grounds proper.

MUSEUM No. 3.—The row of sheds at the back of this building has been transformed into a very useful and pleasant annexe to the Museum. The yard attached has been planted with big trees. Some hundreds of Kewites will remember this place as the old "Stores Yard," where Mr. Granger used to preside over the signing of the pay-sheets every Saturday morning after breakfast-time. The new annexe is to be devoted mainly to the economic products of the Coniferæ and allied families, cones, etc. We believe the walls are also to be used for displaying portraits of botanists.

Thompson's 'Gardener's Assistant.'—A new edition of this work has this year been completed and published by the Gresham Publishing Company. The list of specialists who assisted in the work of revision includes the following Kewites:—F. W. Burbidge, G. Massee, J. Fraser, R. L. Castle, W. Dallimore, and W. J. Bean. The duties of general editor were entrusted to Mr. Watson. The book has been remodelled, revised and enlarged to such an extent that it is now practically a new work in which every department of the garden is dealt with in a thoroughly comprehensive manner to meet the requirements of present-day horticulture. Competent judges declare it to be by far the best all-round work on practical horticulture that has ever been published. It is noteworthy that the two standard works on horticulture, namely, the Dictionary of Gardening and the Gardener's Assistant, have had for their editors the late and the present Curators of Kew, respectively.

OLD KEWITES ON LEAVE.—Mr. W. Fox, after a six years' spell of service in Singapore, is having twelve months' holiday at home; he is residing in Kew with his wife and daughter. Mr. R. Derry is also home from Perak with his family. Mr. G. Lane from Calcutta had to come

to England on account of impaired health, but expects to return early in the New Year. Another Kewite in India, Mr. M. Ridley of Lucknow, came to England during the summer for six months' holiday; he is living at Torquay. Mr. Foster of Lagos and Mr. Quinton of Sierra Leone spent some time in Kew studying the collections, etc.; in August they went together on a trip to Jamaica to study tropical cultures there; Mr. Johnson from Aburi (after spending the summer in England) has gone for the same purpose to Ceylon. From South Africa Mr. Leighton paid a short visit to England, and made a hurried call at Kew. Mr. Rolert Armstrong of Cape Town has also been here. Of the West Indians (now a noble contingent), Messrs. Thompson of Jamaica, and Tannock of Dominica, have been home.

NOTES FROM OLD KEWITES.

Mrs. M. A. Turner (née Gulvin) writes from The Hawthorns, Felixstowe, Feb. 8, 1902:—"Many thanks for the Journal, which I much enjoyed as usual. I feel like an old war-horse when I receive anything relating to the horticultural world. You may be interested to hear that at present I am very busy studying an entirely new species (of the animal kingdom this time) which was discovered in this neighbourhood in October last, and has been identified by an old botanically inclined under-gardener of mine as 'Microbossa minutissima noctoclamans'! 'It' lives outdoors from morn till night, and is fast preparing for a lady gardener; so I hope you will remember me kindly, and keep a vacancy. I am hoping very much to manage a visit to the Gardens some time this year, and show my husband all the wonders of beautiful Kew."

Mr. H. B. Witty, Spring Bank, Hull, writes Feb. 11, 1902:—
"You will, I know, be pleased to hear of the success of an Old Kewite.
At the last meeting of the Hull City Council I was appointed Superintendent of Parks, Cemeteries, and disused Burial-Grounds; also
to have charge of several thousands of avenue trees, the Sanatorium
Grounds (now being laid out), with about 60 men under my charge.
All the management books, together with all the receipts (amounting to
some thousands of pounds yearly), pass through my hands. I have
spent the last thirteen years with the Council. However, I have never
forgotten the very many excellent lessons gleaned and stored at Kew.
They have been a constant guide in many matters needing discretion
and tact, and a help to the resolute performance of duty, even if at a
sacrifice of pleasure. I believe that many have passed through Kew,
and realised years after the great value of the training it gives in more
than mere gardening."

Mr. Lewis Castle.—Early this year the Worshipful Company of Fruiterers offered a prize of 25 guineas and a gold medal for the best essay on "Grading, packing, and selling fruit and vegetables by Cottagers and others with small holdings." We may congratulate the Guild on the fact that it is one of its members—Mr. R. L. Castle—who has come out not only first in this important competition, but "far ahead of all other competitors." In the Journal for 1896, p. 11, there is an account of a previous success of Mr. Castle's in the same direction. He was equal first with Mr. Wright for an essay on "The Commercial Aspect of Hardy Fruit Growing in Great Britain," and shared with him a prize of £15 offered by the R. H. S.

Mr. J. Coutts, Killerton Gardens, Devon, writes May 14, 1902:—
"I received the Journal all right and found it interesting as usual. I now enclose P.O. for my life-subscription. I suppose by this time there is a new race at Kew, very few left that I knew. Does the British Botany Club still continue in a flourishing condition? [Yes.] I hope so, for if gone about in the right way it is a splendid training for a man to use his powers of observation, and especially is it valuable for Kew men. One thing I can say from my own observation is, that it brought the men in touch with each other more than anything else in Kew. I begin to get things a bit in hand here now. Last winter we made new walks and beds, and generally turned the place inside out. We are getting together a good collection of Iris, bulbs, and other hardy plants."

Mr. W. C. Smith, in his time one of the hardest workers for the Guild, left Kew during the summer to devote his life to religious work. He writes from the House of the Sacred Mission, Mildenhall, Suffolk, July 11, 1902:—"I like my present mode of life very well. I may safely say I shall not regret the step I have taken. I am just being initiated into the mysteries of Greek grammar. I also do Latin and Old Testament History. On the whole we are a happy family, no women to bother us. Only one lady comes to the house, and she to mend our clothes. I hope the cricket club is doing well. I am going to Scotland for my holiday, and shall most probably visit Glasgow Botanic Gardens and see Rourke."

Mr. R. L. Harrow writes from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, June 1, 1902:—"You will be glad to hear that at last I am officially appointed as Head Gardener here. My charge commenced on the first of the month. As regards my duties I am to have 'the supervision of the whole of the collections, the maintenance of discipline' etc. I have removed to the house Mr. Richardson resided in. We are extremely busy in the garden and have done a considerable amount of

planting this last season. No doubt you know that I have been carrying on the work of the garden for more than six months past."

Mr. R. J. Dinn writes from Risco de Oro, Teneriffe, Jan. 9, 1902:— "If I must tell the truth, I was rather disappointed at this country, when driving through it from Santa Cruz to Port Orotava. However, things improved much on looking closer. The slope of the mountainridge from Santa Cruz to La Layuna is very barren, but once over the top, the vegetation gets more luxuriant. What struck me most, at first sight, were the huge bushes of Poinsettias all in full flower in October, forming bright red patches all over the country. This place is about 15 acres, very undulating and mostly yet untouched ground. natural beauty of the place, and indeed of the whole country, is remarkable. I have visited many of the gardens mentioned in Dr. Morris's lecture (Journ. of R. H. S. xix.). Everything seems to grow well. Col. Whethered has even some Orchids in the open air, amongst which Cattleya Schroderæ was flowering in November. The turning of waste into arable land is an expensive affair here. In some parts the land is full of stone walls, roughly built up in the time of the Cochineal, to protect the Opuntias and the young insects upon them from wind. Besides this, the soil itself is very stony. All these stones have to be worked under, and the good soil to be brought to the top. The towns, both Villa Orotava and Port Orotava, are very picturesque, but when one gets near they look as if they had known better days."

Writing again on Aug. 6, 1902, Mr. Dinn says:—"I received the Journal for 1901, and also through Messrs. Barr & Son of Long Ditton the receipt for my life-subscription. When away from Kew, one feels much more the importance of such a publication as the Guild Journal. It helps to keep Kew and its associations fresh in one's mind, and the address-list must, to my thinking, be of much help to any Kewite who wants information about some special branch of the profession. Through the knowledge that all on that list have passed through Kew, one feels encouraged to address otherwise perfect strangers on such subjects.

"The country here, where it is not cultivated, looks very bare just now. Rain only falls from October to February, and for the rest of the year we have to depend on irrigation. On the whole there is not enough water, that is to say, not enough is collected in the mountains. I am told that there is plenty running to waste into the sea, but the Spaniards do not seem to have energy or money enough to start new irrigation-works. On unirrigated land, and on the slopes of the hills, grapes are grown (for wine-making). The irrigated fields are for the greater part planted with Bananas, Tomatoes, and Potatoes for export, chiefly to England. Maize forms a large crop for native consumption. The public roads are planted mostly with Eucalyptus globulus and Pepper-trees (Schinus Molle). The Eucalypti, owing to the strong winds in winter, look very untidy when they get big. All trees when blown

down are simply chopped up for firewood. A saw-mill would be an improvement here, as the wood is quite sound. Eucalyptus Lehmanni makes nice compact trees, but wants more water than E. globulus. E. diversicolor (E. robusta?) makes big trees in a very short time and has the advantage of doing well in gravelly soil, with little watering. It also is better shaped than E. globulus. Ficus elastica grows fast here. In the Botanic Gardens there is a specimen with a trunk over 2 feet across at 3 feet from the ground, which was planted only some forty years ago. Another kind, called here Ficus laurifolia, is much used for shade in the public squares.

"As to myself, you will be pleased to learn that my salary has twice been raised since I came here. The place pleases me well, only one can make few friends."

Mr. A. H. Prehn, Berlin Botanic Gardens, writes Feb. 2, 1902:-"Accept my thanks for the Journal you kindly sent me last month. You will receive by P.O. 3s. for subscriptions. As regards my doings since I left Kew, I must say that I do not feel perfectly happy here. One cannot expect that things are everywhere as perfect as they are at Kew, but I cannot help saying that I was rather disappointed at what I saw here. It has been acknowledged, it is true, that the old garden with its old constructions does no longer answer its purpose, and the establishment of a new garden outside the town has been already started some years ago. There is no doubt that things will be better in the new one, although it may still be several years before it is finished. amelioration ought to take place also with regard to the wages which are paid here; they are really sad. I certainly make no unreasonable claims, but I think a monthly salary of a little more than 3½ guineas is a very modest one. To say that this is the compensation for my endeavour to gain professional perfection at home and abroad! And I think I took it earnestly!"

Mr. O. Armbrecht, Derneburg, Hanover, writes Feb. 13, 1902:—
"It is now more than four years since I left Kew, and I am indeed sorry that in the meanwhile I never found the time to give anybody at Kew some information of my whereabouts, as, according to my idea, every good 'Old Kewite' should do. Yet I may assure you that very often, and with much pleasure and thankful feelings, am I thinking of the useful and fertile time I spent at beautiful Kew. And now more than ever I recognize the good effects for the 'bigger world of life' (to use the Director's words) which the horticultural and not less the social training at Kew has upon every man, willing to work and to acquire knowledge. When I had to leave Kew after a rather short stay, on account of my father's illness, it was with much sorrow that I did so. Soon after my arrival here my father died, and I, though

rather young, succeeded him in his duties as Head Gardener to the Prince Münster, who was some fifteen years ago German Ambassador in London and afterwards in Paris. My work here I like very much; it is interesting and plentiful, the more so as my princely employer, in spite of his eighty years of age, takes much interest in gardening. My life-subscription follows this letter."

Mr. C. S. Rutter writes from Berlin, Aug. 30, 1902:—"Yesterday I went over the New Botanic Gardens at Dahlem, and was greatly surprised at the progress made there. From descriptions I expected to find a wilderness. It is all laid out to represent different localities, each of which is plainly labelled—forests, plains, bogs, lake-districts, and mountains; the two latter being exceptionally well-formed. The range of mountains takes up a large portion of the garden. The highest points represent the Himalaya; next come the Caucasus, the Carpathians, and the Alps. Each mountain is formed with the kind of stone or rock peculiar to it. On each side is the source of a river or mountain-stream, each of which flows in a series of waterfalls to the lake-district on either side. As yet they have only two or three houses finished; but there are several in the course of erection. They do not expect to open the Gardens to the public till 1904."

Mr. Norman Gill writes from Government Gardens, Cawnpore, April 17, 1902:—"The climate here is a dry one and far more healthy than Calcutta, although the temperature is higher during the day. Since coming here I have got back my usual health and colour, and have had no sickness.

"I am in charge of the famous Memorial Gardens, the gardens of the Municipality, besides various other smaller charges. 'For the first time in their history these gardens have been placed in charge of a "professional expert" '!!! (according to the local papers). The Head Malli in the Memorial Gardens gets the enormous salary of Rs. 8 per month! He is a queer old man—chews opium and smokes 'ganga' and knows nothing about gardening. Can't be dismissed because he has been here 33 years! The Head Malli in the Municipal Gardens gets Rs. 20 for a garden not a quarter the size of the Memorial Gardens; he is a more sensible native. I find labour and living much cheaper here than at Calcutta. Fancy coolies working at Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 per month; at Calcutta we paid Rs. 7 and Rs. 8 for the same labour.

"In a place like this, where bananas grow so well, there is scarcely a good variety obtainable. Have you ever sent a collection to India? A lot of money could be made out of banana-growing here, if properly carried out. What a wonderful plant the Loquat is—Eriobotrya or Photinia japonica. It grows without protection in Cornwall, and I

saw it at Kew growing on the wall leading to the Director's house. It grows luxuriantly here, and yields one of the best-paying crops of fruit.

"This is the place for sport—anything, from shooting Blue Bull down to Ping-pong! Last Saturday and Sunday I took the advantage of a holiday, and in company with three others we set out on a shikar. Between us we managed to get six fine buck (splendid horns), five peacocks, several hens, five hares, a brace of partridge, and several blue pigeons and quails. I saw about fourteen wild cattle or, as we call them, Blue Bull, but they were too shy for us. This is the first time I have ever met with them.

"A long letter is just to hand from Osborn, giving me all the latest Kew news. I shall scarcely be able to recognize Kew when I go home. Kew, glorious Kew! Really it is only when you get away from it that you begin to appreciate the thousands of advantages you get there.

"I got bitten badly in the hand some time ago by a 'pariah' (native) dog. It was nearly a matter of my being sent up to Kasauli for treatment. Fortunately the dog was a healthy one, and I am out of all danger now."

Mr. Stanley Arden writes from Selangor, Fed. Malay States, June 8, 1902:—"I am forwarding a copy of my first Annual Report. I regret I cannot show more satisfactory progress, but this is due to the delay in acquiring land for the Experimental Plantations. The site proposed by me, early in 1901, which was approved by Government, is not available even now. Government will not allow me to fell a tree until every detail in connection with the transfer has been settled. This no doubt is sound policy, but, as you will easily imagine, from my point of view it is most disheartening. My attentions in the meantime are chiefly confined to a small nursery, where I am endeavouring to work up a collection of plants ready for the land as soon as it is available.

"I spent a few days with Mr. Curtis in the mountain-range in the interior a week or two ago, and we were fortunate enough to collect Cupripedium Lowii, hitherto unrecorded from the Peninsula.

"You will be glad to hear that I am enjoying excellent health. In fact, beyond a somewhat severe dose of fever soon after my arrival, I have not had a day's illness. The slow progress my work is making is my one trouble. Anyhow I have still a year left before completing my agreement, and if I can only get hold of the land I mean to make up for some of the lost time.

"I am often thinking of the various lovely sights to be seen at Kew, the Rhododendron Dell, for instance. You don't see such sights out here."

Mr. T. W. Brown writes from Fez, Morocco, June 28, 1902:— "I have been somewhat long in writing to tell you something of Morocco; but you understand how unsettled one always feels during the first three months amongst a new people and fresh surroundings, and consequently how distasteful is letter-writing. Moreover, it is as well to let first impressions mature before writing.

"I have been here three months. When I landed in Rabat in January I found the Court there, and had to wait until it moved up here. It took us ten days to come up. The weather was wet, and in consequence the rivers were flooded and the country was soft and swampy. There are no made roads and very few bridges, so that travelling is not lacking in adventure. The country through which we passed is almost entirely devoid of trees, and even here there are none with the exception of olive and other fruit trees.

"Fez is, I think, the most picturesque town I have yet seen. It is situated at the mouth of a deep valley, through which flows the river Fez to join the river Sebou a little below the town. High mountains rise on either side, on the lower slopes of which stand olive-groves and orchards of figs, peaches, plums, etc. The town is surrounded by a high wall, part of which is in ruins. As in all Moorish towns, the streets are narrow and dirty. The decoration of some of the mosques is very fine, particularly the mosaics wrought with little glazed tiles on the floors and walls. The climate is most agreeable. Of course it is rather warm just now (last week we had 99° in the shade), but we experience no violent changes.

"I am engaged in making a flower garden within the palace walls. The greater part is to be laid out in geometrical designs; the surroundings do not allow of much rustic or natural gardening. I have sixty gardeners and as many labourers as I want. The gardeners are men who have been working in the orchards and vegetable gardens around the town. They are not, however, a very intelligent set. Of course horticulture and agriculture are carried on in the most primitive fashion. The ground is tilled with simple wooden ploughs drawn by oxen, the corn is cut with sickles which leave a foot of straw standing, and everything else is done in the same imperfect manner. It is interesting, however, and gives one an idea of how things were done in the far past. The Moors do not believe in change and have preserved all the ways and customs of their ancestors."

KEWITES IN CAPE COLONY.—We extract the following from the Annual Report of the Queen's Town Botanic Gardens, Cape Colony. "In February 1901 Mr. W. B. French resigned his post of head gardener here, on being appointed Forester to the Indwe Railway Collieries and Land Company, and left in March. To fill his place the Committee were extremely fortunate in securing the services of Mr. H. Holley, from the Municipal Gardens, Cape Town. Mr. Chalwin strongly recommended him and he has quite come up to our expectations,

and we think he will prove a very capable man in developing and improving our Gardens."

From a similar Report of the Municipal Gardens, Port Elizabeth, we are glad to see that Messrs. J. G. Duncan and G. Douglas are also pleasing their employers.

Mr. C. W. SMYTHE, who left Kew in Feb. 1901 to join the Imperial Yeomanry and returned to England in August last, has, we are happy to state, nearly recovered from the severe wounds he received during the war. He stayed at Kew a few days in the early part of November and looked in the best of health. He states:- "I sailed for South Africa on March 8th, 1901, and disembarked at Port Elizabeth on April 5th. Thence we entrained for Elandsfontein, and after a short stay there were sent to Harrismith. Although I was in several engagements I escaped all misfortune till Christmas Day. That day, at 2 A.M., we were surprised by the Boers under De Wet. Through some neglect or bad management, our pickets were only 30 yards away from the camp when they were rushed by the Boers. The latter were, of course, upon us before we knew what had happened, and as there were 1200 of them to our 400, the affair was soon over. My part in the business was short but exciting. I found myself in front of three Boers, two of whom I brought down in two shots. My rifle, however, was then empty and the third Boer had me. As I was searching for some kind of cover and trying to re-load at the same time, he fired at me twice. Being only 15 yards away he could not miss, and one bullet broke my left leg, the other my right forearm.

"On this occasion De Wet behaved in a very gentlemanly way. He came past as I lay on the ground, and on ascertaining from me that I was wounded, expressed his sympathy in a few kind words. Some of the younger Boers commenced to loot the hospital waggon, but De Wet would not have it. I saw him drive them off himself and use his sjambok on them freely. After I was wounded my pockets were searched by about a dozen Boers one after the other. I had no money, however, and, to their disgust, all they found was a small bottle of castor oil and some flour. De Wet left about a dozen of our men to look after the wounded and, taking the rest prisoners, rode away. We were conveyed in waggons to Harrismith, and there I laid till August 1902, when I was invalided to Netley and finally discharged on Oct. 7th. I am very glad to be able to add that I am now doing well, after a rather more eventful time than falls to the majority of the craft."

As is the case with most brave men, Mr. Smythe is very reticent about his own doings, and it was only after a good deal of questioning that the information above given was extracted from him. The letter he wrote announcing his disaster is very characteristic of the man:— "Ward BII, 19th, Stationary Hospital, Harrismith.—Dear Sir, Have heard from my father concerning your request for my photograph. Am

sorry to say that the only one I have had taken was an utter failure. I suppose you have heard of our little calamity, so I will say nothing about it. Please remember me to all Kewites.—Yours sincerely, C. Smythe."

Mr. R. R. Mentzel writes from Klerksdorp, S. Africa, July 1, 1902:—
"I am pleased to tell you that I am doing very well in business and that I am also well in health. We are all glad out here that at last the great strife which seemed never to end has at last been brought to a successful close. We are all confident that under the new régime we shall be able to live as a people should who are used to liberty such as we have enjoyed in the Old Country. There is now quite a different spirit amongst the people living here, and I am glad to say that this spirit has already had a good effect upon the Boer population. They have at last awakened to the fact that Great Britain is not only a powerful nation, but they also recognize her generosity and that the change in government can only be for the better.

"I am not able to say much more just now, but I trust I shall be able to send you a longer letter soon to tell you of my doings during the war, which, though I cannot boast of any great deeds, I think you will find interesting."

Mr. C. J. Howlett, Curator of the Botanic Gardens, Graaff-Reinet, Cape of Good Hope, writes December 31, 1901:—"I am pleased to say I am doing first class, but of course cannot get about to do any botanizing. We are still shut up in town under martial law. I shall be very pleased when it is all over, as I am longing for a ramble. I heard from J. Mahon some time ago. He appeared to be getting on nicely and liked the place. We had a tremendous hailstorm here a few weeks back which did much damage to the fruit. The hail knocked them off the trees in thousands and cut right through the bunches of grapes. We have also had swarms of locusts clearing off everything green before them, which is not very encouraging. I had some splendid beds of Dahlias, Chrysanthemums, etc., but after the locusts had gone over there was not a green leaf to be seen. They even go for orange trees.

"I am glad to be able to report progress of Solanum Wendlandii. From the plant you sent me a few years ago hundreds have been raised, and it is now all over the country. All came from the Kew plant. It roots so freely here that once it is planted out it runs wild; just cut off pieces about a foot long, of half-ripe wood, put them in the open ground, and in about six weeks they are on the run. Manettia bicolor is also another very taking plant out-of-doors and roots very freely as it runs along the ground."

MR. ED. LUJA writes from Route d'Eich, Luxemburg, 18th March, 1902:—"Having just returned from a two years' sojourn on the Zambesi

river, I have the pleasure of writing to you a few words about my last doings. I visited the whole country on the left side of the Zambesi up to the Shiré river, and from there up to Mitangi and Lomwe country.

"I worked for a Portuguese company which intended to create coffee and especially rubber plantations. My work consisted in studying the soil, the forests from an economical point of view, and exploring the country in general.

"Among rubber plants I found several species of Landolphia; I also discovered Kickwia and several Ficuses, but they yield a very bad rubber. No quantities of rubber can be obtained in those regions, for I found only very few full-grown plants, and these all bearing marks of having been incised previously. I brought specimens of these plants with me to be studied.

"Plantations of Manihot Glaziovii exist already in several places near Quilimane as well as farther in the interior, but the result is such that they are already going to be abandoned. I met with great difficulties in the Zambesi, for the Portuguese people do not care much for doing work. They always showed bad will, are quarrelsome, and have little idea about plantation work. Nevertheless I succeeded in creating a coffee plantation in the Marrambala mountain, about 1000 metres high. It amounts to 220 acres. On the same mountain I introduced Sapium tolimense, which does very well."

Dr. Morris writes from Barbados, 27th February, 1902:—"I have safely received the Journal of the Kew Guild for 1901; and I am very delighted to find that it contains such a very large amount of interesting matter and that the Guild is, in every way, so successful an organisation of Kew men past and present. One of the most striking features is the correspondence from those who have left Kew and are engaged in their several duties all over the world. Also, it is most useful to have so conveniently at hand a list of Old Kewites. Many of these are established in this part of the world, and it is not too much to say that such men as Mr. Cradwick, Mr. Harris and others at Jamaica, Mr. Powell at St. Vincent, Messrs. Jones and Tannock at Dominica, Mr. Sands at Antigua, Mr. Broadway at Grenada, and Mr. Millen at Tobago, are all of them, in their respective spheres, a credit to Kew and valuable and highly appreciated public officers. If the new Kewites would follow in the steps of those I have mentioned, there need be no fear as to the future of Kew-trained men.

"I sincerely wish you every success in maintaining the well established position of the Kew Guild. I am convinced that its influence is, in all respects, most valuable and deserving of support. I might suggest for your consideration that successive numbers of the *Journal* might be continuously paged, so as to render the index at the end of each volume

more easy of reference. You have a good opportunity of doing this as I understand the present number practically means a new volume."

[The Committee had already decided on adopting this plan.]

Mr. W. E. Broadway, Grenada, W.I., writes Nov. 15, 1901:—
"How times have changed at Kew since I worked in that grand institution! I am getting grey, but am full of life and energy, thanks to continued good health. My colonial life has been one of much pleasure, so much so that I have never wished to go back to the Old Country to live again. I am deeply attached to this beautiful and prosperous little island. Since Dr. Morris has been in the West Indies as my chief and the chief of the other Curators in the Windward and Leeward Islands, I have seen a great deal of sympathetic co-workers. The Agricultural Conference held at Barbados in January enables me to meet many influential people, including all the Kewites in the West Indies."

Mr.J.Jordan writes from Montserrat, W.I., April 22, 1902:—"I thank you for the Journal. On receipt of it I did, what I suppose all Kewites so far off do, went right through from cover to cover, and have had many dips into it since. I was glad to see how the other men of my own year were getting on. Poor 'Long' Brown has had a very bad time indeed. I hope that his letter was written when he was in the thick of it, and that he is not the wreck pictured. I met many of the fellows out here in January at the Conference, which, by the way, is a splendid institution. Tannock, Sands, and Jones were looking very fit; Lunt, too, could hardly have looked better. I have been busy since I came here, and have got three stations in working order—fenced, water laid on, paths made, etc. I have raised and distributed about 130,000 plants besides what have been used in planting up the stations. The people here take to the work very well, and one can see reforms being introduced."

Mr. W. C. Fishlock writes from the Botanic Station, Tortola, W.I., May 25, 1902:—"I arrived here on May 2nd, rather earlier than I had anticipated. We arrived at Barbados on Sunday, April 13th, after a very pleasant passage out; but, owing to quarantine regulations, I was unable to go ashore to see Dr. Morris; he, however, sent me a very nice letter, and instructions as to my reception at Dominica. I was met by Jones on the ship on her arrival at Dominica, and he had most kindly made arrangements to put me up during my stay there. I also met Tannock; he lives with Jones, so three Kewites were living together for awhile. Tannock had a slight touch of fever while I was at Dominica, but he was rapidly recovering when I left, and I hope is quite well again ere now. Both were very pleased to hear news of home and old associates etc. Jones has a very fine garden—a garden of which he may well be proud; and Tannock is doing good work at the Agricultural School."

Writing again in August 1902 Mr. Fishlock says:-" The Virgin Islands form the most northerly presidency of the Leeward Islands Colony, and they lie between St. Kitts and Porto Rico. They are a number of small islands belonging to Great Britain, Denmark, and the United States. The chief British ones are Tortola (from Spanish words meaning 'the land of the turtle-dove,' on account of the numbers of that bird which once lived on the island); Virgen Gorda ('the fat Virgin,' as it is in Spanish); and Anegada, or the 'Drowned Lands,'—this last is extremely flat and surrounded by reefs, making it very dangerous to mariners. In the old days, I believe, wrecking was there made a kind of fine art. As far as I can see, agriculture there is almost hopeless. Virgen Gorda, on the other hand, seems more hopeful as a field for the agriculturist, and miner, too, for that matter, as I believe several mineral ores are found there. Many romantic and interesting stories are told about the place, happenings of the old buccaneer days. Copper has been worked there since the early years of the 17th century. At present the chief industries of the place are fishing and charcoal-burning. Goats, cows, horses, etc. are also raised for the St. Thomas market. Tortola, the chief island of the group, and the seat of Government, is a rugged island about 14 or 15 miles long by some 5 or 6 miles broad, but the breadth is very variable. The hills in places rise to nearly 2000 feet high, and the roads over them are extremely rugged, in fact only passable to native horses. The natives are fearless riders, and gallop over roads which shock the feelings of an Englishman.

"The chief town is Roadtown, what we in England would call a hamlet, chiefly a collection of ruined houses containing about 400 inhabitants, but showing abundant signs of former greatness. I am told that in the old days Roadtown rivalled St. Thomas itself. The staple industries here are stock-breeding, sugar and rum manufacture, fishing, charcoalburning, etc. The natives are a very independent class of people, and will only work at comparatively high rates of pay; it is often remarked here that a native with a few acres of land is as independent as a man in England with £250 per annum. There is scarcely any circulation of money among them, and they work in gangs for food and rum."

Mr. A. E. Casse writes from Bayeux, Hayti, June 1, 1902:—"Since writing you from New York about New Year I received the Kew Guild Journal, for which I beg you accept my best thanks. I read it of course immediately from cover to cover, and all its contents were greatly interesting to me. It was a real pleasure to recall old friends. Surely the Journal is of great value, for us far-away tropical members especially.

"Though it is not much more than a year since I had the pleasure of visiting you at Kew, it appears to me a lifetime, so many strange experiences have I had since then. This property, 'Bayeux,' is an old estate which a hundred years ago, when Hayti was a French colony, used to be one of the richest in the island. When I, a year ago, arrived

here and took the management for the Belgian Company 'Les Plantations d'Haiti,' I found a vast tract of land-bush, forest, swamps, and mountain. Some large fields half-covered with trees and bush, with old ratooning canes, were the only signs of cultivation. There was a primitive rum factory--Haytian style. The population, some 300 souls, consisted of a miserable set of half-naked lazy beggars-born thieves. They lived on the land-crabs which everywhere populate the ground, and on a few bananas and 'batates' which they planted anywhere around the estate. There were no stock, cattle or horses, and no buildings. Now everything is changed. We have a good dwelling and three large magazines, stables, etc. Sixty acres have been planted with bananas, the rootstocks of which were imported from Jamaica, 25 acres are in maize, 16 in rice, and so on. The sugar-cane fields are being improved. Cacao is to be the backbone of our enterprise, and we have already 2500 healthy trees planted in the field, while 1000 are ready in the nursery. We have also planted 1000 trees of Castilloa elastica and 800 Hevea brasilie isis, these two latter plants merely experimentally. Draining and irrigation-canals cross the estate in all directions. working strength varies from 150 to 300 men according to the seasons. You see some work has been done; of course it is only the commencement.

"When considering the agricultural possibilities of a tropical country, the conditions of the labour supply is of the greatest importance, much more so than in temperate climates. The reason is that the nature of the ground and of the plants mostly cultivated does not allow of the use of complicated labour-saving machines and implements such as now do almost all the work on northern farms. Here the greater bulk of the work has to be done with simple hand-tools, or even with the naked hand. In respect to labour, Hayti has a great advantage over the surrounding colonies and republics, and the fertility of soil and climate is unsurpassed. There must be a rich future for this country, just as the times past have been rich. But we must have a stable government, justice, security for property, modern export conditions and shipping facilities. All these we have not got, and till we get them we are working a little uphill.

"The Coffee of Hayti is an interesting product, because it is produced in enormous quantities and is of such good quality; moreover it is practically wild."

MR. J. P. QUINTON, Curator of the Botanic Station, Sierra Leone, writes:—"On returning to England from W. Africa one has to answer a host of questions about the country and native customs.

"The native is really a very amusing animal. In nearly all places he has the most profound trust in and respect for the white man. The 'debil' seems to be the only worry of his life. According to native ideas there are good 'debils' who look after a particular person, and

bad 'debils' who look after other people's interests. The native 'boy' works on the Coast until he has saved enough money to invest in a wife or two. He then goes back to his country and tells his friends that he has come to 'make farm and buy wife.' To accomplish the former object a piece of bushland is selected somewhere near the village. Two or three acres are burned down to begin with, and the crops of corn, cassava, rice, ground nuts, ginger, etc., planted in hillocks between the stumps. Women do all the planting. One or two rough shelters are erected, under which the women and girls beat out the rice when ripe and store it until carried away to the house in the village.

"The piece of land thus cleared may be worked for two or three years. It is then abandoned, and other pieces are selected and treated in a like manner.

"When the crops are growing the owner places what is called a 'Boephema' on the land. This is generally a tall stick with a tin or two, some stones, glass bottles, and bits of rag tied to it. A native would starve rather than touch stuff that had 'Boephema' to protect it. The chief object of a native's life after he has settled down is to see that his wives grow enough food to keep them all. A native marriage is quite a simple business, and a man may have as many wives as he likes. If at any time he does not want them, or cannot keep them, he can sell them, or, if they misbehave themselves, send them back to their parents and claim the return of the purchase money originally paid. Young girls from 15 to 18 can be bought from their mothers for £3 and a bottle of trade gin.

"At a native marriage high revels are kept. The mother is generally the happiest person, but if, by her lack of supervision, the girl sold is not as represented, she will forfeit the second instalment of the purchase money, which, under usual circumstances, would be paid to her on the day following the marriage ceremony. A woman so married works for her husband for the rest of her life.

"The female children are taken great care of. They are seldom seen about in villages after they are about 10 years old. Sometimes a stream of girls covered with beads and beating 'tong-tongs' will be seen marching into a village to visit their mothers, and then all one can learn is, that 'they live out in bush till person come for talk palavar to dere mammy for make her gib'em one her gal for wife, sah.' The bodies of such girls are said to be kept covered with a peculiar native poison, as a protection. In many places on the West coast barbarous methods are resorted to for the same object.

"There is a large native secret society called the 'Poora,' meetings of which are held in the 'Poora' bush, and are only attended by the big chiefs, who call a meeting in their own district when they return, to communicate to the members what took place in the 'Poora Bush.' The 'Poora debil' is the 'debil' most feared by natives generally.

"All Poora men are marked with raised lumps on the skin, in a double line down the spine, and with one or two branch double lines on both sides. The marking, which is supposed to be done with a knife and native poison, is performed in the 'Poora Bush,' when the patient is a little child. The ordinary native never goes into the 'Poora Bush' again in his life. In fact he would not dare. These marks are also said to have been noticed among some of the natives at Lagos.

"Although widespread, the society does not seem to have a bad effect generally. I have found Mendi 'Poora' men to be among some of the most intelligent workmen. Of all native institutions this is doubtless the most powerful, extensive, and feared.

"There are other smaller societies, such as the 'Alligator' and 'Leopard' societies, which have murder and cannibalism alone for their objects. Skins of the animal from which it takes its name are prepared in a certain manner by each of these societies, and used as a covering by the natives who do the killing for the feast. An endeavour is being made to stamp this thing out, but such secrecy is maintained, that, unless taken red-handed, there is no proof of anything obtainable. The finding of the specially prepared skin, or knife used, on any native's property is now a serious thing for the persons concerned.

"In a country where natives walk alone for two hundred miles to the coast and back, it is hard to say whether such societies are on the increase or otherwise, as many such natives could disappear when travelling and not be missed for years by their people."

WEDDING BELLS.

		WEDDING B	EL	LS.		
Mr. G. Arnold	to	Miss M. McCoy	at	Dunboyne	May	24, 1899.
Mr. N. Baggesen	"	Miss G. Thompson	,,	Eltham, Kent	Dec.	26, 1901.
Mr. F. J. Cole	,,	Miss Pem Roberts	,,	Kew Gardens	Sept.	6, 1902.
Mr. J. Coutts	,,	Miss I. K. B. Porteous	,,	Dalhousie	Apr.	24, 1902.
Mr. T. P. Davies	,,	Miss E. Ralph	,,	Crickhowell	July	5, 1902.
Mr. S. T. Dunn	,,	Miss M. Thornton	,,	Pimlico	Apr.	17, 1901.
Mr. R. E. Gill	,,	Miss F. Best	,,	Marylebone	Dec.	17, 1901.
Mr. C. G. Girdham		Miss M. E. Webb	,,	Rhayader	$\mathbf{J}\mathfrak{u}\mathrm{n}\mathrm{e}$	3, 1902.
Mr. W. F. Gullick	,,	Miss J. Boxall	,,	Richmond, Surrey	Apr.	9, 1902.
Mr. W. B. Hardy		Miss M. E. Fortnum	,,	Llanrhos	Apr.	23, 1902.
Mr. E. Hemming	,,	Miss A. J. Bushman	,,	Gettysburg, Penn.	Nov.	5, 1902.
Mr. J. H. Holland	,,	Mrs. M. FitzGerald	,,	Chiswick	Sept.	27, 1902.
Mr. H. Holley	,,					
Mr. R. Hunt	,,	Miss A. Clift	,,	Kew	Oct.	9, 1902.
Mr. J. Jeffery	,,	Miss J. Leigh		Armitage		
Mr. J. Jones	**	Miss L. Jelley	,,	Woking	Feb.	12, 1902.
Mr. W. L. Lavender	٠,,	Miss K. Barrett	,,	Ottery St. Mary	May	19, 1902.
Mr. F. M. Mark	,,	Miss E. A. Day		Long Ditton, Surrey		
Mr. J. T. Marks	,,	Miss E. M. Seaman	,,	Bury St. Edmunds	Dec.	26, 1901.
Mr. J. C. Newsham	,,					
Mr. H. H. W. Pearson	n ,,	Miss E. E. Pratt	,,	Little Bradley	Sept.	25, 1902.
Mr. E. J. Thomas	,,	Fräulein J. W. Siedel	,,	Oxford	Mar.	17, 1902.
Mr. S. Turner	,,	Mis: Hewkin	,,	Greenfield, Yorks	Apr.	24, 1901.
Mr. H. Wilson	,,	Miss N. Ganderton	,,	Edgbaston, Birm.	June	8, 1902.
Mr. W. N. Wright	"	Miss E. C. Barber	"	Duffield, nr. Derby	Aug.	27, 1902.

IN MEMORIAM.

WILLIAM AITON.

WITHOUT entering into particulars of the early history of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, it may be mentioned, in connection with the history of William Aiton, that they were famous in the first half of the seventeenth century, and were then the property, through marriage, of Lord Capel, whose name survives at Kew in "Capel House" near the bridge. About the year 1730 the Prince of Wales, father of George the Third, leased the property from the Capel family and began the extensive alterations and improvements, which were finished by his widow Augusta, the Princess Dowager of Wales, during whose possession, from 1751 to 1772, they gained their scientific character. Various persons noted in botany, in horticulture, and in garden architecture were employed, or concerned, in the extensive works, among them William Kent, Lord Bute, Sir John Hill, Sir Joseph Banks, and Sir William Chambers. The last-named designed and built most of the structures in the garden, from the temples and pagoda to the glass-houses, including the great stove (which still existed when the writer entered Kew in 1860), between the years 1758 and 1762. The Physic or Exotic Garden, according to Chambers, was not begun till 1760. This brings us to the date of William Aiton. He was born in 1731 at a small village near Hamilton, in Lanarkshire, aud in due course was "trained in the science and practice of horticulture," evidently beginning at the bottom of the ladder. In 1754 he left Scotland for London, and was soon engaged under the celebrated Philip Miller in the Chelsea Physic Garden, where he did so well that in 1759 he was recommended to the Princess Dowager of Wales as a competent person to take charge of the botanical collections at Kew. It is not clear whether there was a predecessor holding exactly the same position at Kew, but it is unlikely, because the building of the various stoves and greenhouses, including the orangery, was not completed before 1761. Aiton had excellent opportunities, of which he made the most, gaining for himself and Kew a European reputation. No expense seems to have been spared, and the best methods known were adopted in all the garden structures. Seeds, bulbs, and plants were sent to Kew from all parts of the world where Englishmen travelled. A little later, 1768-80, Cook's voyages were undertaken, and Sir Joseph Banks, who was attached to the first, began his numerous contributions, two Australian species of Casuarina being among the first. In 1772 Francis Masson was sent to the Cape of Good Hope to collect living plants and seeds for Kew, and he was highly successful, sending home such "a profusion of plants unknown till that time in the Botanical Gardens of Europe that Kew thereby in a great measure attained that acknowledged superiority which it now holds over every similar establishment in Europe." Meanwhile Sir John Hill, a prolific writer of

the period on botanical subjects, published in 1768 the first Hortus Kewensis, an octavo volume of 458 pages containing an enumeration of between three and four thousand species of plants cultivated at Kew. Sir John Hill's position in relation to Kew is uncertain, though probably honorary; but Thornton, the author of the Temple of Flora and other costly illustrated books, styles him (1799) the "First Superintendent of the Royal Gardens at Kew."

Until 1783 William Aiton had charge of the botanical department only, but in that year he was "promoted to the more lucrative office of managing the pleasure and kitchen gardens at Kew, which he was allowed to retain in connection with the botanical department, which he had before occupied." He lived in the house that is now occupied by the Curator and which was for a considerable period the official residence of the Director during the time that the establishment was in Royal occupation. His sen Wm. Townsend Aiton died there in 1849.

In 1789 he published his Hortus Kewensis, or Catalogue of the Plants cultivated in the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew, consisting of three octavo volumes with thirteen coloured plates. This is an admirably concise work, and, although it was preceded by eight editions of Philip Miller's classic Gardeners' Dictionary, it was the foundation of the history of the introduction of exotic plants for cultivation in England. About 5500 species belonging to 1116 * genera are briefly described, with references to the most important botanical publications of the period, the native country of each species, date of introduction, and by whom introduced.

Hill's Hortus Kewensis, already referred to, is little more than a list of names with the shortest of descriptive phrases, so that we are almost wholly indebted to William Aiton for the record of information respecting the introduction of plants during and preceding his period.

In his preface Aiton says:—"Small as the book appears, the composition of it has cost him a large portion of the leisure allowed by the daily duties of his station, during more than sixteen years. In all that time it has been thought worthy the assistance of men more learned than himself." A second edition of the *Hortus Kewensis*, consisting of five volumes, was published between 1810 and 1813 by his son and successor.

Respecting the personal character and attainments of William Aiton, there is little on record, but what there is highly favourable. Aitonia capensis, named in his honour by Thunberg in 1776, is figured in the Botanical Magazine (1791), t. 173, and William Curtis, who doubtless wrote from personal knowledge, says:—"The great length of time Mr. Aiton has been engaged in the cultivation of plants, the immense numbers which have been the constant objects of his care, through every period of their growth, joined to his superior discernment, give him

^{*} I have not verified these figures, which are taken from Frederick Scheer's Kew and its Gardens, and Joln Smith's Records of Kew Gardens.

a decided superiority in the *prima facie* knowledge of living plants over most Botanists of the present day. His abilities in the other line of his profession, are displayed in the eulogies of all who have seen the royal collection at Kew, which he has the honour to superintend."

Curtis, and many other botanical writers, state that Aitonia capensis was named by the younger Linnæus in honour of William Aiton. This is true, in a sense, because he actually described the same plant (Supplementum Plantarum Systematis Vegetabilium, p. 303) under the name Aytonia capensis. This was in 1781, five years after C. P. Thunberg had published it.

Aitonia capensis is a native of South Africa, where it ranges from Albany, in the East, to Little Namaqualand, in the West. It is a shrub of more botanical than horticultural interest, having a somewhat anomalous floral structure, in consequence of which it has been alternatively referred to the Sapindaceæ and the Meliaceæ. Its reddish flowers are succeeded by large, red, bladdery seed-vessels, similar in texture to the enlarged calyx of the winter cherry. Probably this shrub owes its wide distribution to the fact that the seed-vessel is easily dispersed by the wind. Speaking generally, the species of South African plants are very local.

Among the dried specimens in the Kew Herbarium is one preserved by Bishop Goodenough, probably from a plant grown at Kew, and labelled in the Bishop's handwriting, "Aitonia honesta, S. G.," i. e. Samuel Goodenough.

William Aiton died on February 2nd, 1793, in his sixty-third year, was buried at Kew, and among the pall-bearers were Sir Joseph Banks, Bishop Goodenough, Dr. Dryander, and Zoffany, the artist, who lived at Strand-on-the-Green. This is sufficient testimony of the high esteem in which he was held in different circles of Society. A funeral sermon was preached at Brentford by the Rev. W. Smith, from which we learn that Aiton was known and appreciated abroad as well as at home, as is proved by the following extract from the printed sermon:—"Not only was our friend universally known and esteemed in his own country, but his name and fame have extended to distant kingdoms, and to every quarter of the globe. I myself found them passports in various places abroad, and through his recommendation alone have been introduced to men of genius and science in foreign courts."

On hearing of Aiton's death, the Marchioness of Rockingham wrote to Sir James Smith in the following terms:—"I little thought five years ago that I could have felt so much concern for the death of Mr. Aiton; but I had not seen him then, and only looked upon him as the Kew gardener; but the single quarter of an hour he was with me occasioned an instantaneous conversion. I was quite charmed with the plainness of his manners, without a grain of that pomposity one might have expected; but on the contrary, quite pleasant and communicative in his profession; in short, he took my fancy so much that I cannot help

feeling infinite regret that so great and good a man in his line should now be no more."

In Kew Church is a mural tablet bearing the inscription:—

Sacred to the Memory of WILLIAM AITON, Gardener to His Majesty King George the Third. He died Feb. 2, 1793, aged sixty-two.

Flowers! that assembled from each foreign spot
Here blcom by royal aid, and bless your lot!
In circling rays a radiant glory frame,
Round this memorial of your Aiton's name;
His patient care, his pure benignant mind,
Rank and distinction to your tribes assign'd;
Will you permit no venal bard to bend
In just regret of Flora's buried friend;
Tis her's his living monument to raise,
Proof of his toil and herald of his praise,
Nor end the plaudits of his virtues here,
Those who embellish earth to Heaven are dear.

The lines are not good, but the intention doubtless was, and it is pleasant to be able to repeat here so much that is laudatory of the first botanical gardener of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

W. BOTTING HEMSLEY.

JOHN ROGERS.

Born at Richmond in Surrey on February 10th, 1752, and entering what were then known as the Royal Gardens, Richmond (but which now form part of the Arboretum at Kew), before he was out of his teens, John Rogers is one of the very first Kewites of whom we have any record. In 1838 he published his "Life and Reminiscences," a very interesting little book, from which we are kindly permitted by the present head of the family—Mr. A. C. Rogers of Southampton—to make the following extracts. To Mr. Rogers are also due the thanks of the Committee for the use of the two portrait blocks of William Aiton and John Rogers.

The latter writes:—"As soon as I was old enough I went to school at Richmond and afterwards to a Classical Seminary in Soho Square, London, the identical house in which Sir Joseph Banks resided. When about eight years old my father took me from Richmond to London to see the funeral of King George II. I returned by the only coach on the road at that time, and the reader can imagine what sort of a vehicle it was when I say the coachman always carried ropes and halters to tie up such parts of the coach as were likely to break down or come apart.

"My father having left it entirely optional with myself to choose the profession I pleased, I soon afterwards, from reading a work just then published, Every man his own gardener, by an old friend of my father's,

John Abercrombie, determined to become a gardener. My father soon succeeded in procuring me a situation in the Royal Gardens at Richmond, then under the superintendence of Mr. John Haverfield.

"Most probably there is not a person living [in 1838] besides myself who was personally acquainted with Phillip Miller; and I cannot look back to one of the most pleasing events of my life (my introduction to him) without a reverential feeling of admiration for this deservedly eminent character. Although his fame had spread over the three kingdoms, and even the greater part of Europe, yet he appeared, as it were, unconscious of his renown and was equally distinguished by the unassuming simplicity of his manners as he was by the extent of his genius. His greatest pride while he lived was the being styled 'Gardener to the Worshipful Company of Apothecaries at the Botanic Garden, Chelsea.'

"A visit to Mr. Miller being arranged, I went to Chelsea, where, upon enquiring at the Botanic Gardens, we were informed that he was in the greenhouse. We found Miller, who looked very feeble, arranging some plants. I was introduced as a young man who had a great desire to see the gardens and who had made up his mind to be a gardener. At that word, Miller gave me a look with his sharp penetrating eyes, which although seventy summers have since passed away, is still vividly impressed on my memory. Miller then asked me my age, and upon being told said I should have begun earlier but with industry and perseverance there was plenty of time yet. He ordered one of his men to show us through the different forcing and other houses, and on taking leave kindly shook me by the hand and said, 'Young man, should you again wish to visit the gardens you will be admitted.'

"After my interview with Miller it was with no small feelings of pride and pleasure I put on the blue apron. I remained in Richmond Gardens three years, and through the kindness of a most worthy and talented man, Mr. William Aiton, who, from Mr. Haverfield dying soon after I was in my situation, succeeded to the entire management of the Royal Gardens at Kew and Richmond, I soon became tolerably well versed in the practice of my profession. During my stay in the Royal Gardens I had frequent opportunities of seeing the King (George III.), who at this time resided in a domestic manner at Ormond Lodge [in the Old Deer Park, Richmond]. He would often walk to where we were at work and occasionally ask us questions.

"After leaving Richmond Gardens, I was recommended as head gardener to a gentleman of the name of Pechell. In this situation I remained rather more than three years in the cultivation of my favourite pursuit. With melons and cucumbers I was most successful; and at a melon show on the 12th August, 1776, at East Sheen I gained the first prize.

"In the year 1777 I entered upon an engagement in a more extensive

garden belonging to Geo. Wilbraham, Esq., at Weaverham Hall in Cheshire. While I was there a noble bunch of Syrian grapes weighing 19 lbs. 3 oz. was cut in the Duke of Portland's garden at Welbeck.

"In 1780 I left this place and was engaged by Sir Ed. Dering, Bart., as head gardener at Surrenden in Kent. In this year the disgraceful 'Gordon' riots occurred in London, and I was an eye-witness of the most lawless and appalling sights. One day I beheld the burning of Newgate Prison, which produced the liberation of nearly 300 felons, who escaped, clattering their chains as they went along the streets, and no

one daring to stop them.

"After residing at Surrenden about two years I married, but in 1789 left on account of Sir Edward having reduced his establishment. I accepted an engagement by Messrs. Hewett and Smith, of the Brompton Nursery, to travel for the firm. In the year 1789 I went a journey of nearly three thousand miles on horseback. My family was getting large, having been increased on two several occasions by twins; and I therefore determined, if possible, to get permanently settled. I was very fortunate in being engaged by Mr. Matthew Burchell (father of Wm. Burchell, the great traveller) to assist in the management of one of the oldest and best nurseries in England. It was frequently visited by those renowned statesmen Pitt and Fox, Lord Grenville, etc. Here was I actively employed for twenty years, until the retirement of Mr. Burchell."

In 1812 Rogers joined his son William in the management of a nursery at Southampton, and subsequently in 1828 helped to found the famous "Red Lodge Nursery" near that town. On November 9th, 1842, he sank peacefully to rest, in his 91st year, without pain or previous illness, retaining all his faculties to the last. He is interred, with his wife, in the old burial-ground of All Saints, Southampton.

GEORGE SAMUEL JENMAN, F.L.S.

By the death of Mr. Jenman in Georgetown, Demerara, Feb. 28, 1902, the Guild loses its oldest member in the Western Tropics and botany an excellent pteridologist. He had been in failing health for some time, but a fatal termination to the illness, which recently confined him to his room, was not generally anticipated. It was only within the last week or so of his death that the Government decided to grant him long leave of absence in order that he might proceed to England to recruit, as it was fondly hoped, his shattered health.

Mr. Jenman was born near Plymouth in 1845, but early in life he went with his family to the South of Ireland, where his boyhood days were spent. He received his early training in horticulture chiefly in nurseries near Plymouth, and entered the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in 1871. The year following he was promoted to be foreman of the herbaceous department and, in 1873, was appointed Superintendent of the Castletown Gardens, Jamaica, then under the direction of Mr. Thomson. "After spending several years in that colony, Mr. Jenman was appointed Government Botanist and Superintendent of the Botanic Gardens of British Guiana, when these were instituted under Government supervision in 1879. Under his care the Gardens have been laid out and cultivated, and what was once to all intents and purposes waste land has been converted into one of the finest and most valuable botanic gardens in the West Indies. His experiments in tropical culture extended over a large variety of plants and growths, but what his name has been most closely associated with are seedling cane experiments. At first, on his own initiative, and later, on the arrival of Professor Harrison in the colony, in close association with the Government Chemist, Mr. Jenman carried out a long series of experiments which have made the names of Harrison and Jenman almost household words wherever the sugar-cane is cultivated. In other branches he was equally distinguished, and many plants indigenous to the tropics have been discovered and named by him. Nor did he confine his attentions to botany; to zoology and natural history he devoted much time. He contributed largely to literature on the subjects which he had made a life study; and his articles in The Demerara Argosy, in British and American scientific journals, and to learned societies, were fully appreciated by scientific men throughout the world.

"Mr. Jenman was pre-deceased by his wife some eight or nine years ago, and is survived by one daughter. He was in his fifty-seventh year, and was interred at St. Sidwell's, where his remains rest beside those of his wife."

(From 'The Demerara Argosy,' March 1, 1902.)

WILLIAM RING.

Mr. Ring entered Kew Nov. 19, 1849, and left in Sept. 1851. He settled in the village and commenced business as a market gardener, marrying Miss Gregory, a daughter of the then Clerk of the Works. His Kew training showed itself in some of the plants he grew for sale. He had a little shop (where the village post-office now stands), and Kewites of twenty or twenty-five years ago will remember the plants of Stapelias, Aloes and Gasterias which, among other things, he used to expose in his shop window for sale. His garden occupied the space between the present Mortlake and Gloucester Roads. Kew village in Ring's middle-age was a smaller and less pretentious place than it is now. But he seems to have done something to entertain the villagers by getting up penny-readings etc. He died at Sevenoaks in February 1902.

A. ALDRIDGE.

We regret to have to record the death of this Old Kewite, which occurred at Petersham in December 1901. He commenced work in Kew June 1846, and after rising to be a foreman left the 15th of April, 1865. He then started a market-garden nursery in what is now called Sandycombe Road (then "Sandy Lane"). Afterwards he removed to Petersham, and founded the large and successful business still carried on by his sons.

ALEXANDER MESTON.

We are unable to furnish any particulars of this Old Kewite except that he died about six years ago at Santa Barbara, California. He left Kew in April 1873.

PRESENT KEW STAFF.

PRESENT KEW STAFF.
(The names of Life-members are preceded by an asterisk.) Entered Kew.
SUB-FOREMEN.
Name. Department. Entered Kew. Previous Situation.
Ball, Charles F Herbaceous Dept. July 1900 Barr & Sons, Long Ditton. Besant, John W Decorative Dept. Feb. 1901 Glasgow Bot. Gardens. *Cave, J. E Arboretum Jan. 1900 . The Woodlands, Streat-
Halliburton, James D. Ferneries Jan. 1901. St. Fagan's Castle, Gla-
MacGregor, Donald. Decorative Dept. Jan. 1902. Dalkeith Palace, Dalkeith. Page, W Orchids Oct. 1898. Low & Co., Enfield. Sillitoe, F. S Propagating Pits. June 1901. J. Veitch & Sons, Chelsea. Stayner, F. J Nursery Pits June 1900. J. Veitch & Sons, Ltd., Feltham.
*Stocks, John Palm House Feb. 1901 L.Späth's Nurseries, Berlin. Swatton, Alfred Herbaceous Dept. May 1901 Chilham Castle. Tyrrell, Herbert Decorative Dept. Mar. 1900 Lamport Hall, Northamptonshire.

GARDENERS.

Name. En	tered Kew .	Previous Situation.
Adams, Ronald A	ug. 1901	Chiswick House,
	me 1902	Henderson's Nurseries, Hoddesdon.
	eb. 1902	Hyde Side Nursery, Lower Edmonton.
3744000, 0.111111111111111111111111111111111	ine 1902	Norwood, Alloa, N.B.
	in. 1897	Trained at Kew.
Doiton, W M	ar. 1901	The Grange, Hackbridge.
	ine 1902	J. Veitch & Sons, Ltd., Chelsea.
Brown, E S	ept.1901	Nostell Priory, Wakefield.
	ar. 1902	Russell's Nursery, Richmond, Surrey,
	ct. 1902	Farmleigh, Castleknock, Co. Dublin,
	ept. 1901	Carron Bank, Stonehaven.
	une 1902	Whiteley's Nursery, Hillingdon.
	ug. 1902	Essex County Council, Chelmsford.
	[ar. 1902	Whittinghame, Prestonkirk, E. Lothian.
	[ar. 1902	Low & Co., Enfield.
Eves, J. W M	ar. 1902	Tyntesfield Gardens, Flax Bourton, Bristol.
Gagge, A. P J	uly 1902	H. B. May's, Dyson Lane Nursery, Edmonton.
Harwood, A	lar. 1901	Pentillie Castle, St. Mellion.
	une 1902	Smithills Hall, Bolton.
	une 1902	Orwell Park, Ipswich.
Horton, O J	an. 1900	Myton Hall, Yorkshire.
Johnston, J. T N	ov. 1902	5 Leaman Terrace, Middlesbrough.
Leslie, J. Featherstone. 1	Iar. 1902	Kier House Gardens, Perthshire.
Locke, R. H	une 1902	Physic Garden, Chelsea.
Lodge, J M	Iar. 1902	Burfoot's Nursery, Kingston - by - Sea,
		Brighton.
Mack, F. C J	an. 1902	Canwell Hall, Tamworth.
	Iay 1901	Glasgow Botanic Gardens.
Martin, Georges N	Nov. 1902	Clark's Nursery, Putney.
	far. 1902	Trewidden, Penzance, Cornwall.
	Dec. 1902	Scone Palace, Perth.
	Vov. 1902	Elie House Gardens, Elie, Fifeshire, N.B.
10.011, 1111,	Feb. 1902	P. Seismayer's Nursery, Frankfurt-on-
11 cy c1, 1 . 11		Main, Germany.
Murphy, J	Nov. 1901	Huntington Castle, Donegal.
2.2.0.2	Mar. 1901	Gorhambury Park, St. Albans.
Poetsch, A	Sept.1901	Low & Co., Enfield.
	Aug. 1802	J. Veitch & Sons, Ltd., Coombe Wood,
i didoni, iv	146.1.01.	Kingston.
Quelch, Annie	Aug. 1902	Lady Warwick Hostel, Reading.
Rastall, W	Jan. 1902	Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich.
and the same of th	Oct. 1901	City Parks, Berlin.
	Apr. 1901	Low & Co., Enfield.
	Oct. 1902	Hyde Park, W.
	July 1901	Hampton Court.
Sprignigs, A. O. G	Apr. 1902	Burbage Nurseries, Hinckley.
	May 1902	Heythrope Park, Chipping Norton, Oxon
Thomas, Ernest	Aug. 1901	Low & Co., Enfield.
	July 1901.,	Britwell Court, Burnham.
Tutcher, F. G	Sept. 1902	Cardiff Castle.
	Sept. 1901	Haage & Schmidt, Erfurt.
	Mar. 1902.	Abbot's Hall, Shalford, Braintree.
11 mpps, 24. O		Trail, Charlott, Diamile.

OLD KEWITES.

(The names of Life-members are preceded by an asterisk.)

Name.	Left Kew.	Present Position and Address †.
*Abbott, James M	Sept. 1898	c/o Mrs. Shelton, Tun Lane, Lowdham,
Aggett, Walter H	June 1888	Notts. Supt., Open Spaces, Bermondsey, S.E.
*Aikman, Alexander		Manager, 'The Garden,' Tavistock St., Covent Garden.
Allan, William	Aug. 1851	H. G., Brownlow House, Lurgan.
Allard, Edgar	Aug. 1899	F., Bot. Gardens, Cambridge.
Archer, Sydney* *Arden, S	Mar. 1895. June 1900	Supt., Experimental Gardens, Fed. Malay States.
*Armbrecht, Otto	Jan. 1898	Derneburg, Prov. Hanover, Germany.
Armstrong, James	Mar. 1893	Dobbie & Co., Rothesay, N.B.
*Armstrong, Robert Armstrong, Thomas	Oct. 1897 Aug. 1850	The Hill, Claremont, Cape Town, S. Africa. N., Moorville, Carlisle.
Arnold, George	Oct. 1894	Florist, Ballymacoll Gardens, Dunboyne, Co. Meath.
Arthur, Alec	April 1899	Supt., Parks & Gardens, Shanghai, China.
*Ashton, Frank M	May 1885	Stanley & Ashton, Nurserymen, Southgate.
Astley, James	Nov. 1898 Feb. 1896	Wortley Hall, Sheffield.
Attenborough, F	reb. 1030	c/o J.H. Warren, Esq., Hoosick Falls, New York.
Augull, Karl	July 1902	4 Grande Rue, Bourg la Reine (Seine), France.
Auton, William J	Feb. 1897	Gunnersbury Park, Acton.
Avins, Charles W	Oct. 1894	J. Veitch & Sons, Ltd., Chelsea.
Baggesen, Niels	Dec. 1900	N., Albany Road, Cardiff.
Bailey, Thomas	Sept. 1892	Ravenscourt Park, W.
Baker, James Baker, John Gilbert,	1876	H. G., Begbrook House, Frenchay, Bristol.
F.R.S., F.L.S.	Jan. 1899	3 Cumberland Road, Kew.
Baker, William	Dec. 1887	Curator, Bot. Gardens, Oxford.
Barker, Michael	Mar. 1884	Sec., "American Florist" Co., Chicago.
Barnes, Richard	Mar. 1871	Curator, Public Gardens, Saltburn-by-Sea.
Bartlett, A. C	May 1898	H. G., Pencarrow, Bodmin, Cornwall.
Barton, Robert Bass, Edward	June 1890 Mar. 1899	F., Frensham Hall, Shottermill, Haslemere. F., Sander & Sons, St. Albans.
Bass, Thomas	Mar. 1899	Dairy Cottage, Kew.
Bates, Frederick	Oct. 1874	H. G., Calke Abbey, Derbyshire.
Batters, Frederick II	Feb. 1891	F., Holker Hall, Lancashire.
Baum, Jacob	July 1900	N., Pallud sur Vevey, Switzerland.
Baumann, Ludwig Baumgardt, Hilding	Mar. 1902 Mar. 1902	Hyde Park, W.
Baxter, Robert S	Mar. 1874	N., Oxford.
Beck, Joseph		Upper Hale, Farnham, Surrey.
*Behnick, Eric	July 1894	F., Bot. Gardens, Berlin.
Benbow, Joseph	Sept. 1884	H. G., Abbotsbury Castle, Dorset.
Bennett, William H Benzon, Josef von	May 1880 June 1885	H. G., Menabilly, Par, Cornwall.
Berryman, Charles		(Temp.) Salzwedel, Altmark, Germany.
Bevan, Henry	April 1888	St. Kilda, Victoria, Australia.
Bleil, Frederick	May 1885	Germany.
Bliss, Daniel		
Bliss, J	Aug. 1891	H.M. Office of Works, Storey's Gate, S.W.

[†] Abbreviations: H. G.=Head Gardener; F.=Foreman; N.=Nurseryman; N. A.= Nurseryman's Assistant; M. G.=Market Gardener.