

Vol. III. No. XIX.

THE  
JOURNAL  
OF THE  
KEW GUILD.

**1911 & 1912.**

# RULES.

- shall be called the KEW GUILD.
- and shall consist of all who are, or who have at any time been employed as Gardeners or in any position of responsibility in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
3. The business of the Guild shall be conducted by a Committee constituted as follows:—Seven Present Kewites, to include a Chairman of Committees, one sub-foreman and one young gardener, and ten Old Kewites. Four Committeemen shall retire annually, and be eligible for re-election.
  4. The annual subscription shall be 1s., payable on September 30th, to entitle members to all publications of the Guild. Life subscription 20s.
  5. The Guild shall publish, annually, a Journal containing a list of the Kew Staff, from the Director to the Gardeners, a list of all Old Kewites, with the date of their leaving Kew and their present positions and addresses; and such other information as shall appear desirable.
  6. An Annual General Meeting shall be held, when the Committee's Report and Statement of Accounts shall be submitted, and any business of a general nature transacted.

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"FLOREAT KEW."

THE  
JOURNAL  
OF THE  
KEW GUILD,

*AN ASSOCIATION OF*

KEW GARDENERS, ETC.

PAST AND PRESENT.

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*DECEMBER 1911.*

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*Jan. 1912.*



R. A. ROLFE, A.L.S.

ROBERT ALLEN ROLFE, A.L.S.

THIRTY-TWO years ago the gardens of Welbeck Abbey, Notts, lost a promising young gardener when ROBERT ALLEN ROLFE entered Kew, with the special object of improving his botanical knowledge. He had already passed the Science and Art Examination in Botany, and had paid much attention to the study of the British Flora. Soon afterwards, he passed the Science and Art Examinations in Advanced Botany, General Biology, Chemistry, and Geology, and secured certificates for Freehand, Geometry, Perspective, and Model Drawing. On a vacancy occurring in the Herbarium, he came out first of nine candidates at a Civil Service Examination, and commenced his career as a Government Botanist in July, 1880. Since then 31 years have flown over Mr. Rolfe's head, but they have left him almost as youthful-looking, as energetic, and as genial as ever.

Mr. Rolfe's earliest work of importance was in connection with the large Philippine collections of Señor Don Sebastian Vidal, including over 4000 specimens, and he collaborated with Señor Vidal in the production of the *Phanerogamæ Cumingianæ Philippinarum* in 1885.

His name is chiefly associated with his extensive labours amongst the Orchideæ, his more important contributions being 'Bigeneric Orchid Hybrids' (1887); 'A Morphological and Systematic Review of the Apostasieæ' (1889); 'Sexual Forms of *Catasetum*' (1890), in which the confusion as to three sexes, into which Darwin had fallen, was cleared up. The mantle of the late Prof. Reichenbach fell on Mr. Rolfe's shoulders in 1889, and his work has since proved that he has been able to wear it with distinguished ability. He has paid particular attention to natural hybrids. Writing in *Nature* in December, 1898, Mr. C. C. Hurst—who afterwards collaborated with Mr. Rolfe in the production of the *Orchid Stud Book*—says:—"Mr. R. A. Rolfe has done yeoman service in reducing the chaos of natural hybrid orchids to something like order. And so it has come to pass that artificial hybridisation, which it was supposed would lead systematic botany into the direst confusion, by the irony of fate seems destined to be the only trustworthy means of saving systematic botany from its own confusion." It would occupy several pages to enumerate Mr. Rolfe's writings on orchids alone. His name figures largely in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, the *Flora of Tropical Africa*, the *Index Floræ Sinensis*, the *Flora Capensis*, the *Kew Bulletin*, &c. He was editor of the English edition of *Lindenia* for over three years, while his work in connection with the *Orchid Review* for the past 19 years is well known,

Mr. Rolfe took part in the Hybrid Conferences of 1899 and 1906, and acted as judge at the Ghent Quinquennial Exhibitions in 1898, 1903, and 1908, and at the Florence International Exhibition in 1911. He was elected an Associate of the Linnean Society in 1885, and an Hon. Fellow of the R.H.S. and Member of the Scientific Committee in 1906. He married, in 1881, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Thatcher, of Clifton and Cheddar. He is a keen sportsman, and has blended cycling, lawn tennis, and music judiciously with his mental athletics, while as a man he is beloved by friends and colleagues alike,

J. W.

## ANNUAL REPORT.

(1910-1911.)

THE Committee have pleasure in presenting the Report for the year ending April 30, 1911.

The receipts for the year amount to £37 18s. 5½*d.* including 7 life subscriptions. The total number of Life Members is now 279. The expenditure was £49 11s. 11½*d.*

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Gymnasium, Kew. Mr. Watson presided. In consequence of the resolution recorded in the report of the last Annual General Meeting arrangements have been made for the Annual General Meeting and Dinner 1911 to be held at the Tavistock Hotel, Covent Garden.

The members of the Committee who retire this year are Messrs. J. Hutchinson, H. Pettigrew, J. Weathers, and Prof. Pearson. The Committee recommend the re-election of Mr. Weathers, and that Messrs. J. D. Jones, W. Taylor, and G. H. Ridley be elected to replace Messrs. Hutchinson, Pettigrew, and Prof. Pearson. The Committee feel that Ireland should be represented, and propose that Mr. C. F. Ball, Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, be elected. Messrs. J. C. Wallace and H. W. L. Southgate have been chosen to represent the sub-foremen and gardeners.

On the resignation of Mr. W. N. Winn from the post of Secretary the duties were kindly performed by Mr. A. Garnett, *pro tem.* The Committee felt that it would be advantageous to combine the duties of Editor with those of the Secretary and to increase the honorarium to £10 per annum. Mr. Herbert Cowley was invited to accept the post, and the Committee feel confident that the Guild could not easily have found one more competent to carry out the combined duties. It is hoped that this change will result in the regular appearance of the *Journal* every year.

The Committee regret to have to report the deaths of the following members:—Messrs. John Garrett, Robert Thomson, James Muir, and Robert Cross.

The Committee invite members to inform the Secretary should they be in need of employment, or if they know of situations which Kew trained men might fill.

The Committee also desire to be informed of any case in which assistance, pecuniary or otherwise, might be afforded to a Kewite.

The Committee proposed that Messrs. F. W. Harvey and G. Dear be appointed Auditors for the ensuing year.

*Balance Sheet, 1910-1911.*

<i>Receipts.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance from 1909-10.....	55 4 11	Secretary and Editor's } Honorarium .....	10 0 0
Life Subscriptions.....	7 0 0	Postage and stationery .....	4 13 10½
Annual Subscriptions and } Sales .....	9 14 7½	Printing and Freight of } Journals.....	3½ 5 1
Interest on £300 New South } Wales Stock .....	9 17 10	Annual General Meeting } Expenses .....	10 6
Interest on Deposits in Post } Office Savings Bank .....	1 6 0	Legal Expenses.....	12 6
Advertisements in Journal ...	10 0 0	Balance 1910-11 .....	43 11 5
Total.....	<u>£93 3 4½</u>		<u>£93 3 4½</u>

*Capital Account.*

<i>Liabilities.</i>		<i>Assets</i>	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Thomson Bequest.....	92 8 6	£300 New South Wales } 3½% Stock .....	300 0 0
*Life Subscribers' (279) Fund	254 2 11	Outstanding Advertisements	3 0 0
		Deposits in Post Office } Savings Bank .....	42 10 5
		Cash in hand .....	1 1 0
	<u>£346 11 5</u>		<u>£346 11 5</u>

\* It was resolved at the Annual General Meeting held on May 24th, 1911, "that the item of £254 2s. 11d. be deleted from the Liabilities side of the Capital Account and that the accounts be passed with this alteration."

Audited and found correct, 17th May, 1911.

J. COUTTS, *Treasurer.*  
H. COWLEY, *Secretary.*

C. P. RAFFILL, }  
A. OSBORN, } *Auditors.*

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE Annual General Meeting for 1911 was held at the Tavistock Hotel, W.C., on May 24th, when a large complement of members attended. The Secretary, Mr. Cowley, read the Report including a Financial Statement.

Mr. R. HOOPER PEARSON, the Chairman, in recommending the adoption of the Report said it was the business of the Meeting to consider whether the Committee of the Guild had acquitted itself to the advantage of the Institution. Referring to the changes in

the Committee, as established and proposed, he noted with special satisfaction the appointment of Mr. Cowley to the Secretaryship. On the ground that it was outside the function of the Guild he deprecated the proposal to set up a Labour Employment Bureau. He heartily congratulated the Committee on its arrangements for the revival of the Annual Dinner.

Mr. PROUDLOCK (India) seconded the proposed adoption of the Report.

Mr. PAINE announced his satisfaction with the Report in general. He was puzzled, however, at the Committee's ignoring of the "Irish Branch" of the Guild which they—the Irish members—had established on their own initiative with the object of improving the conditions of its members in Ireland, where horticulture was assuming an important aspect. At the same time he appreciated the Committee's agreeing to receive a representative of the Irish members of the Guild in order that there might be submitted to them—the Guild—a series of resolutions formulated by the Irish members in conclave with a view to stimulating and assisting the Guild's offices. In conclusion, he reiterated his protest made at the previous general meeting, against what he described as the irregularity of crediting the Guild's Funds with New South Wales Stock at its nominal instead of its actual value.

Mr. COLE contended that the financial matter that Mr. Paine protested about was a trivial one.

Mr. BATES, in criticising the Statement of Accounts, held, with respect to the life-members' subscriptions and the Guild's liability in respect to them, that, should the institution have to be dissolved at any time, their assets would have to be realised. To whom, then, would that money belong? He regarded the publication of the *Journal* annually as being an acknowledgement of liability to life-subscribers.

Mr. H. H. THOMAS said, that though he was a life-subscriber, he felt himself really indebted to the Guild for the pleasure and interest its *Journal* afforded him. Commenting on the Committee's proposal to grant pecuniary assistance to distressed Kewites, he inquired on what precedent or authority they acted.

The PRESIDENT here explained that a precedent for the granting of pecuniary aid was established on the occasion of the granting of a donation to the widow of Mr. Wade.

Mr. C. H. CURTIS corroborated these last remarks. He also agreed with Mr. Thomas as to the necessity for more rules. Though he was aware that these were often made only to be broken, yet their absence repeatedly led to difficulties. Regarding the Irish members, he expressed the view that they were wise in banding themselves together for mutual assistance. At the same time, they could scarcely expect to be recognised as an established branch until the sanction and approval



of the General Meeting had been obtained. Returning to the balance sheet controversy, he said the Guild granted the Committee the powers to compound a life-member's subscription, therefore the Guild should acknowledge its liabilities in the balance sheet. The Guild was expected to invest its revenue and obtain sufficient interest to meet annual expenses.

Mr. F. W. HARVEY said he supported the previous speaker on all points. He thought the Guild was under a moral if not a legal liability to its members. He understood that the sum charged per head for the dinner failed to cover expenses, necessitating, therefore, drafts on the Guild's general funds: a state of things he did not condone with.

Mr. NEWSHAM touched upon the desirability of mutual assistance in procuring employment for out-of-work Kewites. He thought Kew might do more toward this end.

Mr. WATSON, Curator, said he had always done his best in pushing Kew men for appointments; there were occasions, however, when he could not officially give help. He enjoyed the criticisms levelled at the Committee, whose actions had nevertheless met with general approval. The subject of rules had been remarked upon. Personally, he objected to rules, when they restricted activity, hampered enthusiasm, and implied a want of confidence in the ability of the men they elected. Continuing, he said he had a very serious complaint to make. The balance sheet indicated that the whole of the Guild's funds belonged to the life-subscribers, and the Committee was not responsible for the balance sheet as presented to the Meeting. £300 had been locked up with the trustees and could not be touched.

The PRESIDENT arose to remark upon the delicate state of affairs that had been created by Mr. Watson's comments on the balance sheet. If the Committee had not sanctioned the balance sheet as published it ought never to have been presented at that meeting. He asked for an explanation.

Mr. RAFFILL, one of the auditors, said he was responsible for the item "liabilities." He had inserted it because he deemed it proper to do so.

Mr. OSBORN as co-auditor endorsed this view.

Mr. R. A. ROLFE considered that the action of the auditors was correct. The acceptance of a life-subscription certainly implied a liability to continue the benefits without further payment, and all Societies invested such funds to provide an alternative source of income.

Mr. WEATHERS voiced his astonishment at the interference with the balance sheet on the part of the auditors. He regarded all money in the Guild as assets which, apart from the "Thomson Bequest," could be utilised in any manner for the advantage of the Guild and its members. To ease the unfortunate situation, he moved "that the item of

£254 2s. 11d. be deleted from the liabilities side of the capital account and that the accounts be passed with this alteration."

Mr. F. K. SANDER seconded.

This amendment added to the Report, the latter was then adopted by ballot.

Mr. PAINÉ then read, on behalf of the Irish members, the series of resolutions the latter had passed for presentation to the Annual Meeting of the Guild.

In view of the highly debatable character of many of the clauses embodied in the resolutions, it was suggested that the whole should be laid again before the members on the occasion of their next General Meeting, a suggestion with which the meeting concurred.

The following were present :—

R. Hooper Pearson (*President*).  
 W. Watson (*Vice-President*).  
 Adamson, J.  
 Aggett, W. H.  
 Aubrey, A. E.  
 Badderley, G.  
 Baker, G. A.  
 Band, R.  
 Bates, G.  
 Berridge, T. G.  
 Besant, W. D.  
 Biggs, E. M.  
 Bird, D. H.  
 Bowell, E. O.  
 Braggins, S.  
 Briscoe, T. W.  
 Brook, E.  
 Bullock, T. G.  
 Butcher, G. W.  
 Capsticks, W. H.  
 Christie, J. S.  
 Cole, F. J.  
 Comer, S. G.  
 Cope, Miss G.  
 Coutts, J.  
 Cowley, H.  
 Cressier, G. H.  
 Cundy, C.  
 Curtis, C. H.  
 Dallimore, W.  
 Davis, C.  
 Davies, W.  
 Davy, E. W.

Dear, G.  
 Feltham, E.  
 Foden, W.  
 Free, M.  
 Gardener, G. F.  
 Gardner, L.  
 Garnett, A.  
 Gill, R. E.  
 Hales, W.  
 Harris, C. H.  
 Harrow, R. L.  
 Harvey, F. W.  
 Hayhurst, J.  
 Henderson, H.  
 Hiett, E. P.  
 Hillier, J. M.  
 Hunter, T.  
 Hutchinson, H.  
 Illman, G. F.  
 Irving, W.  
 Jennings, W. J.  
 Jirásek, H.  
 Jones, J. D.  
 Joyce, R. J.  
 Judd, W. H.  
 King, A. G.  
 Leach, R. O.  
 Longmire, F.  
 Mack, F. O.  
 Manning, W.  
 Marks, J. T.  
 Mayhew, C. W.  
 McNab, J.  
 Newsham, J. O.

Nock, J. J.  
 North, W. V.  
 Normanton, S. J.  
 Oliver, G. H.  
 Osborn, A.  
 Paine, W. H.  
 Parsons, T. H.  
 Powell, Miss E. M.  
 Proudlock, R. L.  
 Pymon, G. W.  
 Raffill, C. P.  
 Ridley, J.  
 Roberts, A.  
 Rolfe, F. W.  
 Rolfe, R. A.  
 Ruse, L. F.  
 Rutter, C. S.  
 Ryall, H.  
 Sander, F. K.  
 Schade, P.  
 Schmidkunz, H.  
 Southgate, H. W. L.  
 Summerfield, T. A.  
 Taylor, W.  
 Teakle, R.  
 Thomas, H. H.  
 Tidy, A. W.  
 Tinley, G. F.  
 Wallace, J. O.  
 Walters, W. H.  
 Warren, O.  
 Weathers, J.  
 Whipps, A. C.  
 Young, W. H.

## KEW GUILD DINNER, 1911.

AFTER a lapse of two years the Annual Dinner was revived on May 24th, 1911. For the first time in the history of the Guild the Dinner and Annual General Meeting were held at the Tavistock Hotel, Covent Garden. Mr. R. Hooper Pearson presided, and there were one hundred and one members present. Departing from the usual procedure, the dinner this time preceded the annual general meeting, in order to allow ample time for the discussion of Guild affairs.

In proposing the toast of "The Kew Guild" Mr. R. HOOPER PEARSON, in his presidential address, said:—I remember that the late Director, Sir William T. Thiselton Dyer, at the 1900 dinner said that one of the principal objects of the Guild was to enable the members to renew old friendships and to start new ones. In 1904, Dr. Scott, who presided at the dinner, referring to Sir William T. Thiselton Dyer's send-off letter to the Guild, said that Sir William realised that Kew, with its unrivalled collections of plants, might be made to have a marked influence on the training of professional horticulturists. Now we may to-night state afresh, and with the same emphasis as ever, that the Guild expresses the sympathetic bond that unites Kew men the world over. This bond of fellowship is the outcome of a common love for Kew, the finest garden in the world, and, for the members of the Guild, a garden of memories.

The Guild did not create the fellowship, but gave it suitable expression and encouragement. Since Sir William T. Thiselton Dyer's words were given utterance, the views held of the services the Guild should render have shown a certain amount of difference. It will not, therefore, be inappropriate if we consider the true interests of the Guild as they appear at the present time. At the commencement I ask you to bear in mind that the last issue of the *Journal* contains a list of nearly 830 Old Kew men, showing that the proportion of past men very much exceeds the proportion of present gardeners at Kew. These older men may be divided into those who fill positions in Great Britain and Ireland, namely, 428, and those whose work has taken them into the Colonies and foreign countries, namely, 399, almost one half of the number.

With these thoughts in our mind, I submit that some of the principal interests of the Guild are as follows:—First, the promotion of friendly intercourse among its members; secondly, the raising of Kew men in the estimation of the public; and, thirdly, the assistance of individual members who may require help of any kind.

If it is agreed that these are some of the objects the Guild may reasonably be expected to promote, we may briefly consider the means which may be appropriately used for carrying out such work.

Amongst these are to be reckoned the *Journal* of the Guild and the Annual Dinner. The *Journal* provides a link between all the scattered units, and the dinner gives many of us an opportunity to meet together

in pleasant circumstances that encourage sociability and furthers the first object I have mentioned.

But the second object is not less important, namely, the maintenance of Kew men in the very forefront of gardening. To this end it is essential that great care should be exercised in selecting the young men for employment at Kew. It is, furthermore, necessary that the best training possible should be given them during the period of their employment. I hope that present Kew men will not misunderstand me when I say that it matters little to them whether they receive a few shillings more per week during their short period at Kew as compared with the importance of maintaining the value of the Kew training. Those of us who have a considerable share of our life's work behind us are apt to take wider views than those we indulged in in our youth, and we know that the circumstances of the Kew training were important to us in so far as they fitted us for the competition of life.

The present system of lectures may be the best scheme of teaching or not—we need not determine the point; but I certainly think that the Committee of the Kew Guild, the Director and the Curator might have occasional conferences for the purpose of considering the teaching curriculum. For after all this is the thing that matters. Let Kew be regarded as a place for student gardeners whose book-learning is engrafted on to practical gardening knowledge, and Kew men will have no difficulty in keeping abreast of all competition.

I am not so sure that things will go so pleasantly if those subjects are not given the attention they deserve. Let us remember that letters were published in the last issue of the *Journal* containing complaints that the competition of college-trained men is now encountered from time to time. To this fact we may add the further knowledge that the number of training establishments is increasing, and their methods are likely to be modified. The colleges have not seriously hindered the progress of Kew men down to the present, mainly for two reasons: (1) their men lack practical experience; and (2) the colleges have not the collection of plants which is at once the delight, the glory, and the power of Kew.

But the colleges will not always be content with veneering green material, they will demand that their students shall have several years practical work in gardening before they enter upon their studies. Therefore, whilst the colleges improve their practice, it is desirable that Kew should not neglect its studies. Carefully devised lectures, directed reading, and abundant opportunities for botanising and studying the plants in the gardens, in the nurseries and herbarium are essential.

Turning to our third object, I think the Guild should form a fund for helping any unfortunate member requiring financial aid through misfortune. Such help should not, perhaps, come from the general funds, but a special fund which should be supported by old

Kew men exclusively. In recommending this policy my position is that taken up by the late Mr. Burbidge and others, including myself, at the very inauguration of the Guild.

Mr. ROLFE, in responding, said it seemed to him that it chiefly depended on the members themselves to work and take advantage of the opportunities presented in order to assure the success of the Guild and their own career. With regard to the Guild, he expressed fear lest they should attempt too much. They were trying to make it into a kind of "benefit society" and again a "trade union," both objects, in his opinion, impracticable. As to the improvement of the gardeners' conditions in general, that, he thought, could be fairly left to the British Gardeners' Association, whilst the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution filled a need for insurance against adversity. The Guild must be kept to its original purpose, namely, to effect a reunion of old and new Kewites, publish a journal, and arrange for an annual dinner. In wishing success to the Guild he thought they should all endeavour to promote comradeship and be jealous of the Guild's honour.

Mr. WATSON testified to the fact that the meeting and dinner had given him more satisfaction than any previous one. He thought they were particularly fortunate in having at their head a man of Mr. Pearson's calibre. He was a Kewite of the right sort and a man who occupied a position in which he could do a great deal of work for the benefit of the garden and gardeners. He congratulated the Committee on their arrangements for that evening's gathering. He had attended a good many similar functions, some of which were not his most comfortable experiences, but this one had been one of his happiest.

The PRESIDENT, in reply to the toast of the Chair, remarked that he could not accept all the flattering words Mr. Watson had said concerning him. At the same time, anything he could do for the professional horticulturists and gardening generally gave him very great pleasure. He appreciated the honour of presiding at that function.

A proposition had come into his mind that, on the occasion of the International Horticultural Exhibition to be held in 1912, the Kew Guild should arrange for a dinner and function of a first-class standard, and invite the leading horticultural enthusiasts of the day with the view to advertising Kew, Kewites, and their work.

In closing the meeting the President announced that his proposal, made earlier in the evening, to form a special benevolent fund had met with very hearty support. In order to establish it right away some of his friends had promised to contribute each a guinea. The donors were Messrs. C. H. Curtis, F. K. Sander, W. Hales, H. H. Thomas, R. L. Proudlock, John Weathers, W. W. Pettigrew, Hugh A. Pettigrew, J. Dyfri Jones, W. Aggett, H. Cowley, J. C. Newsham, and R. Hooper Pearson.

Some capital songs, which were loudly applauded, were rendered by Messrs. J. Masters Hillier and T. W. Briscoe.

## THE MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

SESSION 1910-11.

THE reduction in the staff of temporary gardeners, combined with the fact that some members attend Evening Classes outside the Gardens, has resulted in a comparatively poor attendance at the meetings held by the Society. Nevertheless, owing to the activity of several enthusiasts, the average attendance was raised from the preceding session to 27.97. The highest on one evening was 38, and the lowest 20, a Question Night, these nights being invariably poorly attended.

The Society was successful in its endeavour to secure a permanent official for the first Monday in each month. The number of meetings held was 26, 3 of which were illustrated with the aid of the lantern.

The Hooker Prize was awarded to Mr. G. H. Oliver.

*Syllabus 1910-11.*

1910.			
Oct.	3.	Plant Senses (Lantern) .....	A. W. Hill.
"	10.	Chrysanthemums for Exhibition.....	H. W. Epps.
"	17.	The Darwinian Theory .....	R. A. Dümmer.
"	24.	Orchids .....	C. H. Harris.
"	31.	Primulaceæ .....	M. Free.
Nov.	7.	Trees & Shrubs .....	W. Dallimore.
"	14.	Hardy Fruit .....	R. Simpson.
"	21.	Question Night.	
"	28.	Stove & Greenhouse Ferns .....	J. D. Snowden.
Dec.	5.	Liliums (Lantern).....	A. Osborn.
"	12.	Plant Reproduction .....	A. H. White.
"	19.	Geometrical Designs Simplified .....	W. Davies.
1911.			
Jan.	2.	Diseases of Plants (Lantern) .....	G. Masseur.
"	9.	Some Interesting Succulent Plants.....	J. T. Smith.
"	16.	Carnations.....	A. Hunter.
"	23.	Seed Selection at Erfurt .....	A. Bogemans.
"	30.	Vegetable Culture .....	H. E. Downer.
Feb.	6.	Propagation .....	W. Taylor.
"	13.	Question Night.	
"	20.	Palmae .....	J. Lambourne.
"	27.	Clematis .....	A. E. Baggs.
Mar.	6.	Hippeastrums .....	J. Coutts.
"	13.	Public Parks and Open Spaces .....	G. H. Oliver.
"	20.	Small Holdings.....	W. V. North.
"	27.	Vegetarianism .....	E. M. Biggs.
Apr.	3.	Secretary's Report.	

*Chairman*, J. T. SMITH.

*Vice-Chairman*, J. H. BEALE.

*Hon. Secretary*, G. H. OLIVER.

*Assist. Secretary*, J. D. SNOWDEN.

## THE LECTURES, 1911.

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

9 certificates. Highest number of marks, F. Birkinshaw and R. A. Dümmer, 100; J. C. Wallace, 97.

**Physics and Chemistry.** Lecturer, Dr. P. Haas.

23 certificates. Highest number of marks, W. Davies, 94; F. Birkinshaw, 93·5; G. W. Butcher, 93 (per cent.).

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

16 certificates. Highest number of marks, F. Birkinshaw, 250; R. A. Dümmer, 248; T. G. Bullock, 240.

**Systematic Botany.** Lecturer, Mr. C. H. Wright, A.L.S.

27 certificates. Highest number of marks, G. F. Gardiner, 227; J. Sharps, 216; H. P. Norman, 215.

**Plant Pathology.** Lecturer, Mr. G. Masee, F.L.S.

19 certificates. Highest number of marks, H. P. Norman, 73; F. Birkinshaw, W. H. Judd, and H. W. L. Southgate, 69.

**British Botany Club.**

1910 (Secretaries, R. A. Dümmer and F. Birkinshaw):—14 certificates were granted for collections, those of A. E. Baggs, F. Birkinshaw, and J. D. Snowden being adjudged the best.

## APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS.

LT.-COL. DAVID PRAIN, C.M.G.—We were particularly pleased to note in the list of New Year's honours (1912) issued by the Colonial Office, that Lt.-Col. D. Prain, C.I.E., F.R.S., Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, had been appointed Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George. At an earlier date the Director was honoured by being elected a member of the Athenæum Club under the provisions of the rule which empowers the annual election by the committee of a certain number of persons "of distinguished eminence in science, literature, the arts, or for public services."

OUR readers will be glad to learn that Mr. T. D. Brown's appointment in Cairo is now a Government one, with the title of Director of Horticulture. Mr. Brown was in the North of England in the summer to recover from an illness, but preferred the climate of his adopted country, and only made a short stay.

MR. EDWARD J. THOMAS, M.A., has been appointed Under-Librarian at the University Library, Cambridge. Mr. Thomas left Kew in 1895, and he continues to take a very keen interest in the well-being of the *Journal*. His observations on Botanical names and their pronunciation published in this issue will no doubt be perused with interest.

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DURING the year the Gardens have suffered a notable loss in the retirement of Mr. Justin Allen, Clerk of the Works, who came to Kew in 1879, and whose breezy personality most of our readers will be well acquainted with. Mr. Allen has gone to live at Parkstone; he has been succeeded by Mr. G. D. Patterson, transferred to Kew from the Post Office section of the Board of Works.

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MR. C. F. BALL, of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, has been appointed Editor of *Irish Gardening*, a monthly publication for the promotion of horticulture in Ireland.

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MR. WILLIAM BROWNE, M.V.O., I.S.O.—In addition to the Imperial Service Order awarded to Mr. W. Browne on retiring from the post of Superintendent of Hyde Park in 1903, we learn with pleasure that he also had the honour conferred upon him by His late Majesty of being appointed Member of the Victorian Order. Mr. Browne now resides at Brighton. He left Kew in 1860.

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The following changes and appointments have also to be recorded:—

*Home.*

- F. W. Ashton, Horticultural Commission Agent (specialising in Orchids and Carnations), 116 Hewitt Road, Haringay.
- A. C. Bartlett, Landscape Gardener, 2 Cambridge Road, Kew.
- W. D. Besant, H. G., Curragh Grange, Kildare, Ireland.
- T. Burn, H. G. & Bailiff, Oteley Park, Ellesmere, Shropshire.
- T. H. Candler, H. G., Wittington Hall, Marlow, Bucks.
- F. G. Cousins, Inspector of Plant Diseases, Kent C.C., 31 Prospect Avenue, Frindsbury, Rochester.
- J. Dixon, In charge of New Chinese Plants, Messrs. Bees, Ltd., Liverpool.
- W. H. Gostling, H. G., Butcombe Court, Wrington, Somerset.
- P. J. Gray, Hort. Inst., Co. Dublin, 11 Rutland Square, Dublin.
- J. J. Gribble, H. G., Penlee, Penzance, Cornwall.
- W. Grindley, H. G., The Knowle Hotel, Sidmouth.
- E. Key, H. G., Clayton Holt, Hassocks, Sussex.



- C. W. Mayhew, Inspector of Plant Diseases, Hunts C.C., Willingham Cottage, Somersham, Hunts.  
 D. McGregor, H. G., Kildangan Castle Gdns., Monstervon, Co. Kildare.  
 A. E. Oliver, Manager, Knock Nursery, Strandtown, Belfast.  
 F. W. Rolfe, Technical Supt., Colonial and Indian Collections, Imperial Institute, South Kensington.  
 T. A. Summerfield, H. G., North Surrey District School, South Norwood.

*Indian and Colonial.*

- S. Arden, F.L.S., Stiawan Rubber Plantation, Ltd., Lower Perak, F.M.S.  
 R. Band, Manager, W. A. Plantations, Ltd., Asiakwa, Burimsu, Kibbi, via Accra, Gold Coast.  
 A. Brooks, Asst. Agricultural Superintendent, St. Lucia, B.W.I.  
 H. Dodd, Royal Botanic Gardens, Calcutta.  
 W. J. Goodrich, Grootkuil Estate, P.O. Box 42, Theunissen, O.R.C.  
 H. Green, Asst. Supt., Botanical Dept., Hongkong.  
 T. Hunter, Curator, Agric. Dept., Gold Coast.  
 H. H. Kidd, F., Alexandra Park, Pietermaritzburg, Natal.  
 J. J. Nock, Curator, Botanic Gardens, Hakgala, Ceylon.  
 Henry Powell, Chief, Economic Plant Division, Dept. of Agriculture, Mombasa, B.E.A.  
 J. D. Snowden, Govt. Plantation, Kampala, Uganda.  
 W. Swan, Govt. Expt. Farm, Wairangi, Auckland, N.Z.

*Foreign.*

- H. M. Blanche, Greycourt, Irvington-on-Hudson, New York.  
 A. Bogemans, Assist. Manager, Plantations Co., Bayeux, Haiti.  
 A. E. Duley, H. G. to H.S.H. Prince George, Haraks, near Yatta, Crimea.  
 K. Haga, Bureau of Production, Formosa.  
 M. Hansen, Sanatorium, Erlenbach, near Zurich.  
 S. Kuffell, Place Albert, Zeemans 20, Txelles, Bruxelles, Belgique.
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## WEDDING BELLS.

Mr. R. Badgery	to Miss McFarland	at Cawnpore.	May 24, 1910.
Mr. H. M. Blanche	„ Miss G. Doncaster	„ Yonkers, N.Y.	Jan. 21 1911.
Mr. T. W. Briscoe	„ Miss Sellers	„ Wargrave.	Feb. 17, 1911.
Mr. A. Brooks	„ Miss Adams	„ Swindon.	Dec. 16, 1909.
Mr. A. E. Casse	„ Miss Morales	„ Cap Haitien.	Nov. 20, 1911.
Mr. J. S. Christie	„ Miss Lammie	„ Edinburgh.	Oct. 20, 1911.
Mr. W. J. Down	„ Miss E. Johns	„ Honiton.	Dec. 23, 1911.
Mr. A. Harwood	„ Miss Paryer	„	Mar. 28, 1911.
Mr. W. H. Johns	„ Miss F. Rule	„ Kilmarnock.	July 5, 1910.
Mr. H. G. King	„ Miss Sellman	„ Ealing.	Aug. 12, 1911.
Mr. T. D. Maitland	„ Miss	„ Edinburgh.	July 27, 1911.
Mr. D. T. McKinlay	„ Miss E. Watford	„ Richmond.	Oct. 2, 1911.
Mr. F. Tunnington	„ Miss Parker	„ Aston Clinton.	Oct. 9, 1910.

Messrs. A. Blackburn, F. G. Cousins, L. Jensen, and John Richardson have also been married, but particulars are not to hand. We should be pleased to receive notice of any omissions.

## NOTES.

WEATHER AT KEW.—The past summer will be long remembered at Kew for the excessively hot weather coupled with so much sunshine and the long period of drought. The effect on the trees and shrubs has been beneficial rather than otherwise. Many of the later flowering subjects were unusually floriferous, and numerous instances could be given of seeds maturing on trees and shrubs which seldom do so. Everything also points at present to an abundance of blossoms next spring.

	Rainfall in inches.	Temperature.	
		Maximum.	Minimum.
1911.			
January .....	1.26	53° F.	22° F.
February .....	1.26	55	18
March .....	1.45	60	26
April .....	1.88	66	27
May .....	1.57	79	34
June .....	2.13	85	36
July .....	.93	94	44
August .....	.60	98	45
September .....	1.43	93	35
October .....	2.91	63	26
November .....	3.50	58	25
December .....	4.29	54	25
Total rainfall for 1911 ...	23.21	—	—

THE GARDEN WATER SUPPLY.—Not since the present system of supplying water to the gardens was inaugurated in 1866-68 has its resources been so severely tested. As many readers are aware, the water is pumped from the lake into filter-beds adjoining the stables. From there it is transferred to a reservoir situated on high ground in Richmond Park, by means of which a good pressure is secured. The holding capacity of this reservoir is 250,000 gallons. The vast quantity of water used in the gardens during the past summer is apparent from the following particulars. Greatest consumption in one day, 444,740 gallons on July 13; on two other occasions 400,000 gallons was exceeded; more than 300,000 gallons were used daily on eighteen occasions. In one week 2,205,056 gallons were pumped, representing 9844 tons; this represents a daily average for the week of 315,008 gallons. The capacity of the engine for pumping the water is 400 gallons per minute; on July 13 it was working for 18½ consecutive hours.

THE CRICKET CLUB.—*Season 1911.* The Club this season has been very successful both from a playing point and financially, the latter, thanks to the Mid-Surrey Golf Club for its generous subscription of £5 0s. 0d.

14 matches were arranged, 13 of them played, 6 won, 7 lost, and 1—that arranged with Dr. Tuke—had for some reason to be abandoned. Mr. Hill again placed a strong team in the field against us, which proved to be much too strong, nevertheless, a very enjoyable game was the result.

It was very regrettable that a fixture could not be arranged with the Board of Agriculture this year. Two matches were arranged with Messrs. Veitch & Sons, and a very enjoyable time was spent by the players when they visited East Burnham Park, the residence of Mr. H. J. Veitch. Friar Park, Hillingdon Court, Messrs. Sutton & Sons, and Messrs. Sander & Sons were also visited during the season, with the same happy result.

The most exciting match of the year was with Friar Park (away), where we just managed the needful by 2 runs.

Starting the year with a balance of £6 10s. 0d. it was arranged at the general meeting to pay part of the expenses of the players in the long distance away matches.

This year there is a balance of £2 10s. 0d. The chief items of expense of the season being:—Tools £5 10s. 0d.; members expenses (away matches) £5 0s. 0d.; teas £1 12s. 6d.

Mr. Mudge again proved most successful with the *ball*, and Mr. H. Hutchinson with the *bat*.

The following Officers were appointed for the season:—*Captain*, E. M. Biggs; *Vice-Captain*, J. Mudge; *Committee*, T. G. Bullock, W. Goodrich, J. McNab, H. W. L. Southgate, H. Hutchinson, and H. Ryall; *Treasurer*, A. Osborn; *Hon. Secretary*, W. V. North.

ROYAL GARDENS FOOTBALL CLUB.—*Season* 1910-11. Judging from past reports the season 1910-11 was one of the most satisfactory in the history of the club. After starting with a small balance the club finished up with a very creditable balance indeed. Credit for this is due to the economic methods of H. Thomas, the Honorary Secretary. Twenty-four matches were arranged and 17 played, 7 being won, 7 lost, and 3 drawn, with a goal average of 35 goals for and 40 against. Great credit is due for these results to the untiring efforts of J. McNab, H. W. L. Southgate, H. Thomas, and other consistent members of the Club. Amongst the great losses the club has sustained are J. McNab, the popular Captain, who headed the list of goal-scorers, and H. Thomas, the Hon. Secretary.

*Season* 1911-12. Prospects for the present season are of the brightest. Up to the time of writing 22 members have promised to assist. A ground has been engaged as usual in the Old Deer Park, Richmond, and a full fixture list has been arranged. Mr. A. W. Hill has again consented to stand as President of the Club, and for other offices the following have been chosen:—*Captain*, H. HUTCHINSON; *Vice-Captain*, J. ELLIS; and C. WARREN, *Hon. Secretary*.

THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SOCIAL took place at the Boat House, Kew, on the evening of Friday, January 13, 1911. Present Kewites with their lady friends were there in strong force, also a small muster of "old boys" who happen to live within easy distance. An excellent programme of dancing was arranged, including an original one named "Kew Medley," and the songs rendered by Mr. T. W. Briscoe were greatly appreciated. A whist drive was also much enjoyed, and prizes were distributed by Mr. J. Weathers, an Old Kewite. Mr. J. T. Smith as M.C. and Messrs. J. H. Beale and H. Green as stewards are to be congratulated upon the excellence of their arrangements. This is an event that has always proved popular, and, as in former years, it was again a great success.

OLD KEWITES AT HOME.—The following members of the Guild residing abroad have visited Kew since the publication of the last *Journal*; some others are known to have been in England, but if they have visited the scene of their former labours, they have preferred to do so *incog.*:—J. Anderson, R. Band, A. E. Evans, A. C. Miles, and A. R. Gould (Gold Coast); T. F. Chipp; E. W. Davy (Nyasaland); R. Derry (S. S.); W. J. Down; F. Evans (Trinidad); R. Fyffe (Uganda); H. Holley and J. W. Mathews (Cape Colony); W. H. Johnson, A. B. Culham, R. Gill, and T. D. Maitland (Nigeria); H. Powell (B. E. Africa); R. L. Proudlock (Assam); R. Whittle (Queensland); E. H. Wilson (cosmopolitan); and H. M. Woolley (Borneo).

LECTURES AT KEW.—To the young man about to enter Kew, his mind aglow with all he has heard and read of its manifold advantages, the

prospect of receiving instruction on various subjects relating to Horticulture appeals to him as one of the greatest advantages of the training.

No one will deny that the present courses are interesting enough and productive of a certain amount of good, but taken as a whole, their practical value in relation to Horticultural Science is thought by the present-day gardeners to be overrated. This feeling has assumed a definite shape, and a petition asking for an improved and extended course of lectures has been sent to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries through the Director.

The following are the leading features of the petition:—An extension of the present course on Botany, with greater prominence given to Physiology. An extended course of Plant Pathology. Land Surveying and Levelling. Soils and Manures. Plant Breeding. Practical Horticulture, and facilities for attending the meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society.

The sub-joined *Recommendations* concerning the "Kew Certificate" are also included:—

I. That on the certificate granted to sub-foremen the word "sub-foreman" be *printed*, instead of written as at present. II. That the length of time served in each department be stated on the certificate. III. That a man's capabilities and general conduct be fully stated on the certificate. IV. That in conjunction with the present custom of awarding marks for the lectures, a compulsory examination be held at the end of each course and separate certificates awarded, graded first and second class.

It is felt that Kewites of to-day will have to bear their share in the honour of upholding the reputation of Kew in the future, and not only should existing facilities be taken full advantage of, but every legitimate means used for securing better, so that the Kew man may have an equal chance with those from more modern Horticultural Institutions.

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KEWITES have been maintaining their reputation as travellers. For example, Messrs. Chipp and Powell have been officially engaged in spying out agricultural and forestry developments in the East; Mr. F. Evans, of Trinidad, lately took a year's leave, in which he went round the world, and also investigated the Hawaiian sugar-planter methods; Mr. W. Fox has been to the Amazon region on behalf of a commercial company; and Mr. F. W. Seers to the Bissagos Islands. Several of the Kew staff are also seasoned travellers. Nobody has surpassed Mr. Bean's recent trip to the United States during the year under review, but quite a formidable list of shorter journeyings will be noted under the heading "Official Visits" in the *Bulletin*.

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A VISIT TO BULGARIA.—The kindly personal reception given to two recent Kewites by King Ferdinand of Bulgaria is perhaps worthy of notice in our pages. Messrs. C. F. Ball and Herbert Cowley spent a

short holiday in this Balkan Kingdom, and by means of official agency were received by King Ferdinand, who placed at their disposal a special railway carriage for travelling throughout the country and guides to accompany them over mountainous districts. Many interesting plants were collected and numerous photographs obtained, both in the Rhodope Alps and the Balkan Mountains.

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AN excellent example of the manner in which the less responsible section of the press manufactures mountains out of molehills, and of the splendid imaginations possessed by newspaper reporters was afforded by an incident arising out of a visit paid to the Gardens by the German Emperor last May. Arriving quite unexpectedly at the Main Gate before public hours, the Kaiser was naturally detained for a few minutes until a key and permission to enter were forthcoming; little enough to make a column out of, it might be thought, but this was done and the incident magnified into an affair of almost international importance. However, perhaps some good may indirectly have resulted in so far as public attention was drawn to what seems a most astonishing state of affairs—that the Gardens do not open till noon before June, that is except to the crowds of persons who have had the forethought to procure a “student’s” ticket. We are acquainted with the old time official objections to an earlier opening, but believe they have now almost passed away, and that there is really very little standing in the way of this concession being made to the public. Perhaps all present day Kewites may not be aware that there used to be a fence in the Gardens, on one side of which smoking was permitted, and on the other not. To-day this sounds the height of absurdity, and similarly, no doubt, in the future the present arrangement of not opening the Gardens on beautiful spring mornings, and also in winter when the days are so short, will be regarded as having been supremely absurd. It is fortunately very generally known what a glorious place the Gardens is in April, May, and June, and they do not lack appreciation. Several of the Royalties over for the Coronation visited Kew, and on fine days the array of motors waiting outside the gates is suggestive of a big garden party.

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OUTSTANDING SUBSCRIPTIONS.—In consequence of the many outstanding subscriptions we find it necessary to remind members that the annual subscription to the Guild (including the *Journal*) is one shilling and the life-subscription is one pound. It will be observed from the balance-sheet published with this issue that there is a considerable deficit on the year’s working. We are sorry to bring this matter to notice in our pages, and sincerely hope that defaulters will pay off arrears and thus do their share in meeting the current expenses in connection with the publication of the *Journal*.

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## A SONG OF MAY.

O! cease your sighing,  
 The winds are drying  
     Night's teardrops from the trees,  
 And clouds are flying  
 For winter's dying  
     In spring's soft breeze.

O! cease your sighing,  
 Frail flowers are lying  
     At your feet, all wet with dew;  
 The woodland's gleaming  
 With bluebells seeming  
     To smile at you.

O! cease your sighing  
 For winter's dying,  
     Grey skies are flecked with blue;  
 The skylark's winging  
 To heaven's dome singing  
     A song to you.

O! cease your sighing,  
 For time is flying  
     And spring soon fades away,  
 On breezes blowing  
 Caresses and throwing  
     Kisses from May.

H. H. T. in *The Gardener*.

## A PROPOSED KEW DIPLOMA.

I AM indebted to a contributor of a gardening periodical for the first thought of my heading. The writer, one across the "fish pond," in speaking of horticulture says that Kewites ought to be proud of their Kew Diploma because of its value to them. While mention of the Diploma is thus made I feel it gives me cause to make a few suggestions as to how the alleged Diploma might be awarded. At present we are able to find many persons ready to admit that the Kew Certificate does not stand for much, and is not of much use to the Kewite when procuring a position in this country. The Certificate certifies that the man has worked at Kew for a period, and has had under his charge certain sections of plants, also that he has attended lectures, but it does not indicate any competitive value to show whether the man is any better than another Kewite. Under this system it can be noticed that some men enter Kew and leave it without making much effort to attain knowledge or experience, solely relying upon their Certificate to get them a position when their period is up. These

gentlemen leave Kew almost as creditably as the man who strives to gain all knowledge obtainable, and to make himself proficient in his calling. So we see the Certificate does not make distinctions enough, and a "waster" and the careful learner leave Kew about on the same level.

It is an idea of the new age to think competition and examination should be dissolved as serving no purpose. This, I think, cannot answer well, for without competition the man "who knows" may not be found, as men do not all wear their brains on their sleeves. What I should like to see, and I think other Kewites with me, is a Kew Diploma for certain distinctions resulting from a thorough and practical examination. It is admitted that the Kew Certificate does not help much against one who has a college degree or diploma, and it is asked, why not? Some will say that the Kewite lacks in scientific tone and knowledge; by way of retaliation then, let us say the college man often lacks in experience and practicability, yet preference is given to him because of the letters at the rear of his name.

Well now, why should not the Kewite have a little more scientific training, and being a more practical man, why not award him with a true Diploma with suitable letters after his name? Then place him in the field of competition and he will hold his own.

A movement is afoot to establish a diploma. There seems no reason why Kew, seeing that it has been termed the University of Horticulture and the *alma mater* of the gardener, should not be the institution to carry out this suggestion.

To establish such a diploma at Kew I would suggest that the instruction which is already given be altered more upon the lines of some of the other institutions for Horticultural study, or at least in such a way that the men will get a more working knowledge of the scientific subjects which are connected with Horticultural practice. The outline of the syllabus could be that which the Board of Education recommend for use in Technical Schools. I fully see that this would mean more time in the class-room and less in the garden, but it is only a matter of humanity not to expect men to do a day's study after they have done a day's garden work. It is probable that more men would be required to do the work and the period of time lengthened. If Kew is to give instruction to its gardeners and send them out competent men into the sphere of horticulture it must at least be level with, if it does not excel the other places which are pouring out men who are snapping up the good places. Courses could be taken to cover the two years at Kew upon:—Instruction with practical work, in Botany as applied to Horticulture, with special attention paid to the Physiological processes. Chemistry and Physics as applied to Horticulture, involving the study of soils, manures and manuring, insecticides and fungicides, meteorology, etc. Plant pests and diseases, soil organisms, etc. Lectures on special garden operations and the cultivation of certain sections of plants, plant-breeding and other subjects a knowledge of which is necessary in



up-to-date Horticulture. Written, practical, and viva voce examinations might then be held at the end of each course. This is the system we find the Board of Education work under in awarding the Honours in Horticulture, and what they practice ought to be good for Kew.

A Diploma could then be awarded to those successful in gaining a certain percentage of the total number of marks, which would be totalled with the marks gained in the sectional examinations and those given for note-book work.

The persons in possession of a Diploma should be able to affix letters after his name to signify the fact, and those who were not successful could be presented with the usual Kew certificate.

This is all a dream which one feels that owing to that proverbial ligature, to wit "red tape," can never come to pass, and so the Kewites will have to stand by while the college-trained friends get the openings on the merits of their college and letters. Good men enter Kew and often leave it only to do the "as you were" movement because they have no chance against persons of other training. If Kew is to be the real University of the gardener, we can at least wish that the educational side is somewhat revised and a true Kew Diploma awarded to those who by reason of their merit deserve that salvation; then can all Kewites past and present shout more lustily FLOREAT KEW! A. TURNER.

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#### BOTANICAL NAMES: THEIR PRONUNCIATION.

It may seem a rash undertaking to offer any remarks on the pronunciation of Latin botanical names after the extremely able treatment of the subject by the Rev. P. W. Myles in Mr. Nicholson's 'Dictionary of Gardening.' There is also another fact which may well cause hesitation. This is the contempt naturally felt for the man who can pronounce the names better than he can grow the plants. A Kew man once told me, with horror, of a man in the T Range who *carried a dictionary in his pocket*. Still, even the man who does not feel the need of a pocket-dictionary may take an interest in some of the questions raised by Mr. Myles's article.

In that article the most striking fact is the account of the "correct method" of pronunciation. This pronunciation, it is true, was "sanctioned by the professors of Latin at Oxford and Cambridge in 1872," but it is not the case that it has become the usual Latin pronunciation of English people, even after forty years. A personal opinion in such a matter is of little value. The important question for the ordinary man is, how do people with an average education pronounce Latin; and the fact seems to be that the old method is still the established one, except among Latin scholars, and is likely to remain so for a long time.

Accepting this method, we have the pronunciation of vowels and consonants as in English, and the two points on which difficulties arise

are (1) the place of the accent in the word; (2) the pronunciation of modern names that have been put into a Latin form, such as *Fuchsia*, *Stokesia*.

On the first point it is possible to give a general rule which settles many words at once. This is: *if the second syllable from the end has a long vowel, or is followed by two consonants, the accent comes on that syllable, otherwise the accent is on the third from the end*, e. g., *Arctúrus*, *Solánum*, *Alisma*, *Allophýllus*, *Artocárpus*, but *Gypsóphila*, *Calcéolus*, *purpúreus*. The difficulty still remains as to how to determine whether the vowel of the second syllable is long or short, whether, for example, we are to say *Árbutus* or *Arbútus*. Except when this vowel is followed by two consonants, this can only be done by reference to a dictionary, and there can be nothing better for this than the list of Mr. Myles. But it may be noticed that (1) when one vowel immediately precedes another it is short; hence *e* is short in *purpúreus*, and the accent comes on the third from the end, and so in words ending in *-ius*, *-ia*, *-ium*. (2) A diphthong is equivalent to a long vowel, and hence the accent is second from the end in such words as *acaulis*, *Ipomæa*. (3) There are certain classes of words which all follow the same rule. The second vowel from the end is short in words ending in *-icus* (*-ica*, *-icum*), *ferus* (*-a*, *-um*), *-philus* (*-a*, *-um*), *-stoma*, *-phorus*, *-gyne*, *-pterum*, and accordingly words with these endings have the accent on the third from the end, *Melástoma*, *Adenóphora*, etc. But words ending in *-alis* (*-ale*), *-atus* (*-a*, *-um*), *-ivus* (*-a*, *-um*), *-osus* (*-a*, *-um*), *-aris* (*-are*), *-phyllus* (*-a*, *-um*), *-pogon* have the accent on the last syllable but one. *Urtíca*, *Erica*, *Umbilícus* are exceptions to this rule, but owing to the very frequent occurrence of words ending in *-icus*, *-ica* they are often pronounced with the accent on the third from the end. *Amphíon* is another exception which goes against the rule that one vowel before another is short.

Difficulties turn up in the pronunciation of names formed to commemorate men, such as *Dahlia* and *Listera*, whatever plan is followed. Mr. Myles holds that they should be pronounced as nearly as possible in the way in which the name to be commemorated was sounded. But there is no doubt that when these names were first formed they were intended to be pronounced according to the rules for pronouncing true Latin names. This is shown by the fact that the name was first latinised and then converted into a plant-name by the addition of a special suffix. *Kamel*, for instance, was first turned into *Camellus*, and then *Camellia* was formed. Further, we have the fact that many of these words are already pronounced like ordinary Latin words, and if we were to pronounce them like the original name we should have to reform the pronunciation of many of them, e. g. we should pronounce *Aitonía* as if it were *Aitonúnia*. We must also know Swedish in order to pronounce *Dahlia*, German in order to pronounce *Deutzia*, French in order to pronounce *Poinsettia*, and Dutch for pronouncing *Houtuyúnia*. Life is too short for this sort of thing. A reformer will scarcely ever

follow his principles out consistently. He will make a point of pronouncing *Fuchsia* as *Fux-ia*, but will he pronounce *Michauxia* according to the French pronunciation of *Michaux*?

There is one class of these names which are treated under one rule by Mr. Myles, and it would be a good thing if the rule were generally recognized. They are formed from names in *-er*, *-el*, such as *Weigela*, *Listera*, *Gunnera*. Generally these have the accent on the second syllable, but Mr. Myles accents some on the third from the end. There seems to be no reason for this variation, except that botanists have happened to settle on one pronunciation. There is, happily, no need for anyone to lay down the law here. The words never were Latin words, and the inventors of them are probably long past caring how anyone pronounces them. They will no doubt be decided by what determines the pronunciation of all names in the long run—general custom.

E. J. THOMAS,

*late Lecturer in Greek and Latin,  
University College, Bangor.*

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#### LEAVES FROM A LECTURER'S NOTE-BOOK.

SINCE the teaching of horticulture has been regularised by a more or less motherly government, the lot of the lecturer has fallen in pleasant places, and, writing as I do from the county of broad acres, with a magnificent railway and tram service at call and the motor-car in reserve, it is amusing to recall early troubles on the road. Oh! those long journeys; all the more exasperating because the length referred not to actual distance, but to the time occupied in jogging from one village to another! Talking about "dragging its slow length along"—we realised it in those days. Occasionally a gale or a snow-storm brought variety—of a sort.

Even when the railway stage was finished our troubles had only begun, not ended. Those early lectures were given in all sorts of buildings, from a glorified barn to the village reading-room, and sometimes a good deal of enquiry was necessary to find them, for if Hodge has a hazy idea of distance, what shall be said of his grip of direction? "Over theer" is generally enough for him, bless him!

I remember—and how unpleasantly the word sounds when one is on the shady side of forty—how on one occasion I made at least one enquiry too many. I was billed to lecture in a little Kentish village, and it had been impressed upon me that my way, to be pursued on Shanks' pony, lay past the Asylum. Well! I trudged on, half a gale blowing, but no Asylum could I see. Instead, behold a wayside inn, with its taproom filled with a merry, roystering crew. To put my head inside didn't take long. To ask, "Will somebody tell me the way to the Asylum, please?" was soon done.

And then—silence. Next a shout of laughter, as some wit said, "The blighter knows where he ought to be, anyway."

But I was down the road, meditating deeply upon things that would have been better said another way.

Possibly I asked one question too much. A certain friend of mine, who shall be nameless just now, certainly asked one too few, and trouble lay in store for him thereby.

Driving one evening to the village at which he was engaged to lecture, he found the school nicely lit up, and, getting inside the building, "lantern" in hand, he was still further gratified to see quite a big audience awaiting him. Evidently everybody in the village had turned out. He was enthusiastically welcomed by the vicar, who conducted him to the platform and watched benignantly whilst my friend made his arrangements.

Soon all was ready, and the vicar, leaning over, said, softly, "I suppose I had better open the meeting with prayer."

"You can if you wish," was the astonished reply, "but I don't really see what prayer has to do with poultry."

"Poultry!" screamed the vicar. "You are down here to lecture on Mission work in Hong Kong."

"I don't think so," my friend persisted. "It always has been poultry."

"Oh! in that case your meeting-place is two miles farther on up the road. You will easily find it; but you'd better hurry up, or you'll be late. I wonder where our man has got to."

My friend has, I believe, been very careful since to make sure of his meeting-place.

I suppose the Kew "Mutual" has been the birthplace of more horticultural instructors than any other institution in the country. From the "seconder" to the "opener" of discussion stage was an easy step—it used to be decided by seniority in the old days—and, once the debutant got over the curious loss of breath and confusion of ideas when the glib "Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen" had been safely negotiated, and that inexplicable sense of personal detachment had toned down a little, the experience began to be really enjoyable. That sense of detachment lasts a long time, be it said, and, speaking for myself, I used to feel that somebody—I was scarcely convinced that it was my own voice—was talking an awful lot of "?" Presently that goes, too, and then the lecturer has found his feet. He learns to think more of his subject and his audience and less about himself, and he is on right lines.

Then comes the struggle to get into touch with the feelings of his hearers. He watches the expression on their faces as he hammers away to get his points home. Sometimes he succeeds, sometimes he doesn't. Now and again he is left in doubt. The bucolic mind is a funny thing. It may be dense, but it is always persistent, and will not lightly be put aside.

I often have a quiet laugh at one experience. It happened five or six years ago, in the county of biscuits and prize pigs. I had been

discoursing, more or less learnedly, upon tap-rooted vegetables, and right from the first I had been struck with the wonderful attention paid by one individual in the second row. How absorbed he was to be sure; evidently he was taking it all in! Presently came question-time. After a heavy-footed pause, the gentleman of the absorbed countenance rose to his feet, and, with the customary glance round, delivered himself thus:—

“I ain’t troublin’ much about carrots, Mister: I growed ’em, and growed ’em well, too, afore you was born; but I would like to know what you thinks o’ this yere woman’s rights business.”

I forget what my reply was. I don’t think there was any. I fancy one individual at the back of the room came to my aid by admonishing his neighbour, in a pig’s whisper, that “Dan’l can’t forget his old ’ooman for two minnits.” Wild hilarity reigned.

But if “Dan’l” wanted to go off on side-issues, occasionally one meets with a very matter-of-fact mind that refuses to be led off, and sticks to what it thinks to be the main point, with some success.

I had been lecturing in a factory town not very far from Huddersfield to an audience chiefly composed of colliers. Now the collier is a terror for questions. He has his own way of looking at things, and, not unnaturally, thinks that his own way is best. His ingenuity is great—in argument—and the Yorkshire coal-getter, at any rate, has a fund of ready wit to back it up. Here is an instance of how I failed to score:—

John Willie was a collier, and had built a greenhouse, the chimney of which smoked badly. John Willie was sitting on his haunches, collier fashion, in the shelter of a stone wall not far from his favourite alehouse, and he was regarding the said greenhouse with an air of dissatisfaction as I approached.

“Your chimney smokes, John Willie,” was my greeting.

“Ay, it doos: tell us summat new, Mister,” was the laconic retort. And John Willie proceeded to pull at his “cutty” pipe.

What an opportunity for advice! I jumped in with both feet. “You must make your chimney higher,” was the recommendation.

“What fur?”

“To make the smoke go up better.”

“Garn!” John Willie expectorated violently. “Mak’ t’ chimbley higher dost ta meean,” said he, in magnificent disgust, as he pointed contemptuously at the “chimbley” with the stem of the aforesaid cutty. “Mak smoak gooa oop, eh? Nay! smoak weean gooa oop bit o’ chimbley ther is.”

I am afraid that John Willie’s “chimbley” still smokes. Possibly, if I keep on any longer in this vein, there will be smoke at the editorial table of the Kew Guild *Journal*—something with sulphur in it, mayhap. So I’ll do as I did to John Willie—leave it at that. A. S. GALT.

## JAPANESE GATE.

THIS notable addition to the Gardens has been erected on the mound a short distance west of the Pagoda. It originally stood in the grounds of the 1910 Japan-British Exhibition, at the conclusion of which it was presented to Kew by the Kyoto Exhibitors' Association. A description of it has already appeared in the *Kew Bulletin*, 1911, p. 167. It is an exact copy (four-fifths natural size) of the Chokushi-Mon or Gate of the Imperial Messenger of the Buddhist Temple of Nishi Hongwanji at Kyoto in S. Japan, and was executed by the famous wood-carver Wada Genyemon of Kyoto. Like the original, it is constructed of the close-grained Hinoki wood, obtained from *Cupressus obtusa*, several trees of which have been planted close to it, and is roofed with a thick layer of cedar-bark shingles and sheet lead. The original was erected in the latter half of the 16th century. The actual gate bears on the panels on its northern or outer side (shown in our illustration) conventional designs in high relief of animals, while on the corresponding parts of the inner side are Chrysanthemums, and the gate is fastened by a substantial transverse beam.

The chief interest lies in the panels at right-angles to the gate on its outer side, which portray in open carving an ancient Chinese legend illustrating the devotion of a pupil to his master. On the western panel, the master—Kosekko—is seen on horseback crossing a bow-shaped bridge over a river, into which he has thrown his left shoe. On the opposite panel, the devoted pupil—Choryo—is shown rising from the waves on the back of a dragon (which has come to his aid), and is triumphantly holding up the recovered shoe with the toe pointing to his mouth. In the upper part are various animals; the stork in the western gable being especially fine.

Visitors often call the Gardens "a perfect Paradise," but this particular spot seems dedicated to heathenism, for here was erected in 1761 a Mahomedan Mosque consisting of an octagonal central chamber crowned by a dome surmounted by the crescent, and flanked by two smaller domed rooms. Over the three doors were placed texts from the Koran. A description with pictures of this appeared in Mr. (afterwards Sir) W. Chambers' 'Plan, etc., of the Gardens at Kew,' p. 6, plates 27 & 28, a large folio published in 1763.

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THE JAPANESE GATE OR CHOKUSHI-MON.

## SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF FORTY-THREE YEARS IN THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW.

THE Editor having flattered me that a contribution from my pen, on any subject I liked to choose, would be acceptable to the readers of the next issue of the *Journal of the Kew Guild*, I somewhat unwillingly agreed to the proposal, feeling that after ten years' retirement in a country place nearly 200 miles from London or Kew—both of which, every Kew man will acknowledge, are in the hub of the world—I was somewhat out of the running in current Kew topics and consequently far behind in modern methods, so that in selecting a subject it would be easier to turn my attention to antiquities—a subject, by the way, which is very congenial to me. In doing so, however, I am not contemplating taking the reader back to mediæval times, in short only to about the middle of the 19th Century, and to be more exact A.D. 1858, for it was in that year that I made my first acquaintance with Kew, when the village was almost a typical country village sufficiently distant from London to maintain its rural aspect. The only means of getting to Kew from London or places on the respective lines, were by the L. & S.W. Railway from Waterloo to Kew Bridge, the North London Railway from Fenchurch Street (Broad Street Station was not even thought of then) to Kew Bridge, the little station being then situated at the back of the Waterworks. There was also an omnibus service between Richmond and St. Paul's Churchyard through Kew, but the service was very limited and cost 1s. 6d. single fare for the full journey, and 6d. single journey from Kew to Richmond or *vice versa*. Besides all this, there was a distinct barrier to personal communication between Kew and the Middlesex side of the Thames, by the infliction of a halfpenny toll for every person crossing the bridge. In the summer the steamboats, as now, formed an additional means of access, the pier at that time being under one of the arches of the old bridge to which access was given by a flight of steps.

As I never could vouch for my accuracy in regard to dates, I do not intend to record when any improvements outside or inside the Royal Gardens were made, but at some period later than that I have referred to, the District Railway line was completed by the bridge across the Thames which connected West and Central London, and also the North London to Broad Street.

It may be worth noting here that the ground through which the line now runs to Richmond was entirely covered by market gardens. Sandycombe Road was Sandy Lane, the hedges on each side of which were noted for the quality and quantity of their Blackberries. The Liquorice plant (*Glycyrrhiza glabra*), which at one time was much cultivated about Isleworth and Kew, at a period not long before my arrival, occupied the ground now traversed by the railway. Its



cultivation was afterwards extended to Mitcham, but as that neighbourhood became covered with houses, its cultivation was carried so far away as Pontefract, about which town the plant is now much grown and liquorice manufactured in the town itself.

At the end of the summer of 1858 the Official Staff of the Royal Gardens consisted of Sir William Jackson Hooker, Director, Dr. (the late Sir) Joseph Dalton Hooker, Assistant Director, and Mr. John Smith, Curator of the Gardens. The Curator of the Herbarium was Mr. Allan Black, whose name is commemorated by Professor Daniel Oliver (who succeeded him at Kew) in the Guttiferous genus *Allanblackia*.

From the beginnings of the Museums Mr. Alexander Smith, the son of the then Curator of the Gardens, had been appointed as the first Curator of the Museums, and it was in consequence of a break-down in his health that he was compelled to resign, when I received the appointment. Prof. Oliver soon after was appointed to succeed Mr. Black at the Herbarium, the vacancy being caused by the acceptance by Mr. Black of the Curatorship of the Bangalore Botanic Garden, in consequence also of a failure of health. After this the Staff remained without much change till the retirement of Mr. J. Smith, when a second Curator of the same name, who held the post of Head Gardener at Sion House, was appointed, and after him Mr. George Nicholson. On the death of his father, Sir Joseph Hooker succeeded to the Directorship, and later Mr. (now Sir) W. T. Thiselton Dyer became Assistant Director, succeeding Sir Joseph on his retirement, the Assistant Directorship being filled by Mr. (now Sir) Daniel Morris. The later changes and appointments to an increased Staff will be familiar to most readers, but it will be seen that during my term of service from 1858 to 1901 I had the singular experience of seeing the reigns of three Directors, three Assistant Directors, three Curators of the Gardens, and three Keepers of the Herbarium, and this brings to my mind the names of many other men in the walks of science whom, if I had not the privilege of their friendship, I have met and known in the flesh, and these include, among other botanists, the great Robert Brown, Dr. Lindley, Dr. Harvey, Dr. Thomson, Sir Joseph Hooker's Indian co-worker, the Rev. J. S. Henslow, Professor of Botany at Cambridge, Dr. J. J. Bennett, Chief of the Botanical Department at the British Museum, and amongst workers in other branches of Natural Science, Prof. Thos. Bell, Dr. J. E. Gray, and Mr. William Yarrell, the greatest authority in those days on Fishes. It was at the very outset of my assuming duties at Kew that I first met the Cambridge Professor of Botany in his own home, the Rectory of Hitcham in Suffolk, the living of which he held at the same time as the Cambridge Professorship. It was at a week-end gathering, at which Sir Joseph Hooker, Mrs. Hooker (who was a daughter of the Rector), Professor D. Oliver, Dr. Harvey, and myself were guests, and I well remember what a veritable museum the Rectory was, every room and vacant space being crowded with

specimens of all kinds,—sections of different kinds of woods, mounted cones, fruits, some dry and others preserved in fluid, native ornaments and weapons from outlandish parts of the world; and these collections were made not merely for the sake of collecting, but for the laudable purpose of teaching the village folk, especially the children, the origin and uses of all these products. The Professor and Parish Priest was an adept in the art of making his lectures both attractive and impressive, and I remember him saying, with regard to the value of object lessons, that a few rose-drops or an orange supplied to the children were a very considerable aid in impressing on their minds the economic value of Rosaceæ or Aurantiaceæ. So great was the reputation of Prof. Henslow in capturing the minds of young people that some years later he was chosen to give a lecture at Buckingham Palace to the Royal children, namely, the younger brothers and sisters of our late King Edward. Specimens to illustrate these lectures were chosen from the Kew Museums, and the duty of taking the specimens to the Palace and arranging them for the lecture devolved on me, during which time some of the juvenile royalties stole in for a private view and to make some enquiries.

Speaking of Royal personages reminds me how much, in my early days, the Gardens were used as a recreation-ground by the present Queen Mary's mother, and grandmother. The very small garden attached to Cambridge Cottage, where the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary resided, was amplified by the wide stretches of the Botanic Gardens and Pleasure Ground, as the Arboretum was then called, and, having free access to the grounds, they made frequent use of them for recreation, the Princess being the constant companion of her mother whether walking, or driving in a small pony chaise which was constructed to carry only one, the Princess invariably walking by the side. Both the Royal ladies appeared to take interest in the collections, whether of the living plants or in the Museums. On several occasions I was asked to tell them any interesting facts connected with some special object, or they would stop, when walking in the grounds, to ask about some official who was absent through sickness. On her return to Kew after her marriage with the Prince of Teck, they both came to my room one day, the Princess saying that the Prince intended to spend much time in the Museum and asked me to give him any information he might require, but after taking up their residence at the White Lodge they were very little seen in the Botanic Gardens.

With regard to the progress and extension of the Museums, when I went to Kew in 1858 I found a brand new building, now known as No. 1, which had been opened only in the spring of the previous year. The enlargement of this building and the provision of a new staircase, together with the adaptation of the old Orangery for a timber museum and the enlargement of No. 2, are all well-known matters of modern

history, but they serve well to illustrate the importance of the economic side of botanical science in the commercial prosperity of the world. The recent rubber boom is but one proof of this, though many others might be cited, as for instance, the introduction of the *Cinchona* plants into India, resulting in the marvellous reduction in the price of quinine from 16s. or 18s. per ounce in my early Kew days to 1s. 4d., which is now about the average price. It is not necessary to overload these remarks on what Kew has accomplished for commerce in the transmission of live plants from one country to another, or of the numerous services rendered to all applicants for names and information respecting plants or samples of raw vegetable products, information of a kind that often saved much trouble, expense, and annoyance to the firm concerned. Thus, I remember many years ago, long before the introduction of electric tramways into our towns, but actually in the early days of horse trams, for it was in connection with the poor animals that the trouble began in a large western town, by their peculiar action of prancing, rearing, and gyrating while "on duty" in the principal streets, and some went even so far as to die. Enquiries as to their food showed that the animals had been fed on a large proportion of Indian beans, which had been supplied to the tramway company by a large contractor. A sample of these beans being sent to Kew were identified as those of *Lathyrus sativus*, a plant largely cultivated in India, and well known for its poisonous properties, producing paralysis of the limbs and often death. The case ended in a big law-suit by the tramway company against the contractors, lawyers and scientific experts being engaged on both sides.

But besides the numerous applications received by post for information of this kind, casual callers would frequently invade my room for some definite information on the spot. Thus, after the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of 1886, where a great show was made of timbers suitable for street paving, especially from the Australian colonies, a great competition arose between companies formed to promote the use of Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) on the one hand and those interested in Karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*) on the other, so that difficulties arose between contractors for the respective timbers, and public bodies who had decided to pave the streets under their control with one or the other, as to their exact determination. Needless to say that the specimens of these woods in the Museum were frequently very carefully examined by contending parties, during the boom of the woods. At another time a man of gentlemanly appearance and good address brought, as something quite new, a half-dozen of the brilliant coral-like seeds of *Adenanthera pavonina*, asking for the name of the plant, where it grew, and if the seeds could be obtained in any quantity, as the jewellery firm he represented—who had these special seeds to mount in gold for a customer—had the idea that, properly mounted, there would be a market for them in various kinds of jewellery. Not long

before I left Kew an enquiry was made about marking-nuts; the fruits of *Semecarpus Anacardium*, an East Indian tree closely allied to the Cashew Nut, the acrid juice of which, when mixed with quicklime and water, is used in India for marking fabrics, and is said to be more permanent than European marking inks. The enquirers seemed greatly interested, and expressed an opinion that it would become useful in English commerce. A new marking-ink with an original name, which I will not quote for fear of being charged with advertising, appeared soon after, but whether marking-nuts enter into its composition I cannot say, but I had a suspicion.

Amongst hobbies, that of collecting walking-sticks is not an unknown one, but the determination of the wood of every stick, ancient or modern, from all parts of the world, is not an easy matter, especially when highly polished, probably stained, and elaborately mounted. On one occasion such a collector called at my room with a very dark-coloured stick showing no definite grain, well polished, and heavily mounted in gold and ivory with, of course, a brass ferrule at the ground end. When told that it was impossible to determine the nature of the wood but possibly a thin section from the end would elucidate it, he was greatly surprised, and walked out declaring that he would not have his stick mutilated.

Many vegetable products, almost or entirely unknown when I went to Kew, have become recognised articles of commerce since that period. I have already instanced the case of the quinine, but in the matter of drugs I may further mention cocaine, kola, and the Calabar bean, all of which have some interesting facts connected with their development, which, however, would take too much space to enter upon here. So I will close this rambling statement by drawing attention to two facts which may be interesting to the newer, if not to the older, Kewites. The first occurred during the transference of some of the big Cacti from the Succulent House to the Temperate House. The largest plant of the Old Man Cactus (*Cereus senilis*), sometime after being placed in its new quarters, began to show signs of decay from the base upwards, and after it was proved to be dead at the base, it was sent to the Old Orangery, then being used as a third Museum for large specimens; placed in a large pot and supported against the back wall, the plant continued to turn brown and became dry till it stopped within 18 inches or 2 feet from the top, which portion remained green and continued to grow. On examination, it was found to be broken across where the dying process had ceased, and the top portion had rooted into it. This was taken down and returned to the Garden Department, where it was potted and put back into the living collection.

The other note I wish to speak of refers to the peculiar effects of the hygroscopic properties present in some plants, and notably in the fruits of the Sand Box Tree of the West Indies (*Hura crepitans*). These fruits are almost the size of a very large orange and are made up of numerous

carpels, which when ripe and dry burst with a loud noise and with such force as to scatter in all directions anything near them. In this connection a story was told me by the first Curator of the Gardens, Mr. John Smith, who inadvertently placed one of these fruits on the mantelpiece of a downstairs room where there had been a fire. During the night he was awakened by a great noise accompanied by the sound of broken glass or china, and upon proceeding downstairs armed, in anticipation of encountering burglars, he was surprised to find nothing more formidable than an exploded fruit of the Sand Box, mixed up with a few broken vases, which had ornamented the mantelpiece.

JOHN R. JACKSON.

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#### KEWITES AS AUTHORS.

MEMBERS of the Guild have contributed largely to the numerous list of botanical and horticultural works published recently, the following being a selection of volumes since 1908. In order to make the list as complete as possible in future numbers of the *Journal*, the Editor will be obliged if members will furnish him, from time to time, with particulars of works by Kew men:—

- CURTIS, C. H. *Orchids for Everyone*. (J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., London, 1911.) £1 1s.
- *The Book of the Flower Show*. (John Lane, London, 1910.) 2s. 6d.
- DUNN, S. T. *A Supplementary List of Chinese Flowering Plants, 1904–1910*; forming Part 274 of the Linnean Society's *Journal*, lately issued.
- FRASER, JOHN. *Select Carnations, Picotees and Pinks*. (Cable Printing Co., London, 1911.) 6d.
- JOHNSON, W. H. *The Cultivation and Preparation of Para Rubber*. Enlarged Edition. (Crosby, Lockwood & Son, London, 1909.) 7s. 6d.
- MACMILLAN, H. F. *A Handbook of Tropical Gardening*. (H. W. Cave, Colombo, Ceylon, 1910.) 12s.
- MASSEE, GEORGE. *Diseases of Cultivated Plants and Trees*. (Duckworth & Co., London, 1910.) 7s. 6d.
- *British Fungi*. Illustrated by JOY MASSEE. (Routledge & Sons, 1911.) 7s. 6d.
- & F. V. THEOBALD. *The Enemies of the Rose*. (E. Mawley, Berkhamstead, 1910.) 2s. 6d.
- PEARSON, R. HOOPER. Editor, *Present-day Gardening Series*. Vols. I.–XI. (T. C. & E. C. Jack, Edinburgh.) 1s. 6d. per vol.
- ROLFE, ROBERT ALLEN, & CHARLES CHAMBERLAIN HURST. *The Orchid Stud-Book*. (Frank Leslie & Co., Kew, 1909.) 7s. 6d.

- SCOTT, DUKINFIELD H. *Studies in Fossil Botany*. Part II. (Black, London.) 5s.
- *The Evolution of Plants*. (Williams & Norgate, London, 1911.) 1s.
- THOMAS, H. H. *Gardening Difficulties Solved*. (Cassell & Co., Ltd., London, 1910.) 1s. & 1s. 6d.
- *Sweet Peas and How to Grow Them*. (Cassell & Co., Ltd., London, 1909.) 1s.
- *The Ideal Garden*. (Cassell & Co., Ltd., London, 1910.) 6s.
- UDALE, JAMES. *Gardening for All*. (Mark & Moedy, Ltd., Stourbridge, 1910.) 1s.
- *The Handy Book of Pruning, Grafting and Budding*. New Edition. (W. & H. Smith, Ltd., Journal Press, Evesham, 1909.) 1s. 6d.
- WATSON, WILLIAM. *Rhododendrons and Azaleas*. (T. C. & E. C. Jack, Edinburgh, 1911.) 1s. 6d.
- WEATHERS, JOHN. *French Market Gardening*. (John Murray, London, 1909.) 3s. 6d.
- *The Bulb Book*. (John Murray, London, 1911.) 15s.

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#### NOTES FROM OLD KEWITES.

MR. W. H. PAINE, The Tulley Nurseries, Kildare, writes as follows:—

“If my previous impressions have not brought too much criticism, and you care to print further of my doings, I may as well conclude my peramble.

“Now, sir, to the Pyrenees Alps. Ah! sir, this was my element indeed; from the rilling waters of the lower alpine streams to the arctic regions in the clouds above was potent joy awaiting me. I first started my hunt for plants at Luz. I set out with a guide to lead my stony way to Causerets. These mountains were pleasing to the lover of alpine plants, and to make a journey with them over Nature’s rockeries is indeed a delight. Plants cringing beneath vast giants of stone, or hanging for dear life on some precipice above, sending forth garlands of jewel-like flowers in colours of deep tone, and in careless ghost-like grace, as if enjoying the pleasure of present suns without a thought of the dark days which would surely come. We will first take the ascent, *via* Lac de Gaube, to the mountains beyond. Starting out at 5 A.M., I tramped with the guide, with my knapsack on my shoulder (faith! there was no man bolder), containing my repast and wine, to about a thousand feet below the Lac de Gaube, and from this spot we followed the stream, which came from the pool above, and which, by the way, is the largest highland lake in these parts; about a hundred acres of water rests up in the mountains within its rocky banks. It was along the rushing roaring stream I have just mentioned

that my quest began. About the most common plant to be seen was *Parnassia palustris*, which, on every damp grass-bank along the stream-side, gave a sheet of white that from a distance might be taken for snow. One of the first alpine gems that cheered my way was *Soldanella alpina*, growing in the most mossy cushions by the stream-side, throwing forth its wee floral splendours, and reflecting in the still pools which occur at intervals down the stream. It was curious to note that it never took up its abode near the splashing torrent, but reposed in the more peaceful corners. Another thing I noticed about this plant was that it grew most luxuriously beside these pools, but did not seed. Yet away above the rocks which overhung the torrents, where the struggle for life was very keen, it was seeding in abundance. I suppose the water acted as the agent for distribution of the seed to the banks below. In close association was *Pyrola rotundifolia* and *P. media*, *Primula glutinosa*, *Ranunculus Thora*. Of the latter two I brought home thousands. *Primula glutinosa* was a gem here. The colour was clear, and no suggestion of the chalky hues seen in the forms in commerce. It was growing in almost soilless grass, which had overgrown the stream-side rocks. *Ranunculus Thora* was plentiful in roots, but flower was scarce. This plant sought deeper soils and slightly moraine formations. Further up the stream were the *Gentianas*; *acaulis* was a carpet of colour; *verna* seemed to seek the longer grass at the shady side of the bushes. *G. Rostani* was very small, growing with *Trifolium alpinum*, and a purple crimson form of *acaulis* was to be found in places in this small streamless valley, which this family had made its home. In fellowship with these was *Primula farinosa*, very small shining dots in the grassy green, which at first sight looked like a single crown of a silver *Saxifraga*. The flowers of the plant were over, but by the seed-pods one could see that another colour-carpet had reigned in the earlier alpine spring. Just above this was the last of the Pines, and under their sheltering influence were *Anemone alpina*, *Lilium pyrenaicum*, *Astrantia major*, *Anemone hepatica*, and various Ferns, but we were too high up for this herbage to continue, and we next came out at Lac de Gaube, and, passing its barren shores, we went up a long moraine valley beyond, where *Campanula abietina*, *C. alpina*, and *C. caespitosa* were found above and below. On the finer moraine were *Androsace pyrenaica*, *A. cylindrica*, *Saxifraga retusa*, *S. oppositifolia* var. *pyrenaica*, and yet higher on the overhanging rocks *S. longifolia* and *S. aizoon* in various forms were plentiful up this valley of snow towards Point Vignemale. The Edelweiss, which my guide seemed to know as a plant worthy of my patronage, was on the edge of a precipice close at hand. With a mighty dash he fought to attain it, even though I remonstrated with all sorts of gestures and headshakes. After much toil he eventually returned, and crammed it into my buttonhole. Close by we saw other gems. The Alpen Rose (*Rhododendron hirsutum*) and *Saxifraga oppositifolia* grow in endless

forms and colours. *Primula viscosa* was healthily growing in clumps, but in very wee form at this altitude. It was just coming into flower, and what a glorious colour up here! there being none of that washy tinge that characterizes it when growing on the lower rocks.

"Perhaps the most important lesson is that the succession of the different flowers was quite out of order with what we get dealt out to us by these same subjects under cultivation. From the scene of study we retraced our way, and so finished that day's task. Nine hilly miles to go, and with an over full knapsack, is not a very pleasant outlook; so when I regained the beaten track I hired an ass to carry my person and portage. T'was a sight for the gods; but it was a strenuous day, and one is allowed to indulge in luxury (?) at these times. Sleep was easy that night, but what shall I say about rising next morning? I think 'rolling' would be a more appropriate term to use.

"Another day's work placed us up over 10,000 feet on Mount Perdu. We started at noon, and spent the afternoon in getting through the preliminary stages of the climb. We rested in a mountain serai for the night. We gathered dead pine-branches to make our fire, but this was no easy task, as, at this height, we were almost above tree-life. However, we got the fire going, and rested on some straw, which other wayfarers had used. Sleep came with pleasure in this keen air, and soon sealed our optics, with the aid of the glowing fire. Early next morning we were awakened by another guide, who had brought our provisions for the day, and to help us in some of the more difficult climbs. So, after breakfast, we started in real earnest for alpine plants. We followed the mountain-path for some time; when we suddenly turned aside on to a large ledge.

"On this was a mass of *Lilium Martagon* and *Gentiana lutea*. Along this ledge the fight began. Before us was a large rock, which barred our way. After three quarters of an hour's scaling, all roped together, we came out on top of this huge boulder, only to find a still greater enemy facing us, but beneath its overhanging walls were several things of real live interest. *Primula viscosa* in all its refined splendours studded the sombre rocks, growing in large ribbons down the chinks thereof. This was a sight which many an alpine lover would go miles to see; and I stood in silent worship, for, methinks, Nature does know how to plant for glorious effect. Just a little further along the rock was a silky ribbon of water dashing down from the snows above. It dropped for 150 feet without interruption, and then dashed on a large projecting stone, spraying over the steep rocks below. Being interested in what grew under the influence of this spray, I descended by ropes and found a mossy-like plant predominating, which might have been *Selaginella spinosa*.

"*Saxifraga aquatica* was flowering beautifully where the sunlight was excluded. *Parnassia* again was strong, and *Pinguicula alpina* or *P. vulgaris* was there in its thousands. But this meant a wet suit,



which up here would be rather an uncomfortable possession. So I left this to its own peaceful retreat, and returned on my upward tour. After some hard work passing from ledge to ledge, scaling backwards and forwards, over the face of the rock, in company with *Saxifraga longifolia*, I came upon some specimens a foot across, growing from the side of the rock in any place whereon the ages had left their mark. Some of these were in flower, but I cannot say these came up to many I have seen under cultivation, things being dwarfed at this considerable height. *Saxifraga aizoon* was in evidence on every place, *Saxifraga Cotyledon* sending forth garlands of dewy sprays. There were many forms of this plant, some flowering with long, conglomerated pyramids, others opening their flowers down in the crown, yet the flower itself was full-sized. This latter form was particular to certain plants, and one wonders if cultivation will spoil its charms. They were growing in close association with their more pyramidal brethren.

"*Saxifraga aizoides* was scarce, as was *S. aretioides*. As we passed along a streamlet, *Silene acaulis* found its home. What fine cushions of green! What glorious patches of colour! It is a gem at home and is master of the situation where it grows. Various *Saxifragas* and *Dianthi* were in possession along a sunny moraine, and the only plant of a mossy *Saxifrage* was seen on the opposite bank, which I think was *S. moschata*, and very unhappy it was. I expect it came down from above with the falling rocks.

"Away up the mountain side amid the snowy slopes *Dryas octopetala*, *Primula farinosa*, and *P. glutinosa* were in abundance, and where it chanced to be more moist, *P. integrifolia* or some form very like it was growing. *Ranunculus Thora* was flowering here in very fine style. On the cliff above I found a solitary plant of *Primula minima*, with one of its fairy-like flowers hanging over as if watching my work of destruction at a fine plant of *P. viscosa alba*. But we were at the top of our climb, and around us was the ever persistent *Parnassia palustris*. *Dryas* again was plentiful, and while wandering around looking at the snowy giants before us, *Saxifraga pygmæa* gave us the last signs of a weary struggle for existence. As I stood and surveyed in that celestial calm, where the din of commerce had no meaning and the human voice seldom defiled, I saw below the rugged pillars of rock, the scene of inert life, the home of many gems. And I listened,—from below came the sounds of rushing waters, subdued by distance, but refined in their charm, still rolling on and on, making deeper dales, and greater hills, carrying with them the memories of their rugged cradle birth."

Mr. W. H. MORLAND writes from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, Oct. 29, 1911:—

"I have been prompted to write a few lines for the *Journal* about the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh.

"The Gardens cover about 57 acres and, unfortunately, even if it were

desirable to enlarge them it would not be possible, since they are bounded by a road and Inverleith Public Park on the west side, and surrounded in other directions by modern villas.

“The Rock Garden occupies nearly two acres of ground. The old rock-work designed by James McNab (a past Kewite and at one time Principal Gardener), was built in terraces, every stone laid to form pockets. The present system has a more natural effect, the stones project in a manner of large boulders, conglomerate being used in the centre for plants that require to be on the dry side in winter, and sand-stone round the outside for Ferns and plants from damp habitats. The plan consists of very winding terraces, large mounds, and ravines; but many proposed features, such as a stream of water and valleys, remain to be carried out. When this is finished Edinburgh will certainly have a rock-garden equal to if not surpassing any other Public Garden in Britain. It is bounded on the west side by a wild garden, and coming into close proximity to one another presents a natural and harmonious effect.

“The Herbaceous Border is about three hundred yards long, containing many hundreds of small self beds of herbaceous plants. It is a rule here to keep all plants of one kind together in a colony.

“There is also a Rose Garden with a good collection of species and garden varieties but, unfortunately, Roses die out if not protected during the winter months. The polyanthas and wichuraianas do the best here.

“The Arboretum contains several thousand trees and shrubs, and a new feature in this department is a border containing plants from China collected by E. H. Wilson, a past and worthy Kewite.

“The Range of Glass is so constructed that one can pass from one house to another, being connected by a corridor; this is planted up with climbers.

“The Palm House is nearly round in shape and contains a good collection of Cycads and Palms planted out in beds, climbers trained up the pillars, and tropical plants in pots on the stages. One house is planted up with Bromeliaceæ in rock-work; this has a much finer effect than when grown in pots and placed on a stage. *Jatropha podagrica* flourishes under this treatment. This department also contains Stove, Begonia, Orchid, Economic, Erica, Mexican, and Cactus Houses and Ferneries.

“The Herbarium, originally the old Caledonian Show Hall, contains many thousands of dried specimens. The chief assistant is Mr. J. F. Jeffrey, a past Kewite.

“The Gardens are opened to the Public from 9 A.M. until sunset on week-days, and 11 A.M. to sunset on Sundays. The Houses and Museum are opened from 1 P.M. until 5.30 P.M. in the summer months, and till sunset in winter.

"Young gardeners have many advantages. An applicant must have had at least five years' experience, and be not over twenty-five years of age. The term is a three years' course, a gardener during this period receiving at least ten subjects. These differ sometimes according to circumstances, and include Botany, Ecology, Forestry, Entomology, Meteorology, Mycology, Chemistry and Physics, Land Surveying and Mensuration, Book Keeping, Latin, Horticulture, Nursery, Decorative and General work in connection with a garden. There is a Library containing several thousands of books appertaining to their work, this is open every evening until 10 P.M. I might add the Regius Keeper is very keen to obtain the best Lecturers possible for these classes, and an examination is held at the end of every course. A Certificate is awarded according to marks obtained at the end of three years.

"We also have a Debating Society: meetings held fortnightly, and many a worthy discussion takes place.

"Sport is not neglected, both Cricket and Football Clubs are enthusiastically supported.

"The Regius Keeper is the chief of the Garden, and a past and able Kewite in the person of R. L. Harrow is the Head Gardener. The Staff differs somewhat from Kew, since Foresters as well as Gardeners are employed."

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Mr. GEORGE LAMB, "Memleket," Hextable, writes as follows, Dec. 6th, 1911:—

"Thanks for the last issue of the *Journal*, which I have, as usual, enjoyed from end to end. One of the most interesting parts of its perusal is looking through the list of Old Kewites, marking each one whom I knew, and noting where he is and what he is doing, and conjuring up in my mind a mental picture of what old so-and-so looks like as Head Gardener, Superintendent, or whatever his designation may be. By the way, could not the list be a little more elaborated as regards these designations; it would be interesting to note the evolution of the F. into H. G. as time went on.

"Did I happen to hit on a bad streak during my Kew time? [Yes, Winn says it was in the days of the notorious Black Gang.—Ed.] I note that among about 75 contemporaries, 12 have no address given, and 2 only vague.

"The one article which fixed my attention most was 'The Kew Gardener and what will he become,' by Mr. C. W. Mayhew. This not only shows deep thought but, in my case, it has aroused and concentrated thoughts on the subject. I quite agree that too many men are passing through Kew compared with the vacancies that occur for such men. Might not the authorities give this matter their attention, and, as a palliative, I suggest that the Kew period of training be extended from two years to three years, or perhaps instead of making this a general rule, at the end of a man's second year his case might

have individual attention, and if in their opinion his record justified it, and he gave promise of being a credit to Kew, he should have the option of a further year's extension. Marking time as a journeyman in a small place after leaving Kew means mental stagnation, and in not a few cases deterioration.

"Among all the Old Kewites there must be many who could show a little more of the Kew spirit, as shown for instance by Messrs. Lynch and Guttridge among others, by always appointing their foreman from Kew, thus affording these particular men what is practically a further extension of their Kew training and opportunities, fitting them for more responsible posts. Kew would need to back up this by recommending those men who had proved their worth during this period of probation."

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Mr. A. Brooks, "Melrose," St. Lucia, B.W.I., writes on Easter Monday, 1911:—

"It was a real pleasure to see the *Journal* again, and it is a very great pity indeed that dissension should have sprung up within the Guild. As Mr. Lane (of Calcutta) pointed out, 'the Indian section of the members, at any rate, did not ask the Guild to fight their battles for them; they were quite capable of looking after themselves'; and that exactly expresses the opinion of Kewites in the West Indies. So far as Old Kewites holding Government appointments are concerned—these number about 119—the proposed progressive (?) policy can, if it affects them at all, only do them harm, and, if continued, will in all probability necessitate their severance with the Guild. If the promoters of this policy had had the true advancement of *all* sections of Kewites at heart, it would have only been reasonable to suppose that they would have at once withdrawn it when they found it did not meet with the approval of a section of the members of the Guild, no matter whether that section was in a majority or a minority. They profess to be working for the *advancement* of the Guild. Is it advancement when such able men as Bean, Winn, and others, gave up, after years of work for the Guild. It should not be taken for granted that because no, or few, objections have been received from Kewites abroad with regard to this policy that they are in favour of its adoption; on the contrary, they are very willing to express their objections in person when you come across them, but as far as stating their complaint in writing is concerned, they are quite indifferent. Personally I shall feel extremely sorry if anything more should happen to cause a breaking-up of the Guild, and I think the Kewites who are pushing this policy in face of opposition from many sides would be well advised if they would reconsider their position and see things as they affect the Guild.

"I'm sorry I cannot give you a breezy letter of life in Dominica. Unlike my old friend C. E. F. Allen, I have no lions, cannibals, or

gramophones to write about. I assure you, great surprise as it may be, that the people in Dominica, and generally throughout the West Indies, are civilized, usually decently clad and, above all, are peaceable. These conditions, therefore, rob me of 'material.' As you will see by the above address, I have been promoted from Dominica to the post of Assistant Agricultural Superintendent at St. Lucia. This island is very similar to Dominica in many respects, but from an agricultural aspect it is at least ten years behind its sister island. St. Lucia is noted for being the home or favourite haunt of the dreaded Fer-de-Lance or 'Yellow Viper' known as the 'Death of the Woods.' Writing of this reptile in the 'Cradle of the Deep,' Sir Frederick Treves, Bart., says:—'Of all venomous snakes this execrable creature is the fiercest, most aggressive, and most deadly. The very name 'Yellow Viper' would seem to be as loathsome a title as could be invented for a living thing, and if a tenth of the stories told about it be true it deserves any ignominy. It has a low, flat head, triangular in shape. Its skin affects the yellow-brown tint of decomposition. The iris of the eye is orange, with red flashes: it glows at night like burning charcoal. In a walk through the woods, at any moment a seeming branch, a knot of lianas, a pink or grey root, a clump of pendent yellow fruit may suddenly take life, writhe, stretch, spring, strike.' These reptiles are far more common than was generally believed, and they are by no means confined to the native woods, but are often found in various estates in certain localities. The Government is doing all it possibly can to eradicate this pest both by paying 1/- per head for each one killed and by the introduction of Mongoose.

"I enclose 20/- as my life-subscription, and trust that the Guild will flourish as of old."

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Mr. A. R. GOULD writes from the Botanic Gardens, Aburi, Gold Coast, West Africa, on September 17, 1911:—

"The work out here is both interesting and important, as it is the duty of the Department to promote agriculture in the colony, and to teach the natives improved methods of cultivation.

"Experiments are conducted with many important economic products, and it is necessary to keep accurate records of these.

"In January and July a certain number of school-teachers attend a course of lectures on agriculture conducted by the Curator at each station in the colony, therefore it will be noted that one should be an orator and prepared for such an onerous duty. Practical demonstrations and instruction in the care of school-gardens are likewise given.

"The propagating department, or nursery, is an important branch, as this is the centre of distribution of seeds and plants for the province. It therefore is necessary that the nursery should be well stocked. Native farmers visit the station to obtain instruction, and the Curator must give them his personal attention. Insect and fungus pests are

often troublesome, and these require active preventive measures. Labour requires handling with tact. It will be seen that the duties are varied and numerous.

“Of course there is the usual statement that this a deadly place, and there is no doubt that the West Coast will always keep its reputation in this respect, but one must undertake a certain amount of risk everywhere. At the same time one should receive recompense accordingly, and unfortunately the present salary is not compatible with the risk; hence the resignations in favour of higher salaries paid by private companies, who generally pay double.

“The cost of living is very high on the Gold Coast, as every ‘Coaster’ will testify. We assist the revenue by paying 10 per cent. on all imports, which, naturally, is the cause of provisions, etc., being so expensive; then one must have servants, and pay them reasonable wages.”

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Mr. W. H. ETTERLEY writes from Shanghai, China, on November 13, 1911:—

“Taking the life and conditions generally—which compare very favourably with those existing at home—I am satisfied with Shanghai. Not every Kewite on foreign service (or at home for that matter) enjoys so many privileges of civilization as we in this part of the Far East, equipped as Shanghai is with modern hotels, shops, cinemas, theatres, electric cars, taxicabs, and all other luxuries of modern life, even to horse-racing and aeroplanes. The foreign population, estimated a year ago at about 14,000, is very cosmopolitan, nearly every nationality being represented by a Consul, of which there are about 16, all governed locally by the same Municipal Council with the exception of the French, who have a Concession and Council of their own. The predominant foreign language is English—spoken with a Scotch accent.

“Just now the weather is ideal. Although winter games—football, hockey, etc.—are in full swing, I have played cricket at Kew under conditions far more winterly. The summer months, to me, seemed hot, but older residents here looked upon it as being an exceptionally cool summer. With the contrariness proverbial to the country, while you at home were being baked on account of heat and drought, we were being boiled on account of heat and floods. The revolution which is at present taking place has so far affected Shanghai very little, except to fill the place to overflowing with refugees, foreign and native; but it is too early to cry out yet. If Shanghai only gets a taste of the fate that has befallen Hankow, we are in for trouble. A little time ago the whole native population seemingly turned revolutionary, but the only fighting that took place was a very slight encounter at the Arsenal near. What to us is a ‘flag of truce,’ to them is a declaration of war, to judge by the number of white flags flying,—another example of contrariness. But to return to peaceful subjects.

"That which comes under the jurisdiction of our department is dispersed over a large area, including as it does some 15,000 street trees and three nurseries, one of these, devoted to the growing of street trees, being some 8 or 9 miles from Shanghai. The Public Garden, although small in comparison to the size of the settlement, is neat and well situated. During the summer months the band plays either there or in Hong Kew Recreation Ground nearly every day, during the hottest times, from 9 to 11 P.M. The glass consists of three nicely arranged conservatories, the largest completed this year, and two ordinary plant-houses. Hong Kew Recreation Ground, made by Mr. MacGregor, is a roomy well-kept place recognized as being the finest of its kind in the Far East. He has also made this spring a smaller park, containing two features new to Shanghai, a Dutch garden and a sunk cement water-lily tank 50 feet longer and 20 feet broader than the central one in the White City, Kew Gardens. It also contains a well-equipped playground for children, and it is difficult to tell which is giving him the most satisfaction—the success of this or the Water Lilies, which are a fine show. There is another recreation ground, including the race-course. Then as there are several open spaces and the grounds round such municipal buildings as police-stations, schools, hospitals, etc., each usually possessing at least a tennis-lawn and several flower-beds, it is easy to keep from 100 to 500 or more natives employed daily.

"The native at his work is a study; still he manages somehow to turn out very good stuff, as two good horticultural exhibitions held here annually testify. One of these, due in a few days (the Chrysanthemum Show), is a sight worth seeing. Love for plants is a deficient quality in a Chinese gardener, and to all appearance his one ambition in life is to do as little as possible for his pay. Still it ought to be easy to forgive the heathen wily Chinese this, seeing that members of more enlightened races are oftentimes addicted to the same practice.

"The most useful street trees are the London Plane, the 'Local Ash' (*Pterocarya stenoptera*), Catalpas, Acacias, and *Sophora japonica*, while on older-planted roads are fine specimens of Ginkgos, Tallow Trees (*Stillingia sebifera*), and *Sterculia platanifolia*. *Osmanthus (Olea) fragrans*, which is planted in quantity by the natives, a few weeks ago filled the air with its most delicious scent. Celosias, *Torenia Fournieri*, Plumbagos, Lantanas, and Gomphrena are among the most useful summer flowering plants; bulbs as at home, and annuals sown in the autumn come in for spring and early summer.

"Give my best wishes to all old chums at home and abroad."

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Mr. F. CAVE writes as follows from Riverside Farm, Framingham, Mass., in December last:—

"You will perhaps think this a cold frigid letter, but I know it is the kind I would like to have seen before coming here. To the Kewite whose time is approaching an end, the question where to go is a burning

one; England offers little to most of us, the few jobs worth having always seem to be filled, so that there is only migration left. The posts in India, Gold Coast, and the other 'health resorts' offer no particular charms to many. Such was my case, and after much thought I decided to go to Columbia and trust to fortune. Through another Kewite I soon obtained a place, and so far my only regret is that I did not leave England three or four years ago.

"What a change for our profession to receive pay somewhere near the standard that our work demands! The wages of journeymen average from 55 to 60 dollars per month and room, board costing about 20 dollars per month. Very good pay is given in the landscape branch, and I would advise any who intend coming here to keep well posted in outdoor gardening. A knowledge of practical levelling and road-making is also valuable. Rose-growers get good money, but this requires learning here, as then one can be up to the methods employed. There is not the field for inside work, although there are good situations, but not the same opportunities; if one is a specialist, of course one can command good wages.

"The work-hours are from 7 to 5 usually, with one hour for dinner: many leave at 4.30 on private places; commercial places work a little longer.

"The best time to arrive, I consider, is about the end of March or the first week in April; until then the frost has things in its icy grip.

"The climate is rather more extreme both in heat and cold, but so far the Kewites I have met, of whom some are old stagers, seem to be none the worse for their experience. The Kewite who wishes to have a look round, combine pleasure with profit, or who is looking out for a chance to push along can do very much worse than come to America. Work he will have to, as everywhere, but he will also get honest remuneration for doing so. Such at least has been the experience of the writer."

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Mr. C. E. F. ALLEN writes from Mocimboa, Portuguese East Africa, where he is conducting farming operations for the Nyassa Rubber Co., September 22, 1911:—

"Force is the one thing the native recognizes quickly, though I don't think I would say the only thing. When I have been ill I have known them very kind, as on a journey I made to Ibo by machilla, with fever most of the way. I was pretty bad, and the care they took of me showed they had some nice feelings; they are a rum lot, and I wish I understood them better.

"The other day, while I was sitting in camp, a finely-made good-looking youth come up from the working gangs and said a tree had fallen on him. His face on one side was swollen to bursting-point, and he couldn't open his mouth, and only mumbled with closed teeth. I tried to get him to open it to see what had happened, but he moaned



and seemed in such great pain that I had to give it up. I bathed his face where swollen with liniment, and bandaged him up with a cold-water pad over the swelling; he then lay down and rolled in the sand, and appeared in such pain that I really felt most distressed for him, and got my personal servant to take him to his hut. In about an hour's time my boy came back and told me it was all a sham, that the rascal had stuffed his face with some of his loin-cloth, and simply wanted to go and rest instead of working. I sent two people to go and fetch him, and he came struggling, but perfectly fit—he went away soon after not very fit. This was a real take in for me, and I was much more amused than angry, but, of course, had to pretend to be angry, and did. The boy acted jolly well, his grimaces, etc., were perfect. One day one feels sorry for the poor simple, childlike nigger, and the next something happens like that. I reckon they must often have a good laugh at home at the way they have taken in the silly white men who think they know all about them. There is seldom much drinking at native dances; but at one dance, which takes place some months after a death, when the sun gets up native beer is consumed in huge quantities. During the night one could imagine it a temperance gathering, but in the morning it more resembles a Covent Garden Ball or a Kew dance of the olden times!

“These last three months I have had quite a lot of successful hunting, and have gained a reputation as a shot, which is not at all a thing to be despised when living in a country like this. I shot a fine hippo yesterday, and the workpeople are having a real bust on the meat; it's really quite extraordinary the amount they are able to eat. Ten miles inland from here some sixty native soldiers with officers are waging war on some Makondi villages, and there is some unrest about here, but nothing to interfere with one's peace of mind.”

Mr. J. D. SNOWDEN writes from Government Plantation, Kampala, Uganda, on 15th Oct., 1911:—

“I have now been out here over five months, and am getting quite acclimatized. I enjoyed the journey from Mombasa across East Africa to Port Florence immensely. It takes two days, and the beautiful views of mountains and valleys which are to be seen as the train winds about like a huge snake, giving one ample opportunity to see them, are worth travelling far to see. The journey from Port Florence to Entebbe, across Lake Victoria, in one of the up-to-date steamers is very pleasant, provided one is fortunate enough to escape the violent storms of wind and rain, which are so frequent out here though fortunately of short duration. Entebbe is very picturesque as seen from the steamer, situated as it is on the side of a steep hill, well wooded, clothed with varied tropical vegetation, and sloping down to the lake. Luzure is about six miles from Kampala, and this distance is traversed in rickshaws drawn by natives, who keep up an incessant chanting during the process. The road winds

through a vast papyrus swamp, and on the higher ground on each side of the road are the small native "Shambas" with their almost universal bananas, sweet potatoes, and maize, and perhaps a little sugar cane and a few *Colocasia antiquorum*. A large number of *Phoenix reclinata* are to be seen, and *Erythrina tomentosa*, with its brilliant scarlet pea flowers which open when the trees are leafless, but which show up well among the surrounding green foliage, are very common. The native incense trees, *Canarium Schweinfurthi*, towering up to a great height and covered with large pinnate leaves, are dotted about at intervals. *Spathodea campanulata* is another fine large tree with large pinnate leaves and large bright scarlet cup-shaped flowers, looking like a bunch of huge Tulips on a single stalk. Other trees of interest are *Acacia arabica*, *Draccena fragrans*, the Bark Cloth Tree (*Ficus* sp.), and *Acanthus arboreus*.

"After being under the impression that I should probably have a rough time of it out here, I was very pleased to find myself installed in a nice little bungalow on the Government Experimental Plantation, in charge of the same. The Plantation is still in its infancy, being quite a wilderness and swamp only three years ago. Still we are just gathering our first crop of coffee from trees two years old, and have got some very promising plots of Para and Ceara Rubber coming on, besides Cocoa, Rice, Sisal, and Tea. Cotton is doing very well in a great many parts of the country, and wheat is being successfully grown at Toro, while most of the English vegetables do well out here, so that, generally speaking, the agricultural prospects are fairly bright.

"Labour is cheap at present but is rapidly becoming dearer. A more general use of machinery will probably come into force in the near future which will counteract the increase in the price of manual labour.

"Kampala is a town of rising importance. Mengo, the residence of the Kabaka (king) of Uganda, is quite close by, and he is often to be seen about attended by some of his subjects. I was much impressed with the superior intelligence of the natives here compared with those of East Africa, especially the Kavirondos near the lake, the majority of whom have not yet adopted any clothing, with the exception of a few beads and such-like ornaments. The Baganda are very fond of dress and look very well in their white gowns with red fez hats, but look rather out of place when they adopt some portion of European clothing.

"The country round about here is very hilly, and, as the native roads always make straight for their destination, some of them are so steep that it is difficult to walk up them. These are being gradually replaced by new roads which keep more to the contours of the hills and make travelling much easier. Motor cars and cycles are quite common, and with the improved roads and better transport the opening up of the country will proceed rapidly, though this is never likely to become a white man's country in the true sense of the expression."

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THE following is an interesting account concerning Kew men and the Durbar, from Mr. A. E. P. Griessen, Durbar Gardens, Delhi, who writes on January 4th, 1912:—

“We have just got over the Coronation festivities here; needless to say, it was a great success, and the impressiveness of the function will long be remembered throughout India.

“It is gratifying to note that Kew has greatly contributed to its success through the share taken by Kewites from various parts of India in bringing up their representative Government camps to so fine an appearance. Some of them travelled hundreds of miles to contribute their share. In this respect, Johnson came up from Calcutta, 900 miles, to lay out the Government of India and Bengal Camps, Little from Bombay, 950 miles, to attend to the Government of Bombay Camp, Krumbiegel from Mysore, 1500 miles, Cavanagh from Baroda, 800 miles, to carry out their respective Camps, Mustoe from Lahore, 500 miles, to bring the Punjab Camp to its beautiful setting. Leslie from Nagpore also turned up for the Central Provinces Camp, and Head from Allahabad. Locke, who is resident here, had his share of the work to attend to, that which appertained to the local authorities. As to myself, I pretty well played the same part as I did 9 years ago when Lord Curzon entrusted me with the laying out of his first great Durbar.

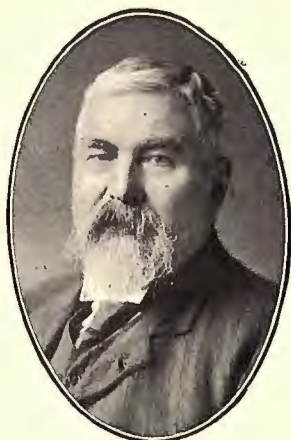
“Since April last, I had to open an office here to assist the Durbar Committee with the laying out of the King Emperor’s Camp and all the various open spaces. Some of our biggest undertakings were certainly the laying out of three Polo Grounds, Review Ground, where fully 2,000,000 men could be paraded, and the Great Amphitheatre, where the Durbar was held.

“In addition to the Kewites already mentioned I should not omit Long, who came from the Himalaya to assist in the floral decoration of the Imperial Camp. Hartless from Saharanpur, and even the well rooted Davies from Lucknow, made their appearance as onlookers. Never have we had such a muster of Kewites; it is only a matter of regret that pressure of work did not permit us to have a few meetings and have our photograph taken together.

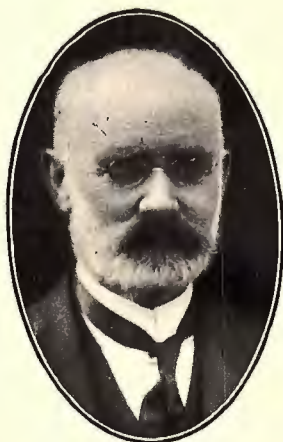
“It is gratifying to know that some of the work done will remain and will eventually form the embryo of the New Capital of India.

“It is hardly conceivable that a grander show could possibly be brought together; it has surpassed in many details the lavish Durbar of 1903. We have, of course, benefited by the experience gained 9 years ago, when we had the pleasure of working under Lord Curzon, one of the greatest Viceroys India has ever had.

“This year, these great preparations were entrusted by Lord Hardinge to Sir John Hewitt, our United Provinces’ Lieut.-Governor, and no efforts have been spared to bring everything to the success it has been acknowledged to be.



J. MUIR.



R. THOMSON.



SIR JOSEPH DALTON HOOKER.



P. MACMAHON.



W. DON.

"I have again had the distinction to figure in the Honour list, and to receive the Kaiser-I-Hind decoration. I feel that many Kewites deserve a similar, if not better, tribute. I hope the day is not far distant when our work will be more generally appreciated."

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MEMORY.

O! memory mocks in phantom dreams  
Of Youth long sped,  
As though t'were yesterday it seems—  
Yet years are dead.

O! memory conjures dulcet thought  
Of happier hours,  
The thorns to bring to life she sought  
Among the flowers.

Dim not these aged eyes with tears,  
My destiny  
Is shaped: lift not the veil of years  
O! memory.

H. H. T.

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IN MEMORIAM.

SIR JOSEPH DALTON HOOKER.

THE Guild *Journal* for 1894 contained a portrait and short sketch of Sir Joseph D. Hooker. He was then 77 years of age, but "a strong man, straight as a life-guardsmen." That was 18 years ago. He went on working hard until he was 90, and intermittently, until the end came on December 11, 1911, when he was in his 95th year. Truly a remarkable man, an insatiable worker, whose whole life bore strong testimony to the truth of his own saying—"Hard work will not shorten life, it prolongs it; intemperate living kills men before their time." It is said that in his younger days Sir Joseph was not physically strong, in which case it might be supposed that hard work was his physic. For particulars of Sir Joseph's career Kewites are referred to what was said in the *Journal* for 1894, or to the daily press which, after his death, devoted considerable space to biographical notices of him. The *Gardeners' Chronicle* for December 16 and subsequent numbers contains a full account of "The Life of Sir Joseph Hooker" written by Mr. W. B. Hemsley, a distinguished colleague and Old Kewite\*.

\* See also an excellent biographical notice in the *Kew Bulletin*, i, 1912.

Sir Joseph was a life-member of our Guild, and from the first he showed a lively interest in its proceedings. He also took an interest in the Gardeners' Mutual Improvement Society, and for many years presented a guinea book, "The Hooker Prize," to the approved best man of the year. He never lost his interest in the Gardens, even in the last years of his life, a walk round the Gardens being part of his programme whenever he visited the herbarium, as he frequently did in the prosecution of his botanical work. On one of these visits, I believe it was on his 90th birthday, he was in the Gardens with Lady Hooker and they readily consented to being photographed by Mr. H. H. Thomas, also an Old Kewite, and a very good, characteristic photo he obtained, the only one ever taken of Sir Joseph in the Royal Gardens. He died full of honours, a final resting place in Westminster Abbey being offered and declined in favour of Kew Churchyard, where his father and grandfather also lie. In due time, no doubt, a suitable monument will be erected there to commemorate the man who devoted a long life to botanical science and helped to build up the great establishment which has made Kew famous. It may be said that whilst Sir William Hooker laid the foundations and roughed out the structure of Kew, his son and successor, Sir Joseph, furnished it with collections and material of all kinds, which his successors have arranged and developed. Sir Joseph was a great collector of facts and materials by means of which others constructed floras, doctrines, and theories.

Sir Joseph Hooker was endowed with great gifts, and he was blessed with opportunity to use them for the advancement of science and for the benefit of mankind. Some men have gifts but the gods deny them opportunity, others have opportunity and are unable to use it. We cannot all hope to do and win as Sir Joseph did, but every man can trim and carry his light, however small its illumination, and do his share, however modest. The battle of life needs rank and file as well as captains and generals. If we do our best, as Sir Joseph undoubtedly did, who shall complain?

W.

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ROBERT THOMSON.

The announcement in our pages of the lamented death of this distinguished Kewite is, we fear, somewhat late in the day, since he died suddenly of heart failure at Thornton Heath on December 28th, 1908, aged 68. Mr. Thomson was at one time head of the Jamaica Botanical Department, afterwards Agricultural Instructor to Elder, Dempster & Co., and for the last thirty years of his life, while a pensioner of the Jamaica Civil Service, he was engaged in the cultivation and distribution of important economic plants. He left Kew in 1862 to take up the position of an assistant gardener to Mr. Wilson in the then newly formed Botanical Gardens at Castleton, Jamaica, about 19 miles from Kingston. He retired on pension in 1879. In more recent

years he turned his attention to rubber production, and wrote extensively on those species which are still little known to commerce. Among his publications may be mentioned his interesting pamphlet on 'The Jequié Manicoba Rubber tree of Bahia,' a contribution to the Jamaica 'Bulletin of Agriculture' on Ceara rubber, reports on the cultivation of rubber and other products in Colombia, pamphlet on the "Virgen" rubber of Colombia, and many other articles dealing with different kinds of tropical produce. Only five days prior to his death a most valuable article on Jamaica oranges appeared in the London 'Telegraph.' He was a corresponding member of the Pharmaceutical Society from 1895 until the time of his death. His loss to Jamaica is especially to be regretted, as in that island he strenuously urged the cultivation of rubber, and was engaged in an attempt to establish the rubber industry there on a firm footing.

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PHILIP MACMAHON.

Kewites of the early eighties no doubt retain a lively recollection of Mr. Philip MacMahon, who combined with a keen interest in scientific horticulture the poetic temperament, a lively imagination, and a ready tongue. He was an Irishman possessed of considerable personal charm, and when he entered Kew as a journeyman gardener, in 1881, he quickly came to the front as speaker and writer. At that time the Mutual Improvement Society at Kew was a debating body of no mean order. I have heard discussions at the Society's meetings that would have done credit to societies of much greater pretensions. James Hartland, John Deacon, Bernard Shaw, William Kennedy, Augustine Brenchley, George Marchant, Frank Ross, Michael Barker, John Hall, John Fraser, Harry Witty, and Philip MacMahon are some of the promising young men of that period who made a good impression whilst at Kew and have kept up their heads since. Whatever was in hand, work or play, business or pleasure, these men put their backs into it, and Philip MacMahon was one of the leaders. MacMahon left Kew in March, 1882, to be Curator of the Botanic Gardens, Hull, and he held that post until the gardens were given up to the builders. He afterwards tried his luck in India, but, failing to find a suitable post, he proceeded to Australia. He was employed in the Botanic Gardens, Brisbane, first as curator, afterwards as director, and in 1905 he was appointed Director of Forests under the Queensland Government. He appears to have done good work in the forestry department, and was about to realise his hopes for an extension of his sphere of usefulness, when on April 14 last, whilst on an inspection visit to Fraser Island, he was suddenly taken ill, and died almost immediately. He was born in 1857.

W.

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## WILLIAM DON.

Born in 1879, Don was brought up and educated in the orphanage maintained by the Marchioness of Breadalbane at Kenmore, and served his apprenticeship at Taymouth Castle Gardens, Aberfeldy. Before coming to Kew, in 1902, he had an unusually good opportunity of cultivating catholicity of opinion, being employed in the gardens of Lord Rosebery and Mr. Balfour. I used to try and extract information from Don about these great men when we were at work together, and was pleased to find that he was least disposed to altogether damn with faint praise the wearer of my then political colour.

The sending of Don to the Gold Coast in 1903, to take charge of a newly-established Botanic Station at Tarkwa, was regarded by Kewites as a particularly good choice, this being a really valuable endorsement of the selector's wisdom, which I am afraid would certainly not be gained in the case of every recommendation from Kew. In 1905 he was transferred to the position of Curator of the resuscitated Botanic Station at Old Calabar, Southern Nigeria, staying there for some time, but he was afterwards in charge of other Stations and on tour.

He died very suddenly of acute pneumonia, November, 1911, at Aberfeldy, where he was spending part of his leave among his old surroundings. Knowing that he was about to take a course in entomology in London, we were expecting to see him at Kew.

The death of Don follows with unpleasant swiftness after that of Smythe. It is worthy of remark that only one Old Kewite has yet succeeded in obtaining a pension after service in West Africa, and that a small one, gained at the cost of a breakdown in health.

I am confident that those who knew Don will sincerely mourn his loss, and agree with my estimation of him as a very nice chap—and what more informative or desirable epitaph than that? Always cheery, he had a nice sense of right and wrong, and was a fine specimen of a hardy Scot without an undue allowance of "pawkiness." X.

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 J. MUIR.

It is with regret that we have to announce the death of this well-known gardener and life-member of the Kew Guild. Not only was Muir in his day one of the famous gardeners of England, but he has always been known as a sound writer on horticultural and agricultural topics. For something like thirty years he had without intermission written for the 'Cardiff Western Mail,' 'Liverpool Mercury,' 'Nottingham Guardian,' 'Bradford Observer,' and 'News of the World,' and his efforts were greatly appreciated.

Born north of the Tweed, he probably made his first start in gardening at that nursery of skilful men, Drumlanrig, whose gardens



at the time were under the control of the late David Thomson. Mr. Muir had the usual experiences of the young gardener who is determined to succeed and write his name on the records of his avocation. He achieved his ambition at Margam Abbey, and became known the country over by the familiar, but none the less complimentary, sobriquet of "Muir of Margam." Leaving Margam he purchased and developed places successively in Gloucestershire, Essex, and Hertfordshire, and was fully justified in his financial speculations. Later he settled at Theydon Bois in retirement, but his natural activity would not be denied, and he took a farm at Barking only a short time before his demise. It was here that he passed to his rest on March 27, 1911, after a brief illness of four days, but the interment was at Theydon Bois. Mr. Muir became more than a name in gardening circles, and he had many friends, of whom no fewer than 200 were present at the funeral in the village churchyard.

We are indebted to his nephew, Mr. W. McAllister, an old Kewite, for our portrait, taken only three weeks before his death. Mr. Muir left Kew in March, 1871.

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#### ROBERT MACKENZIE CROSS.

We learn with regret of the death of Mr. R. M. Cross in Scotland at the age of 75. Mr. Cross was born at Dumbarton in 1836, served his apprenticeship in the gardens of Sir James Colquhoun, Bart., at Luss, and after further services in Glasgow entered Kew in June, 1857. He left in 1859, and shortly afterwards was selected, on the recommendation of Sir William Hooker, to go out to Ecuador to assist in the collection of *Cinchona* in the forests and to establish it in the Neilgherries of Madras. In this he was successful, and established nearly 500 plants. Still acting for the Indian Government, he was on his second trip sent to Loxa for seed of *C. officinalis*. In his next trip to South America he collected seeds and plants of Pitayo *Cinchona*. Three journeys were made to Pitaya, and a report on the last, undertaken in 1868-69, was published in the correspondence relating to *Cinchona* cultivation in India laid before the House of Commons in 1876.

In 1875 he went to the Isthmus of Panama for *Castilloa elastica* plants; and in 1876 he visited Northern Brazil for the seeds of *Hevea brasiliensis*, and the Province of Ceara for seeds and plants of Ceara rubber.

The able way in which Cross performed his duties and the successes which attended the hazardous journeys he undertook in Ecuador and Columbia are duly recorded in Sir Clements Markham's book entitled 'Peruvian Bark.'

He made seven trips in all to South America. Of a retiring disposition, his work was not so well known to the public as it might otherwise have been. He was a typical Scotsman, with grit, and

penetrated places in Panama that natives refused to enter, so afraid were they of its deadly climate. He retired to Edinburgh after his last trip, with the thanks of the Indian Government, and a few years ago went to reside at Torrance of Campsie.

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JOHN DEACON,

As our pages are going to press the sad news reaches us of the death of Mr. John Deacon, the able head gardener to Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. Mr. Deacon held this position for many years, and with Mr. Chamberlain he designed the grounds at Highbury. Mr. Deacon's death occurred on January 11, 1912, under tragic circumstances: he was found drowned in an ornamental pool within the grounds at Highbury. Death from misadventure was the verdict at the inquest, there being no evidence as to how he came to be in the water, which was three feet deep. Mr. Deacon left Kew in 1881, and previous to his appointment at Highbury was head gardener at Bowden Hill House, Chippenham.

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