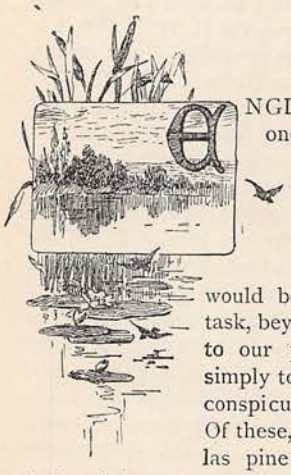
interchangeable. In a monogram each required letter should appear but once, and no matter how much it may be thrown one way or another, will always read in the normal direction; while in a cypher the letters are repeated and reversed so as to form an evenly balanced and bi-symmetrical composition, often very pleasing, but also often very confused and illegible. Fig. 13 is a cypher constructed on the letters G, L. The Gothic or the ordinary modern printing characters used as a rule in monograms are quite unsuited to the construction of cyphers, as they do not happily bear the reversing process. The letters employed should always be of the ordinary writing type. Such combinations as Figs. 10 and 11 would be impossible in a cypher, as six letters right way about plus the six reversed would produce a degree of bewildering complexity that would be chaotic. Cyphers, with a little patience, a little ingenuity, and a little tracing-paper, are very easy things to produce, and when done are scarcely worth even the trouble they have cost, the chief charm being the mechanical symmetry which we admire almost as much in the fragments of coloured glass in a kaleidoscope; while monograms are at once more legible and more tasteful, and in the non-repetition of the letters more in accordance with facts and common sense.

BOTANICAL "NAME-WORDS."



ENGLISH "name-words"—if one may coin such an expression—would, as Archbishop Trench suggested, form a highly curious and interesting study. To make a complete list of them would be a long and a laborious task, beyond our powers, and foreign to our present purpose, which is simply to mention some of the more conspicuous botanical name-words. Of these, some, such as the "Douglas pine" (*Abies Douglasii*), carry their origin, so to speak, on the very face of them; while others, now completely "denizened,"* and incorporated into the language, are constantly employed by the unlearned without a suspicion of the history which lies embedded in them. "Pæony" belongs to the latter class; and in this case we have an illustration of the truth of Gray's now proverbial lines—

> "Where ignorance is bliss,
> 'Tis folly to be wise."

For the learned are not by any means agreed as to the etymology of this household word. Dr. Trench derives it from "Pæan," one of the names of Apollo; and a yet more eminent authority than he, M. Littré, gives it the same origin. On the other hand, Mr. D. T. Fish, the editor of "Cassell's Popular Gardening," distinctly tells us that "pæony" is derived from Pæon, a physician, who used the plant medicinally.

About the origin of the word "dahlia" there is, fortunately, not any difference of opinion. That plant—which florists once took so much trouble to cultivate into "doubleness," and have since been at so much pains to cultivate back again into "single blessedness"—was introduced from Mexico into Europe, in the year 1789, by a Swedish botanist named Dahl. Similarly the name of the fuchsia embodies the patronymic of the Bavarian botanist, Fuchs, who flourished—the phrase, though old-fashioned, suits the subject-matter here—in the sixteenth century. The camelia, or "camellia"—as it is usually and more correctly, as well as phonetically, spelt—derives its name from Father Camelli, a Jesuit, who introduced it into Europe from Japan, in 1731. Pierre Magnol, a distinguished French botanist, who died in 1715, it was that gave the magnolia its appellation.

In the word "quassia" we have the name, or rather part of the name, of a negro sorcerer of Surinam, who discovered the properties of this plant in 1730. His full name, according to Littré, who quotes from Stedman's "Journey to Surinam," was "Gramand-quacy"—*gramand* meaning "great," and *quacy* "man," in the language of the negroes of Dutch Guiana. "Nicotine," and the affected phrase, "nicotian weed," both preserve to us the name of Jean Nicot, the French ambassador to Portugal who sent some tobacco from Lisbon to Catherine dei Medici in the year 1560. But though she for a time succeeded in getting the plant called *l'herbe à la reine*, in her honour, it soon lost both that and its original appellation, *nicotiane*, and now, as everyone knows, it bears substantially the same name in French, English, German, Spanish, and Italian. The etymology of this wide-spread word, however, is not free from doubt. Archbishop Trench, following the older etymologists, unhesitatingly connects it with the island of Tobago, while M. Maxime du Camp, writing in the *Revue des Deux-Mondes*, says that *tabaco* is a native word used by the inhabitants of San Salvador, in the time of Columbus, to designate the cigar, as distinguished from the plant itself, which they called *cohiba*.

The shaddock derives its name from a Captain Shaddock, who first conveyed this tree from China, of which it is a native, to the West Indies, where it is

* "The pearmain, which to France long ere to us was known,
Which careful fruiterers now have denizened their own."
Drayton's "Polyolbion."

now largely cultivated. This tree—the *Citrus decumana* of the botanists—produces fruit of an immense size, which sometimes measures two feet in circumference and weighs twenty pounds. It is only the smaller specimens of the shaddock that are sold under the name of the "Forbidden Fruit." The larger ones are known in the market as Pompelmousses, Pompoleons, and Pomaloes. The *Banksia* perpetuates the name of Sir Joseph Banks, who did so much for botanical science and for natural history generally, as the *Dryandra* commemorates the services of his secretary, Dr. Dryander. Gentius, a king of Illyria, bestowed his name on the gentian, if we are to believe Pliny and Dioscorides, as many persons, including the celebrated French physician, Ambroise Paré, have been content to do. The *Brassavolas*, or *Brassavolæ*, are a genus of plants so called after Antonio Musa Brassavola, a Venetian nobleman distinguished for his love of botany. In like manner the *Brassia*, of which there are nearly a dozen known species, takes its name from Mr. Brass, an enthusiastic plant-collector.

Well known to fungologists, though not an English species, is the *Amanita Cæsariensis*, or Cæsar's mushroom. This beautiful fungus, which, far from being poisonous in itself, is remarkably good eating, derives its name from the fact that "doctored" by Locusta, under Agrippina's orders, it put an end to the Emperor Claudius. Among "things not generally known" may be reckoned the fact that several kinds of fungus emit a phosphorescent light. One of these, discovered by Mr. Gardner, and described by him in his "Travels in the Interior of Brazil," has since been called the *Agaricus Gardneri*. The Douglas fir, or *Abies Douglasii*, already mentioned, is another vegetable—to use the term which Gray applies to the beeches of Burnham—that takes its name from the person who first described it. The giant flagstaff in Kew Gardens is composed of a comparatively dwarf specimen of this tree, which in its home in the valleys of the Rocky Mountains sometimes attains the height of two hundred feet. The *Welwitschia mirabilis*, the most extraordinary of the conifers, records the name of its discoverer, Dr. Welwitsch. The *Napoleona imperialis*, a native of tropical Africa, was so called by M. de Beauvois in honour of the first Napoleon, while the conqueror of that great conqueror has bestowed his name upon the *Wellingtonia*, or Mammoth tree, a specimen of which has been found three hundred and twenty-five feet high, and one hundred and sixteen feet in girth.

The *Benthamia* commemorates the name of the late Mr. George Bentham, the *Burtonia* that of the late Mr. Decimus Burton, the *Forsythia* that of Mr. Forsyth. In the botanical name of the *Abies Smithiana* we seem to recognise one which most of us have heard before. The *Nuttallia*, the *Cunninghamia sinensis*, the *Cytisus Adami*, the *Marsdenia*, the *Streptocarpus Saundersii*, and the *Streptocarpus Rexii*, all embody proper names which have been transferred from men to plants. The last in the list, by the way, is described by the late Mr. J. Backhouse as the primrose of the Cape of Good Hope—from its abundance, not from the hue or shape of its flowers, which are blue and tubular. Sir Stamford Raffles and Dr. Joseph Arnold may be said to be joint owners in the name of the "greatest prodigy of the vegetable world," the *Rafflesia Arnoldi*, a native of Sumatra, the flowers of which measure a full yard across, and smell exactly like tainted beef.

The *Cookia punctata*, or Wampi, a native of South-Eastern Asia, though now widely cultivated in tropical countries, owes its name, we believe, to Captain Cook—the *Araucaria Cookii* certainly does. Mr. Allan Cunningham has not only given his name to the *Cunninghamia sinensis*, already mentioned, but also to the *Araucaria Cunninghami*. Most of the rhododendrons, though first discovered and introduced into Europe by the late Sir William Hooker, bear specific names ending in *ii*, as, for instance, *R. Falconeri*, *R. Campbellii*, *R. Aucklandii*, *R. Edgeworthii*, *R. Thomsoni*, *R. Hodgsonii*, *R. Maddenii*, which, though ugly enough in all conscience, yet serve to mark the services of Indian botanists, or patrons of science. Among the many specific names of the genus *Begonia* we find *Griffithii*, though who this particular Griffiths was, or is, we cannot say. Conrade Gesner, "the Pliny of Germany," as it was once the fashion to call him, has bequeathed his name to a whole group of plants, the *Gesneraceæ*, one family of which is known more specifically as the *Gesneræ*. Since not everyone is so learned as Lord Macaulay's schoolboy, we may as well add that Gesner was an eminent physician and naturalist, who was born at Zurich in 1516, and died in 1565.

The *Strelitzia*, a kind of palm, of which there are several species, derives its generic name from Queen Charlotte—a princess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. That of the *Brucea antidysenterica* commemorates the patronymic of the famous Abyssinian traveller. Fortune, the author of "Japan and China" and "The Tea Countries," is the eponym of the *Chamærops Fortunei*, or fan-leaved palm, of Northern China, which he introduced into England in 1849. The name of Sir R. H. Schomburgk is preserved to us in that of the *Schomburgkia tibicina*, the hollow stems, or pseudo-bulbs, of which are used by the natives of Central America as horns or trumpets; but this traveller's great "find," the *Victoria Regia*, which he met with in his voyage up the Berbice river, in the year 1837, was named after the gracious Sovereign whose long reign had then just begun. In justice, however, to pre-discoverers—if the word may be pardoned—it should be added that this magnificent water-plant, which the inhabitants of Corrientes call *Mais del Agua*, or water-maize, had been found by Dr. Poeppig in 1833, by M. d'Orbigny in 1827, by M. Bonpland in 1820, and by Haenke, the famous botanist, in the first year of this century.

The name of the late Mr. James Backhouse, author and traveller, is recorded in that of the *Backhousia myrtifolia*, a native of Eastern Australia. In *Swammerdamia glomerata* we have a trifling memento of the lifelong labours of the famous naturalist, Swammerdam. The *Dacrydium Franklinii* takes its specific name

from Sir John Franklin of mournful memory. The *Amherstia nobilis* was so christened by Dr. Wallich in compliment to the Countess Amherst and her daughter, who showed themselves such zealous friends and promoters of Indian botany: and Dr. Wallich himself is the eponym of a genus of palms—the *Wallichiæ*. The name of Dr. Roxburgh, the author of the "Flora Indica," has been conferred on the genus *Roxburghia*, several species of which may be seen climbing up the rafters of one of the hothouses at Kew. In *Abies Menziesii* we trace the name of another well-known traveller and writer; but, indeed, of these Latin genitives of the second declension there is, as the Germans say, "no end," among the names of botanical species. We therefore designedly omit the rest, though the distinguished names of Darwin and Hooker frequently occur in this pseudo-classical guise.

In the name of the Bon Chrétien pear we have, according to Casanova, if not the actual name, at least the honourable nickname of St. François de Paule, and Casanova's opinion is supported by earlier authorities. From these it would appear that it was no less a personage than Louis XI. who endowed this delicious fruit with the universally accepted *sobriquet* of the holy man who first transferred some of the parent trees from their home in Italy to the less genial climate of Northern France. In this connection it is interesting to note that the custom of naming fruit-trees after those who discovered or first introduced or improved them is at least as old as the time of Pliny, who enumerates the Matian, the Cestian, the Mallian, and the Sceptian apples, among others, as having been christened on this principle. The person whose name has been transmitted to us in connection with the last-mentioned apple was only a freedman. In the name of that beautiful flower, the *Gloxinia*, we find the patronymic of P. B. Gloxin, a botanist of Colmar, who first imported the plant from South America in the year 1815.

To pass from the names of persons to those of places, Damascus has conferred its name upon the damson, Persia on the peach, and Corinth on the currant. The cherry was brought from Cerasus, a city of Pontus, by Lucullus, the celebrated epicure. The quince—altogether improbable as this may seem—takes its name from Cydon, a Cretan town, where it was supposed to be indigenous. Hence the Romans called it the *Malum Cydonium; Cydonium* became *cooin* in old French, whence the modern form, *coing*, of which our word "quince" is an Anglicised form. "Indigo" is a French corruption of the Spanish "Indico," from the Latin "Indicum," the neuter adjectival form of "India." "Rhubarb" is a corruption of "Rha barbarum," which means "the root from the savage banks of the Rha or Volga," while in the word "jalap" we have the name of a Mexican town, Jalapa.

ROBES OF STATE,

WORN BY HIGH OFFICERS OF STATE AND OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL HOUSEHOLD.*

LIEUTENANT YEOMAN OF THE GUARD.

OFFICERS of State have, from time immemorial, on the rare occasions of high ceremonial, appeared in robes and badges appropriate to their exalted rank. These insignia are not without interest, and as a rule illustrate, in some manner, our national history.

Without doubt, in the eyes of the commonalty, they add dignity to the several offices; and as the judges' wigs and robes are supposed, in a small degree, to vindicate the majesty of the law, so do these outward symbols help to establish in the public mind the value of that pomp and grandeur which, of a right, "doth hedge a king." It is at a coronation that robes of State are seen to perfection, for all the participators in that supreme event don the richest garb to which they are entitled.

Conceive the preparations, the cost, the rehearsals, and the hours of ceaseless anxiety which it entails. From the moment when the Sovereign reaches the Abbey at Westminster until the banquet in Westminster Hall is over, and the styles of his rank proclaimed in Latin, French, and English, when he is permitted to retire, it is one constant succession of brilliant pictures, of which the costumes worn by those who take part in them are by no means the least important portion.

> "But Court is always May, buds out in masques,
> Breaks into feather'd merriment, and flowers
> In silken pageants."

Though these lines may savour of poetical licence, it is only in the surroundings of Court life that the full glory of such "silken

PRIVY COUNCILLOR.

* The illustrations to this paper are intended merely to represent the robes of State, and must not be regarded as portraits of any of the present holders of the offices mentioned.—ED. C.M.